

Grant Assistance for Grass-roots Human Security Projects

Opening Ceremony of Chikangulu Community Day Secondary School in Chiradzulu District 25th May, 2018



Left: Ambassador Yanagisawa (center), Hon. Joseph Mwanamvekha, Minister of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development (right) and Mrs. Malango Botomani, District Commissioner for Chiradzulu (left)

On 25th May 2018, Kae Yanagisawa, Ambassador of Japan to Malawi celebrated the official opening of a newly built Chikangulu Community Day Secondary School, which was constructed by the Chiradzulu District Education Office with the grant from Japan. The ceremony was graced with the presence of Honourable Joseph Mwanamvekha, Member of Parliament for the Chiradzulu South Constituency and Minister of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development and celebrated by other stakeholders.

The Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDS) III mentions education as a key component for the socio-economic development and industrial growth of the country. Increased accessibility of secondary education by both boys and girls, and by those with special needs is one of the key strategies to achieve the goal of the MGDS. Despite the government's commendable efforts, the access to education after primary school remains a challenge for the majority of people mostly in rural areas. As the situation Chikangulu faces is not an exception, the project was conceptualized and proposed to the Embassy of Japan. After carefully assessing the feasibility of the project and its implementing organization, the Government of Japan approved a Grant amounting to USD113, 984, under the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects. A further MK6 Million, sourced from the Constituency Development Fund (CDF), was committed to the project to cover extra cost which was raised from the price escalation of the construction materials.

Speaking during the ceremony, Ambassador Yanagisawa commended the Chiradzulu District Education Office and the District Council for their strong commitment that led to the completion of the project. She also highlighted the excellent performance of the contractor, citing their high-quality work in a timely manner. In conclusion, she appealed to all the boys and girls, the school management, and the community to take very good care of these facilities to remain in a good condition and be used by many more boys and girls in generations to come.