

Grant Assistance for Grass-roots Human Security Projects

INAUGURATION CEREMONY FOR THE PROJECT FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF BEE KEEPING FACILITIES FOR KATOPE COOPERATIVE IN KASUNGU DISTRICT

9th DECEMBER, 2019



Ambassador Yanagisawa and Honorable Salim Bagus M.P. Minister of Industry, Trade and Tourism unveiling the plaque of the Katope Cooperative Honey Processing Facility



(Left) Ambassador Yanagisawa giving a speech
(Right) Honorable Salim Bagus M.P. giving a speech



(Left) Ambassador Yanagisawa and Honorable Salim Bagus M.P. receiving Katope Honey
(Right) Mr. Charles, Cadecom, describing features of Katope honey



Ambassador Yanagisawa and Honorable Salim Bagus M.P. touring the newly built honey processing facility



Community women and youth performing traditional dances

On Monday, 9th December 2019, Her Excellency Kae Yanagisawa, Ambassador of Japan to Malawi, inaugurated a honey processing unit, equipment and protective gear provided to Katope Cooperative located in Mawawa Village in Kasungu through the Project for the Improvement of Bee Keeping Facilities for Katope Cooperative. The occasion was graced by Honorable Salim Bagus, M.P. Minister of Industry, Trade and Tourism.

The Government of Japan provided **USD64, 243.00** through its Grant Assistance for Grass-roots Human Security Projects (GGP) to enable the Catholic Development Commission in Malawi (CADECOM) to implement this project as part of their efforts in conserving Kasungu National Park. Cadecom is operating in Mawawa village in Kasungu. The community have for a longtime, depended on cutting down of trees from Kasungu National Park for income generation. In order to stop this illegal trade, Cadecom together with the community, identified bee keeping as an alternative source of income. Katope Cooperative is producing one of the best honey in Malawi. Its dark gold color and sweet and fruity taste will make it to be highly competitive on the market.

Speaking during the ceremony, Ambassador Yanagisawa encouraged the people of Mawawa village to embrace the spirit of self-reliance in order to develop their community. She asked Katope Cooperative members to continue with their hard work, to be accountable and operate in a transparent matter. She encouraged them to invest in savings so that in the future, they will be able to maintain the facility, equipment and also be able to venture into other value addition activities.