

# Grant Assistance for Grass-roots Human Security Projects

## GRANT CONTRACT SIGNING CEREMONY FOR THE PROJECT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF KAPICHILA HEALTH CENTRE IN KASUNGU DISTRICT

1<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2021



(Left) Ambassador Iwakiri signing the Grant Contract

(Right) Very Reverend Monsignor, Dr. Patrick Thawale, Catholic Development Commission in Malawi (CADECOM), Archdiocese of Lilongwe, signing the Grant Contract



(Left) Hon. Madalitso Wirima, Deputy Minister of Education, Member of Parliament for Kasungu North East, giving a speech.



(Right) Group photo

On Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> December, 2021, Ambassador Satoshi Iwakiri and Mr. Charles Matewera, Diocesan Secretary, Catholic Development Commission (Cadecom) of the Archdiocese of Lilongwe, signed a grant contract amounting to Ninety One Thousand One Hundred and Twenty Four US Dollars (USD91,124), (approx.. MK74 million) for the construction of Kapichila Health Centre at Kapichila Trading Center in Sub Traditional Authority Kapichila in Kasungu District. The grant was provided under the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects. The occasion was graced by the Deputy Minister of Education, Honourable Madalitso Wirima M.P, Member of Parliament for Kasungu North East.

The aim of the project is to improve access to health care services for the people around Kapichila Trading Center, especially women. Through this grant project, Cadecom will construct a new health centre, with maternity and general

outpatient services and will cater for about 13,650 people in the area. At the Kapichila, the distance from the furthest point in the catchment area to the nearest health centre is about 39 kilometres. This has resulted in increased cases of home deliveries amongst pregnant women. The only accessible health point Kapichila Village Clinic (which is to be upgraded under this project) has very limited infrastructure to offer any meaningful quality health services.

Speaking during the ceremony, Ambassador Iwakiri emphasized the need to reduce the distance to access health services as provided for by Ministry of Health policy, that every Malawian should reside within a 5km to 8km radius of a health facility. With the new health centre, the people of Kapichila will be able to access health care service at a shorter distance and within Ministry of Health policy goal. This facility is therefore expected to contribute to the reduction in home deliveries, maternal deaths and other curable diseases.

To achieve the goal, Ambassador Iwakiri called on the management of Cadecom to take an active role in the implementation of the project and ensure that funds for the project are utilized as intended.

The Embassy of Japan in Malawi has been supporting a number of projects in health, education, women and youth empowerment sectors under the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP). The GGP is a Japanese Government grant aid scheme introduced in 1989 in order to respond to the diverse development needs in less developed countries. The aim of is to provide financial assistance to non-profit development organisation for implementing projects at grassroots level.