

Grant Assistance for Grass-roots Human Security Projects

GRANT CONTRACT SIGNING CEREMONY FOR THE PROJECT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A GIRLS HOSTEL AND WATER FACILITY AT KATOWO COMMUNITY DAY SECONDARY SCHOOL IN RUMPHI 6th DECEMBER 2021



Ambassador Iwakiri (Left) and Her Excellency Madam Monica Chakwera (Right), signing the Grant Contract



(Left) Ambassador Iwakiri presenting Japanese Ikebana Calendar 2022 to Her Excellency.
(Right) Ambassador Iwakiri and Her Excellency holding the signed Grant Contract Agreement

On Monday, 6th December, 2021, Ambassador Satoshi Iwakiri and Her Excellency Madam Monica Chakwera, First Lady of the Republic of Malawi, Founder and Board Chairperson of Shaping Our Future Foundation, signed a grant contract amounting to One Hundred Sixteen Thousand and Thirty Five US Dollars (USD116,035), (approx.. MK94 Million) under the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) for the Project for Construction of a Girls Hostel and Water Facility at Katowo Community Day Secondary School (CDSS) in Rumphi District. The occasion was witnessed by Mr Macduff Phiri the Acting Executive Director of SOFF.

The aim of the project is to improve enrolment, retention and completion of secondary school education of girls at Katowo and surrounding areas. Through this grant project, SOFF will construct a new girls' hostel with the capacity of 80 beds; rehabilitate a borehole; construct a water tower and procurement of a water tank.

Speaking during the ceremony, Ambassador Iwakiri emphasized the need for better learning environment for students in Malawi especially girls. He noted that after project completion more girls will be motivated to stay in school and

pursue their education in order to become reliable citizens of their communities and Malawi in general. The project is expected to contribute to the reduction in girls drop out and improved retention in school of both girls and boys.

Ambassador Iwakiri also pointed out that the support provided by the Government of Japan is in line with Malawi Vision 2063. The grant therefore, signifies one tangible support Japan is providing in promoting human capital development, especially among girls in Malawi.

The Ambassador then commended the First Lady Madam Monica Chakwera, founder of SOFF for her commitment to improving girls' education in Malawi, as evidenced by her effort in getting this project accepted and expressed his appreciation for the good working relationship that is there between the governments of Japan and Malawi.

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.