## **Signing Ceremony of Three Japanese-Funded Projects**

On December 20, 2018, the signing ceremony for three grassroots projects was held at the Ambassador residence.

1. The Project for Improvement of the Educational Environment at Musena Secondary School in Chirumhanzu District

This project provides the grant amount of eighty-nine thousand two hundred and sixty dollars (USD 89,260) for a local NGO, Local Initiatives and Development (LID) Agency. This project includes the construction of two classroom blocks and the completion of one classroom block along with the provision of furniture. In addition, a fence will be set up surrounding the school. Currently, the school does not have any proper classrooms, and the pupils are studying in makeshift pole-and-dagga classrooms.

Executive Director, Mr. Manyakaidze stated that the community needs to actively participate in every step: the design, implementation and use of the facilities. Small grants can have a huge impact on the communities.

2. The Project for Improvement of X-ray Equipment of Chikombedzi Mission Hospital in Chiredzi District

This project provides the grant amount of nighty-two thousand seven hundred and fifty-five dollars (USD 92,755) for an International NGO, SolidarMed Zimbabwe for the purchase of Japan-made digital X-ray machine. The hospital has been operating for the past 5 years without any X-a ray machine, causing inaccurate diagnoses and delayed treatment.

Office Manager, Mr. Chigaba mentioned that the new digital X-ray machine will greatly improve healthcare for the surrounding population. It will provide high-quality images allowing accurate diagnosis.

3. The Project for Improvement of the Educational Environment at Manhanga Primary School in Kariba District

This project provides the grant amount of eighty-eight thousand seven hundred and sixty-four dollars (USD 88,764) for a local NGO, Tony Waite Organization. This project includes the construction of two classroom blocks and a teacher's house, the completion of one classroom block and the provision of furniture. Moreover, a fence and solar power generator will be set up. At the moment, the school has only one proper classroom block and most students study in makeshift pole-and-dagga classrooms.

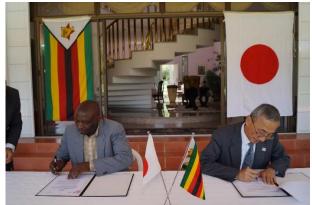
Executive Director, Mrs. Vemgere said that when the educational environment improves, the wellbeing of children and teachers also improves.

Ambassador Iwado said that the most important aspect that we always emphasize concerning the GGP projects is ownership by the benefitting communities, so that the projects are sustainable and fulfil their purpose for many years to come. In this regard, close collaboration among the NGO, local government and communities is essential. I hope that you will implement your respective projects in a transparent, smooth and effective way.

## LID Agency



SolidarMed Zimbabwe



Tony Waite Organization



Group photo

