

Signing Ceremony of Three New Grassroots Projects

On 21 March 2023, the signing ceremony of three new Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security (GGP) projects was held at the Ambassador's residence in Harare.

1. The Project for Mine Clearance in Mashonaland Central Province and Mashonaland East Province

A grant of US\$ 647,237 has been provided for a project to clear landmines in Rushinga District, (Mashonaland Central Province) and Mudzi District (Mashonaland East Province). It will be carried out by an NGO, The HALO Trust. The project is expected to clear landmines from approximately 146,000 m² of land around villages. It is the ninth time that Japan has supported landmine clearance in Zimbabwe through The HALO Trust. The Programme Manager at The HALO Trust, Mr Nicholas Torbet, expressed his appreciation for the continuous support from the government and people of Japan. He said that the project would help to achieve Zimbabwe's goal of becoming landmine-free by 2025.

2. The Project for Construction of a Livestock Management Training Centre for Empowering Local Farmers

Through this project, a livestock management training centre will be constructed in Mbire District. A grant of US\$ 89,969 has been provided for this project, which will be implemented by a local NGO, Zimbabwe Council of Churches. Each year, the new centre is expected to provide over 1,200 farmers with various types of agricultural training and individual advice for improving their farming skill. The General Secretary of the Zimbabwe Council of Churches, Mr Wilfred Dimingu, said that it would allow the organisation to reach out to more people in the dry area near the border and enhance their farming and livestock activities.

3. The Project for Construction of School Buildings in Kufunda primary school

This project will provide new classroom blocks, a solar-powered borehole and school furniture for Kufunda Primary School in Goromonzi District. It will be funded with a grant of US\$ 91,695, and will be implemented by Kufunda Village Trust, a local NGO. The NGO provides access to education for children who could not go to school due to poverty, but currently it does not have enough classrooms, and many children are on the waiting list. A teacher at the primary school, Mr Trevor Button, appreciates support from Japanese government and said that the new furnished classrooms would provide the teachers and children with a conducive environment for their lessons, and allow more children to attend the school. The classrooms are so special for children.

The Ambassador of Japan to Zimbabwe, H.E. Mr Satoshi Tanaka, appreciated the NGOs for identifying the communities' basic needs and seeking to fulfil them. He expressed his hope that, once completed, the projects would greatly improve the livelihoods of the members of the communities for many years. In this regard, he emphasised the importance of involvement of the communities right from the beginning so that they felt a sense of ownership in the projects.



Signing ceremony



Group photo with the Grantees



Grantee: The HALO Trust



Grantee: Zimbabwe Council of Churches



Grantee: Kufunda Village Trust



Discussion with Ambassador