

P R E S S R E L E A S E

November 25, 2013

JAPAN EXTENDS GRANT TO SEKE 11 PRIMARY SCHOOL FOR WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE PROJECT

The Embassy of Japan has today extended a grant of sixty-eight thousand, nine hundred and twenty-seven dollars (USD68, 927) for “The Project for the Improvement of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene at Seke 11 Primary School in Chitungwiza”.

The Ambassador of Japan to Zimbabwe, H.E. Mr Yonezo Fukuda and the head mistress, Mrs. Nyarai Grean Matsekedza, signed the contracts at the Embassy. The grant will be used for the construction of a toilet block, the installation of water tanks and the sinking of a borehole.

Chitungwiza as a whole has been experiencing severe water shortages, and the risk of an outbreak of water-borne diseases is a constant threat. Access to clean water is one of the urgent needs in this area.

At Seke 11 Primary School, students were required to bring water from home every day, for drinking and washing hands. This was caused by the unreliable municipal water supply.

This project aims to improve the water situation and mitigate health risks. The school staff will teach the importance of hygiene practices, including the washing of hands. The students will be responsible for the cleaning of toilets under the staff supervision.

Speaking at the occasion, H.E. Ambassador Fukuda expressed the hope that the grant would go a long way towards improving the learning environment, which affects both health and education outcomes.

Seke 11 Primary School is a public school established in 1980. There were 2057 students and 65 staff as of August 2013. This project was initiated by the School Development Association.