

## **P R E S S   R E L E A S E**

**February 20, 2015**

### **JAPAN HANDS OVER A VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE TO OASIS ZIMBABWE**

The Ambassador of Japan to Zimbabwe, H.E. Mr Yoshi Hiraishi, today officially handed over a Vocational Training Centre and training equipment to Oasis Zimbabwe in Hatfield. This Centre was constructed through “The Project for Construction of Vocational Training Centre in Harare” implemented by Oasis Zimbabwe with the fund of a Japanese grant up to eighty-one thousand six hundred and twenty-seven dollars (USD 81,627), which was inaugurated at signing the Grant Contract in November 2013. The Centre is now fully operational.

The main beneficiaries of this project are women and girls mostly from Epworth with disadvantaged backgrounds. Many of them are from streets where they are vulnerable to sexual exploitation and are likely to have traumatic experiences.

They will learn sewing and IT skills which will assist their social independence. Graduates are expected to share their skills to other vulnerable members, which will in the end benefit the community as a whole.

Speaking at the occasion, H.E. Mr Hiraishi mentioned previous projects supported by Japanese Embassy, namely the establishment of a Vocational Training Centre in Gweru and a Counseling and Care Centre in Harare and expressed the hope that the Centre of this project would also make positive impacts on human resource development.