

## **P R E S S   R E L E A S E**

**February 26, 2015**

### **JAPANESE AMBASSADOR HANDS OVER WATERPOINTS IN SHURUGWI DISTRICT**

The Ambassador of Japan to Zimbabwe, H.E. Mr Yoshi Tendai Hiraishi, today officially handed over a borehole at Banga Clinic in Shurugwi District. It was one of 13 boreholes that the Embassy of Japan funded through “The Project for Supplying Safe Water in Shurugwi District” implemented by a local NGO, Shurugwi Partners.

This project was made possible by a grant of one hundred and twenty one thousand, eight hundred and eighty dollars (USD121,880) that the Embassy extended to Shurugwi Partners in March, 2014.

The project was to drill 13 boreholes in total at 8 health facilities and 5 schools respectively in the district. Completed boreholes will greatly contribute to the improvement of the standards of living for local communities in terms of accessing to safe potable water.

The Embassy of Japan has been actively supporting the provision of safe water throughout the country. The establishment of water points in Chivi and Chipinge Districts was implemented by some of the projects which the Embassy supported in the past.

Speaking at the occasion, H.E. Ambassador Hiraishi stressed the importance of maintenance and long-term sustainability and expressed his hope that the boreholes would be in good working condition in years to come through efforts of the respective community members.

This is the 100<sup>th</sup> project to be supported by the Embassy of Japan under its scheme known as ‘The Grant Assistance for Human Security Grassroots Projects’. This Grant scheme, which has been introduced to Zimbabwe since 1989, is aimed at implementing a wide variety of projects with a direct impact at community level.