

SPEECH TO BE PRESENTED BY MR MASASHI IIDA AT A CEREMONY TO MARK THE THREE YEAR WATER, SANITATION AND HYIEGINE PROJECT BY JAPANESE NGO, ADRA JAPAN

Masikati,Makadini

I am happy to be in this part of Zimbabwe today as we witness the beginning of a three year long relationship by a Japanese NGO called ADRA Japan with local communities.

Today's gesture will see Gokwe North Wards 8, 9, 33 and 34 receiving assistance worth JPY 58,246,065 for the construction of 6 classroom blocks and 10 shallow wells, as well as repairing 11 shallow wells that have been incapacitated by lack of spares, siltation or droughts.

The construction of 6 classroom blocks is going to improve the learning environment for students and teachers, and I believe the student intake is also going to improve as well as their results. Morale for the teachers is also going to be boosted because we all like to work in good environments.

Gokwe is prone to droughts and water becomes scarce thereby compromising the health and sanitation of the communities. ADRA Japan will construct 10 shallow wells and repair 11 shallow wells made redundant over years. With safe portable water readily available, you will improve in your health safety from water borne diseases. Your animals are also going to drink clean water and you will have small nutrition gardens for your daily requirements. Those who work hard will provide cash for their families through market gardening.

I would like to commend ADRA Japan for this gesture. You have been very instrumental in coming to assist marginalized communities in the past to meet some of their most important daily requirements like clean safe water and safe learning environments. Keep up the good work ADRA Japan and I wish you a satisfactory journey as you seek to improve the livelihoods of such communities in the three year programme.

To the recipients, kindly take good care of these donations as they are community projects aimed at improving and promoting your well-being.

Tatenda