

## **P R E S S   R E L E A S E**

**March 14, 2013**

### **JAPAN TO FUND TO WATER PROJECT IN CHIVI DISTRICT**

The Embassy of Japan has extended to international NGO, Catholic Agency for Overseas Development (CAFOD), a grant of USD 117,190 (one hundred and seventeen thousand, one hundred and ninety dollars) for the implementation of its project entitled “The Project for Supplying Safe Water in Chivi District”.

The Ambassador of Japan to Zimbabwe, His Excellency Mr Yonezo Fukuda and the Regional Representative of CAFOD, Mr Mark Atterton officially signed the agreement for the release of the funds.

As the name suggests, the grant is to be used for the drilling of a total of ten new boreholes and the rehabilitation of an additional ten boreholes in Chivi, Masvingo Province coupled with WASH facilities at strategic locations in the district. Sustainability of the project will be ensured through the establishment of community based pump minders and water point management committees. Chivi has been suffering from poor and erratic rainfall in recent years resulting in locals having to resort to using water from unprotected sources thereby exposing themselves to water-borne diseases.

H.E. Ambassador Fukuda expressed the hope that access to water supplies in Chivi would improve the health conditions of the local community. It will also help increase the harvest of agricultural produce.