

The Handover ceremony of the UNFPA project, Reducing Maternal Mortality in Zimbabwe, funded by the government and people of Japan

Over 200 people gathered at Mutoko District Hospital in Mashonaland East on the 23rd of March to witness the handover ceremony of the UNFPA project, Reducing Maternal Mortality in Zimbabwe: Increasing Access to Skilled Attendance at Birth, funded by Japan. Through the project, the Maternity Waiting Homes (MWH) and the ambulances belonging to the 30 selected hospitals are refurbished.

The ceremony was attended by the Honorable Minister of Women Affairs, Gender and Community Development, Dr. Olivia Muchena, UNFPA Representative, Dr. Basire O. Tambashe, the Japanese Ambassador, Mr. Yonezo Fukuda, government officials, the local maternity women and others.

At least eight women die every day while giving birth in Zimbabwe. The project done by UNFPA with the support of Japan is going to reduce the high maternity mortality rate in this country. For the MWH of Mutoko District Hospital, not only the walls, the roof, the ceilings, and the toilets are repaired, 27 beds, cooking stove, linen, and cupboards are procured. Their ambulance was also repaired.



The Speech given by the Ambassador of Japan, Mr. Yonezo Fukuda.



Handing over the MWH in Mutoko District Hospital. Right next to the Japanese Ambassador is the Honorable Minister of Women Affairs, Gender and Community Development, Dr. Olivia Muchena.



Expecting women sitting on the newly procured bed in the MWH.



The celebration was marked with singing and dancing by pregnant and parturient women