

Japan Press Release

17 March 2015



**From
the People of Japan**

Japan Funds Education Projects

H.E. Junzo Fujita, Ambassador of Japan to Uganda, will sign three contracts today, at the Embassy of Japan, for the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP), totalling over 655 million Uganda shillings (US\$246,723) with the representatives of the recipient organizations, working in the fields of education.

Eruba Primary School in Arua District will receive US\$75,559 for the construction of a classroom block, boys' and girls' latrine blocks (5 stances each) and the procurement of furniture. Eruba Primary School is a government aided school located in Arua District, Northern Uganda and has 1,037 students (479 boys and 558 girls) from P1 to P7. The school has only 7 classrooms which are overcrowded with average number of 148 students in each class. In addition, P1 and P2 students have to sit on the floor while they are taking classes because their classrooms are not furnished with desks and chairs. Furthermore, there are only 5 stances of latrines each for girls and boys. Therefore, this project will construct a classroom block (4 class rooms) and boys' and girls' latrine blocks (5 stances each) and procure 108 three seater desks and furniture for teachers to provide the students with a better learning environment.

Namasale Seed Secondary School in Amolatar District will receive US\$72,849 for the construction of a girls' dormitory and the procurement of furniture. Namasale Seed Secondary School, located in Namasale Subcounty, Amolatar District, was established in 2007 through Universal Secondary Education (USE). The school is the only secondary school in the subcounty, which now has 83 girl students and 226 boy students from S1 to S6. The construction of a ferry port in 2012 has negatively affected the safety of the area because of the increasing coming and going of strangers. Girl students in particular are most affected by the changing environment by being harassed by men on their way to school and home. While some students rent huts in the slums near the ferry port, some other students walk up to 10km to get to the school. This project will construct a girls' dormitory in order to reduce the risks of dangerous commuting and provide a better learning environment.

Obiya Primary School in Gulu District will receive US\$ 98,315 for the construction of a girls' dormitory and the procurement of furniture. Obiya Primary School, established in 1963 in Gulu District, is a government aided primary school. The school has 477 girl students, 423 boy students and 27 teachers. As many of the students were born amid the 20 year war that devastated the social and economic foundation of the region, the school provides them with counselling services, home visiting programmes and other kinds of mental supports. Most of the families of students face financial hardship and the students are considered as important labor at

home. Some girl students also marry at their early age. In addition, girl students, who walk up to 5km to the school, are often harassed by men on their way to school and home. These factors force many students to leave the school which makes it hard for them to complete the primary education and counselling programmes. Therefore, this project will construct a girls' dormitory that can accommodate 200 girl students and install furniture so that the school can provide them with a better learning and counselling environment.

The GGP is a scheme administered by the Embassy of Japan to support community-based development projects. Since 1992, the Government of Japan has supported 198 projects so far in Uganda as of 2015.

Japan, steadily promoting ownership of and partnership with African countries through the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) process, is committed to achieving Uganda's quality growth, the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), and consolidation of peace and good governance.

– END –

The grant contract signing ceremony will take place at the Conference Room (2nd Floor), Embassy of Japan, Kyadondo Road, Nakasero, Kampala, starting at 10:00am, on 17th March 2015.

Your media house is kindly invited to cover this function.

If you would like further information on the beneficiaries and other project details, we would be happy to provide further information. Thank you.

Contact:

Ms. Kikome Yunia (Public Affairs Section): yunia.masembe@kp.mofa.go.jp

Dr. Tadakazu Kanno (GGP Section) : tadakazu.kanno@kp.mofa.go.jp

Embassy of Japan in Uganda: <http://www.ug.emb-japan.go.jp/>

P. O. Box 23553, Kampala / Tel: 0414-349542/3/4, 0312-261564/5/6