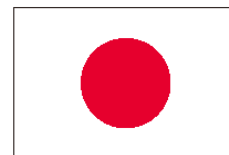


Japan Press Release

November 2024



**From
the People of Japan**

Japan Supports to construct an Operation Theatre in Kitgum District

The Embassy of Japan will commission newly constructed an Operation Theatre at St. Joseph's Hospital Kitgum in Kitgum District on Saturday 23rd November 2024. The project, formally titled "The Project for the Construction of an Operation Theatre at St. Joseph's Hospital in Kitgum District," began on December 9, 2022, with a grant of USD 91,099 from the Embassy of Japan, equating to over 325 million Ug. Shs.

The Ambassador of Japan to the Republic of Uganda, Mr. SASAYAMA Takuya will officiate the commissioning of the project to the beneficiaries.

St. Joseph's Hospital Kitgum, established in 1960, has been a cornerstone of public health in the region for decades. As one of the country's general hospital, it serves as a critical emergency transfer hospital for 23 medical facilities both within and outside the district. The hospital extends its services to patients from neighboring districts, refugee settlements, and even South Sudan, accommodating a total of 14,500 visits annually.

By 2021, despite the increasing demand for medical services, the hospital faced significant operational challenges. With only one operating room available, St. Joseph's Hospital performed approximately 1,200 surgeries annually—more than half of all surgeries in the district. This limited capacity compromised the environment for both patients and staff, making it neither conducive nor hygienic.

In response to these pressing needs, the Embassy of Japan supported the construction of a new operation theatre at St. Joseph's Hospital Kitgum. This new facility includes two operating rooms, a minor operating room, a reception area, a waiting room, a recovery room, a sterilization room, a scrubbing room, a doctor's room, a male changing room, a female changing room, a toilet, a shower room, a tea room and a storage room.

This upgrade has significantly enhanced the hospital's capacity to deliver quality surgical care in a safe and hygienic environment, benefiting the entire community and beyond.

The support is part of the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP), a scheme administered by the Embassy of Japan to support community-led development projects which uplift the life of people at the grassroots level. So far, a total of 291 projects have been funded under the scheme since its initiation in Uganda in 1992.

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