



# EMBASSY OF JAPAN

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## MEDIA RELEASE



The new school block funded by the Government of Japan in order for the Ncagcu Combined School to provide a more conducive educational environment to the learners.

Ribbon Cutting of the new school block by H.E Hideaki Harada, Ambassador of Japan, and Hon. Tjekero Tweya, Minister of Industrialisation, Trade and SME Development.

### **HANDOVER OF A NEW SCHOOL BLOCK FUNDED BY THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT TO THE NCAGCU COMBINED SCHOOL IN KAPAKO CONSTITUENCY, KAVANGO WEST REGION**

On Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2018, a handing over ceremony of a new school block which was funded by the Government of Japan through its Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) was held at the Ncagcu Combined School in Kapako Constituency, Kavango West region. **H.E Hideaki Harada, Ambassador of Japan,** representing the Government of Japan, **handed over the facility to Hon. Tjekero Tweya, Minister of Industrialisation, Trade and SME Development,** who represented the Government of the Republic of Namibia.

The Ncagcu Combined School was established in 1970 as a primary school. The school grew year by year and was later transformed into a combined school, in response to the growing population in the area. It currently accommodates 670 learners from pre-primary to grade 10 with 26 teachers. The school is located in one of the disadvantaged settlements with a high poverty rate on the outskirts of Rundu. On top of the continuous population influx into the area, the introduction of free primary education in 2013 has dramatically increased the enrolment; yet the education facility cannot keep up with the demand. As a result, the school was forced to educate learners in either temporary structures such as tents and iron sheet classrooms, or in overcrowded classrooms, sacrificing quality education. It is within this background that the Government of Japan extended a grant amounting to NAD 836,141.75 for the construction a new school block consisting of four permanent classrooms and one storeroom. The beneficiaries of this new block are 145 learners of grades 1 and 2. Upon handing over the block, the learners of the Ncagcu Combined School can be educated in a more conducive educational environment.

Education is one of the priority areas for the Government of Japan in its extension of GGP to Namibia, and Ncagcu Combined School is the 33rd school that benefitted from the Japan's GGP. The GGP aims at bringing about direct and immediate impact on the well-being of disadvantaged communities at a grass-roots level by supporting relatively small development projects in areas of local needs such as education, agriculture, health, to be implemented by Non-Profit Organisations and local authorities. The Government of Japan has been implementing the GGP in Namibia since 1997. To date, 54 projects have been supported, totally amounting to approximately NAD 37.5 million.

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