

Handover Ceremony of the Government of Japan’s Supplementary Budget Project being implemented by FAO: Provision of agricultural inputs, tools and small-scale irrigation systems in Zambezi Region (March 2nd, 2024)

2024/03/02

On March 2, 2024, Ambassador Nishimaki officiated at the symbolic handing over ceremony of agricultural inputs, tools and small-scale irrigation systems in Zambezi Region.

Ambassador Nishimaki in his speech at the handover ceremony said, “The Government of Japan availed additional funding in 2023 of 22 million Namibian Dollars (USD 1,2 million) through the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). Smallholder farmers have been assisted through the distribution of agro-inputs (seeds, fruit trees, poultry, rabbits, gardening tools, etc.) and investments in innovative small-scale irrigation using water saving technologies.

This intervention is targeting 6,100 farming households from the focal regions of Zambezi, Kavango West, Ohangwena and //Karas, as well as 110 agricultural extension staff, Vulnerability Assessment Committee members and selected key community role players from across all 14 regions.”

After the official handover event, Ambassador Nishimaki went for a farm visit at a village near Kongola settlement to view firsthand the hard work of beneficiary farmers.



Ambassador Nishimaki delivering his handover speech at the ceremony.

Hon. Lawrence Sampofu, Governor of Zambezi Region giving his acceptance of the consignment of agricultural inputs and irrigation systems speech on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Namibia and lauding the continuous Japanese Government support to Zambezi Region in particular and Namibia in general.



Dr. Diao Qingyun, FAO Country Representative to Namibia in her speech as the implementing agency praised the Government of Japan's commitment to assisting the Namibian smallholder farmers to adapt to the challenging climate induced hardships in the agricultural sector.



Posing for a symbolic handover picture are from left to right: Dr. Diao Qingyun, Mr. Modestus Kakula (beneficiary farmer), H.E. Ambassador Hisao Nishimaki, Hon. Governor Lawrence Sampofu, Mrs. Regina Ndopu-Lubinda (Zambezi Chief Regional Officer) and Hon. Humphrey Divai (Councilor for Judea Lyaboloma Constituency).



Left: Mr. Modestus Kakula (one of the beneficiary farmers) delivered a heartfelt appreciation to the Government of Japan for benefitting from the FAO project by receiving various agricultural inputs such as seeds, fencing material and a complete irrigation system. He then proceeded to invite the Ambassador to his farm to show how he is utilizing the equipment and putting it to good use.



Above left:

Ambassador Nishimaki (front row, middle) undertook a farm visit at Mr. Modestus Kakula's (left of Ambassador) farm, one of the beneficiary farmers, and was accompanied by (front row fltr.) Mr. Takehiro Yamada (Embassy of Japan), Mrs. Regina Ndopu-Lubinda, Dr. Diao Qingyun (right of Ambassador), Mr. Bernardt Masiye (Senior Agricultural Extension Technician, Ministry of Agriculture), Mr. Gift Kamupingene (National Project Coordinator, FAO) (1st from left in the backrow) and other beneficiary farmers.

Above right:

The picture on the right above shows the signboard erected at the entrance of Mr. Kakula's farm.



Above left:

Ambassador Nishimaki being explained on what happens in the nursery by Mr. Modestus Kakula at his farm. The nursery was constructed with materials from the Japanese Government funded FAO project,

Above right:

The picture on right above shows Mr. Kakula's garden with chili peppers in the foreground and maize in the background.