

On April 25, 2024, Ambassador Nishimaki went on a familiarization visit to Kunene Region together with the Minister of Health and Social Services, Hon. Dr. Kalumbi Shangula to assess the impact of the Japan funded project titled, “Increasing Access To Quality Health Care For Vulnerable Populations Through Enhanced Outreach Health Services” , as implemented by the World Health Organization (WHO) in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Social Services (MoHSS).

This “Access to quality health care” project is aimed at increasing access to quality health care for vulnerable populations through enhanced outreach health services to reduce preventable deaths and inequities in Omaheke and Kunene Regions. The project was carried out from January to December 2023, aimed to ensure that at least 80% of the target population in hard-to-reach areas of the 4 selected districts access outreach services. Ambassador Nishimaki mentioned that the Access to quality care project was the fourth tripartite agreement between the Government of Japan, Government of Namibia, and the World Health Organization in Namibia to address health emergencies and build resilient health systems. The Project was funded at USD 300,000 which is approximately N\$ 5.7 million.”

After the official event at the Regional health Directorate Offices in Opuwo Town in the Kunene Region, Ambassador Nishimaki and the Honorable Minister of Health and Social services of Namibia Dr. Kalumbi Shangula went for a field to witness the impact of the project on the community in Orotjitombo village of Opuwo district in Kunene Region.



Ambassador Nishimaki delivering his speech in Opuwo, Kunene region.



(Above pictures) Both speakers on the day, Dr Kalumbi Shangula - Minister of Health and Social Services in Namibia (left) and Dr. Mary Brantuo – WHO Officer In Charge (right), extended their immense gratitude to the people of Japan’s invaluable partnership in supporting their collective endeavors to ensure access to quality health services for women and children in Namibia.

(Left picture)  
The high level dignitaries who accompanied Ambassador Nishimaki included representatives from various offices such as; Governor of Kunene Region, Ministry of Health and Social Services, Opuwo Town Mayor and Constituency Councilors, Regional Health Directorate, Namibian Police amongst others.



Mobile Health Clinic with two rooms allowing a Medical Doctor and a Dentist to attend to the Orotjitombo village’s community under the Health Outreach Programme.



(Left picture) A Community Health Worker under the Health outreach Programme does house to house visits and here she is attending to a women who recently delivered a baby at home due to prohibitive long distances to the health centres and lack of transport.



(Left picture) A vaccination point attended to by professional nurses set-up as part of the Health Outreach Service at Orotjitombo village ensuring that all children are vaccinated against important diseases even in hard to reach places.



The community at Orotjitombo village and neighboring villages came in large numbers and were very appreciative of the important health services being rendered close to them. The children of the local primary school sung appreciative songs to the visiting delegation and health service providers.

