

# Japan's 'Grassroots' program implements its 500th project in Mongolia



Mongolian gov. officials and Japanese Ambassador signing the 500th project

Within the framework of the 'Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects Program' by the Government of Japan in the last 16 years, more than 500 projects were brought into effect in Mongolia. In the sense of economic and social sectors covered by the projects, 64 percent (321 projects) in education,

20.8 percent (104 projects) in health, 8.6 percent in utilities industry (43 projects), 0.8 percent in agriculture (4 projects), 0.6 percent in transportation and communications fields (3 projects), 5 percent in other sectors (25 projects) were implemented respectively.

On August 16, a ceremony to establish two more Grassroots

Programs was held in Ulaanbaatar to mark the 499th and 500th Grassroots financial assistance program milestone. Foreign Affairs Minister Ts. Munkh-Orgil, Health Minister A. Tsogtsetseg, Japanese Ambassador to Mongolia Takenori Shimizu, and other corresponding governors from aimags and municipalities attended the event. The two projects signed during the ceremony include following constructions.

- Repair and maintenance project for kindergarten building No. 3 in Bayankhongor Aimag - USD 78,287
- Renovation project of a dormitory and gym sports hall of a secondary school in Tuv Aimag - USD 83,776
- Repair and maintenance project for a kindergarten building in Dornogobi Aimag - USD 77,570
- Extension project of a kindergarten in Sakhuubar Aimag - USD 84,298
- Repair and maintenance project for a kindergarten building in Dornod Aimag - USD 75,388

• Repair and maintenance project for building of secondary school No. 53 in the Bayanzurkh district of Ulaanbaatar - USD 64,252

Since the Grassroots program started in Mongolia in 1990, the total financial assistance has amounted to USD 33,586,674.

Its benefits are spread over 206 soums of 21 aimags of Mongolia and are widely recognized throughout Mongolia as being well-timed with flexible terms.

At the ceremony, Minister of Health said "Technical and financial assistance provided by the Japanese Government's Grassroots programs always reaches whoever and whenever needs help.

The first-ever project implemented in Mongolia in 1990 was a project to improve technology to manufacture Hepatitis B vaccine. Since that time, a variety of projects for health and education in Mongolia have been realized supporting socioeconomic development of the country".