

Japan Inaugurates New Water Supply System

- **This water supply system is a token of friendship between our two countries:
Ambassador Suzuki**

An inauguration ceremony for the project for Water Supply to Small Cities in the Southern Part of Amhara Regional State was held on 9 June, 2015 in Lumame Town, one of the project sites. This water supply project was implemented based upon the Exchange of Notes signed between the Japanese and Ethiopian Governments on 10 June 2013. The total funding Japan extended for this project was around USD 5 million. The inauguration ceremony was attended by H.E. Mr. Kazuhiro Suzuki, Ambassador of Japan to Ethiopia and Permanent Representative to the African Union, and H.E. Ato Alemayehu Tegenu, Minister of Water, Irrigation and Energy of Ethiopia.

Speaking on the multidimensional benefits of the water supply system during the inaugural occasion, Japanese Ambassador H.E. Mr. Kazuhiro Suzuki remarked: “Japan prides itself on its superior skill in building infrastructure in a comprehensive manner, not only utilizing technology, but also by emphasizing human resource development through introducing maintenance and management techniques, with a focus on the environment and safety.”

Ambassador Suzuki underlined the importance of the water supply system as the most fundamental need that has to be met before anything else, and he also emphasized the significance of the project in improving access to a safe water supply, sanitation and good hygiene in rural areas so that people have easy access to clean water, reducing the amount of hygiene related diseases, to which children are the most vulnerable, so that people can be more engaged in their social and economic activities.

The water supply system construction itself was implemented by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), together with the Bureau of Water Resource Development. JICA has been assisting in water supply system construction and maintenance through its technical cooperation and grant assistance schemes.

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Addis Ababa

