

Handover Ceremony of the UNICEF project for the COVID-19 response in Ethiopia funded by Japan and the Visit to the Site

On 16 February 2021, Ambassador Ito Takako participated in the handover ceremony for the “Emergency Assistance for Prevention of Further Spread of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Infection in Ethiopia”. The event was organized in Addis Ababa jointly UNICEF Ethiopia and the Embassy of Japan with the participation of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MoLSA), Ministry of Water, Irrigation and Energy (MoWIE). The project was funded by the Government of Japan (over USD 4 million) in order to reduce human-to-human transmission of COVID-19 and to mitigate the impact of the outbreak.

During the ceremony, Ambassador Ito Takako emphasized the importance of taking inclusive measures based on human security, which, during the COVID-19 pandemic, could truly be described as a “human security crisis”, focusing on the protection and empowerment of each individual so that the most vulnerable will not be left behind, and which will lead to the enhancement of the public health system. As part of Japan’s assistance, the SatoPan, which was developed by the Lixil Cooperation, a Japanese company, as an affordable and innovative toilet solution, has been donated by the company and, will be distributed to the 165,000 most vulnerable people and it is expected to benefit over 750,000 people. Mr. Getachew Bedane, State Minister of MoLSA and Ms. Adele Khodl, UNICEF Ethiopia Representative expressed their appreciation for the Japanese support.

After the ceremony, Ambassador Ito visited the TVET center where the SatoPan installation trainings were conducted, then the houses of final beneficiaries in the community where the SatoPan was installed and listened to their experiences on the use and benefits of the SatoPan.



Ambassador’s Speech



Group photo with SatoPan



Explanation on the SatoPan installation



Interaction with Final Beneficiaries