

## **JAPAN EXTENDS USD 3.5 MILLION TO ETHIOPIA FOR FOOD ASSISTANCE**

On 12 July, an Exchange of Notes for the “Food Assistance Programme” was signed between H.E. Ms. ITO Takako, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to Ethiopia, and H.E. Mr. Ahmed Shide, Minister of Finance. The grant aid is worth approximately USD 3.5 million, equivalent to ETB 180 million.

Through this grant aid, around 2,250 tons of Japanese rice will be provided to Ethiopia, in order to combat food insecurity brought on by various factors including the droughts, the conflict in the north, drought and the extremely high number of IDPs in the country. As a lot of rice consumption in Ethiopia has relied on imports recently, this grant aid will help Ethiopia not only to combat food insecurity, but also to reduce imports and contribute to saving foreign currency.

Access to food is a human right, therefore Japan has supported rice production in Ethiopia since 2015, as one of the main pillars of our assistance to the agricultural sector. Japan has supported Ethiopia through the Food Assistance Programme for two consecutive years.

The Government of Japan has been actively supporting the development of Ethiopia and contributing to the improvement of people’s lives through various schemes, particularly in the fields of infrastructure, agriculture, industry, education and health. Japan will continue to support Ethiopia’s development efforts through various Japanese Assistance Projects, as well as through other modalities of assistance.

**Embassy of Japan**

**Addis Ababa**

**12 July 2022**