

**Ambassador ITO's  
Meeting with the President of Amhara and  
Visit to the Japanese ODA Project Sites in Bahir Dar City**

On 14 and 15 November 2022, Ambassador Ito visited Bahir Dar City, Amhara Region, to meet with Dr. Yilkal Kafale, the President of Amhara, and to visit three project sites that Japan has been supporting: the Grant Aid Project for FY 2017 “*The Project for Improvement of Water Supply in Bahir Dar City*”; the SATREPS<sup>i</sup> EARTH “*The Project for Eco-engineering for Agricultural Revitalization Towards improvement of Human nutrition (EARTH): Water Hyacinth to Energy and Agricultural Crops*”; and the SATREPS “*Next Generation Sustainable Land Management (SLM) to Combat Desertification*” project.

During the meeting with Dr. Yilkal, the President of Amhara Region, Ambassador Ito introduced the Japanese government's support to the Amhara Region and the collaborations between Japanese universities and Bahir Dar University, and Dr. Yilkal expressed his gratitude for the Japanese support.

The tour of the *Improvement of Water Supply* site started with a briefing by Dr. Mamaru Ayalew Moges, Director of the Amhara National Regional State Water, Irrigation & Energy Developmental Bureau on the current progress of waterworks construction in Bahir Dar, followed by a visit to the construction sites.

For the SATREPS EARTH project, Ambassador Ito visited the Sebatamit primary school where bread was provided to children. The bread was kneaded with highly nutritious phytoplankton (*Spirulina*) extracted from water hyacinths that overgrow in Lake Tana, and Ambassador also tasted the bread.

With regard to the SATREPS SLM project, in her opening remarks to the Joint Coordinating Committee (JCC), Ambassador Ito expressed her hope that this project would help not only the Amhara Region, but also people all over the world, to improve sustainable development in arid lands. This was followed by a tour of the experimental plots.



Ambassador ITO and Dr. Yilkal



Meeting with Dr. Mamaru



Site Visit to Water Supply



Bread Distribution to children  
at Sebatamit elementary school



Ambassador's opening remarks at JCC



Site Visit to SATREPS SLM

<sup>i</sup> SATREPS (Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development): SATREPS is a Japanese government program that promotes international joint research. The program is structured as a collaboration between the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST), which provides competitive research funds for science and technology projects, and the Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED), which provides competitive research funds for medical research and development, and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), which provides development assistance (ODA). Based on the needs of developing countries, the program aims to address global issues and lead to research outcomes of practical benefit to both local and global society.