

## Signing Ceremony for “the Project for the Renovation of Road and Bridge in Lemu Bilbilo Woreda, Arsi Zone, Oromia Region”

On 4<sup>th</sup> February 2026, a signing ceremony for “the Project for the Renovation of Road and Bridge in Lemu Bilbilo Woreda, Arsi Zone, Oromia Region” under the Japanese Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) was held at the Japanese Ambassador’s residence, in the presence of Mr. SHIBATA Hironori, Ambassador of Japan to Ethiopia and Mr. Saralegin Abera, Executive Director of God for People Relief and Development Organization (GPRDO), together with Athlete Derartu Tulu, the Former President of Ethiopian Athletics Federation as a honorable guest.

“The Project for the Renovation of Road and Bridge in Lemu Bilbilo Woreda, Arsi Zone, Oromia Region”, implemented by GPRDO, will support the construction of a 2-kilometer all-weather road and one bridge, which are expected to resolve severe muddy road conditions during the rainy season. The total amount of the grant is approximately 90,000 USD and it will enable more than 28,000 residents in four kebeles to safely access Bokoji town year-round and secure opportunities for education, healthcare, and economic activities.

At the ceremony, Ambassador SHIBATA stated that the government of Japan has been focusing on its support for Basic Human Needs (BHN) for the people of Ethiopia. Ambassador also expressed hope that this cooperation would enable both adults and children to run freely regardless of weather, foster world-class athletes from this area following in the footsteps of Athlete Derartu, and serve as a bridge between Japan and Ethiopia, paying the high respect for her contribution to bilateral friendship in the field of sport.

(From left to right) Mr. Saralegin Abera,  
Athlete Derartu, and Ambassador



Ambassador’s Speech



Guest Speech by Athlete Derartu



Group Photo

