



Representative Office of Japan to the Palestinian Authority

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PRESS RELEASE

Completion of Two Projects in Aqbat Jaber Refugee Camp and Al 'Ubeidiya Funded by Japan

Today, November 30, 2015, Mr. Takeshi Okubo, Ambassador for the Palestinian Affairs and Representative of Japan to the PA, visited Jericho and Bethlehem Governorates along with Secretary-General of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), Dr. Saeb Erekat, and Governors of Jericho and Bethlehem, Mr. Majed al Fityani and Mr. Jibreen al Bakri respectively, to celebrate the completion of two projects funded by the Government of Japan through Japan's **Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP)**.

A grant of USD 103,054 was extended to East Jerusalem-YMCA for the reconstruction of a vocational training center in Aqbat Jaber Refugee Camp. The old building was reconstructed due to severe dilapidation of its infrastructure that interferes with the training and learning process. With the completion of this project, around 180 trainees annually along with the staff will directly benefit from a safer and better training environment.

Al 'Ubeidiya Municipality, located in Bethlehem Governorate, used the USD 103,000 grant for the rehabilitation of the water network in their community. This project aims to secure water supply for the residents in the community who suffers from inadequate water provision due to damaged pipelines. A total of 2,582 residents from Al'Ubeidiya and the surrounding area shall directly benefit from the project.

In his speech, Mr. Okubo emphasized Japan's firm commitment in supporting the Palestinian people to better ensure human security and to implement social and economic development projects that are important for the empowerment of Palestinian communities.

Since 1993, the Government of Japan has extended its official development assistance to approximately \$1.6 billion, to the Palestinians. GGP projects have been formulated in collaboration with the Palestinian Authority through MoPAD since 2010.

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During the Opening Ceremony in YMCA



During the Opening Ceremony in Al Ubeidiya