



## Embassy of Japan in Jordan

### Press Release



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### **Launching Ceremony of the New Project of UNHCR Funded by the Government of Japan**

On 5<sup>th</sup> of April 2018, at the launching ceremony of the project of UNHCR, the Government of Japan formally announced the provision of funding, which amounts to 3.7 million USD, to UNHCR Jordan.

The launching ceremony of the project was held at Zaatari refugee camp in Mafraq Governorate in the presence of H.E. Mr. Hidenao Yanagi; Ambassador of Japan, Lieutenant Colonel Ahmad Seoudi; acting camp director of Syrian Refugees Affair Directorate (SRAD), Mr. Stefano Severe; UNHCR Representative to Jordan, Mr. Eddie Argenal; Director of Humanitarian Assistance of International Relief and Development (IRD), and Mr. Tsutomu Kobayashi; Chief Representative of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

The aim of this project is to support the community centers in Zaatari and Azraq refugee camps which provide not only the social activities but also the educational and vocational training for Syrian refugees to enhance their employability.

In addition to the new assistance to UNHCR targeting the refugee camps, JICA has also been implementing Electricity Training for Syrian refugees in Zaatari camp in partnership with UNHCR and National Electric Power Company (NEPCO) since 2016. On top of this, in 2017, JICA initiated the technical cooperation project aiming to improve the livelihood of Syrian refugee women in Zaatari and Azraq refugee camps.

In a speech delivered during the launching ceremony H.E. the Ambassador stated:

*“Under the situation where Syria’s protracted conflict shows no sign of abating, Japan believes the assistance aiming to promote self-reliance among the refugees has becoming more important than ever...By promoting synergies between the projects of UNHCR and JICA, Japan would like to further contribute to promoting*

*self-reliance of Syrian refugees through the empowerment; and thereby promoting the integration of Syrian refugees into the Jordanian economy and contributing to the economic development in Jordan.”*

This year, the Government of Japan decided in February to extend a new assistance package for the projects of international organizations in Jordan, which amounts to approximately 17.5 million US dollars, from its supplementary budget of 2017 of which 3.7 million USD was dedicated for UNHCR to implement this project.

Group photo in front of the signboard showing the donors



Tour of the community center assisted by the Government of Japan



Commemorative gift for the ambassador from the Syrian refugee women



Speech by the ambassador in the launching ceremony



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