

19 October 2015

## **Press Release**

## The Japanese Ambassador Inaugurates Andre Nahas Public School for Girls in El Mina, Tripoli

The Japanese Ambassador to Lebanon H.E. Mr. Seiichi Otsuka inaugurated on Monday 19 October 2015, Andre Nahas Public School for Girls after its recent renovation. The work was financed by the Government of Japan through its Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Program (GGP).

The project was implemented by an international NGO, RET under its close coordination with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education. RET's mission is to assist vulnerable communities in satisfying the educational needs of young people, especially those affected by displacement, violence, armed conflict and disasters.

The Chief Executive Officer of RET, Mrs. Zeynep Gunduz, the school director Mrs. Therese Chahine, North Lebanon Governor Mr. Ramzi Nohra, the representative of the Minister Ashraf Rifi and the representative of the minister Rashid Derbas attended the ceremony.

Located in el Mina in Tripoli, the school provided education services for approximately 500 students last year. "We used to serve more students in the past, but due to the deteriorated condition and security risk on the third floor of the building, we had to reduce the number of students", stated Mrs. Chahine. After the rehabilitation project of the building, the school will be able to accommodate 100 additional students.

Japan's GGP has so far extended around 14 million US dollars in Lebanon since 1996 to finance more than 230 development projects implemented by NGOs, municipalities, schools and medical institutions.

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