



من الشعب الياباني  
From the People of Japan

Embassy of Japan in Lebanon

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## Press Release

### The Embassy of Japan Inaugurates the Special Needs Center in Nabatieh

On April 25 2017, a delegation from the Embassy of Japan attended the inauguration ceremony of a newly rehabilitated center that aims to support the persons with special needs in the city of Nabatieh. The project was funded by the Government of Japan and implemented by the Empowerment Association for Independent Living (EAIL), through the Grant Assistance for Grass-roots Human Security Program (GGP).

Through this project, EAIL increased the capacity of the center by expanding the facility to receive a larger number of students with special needs. The center currently offers a variety of cultural, educational, psychological and social activities that aim to rehabilitate the students and to help them reintegrate into the society.

In addition to managing the special needs center, EAIL runs an awareness program on the dangers of mines and cluster bombs, and helps the mine victims and the persons with disability gain access to loans for financial support. The organization also works closely with public and private institutions to make them more accessible to persons with special needs. During the inauguration ceremony, Mr. Keisuke Yamanaka, Counselor at Embassy of Japan expressed the Embassy's strong expectation that the center would play an important role in fostering inclusive development for the local community of Nabatieh for the future, and also ensured the Japanese Government's commitment to support Lebanon in this severe regional circumstance.



The Counselor at Embassy of Japan cutting the tape at the inauguration of the special needs center



The Counselor at Embassy of Japan receiving an honorary shield from EAIL