

Japan assists firewood collectors

ADDIS ABABA – Japan-Funded project assisting Women's Wood Collectors Association in Yeka Sub-city was launched here last Saturday.

The Embassy in a press release sent to *The Ethiopian Herald* indicated that the Japanese government allocated 82,826 USD for the project implemented by a local NGO named Bio-economy Association (BA).

This project was approved based on the "Cool Earth Partnership", which is a new concept introduced by the Japanese government to cooperate actively with developing countries' efforts to reduce carbon emission and also enhance energy efficiency.

Some 400 poor and underprivileged women wood collectors have been selected by Kebele 03 and 04 of the Sub-city Women's Association and were offered integrated bio-farm training, such as composting, bio-recycling, bio-gas energy and livestock waste management.

Ambassador Kishino on the occasion expressed his appreciation to the people in the Women's Association as well as the BA for their deep devotion to the completion of the project.

"By consuming organic vegetables, their dietary and health status has been remarkably improved, and by gaining income, their children are able to attend schools regularly because their mothers can now afford the educational expenses," he added.

The Ambassador also said that



Ambassador Kishino inaugurating the project

the project will serve as a demonstration and model to promote Eco-friendly technology among other communities in Ethiopia.

Since 1997, the Embassy of Japan in Ethiopia has supported over 287 Grassroots Human Security Projects

throughout Ethiopia, in education, water, agriculture, health and other areas of basic human needs. The Government of Japan will continue to support a variety of projects at the grassroots level for marginalized and vulnerable people.