

## **Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects FY 2020:**

### **Signing Ceremony of**

### **“Project for Provision of Garbage Containers and Collection Vehicle to Enhance Capacity for Waste Management in Ijevan City”**

On January 26, 2021, the Grant Contract for the “Project for Provision of Garbage Containers and Collection Vehicle to Enhance Capacity for Waste Management in Ijevan City” up to USD 76,960 within the framework of Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) of Japan was signed by Mr. Jun Yamada, Ambassador of Japan to Armenia and Dr. Mkhitar Mnatsakanyan, President of Armenian Red Cross Society. The ceremony took place in the presence of Mr. Hayk Ghalumyan, the Acting Mayor of Ijevan city.

The project aims to provide 240 waste containers and a garbage collection truck for proper waste management in Ijevan city. The newly installed containers and the purchased garbage collection truck will directly improve waste management practices for more than 19000 inhabitants in the city of Ijevan. In the long run, environmental protection events will be organized to raise the environmental awareness among the residents and contribute to the solid waste management. As a result, it is also expected that the proper waste removal and disposal practices will improve the quality of water in Aghstev river, thus contributing to the environmental security for Armenia which is in line with Armenian Government’s priorities and Japanese Development Cooperation Policy to Armenia.

In the opening remarks, warmly welcoming the guests, Dr. Mnatsakanyan stated that this kind of projects that aim at increasing the resilience and development of communities greatly change the quality of life of people, significantly changing their way of thinking. The Armenian Red Cross Society, while implementing its programs, aims to change minds and behavior, cultivating humanitarian values, and this particular one is no exception in this regard. Moreover, Dr. Mnatsakanyan expressed his gratitude to the Japanese Government, as well as the Embassy of Japan in Armenia for the cooperation and ensured in the effectiveness of the project.

Ambassador Yamada, in his turn, highlighted that the improved infrastructure, proper waste management practices and increased awareness of environmental protection will lead towards sustainable development path for Armenia. Ambassador Yamada also stressed that this assistance will not only become a step towards improvement of environmental security of Armenia but also will become a strong bond and embodiment of friendship and mutual sympathy which traditionally form the very foundation of Japan – Armenia relations.



Ambassador Yamada and Dr. Mnatsakanyan, President of ARCS signing the grant contract



Ambassador Yamada and Dr. Mnatsakanyan shaking hands



Speech by Ambassador Yamada



Speech by Dr. Mnatsakanyan and the participants of the ceremony