## **Launching Ceremony of the Project**

## "Transition to Low Carbon Irrigation Technologies for Increased Productivity, Food Security and Enhanced Livelihoods in Lori and Shirak Regions of Armenia"

On May 10, 2023, the Launching Ceremony of the Project "Transition to Low Carbon Irrigation Technologies for Increased Productivity, Food Security and Enhanced Livelihoods in Lori and Shirak Regions of Armenia" was held at IBIS Hotel in Yerevan.

The Project is funded by the Government of Japan and implemented by UNDP Armenia in cooperation with the Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure, Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Armenia.

The Ceremony was attended by H.E. Mr. FUKUSHIMA Masanori, Ambassador of Japan to Armenia, H.E. Mr. Gnel Sanosyan, Minister of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure, H.E. Mr. Hakob Simidyan, Minister of Environment, Mrs. Natia Natsvlishvili, Resident Representative of UNDP in Armenia, and representatives from three collaborating Ministries and relevant organizations.

During the Ceremony, two Ministers of the Government of Armenia and the Resident Representative of UNDP delivered speeches, welcoming the guests, introducing the Project, and expressing gratitude to the Japanese Government and the Embassy of Japan for assistance.

Minister of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure, Mr. Sanosyan noted that the program has three important components: efficient use of water, energy conservation and agricultural importance, and wished everyone success in order to carry out the works in due time and in the specified directions.

Minister of Environment, Mr. Simidyan emphasized the short-term, fast and effective programs implemented with the support of the Japanese government. The Minister referred to the important solutions offered by the new project and its environmental result, particularly the effective management of water resources.

Resident Representative of UNDP, Mrs. Natsvlishvili thanked the Governments of Armenia and Japan for effective cooperation, noting that the Government of Japan is one of those unique donors that pay great attention to and support the implementation of the Nationally Determined Contributions, as well as the development of professional and technical capacities in various fields.

Ambassador of Japan, Mr. Fukushima expressed confidence that the Project would contribute to the fulfillment of Armenia's nationally determined contribution under the Paris Agreement, reducing carbon emissions from energy use in irrigated agriculture as well as increasing agricultural production and self-sufficiency in Lori and Shirak regions.



Ambassador Fukushima, Minister Sanosyan, Minister Simidyan and UNDP Representative Natsylishvili (From the Left)



Signing of the Project Document by Minister Sanosyan and UNDP Representative Natsylishvili



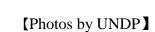
Speeches by Participants



Deputy Minister of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure Terteryan and Lori Governor Khachatryan (From the Left)



Participants of the Ceremony





Banner of the Project