



Press Release

Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects FY 2023: Completion Ceremony for the Project for Constructing an Agricultural Training Center for Vulnerable Population in Gyumri

Yerevan: May 29th, 2025

On May 29th, 2025, the Completion Ceremony for the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Project "The Project for Constructing an Agricultural Training Center for Vulnerable Population in Gyumri" (grant up to: USD 65,424) was held at the newly established agricultural training center. The ceremony was attended by Mr. AOKI Yutaka, Ambassador of Japan to Armenia, Ms. Tigranuhi Akopyan, Director of the Caritas Aregak Foundation, and Mr. Avetis Arakelyan, First Deputy Mayor of Gyumri, along with staff members from the Caritas Aregak Foundation and Armenian Caritas.

This project aims to construct an agricultural training center in Gyumri City, Shirak Province, enabling approximately 50 residents annually, including persons with disabilities and refugees from Nagorno-Karabakh, to receive agricultural training. The average monthly household income in Shirak Province is approximately USD 335, representing roughly half of the national average, while the unemployment rate reaches 24%, approaching double the Armenian average. Of particular concern is the unemployment rate among persons with disabilities, which stands at a severe 90%. Therefore, this project aims to provide vocational training in a barrier-free environment, supporting socially vulnerable individuals in acquiring agricultural skills and achieving economic independence.

Ms. Akopyan, Director of the Caritas Aregak Foundation, expressed her appreciation, stating, " In this region, persons with disabilities and refugees had limited opportunities to learn agriculture, but thanks to the agricultural training center constructed with Japanese support, they can now receive practical vocational training in a barrier-free environment. This center not only provides agricultural training but also plans to thoroughly support the expansion of employment opportunities for trainees by conducting training for farmers who will serve as employers after the training program and implementing workshops to connect farmers with trainees."



Ambassador Aoki performing the tape-cutting with
Director Akopyan



Newly established Agricultural Training Center



Commemorative photo with beneficiaries



Inside of the Agricultural Training Center