



## Press Release

# **Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects FY 2025: Signing Ceremony for the Project for the Development of Irrigation Water Storage Facility and Water Pipes in Lernavan Village**

Yerevan: February 6th, 2026

---

On February 6<sup>th</sup>, the Signing Ceremony for the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Project "the Project for the Development of Irrigation Water Storage Facility and Water Pipes in Lernavan Village" (grant up to: USD 127,000) was held in YMCA office in Spitak, Lori Region. The ceremony was attended by Mr. AOKI Yutaka, Ambassador of Japan to Armenia, Mr. Aren Mkrtychyan, Governor of Lori Region, Mr. Arsen Gharibyan, Deputy Governor of Lori Region, Mr. Qajayr Nikoghosyan, Head of Spitak Community, Dr. Sargis Markosyan, Executive Director of "Spitak Farmer" NGO, along with government officials and representatives from Lernavan Village.

This project aims to restore the productivity of 80 hectares of unused agricultural land by developing an irrigation water storage facility (8,900 cubic meters) and water pipes (450 meters) in Lernavan Village, Spitak Community. The project will also plan to improving livelihoods for approximately 150 local households and socially vulnerable groups, including 50 displaced people from Nagorno-Karabakh. The village's irrigation system suffered severe damage from the 1988 Spitak earthquake, and despite partial restoration efforts by villagers, water transmission from the source to farmland has remained difficult. This situation led to a decline in employment opportunities in the agricultural sector and increased economic vulnerability among residents, creating a demand for support.

Dr. Markosyan, Executive Director of "Spitak Farmer" NGO, stated at the ceremony, "Thanks to the support of the Government of Japan, Lernavan Village will be able to develop an irrigation system that enables stable water access, improving agricultural productivity that are important to the local industry." Ambassador AOKI Yutaka also delivered congratulatory messages, stating, "I am pleased that this water reservoir will provide stable water access for irrigation and improve agricultural productivity. I hope this project will strengthen agricultural productivity and contribute to the sustainable future of Lernavan Village."



Grant contract signing



(from left)

Mr. Nikoghosyan (Head of Spitak Community),  
Ambassador Aoki,  
Mr. Mkrtychyan (Governor of Lori Region),  
Mr. Gharibyan (Deputy Governor of Lori Region)  
and Dr. Markosyan (Executive Director of “Spitak Farmer”  
NGO)