



H.E. Ambassador Takayoshi Kuromiya at the 20-bed Adolescent DATC in Jalalabad. Photo credit: WHO/Zakarya Safari

7 March 2024, Kabul, Afghanistan – His Excellency Mr Takayoshi Kuromiya, Ambassador of Japan to Afghanistan, visited Nangarhar province last week, accompanied by WHO, to observe various health initiatives in the country. This visit underscores Japan's commitment to improve health services in Afghanistan, recognizing the vital importance of accessible, high-quality medical care for the Afghan people.

During his visit, H.E. Mr Kuromiya toured Jalalabad's 150-bed adult male drug addiction treatment centre and an equivalent 20-bed facility for adolescents. As well as observing patient care processes, he talked to patients and staff to understand the challenges and successes of the centres.

He also met with mobile outreach teams attached to the centres to discuss community outreach efforts. These include initiatives to raise awareness about drug addiction and to support vulnerable communities, such as through a visit to Pakhtunistan High School, Khewa district.



H.E. Ambassador Takayoshi Kuromiya during his visit to Pakhtunistan high school. Photo credit: WHO/Zakarya Safari

“As Japan’s ambassador to Afghanistan, it’s imperative for us to witness firsthand the challenges and successes in the health care sector. By collaborating with organizations like WHO, we strive to ensure that every Afghan has access to essential medical services,” said H.E. Mr Kuromiya.

“The World Health Organization is proud to partner with the Government of Japan to support Afghanistan’s health care initiatives. Together, we work towards building a resilient health system that can effectively address the diverse health needs of the Afghan population,” said Dr

Jamshed Tanoli, acting WHO Representative in Afghanistan.

H.E. Mr Kuromiya's visit reaffirms Japan's steadfast dedication to support the people of Afghanistan and advance health access for all Afghans, especially women and girls. Through its partnership with WHO, Japan continues to make significant strides in enhancing the well-being of Afghan communities.

Japan's allocation of about US\$ 7.5 million to WHO further demonstrates this commitment. This support is aimed at strengthening the response capacity for infectious diseases in referral hospitals across Afghanistan and supporting WHO's response to infectious disease outbreaks in the country in 2024.

### **Media inquiries**

Joy Rivaca Caminade, Head of Communications, WHO Afghanistan

Email: [caminadej@who.int](mailto:caminadej@who.int)

Nourhan El-Nagdy, Donor Communication Officer, WHO Afghanistan

Email: [elnagdyn@who.int](mailto:elnagdyn@who.int)

Tuesday 30th of April 2024 06:00:43 AM