

<2026 [11th News]> Donation of Medical Equipment to Malawi through JICA's "Smile for All in the World" Program (Posted on March 26, 2026)

In October 2025, UOEH donated a wheelchair, a manual stand-type sphygmomanometer, and an IV stand to a local clinic in the Republic of Malawi, located in southeastern Africa, through "Smile for All in the World" program initiated under the Secretariat of Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). These items were university equipment that had been scheduled for disposal.

At that time, Ms. Mariko Kawamoto, a 3rd-term graduate (class of 2010) of the Dept. of Occupational Hygiene, School of Health Sciences who was serving in Malawi as a JICA Overseas Cooperation Volunteer, consulted with us regarding the possibility of donating unused equipment from UOEH to support the establishment of a new clinic in Malawi. Her request paved the way for the realization of this donation.

The collected equipment arrived in Malawi in January 2026, and we recently received a letter of appreciation and photographs from Ms. Kawamoto and the local hospital staff. According to Ms. Kawamoto, most of the people in the region who have physical disabilities lack access to wheelchairs, and many others have never had the opportunity to know their own blood pressure. We hope to continue supporting such initiatives, and we kindly ask for everyone's cooperation.

"Smile for All in the World" Program:

This program collects items related to sports, Japanese culture, education, welfare, and other fields that are needed in developing countries, and delivers them to local communities through JICA Overseas Cooperation Volunteers and overseas offices. (Excerpt from the JICA website: ["Smile for All in the World"](#))

[あなたのやさしさを世界へ「世界の笑顔のために」プログラム | 事業について - JICA](#)



Letter of appreciation jointly prepared by the local clinic and the elementary school 1



Letter of appreciation jointly prepared by the local clinic and the elementary school 2



Health promotion activity conducted by clinic staff using the manual sphygmomanometer



Donation to the clinic staff



Measuring blood pressure with the manual sphygmomanometer



Donation Ceremony



Local elementary school students preparing the letter of appreciation