

令和5年度草の根・人間の安全保障無償資金協力 署名式典

令和5年5月10日（水）、令和5年度草の根・人間の安全保障無償資金協力に係る署名式典を当館多目的ホールにて開催しました。同署名式では、植野篤志大使が、カンボジア・自由で公正な選挙委員会（コンフレル）のクム・チョーン局長との間で「国民議会議員選挙における選挙監視支援計画」（供与限度額 69,333 米ドル）についての贈与契約書に署名しました。

コンフレルが実施する本案件では、カンボジア全国に派遣される選挙監視員 10,241 名が使用する、選挙監視マニュアル、監視員用のユニフォーム及び必要備品（USB、ボールペン、クリアフォルダー、カードフォルダー/首掛けストラップ）を支援します。適切な監視活動の知識を得た選挙監視員が、選挙に際して全国規模の機動的監視を行うことにより、自由で公正な選挙の実施につながり、全有権者に裨益するほか、選挙監視員のユニフォーム着用により、より安全な選挙監視が促進され、選挙監視員 10,241 名に裨益することが期待されます。



植野大使とカンボジア・自由で公正な選挙委員会（コンフレル）クム・チョーン局長との署名の様子



植野大使によるスピーチの様子

式典では、植野大使がスピーチを行い、カンボジアにおける民主主義の実現に向けて、日本がこれまでに行ってきた数々の支援内容について述べるとともに、本事業がカンボジアの自由で公正な選挙の実施に役立つことを願うと述べました。続いてコンフレルを代表して、ヨン・キム・エイン氏がスピーチを行い、日本国民及び政府への感謝の意を表明するとともに、本選挙に向けて活動する他のNGOとも協力しつつ、来る国民議会議員選挙の監視に尽力することを述べました。

**Speech by H.E. Mr. UENO Atsushi,
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan
to the Kingdom of Cambodia
at the Grant Contract Signing Ceremony for Grassroots Human
Security Projects
10 May, 2023**

- クム チョーン Mr. KIM Chhorn, Executive Director of Committee for Free and Fair Elections in Cambodia
- Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,

Good afternoon, everyone. Welcome to the Embassy of Japan. I am pleased to host this signing ceremony for a grant contract of KUSANONE projects, the Grassroots Human Security Projects.

Today, the Government of Japan provides US\$69,333 (sixty-nine thousand three hundred and thirty-three US dollars) for the project to be implemented by the Committee for Free and Fair Elections in Cambodia (COMFREL). In this project, printed manuals, T-shirts, and toolkits will be distributed to 10,241 (ten thousand two hundred and forty-one) short-time election observers who will be deployed all over Cambodia during the National Assembly election in July.

Let me explain to you the outline of Japan's support for democracy in Cambodia. Japan has consistently supported and walked together with Cambodia on its path of democratic development since the achievement of peace in Cambodia in the early 1990s.

In particular, the Japanese government has placed great emphasis on supporting elections, which are the foundation of democracy and has continued to support elections in various ways, both directly and indirectly, including the dispatch of election observers to Cambodia for the past general elections.

Japan provided grant assistance for ballot boxes and vehicles, as well as long-standing technical assistance to the National Election Committee (NEC). Japan also provided a biometric voter registration system. Currently, JICA is dispatching experts to the NEC to conduct general education program by the NEC with the aim of promoting understanding of elections, and as part of this, the NEC is conducting on-site classes at schools and other locations.

For the COMFREL, the Government of Japan supported four times for the national and local elections starting from the second commune/^{ソンカッ} sangkat council election in 2002. The COMFREL produced election manuals, legal guidebooks, pamphlets for voters through these projects, and I understand that these materials have contributed to improve understanding of the appropriate election process.

The presence of election monitoring by various actors is an important element to conduct free and fair elections. From this perspective, the Government of Japan has been supporting several projects through KUSANONE to ensure free and fair elections with various organizations including the COMFREL which work for election publicity and voter education.

Ladies, and Gentlemen,

I am particularly pleased to note that this project is conducted in this special year of 70th Anniversary of the diplomatic relations between Japan and Cambodia. We sincerely hope that our support to the COMFREL will help to ensure free and fair elections in Cambodia.

Last, but not least, I wish you all present here today good health and happiness and further development of democracy in Cambodia.

Thank you very much for your attention.



EMBASSY OF JAPAN
IN THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA

PRESS RELEASE

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Japan Provides US\$69,333 for Supporting Election Observation for National Assembly Election

The Government of Japan will provide US\$69,333 for a recipient organization under the framework, *the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (“KUSANONE”)*. The Grant Contract was signed today between H.E. Mr. UENO Atsushi, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the Kingdom of Cambodia, and the representative of the recipient, to carry out the following project.

‘The Project for Supporting Election Observation for the National Assembly Election’ (US\$69,333)
Recipient: Committee for Free and Fair Elections in Cambodia (COMFREL)

In this project, printed manuals, T-shirts, and toolkits will be provided for 10,241 short-time election observers who will be deployed all over Cambodia during the national assembly election in coming July. It is expected that this project will contribute to ensuring free and fair election and respect all voters’ will regardless of women, youth, or any marginalized groups.

Japan’s “KUSANONE” Projects started in Cambodia in 1991 in order to support Cambodia’s reconstruction and development at the grassroots level. The assistance aims to protect those who are vulnerable due to various factors such as poverty and/or misfortunes that directly threaten their lives, livelihood, and dignity, as well as to promote self-reliance of local communities. Since 1991, the Government of Japan has provided over US\$66 million for mainly local authorities and non-governmental organizations to implement over 680 KUSANONE projects throughout Cambodia.

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