

EMBASSY OF JAPAN
IN THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA

PRESS RELEASE

4 March 2016

**JAPAN PROVIDES US\$338,963 FOR
POVERTY REDUCTION THROUGH STRENGTHENING MARKETING
OF ORGANIC PRODUCTS OF AGRICULTURE COOPERATIVES**

Under the framework of *the Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO's Projects*, the Government of Japan has agreed to US\$338,963 to International Volunteers of Yamagata (IVY). The Grant Contract was signed today at the Embassy of Japan between H.E. Mr. KUMAMARU Yuji, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the Kingdom of Cambodia, and Ms. MATSUURA Ayumi, Project Manager of IVY to implement “Poverty Reduction through Strengthening Marketing of Organic Products of Agriculture Cooperatives in 2 Provinces (Phase I)”.

In this project, IVY will improve the management ability of organic-rice production cooperatives and enhance the cooperative marketing of organic rice in Preah Vihear Province. In Svay Rieng Province, IVY will also continue to assist Svay Rieng Agro-Products Cooperative (SAC) by constructing a new building, which contributes to an efficient vegetable production and distribution system.

The Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO's Projects started in Cambodia in 2002 to support the activities of Japanese NGOs to help Cambodia's reconstruction and development efforts at the grassroots level. Since 2002, the Government of Japan has provided over US\$25 million for 92 projects, mainly in the field of primary education, health, agriculture and mine clearance. The project for which the contracts have been signed today is the fifth one funded by this grant scheme in Japanese fiscal year 2015 (April 2015 - March 2016).

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