

Embassy of Japan in the Kingdom of Cambodia

Press Release

1 March 2017

Japan Provides US\$1,389,888 for Capacity Building on Clearance of Explosive Remnants for CMAC, Strengthening Agriculture Cooperatives, and Improvement of Maternal and Child Health

Under the framework of *the Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects*, the Government of Japan has agreed to provide 3 Japanese NGOs with US\$1,389,888 in total: US\$542,050 to Japan Mine Action Service (JMAS) for 'Capacity Building Project on Explosive Remnants of War Clearance for CMAC Phase III', US\$381,407 to IVY for the project of 'Poverty Reduction through Strengthening Marketing of Organic Products of Agriculture Cooperatives in 2 Provinces Phase II', and US\$466,431 to World Vision Japan for the project of 'Improving Maternal and Child Health in Takeo Province Phase I'. The Grant Contracts were signed today at the Embassy of Japan between H.E. Mr. HORINOUCHI Hidehisa, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the Kingdom of Cambodia, and Mr. SHIBATA Mikio, Resident Representative of JMAS, Ms. MATSUURA Ayumi, Project Manager of IVY, and Mr. MATSUOKA Takuya, Project Manager of World Vision Japan respectively.

In the 'Capacity Building Project on Explosive Remnants of War Clearance for CMAC Phase III', JMAS's experts will continue to conduct training in the areas where explosive remnant of war still remain, aiming to further enhance the capacity of CMAC's ERWI squads and instructors, and will examine the possibility of the transfer of JMAS's skills to use the latest technology such as drones. It is expected that about 240,000 people in the project area will be free from the fear of explosive remnants of war and the project will contribute to the stabilization of their lives, the improvement of their living environment, and further development of their communities.

In the project of 'Poverty Reduction through Strengthening Marketing of Organic Products of Agriculture Cooperatives in 2 Provinces Phase II', IVY will enhance the management capacity of agriculture cooperatives in Preah Vihear Province and their union, and will help to improve the quality of rice and establish an internal management system to acquire organic certification. Focusing on the shipment centre of Svay Rieng Agriculture Cooperative (SAC)

which was constructed in the project's Phase I and has drawn attention as a pioneering model, IVY will help SAC to improve added value on its products and enhance its sustainability so that it can play a role as an even more successful model for other agriculture cooperatives.

In the project of 'Improving Maternal and Child Health in Takeo Province Phase I', World Vision Japan will provide trainings for health workers and health volunteers and health education for mothers in Kiri Vong Operational District and Kaoh Andaet Operational District, Takeo Province, aiming to improve the quality of and accessibility to health services and reduce the ratio of malnourished children and water-borne diseases. The project also includes the installation of equipment for post-delivery rooms and improvement of sanitation facilities at the health centers in the two operational districts.

The Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO 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\$28.4 million for 99 projects, mainly in the field of primary education, health, agriculture and mine clearance. The projects for which the contracts have been signed today are the fourth, fifth, and sixth projects respectively funded by this grant scheme in Cambodia in the Japanese fiscal year 2016 (April 2016 - March 2017)

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