

Improving TVET Quality to Meet the Needs of Industries

Significance and Contribution of JICA TVET Project for Socioeconomic Development in Cambodia



Final practical examination of High Diploma students in Electricitu field

The government's goal of Cambodia becoming a high middle-income country by 2030 and a high-income nation by 2050 could well become a reality given Cambodia's stellar economic growth of 7.3 per cent over a decade, prior to the Covid-19 pandemic. However, these ambitious targets can only be achieved by diversifying the Kingdom's domestic economy and by developing human capital to support growth.

In this way, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) has been playing a critical role to assist the socio-economic development of Cambodia.

Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) to produce a skilled workforce to meet growing market demand especially as the Kingdom prepares for the Industry 4.0 will remain one of the top priorities. The sector faces numerous challenges – from a lack of physical infrastructure, training equipment and materials, as well as a limited capacity of management officers and technical instructors, as highlighted in the TVET Master Plan 2021-2025.

To address this, Ministry of Labor and Vocational Training (MoLVT) with the support of JICA, initiated the "Project for Improving TVET Quality to Meet the Needs of Industries" in 2015 to develop a skilled workforce to shape Cambodia's future socioeconomic development. This is set to end in March.

The project rests on five key pillars. The first of these includes the development of a standard training package (STP) for a higher diploma in electrical work, providing an STP to instructors and developing systems to disseminate STPs for the higher diploma in electrical work to non-pilot TVET institutes. It also focuses on developing systems to maintain and manage training facilities and equipment at pilot TVET institutes, as well as strengthening partnerships between the industries and pilot TVET institutes.

JICA has been working closely with the Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training and the pilot TVET institutes to achieve these goals. The outcome has been satisfactory, with private companies that have hired graduates being pleased with their performance. Developed by the National Training Board as the first diploma-level national curriculum, the STP was approved last September.

At the pilot institutes, JICA has implemented a range of activities, including conducting seminars on using the training equipment and collaborating with the Department of Labour Market Information to hold the National TVET Day. It has also worked with the National Employment Agency to hold the National Career and Productivity Fair, and organised skills competitions. •

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COVID-19 and flood response



JICA provided coronavirus detection kits to the Institut Pasteur du Cambodge

JOCV program in the midst of COVID-19 Pandemic



JICA Volunteer at Sihanoukville Referral Hospital

Establishment of Environmental Conservation Platform of Tonle Sap Lake



ITC's SATREPs Laboratory

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JICA CONTRIBUTION IN COVID-19 RESPONSE AND DELIVERING MEDICATIONS TO FLOOD VICTIMS

COVID-19 and flood response



JICA provided coronavirus detection kits to the Institut Pasteur du Cambodge

JICA has been working with the Ministry of Health to strengthen healthcare infrastructure through its Grant Aid and Technical Cooperation project since 1995.

Facilities and medical equipment have been upgraded at the National Maternal and Child Health Center (NMCHC), the National TB Center of National Tuberculosis Control Program (NTP) and the Sihanoukville Hospital, as well as the Mongkul Borey, Kampong Cham, Svay Rieng, Battambang and Siem Reap referral hospitals.

The upskilling of healthcare workers has been carried out through JICA technical cooperation, such as the Project for

the Promotion of Monitoring and Evaluation Management System, and the Project for Strengthening Human Resource Development System of Co-Medicals, as well as the project for Improving Continuum of Care with a focus on intrapartum and neonatal care.

JICA also provided a SuperScript III Platinum and One-Step Quantitative RT PCR system to the Institut Pasteur du Cambodge (IPC) last July as part of its Covid-19 assistance.

In order to increase Covid-19 testing capacity, JICA contributed a further eight kits of SuperScript III Platinum and One-Step Quantita-

tive RT PCR to the IPC on February 6, while another eight QIAamp Viral RNA Mini Kits were delivered on February 18. It will also provide three thermography units, including laptops and tripods, to the NMCHC for Covid-19 screening in April. JICA has also promoted health awareness at the grassroots level with “The Project for Enhancing Covid-19 Prevention through Community Outreach”.

The programme provided training on Covid-19 prevention to 312 garment and textile factory workers in Bavet town in Svay Rieng province, while face masks and hand sanitiser were also distributed to health centre staff in the province.

JICA also delivered medication, hand sanitiser and soap to provincial health departments in Kandal, Banteay Meanchey, Battambang and Pursat provinces after severe flooding last October. ●

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Japan Oversea Cooperation Volunteer (JOCV) in Cambodia

JOCV program in the midst of COVID-19 Pandemic

The Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV) programme was suspended for nine months from last March due to the Covid-19 pandemic. More than 1,800 JICA volunteers worldwide returned to Japan, including 20 volunteers from Cambodia.

However, with Cambodia’s efforts to combat the pandemic, volunteers were able to return to the Kingdom last December to resume their activities.

While there may be some challenges, recruitment and dispatch for this year will proceed as planned, and JICA will start recruitment this autumn.

Around 30 volunteers will be dispatched by this year to Cambodia in the fields of health, vocational training, education and sport, namely in order to support primary school education, science, physical education, swimming and football.

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JICA IN THE MEDIA

“ជំនួយបន្តជួយកម្ពុជាជាង ២០០ លានដុល្លារ ដើម្បីដោះស្រាយបំប្រែក្តី បណ្តាលមកពី កូវីដ១៩”

Fresh News
19 November 2020

“Japan’s JICA assists with cross-border logistics”

Phnom Penh Post
10 Jan 2021

CALENDAR

DECEMBER

- 14** Wonderlab Opening Ceremony
- 14** Closing Ceremony of JPP by Kitakyusyu University “Project for Improvement of the Industry Human Resource Development Systems in Phnom Penh”

JANUARY

- 18** (Final Presentation) 2018-3, 2 JOCVs and 1 SV (online)
- 28** Public Relations Training for National Staff (online)

- 29** JCC Meeting for Cassava-SATREPS (NUBB)

FEBRUARY

- 4** International Symposium for Tonle Sap Lake (jointly held with AUN/SEED Net)
- 5** JCC for TCP Water Supply
- 16** 4th Japan Cambodia Electricity Dialogue at MME

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JICA'S SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH PARTNERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (SATREPS) PROJECT IN CAMBODIA

Establishment of Environmental Conservation Platform of Tonle Sap Lake



ITC's SATREPs Laboratory

The Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS) is an initiative to promote international joint research using advanced Japanese science and technology through Japan's Official Development Assistance.

The Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) and JICA teamed up to drive SATREPS, which will promote Sustainable Development Goals at the global level.

The "Establishment of Environmental Conservation Platform of Tonle Sap Lake" is a five-year project funded by JICA and JST. In Japan, the project is led by Tokyo Institute of Technology in collaboration with the Institute of Global Environmental Strategies and Yamagata University.

The Institute of Technology of Cambodia is spearheading the project by

partnering with the Ministry of Environment, the Tonle Sap Authority, the Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, and the Royal University of Phnom Penh.

Experts are aiming to develop a water environment analysis tool for Tonle Sap Lake and establish an environmental conservation platform through the elucidation of the lake. JICA recently distributed 2021 calendars to schoolchildren and residents living around the lake as part of a public awareness campaign on the importance of proper sanitation and the supply of clean water for public health.

Some key findings and evidence-based recommendations from the SATREPS project can be found at: <https://www.iges.or.jp/en/pub/tonlesapsatreps/en>

In addition, a video on the SATREPS project has also been developed to inform about recent environmental changes in Tonle Sap lake and the impacts on local people, their livelihoods and public health. This can be found at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8cvUyD6mpxk&t=41s>.

JICA organised the 5th International Symposium on the Conservation and Management of Tropical Lakes – held online from February 4-5 – which was held in conjunction with the 13th Regional Conference on Chemical Engineering 2020.

The virtual conference included the 5th Joint Coordinating Committee on the Project on Establishment of Environmental Conservation Platform of the Tonle Sap Lake.

This reviewed the project's achievements and the challenges faced in 2020, as well as action plans for the final implementation of the project in March 2022. ●

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International News

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Construction of Vietnam's first metro is on track:

Providing support from railway construction to company operations and maintenance, and installation of in-station services

In July this year, a course was held to train railway drivers for the urban railway system scheduled to commence operations in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam's largest city, at the end of 2021. With support from JICA, construction work on the Ho Chi Minh Urban Railway Project started in 2012, which is designed to ease traffic congestion in the megalopolis.

In addition to railway construction, a project to strengthen management capacity of operation and maintenance for the opening of Urban Railway Line 1 in Ho Chi Minh City is being implemented. It includes recruiting drivers and developing human resources for the safety management department, fostering organizational management, and formulating business regulations. JICA is assisting in both tangible and intangible aspects of the project.

Commencement of the first railway driver training course in Ho Chi Minh city

"We are proud to contribute to the continuing growth of urban development and safe transportation for passengers."



The opening ceremony of the railway driver-training course

Development of an urban transportation system that resolves many issues facing Ho Chi Minh City

In Vietnam's largest city where approximately 9 million people live (as of April 2019), the population increased by 1.8 million in the 10 years since 2009. The road systems and public bus services are stretched to the limit, and currently, many residents travel around the city on motorbikes and scooters. Going forward, an increase in the use of automobiles is expected with the growth of the economy. There are high expectations that development of the first metro will resolve many issues that the megalopolis Ho Chi Minh City is facing, such as mitigating chronic traffic congestion,

reducing air pollution, and promoting regional economic development.



Pham Binh Minh, the deputy prime minister of Vietnam inspection at the urban railway construction site

Currently, a total of eight railway lines are planned, and with cooperation from JICA, progress is being made with the construction of Urban Railway Line 1, a 19.7-km line linking Ben Thanh and Suoi Tien. It will be Vietnam's first subway line, running underground for 2.5 km through the largest business and shopping district in the center of Ho Chi Minh, and 17.2 km as an elevated structure in the suburbs. Its maximum speed will be over 100 kph. ●

For more detail, please go through below link: https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2020/20201111_01.html

JICA Scholars to lead the future of developing countries

JICA accepts JICA Scholars from developing countries to foster leaders who will take responsibility for the future and prosperity of those countries. These JICA Scholars are studying at graduate schools in a variety of fields, including health, education, engineering, agriculture, and public policy. A three-day joint online program was held at the end of August 2020 for JICA Scholars in Japan with the aim to deepen their understanding of Japan and to build a network among them. JICA President KITAOKA Shin-ichi gave a warm welcome to the roughly 200 participants in the program.

Mr. Sohorn Sopheak, a Cambodian participant at Hiroshima University's Graduate School for International Development and Cooperation, spoke about the impact of COVID-19 on education in his country. Similar to the situation in other countries, Cambodia is offering online classes, but participants are not sufficiently learning due to their internet environment, and instructors are still lacking the know-how to teach remotely. ●

For more detail, please go through below link:

https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2020/20201201_01.html

Contact Us

News from Cambodia is a newsletter that focuses on JICA's international perspectives and its involvement in local economic development. This newsletter details the work of JICA in Cambodia.

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JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency) is the world's largest bilateral aid agency providing various forms of assistance in over 150 countries around the world.

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