

News FROM Cambodia

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JICA's CONTRIBUTION TO ROAD SECTOR

North Section of National Road 5 Improvement Project Has Been Completed



National Road No.5

The National Road No.5 Improvement Project is a concessional loan project with loan amount approximately US\$ 720 million till date. The project contributes to increasing the volume of traffic on National Road No.5, which is a major route in Cambodia connecting Phnom Penh to Thailand, and further promote economic development in the Kingdom through trade promotion with neighboring country as well as strengthen connectivity throughout the region.

The project covers 366 kilometers length from Prek Kdam to Poi Pet. The project is implemented by dividing into three sections: North, South and Central Section. The construction includes the expansion of existing national road from 2 to 4 lanes with 23 meters wide and 304 kilometers length by replacing with asphalt concrete. It also includes the construction of five new bypasses of 4 lanes with 23 meters wide and 62 kilometers length, as well as the construction of new bridges at 80 locations.

The North Section – Battambang to Sri Sophorn, in length of 84.74 kilometers, began construction in March 26, 2018, is now 100 percent completed and opened for traffic in October 2021. “I am very pleased that we could complete this project successfully. During the construction, we faced a number of difficulties such as removal of utilities, water

pipes, electric poles, underground cables, and others. The most difficult part for us is to maintain the traffic flow of all commuters while we were constructing the road especially in the rainy season”, said Mr. Chhim Phalla, Project Manager and Director of Road Infrastructure Department of Ministry of Public Works and Transport. He added, “After opening for traffic, I can see people are happy as the road is constructed with a good quality and safeness for the road users, but some people are still not respect the traffic law by following the road lanes, sign board and speed which lead to traffic accidents. We together with the local authority have tried to educate them as much as we can”.

As of November 2021, the Central Section from Thlea Ma’am (Pursat) to Battambang province, with a length of 146 km has achieved 50 percent completion and South Section from Prek Kdam to Thlea Ma’am of Pursat Province, a stretch of 135 km is 60 percent completed. “We have a strong commitment to complete this project on schedule. We have conducted inspection and meeting with Project Management Unit, Consultant and Contractor to see the progress and challenges and find proper solution to catch up and speed up the progress of work. We apologize to the people for the inconvenient when commuting on this road due to noise, dust, traffic congestion and other factors, but we will try our best to finish the project on time”, said Mr. Chhim Phalla.

The study of this project was conducted in 2012 to confirm the feasibility of the project as well as assessment of environmental and social impact. “Although we faced many difficulties, but through the great efforts of all relevant concerned parties we could overcome all challenges and requests all relevant parties and people to continue taking care of this achievement, especially respect the traffic laws.” •

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Sihanoukville Port Multipurpose Terminal Development Project



The Overview of Sihanoukville Port in 2021

Sihanoukville Autonomous Port (PAS) has been known as the sole international deep sea port in Cambodia, and play an important role in promoting trade activities, logistics and industries for economic development in Cambodia.

The Sihanoukville Port had been facing the limitation of capacities and aging facilities, which has been hampering PAS to efficiently cope with the steadily increasing demand of maritime transport of general/bulk cargoes. Responding to its increasing demand, PAS needed to develop multipurpose terminal urgently.

JICA's development studies for the Sihanoukville Port ("The study on the master planning and feasibility study of the Sihanoukville Port in the Kingdom of Cambodia" (1997) and "The study on the master plan for maritime and port sectors in the Kingdom of Cambodia" (2007)) which had been approved by the Ministry of Public Works and Transportation, also identified the importance of multipurpose terminal construction at the Sihanoukville Port. Then JICA decided to support PAS for the construction Multipurpose Terminal including

bulk terminal and oil supply base by providing Japanese ODA loan under "Sihanoukville Port Multipurpose Terminal Development Project".

The construction of the 300-meter terminal berth length for general/bulk cargoes and the 200-meter terminal berth length for oil supply base were completed in 2018. The achievement brought from this project is expected to facilitate the export of Cambodian agricultural and industrial products through enhanced capacity of the Sihanoukville Port. Currently, JICA is also supporting construct of the new container terminal and to extend the operation and maintenance capacity of PAS. JICA will continuously work with PAS for port development in Sihanoukville to strengthen economic competitiveness of Cambodia. ●

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Logistics System Improvement in Cambodia

JICA has been cooperating with the Royal Government of Cambodia since 2010 on the improvement of logistics system through the formulation of the Logistics Master Plan, which was consolidated into the "Master Plan on Intermodal Transport Connectivity and Logistics System in Cambodia," and technical cooperation project.

The on-going technical cooperation project for improving the logistics system of Cambodia (2018-2023) has been conducted to support the implementation of some priority projects in the Master Plan, such as drafting policies or strategies for "Cold Chain Transportation" and "Truck

Modernization". It also aims to enhance monitoring and evaluation capacity of MPWT officials and to facilitate the improvement of the Cambodia-Vietnam and Cambodia-Thailand cross-border traffics, easing the heavy congestion and long waiting time at the borders.

In September 2021, MPWT disseminated the "2nd Progress Report" of the above-mentioned Master Plan, which had been prepared by the officials of MPWT. The Chief Advisor of the Project, Mr. KOBAYASHI Kenichi, expressed his strong commitment to further technical capacity advancement of the officials through the Project. ●

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JICA IN THE MEDIA

"Japan to keep supporting PAS expansion projects"

Khmer Times

17 November, 2021

"JICA handed 400 motorbikes to the Ministry of Health to be used for the fight against the Covid-19 pandemic"

Phnom Penh Post

15 September, 2021

"Cambodia and Japan - A third year journey from PPA and a common path for the future"

Khmer Times

22 October, 2021

"JICA provides concessional loan for Siem Reap water supply expansion project"

Phnom Penh Post

25 October, 2021

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Boosting the Agricultural Productivity through the Complete Irrigation System



Headwork and Main Canal at Lum Hach Subproject of Kampong Chhnang Province

Started the civil works in March 2016 and completed in December 2020, West Tonlesap Irrigation and Drainage Improvement and Rehabilitation Project is a complete irrigation system constructed at six subprojects, Rean Kun and Por Canal in Battambang province, Wat Luong, Wat Chre and Damnak Ampil subproject in Pursat province, and Lum Hach in Kampong Chhnang province. Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology (MOWRAM) is the project's executing agency.

The total irrigated area is 13,393 ha with the modernized facilities and salient features of 3 headworks, intakes, and related structures. The canal system includes 1) 58.2 km of main canal, 2) 135.3 km of secondary canal, 3) 241 km of branch canal,

4) 9.9 km of main drain, 5) 148.3 km of secondary drain, 6) 23.4 km of collector drain, and 7) more than 800 hundred structures. The irrigation system benefits more than 12,000 households in the 40 villages of three target provinces. The function of the irrigation system is not only to irrigate by the gravity and pump and drain the water, but also to contribute to the flood mitigation during the raining season. It serves the water for both agricultural production and daily living for the people along the irrigation facilities.

In addition to the physical infrastructures, the Project incorporated the activities for the establishment and strengthening of Farmer Water User Communities (FWUCs) and the agricultural extension services in order to enhance sustainability of operation

and maintenance of the irrigation system as well as to increase agriculture productivity. Six FWUCs were established consisting of 52 Farmer Water User Groups (FWUG).

The paddy yield during and after the project completion showed significant improvement, which is between 3.5-5 tons per hectare with 3 times of paddy production per year as well as the availability of water for other crop production. This reflects that the completed irrigation system has brought the direct benefits to increase the agricultural productivity and the livelihood of rural farmers. ●

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International News

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From Asia to Eastern Europe, and Africa! Reliable Japanese Bus Service is Expanding

The beginning was an initiative in Southeast Asia. Cooperation during the operation stage is the key to success

Behind the expansion of JICA's cooperation in bus service projects in each country, was the successful experience in Southeast Asia.

In 2011, in Vientiane, Laos, besides the provision of large buses, we launched a project focusing on the improvement of bus operations. With the strengthening of the operation system of the public bus corporation, we succeeded in improving the balance of city's bus business by optimizing the operation timetable, route plan, and fare system.



Japanese buses which were donated to Phnom Penh, Cambodia in 2017

Starting from the donation of 80 buses in 2017, in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, we have been providing guidance to improve both the convenience of buses by using GPS data, and bus vehicle maintenance methods.

In these cases in Southeast Asia, Japan's efforts have been highly evaluated for the provision of vehicles and the introduction of systems, and also for the continued cooperation in the bus operation business. In addition, it can be said that through interviews with citizens, these such activities designed to meet the needs of bus users have led to a high degree of user satisfaction.

Expert SEKI Yosui of ALMEC VPI Corporation, who has been involved in various JICA projects, emphasizes, "One of the expectations to Japan's cooperation in the transport sector is the development of high-quality infrastructure. This cannot be achieved by merely providing buses and setting up routes. There is a need for a comprehensive improvement in urban transport, including the bus operation business."



Vehicle maintenance training for mechanics of the public bus corporation in Phnom Penh

Such efforts to improve public transport centered on buses are currently spreading into Africa. Projects aiming to improve the quality of bus services in Nairobi, Kenya, and others, are being planned. ●

For more detail, please go through below link:

https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2021/20210917_02.html

JICA's Handwashing for Health and Life Campaign Throughout the World

Oct. 15 is Global Handwashing Day. It was established in the International Year of Sanitation in 2008, and its purpose is to promote proper handwashing, using soap, throughout the world. On a global scale, around 800 million children have no water supply facility and thus no habit of handwashing, resulting in lives lost to diarrhea and infectious diseases.

As COVID-19 spread throughout the world, JICA launched its "Handwashing for Health and Life campaign" to stress the importance of vigorous handwashing. To reach as many people as possible, last year JICA produced a "manga" to illustrate proper

handwashing. It has been translated into 34 languages to date, and is widely used in schools and healthcare facilities. It has also been used in joint campaigns with business to reach out to civic and community groups, and in transportation projects to encourage handwashing. As a result, the importance of handwashing has been conveyed to around 300 million people within this past year.

What matters is the next step. To make handwashing a habit of daily life, we are thinking up new ideas to spread the message about the significance of handwashing throughout the world. ●

https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2021/20211015_02.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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