

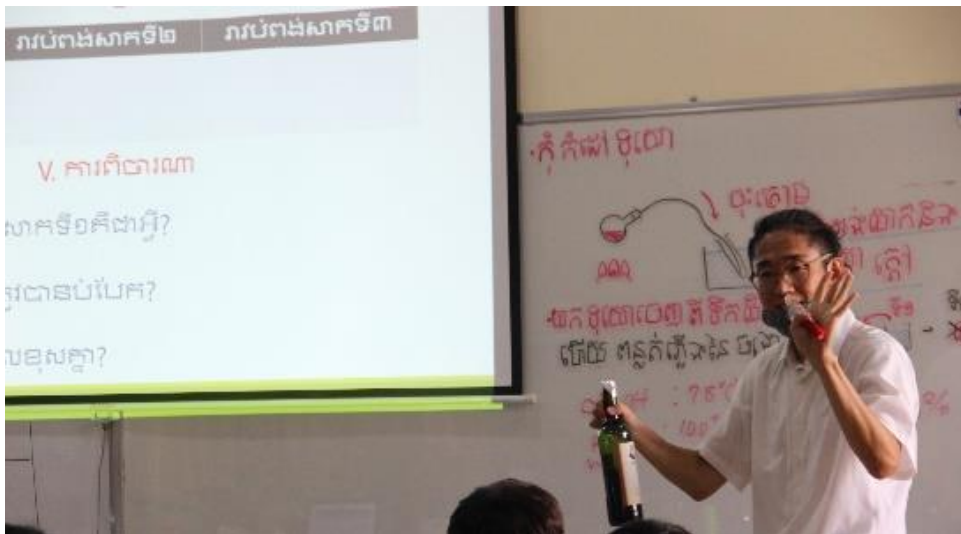
News FROM Cambodia

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JICA Volunteer Program's Back on Track

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PROJECT NEWS



Mr. Daicho, a science volunteer, is doing an experiment on distillation of red wine at Kampong Chhnang Provincial Training Center (PPTC)

Since 1965, with the Exchange of Notes between Japan and recipient nations, the JICA Volunteer Program has been actively participating in 97 countries around the world. Cambodia has until the present day accepted 797 Japanese volunteers to reside and work in the Kingdom.

Dispatched across Cambodia, they share experiences, live with locals and speak the Khmer language to fully experience the culture and traditions of the Kingdom. However, the Covid-19 pandemic meant JICA volunteers not only in Cambodia but all around the world had to return to Japan, with some having to finish their assignments remotely or even end them. These were incredibly sad moments for volunteers.

However, with the effort of the Cambodian government in the fight against Covid-19, volunteers were able to return. Presently, there are 26 volunteers working in Cambodia in different fields, including education and sport, health and water quality analysis,

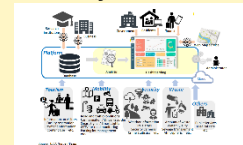
as well as electronic engineering and civil engineering. They are based in 10 locations – the capital Phnom Penh, and Kandal, Kampong Speu, Kampong Cham, Kratie, Kampong Chhnang, Battambang, Siem Reap, Kampot and Svay Rieng provinces.

The majority of the volunteers are in the field of education, to improve quality in the sector, while volunteers in the health sector play important roles in promoting hygiene and sanitation, as well as providing training for neonatal resuscitation, which helps in checking babies' first breaths.

In Cambodia for an exchange of knowledge and experience, Japanese volunteers provide technical support to recipient organisations wholeheartedly and without expecting anything in return. ●

Volunteer Section

Siem Reap Becoming a Smart City



The image platform

JICA-CMAC Cooperation on Mine Actions



Cambodia's firsthand knowledge of unexploded ordnance is shared with deminers from mine-affected countries

Strengthening the health system to be resilient to Covid-19 and Future pandemic



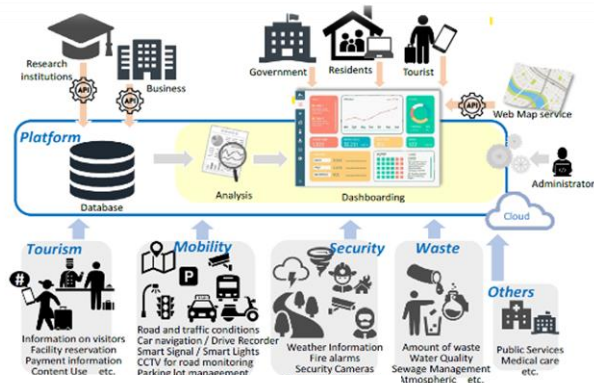
An artist's rendition of the under-construction new four-storey facility at the Siem Reap provincial.

Project News

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SIEM REAP BECOMING A SMART CITY

Launching a new technical cooperation project for Smart City in Siem Reap



The image platform

At the 32nd ASEAN Summit in 2018, Siem Reap, one of the most attractive tourism cities in Cambodia, was selected as an ASEAN Smart Cities Network (ASCN) candidate city. JICA has collaborated with the Siem Reap Provincial Administration since 2020 towards “Smart City” realisation. In May 2022, the “Project for Implementation of Smart City Approach to Solve Urban Issues in Siem Reap” was launched as a technical cooperation project of JICA. The “Smart City Approach” is a concept which seeks to solve various urban issues by utilising smart technologies with appropriate urban manage-

ment and residents’ trust in the process of implementation, monitoring and evaluation. The project is being implemented over three years to formulate a roadmap and build the capacity of officials for Siem Reap to be a “Smart City” with the vision “FOR Citizens and Visitors, WITH Angkor Heritage, Khmer Culture and Nature, BY Solutions using Smart Technologies, and TOWARDS an Attractive and Sustainable Society”. The project will implement pilot activities, including the monitoring of illegal parking, improving waste collection, the digitalisation of tourism statistics, tracking internal

government documents and monitoring the urban environment, with public- public-private collaborations for tourism to reflect on lessons learned and fine tune the roadmap. Promoting “Smart Cities” requires strong cooperation among industry, government, academia and communities. Private industries play an important role in providing services, while the government facilitates the overall process, including policy and legal formulation, planning and project implementation.

Academia also has a strong contribution to make by carrying out research hand development on smart technologies, project implementation and monitoring in collaboration with other stakeholder both domestically and internationally. Eventually, the experience of a “Smart City” will be the beneficiaries. ●

Infrastructure and Industrial Development Section

JICA-CMAC COOPERATION ON MINE ACTION

Sharing Cambodia’s firsthand knowledge with mine-affected countries

In mid-January, eight trainees from the State Emergency Service of Ukraine (SESU) arrived in Cambodia to join demining training provided by the Cambodian Mine Action Centre (CMAC).

The focus of the training was how to use Japanese-made mine detectors. Through the long-term partnership with JICA, CMAC has run 30 demining training programmes with five countries, with more than 600 people having

taken part. JICA is presently supporting CMAC to further enhance capacity in providing quality training through ongoing projects, which began in October 2020. Cambodia is, as a state party of the Ottawa Convention, committed to clearing all known minefields by 2025. After Cambodia’s minefields are cleared, CMAC is expected to share its valuable knowledge and expertise to help rid the world of landmines. ●

Social Development and Governance Section

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JICA IN THE MEDIA

“Industry ministry, JICA sign water supply agreement”

<https://phnompenhpost.com/national/industry-ministry-jica-sign-water-supply-agreement>

The Phnom Penh Post
14 January 2023

“CMAC starts training Ukrainian deminers”

<https://www.khmer-timeskh.com/501219996/cm-ac-starts-training-ukrainian-deminers/>

KHMER TIMES
16 January 2023

“Cambodia, Japan provide tech training for Ukrainian deminers”

<https://www.phnompenhpost.com/national/cambodia-japan-provide-tech-training-ukrainian-deminers>

The Phnom Penh Post
23 January 2023

“A double milestone for longstanding Japan-Cambodia friendship of trust”

<https://phnompenhpost.com/supplements/double-milestone-longstanding-japan-cambodia-friendship-trust>

The Phnom Penh Post
23 February 2023

“Cambodia seeks JICA’s assistance to boost standardised agricultural production for export”

<https://www.khmer-timeskh.com/501252758/cambodia-seeks-jicas-assistance-to-boost-standardised-agricultural-production-for-export/>

KHMER TIMES
10 March 2023

Project News

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Strengthening the health system to be resilient to Covid-19 and Future pandemic



An artist's rendition of the under-construction new four-storey facility at the Siem Reap provincial.

JICA has – with the continuous support of the health sector over the past three decades through technical cooperation, grant aid and other schemes – been working with its counterparts in Cambodia to strengthen the health system to achieve Universal Health Coverage in the Kingdom by 2030. Siem Reap Provincial Hospital is a public hospital and the top referral hospital for the northwestern region of Cambodia.

Siem Reap Provincial Hospital is a Recently, non-communicable diseases (NCDs) and physical trauma have been increasing in the area due to a rise in disease transition and traffic accidents.

To meet the increasing need for medical services, JICA has issued a grant for the “Project for Improvement of Referral Hospitals in Siem Reap Province”.

This is supporting the construction of a new four-storey building set over approximately 8.459sqm of total floor area on the grounds of the Siem Reap Provincial Hospital.

There will be 212 beds – 23 in the intensive care unit (ICU) – in the out-patients department, as well as emergency and surgical departments. Having begun in December 2021, construction is expected to be completed in September this year.



A general view from northwest side of the construction facility at the Siem Reap Provincial Hospital.

In addition to the new building, the project will provide medical equipment such as CT-scans, mobile X-rays, patient monitors and blood gas analyzers for the Siem Reap Provincial Hospital.

Furthermore, the project aims to strengthen the capacity of medical services at four district referral hospitals by providing basic medical equipment. The amount of the grant is 2,153 million Japanese yen (around US\$18.95 million).

The project is expected to contribute to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 3 and Sustainable Development Goal 11, and will be linked to the upgrading of provincial hospitals to regional hospitals to improve the healthcare system with improved facilities at the lower levels.

These will be resilient to Covid-19 and any other future pandemic to serve the general population to reduce regional disparities regarding advanced medical services and NCD-related patient concentration in national hospitals. ●

International News

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JICA Special Advisor Kitaoka held talks with Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen

On September 16, during his visit to the country, JICA Special Advisor to the President (former President) Kitaoka Shinichi held talks with Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

Prime Minister Hun Sen then went on to highly laud Japan's role in the peace negotiations in Cambodia and expressed his appreciation for Japan's contribution to peace and development in Cambodia, which has included five visits by prime ministers since Prime Minister Obuchi Keizo's visit in 2000. While noting specific projects such as the Project for the Improvement of the National Road No.1, the Project for Construction of Neak Loeung Bridge, and the Project for Construction of a Bridge over the Mekong River, he also expressed his gratitude for JICA's cooperation.

Dr. Kitaoka introduced the "JICA Chair (JICA Program for Japanese studies)" with his special lecture, titled "Meiji Restoration: start of full-

scale Modernization," which he delivered at the National Institute of Diplomacy and International Relations (NIDIR) on September 15. In addition, he noted that the successful factors of the Meiji Restoration included Japan's strong recognition of the importance of peace and stability in national development at the time, and the fact that the most outstanding government officials and politicians were working on the most important and pressing issues of the nation.

Dr. Kitaoka also expressed his support for the Cambodian government's endorsement of the UN resolution condemning Russia's aggression against Ukraine, and stressed that in the current international situation, Japan needs to play a more proactive role in deepening solidarity with countries, especially those in Southeast Asia, that share fundamental values such as freedom and the rule of law.



A scene from the meeting

In closing, Prime Minister Hun Sen expressed his gratitude for the provision of vaccines to Cambodia by the four countries of Japan, the U.S., Australia, and India, and expressed his expectations for the further strengthening of relations. The meeting covered a variety of topics and lasted well beyond the scheduled time. ●

For more detail, please go through below link:
https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2022/20220929_10ey.html

President Tanaka exchanged views with a delegation from the State Emergency Service of Ukraine (SESU): Cooperation in strengthening the capacity for humanitarian mine action

At the outset, President Tanaka expressed his condolences to the victims of the January 18 helicopter crash in Brovary, who included Honorable Minister of Internal Affairs Mr. Monastyrsky. He then paid tribute to all the deminers of SESU, who put themselves at risk every day to protect the lives and safety of the Ukrainian people, and expressed JICA's willingness to promptly support the development of SESU's capacity for humanitarian mine action. He also stated that Russia's invasion of Ukraine is a clear violation of international law and a challenge to the international order, and

that SESU's activities contribute not only to the safety and security of people, but also to the protection of this order. He further stated that SESU's participation in a training program on ALIS (Advanced Landmine Imaging System) at the Cambodia Mine Action Centre (CMAC) from January 16 to 20 was also significant in terms of mobilizing Asian cooperation and support for Ukraine. ●

For more detail, please go through below link:
https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2022/20230131_10y.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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