



EMBASSY OF JAPAN
IN THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA

PRESS RELEASE

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**Japan Provides US\$179,308
for Rehabilitating Irrigation and Strengthening Agricultural Cooperatives**

The Government of Japan has agreed to provide US\$179,308 in total for two recipient organisations under the framework, *the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (“KUSANONE” Grant)*. The Grant Contracts were signed today between H.E. Mr. MIKAMI Masahiro, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the Kingdom of Cambodia, and the representatives of the two recipients respectively, to carry out the following projects.

1. ‘The Project for Rehabilitating Kosh Svay Irrigation in Kampong Cham Province (US\$89,508)

Recipient: Kampong Cham Provincial Department of Water Resources and Meteorology

In this project, an existing irrigation system consisting of a dam, an access road, a water gate and a culvert will be rehabilitated, and also a new culvert will be constructed in Tropang Pras Commune, Prey Chhor District, Kampong Cham Province. This project will ensure the efficient water supply for rice fields and expand the irrigated agricultural land. It is expected to benefit more than 5,000 local residents from increasing of rice crop production, through rehabilitating dyke used as access road to transport agricultural crops easily, and result in improvement of their living standard.

2. ‘The Project for Strengthening Agricultural Cooperatives in Memot District and Dambae District, Tboung Khmum Province’ (US\$89,800)

Recipient: Tboung Khmum Provincial Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

In this project, warehouses will be constructed, and a pepper dryer and a cashew nut processing equipment will be installed to two Agricultural Cooperatives(AC), one in Memot District and the other in Dambae District, Tboung Khmum Province. Both ACs have difficulty to enhance the value of their commercial crops such as pepper and cashew nut, due to the lack of proper facilities for processing and place to store them. It is expected that approximately 450 farmers

belong to those ACs will gain benefit from improvement in quality of their agricultural products and added value chain thorough AC's business.

Japan's "*KUSANONE*" *Projects* started in Cambodia in 1991 in order to support Cambodia's reconstruction and development at the grassroots level. The assistance aims to protect those who are vulnerable due to various factors such as poverty and/or misfortunes that directly threaten their lives, livelihood, and dignity, as well as to promote self-reliance of local communities. Since 1991, the Government of Japan has provided over US\$60 million for mainly local authorities and non-governmental organizations to implement 620 *KUSANONE* projects throughout Cambodia.

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