

PRESS RELEASE
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Japanese ODA News

KUSANONE Grant Assistance Signing Ceremony

August 11th, 2003 at 11:00 a.m.
at the Hall of the Embassy of Japan

(Editors are invited for reporting and photo coverage)

The government of Japan has decided to provide, through its Grant Assistance for Grass-roots/Human Security Projects called "KUSANONE" (which means Grass-roots in Japanese) and Japanese NGO projects a total amount of US\$ 334,481 to the following 5 projects. The Grant Contracts will be signed between Mr. Gotaro OGAWA, Ambassador of the Embassy of Japan in Cambodia and the Representatives of each recipient organization.

(The outline of the Japanese's Grant Assistance for Grassroots/Human Security Project)

1. **The Project for Constructing Rehabilitation and Skill Training Center for Trafficking Victims in Phnom Penh (US\$77, 668)**
Recipient: Agir Pour Les Femmes En Situation Précaire-AFESIP
Outline of the Project: To construct a Rehabilitation and Skills Training Center consisting of 2 trainee houses, a literacy and medical ward, a sewing ward, a dining and meeting ward, 4 sanitary blocks for women and young girl victims of trafficking for prostitution.
2. **The Project for Children's Center Construction in Battambang Province (US\$55,116)**
Recipient: Meathor Phum Komah
Outline of the Project: To construct 3 children's accommodation buildings, 1 building for literacy, classroom and consultation, 1 building for kitchen and warehouse, and 1 building for skills training and dining equipped with furniture, fence and water tank in Battambang province.
3. **The Project for School Buildings Construction at Tbaeng Meanchey Primary School and Kampong Sralau I Primary School in Preah Vihear Province (US\$63,960)**
Recipient: Rural Aid Development
Outline of the Project: To construct one 5-room school building in Tbaeng Meanchey, one 6-room school building in Kampong Sralau I and one 4-room toilet in Preah Vihear province in order to assist in the access to education of Khmer nationals living in remote areas near the Lao border.

4. **The Project for Labang II Irrigation System Rehabilitation in Ratanakiri Province (US\$108,403)**

Recipient: *Ratanakiri Provincial Department of Water Resources and Meteorology*

Outline of the Project: To rehabilitate Labang II irrigation system consisting of 1 weir, 1 intake structure, 1,096m intake canal, 1,295m main canal and 4 new diversion boxes in Lumpat District, Ratanakiri province.

(The Outline of Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO's Project)

1. **The Project to Construct Vihea Kpous Primary School (US\$29,334)**

Recipient: *Chiba Prefectural Lions Clubs Cambodia Project*

Outline of the Project: To provide 75% of construction fees to a 5-classroom school building with furniture to Vihea Kpous primary school in Takeo province.

"KUSANONE" grant assistance started in Cambodia in 1992, in order to assist Cambodia's reconstruction and development efforts at the Grass-roots level. This program was previously known as "Grant Assistance for Grassroots Projects"; however, from the beginning of Japan's fiscal year 2003, it was renamed as "Grant Assistance for Grassroots/Human Security Projects". The program's objectives include not only empowering individuals and communities to become self-reliant but also protecting people from a wide range of factors that directly threaten the lives, livelihoods, and dignity of human beings.

Up to the present time, more than US\$18 million has been provided by the government of Japan through the "KUSANONE" scheme to assist 283 projects from international and local NGOs as well as local authorities.

Since the introduction of new grant scheme "The Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO's projects" in 2002, US\$ 236,410 has been provided to 7 Japanese NGOs in Cambodia including the project above.

In the Japanese fiscal year 2003 (April 2003-March 2004), under these two grant schemes a total amount of US\$ 958,666 has been granted to 16 projects.