

Media Release



The Hon Teresa Gambaro MP

Federal Member for Petrie

Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Foreign Affairs

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Australia increases support to Cambodians living in mine-affected areas

Australian Parliamentary Secretary for Foreign Affairs and Special Representative on Mine Action, Teresa Gambaro, today announced increased funding to improve the livelihoods of Cambodians living in areas affected by landmines.

The Australian Government through its international aid agency, AusAID, will provide A\$7 million for three new Integrated Mine Action (IMA) programs.

Integrated Mine Action provides a comprehensive approach to mine action by addressing both mine clearance and integrated rural development priorities in mine affected areas, with strengthened community participation.

AusAID will partner with AUSTCARE to deliver the Integrated Mine Action and Development project in Banteay Meanchey province; with CARE Australia on the Australia–Cambodia Integrated Mine Action project in Pailin; and with World Vision for Community Strengthening & Gender Mainstreaming in Integrated Mine Action project in Rovieng in Preah Vihear and in Samlaut and Rotanak Mondul in Battambang.

The programs will pursue innovative approaches such as affected communities extending Community Based Mine Risk Reduction, strengthening participation in local government, tailoring assistance packages for landmine victims, and better considering the gender dimension in mine action activities.

“Many women are primary carers, providing support and rehabilitation to family members injured by landmines,” Ms Gambaro said.

“Australia’s support for these new projects follows the successful implementation of IMA programs since 1999. This enhanced support is a sign of Australia’s continued commitment to fighting the horrendous effects of landmines on Cambodians.”

The Australian Government's Mine Action Strategy is available at www.ausaid.gov.au

Media contacts: *Guy Ruediger, Australian Embassy, Phnom Penh, Ph: 855-23-213 470 (ext 205)*