



Demining Activities



Clearing Landmines and Restoring Communities around the World

Komatsu commenced landmine removal, community reconstruction and other social contribution activities in Cambodia in 2008 in conjunction with Japan Mine Action Service (JMAS), a non-profit organization registered in Japan. Similar activities were introduced in the West African nation of Angola in 2009. Such action continued in Cambodia and Angola in fiscal 2011.

For the Cambodia project, Komatsu loaned an anti-personnel demining machine, which was based on the D85 bulldozer, and other necessary construction equipment free of charge and supported JMAS with around a total of ¥100 million to help carry out the project. In recognition of the significant value of the project, the Japanese government also contributed approximately ¥30 million to JMAS.

The project is being undertaken in a region straddling the Kilou and Chea Montrey villages in Battambang Province, the area in western Cambodia that has seen the most damage from landmines.

Excluding the roads, the deserted minefield covers an area from the state highway to a 3-km (1.8-mi) point, where previously built floodgates have been broken and the whole area floods during the rainy season. Landmines also remain in farmland that stretches out along the roadside for roughly another 3.5 km (2.2 mi) towards the hinterlands.

The following five points summarize the steps taken during the two-year project.

- 1) Landmines were removed from the 80 ha (198 ac) area of land along the roadside up to 3 km (1.8 mi) from the highway to ensure that the land is safe for 500 households.
- 2) A bridge was built near the spot where the floodgates were constructed.
- 3) Landmines were cleared to ensure that the 80 ha (198 ac) area alongside the road for 3.5 km (2.2 mi) towards the hinterlands is safe for farming.
- 4) The total 6.5 km (4 mi) stretch of road was upgraded and 20 agricultural ponds for daily-use water were developed.



Students at a primary school that Komatsu helped to build



Safe village free of landmines

5) Two Komatsu schools were constructed.

The project was completed in spring 2011 and a commemoration ceremony was held in March 2011 to celebrate the settlement of underprivileged residents in the immediate area. Representatives from both the Cambodian and Japanese governments as well as the chairperson of the board of JMAS and Mr. Yoshinori Komamura, executive vice president of Komatsu Ltd., attended the ceremony.

As of March 2013, nearly 500 families have moved into the settlement, and a total of roughly 200 students go to either of the two primary schools Komatsu helped build. The questionnaire conducted at the end of 2012 revealed virtually all settlers are happy to possess their own land.



Demining machine at work in Cambodia

Komatsu will have been involved in landmine removal and community reconstruction activities for six years as of fiscal 2013. We will continue to commit ourselves to these activities in affected areas in Cambodia and Angola.





Contributing to Society by Providing Demining Machines

March 1999	The Ottawa Treaty, which stipulates total prohibition of the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personnel mines, entered into force.
August 2002	The Japanese government decides to make the development of a demining machine an exception to the three-point ban on weapons exports.
March 2003	Komatsu applies for a public subsidy program offered by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry and New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO), and embarks on the development of a demining machine.
2004 to 2006	Demining machine site tests conducted in Afghanistan and Cambodia with the support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
July 2007	First demining machine delivered to Afghanistan.
January 2008	Agreement concluded with Japan Mine Action Service (JMAS), a non-profit organization registered in Japan.
March 2008	Second machine delivered to Cambodia under the Grant Aid for Research and Development of Mine Clearance Related Equipment by the Government of Japan.
June 2008	Third machine to be lent at no cost to JMAS delivered to the Cambodia project in Reak Smey Sangha Sen Chey, Battambang province.
October 2008	Fourth machine to be lent at no cost to JMAS delivered to the Angola project in Mabubas village, Bengo province.
April 2009	Angola local reconstruction project started.
September 2010	Fifth machine delivered to Cambodia under the Grant Aid for Conflict Prevention and Peace Building by the Government of Japan.
March 2011	Land transfer ceremony held for the Cambodia local reconstruction project.
April 2011–present	Demining and reconstruction activities ongoing in Cambodia and Angola