

Japan: Victim Assistance

Thank you Mr. President.

I would like to introduce briefly about our Victim Assistance related contribution as a donor country.

In the financial year 2011 (beginning from April 2011 to March 2012), our country has provided 781, 355 USD towards Victim Assistance projects in Cambodia, Lao PDR, and towards international organizations such as the ICRC.

We consider that NGOs are important partners in the implementation of victim assistance projects along with our government aid agencies and international organizations. Our partnership in implementing victim assistance projects are not limited to financial assistance, but we pay attention to the contents of the projects to ensure that the capacities of the local staff are enhanced.

Since 2010, the Government of Japan has continued to extend support to victim assistance projects implemented by AAR Japan, an NGO operating in Xieng Khouang Province in Lao PDR. In some cases, first aid response in the provinces has not been sufficient, which has affected the recovery of the victim or in worst cases has indirectly contributed to the loss of lives. The assistance in Xien Khouang Province has totaled to over 574, 000 dollars.

Apart from NGOs, we have channeled funds for VA through ICRC, around 382, 022 US dollars in FY 2011.

As a donor country, we do not discriminate between cluster bomb victims and other UXO victims, but the numbers that I have just reported include projects specifically on projects on cluster munitions survivors, in this context, as State Party to the Convention.

Thank you for your attention.