

# 2024 FACTSHEET **Cambodia**



A picture of handover ceremony was conducted with the presence of local authorities and beneficiaries in Phum Bei, Trapaeng Krohom commune of Kun Mum district on June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023

## CONTEXT

Cambodia is severely contaminated by landmines, cluster munition remnants (CMR) and explosive ordnance (EO) as a consequence of conflict between the mid-1960s to late 1990s. Four million anti-personnel mines are estimated to be laid after Khmer Rouge in 1979. North-western provinces bordering Thailand are heavily contaminated with landmines, while Cambodia's eastern provinces are affected by CMR and other EO contamination due to extensive aerial bombardment from 1965 to 1973 during the Vietnam War. It is estimated that upwards of 2.7 million tons of bombs were dropped on Cambodia, and between 1.9 and 5.8 million cluster sub-munitions failed to explode on impact that still pose a threat to the population. Despite more than 3 decades of mine action efforts, the country remains massively affected and requires further action.

According to Mine Action Review Report 2023, Cambodia has heavy CMR contamination and is still working to establish an accurate determination of the extent. 2,514 hazardous areas in 18 of Cambodia's 25 provinces covering nearly 730km<sup>2</sup> was reported at the end of 2022. Noticeably 30.36 km<sup>2</sup> area were cleared, 16.09km<sup>2</sup> were reduced together with 5.26 km<sup>2</sup> were cancelled.

## PROGRAMME

Norwegian People's Aid has worked in Cambodia since 1992 to make the land safe for communities affected by landmines, cluster munitions, and other explosive remnants of war. NPA Cambodia has had a consistent presence in country since this date, working with both Cambodian Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority (CMAA) and the Cambodian Mine Action Centre (CMAC) as well as expanding its remit in the late 1990s to include development programming. Since 2013 NPA has implemented its own operations in the cluster munitions-affected province of Ratanakiri. In 2021, NPA deployed Non-Technical Survey teams in the west of the country to work on defining the extent of the landmine contamination.

In 2023, the partnership project between NPA and CMAC continued to conduct survey, clearance, and explosive ordnance disposal activities in seven eastern provinces of Cambodia.

Also, the commencement of Cambodia - Thailand Humanitarian Mine Action Border Project, funding by German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO) in 2023 focused on land release of mine-contamination along Cambodia-Thailand border to reduce the landmines/explosive remnants of war (ERW).



## 2023 results

- NPA's Cambodia continued the efforts to define and clear the extent of cluster munition in Ratanakiri from January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023 and has significantly released 1,494,743 sqm which directly benefitted 270 people (85 female, 92 male, 52 girls, and 41 boys) and indirectly benefitted 18,435 people (4,783 female, 5,299 male, 4,817 girls, and 3,536 boys), including 70 Persons with Disabilities from local communities in Koun Mom, Veun Sai, Lumphat, and Ou Ya Dav districts. 262 CMR and 27 ERW were found and safely destroyed and 22 Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) requests from the local communities were responded.
- Under the land reclamation non-technical survey (LRNTS) project of the Clearing for Result IV (CFR IV) funding stream of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), NPA canceled 28,171,159 sqm of land through a non-technical survey in heavily contaminated provinces of Battambang, Banteay Meanchey, Siem Reap, Kampong Thom, Oddor Meanchey, Preah Vihear, Koh Kong, Pursat and Ratanakiri.
- The NPA-CMAC teams, partnership project continued in 2023, conducting survey, clearance, and explosive ordnance disposal activities in seven eastern provinces of Cambodia and released 36,592,955 sqm of confirmed cluster munition-contaminated land back to communities. Teams found and destroyed 16,073 UXO, 33 AP Mine, and 6 AT Mine and responded to 1,491 EOD requests from the local communities.
- NPA in partnership with CMAA, CMAC and TMAC, funding by German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO), significantly released 6,938,869 sqm of land. 163 EOD requests were responded while 555 EORE sessions were delivered to local communities.
- NPA provided capacity development support to CMAA on Quality Management and Information Management throughout 2023 with financial support from the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (NMFA). The support aims to enhance capacity of CMAA to implement their mandates, regulating, coordinating, and managing the mine action sector in Cambodia.

NPA is committed to maintain gender aspect across all activities and encourage staff and partner to actively participated in gender-related learning opportunities. In 2023, NPA supported CMAA to conduct training on Gender Mainstreaming in mine action sector, aiming to strengthen the capacity of QM teams and officials of the Department of Regulation and Regulation. Staff were also reinforced to enhance their understanding of gender and promote gender equality in the workplace by expertise from partner.

In 2023, NPA's Cambodia engaged in key campaigns as part of local environment initiatives to promoting environmental awareness and sustainability. A campaign of 180 Trees and Grasses Planting for preserving the Angkor World Heritage site under the support of APSARA National Authority was held. Another clean-up campaign in Boeung Kanseng was also participated by NPA's staff, following by awareness raising session to 30 students at Keh Chong secondary school to support students learn how their daily activities contribute to protecting the environment and waste reduction.

## DONORS and FUNDING

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## MORE INFORMATION

NPA's webpage: [Norwegian People's Aid Cambodia](#)  
Facebook: [Norwegian People's Aid Cambodia](#)  
Instagram: [Norwegian People's Aid Cambodia](#)  
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MAR Clearing the Mines 2023: [Report 2023](#)  
MAR Clearing the CMR 2023: [Report 2023](#)

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