

JRS CAMBODIA 2017 ANNUAL REPORT



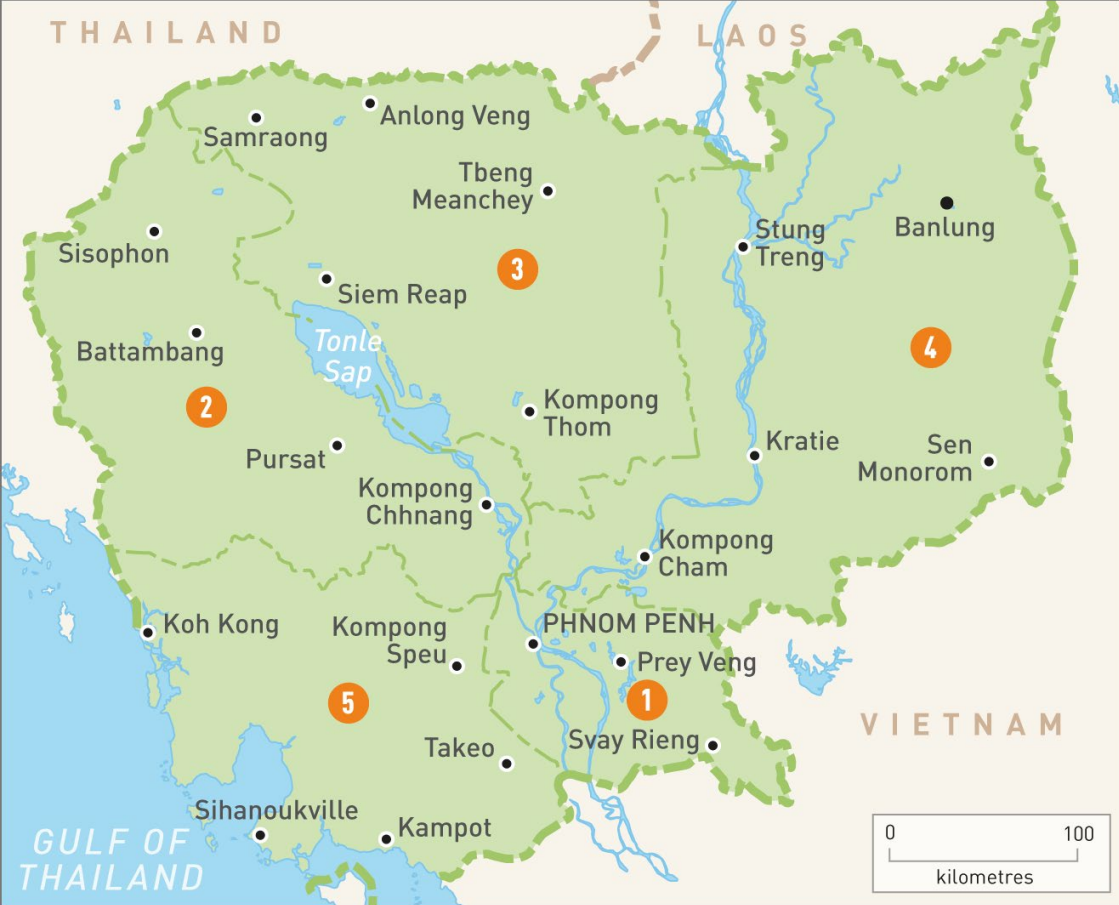
20 YEARS SINCE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE



ACCOMPANY | SERVE | ADVOCATE

WELCOME | PROMOTE | INTEGRATE | PROTECT





CAMBODIA CONTEXT

2017 was a tumultuous year in Cambodia. The opposition party with 44 serving lawmakers was abolished. Opposition leaders were jailed or fled into exile. The main English language newspaper was closed down. In international politics, there is a notable shift towards China and away from the west. Elections are scheduled for 2018.

The population of 15 million lives mainly in the country provinces. However from there 1.5 million migrant workers have left to work in Thailand; others go to Malaysia and Korea. Consequences for those left behind in village abound.

The middle class of the cities is growing in spending power even though most of the money is concentrated in the hands of an elite few. Many women from the countryside seek jobs in garment and other factories in the Phnom Penh area.

Tourism continues to grow and is becoming dominated by visitors from China. The beautiful ancient temples continue to attract all comers.

Religion is officially Buddhist 95%. Islamic and Christian communities grow slowly. The influence of Saudi-Arabia is noted in new forms of Islam.

Refugees still seek asylum from religious persecution in Vietnam and Pakistan, from ethnic discrimination in Myanmar, from war and conflict in Syria, Afghanistan, Iraq, and from political turmoil in Thailand and Turkey.

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Front Cover: 20 years after the Ottawa Treaty and Nobel Peace Prize, Disarmament Campaign from all over the region gathered in Mindol Metta Karuna Siem Reap to celebrate and plan for a world free of mines and cluster munitions by 2025.



JRS Cambodia in 2017, befriended, served, advocated and protected 156 Montagnard asylum seekers and 105 others from Myanmar, Syria, Turkey, Pakistan, Iraq, Eritrea, and Sri Lanka etc.

ACCOMPANY/WELCOME

- 1) Welcome Centre is rented and was used for counsellings, friendly visits and legal advice (260 people)
- 2) Home visits and/or telephone counselling was conducted every month.
- 3) A refugee day sports/games carnival held
- 4) Visited Montagnard site thrice weekly
- 5) Keep contact with resettled or returned asylum seekers (172 people)

SERVE, PROTECT, INGRATE

- 1) Housing was found for 182, and shelter rented for 156 people
- 2) Food, toiletries, bedding provided
- 3) Scholarships to school for 9 children.
- 4) Language education by urban refugees for Montagnards
- 5) Helped Turkish Kurd and Indian in Detention
- 6) Asylum seekers taken to doctors
- 7) Smoothed problem with police
- 8) Income Generation grants



Srun Sony (left) and Kim Phirum (RIP), JRS social workers.

Kim Phirum died in September 2017

PROTECT

Australian lawyers Robbie Clyde, Taya Hunt, Leigh Hunt along with John Coghlan provided legal assistance for individual appeals. Madeleine Gleeson of Kaldor Centre provide invaluable help on refugee issues and Amaya Valcarel of the Rome Office kept us abreast of global policy and Vatican and JRS concerns.

JRS Cambodia advocated strongly for the cause of the Montagnards alongside UNHCR and to date no one has been forcibly deported in spite of unjust negative decisions on refugee status. When Montagnards were placed in detention JRS advocated for and secured their release.

Other advocacy issues in 2017 were Statelessness and Deportation of “Illegal Immigrant Alien” and Migrant Workers. The beginning of new documentation for ethnic Vietnamese born in Cambodia and revocation of old documents will be followed up in 2018.

Resettled Rohingyas from our programme advocated for their brothers and sisters.

Alejandro de Benito completed a paper on Brokerage for the JCAP Migration Network and updated information on Migration to Thailand.

GLOBAL COMPACTS

In September 2017, world governments agreed to collaborate on making new global compacts to address the challenges of global migration and global refugees issues.

JRS Cambodia participated in local consultations and with our office in Rome.

Pope Francis:

WELCOME

PROMOTE

INTEGRATE

PROTECT

BUILDING A COMMUNITY OF LOVE TOGETHER

Sr. Denise Coghlan

Ms. Srun Sony

Mr. Kim Phirum (RIP 15.9.2017)

Ms. Sok Eng

Mr. Keth Bunthoeun

Ms. Nou Sok Chanthou

Mr. So Not

Mr. Sak Sopheak

Mr. Pros Phea Reth

Mr. Chan Men

Mr. Tun Channareth

Ms. Chhaem Chantha

Ms. Kert Reaksmeay

Ms. Choy Sokha

Ms. Suon Thary

Ms. Heam Touch

Ms. Lon Lok

Ms. Sok Kimey

Ms. Long Thai

Mr. Mit Vicheth

Ms. Kert Sami

Mr. Khut Bunchee

Mr. Sok Chet

Mr. Him Sue

Mr. Sok Chear

Mr. Tow Thoeun

Ms. Pernelle Flaven



GATHERED TOGETHER IN SIEM REAP, CAMBODIA TO CELEBRATE THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OTTAWA TREATY TO BAN LANDMINES AND THE AWARD OF THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE TO THE ICBL, SURVIVORS, MINE OPERATORS AND OTHER CAMPAIGNERS FROM 20 DIFFERENT COUNTRIES SEND THIS MESSAGE TO THE 16TH MEETING OF STATES PARTIES IN VIENNA.

IN THE AREA OF SURVIVOR SUPPORT, KNOWN AS VICTIM ASSISTANCE IN THE TREATY

- Thank you for your energy and good will to survivors. Keep it up and make it concrete
- Ensure your country ends discrimination, respects our dignity and upholds our rights
- Hearing the voices of survivors and supporting them is a means of peace making.
- Fund survivor led groups to reach other survivors at grass roots so needs are met and rights upheld.
- Grant funding for livelihood activities, income generation, small enterprises in affected areas.
- Remember enhancing the quality of life of the most vulnerable through health, rehabilitation, psycho-social support and education restores all of our humanity.

IN THE AREA OF MINE CLEARANCE AND LAND RELEASE

- Mine Free by 2025 is a realistic, but ambitious goal for States Parties in the region, for example Cambodia and Thailand, if sufficient funding and sufficient deminers are available.
- National ownership is key; and is demonstrated through good coordination and prioritisation, monitored implementation and dedicated national funding. The region has good examples but in Myanmar even permission to begin clearance is still pending.
- A state-owned capacity to eliminate undiscovered residual mines is essential, as is in Nepal.
- Reliable survey data makes for high impact and relatively inexpensive clearance.
- Cooperative demining efforts on borders are a peace promoting measure.
- Well targeted mine risk education in affected area can also be a preventative tool.

IN THE AREA OF UNIVERSALISATION AND USE

Campaigners note that in South East Asia Laos, Vietnam, Singapore and Myanmar, are still to join the treaty .

In South Asia we call on India, Pakistan and Nepal to become part of the mine ban family.

In East Asia we await China, DPRK, South Korea to join Japan as guardians of the treaty.

We rejoice that soon after our meeting Sri Lanka deposited its deeds of accession, and became 163 on the list!

Campaigners from the region deeply regret and condemn the new use of landmines in Myanmar that have caused death and injury to fleeing refugees and ethnic groups along the borders.

WE SEND OUR BEST WISHES TO THE PRESIDENT AND PARTICIPANTS FOR A HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL AND JOYFUL MEETING IN VIENNA. HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Siem Reap, Cambodia
December 2017

OUR SURVIVOR PROGRAMME



“ A responsible and dignified welcome begins by offering decent and appropriate shelterer ”

- Pope Francis -



Two teams visit people with disability in the provinces of Oddar Meanchey, Preah Vihear, Steung Treng, Rattanak Kiri, Mondol Kiri, Kampong Chan, Siem Reap, and Kratie.

One team focuses mainly on women with disability.

Important components of the this programme are:

- Peer support 486 visits
- Workshops where people tell their story, listen to one another , and are encouraged to plan for their future.
- Services for extremely vulnerable
 - 17 Houses
 - 23 Toilets
 - 48 Income Generation
 - 14 Children Bicycles for School
 - 33 Wheelchairs
 - 44 Families with Emergency Food
 - 2 Students to Vocational Training
 - 15 Scholarships to study
 - 6 Seminars
 - Training in Disability Rights
 - Monthly Visits to Encourage People



REFLECTION CENTRE/RECONCILIATION



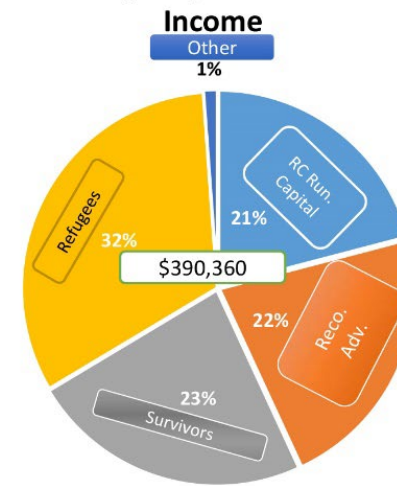
Mindol Metta Karuna, a Centre which helps people see the challenges of Cambodia through the eyes of the poor and the lens of interfaith.

- Provided place of peace and healing for 5,284 visitors
- Enabled 567 youth to participate in village exposure programmes
- Guided tours on Displacement, peace, development and human rights issues
- Offered days of reflection and retreat
- Hosted government policy meetings where the voice of the poor was heard
- Gave sanctuary to abused and displaced
- Reached out to remote areas
- Educated 280 children and youth in catch-up classes

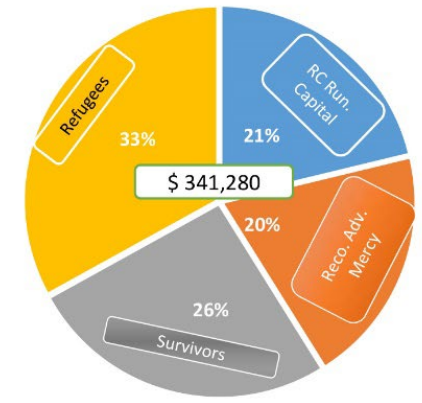
The top event of the year was the celebration of the anniversary of the Ottawa Mine Ban Treaty and Nobel Peace Prize. Campaigners from 20 countries gathered for a regional conference at Metta Karuna in November 2017. The agenda included advocacy for clearance, victim assistance and universalization of the treaty. Myanmar, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia, Malaysia, Nepal, Philippines, Korea, Taiwan and Vietnam were among the participants. The meeting, which was also addressed by H.E Ly Thuch, the government authority for Mine Action, sent a message to 16th Meeting of States Parties in Vienna. Mr Tun Channareth gave one of the opening addresses at this government meeting.

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

% by Project of Total Income



% by Project of Total Expenditure



DONORS	PEOPLE SERVED		DONORS
	BY PROJECT	BY JRS CATEGORY	
All Hallows	Refugees	Education	Marian College
Alice		867	Santa Maria
Alboan	438	Livelihood	Mercy Brisbane
Catherine	Reconciliation /Reflection	Psycho Social	Mercy College Coburg
Stephanie			6,024
Deidre & Bill	5,284	Emergency	Mercy Parramatta
ICBL	Survivors		48
JCAP		486	Health
Jenny Knight	22		UNHCR
NPA	Advocacy	Advocacy	Br. Noel
John XXIII		5,000	Fr. Rick
Madeline Gleeson	5,000	Protection	Ignatius College
Marcellin	St. Marys Ipswich	Friendship with Cambodia	Marist College
Mercedes Adelaide			Australian Jesuit Mission
Mercedes Perth	Brisbane Catholic Education	St. Rita's	Riverview
JRS	Mercy Friends	St. Brigids	SJ Tokyo
Wheelchair Donors	AUSTRALIAN JESUIT MISSION		

FR ARTURO SOSA AT MINDOL METTA KARUNA



Fr Arturo, new general of the Jesuits at Mindol Metta Karuna, July 2017 with Buddhist monks in an old cluster bomb site.



Blessing on Fr Mark Raper as he finishes his term at ICAP and goes to Myanmar. He has been an inspiration to JRS Cambodia sine 1990.



Fr Mark Raper
1990

