

Weapons Destroyed in Kampong Thom



2,428 weapons were burnt and destroyed in front of an audience of around 2,000 people. 1,918 of these weapons were collected from residents in Kampong Thom Province through JSAC's activities. The many people who have contributed to this collection, such as local authorities' staff, police, NGOs and residents witnessed the burning of the weapons they have collected.

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Awareness Raising Activities

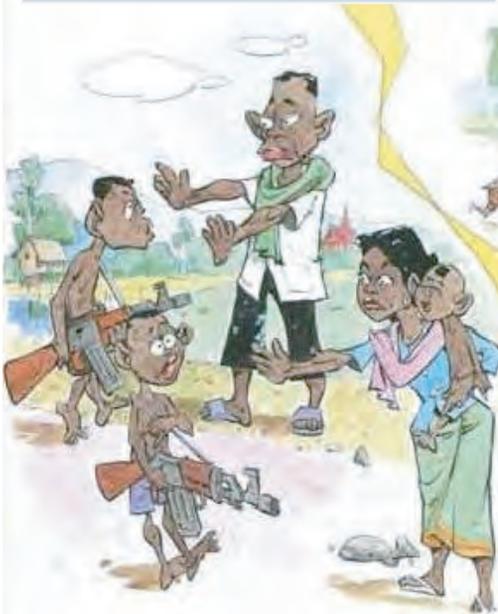


Illustration used in JSAC posters and workshop material

Awareness raising activities are one of the key elements in JSAC's program.

JSAC and its partners explain that;

- Civilians are not allowed to possess weapons under the Arms Law,
- Anyone who voluntarily surrender their weapons to the police now would not be punished,
- All police and military personnel must also follow the laws and regulations on weapons.

By this, JSAC tries to facilitate people's reacknowledgement of the risks and dangers of small arms possession, and provide them the opportunity to re-think about weapons. This can create a change in people's opinions and attitudes regarding small arms.

The effects of small arms in Cambodia are not limited to a certain group of people. Therefore, JSAC carries out awaress raising activities among people in various positions; local government staff (provincial, district, commune), village chiefs and residents, local media, Cambodian NGO staff and police/military personnel. Since September 2005, JSAC has conducted workshops to the following:

- Participants to the 2 Provincial workshops: 89, including Provincial Governors
- Participants to the 21 District workshops: 1,397, including District Governors
- Participants to the 123 Commune workshops: 7,989
- Participants to the 1,503 Village workshops: 96,667
- Participants to the Media workshops: 27, Police workshops: 79

In addition to these workshops, radio spots, billboards, posters, stickers, banners, mobile films and school events are also used for raising awareness on small arms.

About JSAC (Japan Assistance Team for Small Arms Management in Cambodia)

JSAC was established by Japan International Cooperation System (JICS) for the implementation of the "Peace Building and Comprehensive Small Arms Management Program in Cambodia", a grant aid provided by the Government of Japan to the Government of Cambodia. The Programme aims to support peace building and strengthen small arms management through 5 projects (1. Weapons Reduction and Development for Peace Project, 2. Safe Storage and Registration Project, 3. Weapons Destruction Project, 4. Public Awareness Project, 5. National Commission Support Project). The Programme has collected a total of 27,909 small arms in 5 Provinces as of the end of May 2007.

Please see JSAC's website for further information. URL: <http://www.online.com.kh/users/adm.jsac/>