
USAID HIGHLIGHTS

U.S. Grants \$5 Million for Cambodia's Avian Influenza Program

Phnom Penh
September 27, 2007

On September 27, the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) and the U.S. Government (USG), through the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), signed a bilateral agreement providing USD \$5 million over the next year to continue efforts to combat Avian Influenza.

His Excellency Ouch Borith, Secretary of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, and Scot Covert, Acting USAID Mission Director, signed on behalf of their respective governments.

USAID will use the \$5 million to help the RGC to increase its capacity to strengthen human and animal surveillance systems; build disease outbreak response capacity; improve laboratory diagnostic capacity; and fund national Avian Influenza public awareness and communications campaigns.

Other USG agencies will also continue to offer their support and partnership to the RGC's efforts in the area of Avian and Human Influenza. These include the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and NAMRU-2.

With this \$5.0 million in additional funding, USG assistance to Cambodia's health sector in 2007 will total more than USD \$37 million.

For more information, please contact the Public Affairs Section of the U.S. Embassy at 023-728-258.