

Cambodia destroys more than 80,000 mines in 6 months

(CAMBODIA) 9 July 2010 -Cambodia has destroyed more than 80,000 landmines and other unexploded ordinances (UXO) in six months period this year, a landmine authority official said Friday.

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Oum Phumro, deputy director general of Cambodian Mine Action Center (CMAC) said that within six months period this year, the deminers have cleared about 30 kilometers squared of land and have destroyed more than 80,000 land mines and other unexploded ordinances. CMAC is a government demining agency and it aims in 2010 to clear approximately 423 minefields. Landmines and other unexploded ordinance remain within Cambodia as a legal legacy of three decades of war and civil conflict which continued in some parts of the country until as late as 1998. Up to date, Cambodia has cleared about 540 kilometers squared of land, found and destroyed 2.7 millions of mines and UXOs, but estimate suggested there remains 670 square kilometers of landmine that needs to be cleared.

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