



Japan Funds Humanitarian Demining in Sri Lanka

Ambassador of Japan Kunio Takahashi recently extended a grant valued at US\$650,000 (70 million rupees)¹ to support the Government of Sri Lanka's humanitarian-demining efforts in northern Sri Lanka. The Swiss Foundation for Mine Action (*Fondation Suisse de Déminage*) facilitated the grant. Intended to further the efforts of achieving a mine-free Sri Lanka, the agreement was signed by Takahashi and FSD on 30 September 2011 at the Embassy of Japan in Colombo.²

The landmines and unexploded ordnance in Sri Lanka are predominantly the result of the war between the Sri Lankan Government and the Tamil Tigers separatist organization, which was defeated in May 2009.³ According to the *Landmine & Cluster Munition Monitor*, a total of 38 casualties in 2009 were due to mine/explosive remnants of war, with six people killed and 32 injured.⁴ The demining project will help an estimated 5,000 people in the Vavuniya and Mannar districts access safe land and resume their livelihood activities. The project will also help provide employment opportunities to more than 100 residents in the area.¹ ↗

Paul Gentine, CISR staff.

Center for International Stabilization and Recovery
James Madison University
Harrisonburg, VA / USA
Tel: +1 540 568 2503
<http://cisr.jmu.edu>



Endnotes

1. Conversion made 1 October 2011.
2. "Japan extended US\$ 780,000 grant for demining in the North." *News.lk*, 1 October 2011. <http://www.news.lk/news/sri-lanka/351-japan-extended-us-780000-grant-for-demining-in-the-north>. Accessed 13 October 2011.

3. Bhalla, Nita. "Sri Lanka's women deminers clean up legacy of Asia's longest war." *Swissinfo*, 23 September 2011. http://www.swissinfo.ch/eng/news/international/Sri_Lankas_women_deminers_clean_up_legacy_of_Aσίας_longest_war.html?cid=31199490. Accessed 17 October 2011.
4. "Sri Lanka." *Landmine & Cluster Munition Monitor*. http://www.the-monitor.org/index.php/cp/display/region_profiles/theme/1358. Accessed 4 November 2011.

[TOP OF PAGE](#)



The Journal of ERW & Mine Action is sponsored by:



© 2011 All rights reserved. *The Journal of ERW and Mine Action*, Center for International Stabilization and Recovery at James Madison University.
MSC 4902 Harrisonburg, VA / USA 22807 | Email: cisr@jmu.edu

If cited properly, short sections (a sentence or two) can be used without permission. Written *Journal of ERW and Mine Action* approval is required, however, before longer sections of content published in *The Journal* may be used by another source or publication. ISSN 2154-1485_

[Past Issues](#) * [CISR Home](#) * [Subscribe](#)