

# ALMOST FINISHED

JULY 2006



Preparing the span.



Matt, another Aussie, whose help has been invaluable, posing with one of bridge builders.



Looking more like a bridge.



Timber for the formwork was one of the major expenses.



Ready for concrete.



Showing off his work.



The people certainly know how to work hard.



Taking a break to pose for the camera.



Starting on the hand rails.



Graham and I. Graham came over from Australia to help for a month and amongst other things kept me fortified with coffee and donuts - thanks Graham.



Chanti and Bros, our drivers, translators and organisers. We couldn't do it without their help.



The bridge is almost finished, just in time for the rain.



All we have to do now is paint the bridge and build up the road on either side of it.



My friend, Sophoan, and I at the bridge. Sophoan has also come on board to help us.



We'll leave the "abutments" under the bridge as long as possible.



The villagers digging land to fill in either side of the bridge.



For this part of the job we are paying them in rice rather than cash.



The rain season has started a little early so we literally got the bridge done just in time.



**The most exciting thing about our bridge project is that it has motivated the villagers to join together to rebuild the road that links the bridge to the village. We did not ask them to do this, we aren't paying them or organising the rebuilding of the road in any way.**

[This is exactly the type of thing we had hoped for – that we help them and that inspires them to help themselves](#)