



# UXO Sector Annual Report 2011





# 2011 UXO Sector Annual Report

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## Foreword:

Chairman of the National Regulatory Authority for the UXO/Mine Action Sector in Lao PDR (NRA).

I am very delighted to present the 2011 annual report of the UXO National Regulatory Authority (NRA). This was my first year as chairman of the UXO National Regulatory Authority (NRA). Safe Path Forward II is the national strategic plan for the UXO program in Lao PDR for the period of 2011 to 2020. This strategic plan continues to provide direction for the operations of the NRA and the UXO/Mine Action sector as a whole. Safe Path Forward II is closely linked to the seventh Government National Development Plan and to the Millennium Development Goals.

2011 was an excellent year for the NRA and consequently the UXO/Mine Action Sector in Lao PDR. The most outstanding achievement for the NRA was our continued growth into our role as the national coordinating body of the UXO/Mine sector in Lao PDR. NRA achievements in 2011 include the development of Prime Ministerial Decree 406 on the establishment of the National Regulatory Authority for the UXO programme in Lao PDR. This decree will enhance the effectiveness of the NRA as the governing authority in the UXO sector. The NRA's Board is composed of 17 representative members from ministries who have been elected to address the UXO problem in Lao PDR.

In addition, in 2011, the NRA was focused on the development of National Standards for the UXO/Mine Action Sector in Lao PDR, the development of a multi-year work plan for the District Focused Approach survey and the formulation of a strategy for UXO/Mine Risk Education. The attitude and practices survey (KAP) for risk groups in UXO contaminated areas was also successfully carried out and the KAP survey report was finalized and published in 2012. A strategic plan for UXO Victim Assistance programme was also begun in 2011 with a strong focus on aid projects for addressing UXO victims' needs. In addition, the NRA provided accreditation to operators, conducted monitoring visits, coordinated external inspections and further developed the UXO/Mine database. Through an extensive information dissemination effort by the NRA, both national and international communities have become increasingly aware of the UXO issue in Laos. Furthermore, in Victim Assistance, a pilot project titled, 'UXO Tracking System' was completed to register survivors and monitor services to survivors in Xiengkhouang, Huaphan, Savannaket and Champasak Provinces. This project will be expanded into six provinces in 2012.

In 2011, the NRA mobilized USD12 million for the UXO sector in Laos PDR through financial contributions from the UNDP, NGOs and bilateral funds. The total was above the average USD10 million received in previous years. This much needed support was used for clearance, mine risk education and victim assistance across the country.

To conclude, under the direction and leadership of the Lao government, the NRA had a productive 2011 with outstanding achievements, as mentioned above, contributing to social-economic development and poverty eradication. I am very proud of the UXO sector's achievements in 2011 and on behalf of the NRA, I would like to extend my great appreciation to all those involved in the UXO/Mine Sector in Lao PDR.

Finally, on behalf of the Lao Government, I would like to take this opportunity to express my deepest gratitude and thanks to the donors, implementing partners, and the UXO/Mine Action international community who have assisted in the development of the NRA through their generous financial and in-kind support. My sincere thanks also go to the different operators for dealing with UXO/mine action in the Lao PDR. I appreciate the contribution

of Lao and foreign experts within the UXO/Mine Action Sector and thank you for your hard work, both physically and mentally, in addressing the UXO problem in many communities. We do hope that we will continue to have on-going assistance to work towards enabling all of our citizens to live safe from the impact of UXO and free to participate in the socio-economic growth of Lao PDR while working towards the goal of poverty eradication in our country by 2020.



**H.E.Mr. Bounheuang DOUANGPHACHANH**  
*Minister of the Prime Minister's Office, and President of National Committee for Rural Development and Poverty Eradication,*  
*Chairman of the National Regulatory Authority for the UXO/Mine Action Sector in Lao PDR.*



## Foreword:

Director of the National Regulatory Authority for the UXO/Mine Action Sector in Lao PDR (NRA).

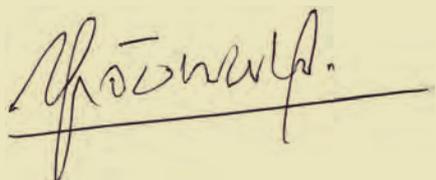
I am pleased to present to readers the 2011 UXO Sector Annual Report, which also doubles as the Annual Report for the National Regulatory Authority for UXO/Mine Action; the supervising body of the Sector in the Lao PDR. During 2011, I was entrusted by the government with the responsibility of participating in several international conferences, including the annual meeting of States Parties for the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM). As one of the most cluster munitions affected countries in the world, we fully support this international process and encourage all governments to consider signing the CCM treaty to comprehensively ban the use, production and stockpiling of UXO in order to enable the Lao people, and people all over the world to live free from the devastating impact of UXO.

In 2011, UXO operators in Lao PDR greatly contributed to the implementation of the national socioeconomic development plan, in particular to the poverty alleviation agenda by 2020. In practical terms, these operators have cleared and released land for agricultural production and other development projects. They have delivered various health projects, helped construct houses and generally assisted to meet the people's needs for agricultural and livestock production. Those who were assisted were people living in contaminated areas who faced the constant threat of UXO. In addition, operators provided clearance services to benefit infrastructure building projects and investment projects by local and foreign businesses in hydropower energy, mining and industrial tree plantations. Across the sector throughout 2011, operators cleared over 6,034 hectares of land, of which 3,666 hectares were for agriculture and 2,368 hectares were for other development purposes. Clearance and roving teams destroyed a combined total of 186,987 items of UXO, in response to villagers' reports of UXO contamination. Of this figure, 288 were big bombs, 33,195 cluster bombs, 191 land mines and 153,313 other types of UXO. I am also glad to report that all these achievements are in line with Safe Path Forward II.

As well as clearance work, we have been conducted Mine Risk Education (MRE) and the corresponding Knowledge, Attitude and Practices Survey (KAP). The survey was completed in 2011 and the findings made available to MRE operators in Lao PDR, which help to ascertain the behavioral changes and mine awareness levels resulting from MRE activities of those who are living in UXO contaminated areas. The findings of the KAP survey have now been incorporated into MRE policy. Moreover, great effort has gone into awareness raising, particularly among children and local people, so that they better understand the dangers associated with UXO and learn how to identify UXO threats and prevent UXO accidents. In 2011, MRE teams visited 3,384 villages, in the 10 most contaminated provinces in Lao PDR. During these visits, 384,226 people participated in educational activities; of this figure 297,519 were children and 86,707 were adults. Despite these efforts, there were 99 reported casualties from UXO in Lao PDR in 2011. However, this figure is a reduction from the 2010 casualty rate of 117, and the annual reduction of casualties is consistent with the National Strategic Plan, 'Safe Path Forward II' for UXO Sector.

In addition, the Victim Assistance (VA) programme carried out a pilot project titled, 'UXO Survivor Tracking System' in Xiengkhouang, Huaphan, Savannaket and Champasak Provinces. This project was a significant step to help register survivors and to keep data on a specially designed VA database system. The database system will enable the VA programme to follow up on victims to ensure that all their needs are met. This project will be expanded into six provinces in 2012. At the same time, the strategy formulation for UXO VA was initiated in 2011, intended to inform policy to ensure that the referral systems, medical aid and physical and psychological rehabilitation are carried out. Moreover, the strategy will examine ways to ensure that the social and economic inclusion of UXO survivors and their families is strongly encouraged in communities. In this regard, the Government of Lao PDR will continue to work with international agencies to mobilize funds to addressing the impact of UXO accidents, to reduce casualties and to mitigate the risks for affected communities.

Finally, allow me to express my thanks and appreciation to all the staff and international experts who work for the NRA, the operator agencies and the concerned organizations, who have all contributed to the development of the UXO/Mine Action Sector in Lao PDR. May I also extend my appreciation to all the Lao and foreign experts within the UXO/Mine Action Sector for your strong contribution in addressing the UXO problem. These problems remain a serious threat to children and adults alike, as they go about their everyday lives. I do hope that further assistance and support will be considered in the future.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Phoukhieo Chanthasomboune', written over a horizontal line.

**Phoukhieo CHANTHASOMBOUNE**

*Member of Board and Director General of the National Regulatory Authority  
for UXO/Mine Action Sector in Lao PDR.*



## Foreword:

UNDP Resident Representative,  
Co-Chairperson of the UXO Sector Working Group.

The year 2011 was marked by the Lao presidency of the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) until September 2011. After the first Meeting of the State Parties hosted in Vientiane in November 2010, the Government of Lao PDR remained very committed and active in meeting the treaty obligations and promoting its universalization.

The National Regulatory Authority supported the Lao presidency of the CCM, and the NRA has an essential role in the coordination and regulation of the UXO Sector.

The UXO Sector plays an important role not only in terms of human safety, but also in enabling sustainable development in UXO affected areas.

The UXO Sector demonstrated good achievements in 2011, but the extent of residual contamination is huge. To face the challenge posed by UXO contamination, we should not continue business as usual but instead be innovative and investigate other options. We will welcome in 2012, the new clearance and disposal technology trials and look forward to the continuation of the District Focused Approach (DFA).

The DFA has been developed under the leadership of the NRA. The objective is to develop district clearance plans based on evidence of contamination. An ongoing pilot project has been established in collaboration with three humanitarian operators. Once the methodology is agreed upon, an extension is planned to other contaminated districts. We should stress the importance of strategic planning to ensure that clearance priority is given to the correct districts allowing the greatest development gains.

Lao PDR should not face the task alone. In addition to current resources, more operators and activity in the sector would be welcome. With this objective, NRA's responsibility for the accreditation process is essential, as well as the regular monitoring to ensure compliance with national and international standards by all operators.

I would like to highlight the importance of partnerships in the UXO Sector and to thank again the Lao Government, the Development Partners and all the UXO Sector stakeholders for their continued support during the year 2011.

**Minh PHAM**

*UN Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative,  
Co-Chairperson of the UXO Sector Working Group.*

# List of Acronyms

## General

AGNA: Armor Group North America

APM: Anti Personnel Mine

ASEAN: Association of South East Asian Nations

AVM: Anti Vehicle Mine

CA: Community Awareness

CCM: Convention on Cluster Munitions

DA: District Authority

DFA: District Focused Approach

DOE: Department of Education (Laos)

DOH: Department of Health

DPPE: Department of Pre-School and Primary Education

EO: Explosive Ordnance

EOD: Explosive Ordnance Disposal

ERW: Explosive Remnants of War

GICHD: Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining

IMSMA: Information Management System for Mine Action

INGOs: International Non-Government Organizations

JICA: Japan International Cooperation Agency

KAP Survey: Knowledge, Attitude and Practice survey

MBT: Mine Ban Treaty

MOES: Ministry of Education and Sports

MRE: Mine Risk Education

NRA: National Regulatory Authority

PCIA: Post Clearance Impact Assessment

PM/WRA: US Department of State Office for Political and Military Affairs, Weapons Removal and Abatement

PMRC: Physical and Medical Rehabilitation Centre

PWD: Person with a Disability

QLA: Quality of Life Association

VA: Victim Assistance

VHV: Village Health Volunteer

ToT: Training of Trainers

UNDP: United Nations Development Program

UNICEF: United Nations Children's Fund

UXO: Unexploded Ordnance

WVMF: War Victims Medical Fund

## International Humanitarian UXO/Mine Action Operators

HI: Handicap International

MAG: Mine Advisory Group

SODI: Solidarity Service International

UXO Lao: Lao National UXO Programme

JMAS: Japan Mine Action Service

NPA: Norwegian People's Aid

## Commercial Clearance operators

BACTEC: Bactec Lao Ltd.

Milsearch: Milsearch PBK EOD Joint Venture Ltd.

ASA: ASA Power Engineering Co. Ltd.

PSD: Phonsakda UXO Clearance Co. Ltd.

BSL: Lao BSL Unexploded Ordnance Disposal

## Risk Education and Victim Assistance

AAR: Association for Aid and Relief

COPE: Cooperative Prosthetic and Orthotic Enterprise

WE: World Education

NRC: National Rehabilitation Centre

MMG LXML: MMG LXML Sepon UXO Department





# SECTOR ACHIEVEMENTS: THE NUMBERS

## HUMANITARIAN CLEARANCE OPERATORS

### General Survey

Refers to UXO found/located through general survey activities.

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Village</b>	<b>Visits</b>	<b>Bombs</b>	<b>Bombies<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Landmines</b>	<b>Other UXO</b>	<b>Total</b>
HIB	115	161	14	196	-	257	<b>467</b>
MAG	496	2,237	6	3,179	-	973	<b>4,158</b>
NPA	144	266	1	1,346	-	123	<b>1,470</b>
SODI	106	197	1	634	-	87	<b>722</b>
UXO LAO	1,392	2,154	163	6,060	46	9,307	<b>15,576</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>2,949</b>	<b>5,015</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>11,415</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>10,747</b>	<b>22,393</b>

### Technical Survey

Refers to number of square meters of land released through the application of technical survey methodology.

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Agriculture/m2</b>	<b>Development/m2</b>	<b>Total/m2</b>	<b>Beneficiaries</b>	<b>Bomb</b>	<b>Bombies</b>	<b>Mine</b>	<b>Other UXO</b>	<b>Total</b>
UXO Lao	4,430,904	1,101,691	5,532,595	57,753	1	48	-	118	<b>167</b>
SODI	192,813	-	192,813	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total:</b>	<b>4,623,717</b>	<b>1,101,691</b>	<b>5,725,408</b>	<b>57,753</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>167</b>

### Roving Clearance

Refers to number of emergency EOD tasks conducted by different operators. UXO items found are either removed or destroyed.

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Villages</b>	<b>Visits</b>	<b>Bomb</b>	<b>Bombies</b>	<b>Mine</b>	<b>Other UXO</b>	<b>Total</b>
HI	31	86	15	581	-	585	<b>1,181</b>
MAG	261	1,666	17	1,035	-	1,126	<b>2,178</b>
NPA	62	70	29	1,455	-	428	<b>1,912</b>
SODI	38	157	1	648	-	99	<b>748</b>
UXO LAO	1,136	1,625	197	8,347	95	127,378	<b>136,017</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>1,528</b>	<b>3,604</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>12,066</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>129,616</b>	<b>142,036</b>



### Area Clearance

Refers to the number of square meters of land cleared through manual clearance methods. UXO found are either removed or destroyed.

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Agriculture/m2</b>	<b>Development/m2</b>	<b>Total/m2</b>	<b>Beneficiaries</b>	<b>Bomb</b>	<b>Bombies</b>	<b>Mine</b>	<b>Other UXO</b>	<b>Total</b>
HI	230,860	135,639	366,499	19,341	-	142	-	1,109	<b>1,251</b>
MAG	8,220,120	1,810,082	10,030,202	80,266	5	5,181	85	7,040	<b>12,311</b>
NPA	989,794	121,208	1,111,002	15,678	1	2,400	-	365	<b>2,766</b>
SODI	977,246	585,063	1,562,309	1,989	-	924	-	640	<b>1,564</b>
UXO LAO	21,267,185	2,584,203	23,851,388	408,574	16	10,441	11	10,529	<b>20,997</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>31,685,205</b>	<b>5,236,195</b>	<b>36,921,400</b>	<b>525,848</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>19,088</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>19,683</b>	<b>38,889</b>

Summary HUMANITARIAN OPERATORS - UXO found/destroyed and land cleared/released through technical survey, area clearance and roving tasks.

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Agriculture/m2</b>	<b>Development/m2</b>	<b>Total/m2</b>	<b>Beneficiaries</b>	<b>Bomb</b>	<b>Bombies</b>	<b>Mine</b>	<b>Other UXO</b>	<b>Total</b>
All Humanitarians	36,308,922	6,337,886	42,646,808	583,601	282	31,202	191	149,417	<b>181,092</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>36,308,922</b>	<b>6,337,886</b>	<b>42,646,808</b>	<b>583,601</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>31,202</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>149,417</b>	<b>181,092</b>

### COMMERCIAL COMPANIES:

#### General Survey

Refers to UXO found/located through general survey activities.

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Village</b>	<b>Visits</b>	<b>Bomb</b>	<b>Bombies</b>	<b>Mine</b>	<b>Other UXO</b>	<b>Total</b>
ASA	14	14	0	0	0	23	<b>23</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>23</b>

#### Technical Survey

Refers to number of square meters of land released through the application of technical survey methodology.

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Agriculture/m2</b>	<b>Development/m2</b>	<b>Total/m2</b>	<b>Beneficiaries</b>	<b>Bomb</b>	<b>Bombies</b>	<b>Mine</b>	<b>Other UXO</b>	<b>Total</b>
ASA	-	421,008	421,008	1,396	-	-	-	36	<b>36</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>421,008</b>	<b>421,008</b>	<b>1,396</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>36</b>

#### Area Clearance

Refers to the number of square meters of land cleared through manual clearance methods. UXO found are either removed or destroyed.

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Agriculture/m2</b>	<b>Development/m2</b>	<b>Total/m2</b>	<b>Beneficiaries</b>	<b>Bomb</b>	<b>Bombies</b>	<b>Mine</b>	<b>Other UXO</b>	<b>Total</b>
ASA	-	1,150,470	1,150,470	1,310	-	78	-	92	<b>170</b>



PSD	30,000	285,000	315,000	40	-	576	-	236	812
Lao BSL	-	3,450,000	3,450,000	87	-	30	-	116	146
LXML MMG	-	7,210,000	7,210,000	-	2	785	-	2,166	2,953
Milsearch	-	3,718,021	3,718,021	216	-	345	-	1,184	1,529
PCL	320,306	1,108,513	1,428,819	580	4	179	-	66	249
<b>Total:</b>	<b>350,306</b>	<b>16,922,004</b>	<b>17,272,310</b>	<b>2,233</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1,993</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,860</b>	<b>5,859</b>

Summary COMMERCIAL COMPANIES - UXO found/destroyed and land cleared/released through technical survey and area clearance

Organization	Agriculture/m2	Development/m2	Total/m2	Beneficiaries	Bomb	Bombies	Mine	Other UXO	Total
All Commercials	350,306	17,343,012	17,693,318	3,629	6	1,993	-	3,896	5,895
<b>Total:</b>	<b>350,306</b>	<b>17,343,012</b>	<b>17,693,318</b>	<b>3,629</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1,993</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,896</b>	<b>5,895</b>

**GRAND TOTAL (UXO found/destroyed and land cleared/released through technical survey and Area clearance)**

Organization	Agriculture/m2	Development/m2	Total/m2	Beneficiaries	Bomb	Bombies	Mine	Other UXO	Total
All Operators	36,659,228	23,680,898	60,340,126	587,230	288	33,195	191	153,313	186,987
<b>Total:</b>	<b>36,659,228</b>	<b>23,680,898</b>	<b>60,340,126</b>	<b>587,230</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>33,195</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>153,313</b>	<b>186,987</b>

UXO/Mine Risk Education Operations

Organization	Village and School Number	Children	Adult	Total
DOE <sup>1</sup>	50	3,981	1,520	5,501
HI	52	4,515	3,473	7,988
MAG	737	3,828	6,512	10,340
SODI	54	9,298	2,982	12,280
UXO LAO	587	77,577	65,870	143,447
WE	1,904	198,320	6,350	204,670
<b>Total:</b>	<b>3,384</b>	<b>297,519</b>	<b>86,707</b>	<b>384,226</b>

## 2011 SECTOR FINANCIAL FIGURES

Financial figures: Humanitarian Clearance Operators - 2011 (USD)

These figures are provided by the various operators:

Organization	Contributions Received	Expenditure on UXO Operations in 2011
UXO Lao	5,816,385	6,966,901
HI	1,048,987	1,048,987
MAG	3,421,927	3,421,927
NPA	3,093,000	3,047,000

<sup>1</sup> DOE: Department of Education



JMAS	1,227,642	1,159,247
SODI	1,324,150	1,324,150
<b>Total:</b>	<b>15,932,091</b>	<b>16,968,213</b>

Financial figures: on Commercial Clearance Companies - 2011 (USD)

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Contributions Received</b>	<b>Expenditure on UXO Operations in 2011</b>
ASA	435,000	435,000
BACTEC	1,200,000	1,200,000
BSL	293,825	293,825
PSD	68,620	68,620
Milsearch	3,004,000	3,004,000
MMG	5,050,027	5,050,027
<b>Total:</b>	<b>10,051,472</b>	<b>10,051,472</b>

Financial figures on Mine Risk Education and Victim Assistance by all operators – 2011 (USD)

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Contributions Received</b>	<b>Expenditure on UXO Operations in 2011</b>
NRC	3,496,279	3,496,279
COPE	1,027,484	934,354
AAR	177,427	177,427
WE	462,733	221,504
<b>Total:</b>	<b>5,163,923</b>	<b>4,829,564</b>

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Contributions Received</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>
NRA	627,280	551,712

<b>All Sectors</b>	<b>Contributions Received</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>
<b>Grand Total:</b>	<b>31,774,766</b>	<b>32,400,961</b>

UXO Operators Personnel in Lao 2011

<b>Organization</b>	<b>National</b>	<b>International</b>	<b>Total</b>
HI	62	2	<b>64</b>
MAG	394	5	<b>399</b>
NPA	168	7	<b>175</b>
SODI	122	3	<b>125</b>
UXO Lao	1,072	7	<b>1,079</b>
JMAS	3	6	<b>9</b>
PSD	32	-	<b>32</b>
Lao BSL	13	-	<b>13</b>
ASA	16	-	<b>16</b>
Milsearch	65	3	<b>68</b>
BACTEC	79	2	<b>81</b>
LXML MMG	506	9	<b>515</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,532</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>2,576</b>

# What is UXO?

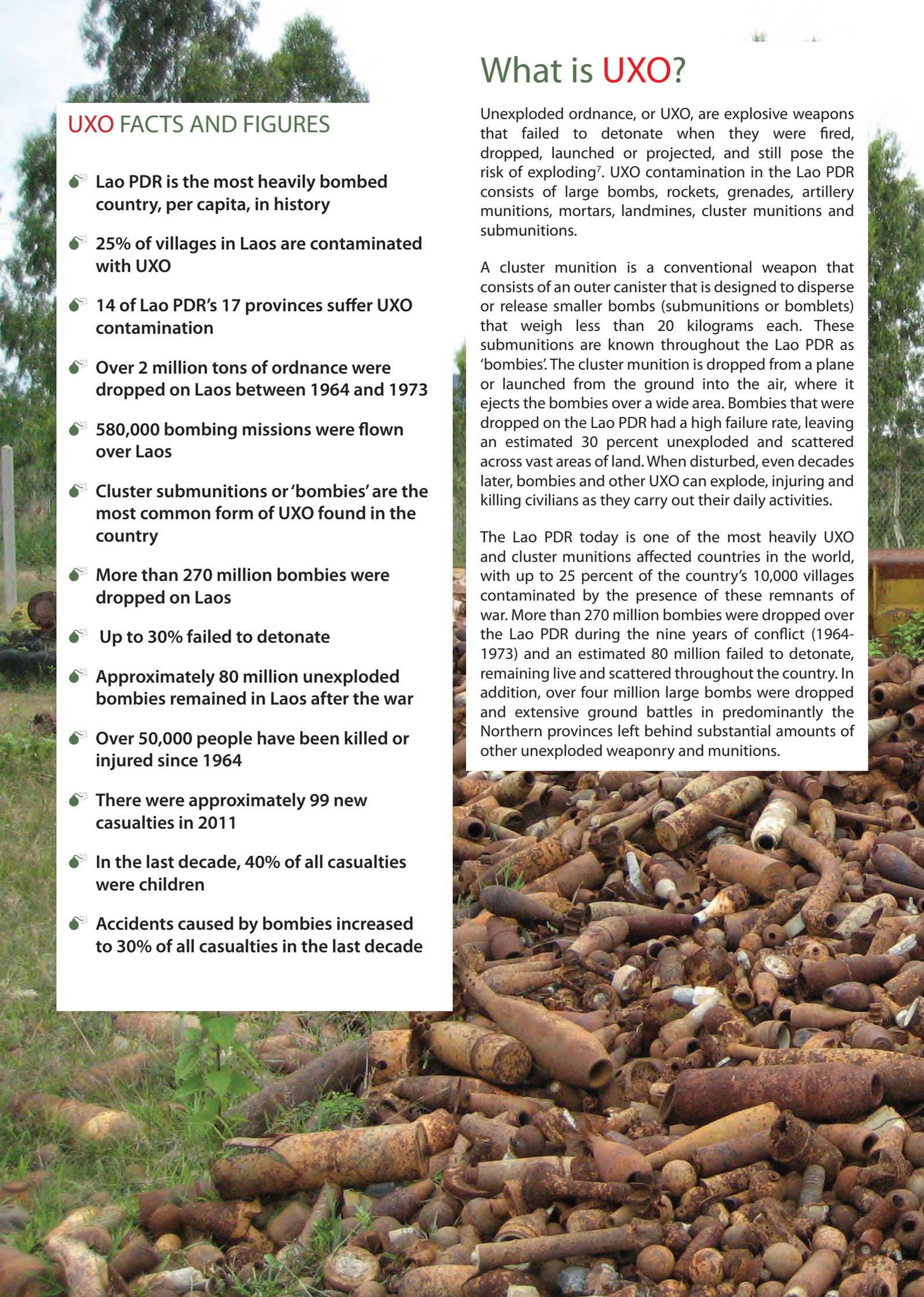
Unexploded ordnance, or UXO, are explosive weapons that failed to detonate when they were fired, dropped, launched or projected, and still pose the risk of exploding<sup>7</sup>. UXO contamination in the Lao PDR consists of large bombs, rockets, grenades, artillery munitions, mortars, landmines, cluster munitions and submunitions.

A cluster munition is a conventional weapon that consists of an outer canister that is designed to disperse or release smaller bombs (submunitions or bomblets) that weigh less than 20 kilograms each. These submunitions are known throughout the Lao PDR as 'bombies'. The cluster munition is dropped from a plane or launched from the ground into the air, where it ejects the bombies over a wide area. Bombies that were dropped on the Lao PDR had a high failure rate, leaving an estimated 30 percent unexploded and scattered across vast areas of land. When disturbed, even decades later, bombies and other UXO can explode, injuring and killing civilians as they carry out their daily activities.

The Lao PDR today is one of the most heavily UXO and cluster munitions affected countries in the world, with up to 25 percent of the country's 10,000 villages contaminated by the presence of these remnants of war. More than 270 million bombies were dropped over the Lao PDR during the nine years of conflict (1964-1973) and an estimated 80 million failed to detonate, remaining live and scattered throughout the country. In addition, over four million large bombs were dropped and extensive ground battles in predominantly the Northern provinces left behind substantial amounts of other unexploded weaponry and munitions.

## UXO FACTS AND FIGURES

- 🇂🇵 **Lao PDR is the most heavily bombed country, per capita, in history**
- 🇂🇵 **25% of villages in Laos are contaminated with UXO**
- 🇂🇵 **14 of Lao PDR's 17 provinces suffer UXO contamination**
- 🇂🇵 **Over 2 million tons of ordnance were dropped on Laos between 1964 and 1973**
- 🇂🇵 **580,000 bombing missions were flown over Laos**
- 🇂🇵 **Cluster submunitions or 'bombies' are the most common form of UXO found in the country**
- 🇂🇵 **More than 270 million bombies were dropped on Laos**
- 🇂🇵 **Up to 30% failed to detonate**
- 🇂🇵 **Approximately 80 million unexploded bombies remained in Laos after the war**
- 🇂🇵 **Over 50,000 people have been killed or injured since 1964**
- 🇂🇵 **There were approximately 99 new casualties in 2011**
- 🇂🇵 **In the last decade, 40% of all casualties were children**
- 🇂🇵 **Accidents caused by bombies increased to 30% of all casualties in the last decade**





## International Treaties

### The Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM)

The key obligations of the CCM for the Government are to:

- Clear all land suspected to be contaminated with cluster munitions and sub-munitions within 10 years of the treaty coming into force for that country. Where this is not feasible, affected states can apply for extensions
- Conduct risk reduction education to ensure awareness among civilians living in cluster-munitions affected areas
- Appoint a focal point in Government for Victim Assistance
- Collect reliable relevant data with respect to cluster munitions victims and provide assistance to victims, including medical care, rehabilitation and psychological support, as well as provide for their social and economic inclusion.

Such obligations pose a substantial challenge, which the Government of Lao PDR will be looking to work in partnership with donors to achieve.

## UXO Sector in the Lao PDR

There are a number of organizations working throughout the Lao PDR to reduce the impact of unexploded ordnance (UXO) on individuals and communities, and to enable national socio-economic development. The network includes the Government of Lao PDR (GoL), United Nations Agencies, international donors, international non-government organizations (INGOs), domestic organizations, and commercial clearance operators.

This report will highlight the progress that has been collectively achieved throughout 2011 in realizing the ultimate goal of making the Lao PDR free from the threat of UXO.

## NATIONAL REGULATORY

## AUTHORITY for UXO/MINE Action Sector in Lao PDR (NRA)

### NRA Structure 2011

The National Regulatory Authority (NRA) now falls under the authority of the Ministry to the Government Office as directed by Prime Ministerial Decree No. 604/PM, dated the 8th of September, 2011. Minister to the Government office and President of the National Leading Committee for Rural Development and Poverty Eradication, Mr Bounheuang Douangphachanh will now serve as Chairman of the NRA. "The NRA's work will continue to focus on the clearance of UXO and accident victim assistance. Under the Ministry to the Government Office, we hope the NRA will be able to conduct some activities faster, especially in regards to UXO clearance", Mr Bounheuang Douangphachanh said at the ceremony to announce the structural changes to the organisation on the 6th of October, 2011.

Outputs of the National Regulatory Authority for UXO/Mine Action Sector in Lao PDR (NRA) in 2011 included the following:

- Better Mine Risk Education (MRE) approaches in Laos
- Better information and strategies for victim assistance in the Lao PDR
- Release of priority land for agriculture and development, coordinated and regulated in accordance with risk reduction and priority needs
- Effective coordination and regulation of the UXO Sector, integrated into the regular set-up of the Lao Government
- International Treaty Obligations under the CCM are met

By coordinating, regulating and monitoring all operators<sup>2</sup> of the UXO Sector, the NRA contributed to maximizing the performance of the Sector as a whole.

More specifically, in 2011 the UXO sector contributed to enhanced safety, to greater awareness of risks and to release more land cleared for productive use under the supervision of the National Regulatory Authority for the UXO/Mine Action Sector.



New recorded UXO casualties decreased significantly in the past four years of the UXO Sector. Better information and strategies for victim assistance have been developed and have fallen from an estimated 300 per year in 2009 to 97 recorded casualties in 2011.

Over the past year, the UXO clearance operators in Lao PDR have cleared and destroyed around 186,978 UXO in 2011 (including 33,195 cluster sub-munitions) and released 6,034 hectares (including 5,419 hectares through full clearance and 615 hectares through technical survey). In addition, UXO operators have surveyed 2,949 villages for UXO contamination. Clearance ensures that people can work their land without the threat of death or injury.

## NRA Activities 2011

We would like to highlight the following developments within NRA:

The beginning of 2011 saw the creation of the NRA Programme and Public Relations (PR) Unit, which sits within the Policy, Administration and Standards Section. The new unit collaborates with the NRA's programme units and all operators within the UXO sector to raise awareness, both locally and internationally, of the issues caused by UXO in the Lao PDR.

The key achievements of the Unit throughout 2011, included; production of the UXO Sector Annual Report, information materials, updating content of the NRA website and coordinating important events such as the International UN Day for Mine/UXO Action in Laos, the 1st of August CCM anniversary, the Sector Working Groups and the NRA Board Meeting. The unit also coordinated and events managed the NRA annual review meeting and UXO trust fund meeting.

Throughout 2011, Technical Working Groups on Clearance, Victim Assistance (VA) and Mine Risk Education (MRE) were held regularly. The outcomes of these technical working groups formed the basis of discussion at the annual UXO Sector Working Group held in November 2011. The purpose of the UXO Sector Working Group is to review progress and generate open discussion in preparation for the annual Round Table Meeting.

The PR Unit also undertook additional work to support Lao's involvement in international negotiations to ban cluster munitions. This included preparation of a report on the transparency of the UXO Sector for the UN Secretary General in New York.

The VA Unit of NRA commenced the pilot project, 'UXO Survivor Tracking System,' to track survivors and monitor service provision. Two provinces have already been completed, Xiengkhouang and Savannakhet. The VA unit also facilitated World Education Consortium financial support to 58 UXO victims in six provinces; Xiengkhouang, Vientiane, Bolikhamxay, Savannakhet, Champasak and Sekong worth up to LAK117,341,000 (USD 14,667). The VA unit cooperated with Ministry of Health to receive medical equipment for UXO survivors, funded by the Chinese Government. The draft of the new VA strategy is continuing into 2012. The unit also held three Technical Working Group meetings on VA.

The Quality Management Unit focused on the application of National Standards for UXO/Mine action in Lao PDR. Throughout the process, numerous consultative meetings were held and the unit is now waiting on approval of the review of standards by the NRA Board. Regulation of the UXO Sector is managed by the NRA through the production and application of UXO/Mine Action National Standards. These are comprehensive documents spanning across 24 subject chapters and include minimum standards for operations. The minimum standards are based on international best practices (IMAS) for mine clearance, and have been customized for Lao PDR and the primary UXO threat. Additional key activities included conducting external inspections on area clearance operation, namely MAG, NPA, BACTEC, SODI, SBH and Lao BSL to ensure that national standards continued to be met.

The NRA has also initiated and conducted a District Focused Approach (DFA) to understanding the extent of UXO contamination in Lao PDR by surveying three districts of Khammouane, Savannakhet and Saravan Provinces. Three UXO humanitarian organizations (MAG, HI and NPA) were involved in the project and organized several workshops to discuss and define the scope and methodology of this new approach with provincial and district authorities and operators. The project was well received and it is anticipated that the DFA will help to define priority projects in the future.

The MRE Unit of the NRA designed and conducted a Knowledge Attitude and Practice (KAP) Survey in Xieng Khouang, Khammouane and Savannakhet Provinces. The KAP Survey report will be finalized and published in 2012 with findings concentrated

<sup>2</sup> As of 31 December 2011, UXO Sector operators included 13 non-profit organizations (AAR, COPE, CPI, CRS, HI, LDPA, MAG, NCDP, NPA, SODI, SoS, UXO Lao and World Education), about 8 commercial operators whose activities and number vary according to demand and seasons, as well as the Ministries of Health, Education, and Information and Culture.



on gender, age, activity and origin of MRE message. Future MRE messages and educational activities will be adapted to these findings in the next round of surveys in 2012.

The NRA's Research Unit organized meetings with provincial and district authorities in Ta-Oy, Nong and Bualapha Districts in order to raise awareness of the DFA and also completed team training with MAG, HIB and NPA. Some of the data collected from the DFA survey has been entered into Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA).

Unfortunately, the research on 'Scrap Metal Trading in Laos' was not conducted due to the NRA's Research Officer leaving in July, 2011 and the position being vacant for six months. Despite this, a national policy on 'UXO within the scrap metal trade' (including recycled explosives) was drafted and translated into a draft Prime Ministerial Order. The draft was submitted to the NRA Board and is ready to be submitted to the Ministry of Justice before approval by the Prime Minister.

The Information Management Unit was kept busy in 2011 by entering and validating historic and current data from UXO Sector operators. The Unit also began a gradual roll out of the IMSMA software program to operators, in an effort to facilitate a switch to online reporting. The unit also prepared and supplied UXO contamination maps of Lao PDR and UXO clearance data for the DFA project as required.

## Partnerships

In 2011, the NRA continued its support of the Lao Presidency of the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM). This partnership was based on a Memorandum of Understanding between the NRA and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs that listed the activities of the Legal Advisory Unit in 2011 as follows:

- Production and submission to the UN Secretary General of the Lao PDR's Transparency Report in accordance with Article 7 of the CCM



Former NRA Chairman HE Madame Onechanh Thammavong at the International Day for UXO/Mine Awareness, 2011 Official Opening Ceremony



International Day for UXO/Mine Awareness, 2011 Official Opening Ceremony

- CCM universalization campaign, in particular CCM advocacy missions to ASEAN countries
- Preparation of documents, including a draft 10 year plan on CCM implementation in cooperation with the NRA and travel to the CCM Intersessional Meeting to be held in Geneva in June 2011.
- Preparation of and travel to the Second Meeting of States Parties held in Beirut in the second half of 2011

Throughout 2011, the CCM remained a key framework for national and international partnerships. CCM international meetings held in June in Geneva and in September in Beirut, offered opportunities for several statements by the Lao PDR delegation, as well as two side briefings on the NRA's 10 year plan to implement the CCM and on a combined approach to implementing the CCM in the Lao PDR, involving key UXO Sector Operators. Following the success of these briefings, several operators were asked to deliver presentations during the UXO Sector Working Group held on the 18th of October, 2011. The involvement of operators combined with an increased participation of line ministries contributed to creating a more interactive and discussion rich Sector Working Group meeting than in previous years.

Lao PDR's decision to join the CCM has contributed to a significant increase in funds raised for the UXO Sector. According to NRA estimates, funds raised or pledged for the UXO Sector in 2010 and 2011 amounted to over USD 55 million. According to the 2011 Cluster Munition Monitor Report, "From 2006 to 2009 international contributions to Lao PDR averaged approximately USD12 million per year.

Funding of over USD 20,000,000 in 2010 represents an increase of 89 per cent from the previous year." In addition, the United States of America (USA) Congress approved an increase in spending for UXO activities in Laos from USD 5 million in 2011, to USD9 million in 2012, the largest increase in funds by the USA, ever. The NRA itself received continued financial support from Australia, Canada, Ireland, Switzerland, UNDP TRAC, United Kingdom (all through UNDP), and UNICEF (direct). Other partnerships included the in-kind provision of technical advisors from Ireland (complete), Switzerland (ongoing), the support



*Mine Risk Education materials like this poster have been distributed to communities in UXO risk areas. received from the USA through Armor Group, North America.*

In addition, the NRA worked closely with UNDP/BCPR in relation to the Lao Presidency of the CCM and with the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) in relation to a project to increase efficiency of clearance and survey in Lao PDR. Contracts have also been initiated with the Cambodian Mine Action Sector through Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). Such contacts led to an exchange of experiences and a visit to Cambodia by NRA representatives.

## Gender mainstreaming

In 2011, the NRA pursued an active policy gender equality within the workplace. Happily we are able to report that three officer positions are now occupied by women (about one third of NRA officers). These positions are Research Officer, Risk Education Officer and Finance Officer. This is an increase from no female officers in 2010.

In addition, particular attention to gender balance was ensured in the following projects:

- The KAP Survey: the UXO casualties database and the survivor tracking system systematically disaggregated data according to age and gender
- District Focused Approach to UXO Survey: building on findings of the Post-Clearance Impact Assessment (PCIA), according to which, '... there does seem to be different types of impact for men and women depending on post-clearance land use.'" The district survey also ensured active participation of women in the preparation of the district clearance plans



# NRA FINANCIAL REPORT 2011

## Financial Contributions and Expenditure in 2011

Expenditure in 2011 was disbursed via the NRA, UNDP, UNICEF and Armor Group (USD).

<i>Donor</i>	<i>Contribution</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>
Armor Group (North America)	109,807	53,809
UNDP	497,626	480,884
UNICEF	19,847	17,019
<b>Total</b>	<b>627,280</b>	<b>551,712</b>



# Special REPORTS

## The District Focused Approach

The DFA will comprise a survey activity undertaken in each UXO contaminated district in Lao PDR to collect and analyse local district and village information in order to determine the size of the UXO affected land, the impact of the contamination within each village and the development priorities. In each target district selected for the pilot project, operators will conduct a comprehensive survey by systematically assessing UXO contamination district by district and village by village.

The DFA developed will be a standard project approach that will be implemented by UXO Operators under NRA direction.

In the first stage, the DFA will be piloted in three districts in the south of Lao PDR, under the leadership and coordination of the NRA and with the assistance of three humanitarian demining INGOs: MAG, HIB and NPA.

### Goal:

A pilot methodology is developed and trialled, which will allow severely affected districts to have their UXO threat and the resulting impact defined, resulting in the development of an informed and targeted 10 year national clearance plan.

### Objectives:

- To develop and test a survey tool and methodology to inform a district focused approach to define UXO threat and impact in the target districts
- To prioritise areas for clearance based on evidence of contamination, impact and development need, resulting in a clearance work-plans for the target districts that can be managed and regularly reviewed to accommodate changing priorities
- To provide the baseline information to enable GOL prediction of 'end dates' and enable donors and international organizations to plan their exit strategies
- To provide the baseline information that will enable further understanding of the impact of UXO interventions

While following the principles of IMAS 08.20 (non-technical survey) and 08.21 (technical survey), the district survey approach in Lao PDR will not be releasing land but rather only identifying the confirmed hazardous areas and the suspected hazardous areas and prioritising these.

### The district survey will identify:

- Confirmed hazardous areas and suspected hazardous areas
- Identify boundaries of contaminated land that has plans for development and use
- Identify boundaries around land that is already in use but remains contaminated

The survey will ensure that the scarce and expensive UXO clearance resources are directed towards the highest priority areas, allowing district planning authorities, affected villages, development organizations and demining operators to jointly prioritise clearance tasks which have the greatest humanitarian and development impact for the community.

### The priorities will be informed by:

- Village needs and plans, at the household and community level, which could include individual agricultural and housing land, and also community land and infrastructure development
- District needs and plans, which include infrastructure, development, relocation and economic opportunities (including commercial opportunities)
- National needs and plans for development and investment

OPERATOR

Operator reports are based on a template prepared by the NRA office and sent to each operator. Information included in this section is based on the information submitted by each operator. The editor has taken care to only make minor changes and corrections to the reports.

### International Humanitarian UXO/Mine Action Operators

1. Handicap International (HI)
2. Lao National UXO Programme (UXO Lao)
3. Japan Mine Action Service (JMAS)
4. Mine Advisory Group (MAG)
5. Norwegian People's Aid (NPA)
6. Solidarity Service International (SODI)

### Commercial Clearance Operators

1. ASA
2. BACTEC
3. LXML MMG
4. LAO BSL
5. Milsearch
6. PSD

### Risk Education and Victim Assistance Operators

1. Association for Aid and Relief (AAR)
2. Cooperative Orthotic and Prosthetic Enterprise (COPE)
3. World Education (WE)
4. National Rehabilitation Centre (NRC)

REPORTS



# HUMANITARIAN CLEARANCE ORGANIZATIONS



## HANDICAP INTERNATIONAL (HI)

### Activities in 2011

As in previous years, Handicap International (HI) worked in Savannakhet Province in the Nong, Vilabuly and Sepon districts targeting 40 villages in 2011.

HI carried out clearance and roving activities, conducted risk education and community liaison activities, started to conduct the DFA in Nong District as a pilot project and set up the Ban Advocates project.

### District Focus Survey:

The District Focus Survey (DFS) project was also started in October 2011. Seventeen villages were visited and 602 interviews conducted. HI has also reviewed its internal operations while supporting the DFS. Roving teams were deployed within one month of the DFS concluding in villages and subsequently destroyed all the UXO reported in the survey data.

In 2011, 17 villages were visited or surveyed. The results of data collection for the first 17 villages are shown below:

- 603 households interviewed
- 32 Emergency Clearance Requests completed
- 239 Hazardous Land Reports completed
- 17 UXO accident survivors interviewed
- 17 villages surveyed and mapped



*District Focus Survey Team – Nong District – October 2011*

### Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD)

#### Operations: Clearance and roving activities

HI's annual work plan was based on the clearance requests of the local authorities and development partners as the Poverty Reduction Fund and WeltHungerHilfe. There are many expected positive outcomes for land clearance, including infrastructure development (road construction, food for work, health centres and school buildings) and for food security (rice paddy expansion and new farming land).

The roving team workplan has been adjusted to better meet the priorities identified by the DFS. Indeed, HI decided to bring full support to the DFS by deploying roving clearance teams to each emergency clearance request within one month of the request being lodged.

The EOD project conducted battle area clearance in 24 villages and cleared 36,64 hectares. The roving teams conducted 86 tasks in 31 villages and destroyed 1,181 UXOs. The EOD project is estimated to have benefited 19,341 people and 117 post-clearance assessments were conducted.

### Risk Education and Community Liaison activities

In 2011, HI conducted 18 mobile risk education events, 17 house-to-house visits with the Parenting Technical Module and 23 safety briefings utilizing specially designed educational flip charts. 34 villages were visited among the three target districts. In 2011 HI has also implemented a new initiative called 'Safe Kids Club' in 19 villages. In all, it is estimated HI reached 7,988 beneficiaries (3473 adults and 4515 children).

In January 2011, the risk education and community liaison village volunteers were selected in the 40 target villages in close cooperation with the village authorities.

## Support to NRA Provincial Office in Savannakhet:

During the reporting period, HI have forged a close partnership with the NRA in Savannakhet Province with good cooperation and collaboration on joint HI and NRA activities. The following support to the NRA was provided: the NRA office in Savannakhet was fully equipped and training was also provided to NRA staff.

### Ban Advocates:

The Ban Advocates were formed to raise awareness on the CCM and to advocate for UXO victims by participating in village, district and provincial meetings and embassy visits. The Lao Ban Advocates have attended several conferences on the CCM and Mine Ban Treaty (MBT) in several countries. The group has an ongoing commitment to advocating for a total ban on cluster munitions and to providing services to victims, survivors and their families.



*HI's Ban Advocates were very active in 2011, attending international conferences on cluster munitions to advocate for the CCM and to raise awareness about the challenges of the UXO problem in Lao, PDR.*

<b>Clearance</b>	
<b>Surface cleared</b>	<b>UXO destroyed</b>
Farm land cleared: 230.860 m2	Bombie : 142
Other land cleared: 135,639m2	Other UXO: 1109
Total area cleared: 366,499 m2	Total: 1,251
Beneficiaries: 19,341 people	
Total number of villages: 24	
<b>Roving</b>	
Beneficiaries: 13,279 people	Bomb : 15
Total number of villages: 31	Bombie : 581
	Other UXO: 585
	Total: 1,181

### 2012 Challenges and/or Opportunities:

Depending on funding, HI plans to increase its operational capacities as follows:

- Doubling the District Focus Survey (DFS) human resource capacity (from 8 to 24 survey officers)
- Doubling the demining human resource capacities (from 15 to 30 deminers)
- Have a permanent roving team
- Integrate the Land Release Survey as a complementary approach of the DFA
- The District Focus Survey will commence in Sepon and Vilabuly districts

### Implementing Partners or Clients:

Final beneficiaries include approximately 15,000 people from 40 villages in Nong, Sepon and Villabully Districts in Savannakhet Province who will directly benefit from UXO risk education, clearance and destruction of UXO in support of district authority development activities, Poverty Reduction Fund (PRF) sub-projects and Welthungerhilfe (WHH)\* development projects.

District Authorities (DA's) from Nong, Sepon and Villabully districts may be considered a partner groups and beneficiaries as they will benefit by gaining a better understanding of the size and impact of the UXO contamination, priorities for their districts and links to the DA's own district development plans.



The NRA as the project partner may also be considered a target group as capacity of the NRA provincial staff will be strengthened to coordinate and monitor UXO activities in Savannakhet. The NRA will also benefit from the trial of a survey tool, capturing lessons learned that are relevant to the whole sector.

District Authorities, the Poverty Reduction Fund (PRF) and Welthungerhilfe may be considered beneficiaries as UXO contaminated land will be cleared allowing for their development initiatives to commence free from the negative impacts of UXO contamination.

### Case study: A day in the life of a HI survey team member

As the sun rises, the base camp at Nong in Savannakhet Province stirs, teams readying for departure.

Here we go, a new day!

The District Focus Survey (DFS) teams start first, headed to the villages they will survey. Meanwhile, the roving clearance team takes explosives to destroy the UXO discovered in the villages previously surveyed by the DFS or reported by the community volunteers. A test radio message announces the beginning of the clearance activities.

The DFS team arrives accompanied by the representative of the UXO district committee. Together, they greet the village chief while the villagers gather. DFS surveyors spend the day conducting the survey throughout the village, house by house, happy to walk sometimes for miles to take the GPS coordinates of reported UXO in order to establish the final contamination map of the village

Boom! This is the sound of a demolition carried out by the roving clearance team deployed nearby. The survey team leader takes the opportunity to explain to the villagers the roving team activities and confirm the HI commitment to rapidly destroying all UXO reported. They have destroyed 600 UXOs in the first two months of 2012.

At the end of the working day, some team members sleep early while others will gather around a camp fire and share their highlights of the day. The Risk Education team who are carrying out community liaison work in the village are this evening showing a movie about UXO awareness.



Demolition of White Phosphorus, bomb M47 in Vilabuly District, March 2012.

\* HI will work with the Poverty Reduction Fund (PRF) and WelthungerhilfeM(WHH) to ensure clearance tasks are linked to development projects.



### Geographic operations:

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Provinces of Lao PDR implement activity in</b>
Area clearance	Savannakhet Province Districts of Nong, Sepon and Villabully
Survey and roving clearance	Savannakhet Province Districts of Nong, Sepon and Villabully
Risk Education	Savannakhet Province Districts of Nong, Sepon and Villabully
Victim Assistance	Savannakhet Province Districts of Nong, Sepon and Villabully
Other	Savannakhet Province Districts of Nong and Sepon

### Financials:

#### Expenditure for 2011 (USD)

<b>Item</b>	<b>Amount (USD)</b>
Personnel costs	618,237
Operational costs	197,467
Special operational costs	-
Equipment: expendable	14,857
Equipment: non-expendable	218,426
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,048,987</b>

#### Donor contributions for 2011 (USD)

<b>Donor</b>	<b>Contribution received in 2011 (USD)</b>
Austrian Development Agency	220,715
Europaid	300,296
Agence Française de Développement	269,372
ICBL-CMC (BA)	2,002
Unicef	21,763
Own funds	234,839
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,048,987</b>

## Additional Case Study: BAN Advocates

Several members of the Ban Advocates team were active at the side events organized during the week-long State Party Meeting for the CMM in Lebanon. Both Lao Ban Advocates, Thoumy Silamphan and Latsamy Volalath, contributed to a side event organized by the NRA in Lao PDR, on a combined approach to implementing the CCM. They both explained how the Ban Advocates in Laos are working in cooperation with many other Lao partners to support the implementation of the CCM.



Lao Ban Advocates attended the CCM in Lebanon

## BAN Advocates' Speech at the NRA side event organized in Lebanon.

*Ladies and Gentlemen,*

My name is Thoumy Silamphan. I am a UXO survivor from Xieng Khuang Province in the Lao Peoples' Democratic Republic. I work for World Education and am a member of Ban Advocates of Handicap International. I am also very proud and honored to announce that I have just been elected as the first President of the Quality of Life Association, the first Lao Non Profit Association to serve UXO victims, their families and people with disabilities.

On this occasion, on behalf of victims of cluster munitions in Lao PDR as well as those from many other countries, I would like to express our sincere thanks and gratitude to the Government of Lao PDR and States Parties to the Convention on the CCM including international organizations that have made our aspirations a reality. We hope that the implementation of the Oslo Convention will liberate the Lao people as well as other people all over the world from the dangers of cluster munitions. And, we the survivors from cluster munitions in Lao PDR and in the world will continue to receive further assistance.



Lao Ban Advocates and HI making a presentation at the CCM in Lebanon



# LAO NATIONAL UXO PROGRAMME (UXO LAO)

## Activities in 2011:

In 2011, UXO Lao released 2,938 hectares of land through area clearance and technical survey activities reaching 466,337 beneficiaries, destroyed 157,181 items of UXO through clearance, technical survey and roving tasks.

The removal or destruction of UXO increases the safety of people living in UXO impacted communities and increases the amount of safe land available for food production and other socio-economic development activities.

The community awareness (CA) activities are designed to increase the awareness of people living in UXO affected areas by educating people about the dangers of UXO and changing the behaviour of 'high risk' target groups. 587 villages were involved in CA activities run by UXO Lao staff and Village Volunteers, reaching 143,447 people, including 77,577 children. Community awareness activities are closely linked with survey activities by allowing villagers to assist survey teams in identifying the location of UXO. Further, 1,625 roving tasks were conducted in 1,136 villages removing 135,999 items of UXO.

UXO Lao had also supported the work of other

development agencies such as the Poverty Reduction Fund, Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), World Vision, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), International Fund for Agriculture and Development, International Relief and Development, CARE International and a private donation from Norwegian Schoolchildren. Three hundred hectares of land were cleared in direct support of the development agencies with 253 villages benefitting from the clearance. This support is given through clearing land for development agencies' projects, such as the construction of a school buildings, hospitals, district health care centres, market places or land for agriculture, which are linked to an integrated development programme. UXO Lao has cleared land at no cost to these agencies and thus also contributed to further socio-economic development in the country. UXO Lao does not clear land for commercial investors or for investment purposes.

## Purchase of Detectors

- Ebinger UPEX740 M:16 units
- Vallon VMXC1: 15 units

## Vehicles:

- Toyota Land Cruiser Hard Top: 02 units



*A UXO Lao clearance team at the beginning of a days work.*



## Operations:

- Area Clearance: 2,385 hectares of the 2,527 hectares of land target cleared
- General Survey Tasks: 2,154 tasks of the 1,669 task target completed
- Roving Tasks: 1,625 tasks of the 1,651 task target completed
- Technical Survey: 553 hectares of 558 hectares of land target released. Detailed 2010 achievements:

## Detailed 2011 achievements:

<i>Community Awareness</i>			<i>Survey</i>		<i>Roving</i>	
<i>Province</i>	<i>Visits</i>	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	<i>Villages</i>	<i>Visits</i>	<i>Villages</i>	<i>Visits</i>
LuangPrabang	65	26,025	116	180	70	105
Hauphanh	65	15,941	101	173	90	140
Xiengkhuang	66	8,925	188	331	186	304
Khammuane	69	26,312	168	211	120	170
Savannakhet	62	10,778	236	301	245	312
Saravane	64	15,686	175	178	186	239
Sekong	67	11,165	95	137	52	66
Champasack	65	15,277	225	499	102	170
Attapeu	64	13,338	88	144	85	119
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>587</b>	<b>143,447</b>	<b>1,392</b>	<b>2,154</b>	<b>1,136</b>	<b>1,625</b>

<i>Province</i>	<i>Clearance (ha)</i>				<i>TS</i>			
	<i>Agriculture</i>	<i>Others</i>	<i>Total Area</i>	<i>Benefi- ciaries</i>	<i>Agricul- ture</i>	<i>Others</i>	<i>Total Area</i>	<i>Benefi- ciaries</i>
LuangPrabang	176.0925	23.4345	199.5270	14,259	36.1923	24.6708	60.8631	14,729
Hauphanh	218.5371	7.0436	225.5807	18,838	61.4145	2.1516	63.5661	5,393
Xiengkhuang	355.0745	78.6217	433.6962	296,782	65.5156	2.0510	67.5666	2,035
Khammuane	192.2451	40.8609	233.1060	28,385	65.8901	0.2500	66.1401	3,299
Savannakhet	389.5488	5.5091	395.0579	8,667	63.9152	3.0071	66.9223	3,359
Saravane	297.1987	42.7688	339.9675	13,875	47.0176	18.0745	65.0921	9,861
Sekong	159.6112	19.3350	178.9462	3,173	30.9908	16.6095	47.6003	2,574
Champasack	230.8931	5.0202	235.9133	7,149	24.4154	37.0069	61.4223	12,386
Attapeu	107.5175	35.8265	143.3440	17,446	47.7389	6.3477	54.0866	4,117
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,126.7185</b>	<b>258.4203</b>	<b>2,385.1388</b>	<b>408,574</b>	<b>443.0904</b>	<b>110.1691</b>	<b>553.2595</b>	<b>57,753</b>



## Statistics: UXO found, removed and destroyed

<b>UXO Removed/Destroyed</b>					
<b>Task</b>	<b>Bombs</b>	<b>Bombies</b>	<b>Mines</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>
Roving	197	8,347	95	127,378	136,017
Clearance	16	10,441	11	10,529	20,997
TS	1	48	0	118	167
	<b>214</b>	<b>18,836</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>138,025</b>	<b>157,181</b>

## Training

<b>Course</b>	<b>Course Count</b>	<b>Number of Participations</b>
UXO clearance	2	70
Medic	3	27
Medic review	1	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>99</b>

## 2011 Challenges and/ or Opportunities:

A considerable challenge in 2011 has been the high turnover of staff across all nine provinces and at the National level. UXO Lao lost 121 staff, trained within the programme at the UXO Lao Training Centre. It was observed that most of the staff left UXO Lao to work with other organizations or commercial companies who have offered improved benefits and/or better salary. UXO Lao management is discussing plans for countering this problem. One consideration is a review and revision of staff salary in 2012 to reduce this turnover rate and its negative impact on UXO operations performance.

- Lao Government(rural development)
- Norway Schoolchildren
- IRD
- CARE
- Bamboo Shoot's Association
- Ministry of Education

## Geographic operations:

- Luangprabang – CA, SV, RV, CL and TS
- Huaphanh – CA, SV, RV, CL and TS
- Xiengkhuang – CA, SV, RV, CL and TS
- Khammuane – CA, SV, RV, CL and TS
- Savannakhet – CA, SV, RV, CL and TS
- Champasak – CA, SV, RV, CL and TS
- Saravane – CA, SV, RV, CL and TS
- Sekong – CA, SV, RV, CL and TS
- Attapeu – CA, SV, RV, CL and TS

## Implementing Partners or Clients:

- Armor Group North America (AGNA)
- Japan Mine Action Service (JMAS)
- Mines Advisory Group (MAG)
- Norwegian People's Aid (NPA)

## Development agencies support:

- World Vision
- IFAD
- Poverty Reduction Fund
- JICA, Japan

*Remark: CA (Community Awareness), SV (Survey), RV (Roving), CL (Clearance) and TS (Technical Survey)*



## Expenditure:

As of December 31, 2011 (uncertified by audit)

<i>Item</i>	<i>Expenditure in US Dollars</i>
Personnel costs	3,905,856
Operating costs	1,692,543
Special operating costs	329,363
Non-expendable equipment	312,413
Expendable equipment	437,658
Total costs	6,677,833
UNDP GMS administrative costs	289,068
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>6,966,901</b>

## Donor contributions:

As of December 31, 2011

<i>Donor</i>	<i>Funding Received</i>	<i>Remark</i>
Direct funding to UXO Lao (A)		
Foundation World Without Mines	150,000.00	Khammuane
Japan	744,680.00	Saravan and Sekong
JMAS	101,702.30	Attapeu
Poland Embassy	13,861.34	
South Korea	25,000.00	
UNICEF	40,881.62	Community Awareness
<b>Total Direct Funding to UXO Lao</b>	<b>1,076,125.26</b>	
<b>Funding Through UNDP (B)</b>		
AusAid	78,905.64	QA/QC
Austria	43,941.11	Luangprabang
Canada	446,003.88	
Germany	118,040.01	Luangprabang
Irish	424,401.13	
Japan, Phase V 2010-11	168,031.52	Saravane and Sekong
JAIF-JMAS	50,875.14	Attapeu
Luxembourg	80,078.88	multi years funding
New Zealand	547,578.15	Xiengkhuang
Norway	99,627.86	



Switzerland	492,534.56	
UNDP CPR Fund 2011	50,000.00	
UNDP Trac Fund 2011	181,135.38	
UNMAS	100,191.00	
United Kingdom	36,008.34	Training Centre
<b>Total Funding Through UNDP</b>	<b>2,917,352.60</b>	
<b>Funding through Implementing Partners (C)</b>		
Norwegian People's Aid	262,135.68	Saravan
US/Armor Group	467,496.60	Champasak
US/Armor Group	646,245.30	Savannakhet
US/MAG	290,290.00	Khammuane and Savannakhet
<b>Total Funding through Implementing Partners</b>	<b>1,666,167.58</b>	
<b>Other UXO Lao Funds (D)</b>		
Private donations	5,083.43	
Reimbursable operations	151,656.70	
<b>Total other UXO Lao funds</b>	<b>156,740.13</b>	
<b>Total (A) + (B)+(C)+(D)</b>	<b>5,816,385.57</b>	

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## Japan Mine Action Service (JMAS)

### Activities in 2011:

Japan Mine Action Service (JMAS), in cooperation with the UXO Lao, has completed a five year long project in Xiengkhouang Province, in March, 2011. JMAS is in its second year of operation in Attapeu Province and is working with UXO Lao. Work has also commenced in Salavan Province.

### Achievements:

Disposed of UXO in cooperation with UXO Lao in Attapeu Province and improved technical skills for UXO Lao staff.

### 2012 Challenges and/or Opportunities:

In 2012 JMAS plans to experiment on unexploded bombie clearance by remodeled demining machine in Xiengkhouang Province.

### Objectives:

- Performance confirmation and evaluation of unexploded bombie clearance by a remodeled demining machine
- Establishment of procedure and process of unexploded bombie clearance by CM-B

### Implementing partners or Clients:

Salavan Province: UXO Lao.  
Attapeu Province: UXO Lao.

### Geographic operations:

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Provinces of Lao PDR implement activity in</b>
Area clearance	Xiengkhouang and Attapeu provinces
Survey and roving clearance	Xiengkhouang and Attapeu provinces
Risk education	Xiengkhouang and Attapeu provinces

### Financials:

#### Expenditure for 2011 (USD)

<b>Item</b>	<b>Amount (USD)</b>
Personnel costs	637,284.45
Operational costs	359,862.63
Special operational costs	15,612.5
Equipment: expendable	132,691.51
Equipment: non-expendable	13,796.59
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,159,247.68</b>

#### Donor contributions for 2011 (USD):

<b>Donor</b>	<b>Contribution received in 2011 (USD)</b>
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan	1,159,247.68
The Nippon Foundation	68,394.76*
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,227,642.44</b>

\*Carried forward from the previous year



## MINES ADVISORY GROUP (MAG)

### Activities in 2011:

In 2011 Mines Advisory Group (MAG) was proud to remove large amounts of UXO from Districts within two of the most heavily contaminated Provinces in the country: Khammouane and Xieng Khouang. At the same time we were happy to continue providing significant support to the two main Lao Government UXO agencies, the NRA and UXO Lao through various initiatives and capacity support. All of this work has, and continues to make an important contribution to the country's realization of goals within the Lao Government's National Growth and Poverty Eradication Strategy and under various Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

In 2011 MAG increased its clearance capacity through the introduction of three brand new UXO Clearance Teams (UCTs). This has increased the number of MAG UCTs from nine to 12. We also maintained our two Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) roving teams whose role is to remove visible UXO contamination that is of immediate danger to communities. The MAG Community Liaison teams (CL) lead the work of MAG at a village level. Using participatory based methods, CL teams work with communities, local authorities and partner development organizations to identify contaminated land that is then prioritized for clearance. This joined up method of working between various stakeholders, is used to leverage the



*MAG Lao's all-female clearance team*

greatest impact and range of development benefits for beneficiary communities.

Through close working partnerships with various development actors and agencies in the country, MAG is able to ensure that the land we clear is subsequently used for a sound development purpose. During the year, MAG undertook clearance so World Vision could sink wells and boreholes, District authorities could build new markets, the Education Department could build new or enlarge current schools, and CARITAS could support communities to extend paddy fields. Through these partnerships MAG is making a valid contribution to progress under the NGPES and towards the MDGs.

### Achievements:

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Output</b>
m <sup>2</sup> of land cleared from UXO contamination	10,030,202
UXO destroyed	14,489
Direct beneficiaries of clearance	80,266
EOD spot tasks completed	1,666
Communities accessed by community liaison teams	478
Community meetings	737
Community meeting attendees	10,340



During 2011, MAG, together with Handicap International and Norwegian People's Aid, participated in an ongoing pilot survey project coordinated by the NRA. The 'District Based Survey' (DBS) project seeks to engage communities using community development principles to accurately identify areas of UXO contamination at a household level, while also gathering data on planned land use. This enables a clear prioritization process to be undertaken at a village level. Accordingly, Lao government actors at district and provincial levels are also engaged and participating in this process. Initial results are very encouraging, and the government has been very supportive. It is hoped that the pilot project will be adopted and expanded in order to identify the amount of land prioritized for clearance in each of the 41 poorest and most UXO contaminated districts of Laos.

In 2011, as well as the aforementioned expansion in the number of UCT teams, MAG has also significantly increased the number of CL teams. There are nine new CL teams working on the DBS project and three more working on gathering baseline and impact assessment information for another project. The members for these teams are drawn from the communities in which they will be working. Each undergoes a thorough training and induction process. The benefits of having local people working in their local community are numerous, not least is the ability to communicate in local dialects and language, which can greatly aid the speed and accuracy of data collection.

### Case study: Mr Nengchue's farm

Mr. Nengchue is a farmer who lives in Nonglae Village, Nonghet District, Xieng Khouang Province. He supports a family of six through the crops grown on his land.



Mr Nengchue on his farm land that was cleared of UXO by MAG in 2011.



MAG Lao Clearance Technicians

Mr. Nengchue says, 'I found many UXO on my farmland. In 2010 I cut vegetation with the idea of growing some short term crops. I found six items of UXO in a small area and I felt that it was not safe to farm this land.'

In May 2011, a MAG Laos UXO Clearance Team was deployed to clear Mr. Nengchue's land. During clearance the MAG team found and destroyed 205 items of UXO within an area of 27,412m<sup>2</sup>. After clearance the family finally felt confident to use the land as they knew they would be safe to do so.

The results have been life changing for Mr. Nengchue as he has been able to grow seven tonnes of corn which was sold at the market for a total of LAK11,900,000 (approximately USD1,500). This is a significant sum for a previously very poor family. Mr. Nengchue says, 'I have used LAK6,000,000 to pay the fees for my daughter at Teaching Training College and the rest of the money will be spent on food, farming tools and to cover medical costs for my family. I am so grateful to MAG for clearing my land.'

### 2012 Challenges and/or Opportunities:

The major opportunity for MAG in 2012 will be our continued involvement in the DBS process. We are excited at the prospect of being a part of a National led effort to accurately identify the amount of land prioritized for clearance and to expand the survey into the 41 most contaminated districts within the country.

### Implementing Partners or Clients:

MAG works with many partners who implement development activities on land that we have cleared of UXO contamination. The following table lists MAG's partners and clients.



<b>Partner</b>	<b>Activity</b>
CARITAS	Paddy extension/farming
Helvetas	Livelihood projects
Mennonite Central Committee	Schools and irrigation
District/Provincial authorities	Water piping
Ministry of Education	Schools
World Vision	Community buildings, health centres, schools

MAG also receives funds from Imperial Tobacco, through which we provide grants to development partners to implement projects on land cleared of UXO. With the funds in 2011, World Education ran a

livelihoods project in two villages in Xieng Khouang. World Vision Laos distributed seeds and farming tools in Mahaxay District, and Engineers Without Borders constructed a clean water system for a village in Xieng Khouang.

#### Geography of operations:

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Provinces of Lao PDR implement activity in</b>
Area clearance	Xieng Khouang and Khammouane
Survey and roving clearance	Xieng Khouang and Khammouane
Risk education	Xieng Khouang and Khammouane

#### Financials:

##### Expenditure for 2011 (USD)

<b>Item</b>	<b>Amount (USD)</b>
Personnel costs	564,374
Operational costs	1,467,553
Special operational costs	501,846
Equipment: expendable	764,349
Equipment: non-expendable	123,806
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,421,927</b>

##### Donor contributions for 2011 (USD):

<b>Donor</b>	<b>Contribution received in 2011 (USD)</b>
Imperial Tobacco	31,741
Guernsey Oversea Aid	1,993
European Commission	262,688
MAG America	1,893,228
DFID/UK Aid	977,297
World Vision/Ausaid	254,979
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,421,927</b>



## Additional Case Study: MAG and the DoLSW

Mr. Petsigna is one of four Department of Labour and Social Welfare (DoLSW) staff members from Khammouane Province, trained by MAG Laos in a variety of important aspects of Community Liaison (CL) work.

In his role with the DoLSW, one of Mr. Petsigna's main duties was to decide on the annual UXO clearance plan for his administrative area. Communication with a variety of stakeholders, including local communities, is vital in this role if one is to ensure that the clearance plans take into consideration the real needs and priorities of the beneficiaries of any UXO clearance work.

To help refine the decision making process on clearance priorities, Mr. Petsigna and his colleagues were trained by MAG staff in a variety of areas. Skills in data collection techniques, mapping and use of GPS, successfully encouraging community participation, and identifying task prioritization criteria were developed through formal training sessions and on-the-job learning. Peer-to-peer information sharing sessions also formed another important means of learning and provided scope for sharing of experience.

One specific MAG Laos CL team member acted as the mentor for the four DoLSW staff throughout their training. MAG Laos also provided the resources necessary to fulfill their roles effectively: laptop



*DoLSW staff trained by MAG*

computers, motorbikes, GPS and other mapping tools and equipment.

Mr. Petsigna says, 'I am proud to have been working with MAG Laos and very grateful for the training that I received while with them. It has really helped me develop my skills and awareness. I feel comfortable and able now to enter villages. I know how to speak with the local people and find out what their real problems are. On behalf of the Khammouane authorities I would like to thank MAG Laos and the all the staff who worked with me and my colleagues. I wish them continued success in their work and a long and healthy life.'



## NORWEGIAN PEOPLE'S AID

### Activities in 2011:

Norwegian People's Aid (INPA) has conducted three basic sets of activities during 2011; a survey (including non-technical and technical), clearance and roving tasks. The focus in 2011 has been to test and improve the Land Release Survey (LRS) introduced at the end of 2010. The LRS is basically a technical survey adapted to establish the real extent of the cluster munition contamination in the Lao context.

In addition NPA has conducted a lot of training in 2011, gearing up for a planned expansion in 2012.

### Achievements:

NPA has focused on developing what we believe is an appropriate methodology in addressing the cluster munition contamination in Laos. We have established that our approach works and can be very effective in coming to grips with the real extent of contamination (footprints). A major achievement was surveying a number of villages in Thateng District in Sekong Province, for the first time visually presenting the cluster munition contamination to villagers, local authorities, NRA and donors.



*Land being surveyed for 'footprints' of UXO contamination.*



*Land Release Survey team member in the field, plotting the coordinates of a UXO*

Another achievement of 2011 was the development of LRS procedures and proving that it effectively addresses the cluster munition challenge in Laos. It also is a good approach to solving Laos' obligations to the 2008 Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM). A full presentation was given to all relevant stakeholders in Laos and the methodology has been accepted and represented in the national standards as of February 2012.

### 2012 Challenges and/or Opportunities:

There were some challenges in late 2011 in the process of negotiating a new MOU. However, these challenges are outweighed by the opportunities for assisting Laos in ridding itself of the cluster munition problem.

### Geographic operations:

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Provinces of Lao PDR implement activity in</b>
Area clearance	Attapeu, Sekong and Salavan
Survey and roving clearance	Attapeu, Sekong and Salavan
Other	Information Management and standards (NRA centrally)



## Financials:

### Expenditure for 2011 (USD)

<b>Item</b>	<b>Amount (USD)</b>
Personnel costs	948,000
Operational costs	995,000
Special operational costs	280,000
Equipment: expendable	471,000
Equipment: non-expendable	353,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,047,000</b>

### Donor contributions for 2011 (USD):

<b>Donor</b>	<b>Contribution received in 2011 (USD)</b>
Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs	2,297,000
Norwegian Confederation of Trade Unions	96,000
US Department of State	700,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,093,000</b>

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## SOLIDARITY SERVICE INTERNATIONAL (SODI)

### Activities in 2011:

2011 was the second year of implementation of Solidarity Services International (SODI)'s Integrated Programme of Humanitarian UXO and Mine Clearance and of Projects for Poverty Alleviation and Development in Khamkeut District, Bolikhamxay Provinces. Khamkeut, situated at the border to Vietnam and northern end of the former 'Ho-Chi-Minh-Trail', is a highly UXO contaminated area, severely bombed especially with cluster bombs and is one of the 46 poorest districts of Lao PDR.

The aim of the SODI Programme is to clear the District of Khamkeut from Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) within five to seven years time to the extent that they do no longer pose an immediate threat to life and health of the population in their daily activities. To overcome the impediments of development caused by ERW and to improve living conditions of the local population, UXO clearance has to be followed and complemented by development activities.

The second year of implementation of the new programme was characterized by the following activities:

- Detailed needs assessments and Survey Level 1 it was found that 4 UXO contaminated villages of Khamkeut District out of 40 UXO were contaminated
- Assessment workshop with the extended Provincial Steering Committee and all District Governors of Bolikhamxay Province to strengthen knowledge and support of SODI's UXO clearance activities
- Survey Level 1 and needs assessment for roving activities and MRE in Pakkading District
- Technical survey of all areas to clear in 2012 in the villages of Napawan, Nadeua, Thongchaleun, Houaykeo and Lak 5
- Selection and training of leading field staff and of additional clearance technicians and villager clearance assistants
- Active participation in all advocacy and public relation activities of the sector like Mine Awareness Day, the first anniversary of entry into force of the CCM and regional exhibitions



*Deep wells will provide clean water to the villages, distributed by 22 water tap sites throughout the village. The villagers from Nadeua support the project implementation with their own workforce by digging the water pipe system.*

- Continuation of MRE activities in Khamkeut district and start in Viengthong District
- Further development and training of the management and leading field staff including computer and English language skills
- Start of the construction of a primary school in Ban Khouan Chanh and a clean water supply system in Ban Nadeua and preparations for microcredit schemes in both villages

The SODI programme concentrates on UXO clearance in Khamkeut as the most heavily contaminated district in Bolikhamxay Province. Khamkeut is especially affected by cluster munitions. They represent about 80 per cent of all the ammunition located and destroyed by SODI clearance activities so far. SODI strives to support Lao PDR in the practical implementation of the CCM in the programme's area of activities.

Battlefield area clearance has started in the two villages of Khouan Chanh and Nadeua and has been extended in 2011 to the villages of Boungpatao and Houaykeo. Further extension to other highly contaminated villages of the Khamkeut District. The Mobile Team of the programme is ready to carry out roving and small area clearance tasks also in villages of other districts on request of provincial and local authorities or of the population of affected villages.



SODI's operations in 2011 have further developed the Villager Assisted Clearance concept and have created a solid basis for developing a sustainable system of clearing residual UXO contamination after the end of the programme in 2016.

### Achievements:

The fundamental achievement of SODI's integrated programme in 2011 was to make available new land for agricultural use by the population in Khamkeut and to reduce the risk to life and health of the people in their daily activities.

Clearance activities were extended to 14 new villages (large area clearance to two villages and spot clearance to 12 new villages). The clearance program started in 2011 with land release after extended technical survey.

Released land was increased by 28 per cent in 2011 compared to 2010 to the total of 1,562,309 m<sup>2</sup>. An additional 192,813 m<sup>2</sup> of land on six areas were released after extended technical survey. The total amount of 1,755,122 m<sup>2</sup> of land released in 2011 represents therefore an increase by 46 per cent against the previous year. The key factors contributing to the increase were:

- Increase of demining staff by 50 % from July 2011
- Favorable conditions for using large loop detectors on larger areas than in 2010
- Improvements of the system of Villager Assisted Clearance and strengthened motivation of the Villager Clearance Assistants
- Growing experience of the teams under direction of Lao Team Leaders (from March 2011 on)

### Other remarkable achievements in 2011 were:

- The area clearance teams destroyed 1,564 UXO, 924 of them were bombies
- The Mobile Team carried out 157 roving tasks (28% more than in 2010) in 38 villages and destroyed 748 UXO, 648 were bombies
- Detailed needs assessments and Survey Level 1 in 4 more UXO contaminated villages of Khamkeut District (40 in total)
- Assessment Workshop with the Provincial Steering Committee of the SODI-Program extended by the District Governors of all

districts of the province

- Survey Level 1 and needs assessment for roving activities and MRE in Pakkading District
- Survey level 2 of 258.6 ha of land to be cleared in 2012, including reserve tasks
- MRE activities were carried out by a newly established MRE Team in 2011 in Khamkeut district and started in Viengthong district. A disabled UXO victim is member of the MRE Team, telling the story of his accident when he was 5 years old. 30 performances in schools and 29 village meetings were carried out, assisted by 9,298 children and 2,982 adults
- Organisation and structure of the SODI program have been strengthened. More responsibility for planning, organisation and control of all clearance and MRE activities were transferred to Lao management and leading field staff. Lao Team Leaders were deployed after they had been successfully trained at the UXO Lao Training Centre
- Deployment of a third BAC Team and of a specialised MRE Team, extension of the Mobile Team by 2 more EOD technicians
- Training in cooperation with UXO Lao of 14 EOD technician level 1 and of 1 medical technicians
- Local training of additional 22 villager clearance assistants.



*The inhabitants from Khouan Chanh Village actively support the school construction with their own workforce; this ensures the ownership principle of the project*

- Two external quality controls by the NRA have proofed in 2011 that the programme is fully operational and is working in line with the National Standards

### Case study: A humanitarian approach to UXO clearance

In 2011 SODI started development projects following the integrated approach to humanitarian



UXO clearance and support for development in Bolikhamxay. The first projects are located in the villages where UXO clearance was started in 2010.

A new primary school is being built in Ban Khouan Chanh with six classrooms, one of them for pre-school-education, a room for teachers and a library. The library will be used not only by the students and the teachers but also by the inhabitants of the village. More than 120 villagers helped to dig the holes for the foundation of the building and will support the construction of fencing and the installation of a school yard project on environmental education.

The village of Nadeua now have a clean water supply system for all households. There is a strong need for such a system because in the dry season no water is available in the village. Women have to fetch water from a small stream every day-40 minutes from the village. After the first test of the newly built water supply, Mrs Khamkeo was very happy, 'This was the first time in my life that I could wash the clothes of my family at home without the need to go far away.' The inhabitants from Nadeua supported the project implementation with their own workforce, digging for the water pipe system.

At the end of 2011 the preparations were started for a microcredit scheme in Ban Khouan Chanh and Ban Nadeua for income generation. The big majority of the families in both villages will benefit from microcredits for animal husbandry, cassava plantations or opening a small business like workshops for motorbikes or electric devices, a barber shop or a tailor shop. The microcredits will enable poor families in Ban Khouan Chanh to make use of the land cleared from UXO by SODI in 2010 for the cultivation of cash crops like cassava, maize or peanuts.

### 2012 Challenges and/or Opportunities:



*The new primary school of Ban Khouan Chanh under construction*

SODI will extend area clearance activities by deploying an additional mobile team for clearance of areas up to five hectares and by starting clearance in new villages of Khamkeut District alongside the National Roads 8A and 8B.

MRE will be extended for the first time to UXO contaminated villages in Pakkading District and to additional villages in Khamkeut and Viengthong Districts.

SODI plans to develop a system to link the District Focused Approach with the Land Release Survey, based on the experiences and best practices of other international NGO's. Together with an additional planning workshop in Khamkeut District, a baseline should be established for clearing Khamkeut District to the extent that UXO no longer present an immediate threat to life and health of the population in their daily activities.

The Management of the program will be strengthened by the employment of a Quality Assurance Officer and an Operation Management Assistant. Further



*Village meeting about microcredits for income generation supporting poor families in Ban Khouan Chanh and Ban Nadeua.*

responsibilities will be transferred to Lao Management Staff and the number of ex-pat TA's will be reduced to one.

### Implementing partners or Clients:

SODI co-operates very closely with UXO Lao in the training of staff required in the programme and with the Provincial Coordinator of the NRA.

Steering Committees for the SODI programme are working in Bolikhamxay Province and Khamkeut District under direction of the Deputy Governors of the province and the district, involving the departments/offices of Labour and Social Welfare, Education, Public Health, Planning and Investment, Administration Office, the Army and the Police. The programme is



collaborating very closely with the Lao Women's Union at provincial, district and local levels, especially regarding development projects.

Twenty members of the clearance and MRE staff are women. Special care is also taken to ensure the work programme benefits ethnic minorities.

#### Geography of operations:

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Provinces of Lao PDR implement activity in</b>
Area clearance	Khamkeut District in Bolikhamxay
Survey and roving clearance	Bolikhamxay
Risk education	Khamkeut District in Bolikhamxay
Victim assistance	Single cases in Khamkeut District in Bolikhamxay
Other	N/A

#### Financials:

##### Expenditure for 2011 (USD)

<b>Item</b>	<b>Amount (USD)</b>
Personnel costs	680,600
Operational costs	247,150.00
Special operational costs	2,800
Equipment: expendable	90,100
Equipment: non-expendable	303,500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,324,150</b>

##### Donor contributions for 2011 (USD)

<b>Donor</b>	<b>Contribution received in 2011 (USD)</b>
German Foreign Office	1,324,150
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,324,150</b>

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# COMMERCIAL CLEARANCE OPERATORS



## ASA POWER ENGINEERING CO.LTD (AAS)

### Activities in 2011:

ASA Power Engineering (ASA) has carried out UXO surveys and clearance of its own camp and hot springs resort site, with a total of 42 hectares cleared. In 2011, ASA has carried out UXO surveys and clearance for Luangprabang Hongsa 115 KV and the 500 KV Power Transmission Line 156 KM.

ASA goes to great lengths to ensure a safe working environment for the all people working at site, (employers, staff, engineer and equipment). And has undertaken community awareness activities in Luangprabang and Hongsa Provinces in cooperation with UXO Lao. Finally, by working with UXO Lao, ASA has built UXO Lao staff capacity for disposing of UXO.

### Achievements in 2011:

ASA finished clearing the area for its own camp and hot spring resort in early 2011. ASA has also surveyed and cleared UXO from Aces Road and ROW. ASA plans to evaluate the skills and abilities of their UXO clearance staff in October 2012, which will help to estimate project achievements.

### Geography of operations:

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Provinces of Lao PDR implement activity in</b>
Area clearance	Transmission Line Luangprabang - Hongsa Hongsa Project, Phoumuang Resort & Golf Course
Survey and roving clearance	Transmission Line Luangprabang - Hongsa Hongsa Project, Phoumuang Resort & Golf Course
Risk education	Transmission Line Luangprabang - Hongsa Hongsa Project, Phoumuang Resort & Golf Course

The NRA evaluated the technical levels of senior ASA UXO staff in 2011.

### 2012 Challenges and/or Opportunities:

The project will carry out UXO clearance and CA activities in collaboration with the NRA and UXO Lao, and build on the skills of all UXO Lao staff for disposing of UXO.

### Implementing partners or Clients:

- NRA
- UXO Lao
- Xian Electric (Hongsa Power Project)



## Financials:

### Expenditure for 2011 (USD)

<b>Item</b>	<b>Amount (USD)</b>
Personnel costs	165,000
Operational costs	125,000
Special operational costs	25,000
Equipment: expendable	55,000
Equipment: non-expendable	65,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>435,000</b>

### Donor contributions for 2011 (USD)

The table below shows the self-funded amount of money donated by ASA. This money is reported separately to the NRA's financial report.

<b>Donor</b>	<b>Contribution received in 2011 (USD)</b>
ASA self funded	435,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>435,000</b>

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Equipment testing prior to the commencement of work

A subsidiary of the BACTEC group of global companies has been established in Lao PDR to provide high quality professional Explosive Ordnance and Mine Action Services to the region, including the Pacific Rim. BACTEC has extensive experience in the survey, investigation, consultancy, training, and clearance of areas contaminated with ERW and mines, both on land and underwater. BACTEC provides high quality, independent services on all matters relating to explosives.

**Activities in 2011:**

Our main focus in 2011 was supporting Rio Tinto mineral exploration in Sanxai District and safeguarding landslide clearance work at Nakai following heavy rain during the wet season. The heavy rain limited the amount of work time available during 2011.

A tender for UXO clearance of proposed LAO Rail easement from Myanmar to Vientiane was accepted by government officials in principle. However this task has been delayed following disagreements between concerned governments.

**Geography of operations:**

Activity	Provinces of Lao PDR implement activity in
Area clearance	Khammoun and Attapeu Provinces

**Achievements:**

In what continues to be a very tough market for quality commercial UXO clearance, BACTEC has continued to win contracts and support the development of infrastructure, mineral exploration and oil and gas exploration throughout the Lao PDR.

In addition to this support of activities which contribute to the overall economic development of the Lao PDR, BACTEC has continued and expanded its Mine Risk Education program. BACTEC sees great merit in its MRE program which is made possible through the generous support of its clients listed below.

**BACTEC Clients supporting MRE in Lao PDR:**

- Rio Tinto Exploration (RTX)
- Nam Theun 2 Power Company (NTPC)
- Lao Sanxai Minerals (LSM)
- Salamander Energy (SE).

BACTEC has also been able to continue its training programs with a two week auger course conducted for its deep search teams as well as ongoing medical and computer training.

**2011 Challenges and/or Opportunities:**

Undoubtedly one of the biggest challenges in Lao PDR is for BACTEC to continue to operate as a world's best practice UXO clearance company in a market which has seen an increasing influx of 'fly by night', non-accredited groups. Regardless of this challenge to our market share, BACTEC considers that there is a continuing and growing investment in Lao by reputable infrastructure, power and mineral exploration companies. These companies demand world's best practice and the insurances to back it up.



## Financials:

### Expenditure for 2011 (USD)

<b>Item</b>	<b>Amount (USD)</b>
Personnel costs	250,000
Operational costs	600,000
Special operational costs (Training)	-
Equipment: expendable	150,000
Equipment: non-expendable	200,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,200,000</b>

### Donor contributions for 2011 (USD)

The table below shows the self-funded amount of money donated by BACTEC. This money is reported separately to the NRA's financial report.

<b>Donor</b>	<b>Contribution received in 2011 (USD)</b>
BACTEC self funded	1,200,000
<b>self funded</b>	<b>1,200,000</b>

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## LXML MMG

### Activities in 2011:

MMG LXML Sepon UXO department searched 721 hectares of land and destroyed 2,953 items of UXO, in direct support of MMG LXML operations and local community development projects.

### Significant Activities:

- An increased knowledge of the geological issues effecting UXO clearance
- Geophysical equipment trials
- Training and professional development of national staff
- Major department restructure
- Transfer of all part time UXO technicians to permanent staff

<i>Course</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Personnel</i>
EOD Level 4	Kosovo	3
Intensive English	Vientiane	2
Foerster Data Logger	Germany	1
Foerster Maintenance	Germany	1
SQL, Database	Vientiane	5
Minelab Maintenance	Vientiane	2
Laos Driving License	Savannakhet	14

### Achievements:

**Safety:** A major safety achievement was the lowering of our 'Total Recordable Injury Frequency' rate. This was achieved primarily to MMG LXML safety programs and initiatives such as 'Stop and Think', 'Take 5', 'Sepon Safety Commandments', 'Injury Prevention Principles' and the 'Sepon Creed'.

**Training:** The MMG LXML also successfully completed offsite training. 6,234 On the Job Training Hours were conducted.

	<i>Total 2010</i>	<i>Total 2011</i>
Man-Hours	1,644,857	1,851,826
Lost Time Injuries	0	0
Medical Treatment Injuries	5	2
First Aid Injuries	24	15
Total Recordable Injury Frequency Rate	2.43	1.1



## Technology:



Foerster 4032 Data Logger Training 2011 (Photo Courtesy of MMG LXML Sepon UXO)

## Equipment Trialled:

- EM61-MK2A-HP (EM61)  
Manufacturer: Geonics, Ltd., Canada
- Large Loop Detector (LLD)  
Manufacturer: Ebinger GmbH, Germany
- EM88' – Custom built pulsed induction time domain EM system  
Manufacturer: Aqua Survey, USA
- EM61-Borehole Probe' – Custom built borehole probe  
Manufacturer: Aqua Survey, USA
- Seismic System - LOGANTEK, Laos

## Equipment Purchased:

<b>Equipment</b>	<b>Manufacturer</b>	<b>Units</b>
EM61-MK2A-HP (EM61)	Geonics, LTD, Canada	1
Large Loop Detector (LLD)	Ebinger GmbH, Germany	3
EPAD	Ebinger GmbH, Germany	1
Oasis Montaj Software	Geosoft, Australia	1
DGPS /Recon	Omnistar / Trimble	1

## Case study 2011: UXO Science

In an attempt to further increase our understanding of the geological effects on UXO detectors and how to best integrate geophysics with mainstream UXO operations at Sepon, an independent review was conducted which identified two critical areas that needed immediate attention.

- The development, formalization and implementation of a system for the formal training, qualification and licensing of equipment operators to operate UXO Data acquisition equipment.
- A system of dual interpretation of geophysical data (two separate interpretations) must be instituted in the Geophysical Cell to provide a sound basis for final clearance acceptance.

The decision was taken to engage a permanent Senior Geophysicist to assist the Superintendent UXO Operations using and integrating geophysics into existing operations. The two critical areas identified were achieved in 2011. It also enabled several geophysical trials to be conducted at a lesser cost compared to 2010. These trials were conducted whilst still maintaining our operational requirements to mining operations.

Many other efficiencies have been gained by the purchase and use of UXO Specific data analysis software. This is clearly shown in Figure 1 and 2

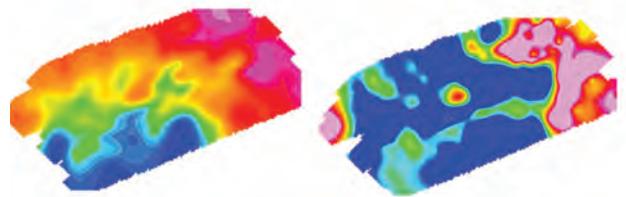


Figure 1:

The raw data (above) requires extensive enhancement in order to discern deep targets such as the MK81 250 lb. bomb at 2.7m deep at centre of processed (figure 2, right) image. A highly magnetic area remains in the right side of the final image where detection greater than 1.25m cannot be reliably achieved.

The example in figure 1 illustrates how poor GPS quality in the field was improved using advanced data processing software to clearly reveal the targets.

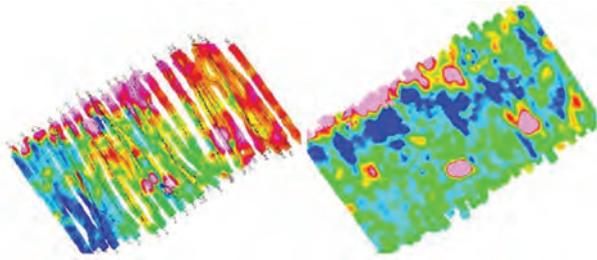


Figure 2

Raw data (left) was collected in straight parallel lines although the GPS reception was poor so lines do not appear straight and evenly spaced. Using Oasis Montaj software, this was corrected and further enhanced (right) to reveal several targets. The pink area in the upper left of the final (figure 2 right) image is due to surveying in close proximity to a high magnetic window which will mask deep targets.



EM61 MK2A-HP being used to conduct clearance in a mining pit.  
(Photo Courtesy of MMG LXML UXO Geophysics Cell)



Foerster 4032 Triple Probe Setup for road clearance  
(Photo courtesy of the UXO Geophysics Cell)

**THE SEPON CREED**

**The Sepon Creed is:**

- Safety is a value
- All our people going home healthier than when they start work
- Everyone understanding their role and having the skills to deliver our targets
- We are achieving a consistent year on year 10% increase of Operating Profit
- We are earning the privilege to grow Sepon to a 20+ year mine life

**MMG** MINING MALAYSIA GROUP  
**LXML SEPON**

2012 Challenges and/or Opportunities:

- Improve UXO department safety performance from 2010.
- Site champions of The Sepon Creed
- Increase UXO clearance production output through methodology and technology selection
- Fully develop and implement the UXO localisation plan through structured personal training and development
- Assist in the success of the MMG LXML Sepon Business Plan 2012
- Establish greater partnerships with the NRA and GoL



*Ebinger Large Loop, hi magnetic pit clearance  
(Photo courtesy of the UXO Geophysics Cell)*



*Copyright MMG LXML Sepon*



*(Photo courtesy of the UXO Geophysics Cell)*



*Copyright MMG LXML Sepon*



*Vegetation Reduction Personnel (Copyright MMG LXML Sepon)*



*Bore Hole Clearance using Foerster 4032 (Photo courtesy of the UXO Geophysics Cell)*



## Geography of operations:

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Provinces of Lao PDR implement activity in</b>
Area clearance	Savannakhet & Khammouane

## Financials:

### Expenditure for 2011 (USD)

<b>Item</b>	<b>Amount (USD)</b>
Personnel costs	2,993,182
Operational costs	924,278
Special operational costs	656,108
Equipment: expendable	372,747
Equipment: non-expendable	103,712
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,050,027</b>

### Donor contributions for 2011 (USD):

Self Funded.

### Additional Case Studies"

On the 1st of November 2011, the UXO department transitioned from a predominately part-time to a permanent workforce. This displays a long term commitment to local employees, providing them with greater inclusiveness and 'ownership' of the efforts and outcomes of MMG LXML Sepon.

### Personnel Transferred to Permanent

<b>Position</b>	<b>No.</b>
UXO Level 2 Technician	69
UXO Level 1 Technician	239
UXO Maintenance Technician	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>310</b>

### Current Laos National Permanent Personnel

<b>Position</b>	<b>No.</b>
UXO Level 3 Technician	21
UXO Level 2 Technician	71
UXO Level 1 Technician	239
UXO Maintenance Technician	2
GIS Staff	4
Admin Staff	4
Trainer/Translator	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>343</b>



UXO Pit Support to mining operations in high magnetic areas using F3UXO Black Cap (Photo courtesy of the UXO Geophysics Cell)



UXO Pit Support to mining operations in high magnetic areas using F3UXO Black Cap (Photo courtesy of the UXO Geophysics Cell)



# LAO BSL UNEXPLODED ORDNANCE DISPOSAL

## Activities in 2011:

In 2011, Lao BSL Unexploded Ordnance Disposal (BSL) undertook UXO clearance operations in the areas designated for the OCHI Eucalyptus and Medicinal Tree and Herbs Plantation Company in Mahaxay District, Khammoun Province. Also, the installation of electricity foot posts and a proposed 24 KV and 0.4 KV transmission line easement at Savannaket, Saravanh, Sekong and Attapeu Provinces, and will be continued to other provinces when Lao Enterprise Electricity expand the transmission line.

## Achievements in 2011:

- 250ha were cleared at Mahaxay District, Khammoun Province and yielded 51 UXO
- 30ha were cleared at Vilabouly District, Savannaket Province and yielded 38 UXO
- 25ha were cleared at Thomlanh, Saravanh and Vapee Districts, Saravanh Province and yielded 21 UXO
- 20ha were cleared at Kaleum District, Attapeu Province and yielded 13 UXO
- 20ha were cleared at Thateng and Lamam Districts, Sekong Province and yielded 23 UXO

## Activities in 2012:

- BSL will continue to conduct UXO clearance in the area for the 5 KV Power Electricity Dam, 300ha
- BSL will continue to conduct UXO clearance for the Japan Programme, 250ha in Saravanh Province
- BSL will continuing to conduct UXO clearance operations in the areas designated for the rural installation of electricity foot posts and a proposed 250 KV, 230 KV, 22 KV and 0.4 KV in seven provinces in the south of Lao PDR

- BSL will continue to conduct the UXO clearance for Phonsack Company in areas designated for coal mining, 150ha
- BSL will continue to conduct UXO clearance for Daohueang Company in areas designated for road construction over 30ha in Bualapha District, Khammoun Province

## 2010 Challenges and/or Opportunities:

The location of clearance activities is a difficult mountainous terrain and subject to extreme UXO contaminated area. It is also prone to extreme weather, bringing on heavy storms or thick fog, which complicates the working conditions further.

## Implementing Partners or Clients:

Our major partners are Lao Enterprise Electricity and the line easement teams working on the 24 KV high transmission line easement and 0.4 KV middle transmission line projects. Additionally, the local communities benefit by receiving improved security as UXO contamination is removed.



*A pile of unexploded mortar, dangerous reminders of a decades old war.*

## BSL Geography of operations:

Activity	Provinces of Lao PDR implement activity in
Area clearance	Attapeu, Borlikamxay, Khammoun, Savannaket, Saravanh and Sekong Provinces
Survey and roving clearance	Attapeu, Borlikamxay, Khammoun, Savannaket, Saravanh and Sekong Provinces



## Financials:

### Expenditure for 2010 (USD)

<b>Item</b>	<b>Amount (USD)</b>
Personnel costs	155,250
Operational costs	46,575
Special operational costs (Training)	10,000
Equipment: expendable	47,000
Equipment: non-expendable	35,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>293,825</b>

### Donor contributions for 2011 (USD):

The table below shows the self-funded amount of money donated by BSL. This money is reported separately to the NRA's financial report.

<b>Donor</b>	<b>Contribution received in 2011 (USD)</b>
BSL self funded	293,825
<b>Total</b>	<b>293,825</b>

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## MILSEARCH BPKP EOD Joint Venture Ltd

### Activities in 2011:

2011 marked 18 years of continuous operation for Milsearch in the Lao PDR and nearly 15 years of operation for the Milsearch-BPKP EOD joint venture. In Lao alone we have successfully completed over 60 UXO clearance projects, cleared hundreds of thousands of hectares, and destroyed tens of thousands of dangerous items of UXO, landmines and ERW.

The release of this land and the destruction of these terrible remnants of war provide untold benefits by way of both economic development and the prevention of death and injury. As a 100 per cent commercial entity these benefits are provided to the Lao PDR without burden to donor contributions which are essential to the very important work of non-governmental organizations operating in Lao PDR.

ERW pose a serious threat to the safety of people living and working in the contaminated provinces of Laos. It also stifles the work of government and commercial entities which provide development to these contaminated provinces. The clearance of land to facilitate the safe development of these provinces is to the ensuing benefit of all their communities and to the Lao PDR as a whole.

Throughout 2011 Milsearch-BPKP UXO cleared 3,718,021 m<sup>2</sup> of land making it available for:

- Mineral exploration
- Mining
- Tourism driven construction and development, and
- Privately supported community development

We destroyed 1,529 items of UXO and otherwise hazardous explosive remnants of war, and thousands of rounds of small arms ammunition. We inputted more than USD 2 million by way of direct spending into local communities.

Both Milsearch-BPKP and Milsearch Pty. Ltd. are extremely proud of their long term and ongoing commitment to ERW hazard reduction in the Lao PDR, and are deeply committed to its continuation.

### Achievements:

During the year 2011, Milsearch-BPKP completed a shallow and deep search of 46.7 hectares.

A total of 345 bomblets and 56 other items of UXO were located and destroyed during clearance operations

Milsearch-BPKP is committed to the continuous updating of technology in relation to UXO search instrumentation. The company has recently purchased a number of large-loop Minelab F3 UXO detectors. These instruments will soon be issued to field staff at several locations for side-by-side comparison trials with currently used equipment. The trials will judge the efficiency and effectiveness of the new instruments

2011 provided Milsearch-BPKP with the opportunity for substantial growth and expansion. During a period of such growth it is very important to not only maintain, but to continue to improve the company's standards in areas of human resources, health, safety, environmental, and training.

Throughout 2011 Milsearch-BPKP employed two new full time safety officers who are currently undergoing an extensive period of training in health, safety, environmental (HSE), English, and computer and database skills. We have also purchased eight new blood alcohol content (BAC) test units which are now mandatory on all our work sites.



*Blood Alcohol Content Testing of all personnel at all Milsearch-BPKP Work Sites*

We have developed a new company code of business ethics which are as stringent as any western companies and would be applicable for businesses operating anywhere in the world.

We have also developed a new company code of conduct which is also in line with world's best practice and applicable to operating in any country.



In 2011 we conducted a substantial amount of equipment specific training and in 2012 we have programmed level 2 and 3 training, trauma medic refresher training, and the training of 12 new trauma



Milsearch-BPKP Minelab F3 Training

medics.

Whilst we are justifiably proud of our improvements in these areas, especially that they were achieved during a time of such rapid company growth, it will always remain a Milsearch tenet that anything less than 'Nil Incidents & Nil Accidents' requires improving.

### 2012 Challenges and/or Opportunities:

The challenges of the future for Milsearch-BPKP relate both to the commercial and technical aspects of our business.

Mineral exploration provides for the bulk of our revenue and the current economic situation in Europe certainly has the ability to curtail this in 2012. In an effort to attenuate the effects of possible future economic downturns, Milsearch-BPKP will continue its efforts to broaden its client base and spread its revenue sources to other industries.

There are currently an abundance of new and exciting products and technologies being promoted in the field

### Case study: Staff development

Whilst our 2011 business achievements are substantial, our proudest achievement is the continued development of our staff.

Regardless of age, race, or gender, we respect the dignity and rights of all our employees, client and contractor staff, and the indigenous peoples and communities we interact with. We support the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and are proactive in ensuring that we are not unknowingly abetting abuses committed by others.

Our Vientiane office staff showcases the equity and fairness of Milsearch's employment policies. We have six fulltime office staff in Vientiane the newest of which has been with us for twelve years.

Ms. Kimmaly (Kim), one of our newly appointed full time Safety Officers commenced work with Milsearch-BPKP four years ago as a Level 1 Shallow Search Operator and quickly progressed to the position of Team Leader. Kim has adapted readily to her new position as a Safety Officer and will spend the next six months attending external courses three days per week.

Kim and our other new Safety Officer will make a valued contribution to the ongoing safe conduct of our UXO clearance activities.



Milsearch-BPKP Safety Officer - Ms. Kimmaly



of UXO and landmine detection. Whilst most of these products and technologies show great future promise, the great challenge is to resist marketing pressure and look at which products are currently most suitable to the unique Lao PDR UXO contamination experience.

Research and development is seen as critical to Milsearch-BPKP maintaining its position as Asia's premier UXO clearance company. In early 2012 Milsearch-BPKP will commence field trials of a new and exciting detection technology in Queensland, Australia. If this is successful then our intension is to conduct trials in Laos later in the same year.

### Implementing partners or Clients:

Milsearch-BPKP serviced a variety of clients both ongoing and new throughout 2011. However three of these clients deserve special mention due to their strong commitment to the sustainable development of the communities within their sphere of influence.

- Phu Bia Mining (PanAust) – maintains the very highest of standards regarding the clearance of UXO from its worksites and provides very considerable funding for UXO clearance to aid local communities
- Sekong River Mining (Argonaut Resources) – providing sustainable development and substantial community development programs in and around their Sekong tenement in southern Laos. As with PBM, Sekong River Mining insists on world's best practice UXO clearance wherever it operates
- NTPC (Nam Theun 2 Power Company) – 100% of our land clearance for NTPC is community development based projects

These three clients above stand out as providing Lao communities with world's best practice UXO clearance without burden to NGO funding as part of their sustainable development programs.

### Geography of operations:

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Provinces of Lao PDR implement activity in</b>
Area clearance	Xiengkhouang, Saysomboune, Bolikhamxay, Khammouanne, Savannakhet, Xekong, and Attapeu.
Survey and roving clearance	Khammouanne and Savannakhet.

### Financials:

#### Expenditure for 2011 (USD)

<b>Item</b>	<b>Amount (USD)</b>
Personnel costs	\$ 1,484,000
Operational costs	\$ 1,360,000
Special operational costs (Training)	\$ 11,000
Equipment: expendable	\$ 14,000
Equipment: non-expendable	\$ 135,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,004,000</b>

#### Donor contributions for 2011 (USD):

The table below shows the self-funded amount of money donated by Milsearch. This money is reported seperately to the NRA's financial report.

<b>Donor</b>	<b>Contribution received in 2011 (USD)</b>
Milsearch self funded	3,004,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,004,000</b>



## PHONSACKDA UXO CLEARANCE CO. LTD (PSD)



In 2010, Phonsackda UXO Clearance Co, Ltd (PSD) received accreditation from the NRA to provide clearance services in areas contaminated with ERW. PSD also has foreign investment in Lao PDR. The whole of the company's management team are proud of their staff's high professional standards and all training adheres with National Standards.

### Activities 2011:

**Clearance tasks:** In 2011 PSD continued UXO clearance for the Development Agriculture industry (DAI)'s coal drilling project in Nonghat District, Xiengkhoung Province and for the Huber tree plantation in Saravanh Province. PSD also undertook UXO clearance of agriculture land. At the end of 2011, 31.1 hectares were cleared for the above mentioned areas, yielding 618 UXO (which were removed and destroyed) including 576 bombies.

### Survey tasks:

Undertook survey operations in the areas designated for the installation of electricity foot posts and a proposed 22 KV and middle 0.4 KV transmission line easement in two districts: Soupbao and Huameung of Huaphan Province. PSD undertook survey operations in the areas earmarked for tourism in Xienkhoung Province

UXO clearance equipment used includes CEIA D1, VALLON VMX 1-3, MINELAB. F3, EBINGER. 505, and EBINGER 421.

### 2012 Challenges and/or Opportunities:

The location of activities is a difficult mountainous terrain, with an extreme level of UXO contaminated. The area is prone to extreme weather and can often experience volatile shifts, bringing on heavy storms or thick fog, which complicates working conditions further.

### Implementing Partners or Clients:

PSD's major partners are Lao Enterprise Electricity and the line easement teams working on the 24 KV high transmission line easement and 0.4 KV middle transmission line projects.

### PSD Geography of operations:

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Provinces of Lao PDR implement activity in</b>
Area clearance	Xiengkhoung and Saravanh Provinces
Survey and roving clearance	Xiengkhoung and Saravanh Provinces

### Financials:

#### Expenditure for 2011 (USD)

<b>Item</b>	<b>Amount (USD)</b>
Personnel costs	15,200
Operational costs	35,420
Special operational costs	-
Equipment: expendable	18000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>68,620</b>

#### Donor contributions for 2011 (USD)

The table below shows the self-funded amount of money donated by PSD. This money is reported separately to the NRA's financial report.

<b>Donor</b>	<b>Contribution received in 2011 (USD)</b>
PSD self funded	68,620
<b>Total</b>	<b>68,620</b>



# Risk Education and Victim Assistance Operators



## ASSOCIATION FOR AID AND RELIEF, JAPAN (AAR JAPAN)

### Activities in 2011:

#### Wheelchair project in Vientiane.

The long term Wheelchair project between the Association for Aid and Relief, Japan (AAR) and the National Rehabilitation Center (NRC) came to the end of its Memorandum of Understanding on May 31, 2011. Therefore, the focus during the beginning of 2011 was on handing over the project to the NRC and on negotiations and arrangements on how the NRC can sustain its wheelchair services for the future.

Regular production under the cooperation project continued until end of May. After the handover of the project, the NRC continued its wheelchair services with support from the same donor which supported the production costs in recent years. At the end of May, a closing ceremony was held and management and all assets of the project were handed over to the NRC.

#### UXO project in Xieng Khouang.

On the 30th of September 2011, AAR completed phase one of its three year UXO project in Xieng Khouang, which aims to strengthen the level of emergency medical care for UXO survivors and their transportation to medical facilities. It also supported medical and livelihood assistance to the survivors of UXO accidents.

Some of the main activities undertaken in 2011 are listed below;

- Production of information booklets, brochures and posters about UXO and first-aid
- Distribution of information booklets, brochures and posters for village health volunteers (VHV) and villagers in Pek and Phaxai Districts
- Training of Trainers (ToT) for district hospital staff in Pek and Phaxai Districts
- Basic first-aid training for VHV in Pek and Phaxai Districts
- Provision of first-aid kits to VHV in Pek and Phaxai Districts
- Village workshops for target villages which are highly affected by UXO
- Monitoring visit to VHV after training

### Achievements:

#### Wheelchair project in Vientiane.

All project assets belonging to JICA (project donor), including wheelchair workshop and machinery, project vehicles, and office equipment were handed over to NRC. NRC staff are now fully in charge of all administrative work to manage wheelchair service.

Produced and distributed 206 devices (134 wheelchairs and 72 hand-propelled tricycles). The devices were distributed to persons with disabilities residing in all 16 provinces and Vientiane.

#### UXO project in Xieng Khouang.

Major achievements of UXO project in Xieng Khouang in 2011 are listed below;

- More than 200 information booklets, 2,000 brochures and posters about UXO and first-aid were produced and distributed to VHV and villagers in targeted areas. Through the post training evaluation, it became apparent that these booklets and posters were practically used for transferring knowledge and were useful information for villagers
- Skills and knowledge of seven district hospital/health office staff in Peak and Phaxai District was enhanced through participating ToT on basic first-aid and teaching techniques. ToT trainees provided nine VHV training on basic first-aid in Pek and Phaxai Districts
- Skills and knowledge of 140 VHV in Peak and Phaxai district was enhanced through attending training on basic first-aid. The result



of pre-/post-training test showed a remarkable improvement of knowledge of VHV on basic first-aid. Their sense of responsibilities and motivation were also improved, to take an important role in emergency medical care in the village

- All VHV in Pek and Phaxai Districts were equipped with first-aid kits
- Village workshops and monitoring visits in two villages in Phaxai were provided. Villagers in became aware of first-aid and UXO risk through attending workshops and brochure/posters. 'Ambulance drivers' who own vehicles were designated in each village for an emergency transportation of UXO survivors

### Case study: Wheelchair project in Vientiane.

Mr. Bouaphan, (right), living in Luang Namtha Province, previously had only a pair of crutches and his range of mobility was very much limited. After receiving a hand-propelled tricycle for the AAR/NRC Wheelchair Project, he expanded his range of mobility and now especially likes to travel to a distant market from his house.



*Ms Khamla, 38 yrs, VHV at B.Hai in Phaxai. She was making a follow-up visit to one of UXO survivors in her village*

### Case Study: UXO project in Xieng Khouang.

Fortunately, there were no UXO accidents reported in the village where AAR provided training in 2011. However, some first-aid kits were used to treat trauma injuries such as knife cuts, and VHV actively started to become involved in continuing care of UXO survivors after accidents.

### 2012 Challenges and/or Opportunities:

#### Wheelchair project in Vientiane.

The project has ended on May 31, 2011, and is now owned by the NRC. The NRC is expected to build relations with potential donors to continue to provide wheelchair services in Laos. Throughout the project phase, the counterpart NRC staff had learned basic administrative skills to maintain data of beneficiaries, accounting and management of production material.

#### UXO project in Xieng Khouang.

In 2012, AAR will expand its activities covering 2 additional districts - Phoukout and Kham, by employing the same method established in Phase 1. AAR will also start supporting health centers by providing training for health center nurses and supplying medical equipment for trauma care. AAR mobile team will keep visiting selected villages which are highly affected by

UXO, to raise awareness on UXO risk and basic first-aid. In addition, working in collaboration with community awareness team in UXO-Lao Xieng Khouang, AAR will support the improvement of MRE posters and supply necessary equipment for its MRE activities.

### Implementing Partners or Clients.

#### Wheelchair project in Vientiane.

The implementing partner of the wheelchair project was the National Rehabilitation Center/Ministry of Public Health. The main donor for this project was the Japan International Cooperation Agency.

#### UXO project in Xieng Khouang.

AAR works directly with the Physical and Medicine Rehabilitation Center, Provincial Rehabilitation Center, Provincial Health Department as well as local hospitals and village authorities

The operational budget for the UXO project is supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan and Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO projects.



Geography of operations:

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Provinces of Lao PDR implement activity in</b>
Risk education	UXO project in Xieng Khouang
Victim assistance	Wheelchair Project in Vientiane (production in Vientiane, distribution in all provinces of Lao PDR) UXO project in Xieng Khouang

Financials:

Expenditure for 2011 (USD)

Wheelchair project in Vientiane (only for Jan – May 2011)

<b>Item</b>	<b>Amount (USD)</b>
Personnel costs	15,953
Operational costs	5,703
Special operational costs	22,772
Equipment: expendable	0
Equipment: non-expendable	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>44,427</b>

UXO project in Xieng Khouang.

<b>Item</b>	<b>Amount (USD)</b>
Personnel costs	24,000
Operational costs	87,000
Special operational costs	10,000
Equipment: expendable	12,000
Equipment: non-expendable	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>133,000</b>

Donor contributions for 2011 (USD):

Wheelchair project in Vientiane (only for Jan – May 2011)

<b>Donor</b>	<b>Contribution received in 2011 (USD)</b>
JICA	18,240
Deseret International Charities	16,142
AAR JAPAN Internal fund	6,295
Other private donors	3,750
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>444,27</b>



UXO project in Xieng Khouang.

<b>Donor</b>	<b>Contribution received in 2011 (USD)</b>
AAR Internal Fund	16,000
Japanese MoFA	117,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>133,000</b>

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## National Rehabilitation Centre (NRC)

### Activities in 2011:

The National Rehabilitation Centre (NRC) has three main areas of focus, these are:

- Providing medical rehabilitation for all kinds of impairment or disabilities which includes the war victims and UXO's victims in Vientiane Capital, Luang Prabang, Xiengkhouang, Svannaket and Champasack Provinces
- Providing Prosthetics and Orthotics for the amputees and people with physical disabilities and wheelchairs throughout the country
- Providing special education for hearing and vision impaired students and formal and short vocational training for others with physical disabilities

### Achievements:

Following the main focus areas mentioned above, the NRC has achieved;

- Patients and clients who followed the treatment and were rehabilitated totaled 10,387 people
- 776 amputees and physically disabled people were fitted for prosthetics and orthotics in Rehabilitation Centers in 5 regions
- 473 disabled people received tricycles and wheelchairs
- Hearing impaired primary and lower secondary students who followed the education program at the NRC totaled 64 students with vision impaired students integrating back into normal school totalled 27 students
- The Vocational School for People with Disabilities had 70 graduates in 2010.

### Case study:

To order to improve the quality of work being done at the NRC, provincial rehabilitation centers and regional hospitals, the NRC hosts a monthly Clinic Core Group for physical therapists, occupational therapists and orthotic mentors. Follow up treatment and surveys are also being carried to track the progress of patients who live in both regional and rural areas.

### 2012 Challenges and/or Opportunities:

In 2012 following the master plan of the physical medicine rehabilitation sector, Oudomxay Province will be approved to establish the regional rehabilitation

centers for serving clients from the northern provinces. According to feedback from a European Review in 2010, the EU will support this project. The Board of NRA in Ministry of Health is also committed to the success of this project.

### Implementing Partners or Clients:

- The Cooperative Orthotic Prosthetic Enterprise (COPE) is the NRC's primary partner in providing the service for war and UXO victims throughout the country.
- The World Education is the primary partner in improving the trauma and medical care teams in Xiengkhouang, Khammoune, Saravane, Champasack and Xekhong Provinces for UXO accidents.
- Handicap International, is supporting the social-economic life-style development for disabled and war victims in 7 districts in Savannaket Province.
- The Association for Aid and Relief Japan is supporting first-aid care for health volunteers at villages in Xienkhouang Province where the risk of UXO accident are high.
- The Christophe and Blind Mission is supporting clubfoot clients by providing free of charge corrective operations or treatment and the prosthetic and orthotic material and equipment is being provided through COPE.
- The Deseret International Charity is supplying the equipment to produce tricycles and wheelchairs.



## Donor contributions for 2011 (USD)

<b>Donor</b>	<b>Contribution received in 2011 (USD)</b>
COPE	2,939,189
DIC/World Education (Wheelchairs)	101,964
HI	170,000
CBM	22,440
World Education Consortium ( trauma care)	117,686
AAR	145,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,496,279</b>

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## COOPERATIVE ORTHOTIC AND PROSTHETIC ENTERPRISE (COPE)

### Activities in 2011:

The Cooperative Orthotic and Prosthetic Enterprise (COPE) continued in 2011 to support the development of rehabilitation services throughout Lao PDR, primarily focusing on the development of prosthetic and orthotic (P and O), physiotherapy, occupational therapy and orthopedic surgery services. The program covered the cost of over 1,000 people to access the P&O services, including over 200 UXO survivors. The physiotherapy 'training of trainer' and occupational therapy mentoring projects continued in 2011 with the training of a staff from both the national centre and the four provincial centres in Xiengkhouang, Luang Prabang, Savannakhet and Champaske.

A number of aspects of the COPE program grew in 2011, including the expansion of the COPE Connect outreach project to new districts and provinces. COPE Connect aims to develop and strengthen medical referral networks around the country through disability identification training and educating local health officials on the services COPE that the national and Provincial Rehabilitation Centres provide. COPE has also supported the development of child-friendly services in the five centres through the building of child-friendly spaces at all centers coupled with training specifically on physical rehabilitation therapy for children.

Renovations to the P and O workshop at the Physical Medicine Rehabilitation Centre in Vientiane begun in 2011 with support from the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Half of the building was demolished to make way for two-stories of offices, training and meeting rooms and a new gait training area. The existing workshop areas have been repainted, the roof repaired, a new electrical system installed and so forth. The renovations will be complete by early 2012.

The numbers of tourists coming to the COPE Visitor Centre steadily grew throughout the year, reaching over 1,000 visitors in November and also in December. A total of more than 10,000 visitors came through the centre in 2011. A large number of visitors donated to the work of COPE during their visit and a number of people all over the world continued to raise funds in their local community for the program. The Visitor Centre continues to be an important educational tool for advocacy on the continuing need to support mine action in the country through raising awareness regarding the UXO issues affecting Lao PDR.

### Achievements:

- In 2011, COPE with the Physical Medicine Rehabilitation Centre (PMRC) produced over 1300 prosthetic and orthotic devices in the five centres throughout the country supplying over 1000 patients
- The COPE Connect program expanded into new provinces, continuing to train provincial and district government staff in disability identification and referring people with disabilities to the P and O centres around the country. The majority of whom had not accessed the services previously
- Throughout 2011 the Visitor Centre received over 10,000 visitors showing a dramatic increase from 7,441 visitors in 2010. The sale of merchandise and donations received from visitors raised more than ten percent of the annual COPE program costs for 2011
- The Occupational Therapy Mentoring program continue to introduce the discipline to the PMRC and expanded to the four provincial centres, as well as developed child-friendly spaces in all centres coupled with specific paediatric staff training
- The Physiotherapy 'Training of Trainers' program continued with 16 government staff from around the country receiving numerous skill development opportunities.
- Orthopedic surgical skill development at the PMRC was provided twice throughout the year.
- Infrastructure development at the PMRC in the P&O workshop as well as at the four provincial workshops.

### Case study: New limbs bring new life

Mr Soudtha is 22 years old. He is single and lives with his mother and brother in the southern Lao Province of Sekong. He was fitted with his second prosthetic leg from COPE/NRC on the 20 April 2011.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> The prostheses provided by COPE/NRC are all made-to-measure for each specific individual's requirements. Such devices need to be replaced regularly. For a child or teenager, as they grow and develop the device may need to be replaced as often as every 4-6 months. For a farmer or laborer, the intensity of physical work results in the device needing to be replaced annually. While for a home-based or office-based adult, the device would need to be replaced every 1-2 years.

On the 28 February 2010 Soudtha and one of his friends took their cows to feed out in the fields near their village. While leading the cows, his friend found a cluster submunition on the ground and he picked it up. He told Soudtha that he thought it was a failed bombie, which he understood to mean it was not longer able to explode. So he dropped it back onto the ground. The impact with the ground caused the bombie to explode. The force of the explosion killed Soudtha's friend and badly injured Soudtha's leg. Soudtha was rushed to the district hospital for treatment, where he was told his leg was so badly damaged there was no other choice but to amputate.

The doctor treating him in the district hospital told Soudtha about the prosthetic devices provided by COPE and, once his stump had healed, referred him to the Champasack Provincial Rehabilitation Centre. Soudtha told us that he is thankful for the device that he was provided. Without it he would not have been able to afford to access the services and ultimately not be able to walk again. Now he says he is, "living like other people again". He can once again participate in community activities with confidence and help look after his family's animals and rice paddies.

Mrs Kham (right) lives with her granddaughter in Xaythany District in Vientiane Capital province. She stepped on a piece of UXO, disturbing it and causing it to explode, while living in Huaphanh Province during the time of the bombings. The explosion injured both her legs and feet, leaving shrapnel in them. Years later the area around the shrapnel in her right foot became chronically infected resulting in the need to amputate her foot at a Vientiane hospital.

Mrs Kham was fitted with her first prosthetic on the 10 May 2011 at COPE. Kham told the Rehabilitation Team she is very thankful for the support that she has been given. She is very satisfied with the prosthetic, which gives her confidence to participate in everyday life.

Mrs Kham is an example of the need for long-term quality rehabilitation services available to all UXO survivors. Although she was injured over four decades ago, she will continue to need the service for the rest of her life highlighting the need for sustainable provision of victim assistance.

### 2012 Challenges and/or Opportunities:

In the coming year COPE will continue to focus on developing nation-wide and high quality physical rehabilitation services with the Ministry of Health. This will include the continuation of the physiotherapy, occupational therapy and orthopedic



*Mrs Kham was fitted with her first prosthetic leg in 2011, after decades of struggling with her disability, caused by a UXO.*

surgical mentoring programs at five sites around the country. While quality management structures for the production of prostheses will be enhanced, additional focus will also be on the development of the orthoses program offered by COPE/PMRC. The COPE Connect outreach project will continue to be expanded to new districts to ensure we are reaching all those who could benefit from the services. In addition, the renovation of the five P and O workshops will continue in 2012.

### Implementing Partners or Clients:

COPE works in partnership with the NRC, the arm of the Ministry of Health dedicated to providing physical rehabilitation services and care for people with disabilities. COPE primarily operates as a mentoring and resource mobilization organisation to support the provision of services through the NRC and the four Provincial Rehabilitation Centres under the NRC's auspice as well as the capacity development of these providing the services. Together COPE and the NRC are the only providers of prosthetic and orthotic devices in the country.



## Geography of operations:

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Provinces of Lao PDR implement activity in</b>
Victim Assistance	Rehabilitation Centres: Vientiane, Luang Prabung, Xiengkhoung, Champasack. COPE Connect outreach: Attapeu, Bolikhamxay, Champasack, Huaphanh, Khammuane, Luangnamtha, Sekong, Vientiane Province, Udomxay, Xayabury and Xiengkhoung

## Financials:

### Expenditure for 2011 (USD)

<b>Item</b>	<b>Amount (USD)</b>
Personnel costs	272,860
Operational costs	661,494
<b>Total</b>	<b>934,354</b>

### Donor contributions for 2011 (USD)

<b>Donor</b>	<b>Contribution received in 2011 (USD)</b>
AusAID	218,500
CARE	5,934
CBM	34,254
Cluster Munition Coalition	4,020
COPE Online Donations	66,527
COPE Visitor Center – income	110,120
Deseret International Charities (DIC)	27,910
ICRC – SFD	58,136
Lao Tobacco	29,896
Luxembourg, Embassy in Hanoi, Vietnam	16,799
Netherlands Leprosy Relief	20,008
POWER International: Paediatric Program	19,820
SFD, Embassy of France in Vientiane	18,450
USAID, Leahy Fund for War Victims	397,110
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,027,484</b>



## Additional Case Study:

Mr Keedeng (left) is a 66 year old farmer. He is married with two sons and lives in Vientiane Capital. He was fitted with his fourth prosthesis from COPE on the 16 May 2011 after his previous one had worn out.

In 1965, Keedeng was injured by a piece of UXO while he was on his duty as a soldier in Phoukoud district in Xiengkhuang Province. The effect of the accident meant he needed to have his right leg amputated below the knee. He told us that before he received the prosthesis he faced many difficulties both in terms of physical and mental health. However, since he received the artificial leg, his life is much better; 'I am able to move around in more comfort and can take care of myself, so I don't need my wife and children to look after me all the time.' Now Mr Keedeng spends his time doing work around his house and growing some vegetables.



*Mr Keedeng is a 66 year old farmer.*





## WORLD EDUCATION

### Activities in 2011:

**Xieng Khouang Quality of Life Association:** Since 2011, World Education has worked with UXO survivors in Xieng Khouang Province with funds from the McKnight Foundation to help establish a Non Profit Association (NPA), which received formal recognition in September 2011. Thoumy Silamphan, a UXO accident survivor and member of Ban Advocates, is the QLA's Executive Director. The vision of the QLA is, 'to educate the general public about the UXO legacy in Laos, the rights of people with disabilities and to support medical, psycho-social rehabilitation and livelihood programs for UXO survivors, families, people with disabilities, and communities impacted by UXO.'

**UXO Education and Awareness Program:** In close collaboration with Ministry of Education and Sports (MOES), Department of Preschool and Primary Education (DPPE), the UXO Education and Awareness program provided capacity development to the project partners to teach the UXO curriculum in primary schools. The project provides technical support, material and funding for teaching the UXO curriculum and supported its integration into the national curriculum, 'The World Around Us grade 5'. In 2011, the project expanded to work in the provincial Teacher Training Colleges in order to include these lessons in the teacher curriculum. Through collaboration World Education is developing teaching handbooks for UXO lessons for primary schools.

**UXO Victim and Survivor assistance:** Strengthening First Responder and Trauma Care in Xieng Khouang and Sekong Provinces:

The Sustainable Medical Funds Project in Khammouane and Sekong finished operations in 2011 after establishing a War Victims Medical Fund (WVMF) working group in both provinces. Funding from PM/WRA transitioned to funding medical services upgrading in Xieng Khouang and Sekong Provinces.

**UXO Victim and Survivor assistance:** The WVMF continued treatment funding for initial and continuing medical care for UXO survivors in seven provinces. Through referral from the NRA, the WVMF provided treatment to UXO survivors outside the target provinces. After discharge, medical and rehabilitation teams assess the treatment and socio-economic plans, which can include animal raising/veterinary skills workshops or other vocational training and receive small grants to establish small businesses.

### Achievements:

#### Sustainable Medical Funds Project:

- Training of 102 doctors, nurses and technical staff from Sekong and Khammouane Province Hospitals
- First Aid training for 235 village health volunteers (VHV) in Khammouane and Sekong provinces
- On-site medical training 64 nursing staff at four district hospitals in Khammouane and four district hospitals in Sekong
- Provided medical equipment for 8 district, 14 sub-district health centers and 235 VHV for Khammouane and Sekong provinces
- 69 hospital administrators and hospital staff attended quarterly project management meetings. The WVMF working group included 4 UXO survivors who also attended these meetings.

#### Strengthening First Responder and Trauma Care in Xieng Khouang and Sekong Provinces:

- In Sekong, an additional emergency care refresher course for 17 district and province doctors at the province hospital
- On site emergency refresher training for district and sub-district health center staff who attended training in the previous project.
- 29 medical and nursing staff provided input in technical need assessments in emergency medical and surgery care in Xiengkhouang province in order to design training plan.
- Orientation and planning meeting for 37 hospital leaders to make work plans for the project.

#### UXO survivor assistance:

- 57 newly injured UXO survivors received funding for initial medical care through the WVMF; 24 people received follow-up continuing medical care. These eighty-one people received 122 treatment visits
- Data from psycho-social surveys assessed the



needs of 88 people helped to develop personal development plans

- 90 UXO survivors and/ or family members attended animal raising/veterinary skills trainings in Houaphan, Xieng Khouang, Khammouane and Sekong Provinces. UXO survivors received small grants for animal-raising
- 98 UXO survivors and/or family members attended handicraft training, in Xieng Khouang province
- Follow up assesments of UXO survivors in Xiengkhoung, Sekong and Khammoune Provinces



*World Education provides animal husbandry training to victims of UXO as well as other vocational training services.*

### **UXO Education and Awareness program activities in 2011:**

- Printed and provided material to support UXO teaching to 42 districts in 9 provinces. the material consisted of 3.098 UXO teaching plan; 12.527 story book; 2.382 posters; 324 UXO song book, 1.832 drawing book, 5.000 UXO teaching handbook; 3,000 CD UXO song; 3.000 CD on puppetry show and 3.000 CD on project management
- Conducted training on teaching UXO curriculum to Samamxay district Attapue Province
- Conducted a ToT workshop on UXO teaching methods to teachers in teacher training collages
- Provided training on puppetry performance to a performance troupe from Savannkhet, Khammoun and Saravan provinces
- Conducted a workshop on project activities planning to education staff in from 40 districts
- Completed three workshops to discuss the UXO teaching handbook, finalized and printed it
- Completed a KAP study on out of school children and youth regarding the UXO issues
- Supported UXO information dissemination during the Nation children's day and teacher's day
- Conducted the Orientation workshops and TOTs on teaching UXO lesson for new districts in Luangprabang province

### **Case study: Developing alternative livelihoods**

After recovery from a UXO accident, UXO survivors have difficulty in returning to work or school. WEL and province DoH have experience in developing alternative livelihoods through vocational training and providing small grants.

In 2011, the QLA, WEL and the DoH in Xieng Khouang organized trainings in both animal-raising and handicraft development at the village level. Trainers from the Integrated Vocational Training School (IVTS) in Xieng Khouang trained thirty people in two UXO-impacted villages. After the training, participants received grants to buy animals and vaccinations.

Ninety-eight people in six villages learned improved weaving skills and sewing skills to make products for sale in the UXO Survivor Information Center (USIC). Starting with two villages, links were developed with the Department of Tourism and the Sao Ban store and organized a ToT for sewing trainers and leaders of the handicrafts groups at the IVTS. After this training, the two original villages and four new villages used these designs to make new products.

The QLA strengthened its ability to plan and carry out these kinds of activities. The process of registration to become a NPA strengthened interest and participation of UXO survivors and people with disabilities (PWD) in the developments of skills in producing handicrafts. Renovation of the USIC, the crafts outlet of the QLA provided a sales outlet for income generation as well as providing information about the needs of UXO survivors and people with disabilities and assistance helping them to regain self-sufficiency.



*Ninety-eight people in six villages learned improved weaving skills and sewing skills to make products for sale in the UXO Survivor Information Center*

**2012 Challenges and/or Opportunities:  
Strengthening First Responder and Trauma Care in  
Xieng Khouang and Sekong Provinces:**

- Medical training for staff at province to village levels in Xiengkhouang province
- Refresher training at province and district levels
- Expand use of participatory training methods
- Provide medical equipment to province hospital, district hospitals, sub-district health center and VHV in Sekong and Xiengkhouang provinces
- Consolidating medical training manuals and make them more widely available

**UXO Victim and Survivor assistance:**

- Continuing to raise funds for UXO survivor care and livelihoods development
- Seeking ways to expand technical training and War Victims Medical Fund management training activities to new target areas

- Follow up visits UXO survivors for Xieng Khouang and Sekong Provinces

**Quality of Life Association:**

- Capacity development for QLA staff and membership
- Continue to seek ways to involve other victims of UXO contamination-income generation in UXO-affected areas and families impacted by a death of the head of the family

**UXO Education and Awareness program:**

- Follow up and support of teacher training collages, teachers in Pak Ou and Phoukhoun Districts
- Organize puppetry performance training in four districts (Mok, Thatom, Pak Ou and Phoukhoun) and provide material to support UXO teaching to those 4 districts
- Continue to encourage and support DPPE on the UXO education strategic plan
- Conduct a study of UXO education as an elective subject in grade 1 to 4

**Implementing Partners or Clients:**

- UXO Education and Awareness program
- MOES, DPPE, Provincial education, Districts Education and school
- UXO victim/ survivor assistance
- PMRC is the main counterpart on the central level and provides coordinates central and province level activities
- The Department of Health as well as province and district hospitals in Xieng Khouang, Huaphan, Khammouane, Savannakhet, Salavan, Champasak and Sekong Provinces are involved in management of WVMF and implementing training activities

**Geography of operations:**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Provinces of Lao PDR implement activity in</b>
Risk Education	Xieng Khouang, Huaphan, Khammouane, Savannakhet, Salavan, Champasak, Sekong Attapeu, Luang Prabang
Victim Assistance	Xieng Khouang, Huaphan, Khammouane, Savannakhet, Salavan, Champasak, Sekong



## Financials:

### Expenditure for 2011 (USD)

<b>Item</b>	<b>Amount (USD)</b>
Personnel costs	Unable to provide this detail
Operational costs	221,504
<b>Total</b>	<b>221,504</b>

### Donor contributions for 2011 (USD)

<b>Donor</b>	<b>Contribution received in 2011 (USD)</b>
U.S. Department of State, Office of Weapons Removal & Abatement	319,000
McKnight Foundation	29,500
Niarchos Foundation	40,500
Embassy of the Netherlands, Thailand	33,835
MAG	9,990
Schmitz Foundation	16,758
German Embassy Lao PDR	9,250
US Embassy Lao PDR	3,900
AAR	Reported total grant in 2010 report
<b>Total</b>	<b>462,733</b>

### Additional Case Study: Mr Khammun finds his voice

Mr. Khammun is a 55 year old rice farmer who lives in a remote area of Dakcheung District in Sekong Province, near the Vietnamese border, an area heavily contaminated by UXO and cluster sub-munitions.

On the 9th of August, 2010, Khammun was leading his buffalo to a grazing area near the edge of the forest. He saw a piece of metal in the ground and when it picked it up, it exploded in his hand. CARE International staff, working in the district, volunteered to bring him to the province hospital.

Khammun spent two months in the Sekong Province Hospital, recovering from his infected arm wounds. His right arm was amputated and he worried about how he would help his family in the future as he is right-handed. After he left the hospital, he felt very discouraged and depressed because he felt that his neighbors had lost respect for him.

In January 2011, he attended an animal raising/veterinary skills workshop in Sekong, organized by World Education. With a small grant to raise chickens, he has gradually been able to provide for his family.

As part of the 'Sustainable Medical Funds Project' funded by the US State Department, World Education worked with the Department of Health to set up the War Victims Medical Fund (WVMF), which provided the treatment funding and follow-up care. The working group, which oversees the fund meets quarterly at the same time as project management meetings.

The WVMF working group invited Khammun to join them. While initially shy to speak up, he and two other UXO survivors wrote a report about their perspectives on the animal raising training. Khammun presented the report to the group.

"I have never spoken in front of a group like this before," he said. "I was so nervous, but I was able to do it!" Mr Khammun said of the experience.



Lao People's Democratic Republic  
Peace Independence Democracy Unity and Prosperity

Prime Minister

Ref: 406/PM  
Vientiane Capital, dated 8/11/2011

## Decree

On the establishment of the National Regulatory Authority  
for UXO programme in Lao PDR.

- Refer to the constitution of Lao PDR, No 02/LNA, date 6 May 2003.
- Refer to the Prime Minister of Labour Taskforce dividing to Deputy Prime Ministers, No 71/PM, dated 15 August 2011.
- Refer to the purpose of president of NCRDPE, Chairman of NRA, No 730/NCRDPE, dated 2 September 2011.

The Prime Minister issues decree:

Article 1: Nominated Mr. Asang Laoly, Deputy Prime Minister, in charge of Steering Cultural-Social and UXO Programme in Lao PDR.

Article 2: Establishment of the national Regulatory Authority for UXO programme in Lao PDR, which composed of following members:

- |   |               |
|---|---------------|
| 1. The Minister of the Prime Minister Office, President of NCRDPE   | Chairman      |
| 2. The Vice Minister of Foreign Affair  | Vice Chairman |
| 3. The Vice Minister of Labour and Social Welfare   | Vice Chairman |
| 4. The Director General of Engineering, Ministry of National Defence  | Member        |
| 5. The Director General of International Organization Department, Ministry of Foreign Affair                | Member        |
| 6. The Director General of Mass Media Department, Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism              | Member        |
| 7. The Director General of Therapy Department, Ministry of Public Health                                    | Member        |
| 8. The Director General of International Cooperation Department, Ministry of Planning and Investment        | Member        |
| 9. The Director General of Budget Department, Ministry of Finance   | Member        |
| 10. The Director General of Planning and Cooperation Department, Ministry of Public Work and Transportation | Member        |
| 11. The Director General of Planting Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry                       | Member        |
| 12. The Director General of Security Police 106 Department, Ministry of Security                            | Member        |



13. The Deputy Chief of Cabinet, Ministry of Education and Sport	Member
14. Deputy Director General of Organization and Personal Department, Lao Front for National Construction	Member
15. The Director General of Training-Procession Department, Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union	Member
16. The Deputy Chief of Cabinet, Lao Women's Union	Member
17. The Director, National Regulatory Authority for UXO/Mine Action Sector in Lao PDR (NRA)	Member and Secretary

Article 3: The NRA has an **overall responsibility** for the implementation of this sector strategy. As such, it will have the role in policy formulation, priority-setting, progress monitoring and coordination. While **the specific responsibilities** of the NRA are:

1. The periodic review and implementation of this Strategy Plan,
2. The definition and provision of policy direction,
3. Accreditation, licensing, and oversight of all UXO/Mine Action operators,
4. The management of the database and, as such, the prioritization and related tasking of all UXO/Mine Action operators,
5. The coordination of all UXO/Mine Action activities,
6. External Quality Assurance of all UXO/Mine Action activities,
7. The conduct of post clearance assessment, etc,
8. Reporting about UXO/Mine Action activities implementation to Government,
9. Coordinating with various agencies, centre to grass roots level, and internal-external organizations.

Article 4: Assigning the National Regulatory Authority to be a focus point for coordination of all UXO/Mine action activities throughout the country to successfully implement the decree.

Article 5: Ministries, ministerial level organizations, province and members are nominated to acknowledge and implement this decree strictly.

Article 6: This decree switched the decree No 164/PM, dated 9 June 2011 on the establishment of the National Regulatory Authority for UXO programme in Lao PDR and will enter into force from the date of signature.

Government of Lao PDR  
Signed and Sealed

Thongsing Thammavong







For further information please contact the:

National Regulatory Authority for UXO/Mine Action  
Sector in Lao PDR (NRA), Sisangvone Village, Unit 19,  
Saysettha District, P.O Box 7261, Vientiane, Lao PDR

Website: [www.nra.gov.la](http://www.nra.gov.la)