



UNEXPLODED  
ORDNANCE  
SECTOR  
ANNUAL  
REPORT

2019



SDG 18: LIVES SAFE FROM UXO

## 2019 ANNUAL REPORT

### 2019 UXO SECTOR ANNUAL REPORT

This document acts as the Annual Report for the National Regulatory Authority for UXO/Mine Action in the Lao PDR (NRA).

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Your contribution to the NRA can support families and children whose lives have suffered from UXO as a result of the Second Indochina War. For further information on how to donate, please contact the Victim's Assistance unit of the NRA, Mr. Bountao Chanthavongsa: [bountao.chanthavongsa@gmail.com](mailto:bountao.chanthavongsa@gmail.com).

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The NRA would like to thank all UXO/Mine Action Sector Operators who provided images and information on their projects and activities in 2019 for this report and to UNDP for the support provided throughout 2019 to both the NRA and UXO Lao, as well as providing their inputs to this report. The NRA programme and public relations unit would also like to acknowledge the support and effort put in by all members of the NRA team in helping to compile the UXO sector annual report 2019.

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# 2019 UXO SECTOR ANNUAL REPORT

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# ACRONYMS & ABBREVIATIONS



8MSP – Eighth Meeting of State Parties	MOLSW – Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare
9MSP – Ninth Meeting of State Parties	MRE – Mine Risk Education
AC – Area Clearance	NMFA – National Mine Action Standards
ADRA – Adventist Development and Relief Agency	NMFA – Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
ATP – Attapeu Province	NTFP – Non-Timber Forest Products
AWP- Annual Work Plan	NMAS – National Mine Action Standard
CAMA – Comprehensive Approach of Mine Action	NPA – Norwegian People’s Aid
CCM – Convention on Cluster Munitions	NRA – National Regulatory Authority for UXO/Mine Action Sector in Lao PDR
CHAs – Confirmed Hazardous Areas	NTS – Non-Technical Survey
CMRS – Cluster Munition Remnants Survey	NZ – New Zealand
CPS – Champasack Province	Oxfam – Oxford Committee for Famine Relief
CTA – Chief Technical Advisor	PM/WRA – the Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement in the US State Department’s Bureau of Political-Military Affairs
DAP – Dubrovnik Action Plan	QM – Quality Management
DFID – the United Kingdom Department for International Development	RE – Risk Education
DPAA – Defence POW/MIA Accounting Agency	RT – Roving Tasks
EOD – Explosive Ordnance Disposal	SDG18 – Sustainable Development Goal 18
ERW – Explosive Remnants of War	SLV – Salavane Province
EU – European Union	SK – Sekong
GoL – Government of Lao PDR	SoS – Spirit of Soccer
GRET – Groupe de Recherche et d’Echanges Technologiques	SVK – Savannaket Province
Ha – hectares	TS – Technical Survey
HI – Humanity and Inclusion	UK – United Kingdom
HP – Huaphan Province	UNDP – United Nations Development Programme
IM – Information Management	US – the United States
IMSMA – Information Management System for Mine Action	USD – United States Dollar
JICS – Japan International Cooperation System	USDOS – US Department of State
KM – Khammouane Province	UXO Lao – Lao National Unexploded Ordnance Programme
KOICA – Korea International Cooperation Agency	UXO – Unexploded Ordnance
Lao PDR – the Lao People’s Democratic Republic	VA – Victim Assistance
LPB – Luang Prabang Province	WHWV – We Help War Victims
MAG – Mines Advisory Group	WWM – World Without Mines
MOES – Ministry of Education and Sport	XK – Xiengkhouang Province
MOFA – Ministry of Foreign Affairs	

# FOREWORD:

## Chairperson of the NRA

I am very pleased to present the 2019 annual report for the UXO sector and take this opportunity to highlight some of the key achievements during the year.

In 2019, the government of Lao PDR, through the NRA, focused on implementing the UXO Sector National Strategic Plan, Safe Path Forward II, 2011-2020 in order to further achieve the 8th National Socio-Economic Development Plan. Priority was also given to the implementation of the Poverty Eradication Plan, as well as the Sustainable Development Goal 18 . In addition, we focused on the priority development areas, development projects and improved agricultural land for Lao ethnic groups.

UXO/Mine risk education is a key tool for highlighting the dangers of UXO and for informing Lao ethnic groups of the actions that they should take to avoid UXO. In particular, we have integrated UXO awareness into primary school curricula and raised awareness through UXO radio programmes and UXO village volunteers. Other UXO operators have also conducted these activities, which has resulted in the number of reported casualties being reduced to 25 people in this year. At the same time, there is also a need to widely support and expand UXO/Mine risk education activities.

In the area of victim assistance, we continued to implement the UXO Victim Assistance Strategic Plan through the development of the War Victims Medical Fund Policy. We also provided physical and psychological rehabilitation to UXO survivors and provided them with vocational training in order to develop their livelihoods and to provide their families with income. Despite this, the assistance provided to UXO survivors is still limited, especially in the areas of rehabilitation and vocational training.

In the area of UXO survey and clearance, we continued to undertake the new evidence-based clearance methodology and encouraged UXO operators to implement this new approach. Since the adoption of this approach, operations have been conducted more efficiently and more UXOs have been destroyed. As a result, there are now a total of 102,112 hectares (ha) of Confirmed Hazardous Areas identified and registered in the Information Management System for Mine Action database. At the same time, we have cleared an average of 5,000 ha of land based on our current capacities even though the demand for clearance is 10,000 ha per year. We require further support and donor cooperation to achieve this demand. Moreover, the Lao government cooperated with development partners, international organizations and UXO operators to conduct UXO survey and clearance in the flood- affected areas of Mahaxay District, Attapeu Province.

On behalf of the government of Lao PDR, as Chairperson of the NRA, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the UXO sector and express my great appreciation for the achievements of the past year. The progress and outcomes achieved have involved all UXO sector personnel and international experts demonstrating a high degree of commitment and care to this important cause. At the same time, I thank our partners, including UNDP, all of our donors and the international organizations for their support given to the UXO sector in Lao PDR.

**H.E. Dr. Khampheng Saysompheng**  
**Minister of Labour and Social Welfare, Chairperson of the NRA**

# FOREWORD:

## Joint Foreword of U.S. Ambassador & UNDP Resident Representative Co-Chairpersons of the UXO Sector Working Group

As co-chairs of the Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) Sector Working Group, we are pleased to contribute this joint foreword and present the UXO sector achievements from 2019. 2019 saw a change in the senior management structure of both the NRA and UXO Lao. We commend both new Directors on the progress made thus far under their direction and the momentum and drive that they have been shown.

The Government of Lao PDR's commitment to removing the UXO obstacle to development by 2030 is also evident in its adoption of the national Sustainable Development Goal 18 and in its role as a State Party to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM). The extension request under Article 4 of the CCM was submitted by the Government of Lao PDR in February 2019 and approved at the 9th Meeting of the State Parties in September. While this is a positive step, much planning will be needed to complete the national survey during this five-year period in order to clear all "known or suspected" areas containing cluster munitions, as required by the CCM. A prioritisation plan will also need to be developed for the entire UXO sector, including both commercial and humanitarian operators.

In addition, Article 9 of the CCM requires all State Parties to take all "appropriate legal, administrative and other measures" to implement the CCM. The Government of Lao PDR has taken positive steps in initiating this legislation-drafting process in 2019, and we fully support this effort.

There were 25 UXO casualties in 2019, comprising 16 injuries, seven of which were female, and nine deaths, all of which were male. While the number of UXO casualties has decreased significantly over recent years, the uptick in fatalities in 2019 compared to 2018 proves that this sector still requires strong support to ensure that no life is injured or lost in this country as a result of UXO.

Unfortunately, 2019 saw further flooding, which significantly impacted the southern provinces of Lao PDR. Thousands were displaced as a result, and there was a further risk to these individuals' lives from the threat of UXO movement with the floodwater. The Government of Lao PDR has taken important initiatives in response to these floods, and our operators have since continued their work safely.

Japan, Norway, the United Kingdom, and the United States led bilateral donor assistance efforts; while Australia, Canada, European Union, Ireland, Luxembourg, New Zealand, and the Republic of Korea (ROK) continued contributions through UNDP.

The innovative approach towards clearance efforts in 2019 of training and equipping humanitarian clearance teams of the Lao People's Army was further enhanced to seven teams. National ownership is an integral component of this venture, and with the Ministry of National Defence funding the teams' salaries, this is a step in the right direction of achieving long-term sustainability.

The year 2020 presents many opportunities for the UXO Sector and also will be a critical year in which Lao PDR will be developing three key national strategies and plans: the 9th National Socio-Economic Development Plan (NSEDP), the Safe Path Forward III, and a new UXO Sector 5-Year Work Plan. Given the extent of UXO contamination and its multi-dimensional impact, and the 9th NSEDP being approved with the UXO Sector having a specific output as opposed to being a cross-cutting theme, there will be operational improvements through a better defined framework and clearance methodologies, as well as a possible expansion of the Lao People's Army Humanitarian Clearance Teams to strengthen national ownership.

We look forward to working together even more strongly and efficiently in 2020 as we move a step closer with the Lao PDR toward achieving our goals under the 2030 Agenda and the national Sustainable Development Goal 18, to ensure that UXO is not an impediment to development by 2030.

**Mr. Peter M. Haymond**

**Ambassador of the United States of America,  
Co-Chairperson of the UXO Sector Working Group**

**Ms. Ricarda Rieger**

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

# SECTOR ACHIEVEMENTS: THE NUMBERS

<i>Humanitarian clearance operators - UXO Found and Destroyed through Area Clearance 2010-2019</i>							
<b>Year</b>	Hectares Cleared	Bomb	Bombies/Cluster Munitions (CM)	Landmines	Other UXO	<b>Total UXO</b>	<b>CM/hectares (ha)</b>
<b>2010</b>	2,996	39	19,740	18	14,506	34,303	<b>6.6</b>
<b>2011</b>	3,692	22	19,088	96	19,683	38,889	<b>5.2</b>
<b>2012</b>	3,823	60	26,011	18	17,318	43,407	<b>6.8</b>
<b>2013</b>	3,288	28	22,847	48	20,626	43,549	<b>6.9</b>
<b>2014</b>	3,662	36	26,566	78	17,697	44,377	<b>7.3</b>
<b>2015</b>	2,961	55	49,497	108	13,162	62,822	<b>16.7</b>
<b>2016</b>	3,315	43	61,144	1	15,503	76,691	<b>18.4</b>
<b>2017</b>	3,852	20	64,241	16	16,462	80,739	<b>16.7</b>
<b>2018</b>	3,670	35	45,441	5	11,740	57,221	<b>12.4</b>
<b>2019</b>	4,577	30	42,085	4	11,081	53,200	<b>9.2</b>

## UXO Casualties

<i>UXO Accidents and Casualties in Lao PDR, 2010-2019</i>										
Year	Accidents	Injuries				Deaths				Total Casualties
		Males	Females	Boys	Girls	Males	Females	Boys	Girls	
2010	75	33	8	47	7	9	1	9	5	<b>119</b>
2011	64	32	9	34	4	6	0	14	0	<b>99</b>
2012	36	17	11	11	2	6	1	6	2	<b>56</b>
2013	18	9	2	12	5	5	0	7	1	<b>41</b>
2014	22	8	5	9	7	4	0	12	0	<b>45</b>
2015	27	15	1	16	1	6	1	2	0	<b>42</b>
2016	35	17	3	24	5	2	0	8	0	<b>59</b>
2017	19	12	8	11	6	3	0	0	1	<b>41</b>
2018	17	4	8	4	5	2	1	0	0	<b>24</b>
2019	20	5	2	4	5	8	0	1	0	<b>25</b>

<i>Causes of Accidents</i>					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Agriculture	4	6	2	2	3
Lighting a fire (for cooking and slash-and-burn agriculture purposes)	16	11	10	3	8
Destructing items	5	3	1	2	7
Playing with UXO items	2	12	3	5	1
Cutting grass	0	1	1	1	1
Disturbing UXOs	0	2	2	4	0
<b>Total Accidents:</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>20</b>

## 2019 clearance operators

### Non Technical Survey

Organization	Village No.	Task No.	Evident Point	Cluster Munitions	Beneficiary
Halo Trust	159	159	72	386	12,602
HI	34	34	55	93	6,937
MAG	114	114	398	1,074	6,337
NPA	271	271	720	1,923	24,296
UXO Lao	95	95	3,478	1,578	55,090
Army58	11	11	39	141	1415
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>684</b>	<b>684</b>	<b>4,762</b>	<b>5,195</b>	<b>106,677</b>

### Technical Survey (TS) to establish the Confirmed Hazardous Areas (CHAs)

Organization	Village No.	Task No.		Area by square meter		Unexploded Ordnance (UXO)				
		TS	CHA	TS	CHA	Bomb	Cluster Munitions	Mine	Other UXO	Total
UXO Lao	144	285	292	60,575,325	41,169,405	2	5,062	-	1,172	6,236
Halo Trust	149	876	476	41,907,500	13,223,202	32	2,860	1	648	3,541
NPA	209	908	433	64,593,000	22,648,964	4	3,153	-	260	3,417
MAG	50	188	188	164,213,561	167,610,011	-	13,352	-	33	13,385
HI	5	7	5	1,567,500	783,750	-	92	-	8	100
Army58*	9	20	6	1,857,500	387,500	-	72	-	-	72
<b>Total:</b>	<b>566</b>	<b>2,284</b>	<b>1,400</b>	<b>334,714,386</b>	<b>245,822,832</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>24,591</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2,121</b>	<b>26,751</b>

### Roving Tasks (RT)

Organization	Village No.	Task No.	Beneficiary	Unexploded Ordnance (UXO)				
				Bomb	Cluster Munitions	Mine	Other UXO	Total
UXO Lao	426	874	89,249	59	7,509	7	3,668	11,243
Halo Trust	231	1,194	9,754	14	5,111	3	2,228	7,356
NPA	276	613	-	25	6,224	4	1,631	7,884
MAG	205	2,459	21,443	9	15,600	2	1,520	17,131
HI	38	101	46,244	6	1,644	16	900	2,566
Army58*	14	17	3,277	-	217	2	5	224
Milsearch	4	7	-	-	8	-	6	14
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1,194</b>	<b>5,265</b>	<b>169,967</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>36,313</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>9,958</b>	<b>46,418</b>



### Area Clearance (AC) (square meter)

Organization	Task No.	Area by square meter			Unexploded Ordnance (UXO)				
		Agriculture	Development	Total	Bomb	Cluster Munitions	Mine	Other UXO	Total
UXO Lao	878	28,089,495	530,895	28,620,390	20	29,670	3	8,542	38,235
Halo Trust	62	2,049,162	21,025	2,070,187	2	1,047	-	653	1,702
NPA	53	3,811,925	205,970	4,017,895	-	3,924	-	300	4,224
MAG	131	8,898,231	971,073	9,869,304	7	6,485	-	1,142	7,634
HI	18	499,043	-	499,043	1	714	1	14	730
Army58*	6	692,304	-	692,304	-	245	-	430	675
Lao Army	184	704,610	3,502,477	4,207,087	-	-	-	6	6
MMG	11	-	884,987	884,987	5	76	-	265	346
Milsearch	126	67,496	347,685	415,181	-	295	-	82	377
OUMMA	5	148,506	57,327	205,833	-	1,339	-	-	1,339
AusLao	7	-	11,266,445	11,266,445	22	20	-	37	79
PL	9	1,503,783	820,875	2,324,658	-	12	-	5	17
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1,490</b>	<b>46,464,555</b>	<b>18,608,759</b>	<b>65,073,314</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>43,827</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>11,476</b>	<b>55,364</b>

### GRAND TOTAL (AC, RT and TS)

Organization	Area by square meter			Unexploded Ordnance (UXO)				
	Agriculture	Development	Total	Bomb	Cluster Munitions	Mine	Other UXO	Total
UXO Lao	28,089,495	530,895	28,620,390	79	37,179	10	12,210	49,478
Halo Trust	2,049,162	21,025	2,070,187	16	6,158	3	2,881	9,058
NPA	3,811,925	205,970	4,017,895	25	10,148	4	1,931	12,108
MAG	8,898,231	971,073	9,869,304	16	22,085	2	2,662	24,765
HI	499,043	-	499,043	7	2,358	17	914	3,296
Army58*	692,304	-	692,304	-	462	2	435	899
Lao Army	704,610	3,502,477	4,207,087	-	-	-	6	6
MMG	-	884,987	884,987	5	76	-	265	346
Milsearch	67,496	347,685	415,181	-	303	-	88	391
OUMMA	148,506	57,327	205,833	-	1,339	-	-	1,339
AusLao	-	11,266,445	11,266,445	22	20	-	37	79
PL	1,503,783	820,875	2,324,658	-	12	-	5	17
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>46,464,555</b>	<b>18,608,759</b>	<b>65,073,314</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>80,140</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>21,434</b>	<b>101,782</b>

\*Army 58 refers to the Humanitarian Team of the Lao People's Army

### UXO/Mine Risk Education/Community Awareness Operations

Organization	Village No.	Task No.	Audience		
			Male	Female	Total
Halo Trust	164	500	17,325	15,444	32,769
HI	41	121	7,824	8,204	16,028
MAG	48	151	2,911	3,004	5,915
SoS	37	47	1,689	1,503	3,192
UXO Lao	340	1,221	116,959	117,259	234,218
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>630</b>	<b>2,040</b>	<b>146,708</b>	<b>145,414</b>	<b>292,122</b>

### UXO Operators' Personnel in Lao PDR 2019

Organization	Office Support				Operations				Total
	National		International		National		International		
	Men	Women	Man	Woman	Men	Women	Men	Women	
NRA	15	12	1	2	14	3	0	0	<b>47</b>
UXO Lao	97	57	8	2	924	310	1	0	<b>1,399</b>
NPA	23	10	2	2	227	79	4	0	<b>347</b>
MAG	35	23	2	2	499	284	5	0	<b>850</b>
HI	22	12	3	0	40	28	4	2	<b>111</b>
Halo Trust	27	26	0	1	196	277	3	2	<b>532</b>
SoS	2	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	<b>5</b>
MMG	5	3	2	0	118	84	0	0	<b>212</b>
LCY	6	2	0	0	22	0	0	0	<b>30</b>
OUMMA	4	0	0	0	39	1	0	0	<b>44</b>
Silavan	1	1	0	0	10	3	0	0	<b>15</b>
Lao BSL	3	2	1	0	45	9	0	0	<b>60</b>
Auslao	2	3	1	0	53	0	0	0	<b>59</b>
Great	6	5	0	0	62	4	0	0	<b>77</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2,252</b>	<b>1,082</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3,788</b>

## 2019 UXO SECTOR FINANCIAL SUMMARY:

### Summary of Cash Contributions Received and Actual Expenditures (in USD) For the year Ended 1st of January - 31st of December 2019

<i>Organization</i>	<i>Cash Contributions</i>	<i>Actual Expenditure</i>
Government		
NRA	2,268,249	1,701,657
UXO Lao	10,297,818	8,393,584
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,566,067</b>	<b>10,095,241</b>
International Non-Government Organizations		
Halo Trust	5,215,049	5,754,007
HI	1,263,625	1,060,686
MAG	8,181,875	6,954,587
NPA	7,090,060	7,090,060
SOS	67,250	67,250
<b>Total</b>	<b>21,817,859</b>	<b>20,926,590</b>
Inter-Operators' Fund Transfers	<b>(533,756)</b>	<b>(533,756)</b>
Commercial Clearance Companies		
AusLao	136,000	136,000
Great	162,800	162,800
Lao BSL	20,500	20,500
Milsearch	2,400,000	2,289,250
Chifeng LXML Sepon	1,529,471	1,529,471
OUMMA	243,877	243,877
Silavan	23,000	23,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,515,648</b>	<b>4,404,898</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>38,365,818</b>	<b>34,892,973</b>

### Summary of In-Kind Contributions Received (in USD) For the year Ended 1st of January - 31st of December 2019

<i>Organization</i>	<i>In-Kind Contributions</i>
Government	
UXO Lao	625,620
<b>Total</b>	<b>625,620</b>

**Humanitarian Clearance Operators  
Summary of Cash Contributions Received by Fund Source (in USD)  
For the year Ended 1st of January - 31st of December 2019**

<i>Fund Sources</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<b>Bilateral</b>	
European Union	1,061,089
Fagforbundet (the Norwegian Union of Municipal and General Employees)	41,177
Freeman Foundation (FF)	520,800
ITO Supporting Comity (ISC)	21,900
Japan Int'l Cooperation System (JICS)	2,080,661
Mines Advisory Group (MAG)	58,724
Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (NMFA)	2,283,350
United Methodist Committee on Relief of the General Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church (UMCOR)	214,286
United Kingdom Dep't. of Int'l Dev't (DFID)	6,392,081
United States of America (USA) - Note 1	15,655,440
World Without Mines (WWM)	200,872
<b>Total</b>	<b>28,530,379</b>
<b>UNDP-Managed Funds</b>	
Australia	292,533
Canada	150,938
European Union	1,360,689
Ireland	553,433
KOICA	1,049,913
Luxembourg	165,930
New Zealand	1,430,204
Republic of Korea	30,000
UNDP TRAC2	250,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,283,640</b>
<b>Government Contribution and Others</b>	
Government of Lao PDR	12,912
Others - Note 2	2,138,887
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,151,799</b>
Service Fees - Note 3	
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,400,000</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>38,365,818</b>

Note 1 - This is only a portion of the U.S. funding that is obligated to the UXO Sector.

Note 2 - This includes internal fund source from the Chifeng LML Sepon amounting to USD1,529,471.

Note 3 - This refers to the commercial income generated/earned from its operating activities.

**Summary of In-Kind Contributions Received by Fund Source (in USD)  
For the year Ended 1st of January - 31st of December 2019**

<i>Sources</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Bilateral	
JMAS	506,165
JICA	119,455
<b>Total</b>	<b>625,620</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 a risk of exploding. UXO contamination in 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 weight 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 releases the bombies over a wide area. The bombies that were dropped on 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, thus, injuring and killing civilians as they carry out their daily activities.

In addition, over four million large bombs were dropped on Lao PDR and the extensive ground battles predominantly in the northern provinces left behind substantial amounts of other unexploded weaponry and munitions.

# OVERVIEW OF NRA ACTIVITIES IN 2019:

During 2019, the NRA aimed at increasing the capacity of the UXO sector in Lao PDR to deal with the problem of remaining UXO in order to reduce the humanitarian threat and to remove barriers to productive and sustainable use of land. At the outcome-level, it can be reported that a number of changes occurred in 2019, in reference to the project entitled, “Moving Towards Achieving Sustainable Development Goal 18 (SDG18) - Removing the UXO Obstacle to Development in Lao PDR June 2017- December 2021”.

From 2008 to 2019, there was a substantial decrease in the total number of casualties from over 300 in 2008 to 25 in 2019, which has achieved the target set out in the National Strategic Plan’s Mid-Term Review in 2015 for UXO sector in Lao PDR of 40 and is under the 8th National Socio-Economic Development Plan target of 40.

The majority of accidents in 2019 were caused by children playing with UXO, sometimes deliberately, but mostly not knowing that the item was a UXO. This highlights the importance of continued UXO/MRE activities to raise awareness and to encourage avoidance of touching UXOs. However, there has been a steady decline in the number of accidents caused by lighting fires, which is widely taught throughout MRE activities and awareness campaigns.

In accordance with the implementation of new survey procedures for UXO by the Government of Lao PDR (GoL), all humanitarian operators in Lao PDR now employ an evidence-based approach to land clearance, as opposed to the previous request-based approach.

## UNDP’s Contribution:

During the reporting period, UNDP supported the management and technical capacity development of the NRA. In doing so, UNDP has contributed to all output and outcome-level achievements attributed to the sector. In terms of the specific support provided, some of the key elements can be summarized as follows:

### Technical Advice

- UNDP provides Technical Advisory support to the NRA through the deployment of a Chief Technical Advisor (CTA), a Finance Technical Advisor, a Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist and two Programme and Partnerships Support Officers.

- The UNDP advisory team provided technical expertise on financial planning and tracking, improving the quality of reports, the methods for monitoring and evaluation, as well as advising on all technical components of UXO clearance and management.
- The UNDP advisory team also provided technical and legal assistance in the preparation of the CCM Consultative workshop and the CCM 9th Meeting of State Parties (9MSP).

### Management and Procurement

- UNDP develops the capacity of the NRA staff to regulate, manage and coordinate the UXO sector. The UNDP advisory team also develops the NRA’s capacity to plan and prioritise activities and to implement these skills into the Annual Work Plan.
- UNDP also improved the capacity of NRA staff to carry out procurement activities and in the development of a comprehensive procurement plan.

### Sector Leadership

- As a co-chair of UXO sector working group, UNDP assisted in coordination of various partners in the UXO sector and alignment between long-term strategies and actual implementation in the field by reviewing the implementation of the National Strategic Plan for the UXO Sector (2011-2020), “The Safe Path Forward II” and assisting in the preparing of a new National Strategic Plan for the UXO Sector (2021-2030).
- UNDP assisted in overseeing the funding gaps within the sector and ensuring that activities do not stop upon the completion of funding arrangements under various donor Contribution Agreements.

### Capacity Development

- The UNDP advisory team helped to develop the capacity of the NRA staff through assistance in the development of the new sector strategies, including the new Victim Assistance 5-Year Strategy (2021-2025), the next National Strategic Plan for the UXO Sector (2021-2030), as well as the UXO Sector 5-Year Plan (2021-2025).
- The advisory team also developed the capacity of the NRA to prepare and successful submit several donor reports, quarterly progress reports to UNDP, as well as annual sector and progress reports.
- The M&E capacity based full-time within the NRA helped to develop the capacity of the NRA units to carry out M&E activities and to develop new frameworks.

## Resource Mobilization

- Having accompanied the Lao delegation to the 22nd International Meeting of National Mine Action Programme Directors and United Nation Advisers (NDM-UN) in Geneva, Switzerland, UNDP assisted in mobilizing resources to the UXO sector through engagement with various donors on potential support.
- Further resources were mobilized by UNDP during this period, including USD\$5.5million from the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) which runs from 2019 to 2022. USD\$3 million will be implemented through UNDP and USD\$2.5 million is a bilateral cooperation with the NRA focusing on Victim's Assistance (VA).
- Contribution Agreement was reached between UNDP and the Government of Australia for AUD407,000 to support UXO clearance operations in the areas flooded last year in Attapeu Province, in order to ensure the safety of resettled communities displaced by the floods.
- A further CAD\$50,000 was secured by UNDP from the Canadian Funds for Local Initiatives (CFLI) to support the VA activities of the NRA.
- UNDP were successful in the submission of a project proposal to the Turkish government, which will support MRE activities of the NRA in 2020.

## THE NINTH MEETING OF STATES PARTIES

The 9MSP to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) was held at the Palais des Nations in Geneva, Switzerland from the 2nd to the 4th of September 2019.

The 9MSP provided an opportunity for State Parties to present their progress, challenges, plans and needs for assistance and cooperation to achieve their Convention obligations and the commitments made under the 2015 Dubrovnik Action Plan (DAP) and the Dubrovnik Declaration. States not party to the CCM also provided updates on their position and plans for ratification or accession to the Convention. More than 250 delegates participated in the conference.

A Lao delegation, including officials from the MOFA's Department of International Organisations, the NRA, UXO Lao, Permanent Representative Offices to the United Nations and international organisations in Lao PDR were in attendance. CCM.

In February 2019, Lao PDR submitted a five-year extension request under Article 4 of the CCM, which was officially approved at the 9MSP. The request highlighted that an ongoing nationwide Cluster Munition Remnants Survey (CMRS) is helping to define accurate Confirmed Hazardous Areas (CHAs) and should produce an evidence-based assessment of the extent of cluster munitions remnants. The request indicated that the adoption by Lao PDR of this evidence-based methodology to survey and clear cluster munition remnants is a significant improvement on the request-based system used in the past and that its systematic implementation will increase the number of CHAs mapped during the extension period.

The request specified that there will be a strong focus on survey during the period of the extension with a focus on six of the most contaminated provinces to be completed as soon as possible, followed by the remaining provinces. The request specified that clearance will take place simultaneously with survey activities to ensure the safety of the Lao people.



*Lao delegation attended the 9MSP to the CCM in Geneva, Switzerland.*



# 2019 NRA FINANCIAL REPORT

Actual Expenditures per Cost Classification (in USD)  
For the Year Ended, 1 January - 31 December 2019

<i>Costs Classification</i>	<i>UNDP-Managed Funds</i>	<i>Bilateral</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>% to Total</i>
<i>Personnel Costs</i>	727,314.88		727,314.88	43%
<i>Operating Costs</i>				
<i>Rental and Maintenance - Equipment</i>	93,560.06		93,560.06	5%
<i>Stationery and Office Supplies</i>	48,124.22			
		48,124.22	3%	
<i>Rental and Maintenance - Premises</i>	27,340.43		27,340.43	2%
<i>Phone and Internet Charges</i>	15,103.35		15,103.35	1%
<i>Utilities</i>	11,918.24		11,918.24	1%
<i>Licenses</i>	4,073.89		4,073.89	0%
<i>Insurance</i>	1,419.20		1,419.20	0%
<i>Freight, Postal Handling and Storage</i>	1,257.93		1,257.93	0%
<i>Bank Charges</i>	199.07		199.07	0%
<i>Sundries</i>	38,858.14	87,152.21	126,010.35	7%
	241,854.53	87,152.21	329,006.74	19%
<i>Special Operating Costs</i>				
<i>Trainings, Workshops and Conferences</i>	175,389.70		175,389.70	10%
<i>GMS &amp; Implementation Support Service</i>	114,728.80		114,728.80	7%
<i>Printing, Publications and Promo Materials</i>	82,687.33		82,687.33	5%
<i>Translation Costs</i>	10,589.39		10,589.39	1%
<i>Forex Loss (Gain)</i>	3,285.93		3,285.93	0%
<i>Audit Fees</i>	2,409.00		2,409.00	0%
	<b>389,090.15</b>		<b>389,090.15</b>	<b>23%</b>
<i>Non-Expendable Equipment</i>				
<i>Transportation Equipment</i>	175,061.20		175,061.20	10%
<i>Communication Equipment</i>	49,888.20		49,888.20	3%
<i>Furniture</i>	4,795.06		4,795.06	0%
<i>Computer and Office Equipment</i>	<b>4,231.34</b>		<b>4,231.34</b>	<b>0%</b>
	233,975.80		233,975.80	14%
<i>Expendable Materials</i>				
<i>Other Materials and Goods</i>	<b>22,268.97</b>		<b>22,268.97</b>	<b>1%</b>
	22,268.97		22,268.97	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,614,504.33</b>	<b>87,152.21</b>	<b>1,701,656.54</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Projected Expenditures vs. Actual Expenditures - Over-All (in USD)

For the Year Ended, 1 January - 31 December 2019

	<i>Fund Sources</i>			
	UNDP-Managed Funds	Bilateral Funds	Unfunded	Total
<i>Projected Expenditures (per AWP)</i>	1,809,766.00	10,000.00	225,889.00	2,045,655.00
<i>Actual Expenditures</i>	<b>1,614,504.43</b>	<b>87,152.21</b>		<b>1,701,656.64</b>
<i>Projected Expenditures vs. Actual Expenditures</i>	<b>195,261.57</b>	<b>(77,152.21)</b>	<b>225,889.00</b>	<b>343,998.36</b>
<i>Actual Exp./Projected Exp. (%)</i>	<b>89%</b>	<b>872%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>83%</b>

### Projected Expenditures vs. Actual Expenditures By Donor (in USD)

For the Year Ended, 1 January - 31 December 2019

	<i>Projected Expenditures (per AWP)</i>	<i>Actual Expenditures</i>	<i>Actual Exp./Projected Exp. (%)</i>
<i>UNDP-Managed Funds</i>			
<i>KOICA</i>	909,577.00	608,099.54	67%
<i>European Union (EU)</i>	360,960.00	361,037.97	100%
<i>Ireland</i>	297,625.00	333,320.57	112%
<i>New Zealand (NZ)</i>	132,059.00	171,630.88	130%
<i>Luxembourg</i>	109,545.00	125,182.26	114%
<i>Republic of Korea</i>		15,233.21	
	<b>1,809,766.00</b>	<b>1,614,504.43</b>	<b>89%</b>
<i>Bilateral Funds</i>			
<i>US - Tetra Tech</i>	<b>10,000.00</b>	<b>87,152.21</b>	<b>872%</b>
<i>Unfunded</i>	225,889.00		0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,045,655.00</b>	<b>1,701,656.64</b>	<b>83%</b>

### Projected Expenditures vs. Actual Expenditures By Activity Result (in USD)

For the Year Ended, 1 January - 31 December 2019

	<i>Projected Expenditures (per AWP)</i>	<i>Actual Expenditures</i>	<i>Actual Exp./Projected Exp. (%)</i>
<i>Institutional Development</i>	1,041,782	876,734.16	84%
<i>Support to the Lao Army</i>	293,760	313,934.52	107%
<i>Effective Coordination &amp; Regulation</i>	198,384	139,814.83	70%
<i>MRE</i>	115,933	117,045.51	101%
<i>IM</i>	160,371	105,976.27	66%
<i>Int'l Treaty Obligations Met</i>	93,059	67,099.99	72%
<i>VA</i>	61,479	40,859.97	66%
<i>Clearance</i>	80,887	40,191.39	50%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,045,655</b>	<b>1,701,656.64</b>	<b>83%</b>



**STEP**

**1**

**STEP**

**2**

**STEP**

**3**

## **NON-TECHNICAL SURVEY**

*Non-technical survey “NTS” is used to identify evidence points of explosive contamination (primarily cluster munitions in Lao PDR). This involves collecting information on explosive hazards from historical records and from the local population.*

## **TECHNICAL SURVEY**

*“Technical survey” is used to identify and map CHAs for future clearance. The area is divided into 50m by 50m boxes, with a grid placed over the starting evidence points. Each box is scanned with detectors for more evidence and, if found, the team stops and moves to the next box. The process follows the cluster munitions strike until no more evidence is found. Cluster munitions identified during this process are mapped and then destroyed. The boxes are color-coded based on the findings and the results are used to establish the CHAs requiring clearance. This is the crucial step to define the extent of contamination and to begin planning operations.*

## **CLEARANCE**

*“Clearance” refers to activities used to remove and/or destroy all explosive hazards from a specified area, to a specified depth. The minimum depth is 25cm, which normally captures all surface and shallow contamination. Clearance is conducted on CHAs identified through the Technical Survey. Many more cluster munitions will be found and destroyed during clearance.*



UXO SECTOR

OPERATOR  
REPORTS

CLEARANCE, VICTIM ASSISTANCE  
AND UXO/MINE RISK EDUCATION

# HUMANITARIAN CLEARANCE ORGANIZATIONS



## LAO NATIONAL UNEXPLODED ORDNANCE PROGRAMME (UXO LAO)

### Background and mandate:

In 2019, UXO Lao has undertaken its activities and achieved its mandate as following:

- MRE: UXO Lao teams across nine provinces conducted MRE in 358 villages, reaching 254,573 beneficiaries, of which, 127,148 are females.
- NTS: UXO Lao teams visited 108 villages and 2,318 UXO items were found.
- TS: 321 sites of CHAs were established, covering 4,371 ha and 6,500 UXO items were found.
- Roving Tasks (RT): UXO Lao conducted RT in 464 villages, 12,302 UXO were found and destroyed.
- Area Clearance (AC): 3,040 ha of land have been cleared, 41,139 UXO items were found and destroyed, 72,107 people benefitted.

### Key achievements in 2019:

The following information shows UXO Lao targets set for each task and its achievement against targets in 2019:

- MRE: Target set in 2019 AWP: 419 villages, achieved 358 villages (85% against target).
- NTS: Target set in 2019 AWP: 116 villages, achieved 108 villages (93% against target).
- TS: Target set in 2019 AWP: 3,571 ha. Achieved 4,371 ha (122% against target) and 321 sites of CHAs were established.
- RT: No annual target because UXO were found and reported by villagers or NTS teams and they were destroyed on a day-to-day basis. During 2019, the UXO Lao RT found and destroyed over 12,300 UXO items during 464 village visits.
- AC: Target set in 2019 AWP: 2,818 ha, achieved 3,040 ha (108% against target).

### Case Study: A beneficiary story in ATP province

Villagers in Thahin village, Sanamxay district are benefitting from UXO clearance under Australian Aid funds.

Mr. Linthong Bangmala, is a 50-year-old farmer and lives with his wife, daughter and grandchild. After the Xepien-Xenam Noy Dam collapsed, his house was completely destroyed and in October 2018 many of his neighbours decided to move to higher land in Thahin village, Sanamxay District.

In November 2018, the community worked together in cutting vegetation and burning land to construct their new wooden houses. “We were very worried and afraid that this area was still contaminated with UXO while we were scorching the ground, but we had no choice else as there was no other place for us to go”, Linthong explained.



In July 2019, a UXO Lao clearance team supported by the Australian Government began clearing the community’s land, provided to them by the GoL for agricultural growth. “When UXO Lao finishes the clearance operation, I hope to cultivate vegetables, raise livestock and knit fishing nets to sell at the local market to earn income for my family,” he explained. When discussing the support from the government of Australia with UXO Lao’s Programme and Public Information unit, Linthong expressed his appreciation; “I am so grateful to the

Australian government for support to UXO clearance in the flood-affected areas to ensure our land is free from explosive ordnance. I and my neighbors feel safe from UXO and we can now rebuild our lives post-flood.”

<i>Provinces</i>	<i>MRE (# of villages)</i>	<i>NTS (# of villages)</i>	<i>TS (ha)</i>	<i>AC (ha)</i>
<i>Luang Prabang (LPB)</i>	0	24	300	112
<i>Huaphan (HP)</i>	50	12	500	143
<i>Xiengkhouang (XK)</i>	50	15	600	729
<i>Khammouane (KM)</i>	59	12	500	353
<i>Savannakhet (SVK)</i>	50	12	900	665
<i>Salavane (SLV)</i>	60	12	500	387
<i>Sekong (SK)</i>	12	12	250	240
<i>Champasak (CPS)</i>	50	12	500	190
<i>ATP</i>	50	12	300	389
<b>Total</b>	<b>381</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>4,350</b>	<b>3,208</b>

### Priority activities for 2020:

The following table shows UXO Lao AWP activities and targets for 2020:

### Challenges:

- There are quite a lot of UXO Lao field equipment (vehicles and UXO detectors) that are old and have been in use for long time. This can affect field operations.
- There are difficulties encountered in conducting certain activities, such as survey and clearance due to mountainous areas and dense vegetation. UXO Lao spends a significant amount of time cutting vegetation prior to survey and clearance activities.
- The process of budget disbursement through the Lao governmental management system (through Bank of Lao PDR and Ministry of Finance) still requires many steps and takes a long time to process the budget transfers.
- There are funding gaps to support all UXO Lao activities attributed as set out in the AWP for UXO Lao headquarters, training center and field operations in certain provinces.

### Partners:

- NRA
- United Nations Development Program (UNDP)
- EU
- The Government of Australia
- The Government of Canada
- The Government of Ireland
- The Government of Japan
- The Grand Duchy of Luxembourg
- The Government of NZ
- The Government of Norway
- The United States (US)
- The Republic of Korea
- International Committee of the Red Cross
- Japan International Cooperation Agency
- Japan International Cooperation System (JICS)
- Japan Mine Action Service
- Spirit of Soccer (SoS)
- World Without Mines (WWM)
- Cambodian Mine Action Center

## Personnel in 2019:

<i>Office Support</i>				<i>Operations</i>			
<i>National</i>		<i>International</i>		<i>National</i>		<i>International</i>	
Man	Woman	Man	Woman	Man	Woman	Man	Woman
97	57	8	2	924	310	1	0
<b>Total</b>				<b>1,399</b>			

## Detailed statistics for 2019:

For more information on the statistics of UXO Lao, please refer to the sector achievement section on page 6 of this report.

## Geography of operations:

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Provinces/districts</i>
UXO NTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ LPB: Luangprabang; Pakou; Nambak; Ngoi; Pakxeng; Phonxay; and Phoukhoun</li> <li>■ HP: Xamneua; Viengthong ; and Viengxay</li> <li>■ XK: Pek ; Kham ; and Phoukood</li> <li>■ KM: Mahaxay ; Boualapha ; and Xaybouathong</li> <li>■ SVK: Phin; Sepon; Nong; Thapangthong; Vilabouly ; and Thaphalanxay</li> <li>■ SLV: Salavan ; Ta Oi ; Toumlane ; Vapi ; Khongxedon ; Lao Ngam ; and Samouay</li> <li>■ SK: Lamam ; Kaleum ; Dakcheung ; and Thateng</li> <li>■ CPS: Bachiengchaleunsouk ; Paksong ; Pathoumphone ; and Mounlapamok</li> <li>■ ATP: Saysettha ; Samakkhixay ; Sanamxay ; Sanxay ; and Phouvong</li> </ul>
UXO TS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ LPB: Pakou ; Nambak ; Ngoi ; Pakxeng ; and Phoukhoun</li> <li>■ HP: Xamneua ; Viengthong ; and Viengxay</li> <li>■ XK: Pek ; Kham ; and Phoukood</li> <li>■ KM: Mahaxay ; Ngommalath ; Boualapha ; and Xaybouathong</li> <li>■ SVK: Phin; Sepon; Nong; Thapangthong; Vilabouly ; and Thaphalanxay</li> <li>■ SLV: Salavan; Ta Oi ; Toumlane ; Vapi ; Khongxedon ; Lao Ngam ; and Samouay</li> <li>■ SK: Lamam ; Kaleum ; Dakcheung ; and Thateng</li> <li>■ CPS: Bachiengchaleunsouk ; Paksong ; Pathoumphone ; and Mounlapamok</li> <li>■ ATP: Saysettha ; Samakkhixay ; Sanamxay ; Sanxay ; and Phouvong</li> </ul>

UXO AC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ LPB: Luangprabang ; Pakou ; Nambak ; and Ngoi</li> <li>■ HP: Xamneua ; Viengthong ; and Viengxay</li> <li>■ XK: Pek ; Kham ; and Phoukood</li> <li>■ KM: Mahaxay ; Ngommalath ; Boualapha ; and Xaybouathong</li> <li>■ SVK: Atsaphangthong; Phin ; Sepon ; Nong ; Thapangthong ; Vilabouly ; and Thaphalanxay</li> <li>■ SLV: Salavan ; Ta Oi ; Toumlane ; Vapi ; Khongxedon ; Lao Ngam ; and Samouay</li> <li>■ SK: Lamam ; Kaleum ; Dakcheung ; and Thateng</li> <li>■ CPS: Bachiengchaleunsouk ; and Paksong</li> <li>■ ATP: Saysettha ; Samakkhixay ; Sanamxay ; Sanxay ; and Phouvong</li> </ul>
UXO RT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ LPB: Luangprabang; Pakou; Nambak; Ngoi; Pakxeng; Phonxay; and Phoukhoun</li> <li>■ HP: Xamneua ; Viengthong ; and Viengxay</li> <li>■ XK: Pek ; Kham ; and Phoukood</li> <li>■ KM: Mahaxay ; Boualapha ; and Xaybouathong</li> <li>■ SVK: Phin; Sepon; Nong; Thapangthong; Vilabouly; and Thaphalanxay</li> <li>■ SLV: Salavan ; Ta Oi ; Toumlane ; Vapi ; Khongxedon ; Lao Ngam ; and Samouay</li> <li>■ SK: Lamam ; Kaleum ; Dakcheung ; and Thateng</li> <li>■ CPS: Bachiengchaleunsouk ; Paksong ; Pathoumphone ; and Mounlapamok</li> <li>■ ATP: Saysettha ; Samakkhixay ; Sanamxay ; Sanxay ; and Phouvong</li> </ul>
UXO/MRE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ LPB: Luangprabang; Pak Ou; Nambak; Ngoi; Pakxeng; Phonxay; and Phoukhoun</li> <li>■ HP: Xamneua ; Viengthong ; and Viengxay</li> <li>■ XK: Pek ; Kham ; Morkmay ; and Phoukood</li> <li>■ KM: Mahaxay ; Nongbok ; Hinboun ; Boualapha ; and Xaybouathong</li> <li>■ SVK: Phin ; Sepon ; Nong ; Thapangthong ; Vilabouly ; and Thaphalanxay</li> <li>■ SLV: Salavan ; Ta Oi ; Toumlane ; Vapi ; Khongxedon ; Lao Ngam ; and Samouay</li> <li>■ SK: Lamam ; Kaleum ; Dakcheung ; and Thateng</li> <li>■ CPS: Pakse ; Sanasomboun ; Bachiengchaleunsouk ; Paksong ; Pathoumphone ; CPS ; Sukuma ; and Mounlapamok</li> <li>■ ATP: Saysettha ; Samakkhixay ; Sanamxay ; Sanxay ; and Phouvong</li> </ul>
Quality Management (QM)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ LPB: Luangprabang ; Pakou ; Nambak ; and Ngoi</li> <li>■ HP: Xamneua ; Viengxay ; and Xone</li> <li>■ XK: Pek</li> <li>■ KM: Mahaxay ; Boualapha ; and Xaybouathong</li> <li>■ SVK: Phin ; Sepon ; Nong ; and Vilabouly</li> <li>■ SLV: Salavan ; Ta Oi ; Toumlane ; Vapi ; Khongxedon ; Lao Ngam ; and Samouay</li> <li>■ SK: Lamam ; Kaleum ; Dakcheung ; and Thateng</li> <li>■ CPS: Bachiengchaleunsouk ; and Paksong</li> <li>■ ATP: Saysettha ; Samakkhixay ; Sanamxay ; Sanxay ; and Phouvong</li> </ul>



## Donors Contributions in 2019

<i>Amounts Received between 1 January and 31 December 2019</i>	
<i>Donor lists</i>	Amount
<i>Australia</i>	<b>292,533</b>
<i>Canada</i>	113,179
<i>EU</i>	848,567
<i>Grand Duchy of Luxembourg</i>	82,965
<i>NZ</i>	1,236,431
<i>The Republic of Ireland</i>	276,716.50
<i>The Republic of Korea</i>	15,000
<i>US (Tetra Tech)</i>	4,388,141.59
<i>JICS</i>	2,080,660.53
<i>Norwegian People's Aid (NPA)</i>	475,032
<i>WWM</i>	200,872
<i>GoL</i>	12,911.88
<i>Ito Supporting Comity</i>	21,900
<b>UNDP TRAC2</b>	<b>250,000</b>
<i>Others (LPB-Sale products, Training Fees...)</i>	2,908.97
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,297,818.47</b>



**saves lives builds futures**

## **MINES ADVISORY GROUP (MAG)**

### **Activities in 2019:**

In 2019, MAG continued to implement high quality humanitarian mine action activities across two of the most heavily contaminated provinces in the country: XK and KM.

Activities conducted over the 12-month period included:

- NTS, where community liaison teams hold multiple village meetings, facilitate community mapping exercises and conduct household interviews to develop a comprehensive profile of the UXO contamination within that community. The community liaison teams continue to investigate in a village until they are satisfied that all historical data has been verified and any new evidence points are gathered for future TS activities.
- TS is then conducted in each confirmed UXO evidence point, working outwards from the hazard to fade out to establish each CHA.
- Clearance of land is conducted in the priority CHAs, resulting in land that can be returned to the community for safe and productive use.
- Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) spot tasks were carried out to destroy items of UXO which posed an immediate risk to communities. This included the destruction of cluster munitions as well as large aircraft dropped bombs and other Explosive Remnants of War (ERW).
- Risk Education (RE) sessions are held, particularly for high risk members of each community.

### **Key achievements in 2019:**

With funding from the United Kingdom (UK) Government, MAG added 11 clearance teams to the already existing 20 survey and 4 clearance teams funded by the Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement in the US State Department's Bureau of Political-Military Affairs (PM/WRA) in XK. DFID also supported 10 new clearance teams in KM, making a total of seven Mine Action teams funded by other donors. Consequently, MAG significantly expanded clearance activities in both provinces.



The key outputs for 2019 were:

- NTS of 110 villages was conducted.
- TS established more than 16,413 ha of CHAs.
- Clearance activities resulted in more than 966 ha being cleared of contamination and returned to communities. This was predominantly priority farmland and support for a number of development projects such as school and road construction.
- Roving teams responded to 2,276 spot tasks resulting in the destruction on 3,697 items of UXO.
- TS, clearance and EOD teams destroyed a total of 24,394 items; 86% of which were cluster sub-munitions.
- 151 RE sessions were held reaching 5,915 people (1,999 women, 1,837 men, 1,034 girls and 1,045 boys).

### **Focus areas of work in 2020:**

In 2020, MAG will continue to support the NRA, provincial and district Governments to complete Humanitarian Mine Action in XK and KM provinces. MAG will look to enhance synergies with the government and other operators to agree on prioritization, increase efficiency and deliver high-impact survey and clearance.

In XK province MAG will continue the US-funded survey project. Using the large amount of data now available from NTS, TS and clearance, MAG is developing and testing a predictive tool, to look for correlation between desk and field data to see if the survey can be accelerated to achieve a clear picture of province wide contamination. MAG expects to expand clearance activities at the end of 2020.

The UK and Norwegian government and an American family foundation will continue to fund projects in KM province.

Activities that will be conducted in 2020 include:

- Quality NTS and TS that will identify CHAs for clearance in both XK and KM province.
- Agreement with government and other operators on clearance of priority CHAs to deliver highest impact throughout the dry and rainy seasons.
- EOD response teams to remove any UXO items reported by communities.
- Delivery of RE to sectors of society identified as most at-risk.
- Introduction and trialing of new operational methodologies and equipment/assets.
- Close coordination and sharing of information and experience with other UXO operators and the NRA.
- Support to the GoL in the development of the “Safer Path Forward 3” and the consultation process contributing to the 5-year social development plan.

### Case Study:

“In the past we only grew enough rice for seven months of the year. I have eight children, so we had to sell our livestock to buy rice during the other months. I tried to grow more rice, but I saw a lot of unexploded bombs in the ground when I started digging so I gave up,” says Mr Jer Blong Ja, 40.

With funding from the UK Government, MAG cleared his land in 2007. MAG cleared both his existing fields and new land, in order to allow Mr Jer to grow more crops. 78 cluster bomblets were destroyed. Mr Jer planted sweetcorn for the first time in 2008.

MAG re-visited Mr Jer Blong Ja in 2019. He has planted sweetcorn on his land every year since it was cleared of bombs by MAG. He now produces 6 tonnes of corn per year and earns \$20,000 each year from selling it. As well as planting corn, he also grows rice, melon and taro.

“After the unexploded bombs were cleared I can earn more from my farm. I feel safe when I’m working in my fields, and I’m happy for my son and wife to help because I’m not scared of finding a bomb now. I’ve been able to build a new house, car and support my son and grandchildren since I was able to expand my farm after it was cleared” said Jer Blong Ja.



### Personnel in 2019:

<i>Office Support</i>				<i>Operations</i>			
<i>National</i>		<i>International</i>		<i>National</i>		<i>International</i>	
Man	Woman	Man	Woman	Man	Woman	Man	Woman
35	23	2	2	499	284	5	0
<b>Total</b>				<b>850</b>			

## Detailed statistics for 2019:

For more information on the statistics of MAG, please refer to the sector achievement section on page 6 of this report.

## Geography of operations:

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Provinces/districts</i>
UXO NTS	■ Kham, Pek, Phoukoud / XK ■ 2Gnommalath / KM
UXO TS	■ Kham, Khoun, Mok, Nonghed, Pek, Phaxai, Phoukoud / XK ■ Boualapha, Gnommalath / KM
AC	■ Khoun, Nonghed , Phaxai / XK ■ Boualapha , Gnommalath / KM
RT	■ Kham, Khoun, Mok, Nonghed, Pek, Phaxai, Phoukoud / XK ■ Boualapha , Gnommalath / KM
RE	■ Boualapha , Gnommalath / KM
QM	■ Internal QM in XK and KM

## Financials:

### Donor contributions for 2019: (USD)

<i>Item</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Donor lists	Amount
PM/WRA	3,605,296
The United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID)-XKH	1,730,163
DFID_KHM	1,892,638
FF	520,800
NMFA	218,692
United Methodist Committee on Relief	214,286
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,181,875</b>



## NORWEGIAN PEOPLE'S AID (NPA)

### Activities in 2019:

NPA conducted five primary activities during 2019:

- CMRS was conducted in ATP, CPS, Saravane and SK provinces. NPA deployed 24 CMRS teams in these provinces, with funding from the United States Department of State (USDOS) and Fagforbundet (the Norwegian Union of Municipal and General Employees).
- Clearance of CHAs was also conducted in ATP, CPS, Saravane and SK provinces. NPA deployed 9 battle area clearance teams in these provinces, with funding from USDOS, the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (NMFA), and DFID. Survey and clearance operations were also supported by one QM team.
- CMRS in KM province was part of a joint project with MAG funded by NFMA from September 2018, ending in February 2019. Two NPA CMRS teams worked to conduct NTS and TS to identify CHAs, after which MAG teams conducted clearance.
- Support was given to UXO Lao in LPB by grant managing bilateral funding from NMFA to UXO Lao operations for salaries, running costs and equipment of the UXO Lao staff in LPB (both field teams and support staff), and providing experienced monitoring and training for staff on CMRS.
- Capacity development and support was provided to the NRA, in particular to the NRA's IM Unit and the revision of the National Mine Action Standards (NMAS) on IM, with funding from DFID and NMFA.

### Key achievements in 2019:

2019 was a highly successful year for NPA's Lao PDR programme. CMRS in southern Lao PDR remained NPA's core activity in the country, and NPA expanded operations to a new province, CPS, broadening NPA's operational scope to all four southern and heavily contaminated provinces in Lao PDR. The total amount of land covered by NPA's TS teams more than doubled compared with 2018, up from 33.5km<sup>2</sup> to over 63.7km<sup>2</sup> and clearance output likewise increased from just over 2.6km<sup>2</sup> in 2018 to nearly 4.2km<sup>2</sup> in 2019, with over 10,450 submunitions and 1,950 items of other UXO found and destroyed.

NPA continued to strengthen relationships with the NRA through capacity development initiatives during the year. Notable progress was made to improve Lao PDR's overall national IM capacity, including through revisions to the NMAS and increased use of improved IM technology. NPA also continued its partnership with UXO Lao in LPB province in 2019, supporting UXO Lao survey and clearance activities in high-priority areas.

The publication of the joint document "Cluster Munition Remnants Survey: Best Practices in South East Asia" by NPA, together with MAG and the HALO Trust, was another highlight; not only for NPA, but for the UXO sector. NPA's Lao PDR programme was pleased to take the lead in the process to develop the document, which is a milestone for the UXO sector and sets an agreed standard of best practice for CMRS for all mine action implementing partners and national mine action authorities across Southeast Asia.

### Focus areas of work in 2020:

In 2020, NPA will continue its survey and clearance activities in the four southern provinces of Lao PDR, and complete its national CMRS project, reaching a total of 624 villages. NPA will continue to focus on survey and clearance of villages with limited socio-economic prospects and other areas prioritised in close coordination with and approved by village, district, and provincial authorities and the NRA.

NPA will implement the use of large-loop detectors in order to increase the pace and effectiveness of survey and continue to refine the implementation of CMRS



*BAC04 QM Officer Updating LLD Software for Searchers*

methodology. At the same time, NPA intends to build on the considerable gains achieved to date through CMRS to initiate a new phase of work linking survey results with timely clearance of these areas. In order to do so, NPA is hoping to expand its funding resources for clearance in 2020-2021.

NPA will also increase its focus on issues such as gender mainstreaming and environmental protection, taking a fresh approach to developing new, progressive strategies aimed at environmental protection and sustainability in the Lao PDR context in 2020.

NPA looks forward to continued cooperation and coordination with other mine action actors in the sector, particularly the NRA and UXO Lao, and to work closely with all sector stakeholders towards a Lao PDR that is free from the impact of cluster munitions and other UXO.



*NPA CT 09 team members talk with village school children, Sekong Province*

### **Case Study: NPA clearance activities bringing better tomorrow for Lao PDR villagers**

Mr. Khamsouk Keovongsavanh (55) has lived all his life in village Lak 11, Paksong district, CPS province, with his wife Mrs. Phanh (53) and their four children. Mr. Khamsouk is the main breadwinner for his family and his occupation is farming. He also performs the role of village group leader.

Land which was cleared by NPA belonging to Mr. Khamsouk and his family and is their most important source of income. Their land had been overgrown by jungle for many years until the family decided to clear it and prepare it for rice farming. When they began to remove the vegetation, a BLU26 cluster

munition was found and was reported by the family to the local authorities. This single item was then destroyed. Despite the evidence of cluster munition contamination, the family's need for income necessitated the expansion of the use of their land, and despite the risk to life and health, the land was deemed too important for the family not to use it for farming. So, Mr. Khamsouk decided to carefully use the land for growing rice and coffee, even with his fear of contamination from cluster munitions.

Then, from November-December 2019, NPA was able to return to the area and cleared 74,270m<sup>2</sup>, removing and destroying 23 cluster munition remnants from Mr. Khamsouk's land. Currently, Mr. Khamsouk has stopped growing rice, and instead he grows coffee to buy rice as it is more cost-efficient for him. The main income for the whole family comes from coffee from this field. Mr. Khamsouk informed NPA staff visiting his field after clearance: "I am so proud and happy and want to say thank you for being kind and caring about the Lao PDR locals' lives. I promise I will continue to encourage others to report any items found."



*NPA CT 24 team members interview an elderly villager, Napong Village, Khongxedone District, January 2019*

### **Partners:**

- UXO Lao in LPB

## Personnel in 2019:

<i>Office Support</i>				<i>Operations</i>			
<i>National</i>		<i>International</i>		<i>National</i>		<i>International</i>	
Man	Woman	Man	Woman	Man	Woman	Man	Woman
23	10	2	2	227	79	4	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>347</b>					

## Detailed statistics for 2019:

For more information on the statistics of NPA, please refer to the sector achievement section on page 6 of this report.

## Geography of operations:

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Provinces/districts of Lao PDR where the activities were implemented</i>
UXO NTS	271 Villages/21 Districts/4 Provinces
UXO TS	209 Villages/ 22 Districts/ 5 Provinces
AC	30 Villages/ 12 Districts/ 4 Provinces
RT	276 Villages/ 22 Districts/ 5 Provinces
Post Clearance Assessment	16 Villages/ 7 Districts/ 2 Provinces

## Financials:

### Donor contributions for 2018 (USD)

<i>Donor</i>	<i>Contribution received in 2018</i>
USDOS	3,457,021
NMFA	1,117,647
Fagforbundet (the Norwegian Union of Municipal and General Employees)	41,177
NMFA Bilateral to UXO Lao	823,529
MAG (under grant awarded by NMFA)	58,724
DFID	1,591,962
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,090,060</b>

## Transfer of funds:

### Funds transferred to another UXO sector operator

<i>What organization were the funds transferred to?</i>	<i>How much was transferred? (USD)</i>
UXO Lao	475,032
<b>Total</b>	<b>475,032</b>

### Funds Received from another UXO sector operator

<i>Funds transferred from which organization?</i>	<i>How much was transferred? (USD)</i>
MAG (under a grant awarded by NMFA)	58,724
<b>Total</b>	<b>58,724</b>



## HALO TRUST (HALO)

### Activities in 2019:

- NTS in Sepon, Vilabouly, Nong, Phin, Phalanxai and Atsaphantong districts in SVK Province.
- TS in Sepon, Vilabouly, Nong, Phin, Phalanxai and Atsaphantong districts in SVK Province.
- Clearance in Sepon, Vilabouly, Nong and Phin districts in SVK Province.
- EOD RT in Sepon, Vilabouly, Nong, Phin, Phalanxai and Atsaphantong districts in SVK Province.
- RE in Sepon, Vilabouly, Nong, Phin, Phalanxai and Atsaphantong districts in SVK Province.

### Key achievements in 2019:

- The HALO Trust cleared over 1,997,688 m<sup>2</sup> of high priority land in 2019.
- The HALO Trust carried out 1,194 EOD RT.
- The HALO Trust carried out NTS in 159 villages, TS in 149 villages and clearance in 38 villages.
- The HALO Trust destroyed 9,058 dangerous items of UXO, including 6,158 cluster munitions.

### Focus areas of work in 2020:

- Continue to conduct quality NTS, TS, EOD Roving, clearance and MRE in approved areas of SVK province, reaching further beneficiaries.
- Conclude a successful DFID contract by the end of March 2020 and work with the NRA and the government to agree and plan for a one-year extension.
- Work with local districts to recruit new technicians to support a proposed PM/WRA funded expansion. Establish regular training to give them the skills they need to manage in their new jobs.
- Grow our community liaison team to ensure better communication and coordination with the NRA, provincial and district authorities throughout 2020.
- Provide English lessons to members of staff where relevant to their jobs and where it would be helpful to support them in their career progression.
- Improve our ability to hire and support people with disabilities to work in the office and in the field.



*100 HALO staff, 150 villagers and 200,000 sandbags were needed to safely destroy a 750-pound aircraft bomb in Nonsomboun, Savannakhet.*

### Case Study:

During September 2019, the HALO Trust Lao PDR office opened a new clearance task in the village of Ponghai. The team that was sent was led by Miss Lame. Miss Lame joined HALO in 2015, and is responsible for a team of 12 technicians, working together to clear UXO from SVK Province.

The clearance of this land is of particular importance to Miss Lame, as Ponghai is her home village. She grew up here, and now lives in the village with her husband and children. Miss Lame is very grateful for the opportunities that HALO has created for her, stating that “I come from a poor family, but thanks to my work with HALO, my husband and I are able to build our own house, and raise our family”.

During the course of training new technicians that were recruited with UKAID funding, Miss Lame was selected as one of our trainers, taking responsibility for the training of 12 recruits. It was a role in which she excelled. Miss Lame has a bright future ahead of her, and thanks to UKAID she will be able to continue working towards making SVK province a much safer place for her children to grow up in.

### Partners:

- Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare (MOLSW)
- The NRA
- Department of International Organisation, MOFA
- Ministry of National Defence
- Local Authorities at Provincial and District Level



## Personnel in 2019:

<i>Office Support</i>				<i>Operations</i>			
<i>National</i>		<i>International</i>		<i>National</i>		<i>International</i>	
Man	Woman	Man	Woman	Man	Woman	Man	Woman
27	26	0	1	196	277	3	2
<b>Total</b>		<b>532</b>					

## Detailed statistics for 2019:

For more information on the statistics of HALO Trust, please refer to the sector achievement section on page 6 of this report.

## Geography of operations:

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Districts/Provinces</i>
UXO NTS	159 villages in 6 districts
UXO TS	149 villages in 6 districts
AC	38 villages in 4 districts
RT	231 villages in 6 districts
RE	164 villages in 6 districts
Post Clearance Assessment	18 villages in 4 districts

## Financials:

### Donor contributions for 2019 (USD)

<i>Donor</i>	<i>Amount</i>
PM/WRA (US)	4,037,731
DFID (UK)	887,370
(\$1,177,318 at exchange rate on 31.12.19)	
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,215,049</b>

## Activities in 2019:

- In 2019, HI officially started its new UXO Project in a new area of intervention in HP Province, Houameuang district. This project funded by the EU aims at reducing the humanitarian and socioeconomic risks posed by UXOs on rural livelihood areas in 44 villages. The project is executed through a consortium involving HI, Groupe de Recherche et d'Echanges Technologiques (GRET) and the Oxford Committee for Famine Relief (Oxfam). It combines different components (survey, clearance, risk management, VA), all interconnected ensuring a Comprehensive Approach to Mine Action (CAMA), greater impact for affected communities and better value for money for the donor.
- HI participates in the national survey efforts on CMRS and provides the clearance of the most-impacted areas.
- The discovery of an unexpected high numbers of suspected and confirmed minefields in the district led to substantial changes of methodologies.
- HI also implements an innovative community-based approach of risk management of UXO by establishing sustainable networks of focal points to maintain information and education about UXO and landmines in the communities.
- HI is developing a broader definition of VA promoting the principle of non-discrimination. The project sets a specific focus on improving rural livelihoods including bamboo and Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFP) value chains. To respond to the needs of the most vulnerable persons, HI works closely with GRET and Oxfam to build a more inclusive environment. HI also builds referral mechanisms to health and rehabilitation and provides psychosocial support.
- HI also supports the administrative and technical capacities of the NRA provincial office.

## Key achievements in 2019:

- HI has surveyed and mapped 33 villages through its NTS team and 36 suspected and confirmed minefields.
- HI has covered 40 villages through a community-

based risk management, which relies on focal points to disseminate RE messages, promote hotline and report evidence. RE activities include safety briefings, movie events and household visits. 14,621 people (including 7,490 female) have benefitted from those activities.

- HI has trained 55 teachers on RE from 44 villages in collaboration with the Provincial Office of Education and Sports.
- HI has conducted CMRS in 6 villages in 2019 covering a surface of 1,802,500 sqm. TS was stopped in March 2019 due to the presence of landmines and a new methodology, "Clearing While Surveying", combining TS and Clearance which was introduced to the NRA and acknowledged by them.
- HI cleared 50 ha of land in 2019 (100% for agriculture use) directly benefitting 1,637 people from 6 villages. The target was over-achieved (232%) compared to the AWP thanks to operational adjustments.
- HI disposed a total of 3,231 explosive ordnances in 2019 (6 aircraft bombs, 2,353 bomblets, 16 landmines, 856, other explosive ordnances) including AC, TS and Roving teams.
- As part of the VA component, 808 persons with disabilities were identified, 72 persons with disabilities were directly referred to rehabilitation/medical services, 88 persons received psychosocial support, 15 persons joined livelihood activities related to bamboo/NTFP and 15 volunteers were trained on first-aid.

## Focus areas of work in 2020:

- In 2020, HI will pursue its efforts for clearance and survey in the district. Hopefully, HI will be able to secure funding to continue the project in HP. The landmine presence is a significant issue and should be taken as an opportunity to engage Lao PDR into new activities, preparing the field for demining projects. In order to contribute to the national survey, HI will have to work with the NRA to validate its new methodology called 'Clearing While Surveying' which will allow survey to be conducted in suspected landmines areas.

- The volume of activities will be more important as the project will intervene in 14 additional villages for bamboo and NTFP value chains. More persons with disabilities and their families will be included. The challenge of the project is to be able to scale up what has been done in 2019 in terms of gender, equality and social inclusion in close coordination with partners and authorities.
- HI UXO Education Centre will be opened on the 4th of April 2020 in Sam Neua with the collaboration of UXO Lao and the NRA. It will sensitize all causes of disabilities, the risks of UXO/landmines and the importance to support access to services for all. In parallel, HI will continue to share information with its partners on the presence and threat of minefields as a humanitarian concern.
- Following its exploratory mission in Phongsaly in 2019, HI will advocate for an emergency response as there is currently no capacity to clear UXO in the province.

### Case Study: VA and the principle of non-discrimination

For HI, VA is considered as something much wider than direct financial support to UXO survivors and is something which should be managed as an integrated response where medical care, rehabilitation, psychosocial support, socio economic inclusion, and laws/policies framework will all be considered. All the community members living in a UXO/landmines-affected village should be considered as an indirect victim. HI assistance should, therefore, be directed to those who are the most vulnerable whatever the cause of disability. The CAMA leaves no one behind.

Ms. Pheng is a 32-year-old beautiful Khmu woman from Kohing village in Houameung District.

Her leg was badly fractured after a domestic household accident. Her family could not afford to bring her to the hospital for treatment and her leg did not heal correctly. This caused a severe swelling of her upper leg, leaving her in constant pain and with reduced mobility. She felt sad and depressed about her situation. She was in a critical physical and mental health condition where her life was at-stake.

In 2019, thanks to HI she was sent to Mahosot Hospital in Vientiane, for an amputation.

After a month of recovery, she learnt to walk using crutches and use a tricycle within the rehabilitation center. Since then, she feels much less pain and is able to help her family with household chores and other work in the house. HI has also supported the households to buy materials and built an accessible toilet close to the house. HI's social workers visit her regularly and have helped her to create an action plan in order to achieve her goals of helping with livestock raising and rice farming.

She is very grateful to the HI UXO project for recovering her dignity and supporting her to access medical treatment.

### Implementing Partners

- The NRA in Lao PDR and its provincial office in HP
- GRET: supports collective action at village/district and provincial level to ensure better sustainable management of the natural resources and to consolidate a value chain approach that contribute to poverty reduction by a better access to market and better negotiation of prices
- Oxfam: strengthens the capacities of partners and communities on gender action learning system, an innovative tool to facilitate community mobilization
- UXO Lao in HP
- The Ministry of Education and Sports (MOES)
- The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
- The Lao Women's Union
- The Provincial and District authorities

## Personnel in 2019:

<i>Office Support</i>				<i>Operations</i>			
National		International		National		International	
Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
22	12	3	0	40	28	4	2
<b>Total</b>		<b>111</b>					

## Detailed statistics for 2019:

For more information on the statistics of HI, please refer to the sector achievement section on page 6 of this report.

## Geographic operations:

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Provinces/Districts</i>
UXO NTS	HP Province / Huamuang District
UXO TS	HP Province / Huamuang District
AC	HP Province / Huamuang District
RT	HP Province / Huamuang District
RE	HP Province / Huamuang District
VA	HP Province / Huamuang District
Post Clearance Assessment	HP Province / Huamuang District
QM	HP Province / Huamuang District

## Financials: Expenditure

### Donor contributions for 2019 (USD)

<i>Donor</i>	<i>Amount</i>
EU	1,061,089
NMFA	182,206
Major Giving Donors	19,988
FORD Foundation	342
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,263,625</b>



## SPIRIT OF SOCCER (SOS)

### Activities and Key achievements in 2019:

- SoS conducted football clinics for primary and secondary school children that focused on basic football and games reflecting to MRE. There were 8,241 beneficiaries from this activity.
- SoS conducted a Level D female and male football/MRE coaching course. There were 30 beneficiaries from this activity.
- SoS conducted a district football competition on four occasions which focused on football competition and games relating to MRE. There were 2,957 beneficiaries from this activity.

- In 2019, SoS completed the final closing project meeting of SoS. The provincial education and sport department and the district education and sport department from 7 districts in XK province attended this meeting.
- 5 MRE activities were conducted in 28 schools in Nonghat district of XK province and 2,568 students participated in these activities.

### Partners:

- MOES
- NRA / MOLSW
- MOFA
- Provincial Department of Education and Sport
- INGO's who work in the UXO Sector

### Personnel in 2019:

<i>Office Support</i>				<i>Operations</i>			
National		International		National		International	
Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
2	0	0	0	3	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>5</b>					

### Detailed statistics for 2019:

For more information on the statistics of SoS, please refer to the sector achievement section on page 6 of this report.

### Geographic operations:

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Provinces/Districts</i>
RE	7 districts throughout XK province

### Financials: Expenditure

#### Donor contributions for 2019 (USD)

<i>Donor</i>	<i>Amount</i>
PM/WRA	67,250
<b>Total</b>	<b>67,250</b>

# COMMERCIAL CLEARANCE OPERATORS

## LAO BSL UNEXPLORED ORDNANCE CLEARANCE CO., LTD

### Activities in 2019:

- Carried out UXO clearance for the land excavation zone to support for rural road development project phase I from Nong to Sepone districts, SVK province.
- Carried out UXO clearance for 24 Meteorology Stations in five southern provinces, including SVK, CPS, SLV, SK and ATP.

### Clients:

- Ministry of Public Work and Transportation
- Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment
- Foreign Investment companies

### Personnel in 2019:

<i>Office Support</i>				<i>Operations</i>			
<i>National</i>		<i>International</i>		<i>National</i>		<i>International</i>	
Man	Woman	Man	Woman	Man	Woman	Man	Woman
3	2	1	0	45	9	0	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>60</b>					

### Detailed statistics for 2019:

For more information on the statistics of Lao BSL, please refer to the sector achievement section on page 6 of this report.

### Geography of operations:

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Provinces/districts</i>
Area clearance	SVK, SLV, CPS, SK and ATP provinces
Survey	SVK, SLV, CPS, SK and ATP provinces

### Financials:

#### Donor contributions for 2019 (USD)

<i>Donor</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Lao BSL self-funded	20,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,500</b>

## SILAVAN UNEXPLORED ORDNANCE CLEARANCE CO., LTD

### Activities in 2019:

- Carried out UXO clearance for a housing estate project of the Tian Jinhua Khan mining company in Pak Ou district, LPB province.
- Carried out UXO clearance for areas designated for a high transmission line project for the Web data technology Lao company in Xieng Ngeun district, LPB province.
- Carried out UXO clearance for camping areas and path access to the Namthong hydropower dam 1-2 for the Namthong Hydropower Dam 1-2 Company in Thathom district, Xaisomboun province.
- Carried out UXO clearance for the areas designated for a high transmission line project from Namtai dam to 3b Nam Ngiep dam for SVK Construction & Engineering Company Limited in Thathom district, Xaisomboun province.
- Carried out UXO clearance for five school yards under Luxemburg's project in Bualapa district, KM province.
- Carried out UXO clearance for a land excavation zone in Houadokmai zone, Hinherb district, Vientiane province to support the highway construction project for Yunnan Construction and Investment Group.

- Carried out UXO clearance for the areas designated for a steelwork construction project in Kadap village, Sepon district, SVK province for Lao BLUE SKY METALLUYGO CO.LTD
- Carried out UXO clearance for a water ditch and five school yards areas in Nahom village, Bualapa district, KM province under Luxemburg's project.

### Priority activities for 2020:

- Continue to carry out UXO clearance for Namthong hydropower dam 1-2 Company in Thathom district, Xaisomboun province.

### Clients:

- Lao BLUE SKY METALLUYGO
- Namthong Hydropower Dam 1-2 Company
- SVK Construction & Engineering Company Limited
- Tian Jinhua Khan Mining Company
- Web Data Technology Lao Company
- Yunnan Construction and Investment Group
- Government of Luxemburg

### Personnel in 2019:

<i>Office Support</i>				<i>Operations</i>			
<i>National</i>		<i>International</i>		<i>National</i>		<i>International</i>	
Man	Woman	Man	Woman	Man	Woman	Man	Woman
1	1	0	0	10	3	0	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>15</b>					

### Detailed statistics for 2019:

For more information on the statistics of Silavan, please refer to the sector achievement section on page 6 of this report.

### Geography of operations:

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Provinces/districts</i>
Area clearance	LPB, Xaisomboun, KM and SVK provinces
Survey	LPB, Xaisomboun, KM and SVK provinces

### Financials:

#### Donor contributions for 2019 (USD)

<i>Donor</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Silavan self-funded	23,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>23,000</b>



## OUMMA UNEXPLORED ORDNANCE CLEARANCE CO., LTD

### Activities in 2019:

- Carried out UXO clearance in the flood affected areas of Sanamxay district, ATP province.
- Carried out UXO clearance in the area designated for the line transmission project for the Nam Gnem 4 Hydroelectric Dam in XK province.
- Carried out UXO clearance for the Stora Enso Company in KM province.
- Carried out UXO clearance for the Concrete Company in LPB province.
- Carried out UXO clearance in the area designated for the Houaphaly Power Dam construction project in CPS province.
- Carried out UXO clearance for the Meteorology Department in Phonsaly, Luangnamtha, Borkeo, Oudomxay, LPB, HP, XK, Xayabouly, Xaisomboun, Borlikhamxay, SLV, SK, CPS and ATP provinces.

### Priority activities for the 2020:

- Carry out UXO clearance for the Water Resources Department and the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment for projects in SVK, SLV, SK, CPS and ATP provinces.
- Carry out UXO clearance for Stora Enso Company in KM province.

### Clients:

- EDL-Generation public company
- Stora Enso Company
- Meteorology Department, the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment

### Personnel in 2019:

<i>Office Support</i>				<i>Operations</i>			
<i>National</i>		<i>International</i>		<i>National</i>		<i>International</i>	
Man	Woman	Man	Woman	Man	Woman	Man	Woman
4	0	0	0	39	1	0	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>44</b>					

### Detailed statistics for 2019:

For more information on the statistics of OUMMA, please refer to the sector achievement section on page 6 of this report.

## Geography of operations:

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Provinces/districts</i>
Area clearance	Luangnamtha, Borkeo, Oudomxay, LPB, HP, XK, Xayabouly, Xaisomboun, Borlikhamxay, SLV, SK, CPS and ATP provinces.
Survey	Luangnamtha, Borkeo, Oudomxay, LPB, HP, XK, Xayabouly, Xaisomboun, Borlikhamxay, SLV, SK, CPS and ATP provinces.

## Financials:

### Donor contributions for 2019 (USD)

<i>Donor</i>	<i>Amount</i>
OUMMA self-funded	243,877
<b>Total</b>	<b>243,877</b>

## GREAT UNEXPLORED ORDNANCE CLEARANCE CO., LTD

### Activities in 2019:

- Carried out UXO clearance in the area designated for the Nam Theun 1 Power Dam construction project in Borlikhamxay province.
- Carried out UXO clearance in the area designated for the Houaphaly Power Dam construction project in CPS province.
- Carried out UXO clearance in the area designated for the Houakaper Power Dam construction project in CPS province.
- Carried out UXO clearance in the area designated for the Nam Kong 1 Power Dam construction project in ATP province.
- Carried out UXO clearance in the area designated for the Houa ka Oun Power Dam construction project in ATP province.
- Continue to carry out UXO clearance in the area designated for the Houa ka Oun Hydroelectric Power Dam construction project in ATP province.
- Start to carry out UXO clearance in the area designated for the Tadsakoy Hydroelectric Power Dam construction project in SVK province.
- Start to carry out UXO clearance in the area designated for the Nam Phoun 1 Hydroelectric Power Dam construction project in Xayabouly province.
- Start to carry out UXO clearance in the area designated for the road construction project in KM province.

### Priority activities for the 2020:

- Continue to carry out UXO clearance in the area designated for the Nam Kong 1 Hydroelectric Power Dam construction project in ATP province.
- Clients:
  - Phongsupthavy Group Company
  - Nam Kong 1 Power Dam Company (China International Water and Electric Corporation)
  - B.Grimm Power (Laos) Co. Ltd
  - Nam Phoun 1 Power Dam Company
  - Road Development Project II

### Personnel in 2019:

<i>Office Support</i>				<i>Operations</i>			
<i>National</i>		<i>International</i>		<i>National</i>		<i>International</i>	
Man	Woman	Man	Woman	Man	Woman	Man	Woman
2	3	1	0	53	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>59</b>					

### Detailed statistics for 2019:

For more information on the statistics of GREAT, please refer to the sector achievement section on page 6 of this report.

### Geography of operations:

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Provinces/districts</i>
AC	Sekong Province
Survey	Sekong Province
MRE	Sekong Province

### Financials:

#### Donor contributions for 2019 (USD)

<i>Donor</i>	<i>Amount</i>
GREAT self-funded	162,800
<b>Total</b>	<b>162,800</b>

## AUSLAO UNEXPLORED ORDNANCE CLEARANCE CO., LTD

### Activities in 2019:

- Carried out UXO clearance in the area designated for Nam Theun 1 Power Dam construction Project in Borlikhamxay province.
- Carried out UXO clearance in the area designated for Houaphaly Power Dam construction Project in CPS province.
- Carried out UXO clearance in the area designated for Houakaper Power Dam construction Project in CPS province.
- Carried out UXO clearance in the area designated for Nam Kong 1 Power Dam construction Project in ATP province.
- Carried out UXO clearance in the area designated for Houa ka Oun Power Dam construction Project in ATP province.
- Continue to carry out UXO clearance in the area designated for the Houa ka Oun Hydroelectric Power Dam construction project in ATP province.
- Start to carry out UXO clearance in the area designated for the Tadsakoy Hydroelectric Power Dam construction project in SVK province.
- Start to carry out UXO clearance in the area designated for the Nam Phoun 1 Hydroelectric Power Dam construction project in Xayabouly province.
- Start to carry out UXO clearance in the area designated for the road construction project in KM province.

### Priority activities for 2020

- Continue to carry out UXO clearance in the area designated for the Nam Kong 1 Hydroelectric Power Dam construction project in ATP province.
- Clients:**
- Nam Kong 1 Power Dam Company
  - Phongsupthavy Group Company
  - B.Grimm Power (Laos) Co. Ltd
  - Nam Phoun 1 Power Dam Company
  - Road Development Project II

### Personnel in 2019:

<i>Office Support</i>				<i>Operations</i>			
<i>National</i>		<i>International</i>		<i>National</i>		<i>International</i>	
Man	Woman	Man	Woman	Man	Woman	Man	Woman
2	3	1	0	53	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>59</b>					

### Detailed statistics for 2019:

For more information on the statistics of AusLao please refer to the sector achievement section on page 6 of this report.

### Geography of operations:

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Provinces/districts</i>
AC	Borlikhamxay province, Champasack province, Attapeu province
Survey	Xiengkhouang province
MRE	Borlikhamxay province

### Financials:

#### Donor contributions for 2019 (USD)

<i>Donor</i>	<i>Amount</i>
AusLao self-funded	136,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>136,000</b>



## CHIFENG LXML SEPON



### Background:

On the 1st of December 2018, Chifeng Jilong Gold Mining Co., Ltd (Chifeng) assumed ownership of Lane Xang Minerals Limited (LXML), after MMG completed the sale of its 90% interest in LXML.

LXML's Sepon mine is situated in Vilabouly District of SVK Province, which happens to be one of the most bombed districts in the country.

LXML conducts mining for progress by creating wealth for the Lao people, to host communities and stakeholders. To achieve this, LXML not only mines minerals, but also integrates UXO clearance as an essential activity in our mining cycle. We ensure our operations, employees, and communities are safe. LXML mines and saves lives by investing in the software and hardware via strategic partnerships to enhance technical capacity and improved clearance practices for future generations in Lao PDR.

### Activities in 2019:

- Gold Pit UXO Clearance - in 2019, the gold project development became a priority for LXML operations with UXO clearances conducted at Nalou, Discovery and Namkork Pits and associated civil works for gold pit mine development. The gold project will take over from the copper business in 2020 and has the potential to extend the life of operations at Sepon to 2028 and beyond. In the same panel, UXO clearance was also conducted at the Thengkham mountain for copper mine development and borrow pit for Houy Array dam construction.

- Road 28A UXO Clearance - The rehabilitation of a main transport route Road 28A (linking Vilabouly with Road 9 SVK province's main east-west highway), involved a full shallow and deep clearance of the entire stretch. Sub-munitions, aircraft bombs, artillery, and other ammunitions were cleared, allowing safer road access for the Vilabouly community.
- UXO Clearance for the Gold project study – In 2019, LXML invested millions of dollars into exploration and has a strategy to continue exploration at a high rate for the next five years. This project has increased UXO clearance workload significantly as exploration is being conducted both near mines and at areas away from mine facilities. The first gold exploration program was started at Nalou, Namkok and the discovery pit project areas with drilling and assaying results, which have extended the life of the Sepon Operation. LXML remains confident that additional mineral resources will lead to future life extensions beyond 2028.

### Key achievements in 2019:

- UXO Clearance – Since beginning in 2019, the joint effort between LXML-UXO and the Lao Ministry of Defense Engineering Department to conduct UXO clearance and land release of land cleared of UXO resulted in more than 182 ha for Mining, Exploration Operation and Development throughout communities. There were more than 652 UXO found and destroyed at the work sites. Of note, several large aircraft bombs (M117 weight 750 lbs and MK82 weight 500 lbs) were detected and safely disposed of during the year.
- Forging partnership in UXO clearance – In 2019, LXML extended its Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2013 with the Ministry of Defence's Engineering Department to support cooperation and coordination of UXO removal and disposal in the Sepon mine area. This partnership will also enhance the technical capacity of the Engineering Department and improve clearance practices for future generations in Lao PDR.

- LXML leading in community outreach – In 2019, LXML in partnership with the NRA, kickstarted the first industry-based UXO RE tailored to the community. UXO RE is an effective means to help reduce UXO-related injuries and fatalities by raising awareness and promoting behavioural changes. This joint effort is reflected in the low number of UXO related incidents in Vilabouly District over the years. In 2019, LXML’s UXO awareness trainings reached over 1500 students and 52 teachers from eight schools in fifteen villages of Vilabouly District.
- Maintaining the quality of UXO clearance – LXML reinforced QM by introducing the free from explosive UXO blind seeds that are randomly planted in land to be cleared. The location of the blind seeds are located by GPS and are known only by senior supervisors who monitor that they are detected within the area being cleared. A failure to detect is investigated and corrective actions completed. In 2019, more than 300 of blind seeds (single shell of cluster bomblet BLU 26) were randomly buried in the active areas. This methodology ensures that LXML’s UXO teams are consistently achieving and delivering high quality clearance and positively contributing to the safety of mining operations and the surrounding communities.
- Safety performance - Our UXO teams are leading safety by performing the hazardous tasks of UXO detection with commitment, excellence, discipline and flexibility each and every day. The team achieved a milestone of four consecutive years injury-free.

### Priority activities for the 2020:

- LXML Sepon, the first private business entity to do such awareness programs, will continue with the UXO Awareness Program that commenced in 2019. For 2020, the program will be rolled out to schools and communities that are more distant to the Sepon Operations. By the end of 2020, around 18 schools will have been visited, covering 100% of the communities within Vilabouly district and immediate regions.
- LXML will continue to work with GapEOD in the development and refinement of the moving loop UltraTEM system. LXML will continue with the fixed loop system but the moving loop will improve its portability and application in smaller areas or difficult environments.
- New or evolving technologies will continue to be reviewed and if they are deemed to have application

or can offer improvements, then they will be trialled. At all times, the NRA will be kept informed of the outcomes.

- LXML Sepon will be transitioning from a copper oxide to a gold business and during 2019, a lot of mine and project development UXO clearance activities were completed. The development activity will be ongoing in the first half of 2020 as gold mining commences and mine development activities are completed. Over 125 additional personnel were recruited and trained in UXO clearance and will remain for the first half of 2020. Once the rate of gold project development scales down and the copper operations starts to wind down, personnel numbers will be scaled back, starting from mid-year. LXML is committed to increasing the exploration effort and project activities and this may result in retention of some employees for the remainder of 2020.

### Case Study:

#### *Minimum Safety distance of UXO Disposal*

Discovery West 4 (DSW-4) is the closest pit to a community and has a border shared with Nounsomboun village, which is an area that is one of the most heavily bombed. Many UXOs were found during UXO clearance and two big bombs (M117 weight 750 lbs and MK82 weight 500 lbs) were located approximately 300 meters from houses. These two big bombs were found and destroyed at different times but used the same control method. LXML was able to use its idle Khangong Pit to trial alternate bomb disposal control methods while remaining compliant with current guidelines. A clearance radius of 800 metres was maintained. The bombs were buried to a depth of 5 meters and a 2 metre mound of clay was placed on top.

Another additional control was to build a windrow to protect fragmentation and dig a trench to protect vibrations extending from the immediate area. A camera and drone were set up during the demolition period for monitoring and post assessment of the demolition. The result of both demolitions clarified that blast energies only throw dirt to 15-20 meters and that fragmentation mostly remains at the demolition crater. This outcome was reflected in the chapter 8 of the National Standard Technical Guidelines – EOD, which contains detail of the minimum safety distance needed for a single bomb disposal under Annex B. LXML will submit its investigation for the alternate disposal methodology that provides for an opportunity to review the clearance distance to minimise the impact on communities. An additional benefit is that it significantly reduces the time for the disposal of these large bombs.



**CMD Explore (electromagnetic conductivity meter trial)**

“CMD Explore” is an electromagnetic conductivity meter with GPS and designed for shallow depth survey. This equipment is intended for geotechnical survey, also for archaeology, and environmental purposes.



Clearance team discovered a big bomb 750 lbs

Golder Associates Pty Ltd carried out the electromagnetic survey at Sepon site. They were engaged for a geophysical assessment for the Gold Project and were invited to trial over LXML’s test area. The trial area contains a 125mm projectile buried at 60 cm. The trial survey started on the 22nd of February 2019 and the equipment setup used 3 probes and random tracks. The result showed projectile location, but it was not clear. We are planning to have another trial survey against aircraft Mk81 at 2.5 m depth after Golder Associates completed the geotechnical survey work scope.

**Partners:**

- The Lao Ministry of Defence Engineering Department

**Personnel in 2019:**

Office Support				Operations			
National		International		National		International	
Man	Woman	Man	Woman	Man	Woman	Man	Woman
5	3	2	0	118	84	0	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>212</b>					

**Detailed statistics for 2019:**

For more information on the statistics of Chifeng, please refer to the sector achievement section on page 6 of this report.

**Geography of operations:**

Activity	Provinces/districts
AC	Bougkham Village,Vilabouly District, SVK Province
RE	Bougkham Village,Vilabouly District, SVK Province

**Financials:**

**Donor contributions for 2019 (USD)**

Donor	Amount
Chifeng self-funded	1,529,471
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,529,471</b>



## MILSEARCH

### Activities in 2019:

2019 saw Milsearch complete 26 years of continuous operations in the Lao PDR. Milsearch Lao continued to support the mineral exploration and mining industry along with construction and the renewable energy sector (hydro and wind energy) in the Lao PDR. In 2019, Milsearch was also involved in ERW Remediation for the Forestry sector, assisting Burapah Agro-Forestry Co. Ltd who were clearing land and planting trees outside of Vientiane.

In addition to our support of commercial ventures in 2019, Milsearch was also involved in three separate Humanitarian Projects with the following NGOs:

- CARE International/We Help War Victims (WHWV)
- Catholic Relief Services
- BEQUAL

Milsearch continued to support the US Defence POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA), Lao PDR Mission, to return missing service personnel to their families, throughout 2019.

Milsearch Lao also continued working outside of Lao PDR with ERW remediation works for Exxon Mobil (EMPEVL) in Vietnam, McConnel Dowell in the South Pacific and Vestas in Sri Lanka and Vietnam.



*Equipment Test pit for Magnetometer utilized for NTPC Nakai District, Khammuane Province*

### Key achievements in 2019:

Milsearch considers our increased involvement in the humanitarian sector in 2019 a key achievement. Milsearch Lao began in 2019 with a project on behalf of CARE International and a US-based INGO, WHWV.

The humanitarian project began in November of 2018 and continued into 2019. This was an Australian Aid funded project called BEQUAL. Similar to the CRS Project, the BEQUAL project involved drilling and construction of boreholes to provide clean water supply to schools in 77 designated (remote) villages in 19 separate districts in SVK, KM and Salavan provinces.

Other key achievements in 2019 include the successful continuation of several commercial projects in Lao PDR, Vietnam, South Pacific and Sri Lanka resulting in an increase in overall revenue and a strong finish to 2019. Additionally, progress has been achieved regards planning for several key projects within the renewable energy sector which bodes very well for further company growth over the next few years.

Milsearch Lao finished the year with 507 consecutive days without any incidents.

### Priority activities for the 2020:

Milsearch Lao will continue to diversify its revenue base at every opportunity. We are deeply committed to the renewable energy sector and humanitarian endeavors throughout the Lao PDR and South East Asia. In 2020, we hope to see planning stages for several years.

Milsearch will commence one humanitarian project scheduled for February 2020: ADRA – Phoukoud district XK Province.

Milsearch will continue to support Phu Bia Mining as they look to increase their current exploration programs in 2020.

Our US DPAA support project will continue throughout 2020, as will our international projects which bring foreign revenue into the Lao PDR.

In 2020, we are looking to expand our international projects in the Pacific Region. The Milsearch Lao office

will continue to support our head office in Canberra, Australia, providing support and manpower on several new and ongoing projects in South East Asia and the Pacific.

In 2020 Milsearch will:

- Continue to diversify our revenue stream.
- Continue to improve the quality of our product.
- Continue to support the NRA.
- Continue to explore new technologies.
- Continue to build the capability of our Lao national staff.
- Continue to improve the health, welfare and safety of our Lao national staff and of the communities we interact with.

### Case Study:

In February 2019, for the third year in a row, Milsearch provided ERW clearance services in support of CARE International in Lao PDR agricultural improvement and farmer assistance initiatives. Milsearch has, in total, provided CARE with 198 individual and discrete clearance certificates providing villagers with safe environments for activities such as fish farming, coffee and cassava plantations and other small village based agricultural endeavors.

Over the past few years, Milsearch has worked closely with Mr. Jim Harris. Jim runs an American based INGO called WHWV and has been actively involved in humanitarian efforts in Lao PDR since 2000. Initially, WHWV concentrated on school and medical supplies. In 2006, Jim began funding small area UXO clearance to assist remote villages. Milsearch feels privileged to be associated with these projects and we look forward to a long, successful relationship with Jim and WHWV.

In 2020, it is expected that Milsearch will provide similar services to Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) Lao PDR. As a commercial entity, Milsearch reduces its margins in order to provide these humanitarian support services at an affordable cost to INGOs and their donors.

### Partners:

#### *Milsearch Lao Clients (Lao Projects)*

- Phu Bia Mining
- Nam Theun 2 Power Company
- ADRA
- Lao Global Engineering
- Impact Electronics Asia
- DPAA/S2S
- Burapha Agro-Forestry Ltd.

#### *Milsearch Lao Clients (Regional Projects)*

- ExxonMobil Exploration and Production Vietnam Limited - Vietnam
- Vestas - Sri Lanka and Vietnam
- McConnel Dowel – South Pacific



*Clearance of Water Project for CARE-WHWV*



*Clearance site for DPAA Khammuane Province*

## Personnel in 2019:

<i>Office Support</i>				<i>Operations</i>			
National		International		National		International	
Man	Woman	Man	Woman	Man	Woman	Man	Woman
1	5	2	1	72	8	7	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>97</b>					

## Detailed statistics for 2019:

For more information on the statistics of Milsearch, please refer to the sector achievement section on page 6 of this report.

## Geography of operations:

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Provinces/districts</i>
AC	Xaisomboun, Xiengkhouang, Borlikhamxay, Khammouane, Savannaket, Sekong, Attapeu provinces
RT	Khammouane, Savannaket provinces

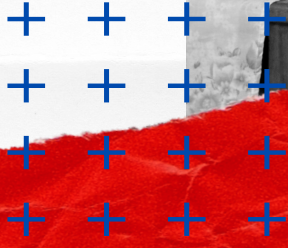
## Financials:

### Donor contributions for 2019 (USD)

<i>Donor</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Milsearch self-funded	2,400,000



# BE AWARE OF THE DANGERS OF UXO



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

