



Lao People's Democratic Republic
Peace Independence Democracy Unity Prosperity

Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare

NRA Office National Regulatory Authority for
UXO/Mine Action Sector in Lao PDR

No. 358 /NRA.O. QM

Vientiane Capital, Date : 27 July 2021

To: Director General of NRA Office

Subject: The mission report on the visit and monitoring to the UXO clearance operations of UXO Luang Prabang Province.

I. Introduction

In reference to the approval letter of Director General of NRA Office, No 327/ NRA.O.A, dated 8th July 2021. The Quality Management Team of NRA, in conjunction with UXO Luang Prabang Province, has visited and conducted monitoring to UXO clearance, survey and disposal operation in Luang Prabang Province on 11th – 17th July 2021.

The member of monitoring team is listed below:

1. Mr. Vilaysack Vongsayachanh, Head of QM Unit, NRA Office.
2. Mr. Bounhieng Soukchanthalavong, Technician, QM Unit, NRA Office
3. Mr. Phouvong Sisamak, Technician/Driver, QM Unit, NRA Office
4. Mr. Noupit Xaysana, Technician, QM Unit, NRA Office
5. Mr. Souksavanh Chanthasomboun, Technician, QM Unit, NRA Office
6. Ms. Sonekeo Vongsawatdee, Technical Officer, PRA Luang Prabang Province

Representatives from UXO Luang Prabang province:

1. Mr. Khamlar Boliboun, SEOD, UXO Luang Prabang
2. Mr. Khamphu Thavongsin, SEOD, UXO Luang Prabang
3. Mr. Bounlay Manivong, SEOD, UXO Luang Prabang
4. Mr. Thonglek Bounphachanh, operation assistant, UXO Luang Prabang

II. Purpose of the visit and monitoring

To follow up and monitor the operations, focusing on the techniques of UXO clearance, the control and administration, as well as observing the techniques of UXO survey, clearance and disposal in order to ensure high efficiency, being safer and improving the operations; and to tracking on the progress of work plan implementation and for controlling and systemizing all operations into the same standards.

III. Number of personnel and qualification

The total number of personnel in UXO Luang Prabang Province is 72 people, 11 females, comprise of 20 Administrative staffs, 05 females and 52 Site Operation Staffs, 06 females including 03 Lao SEODs. There are 06 teams namely 01 Risk Education Team (RE team),

01 Non-Technical Survey Team (NTS), 03 clearance team, and 01 Technical Survey Team (TS). Those mentioned clearance staffs have passed training course from the UXO National Training Center.

IV. The status of the implementation of UXO Luang Prabang Province.

According to the annual implementation plan 2021 of UXO Luang Prabang Province, the total number of set area for clearance is 105,8 ha in 06 district, one city namely Luang Prabang City, Parkou district, Nambak district, Ngoi district, Phonexay district and Phoukhoun district. UXO Luang Prabang Province has implemented 04 main operations including:

- **Risk Education (RE):** According to the annual plan, there are 40 villages for the RE operation, UXO Luang Prabang Province successfully conducted RE in 08 villages, 591 families and the total number of participants is 5,439 (2,697 males and 2,742 females) or equal 20% of the annual plan.
- **Non-Technical Survey (NTS):** According to the annual plan, there are 12 villages, the UXO Luang Prabang province conducted NTS in 3 districts, the number of beneficiaries is 381 families, 1,818 participants (891 males and 927 females), 17 UXOs were found (09 bombies, and 08 explosive ordnance)
- **Technical Survey (TS):** According to the annual plan, there are 300 ha, the UXO Luang Prabang has conducted TS and identified for CHA 47,9 ha, 47 bombies and 22 explosive ordnances were found, the number of beneficiaries is 66 families, 334 participants (146 males and 188 females).
- **Roving Task (RT):** the UXO Luang Prabang Province conducted UXO disposal operation in 26 villages, the number of beneficiaries is 85 families, 426 people (205 males and 221 females). 173 UXOs including 02 big bombies 71 bombies and 100 explosive ordnances were destroyed (the RT was not stipulated in the annual implementation plan. RT was operated after receiving the report from villagers)
- **Area Clearance (CL):** According to the annual implementation plan 2021, there are 105,8 ha for the CL operation, the UXO Luang Prabang Province successfully conducted CL for 14,4 ha, the total number of beneficiaries is 14 families, 70 people (34 males and 36 females), 1,916 UXOs including 176 bombies and 29 explosive ordnances were found and destroyed.

V. The visit and monitoring the ongoing operations in 02 sites.

- Visited the team CL 03, there are 10 staffs in the team including 01 team leader, deputy head leader, 01 medic, 01 driver and 07 EODs, the Task ID: UXOLAO-AC-2021-0606076-001 in Hatchant village, Ngoi district, Luang Prabang Province, the CL operation has been starting since 23 June 2021 and expected to complete on 13th July 2021. The team successfully conducted its CL operation for 30,500 m², and 4,710 m² is still remaining. The team found 36 BLU26 and 07 explosive ordnances. The number of beneficiaries 04 families, 22 people.
- Visited the team CL 02, there are 10 staffs in the team including 01 team leader, 01 deputy team leader, 01 medic, 07 EODs, the Task ID: UXOLao-AC-2021-0605053-001 in Huayhit village, Nambak district, Luang Prabang province. The CL operation has been starting since 12th July 2021 and expected to complete on 20th July 2021. Out of 47,175 m², the team

successfully conducted its CL operation for 19,387 m², and 13,804 m² is still remaining. The team found 02 BLU26s, the number of beneficiaries is 04 families, 11 people (06 females).

- Visited the Technical Survey site in Nae village, Nambak district, Luang Prabang Province, Task ID: UXOlao-TS-2021-0605157-003, there are 12 surveyors in the team, and separated into 2 units, each unit has 04 surveyors. Using survey method of box 50x50, the PLUS clearance model with four directions, and start to survey from the four corners to the center of the box (swimming snake move), the survey is conducted not lower than 50% of the box. In this survey site, the QM team from NRA office has observed the destruction of one BLU26, at the GPS point N 20.37340 E 102.38586.

Conduct Quality Control (QC) of the following 03 cleared sites

The External Quality Management Inspection Team from NRA office has continued to conduct the Quality Control (QC) 2% of the cleared sites: one site in Nakang village, Ngoi district, Task ID: UXO lao_AC_2021_0606086_001, Area 41,634 m²= 2,04%; two sites in Pik Yai village, Task ID: UXO lao_AC_2021_060686_002, Area 32,963 m²=2,242%, and Task ID: UXO lao_AC_2021_0601094_001, Area 39,828 m²=2,00%. Through the conduct of QC in the three sites, the area is safe and none of any fragment that is bigger than a half of BLU26 was found.

VI. Results of the monitoring

- UXO Luang Prabang Province has document and information management system such as: Survey Report level 2, Completion Report level 3, internal quality control form, diary record, Unidentified UXOs Report form, Accident Response Plan, detail of staff blood group and so on, which is firmly consistent with existing SOPs.
- The UXO clearance in the site has met the safety requirements.
- The site team commander and the assistants have their profession and qualification, all EODs have passed the training course from the UXO National Training Center.
- The control and administration area, command post, medical support post, detectors /equipment storage, vehicle parking, Rubbish pit, toilet, metal collection point, explosive store and UXO storage area are technically established in consistence with its SOPs and National Standards.
- All operation teams have followed its annual plan, the technical survey teams and non-technical teams provide the clearance area information for the clearance teams. the clearance operation is conducted along with the disposal operation. in case, if they found an unmovable UXO, the team will destroy it within the day.
- After completing the clearance in any box, the team leader always conducts QC 10%, and SEOD4 will also conduct another QC 2% on the whole cleared area before issuing handover certificate to the owner of the land.

VII. Remaining Issues

- Both Teams AC 02 and AC 03 didn't write down any information on the daily record forms and didn't have any signatures of visitors on the forms.

- Disposal of UXO Plan, the leader of TS team 01 did not implemented properly in particular to inform the members not so clear and it is not followed the SOPs, it is suggested that the team leader to review on the safety requirements in Chapter 4 UXO Clearance Operations, No. 6.2, 6.5, 7.1, the Safety requirements for the UXO Clearance operation and its Appendix (4a+4i)

VIII. Conclusion

UXO Luang Prabang Province have not implemented its operation on January-March due to lack of financial support. However, the Roving Task was still being conduct as requested and reported by villagers. Under the guidance of Deputy Governor of Luang Prabang Province, the implementation of UXO clearance operation is successful.

To sum up, the UXO Luang Prabang Province implemented its operations effectively and safely. The operations are in consistence with its SOPs and the national standards.

Therefore, we have reported to you for your information.

Director General of NRA Office

Standard and Quality Assurance Unit

Delivered Location:

- UXO Lao Vientiane Capital ‘for report’
- PRA Luang Prabang Province ‘for information’
- NRA Office ‘for filing’