



Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare
NRA Office National Regulatory Authority for
QM UXO/Mine Action Sector in Lao PDR

No. 0124 /NRA.QM
Vientiane Capital, Date : 01 March 2022

To: Director General of NRA Office

Subject: The mission report on the visit and monitoring to the UXO clearance operations of MAG in Khammuan Province.

1. Introduction

In reference with the approval letter of Director General of NRA Office, No 093/ NRA.O, dated 11th February 2022 on the assignment of the Quality Management and Quality Assurance Team of NRA to visit and monitor the UXO operations of MAG in Khammuan province focusing on the implementation of Memorandum of Understanding and its SOP in Mahaxay, Yommalath, Bualapha district. The visit was jointly participated by representatives from NRA office, Provincial Regular Authority (PRA), and MAG Khammuan between 14th to 22nd February 2022. The member of monitoring team is listed below:

1. Mr. Vilaysack Vongsayachanh, Head of QM Unit, NRA Office.
2. Mr. Bounnan Latanavong, Technician, QM Unit, NRA Office
3. Mr. Souksavanh Chanthasomboun, Technician, QM Unit, NRA Office
4. Mr. Sonexay Phommatham, Medic, QM Unit, NRA Office
5. Mr. Aiyoxa Phanxod, representative from PRA Khammuan,

Representatives from MAG:

1. Mr. KhamxayXayavong, SEOD4, Site Operation Manager, MAG Khammuan province
2. Mr. Manixia Thor, Chief of Quality Management and Training
3. Mr. Phayvanh Phanthakaysone, Chief of Medic, MAG Khammuan province

1. Purpose of the visit and monitoring

The site visit aims to follow up and monitor the operations, focusing on the techniques of UXO non-technical survey and technical survey, UXO clearance, disposal, the quality control and administration 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.

2. Number of personnel and qualification

The total number of personnel in MAG Khammuan Province is 268 people, 104 females, those are comprising of 12 clearance teams, 01 quality inspection team, 01 vegetation cutting team, 01 risk education team, 01 security team and 01 administration team. Those

teams have members including team leaders, EODs, medic and drivers. Those mentioned staff have passed training course from MAG and the UXO National Training Center.

3. The status of the implementation of MAG in Khammuan province.

The UXO clearance operation of MAG in khammuan province is financially supported by 3 donors namely NMFA (UXO Survey and clearance operations), Japan GGP-Lao (support Community Liaison teams and Clearance team), FDCO (Non-technical survey, Risk Education and clearance operations).

- **UXO Clearance:** Before conducting the clearance in the site, the clearance team received data from NTS and TS which provided by the other team of its organization. The QM team of NRA office has monitored to the clearance in the Khayou village, it is found that MAG has good document and information management system including the communication system, the survey report level 2, completion report level 3, internal quality control form, diary record of detector testing, Accident Response Plan, Unidentified UXOs Report form, detail of staff blood group and documents regarding handover of cleared area, which is firmly consistent with existing SOPs.

The QM team of NRA office also visited the clearance team 52 in the clearance site of Khayou village, Bualapha district. With the total area number of the site is 145,360 m², MAG successfully cleared 101,436 m² (estimate 1,800/day/team) and 49 BLU26, 01 BLU3/b and 08 cluster munition were found and destroyed. The total number of beneficiaries is 01 family, 10 people.

- **UXO Disposal:** visited the TS team 46 in the technical survey site of Phanob village. the team has conducted its operation from 03 February 2022 to 18 February 2022. 582,500 m² of area was successfully surveyed. 26 BLUs, 01 BLU63s and 01 RPG grenade were found. With the expectation of the 12 boxes per day for TS, the team can complete 17 boxes per day in actual. During the visit, the TS team has performed its disposal of a BLU 26 for visitors. Through this performance, it is observed that the TS team strictly carried out its operation in accordance with the existing SOP particularly the disposal planning, prior reporting to administration office, security checking point, firing point, safety distance and setting explosive dets.
- **Quality Control:** conducted quality control in four sites and one of them was failed. The detail is in the follow: the QC site in Xiengda village Task ID: MAG_AC_MAG-AC-2021-1205080-074 S= 102,858 m², QC (50x20,50x25) S=2,100 m², Xiengda village Task ID: MAG-AC-2021-1205080-062, S= 89,424m², QC (50x20,50x20) S=1800 m², Kha Yu Village Task ID: MAG-AC-2022-1206024-009 S= 47,008 m², QC (20x20) S=950 m², Kha Yu village Task ID: MAG_AC_MAG-AC-2021-1205080-074 S= 106,386 m², QC (25x50, 50x20) S=2127 m². All 4 sites have been checked and found 01 BLU26.

Remark: the found BLU26 was found in Kha Yu village Task ID: MAG-AC-2022-1206024-009 S=47,008 m², QC (20x20) S= 950 m²).

II. Results of the monitoring

Through the monitoring to the UXO clearance, quality control and disposal in the operation sites of MAG Khammuan , it can be concluded in the following details:

1. Good Points/Achievements

- MAG Khammuan has document and information management system such as: diary record of detector testing, record of staff blood group detail, medical equipment and allergy information of staff, SEOD monitoring record, visitor record and others.
- The communication system and radio signal of MAG is regularly used.
- In case of finding UXOs, the team will destroy them within the day.
- Sufficiency of vehicles.
- The team leader always conducts QC 10% in the cleared box to ensure the safety from UXOs.
- MAG Khammuan has the internal quality control document properly.

2. Remaining Issues

- One BLU26 was found during the conduct of Quality Control in the site Task ID: MAG-AC-2022-1206024-009.
- It is suggested MAG khammuan to double check and take metal pieces out of the site as stipulated in SOP 08_Note_6;
- It is suggested MAG Khammuan to keep site clean. For example, to clear the sand packs from the site.
- To set detector signal (LLD) at the width of 20 on the target/objects and use PID to find the spot.