



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

No 0129/NRA.O. QM  
Vientiane Capital, Date : 18 February 2022

**To:** Director General of NRA Office

**Subject:** The Results of Monitoring on Quality Control to the UXO Clearance Operations of UXO Lao-Attapue Province, during 29<sup>th</sup> January to 06<sup>th</sup> February 2022.

## **I. Introduction**

In reference to the Agreement of the Director General No 0053/NRA.O.A, dated 25<sup>th</sup> January 2022. The Quality Management Team of NRA, in conjunction with the Attapue Provincial Regulatory Authority for UXO/Mines and UXO Lao-Attapue Province has visited and monitored to the UXO clearance and disposal operation in Attapue Province. Team members are listed below:

1. Mr. Bounhieng Soukchanthalavong, Technician, Quality Management Unit, NRA Office;
2. Mr. Bounpone Thammavongsa, Technician/Medic, Quality Management Unit, NRA Office;
3. Mr. Vongseng Sisoulit, Technician, Quality Management Unit, NRA Office;
4. Mr. Phouvong Sisamak, Technician/Driver, Quality Management Unit, NRA Office;
5. Mr. Souksamer Sanekunya, Deputy Direct General, Provincial Labour and Social Welfare Department of Attapue Province;
6. Mr. Kitvongxay Phouthavong, Technical Officer, PRA Attapue Province.

### **Representatives from UXO Lao-Attapue Province:**

1. Mr. Phouvong Keomany, SEOD, UXO Lao-Attapue Province
2. Mr. Somephone Saphouvong, Assistant to SEOD, UXO Lao-Attapue Province
3. Ms. Viengkeo Porsipasueath, Chief of Medic, UXO Lao-Attapue Province

## **II. Purpose of Monitoring**

To follow up and monitor the operations, which highlighted and focused on the techniques of UXO clearance, administration as well as to observe the UXO disposal and clearance in order to ensure high efficiency, being safer and improving the operations as well as to tracking on the progress of its Annual Implementation and controlling as a uniform system in the same standard.

## **III. Number of Personnel and Qualification**

UXO Lao-Attapue Province has 148 staffs, 20 administrative staffs (05 females), 01 SEOD, 128 field operation staffs (30 females), consist of 14 operation teams including: 01 Risk Education Team, 01 Non-Technical Survey Team, 01 Technical Survey, and 11 Clearance Teams.

#### **IV. The Implementation Progress of UXO Lao-Attapue Province since the first month in 2022**

1. **Risk Education (RE):** UXO Lao-Attapue Province has conducted the awareness raising and dissemination on the danger of UXO in the villages as stipulated in the Annual Plan. Out of 50 villages, it successfully implemented RE in 04 villages, the total number of participants is 1,650 people (650 adults and 1,000 children), or equivalent to 8% of the annual plan.
2. **Non-Technical Survey (NTS):** According to the Annual Plan, UXO Lao-Attapue Province has 12 villages for NTS operation. To the date, it successfully implemented NTS in 01 villages and 84 bomblets, 01 mine and 48 other explosive ordnances were found.
3. **Technical Survey (TS):** According to the Annual Plan 2022, the TS team of the UXO-Lao Attapue Province has 350 ha for the TS operation and identify as CHA and the TS area is not identified as villages. After starting the TS operation for one month, the TS team can identify 18,19 ha as CHA, this CHA is agriculture land. 36 bomblets were found, or equivalent to 5,14% of the annual plan.
4. **Area Clearance:** the area clearance is conducted based on the CHA from TS team. According to the Annual Plan 2022, the total number of areas is 388 ha. To the date, 35 ha of agriculture land was successfully cleared, the total number of found UXO is 199 bomblets with 235 beneficiaries, or equivalent to 9,03% of the annual plan.
5. **Roving Task (RT):** UXO Lao-Attapue Province does not identify any village for RT, it conducts RT based on the report of villagers. So far, the RT is conducted five times in 04 villages and found 43 bomblets.

##### **▪ Visited and monitored the operations in implementing sites:**

- Visited the ongoing clear site in Sapuan, Sanxay district, Attapue province, Task ID: UXO lao\_CHA-2019\_1701023\_00, Task ID: UXO lao\_AC-2020\_1705020\_001. These sites have been implemented since 05 January 2022 with the total number area is 51,634 m<sup>2</sup>, the UXO Lao-Attapue Province successfully cleared 25,618 m<sup>2</sup> and found 11 BLU26. For the remaining area, it is expected to complete on 20 February 2022. UXO Lao-Attapue Province uses Vallon detectors to operate in the depth of 0,25 m for these sites. The total number of beneficiaries is 03 families, 09 people. In these sites, the QM team from NRA office has conducted monitoring to the UXO disposal (01 BLU26) at GPS point E 106.87798 N 15.10744. It is observed that the team leader of AC01 has yet properly explained to the team members before destroying UXO. The assistant to the team leader has yet also properly applied the SOP and National Standards when handling with the explosive (when taking electric item from the box, should put it under the sand bag). Therefore, it is highly suggested the team leader to review on its SOP, Chapter 4 Demolition No. 6.2,6.5 and the National Standards, Chapter 08 UXO Disposal, No.8.1, and 14.
- The support of medical equipment set has yet completed as stipulated in its SOPs Chapter 8 Medical Operation Procedure, No.3.2 Medical Equipment.
- For the Technical Survey (TS), the QM team has not monitored, due to the outbreak of COVID-19 that 5 staffs of UXO Lao-Attapue Province have got infected and quarantined.

- QM team, NRA Office and technicians from UXO Lao-Attapue Province jointly conducted Quality Control in cleared sites as stipulated in the completion reports. The detail is in the follows: 01 site of Sekamarn village, Samakxyay district Task ID: UXO Lao-AC-2021-1702007-005= 2,12%; in Viengxay village and Namkong village, Phouvong district, Task ID: UXO Lao-AC-2021-1705018-002 = 2,93%, Task ID: UXO Lao-AC-2021-1705017-008=2,73%; in Mainakok village and Darkkieng, Sanxay district, Task ID:UXO Lao-AC-2021-1704059-004=2,39%, Task ID: UXO Lao-AC-2021-1704003-003=2,63% (the estimated QC of five sites is 12,8%). Through the QC of the five sites, it is confirmed that all cleared sites are safe and not found any fragments that bigger than a half (1/2) of BLU26.

## **V. Good Point/Achievement**

- The implementation of UXO activities in the site of UXO Lao- Attapue has met safety requirement;
- The team leader and the assistant have their qualification, all technicians have passed the training course from UXO Training Center;
- The administration/control point, medical operation point, UXO detectors storage, parking point, rubbish pit, toilet, metal fragment storage, explosive storage and storage for moveable UXO are constructed/set in consistence with the SOP and National Standards.
- UXO Clearance operation of all teams is followed their annual plan. The area clearance is conducted base on the information from TS, NTS. The UXO clearance is conducted along with the UXO disposal. In case they have found any unremovable UXO, the teams will destroy it within a day.
- After finishing the clearance in any box, the team leader will conduct 10% QC in the box. After completing UXO clearance in a site, SEOD4 will conduct 2% QC in the site again before issuing handover letter to the owner of the land.

## **VI. Remaining Issue**

- The team leader of AC01 has yet properly explained to the team members before destroying UXOs and the assistant to the team leader has yet also properly applied the SOP and National Standards when handling with the explosive (when taking electric item from the box, should put it under the sand bag). Therefore, it is highly suggested the team leader to review on its SOP, Chapter 4 Demolition No. 6.2,6.5 and the National Standards, Chapter 08 UXO Disposal, No.8.1, and 14.
- The support of medical equipment set has yet completed as stipulated in its SOPs Chapter 8 Medical Operation Procedure, No.3.2 Medical Equipment.

In general, UXO Lao-Attapue Province has carried out its technical operations safely and effectively and in consistence with the SOPs and existing national standards.