



UXO

SECTOR ANNUAL REPORT

2021

SDG 18: LIVES SAFE FROM UXO

2021 UXO SECTOR ANNUAL REPORT

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

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Your contribution to the NRA can support families and children whose lives have suffered from Unexploded Ordnance (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:
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Contents

FOREWORD	4
ACRONYMS & ABBREVIATIONS	7
INTRODUCTION TO UXO	9
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY 2021 OVERVIEW	10
2021 ACHIEVEMENTS: UXO SECTOR	12
SECTOR TREND (2011-2021)	18
2021 UXO SECTOR FINANCIAL SUMMARY	22
UXO SECTOR IN LAO PDR	25
1. International Treaties & Agreements.....	25
1) The Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM).....	25
2) The Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW)	25
3) The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).....	25
4) International Mine Action Standards (IMAS).....	26
2. Legal, Policy and Institutional Framework.....	26
1) National Decrees.....	26
2) Sector Strategic Plan: Safe Path Forward III 2021-2030	27
3) 9th National Socio-Economic Development Plan 2021-2025.....	28
3. Stakeholder Overview.....	31
Multilateral, inter-governmental organizations	31
National Government.....	31
National UXO Operators –Government	31
Humanitarian UXO Operators- INGOs	31
Commercial UXO organizations/ operators accredited in 2021	32
Others.....	32
Overview: National Regulatory Authority for UXO/Mine Action in Lao PDR (NRA).....	34
Donor Countries.....	40
UXO OPERATORS REPORT	41
HUMANITARIAN OPERATORS	42
Lao National Unexploded Ordnance Programme (UXO Lao)	43
Mines Advisory Group (MAG)	51
Norwegian People’s Aid (NPA)	57
The HALO Trust.....	62
Humanity & Inclusion (HI).....	66
Humanitarian UXO Demining Teams of Lao People’s Army 58 (Unit 58).....	71
World Education (WE)	73

Cooperative Orthotic & Prosthetic Enterprise (COPE)	79
Terra Renaissance (TR)	81
COMMERCIAL OPERATORS.....	86
AUSLAO Unexplored ordnance Clearance Co., LTD	87
Lao BSL UNEOD Co. Ltd.....	89
OUMMA Unexplored ordnance Clearance Co., LTD.....	91
Lane Xang Minerals Ltd. (LXML)	92
Milsearch.....	94

FOREWORD

Chairperson of the NRA



I am very pleased to present the 2021 annual report for the UXO sector and take this opportunity to highlight some of the key achievements during the year.

2021 marked a year when the country was still suffering from the COVID-19 pandemic and as such, the UXO sector, as all other sectors in Lao PDR, were heavily impacted. Whilst the sector was able to work and undertake survey, clearance and other activities, we were still impacted heavily and in-person meetings, prioritisation, and some key activities, had to be postponed, undertaken virtually or cancelled. However, thanks to the tenacity of the national authority, the flexibility of donors and the drive of operators in the field, the sector has coped well and been able to deliver key services to affected communities across the country. The whole sector must be commended for the collective efforts made in striving to deliver services to impacted communities in all provinces in Lao PDR.

During the year, the sector worked hard to develop the new strategic document for the sector, Safe Path Forward III covering the years 2021-2030 which will guide the sector and work to deliver results for UXO impacted communities over the next decade. This key document serves as the sector reference document for the next years and, amongst other objectives, aims to strengthen the relationship with the UXO sector and other development priorities of the Lao PDR government. The government also has drafted a decree to regulate all the activities of UXO/Mine Action in Lao PDR.

Despite the challenges presented by the global pandemic and the temporary collapse of key income streams such as tourism, the UXO sector has risen to the challenge in 2021 and adapted as best as possible to meet community requirements for cleared land free from UXO and to work towards obtaining Lao PDR's unique 18th Sustainable Development Goal, Lives Safe from UXO. Clearance statistics demonstrate that the sector is removing and destroying more ordnance than ever before, with 2021 statistics a marked increase since 2018 and the highest figures on record. Unfortunately, we also have seen an upturn in victims of UXO with numbers reaching 63 in 2021. This is a clear message to the sector to redouble efforts to direct effective Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) activities to those groups who take risks with ordnance and to tailor our education responses to mitigating the threat to these groups.

On behalf of the Government of Lao PDR and as Chairperson of the NRA, I am pleased to be able to congratulate the UXO sector on achieving some impressive results under trying circumstances. It is notable that stakeholders in the sector have been able to adapt to the challenges that the pandemic has confronted us with and as the pandemic slowly recedes and the country returns to normal, we are able to resume where we left off. Within this context, the efforts of all actors in the sector have been admirable. I would also like to thank our partners, including UNDP, donors and all the national and international organizations for supporting the government's efforts over 2021.

H.E. Ms. Baykham Khattiya

Minister of Labour and Social Welfare, Chairperson of the NRA

FOREWORD

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



The UXO sector in Lao PDR has continued to deliver strong results and should be commended for completing work commensurate with the work conducted in pre-pandemic years despite continued challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic affecting the Lao PDR’s economy, which has constrained work across a full range of development and governance activities.

Unfortunately, 2021 saw an upturn in UXO-related casualties. We hope that this was an anomalous year, and that we will witness a marked reduction in casualties again in 2022. It remains a challenge for the sector to explore the drivers of such incidents and to work to reduce and ultimately eliminate casualties from UXO in the Lao PDR.

Against the backdrop of pandemic challenges and increased UXO casualties, it is greatly encouraging to see that more land than ever is being cleared of explosive ordnance and that the quantities of ordnance removed is also increasing. As a sector, we must continue to find ways to increase productivity, without dropping standards, and to see how we can ensure we prioritize clearing land with the greatest economic potential, thereby maximizing the impact of the sector’s contributions to the socio-economic development of the Lao PDR.

The extent of UXO contamination in the Lao PDR is massive and prioritization of both survey and clearance ensures that the most socio-economically beneficial land is cleared first to meet the needs of impacted communities, which will allow them to live and thrive in safety, free from the threat of unexploded ordnance. The task of prioritization touches on all components of socio-economic life and, as such, regional and district governments must be engaged in the process of a joined-up approach that links clearance and development.

In 2021, surveys enabled humanitarian clearance operators to more accurately and effectively target areas for clearance. As survey task is completed in some provinces and as our collective UXO work shifts focus from surveying to clearing high priority Confirmed Hazardous Areas, survey teams can be increasingly converted to clearance teams.

The year marked several significant achievements, under the strong leadership of the Lao PDR Government, including new legislation which is near completion and the finalization of the draft 10-year National Strategic Plan for the sector, “Safe Path Forward III.” Both legislation and the new strategy support the commitment of the government to achieve UXO objectives in the 9th National Socio-Economic Development Plan (NSEDP) and Laos’ 18th unique Sustainable Development Goal, “Lives Safe from UXO.”

As co-chairs of the Sector Working Group, both UNDP and the Embassy of the United States of America in Lao PDR are proud to be leading the engagement of development partners in the critical and lifesaving work that is clearing UXOs to render land safe, mitigating risk to communities through

explosive ordnance risk education, and supporting victims who have been unfortunate enough to be directly harmed by ordnance over the years. We look forward to continued and fruitful collaboration in the sector

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

ACRONYMS & ABBREVIATIONS

AC	Area Clearance	HI	Humanity and Inclusion
APMBC	Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention	HP	Huaphan Province
ARMI	Association for Rural Mobilization and Improvement	IM	Information Management
AWP	Annual Work Plan	IMAS	International Mine Action Standards
BZ	Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs	IMSMA	Information Management System for Mine Action
CCM	Convention on Cluster Munitions	INGO	International Non-Governmental Organization
CCW	The United Nations Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons	IVET	Integrated vocational education and training
CHAs	Confirmed Hazardous Areas	JICS	Japan International Cooperation System
CMAC	Cambodian Mine Action Centre (CMAC)	JMAS	Japan Mine Action Service
CMR	Center for Medical Rehabilitation	KM	Khammouane Province
CMRS	Cluster Munition Remnants Survey	KOICA	Korea International Cooperation Agency
COPE	Cooperative Orthotic and Prosthetic Enterprise	LAK	Lao Kip
CPS	Champasack Province	Lao PDR	Lao People's Democratic Republic
CRPD	Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities	LPB	Luang Prabang Province
CTA	Chief Technical Advisor	LWU	Lao Women's Union
DHR	Department of Healthcare and Rehabilitation	LYU	Lao Youth Union
EOD	Explosive Ordnance Disposal	MAG	Mines Advisory Group
EORE	Explosive Ordnance Risk Education	MND	Ministry of National Defence
ERW	Explosive Remnants of War	MoES	Ministry of Education and Sport
FCDO	United Kingdom Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office	MoFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
GALS	Gender Action Learning Systems	MoH	Ministry of Health
GoL	Government of Lao PDR	MoLSW	Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare

NCDE	National Committee of Persons with Disabilities and the Elderly	TS	Technical Survey
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization	TT	Tetra Tech
NIM	National Implementation Modality	TR	Terra Renaissance
NMFA	Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs	UK	United Kingdom
NPA	Norwegian People's Aid	UMCOR	United Methodist Committee on Relief of the General Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church
NRA	National Regulatory Authority for UXO/Mine Action Sector in Lao PDR	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
NSEDP	National Socio-Economic Development Plan	Unit 58	Humanitarian UXO Demining Teams of Lao People's Army
NTS	Non-Technical Survey	US	United States of America
NZ	New Zealand	USAID	United States Agency for International Development
PM/WRA	Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement in the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Political-Military Affairs	USD	United States Dollar
PRA	NRA Provincial offices	USDoS	U.S. Department of State
PWD	Persons with Disabilities	UXO Lao	Lao National Unexploded Ordnance Programme
QLA	Quality of Life Association	UXO	Unexploded Ordnance
QM	Quality Management	VA	Victim Assistance
RC	Review Conference	VEDCs	Village Education Development Committees
RT	Roving Tasks	WE	World Education
SDG 18	Sustainable Development Goal 18	WVMF	War Victim Medical Fund
SLV	Salavan Province	WWM	World Without Mines
SK	Sekong Province	XK	Xiengkhouang Province
SPF III	The Ten-year Strategy for the UXO Sector for 2021-2030, Safe Path Forward III		
SOGIE	sexual orientation, gender, identity, and expression		
SVK	Savannakhet Province		
ToT	Training of Trainers		

UXO FACTS AND FIGURES

- Lao PDR is the most heavily bombed country, per capita, in history
- Most of the poor villages in Laos are contaminated with UXO
- 17 provinces and 1 capital city suffer from UXO contamination
- More than 2 million tons of ordnance were dropped on Laos between 1964 and 1973 equating to 0,85 tonnes per person
- 580,000 bombing missions were flown over Laos
- Cluster submunitions (‘bombies’) are the most common form of UXO found in the country
- More than 270 million bombies were dropped on Laos
- Up to 30% failed to detonate
- Approximately 80 million unexploded bombies remained in Laos after the war
- Over 50,000 people have been killed or injured since 1964
- During the last 10-year period, a total of 429 casualties have been reported resulting in 102 deaths (representing 24% of casualties).
- In the last decade (2012-2021), over 60% of all casualties were children (under 18)
- Accidents caused by bombies increased to 30% of all Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) casualties in the last decade

WHAT ARE UXO?

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

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

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2021 OVERVIEW

The UXO/Mine Action Sector in Lao PDR is headed by the Government where the responsibility is assigned to the National Regulatory Authority for UXO/Mine Action Sector in Lao PDR (NRA) under the line management of the Ministry for Labour and Social Welfare (MoLSW). Government clearance capacity is managed through the Lao National Unexploded Ordnance Programme (UXO Lao) and through Humanitarian UXO Demining Teams of Lao People's Army (Unit 58) who undertake humanitarian survey and clearance. Government efforts are complemented by development partners, United Nations Agencies, International and National Non-Governmental Organizations (INGOs/NGOs) and commercial operators.

This report will highlight the progress that has been collectively achieved throughout 2021 in realising the ultimate goal of making Lao PDR free from the threat of UXO.

2021 was, as 2020, impacted by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Whilst the country took the appropriate measure to halt the spread of COVID, the UXO sector strived to maintain normality and continue to provide services to impacted communities.

The number of casualties from UXO accidents increased in 2021 to 63 victims from 35 accidents, being a little under 2 victims per accident on average. These numbers are unfortunately an increase on previous years statistics and above the mark of 40 or less per year as set in the 9th NSEDP. We may speculate on why there was an increase, but this may well be linked to economic pressures in rural areas where villagers are increasingly turning to forest areas to supplement livelihoods. As we already know, a significant proportion of accidents happen when people light fires for

cooking and for slash and burn activities when extending land for agricultural use. EORE must focus on prevention of accidents under these scenarios.

Over 2021, the sector continued to pursue technical survey goals drawing on evidence based technical survey to determine clearance targets. The year saw an increase of land identified as CHAs through technical survey from 18,068 ha in 2020 increasing to 22,831 ha in 2021, an increase of 26%. With the increase in CHA identification through technical survey, the year also saw a drop in total clearance from 5,392 ha in 2020 to 4,755 ha in 2021 (-12%). This in part a trade-off for the focus and increase in CHA identification where identification of CHAs provides the sector with a more concrete idea of areas to be cleared. Both outputs, also, having been impacted by COVID restrictions and the need for operators to comply with measures designed to slow the impact of the pandemic.

As other years, survey and clearance work has been complemented by EORE activities where 202,076 participants attending risk education in 683 impacted villages. As the increase in accidents in 2021 demonstrates, there is no direct correlation between EORE activities and accident statistics; socio-economic pressures influence behaviour and the EORE sub-sector continues to explore ways to better influence risk taking behaviour where communities look to supplement income through potentially risky activities.

Work has also been undertaken on ensuring UXO survivors have access to care and rehabilitation through resources available such as the War Victims Medical Fund. Medical and physical rehabilitation services are available to UXO victims in 5 of the most impacted Provinces, notably Xiengkhouang, Savannakhet, Champasak, Luang Prabang and centrally for the rest of the country in Vientiane.

Work has been undertaken in 2021 to strengthen the Provincial National Authority (PRA) offices through training support in Information Management (IM) and the use of IMSMA, the Information Management System for Mine Action. This was also supported by the installation of internet at the PRAs to support the IMSMA system and to enable the functionality of the database.

The NRA continued to process accreditation of all operators (including INGOs, NGOs, commercial operators and Unit 58) and worked to oversee and ensure implementation and compliance with National Standards. In 2021,

there were 29 accredited clearance operators (6 humanitarian, 23 commercial).

In 2021, the QM unit of the NRA conducted 16 visits across the operations of UXO Lao, HI, NPA, MAG and Unit 58 in UXO contaminated provinces as well as 8 visits for commercial operators active in 2021. The NRA also continued to drive coordination within the sector and organised Technical Working Groups across the pillars of Survey & Clearance, Victim Assistance (VA), EORE and IM



2021 ACHIEVEMENTS: UXO SECTOR

Area Clearance (AC)

Province	Tasks	Area by Hectare (ha)			Beneficiary	Unexploded Ordnance (UXO)				
		Agriculture	Development	Total		Bomb	CM*	Mine	Other UXO	Total
Xekong	84	288.92	11.47	300.39	5,590	1	2,678	0	611	3,290
Xaysomboun	103	-	59.15	59.15	0	0	0	0	111	111
Khammouan	173	647.78	61.58	709.36	28,108	13	5,109	0	975	6,097
Champasak	74	387.80	-	387.80	1,243	0	5,000	0	264	5,264
Salavanh	115	454.33	2.33	456.65	15,894	54	5,480	0	667	6,201
Savannakhet	384	887.80	65.02	952.82	12,680	4	5,310	1	2,958	8,273
Xiengkhuang	367	1,261.60	53.64	1,315.24	38,537	4	13,352	6	4,976	18,338
Vientiane Capital	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bokeo	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bolikhamxay	1	4.87	-	4.87	29	0	125	0	1	126
Phongsaly	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vientiane	2	1.28	0.90	2.18	1,529	0	8	0	9	17
Luangprabang	17	53.27	-	53.27	381	0	614	0	89	703
Huaphanh	80	137.48	5.19	142.67	12,552	1	1,064	1	494	1,560
Luangnamtha	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oudomxay	1	-	2.22	2.22	0	0	0	0	0	0
Attapeu	81	360.38	8.18	368.56	1,549	0	1,773	0	24	1,797
Total	1,482	4,485.50	269.68	4,755.18	118,092	77	40,513	8	11,179	51,777

*CM: Cluster Munition

Roving Tasks (RT)

Province	No. Village	No. Task	Beneficiary	Unexploded Ordnance (UXO)				
				Bomb	CM	Mine	Other UXO	Total
Xekong	45	126	3,566	15	686	1	96	798
Xaysomboun	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Khammouan	98	1,007	9,887	10	2,388	0	779	3,177
Champasak	71	135	4,728	5	1,002	3	365	1,375
Salavanh	91	189	69,860	20	1,130	13	506	1,669
Savannakhet	284	1,229	24,700	20	5,089	13	1,375	6,497
Xiengkhuang	215	1,886	22,445	1	13,996	3	2,496	16,496
Vientiane Capital	2	2	22	1	0	0	1	2
Bokeo	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Bolikhamxay	15	18	7,559	3	58	0	86	147
Phongsaly	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vientiane	12	17	5,885	1	44	1	73	119
Luangprabang	40	66	1,544	2	426	1	222	651
Huaphanh	87	170	10,073	3	667	13	561	1,244
Luangnamtha	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oudomxay	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Attapeu	33	61	28,964	1	801	0		838
Total	993	4,906	189,233	82	26,287	48	36	33,013

GRAND TOTAL: AC & RT

Province	Area by Hectare (ha)			Beneficiary	Unexploded Ordnance (UXO)				
	Agriculture	Development	Total		Bomb	CM	Mine	Other UXO	Total
Xekong	288.92	11.47	300.39	9,156	16	3,364	1	707	4,088
Xaysomboun	-	59.15	59.15	0	0	0	0	111	111
Khammouan	647.78	61.58	709.36	37,995	23	7,497	0	1,754	9,274
Champasak	387.80	-	387.80	5,971	5	6,002	3	629	6,639
Salavanh	454.33	2.33	456.65	85,754	74	6,610	13	1,173	7,870
Savannakhet	887.80	65.02	952.82	37,380	24	10,399	14	4,333	14,770
Xiengkhuang	1,261.60	53.64	1,315.24	60,982	5	27,348	9	7,472	34,834
Vientiane Captial	-	-	-	22	1	0	0	1	2
Bokeo	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bolikhamxay	4.87	-	4.87	7,588	3	183	0	87	273
Phongsaly	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vientiane	1.28	0.90	2.18	7,414	1	52	1	82	136
Luangprabang	53.27	-	53.27	1,925	2	1,040	1	311	1,354
Huaphanh	137.48	5.19	142.67	22,625	4	1,731	14	1,055	2,804
Luangnamtha	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oudomxay	-	2.22	2.22	0	0	0	0	0	0
Attapeu	360.38	8.18	368.56	30,513	1	2,574	0	60	2,635
Total	4,485.50	269.68	4,755.18	307,325	159	66,800	56	17,775	84,790

Non-Technical Survey (NTS)

Province	No. Village	No. Task	Evident Point	Cluster Munitions	Beneficiary
Xekong	5	5	9	36	4,043
Xaysomboun	-	-	-	-	-
Khammouan	39	39	35	373	2,037
Champasak	11	11	6	67	9,529
Salavanh	14	14	15	41	4,887
Savannakhet	109	110	39	107	7,230
Xiengkhuang	36	36	39	250	11,404
Vientiane Captial	-	-	-	-	-
Bokeo	-	-	-	-	-
Bolikhamxay	19	19	21	36	1,771
Phongsaly	-	-	-	-	-
Vientiane	12	13	19	72	786
Luangprabang	5	5	7	22	2,461
Huaphanh	25	25	35	1,330	6,444
Luangnamtha	-	-	-	-	-
Oudomxay	-	-	-	-	-
Attapeu	9	9	12	47	4,318
Total	284	286	237	2,381	54,910

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

Province	No. Village	No. Task		Area by Hectare (ha)		Unexploded Ordnance (UXO)				
		TS	CHA	TS	CHA	Bomb	CM	Mine	Other UXO	Total
Xekong	13	19	15	459.80	251.80	0	492	0	9	501
Xaysomboun	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Khammouan	21	41	65	1,616.98	1,364.24	0	721	0	28	749
Champasak	36	78	56	821.27	412.87	0	837	0	16	853
Salavanh	27	85	65	1,228.25	614.77	0	723	0	119	842
Savannakhet	168	1,042	689	6,723.43	2,729.34	8	6,457	0	1,201	7,666
Xiengkhuang	82	230	223	17,852.60	16,555.87	0	11,600	0	449	12,049
Vientiane Captial	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bokeo	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bolikhamxay	11	29	3	234.00	12.45	0	25	0	3	28

Phongsaly	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vientiane	7	8	2	65.25	16.00	2	17	0	3	22
Luangprabang	9	33	35	431.75	223.03	0	504	2	188	694
Huaphanh	34	55	46	680.00	362.80	0	504	2	188	694
Luangnamtha	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oudomxay	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Attapeu	24	38	32	456.50	287.60	0	571	0	22	593
Total	432	1,658	1,239	30,299.83	22,830.78	10	22,299	2	2,156	24,467

GRAND TOTAL: UXO Risk Education (EORE) & Community Awareness Operations

Province	No. Village	No. Task	Audience		
			Male	Female	Total
Xekong	9	30	3,255	3,388	6,643
Xaysomboun	-	-	-	-	-
Khammouan	67	264	9,348	9,593	18,941
Champasak	44	171	7,601	7,418	15,019
Salavanh	42	122	4,734	4,471	9,205
Savannakhet	282	732	16,143	15,406	31,549
Xiengkhuang	81	261	15,772	16,514	32,286
Vientiane Captial	-	-	-	-	-
Bokeo	-	-	-	-	-
Bolikhamxay	21	29	3,337	2,934	6,271
Phongsaly	-	-	-	-	-
Vientiane	7	7	1,298	1,116	2,414
Luangprabang	35	101	10,334	10,707	21,041
Huaphanh	52	200	17,678	17,216	34,894
Luangnamtha	-	-	-	-	-
Oudomxay	-	-	-	-	-
Attapeu	43	124	12,086	11,727	23,813
Total	683	2,041	101,586	100,490	202,076

UXO Accidents & Casualties in 2021

Province	Accident	Injured				Death				Total Victims
		Boy	Girl	Men	Women	Boy	Girl	Men	Women	
Savannakhet	12	7	3	2	3	2	0	2	1	20
Champasak	4	0	0	6	0	0	0	4	0	10
Xiengkhuang	5	1	5	2	1	1	0	0	0	10
Attapeu	2	2	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	6
Vientiane	2	3	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	6
Xekong	4	1	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	5
Khammouan	4	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	4
Luangprabang	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Huapanh	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Bokeo	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bolikhamxay	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Luangnamtha	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oudomxay	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Phongsaly	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Salavanh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vientiane Capital	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Xaysomboun	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	35	15	8	15	9	6	0	8	2	63

Victim Assistance (VA)

Province	No. of People	No. Times	Amount (LAK)
Xekong	2	2	5,926,000
Xaysomboun	-	-	-
Khammouan	3	4	8,322,000
Champasak	3	3	13,799,000
Salavanh	-	-	-
Savannakhet	15	19	70,975,000
Xiengkhuang	11	21	54,584,500
Vientiane Captial	-	-	-
Bokeo	-	-	-
Bolikhamxay	-	-	-
Phongsaly	-	-	-
Vientiane	6	9	27,180,000
Luangprabang	1	1	2,341,000
Huaphanh	1	1	6,500,000
Luangnamtha	-	-	-
Oudomxay	-	-	-
Attapeu	4	4	15,667,000
Total	46	64	205,294,500

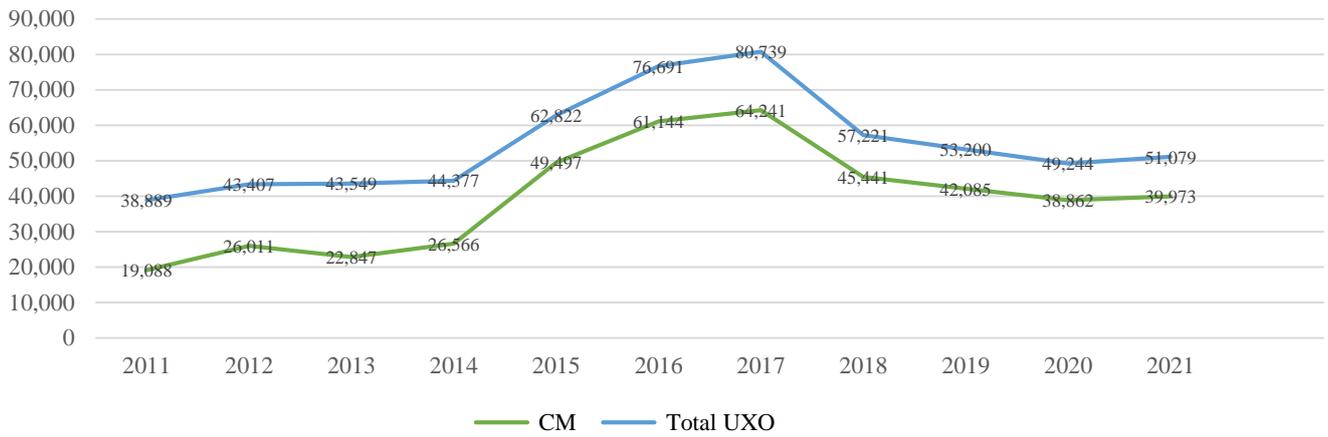
UXO Operators' Personnel in 2021

Organization	National		International		National		International		Total
	Men	Women	Men	Woman	Men	Women	Men	Women	
NRA	30	16	0	0	16	3	0	0	65
Unit 58	2	24	0	0	158	4	0	0	188
The HALO Trust	42	32	1	1	459	491	5	0	1,031
HI	10	2	1	0	35	27	1	0	73
MAG	45	29	2	3	740	419	8	0	1,246
NPA	30	13	2	2	248	134	3	0	432
Terra Renaissance	1	3	0	0	1	3	1	0	9
UXO Lao	118	74	11	0	918	344	1	0	1,466
WE	2	4	0	0	11	8	1	3	29
COPE	2	5	0	0	0	0	2	0	9
Auslao	2	3	0	0	25	0	0	0	30
Lao BSL	2	1	0	0	12	0	0	0	15
LMXL	2	2	2	0	78	46	0	0	130
Milsearch	3	6	1	1	80	24	3	0	118
OUMMA	4	0	0	0	26	1	0	0	31
Total									4,872

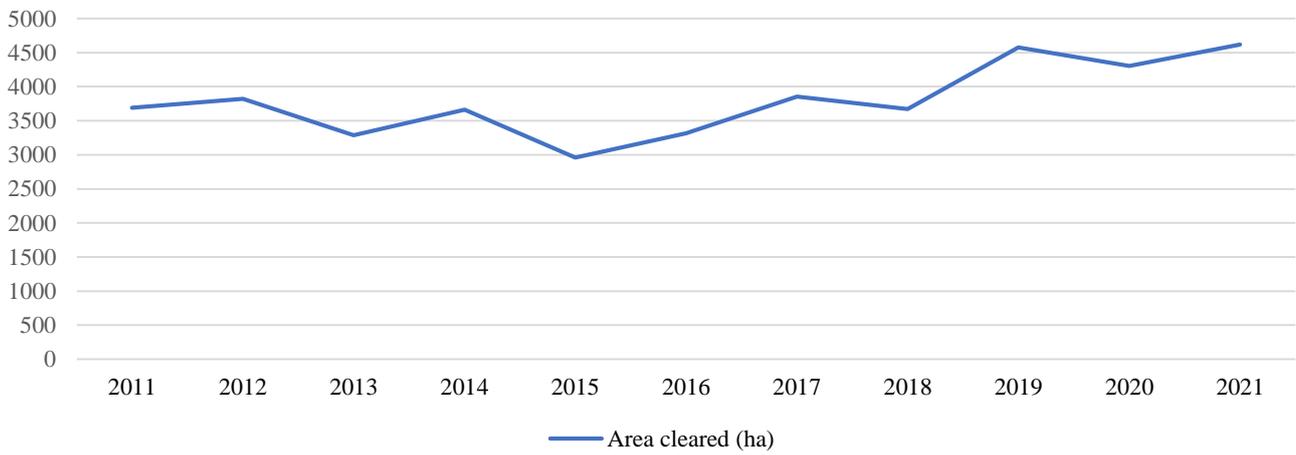
SECTOR TREND (2011-2021)

Total Area Clearance & UXO found and destroyed by Humanitarian Operators, 2011-2021							
Year	Area Cleared (Ha)	Bomb	CM Bomblets	Landmines	Other UXO	Total UXO	CM per Hectare
2011	3,692	22	19,088	96	19,683	38,889	5.2
2012	3,823	60	26,011	18	17,318	43,407	6.8
2013	3,288	28	22,847	48	20,626	43,549	6.9
2014	3,662	36	26,566	78	17,697	44,377	7.3
2015	2,961	55	49,497	108	13,162	62,822	16.7
2016	3,315	43	61,144	1	15,503	76,691	18.4
2017	3,852	20	64,241	16	16,462	80,739	16.7
2018	3,670	35	45,441	5	11,740	57,221	12.4
2019	4,577	30	42,085	4	11,081	53,200	9.2
2020	4,302	23	38,862	4	10,355	49,244	9.03
2021	4,617	77	39,973	8	11,021	51,079	8.7

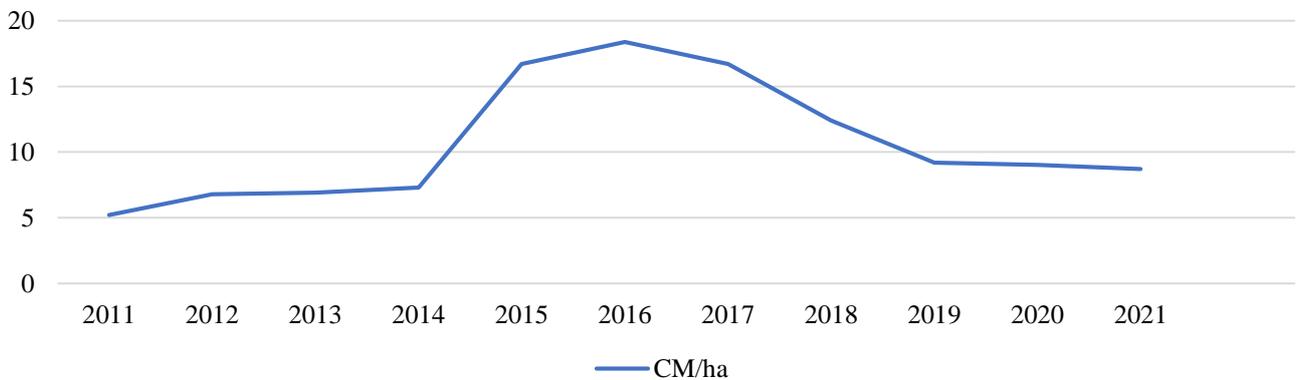
Cluster Munitions (CM) and Total UXO cleared by Humanitarian Operators per year



Total area cleared by Humanitarian Operators per year (ha)

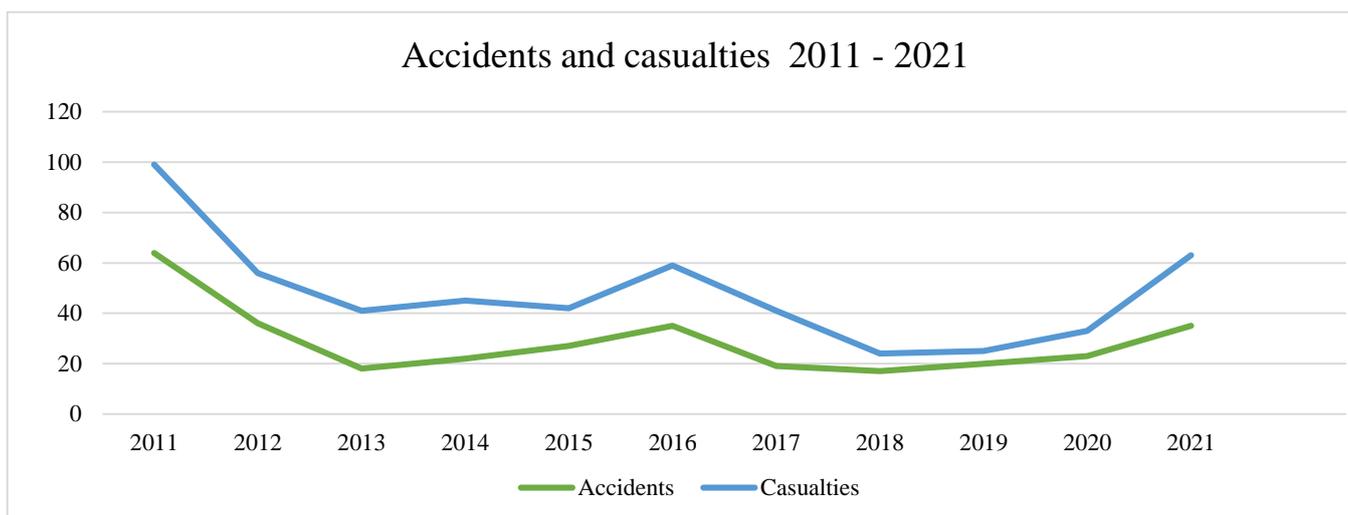


Cluster munitions cleared by Humanitarian Operators per hectare



UXO accidents and casualties

UXO Accidents and Casualties in Lao PDR by year, 2011-2021										
Year	Accidents	Injuries				Deaths				Total Casualties
		Men	Women	Boys	Girls	Men	Women	Boys	Girls	
2011	64	32	9	34	4	6	0	14	0	99
2012	36	17	11	11	2	6	1	6	2	56
2013	18	9	2	12	5	5	0	7	1	41
2014	22	8	5	9	7	4	0	12	0	45
2015	27	15	1	16	1	6	1	2	0	42
2016	35	17	3	24	5	2	0	8	0	59
2017	19	12	8	11	6	3	0	0	1	41
2018	17	4	8	4	5	2	1	0	0	24
2019	20	5	2	4	5	8	0	1	0	25
2020	23	12	10	2	2	5	2	0	0	33
2021	35	15	8	15	9	6	0	8	2	63



Causes of Accidents by year, 2015-2021							
Cause	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Lighting a fire (for cooking and slash-and-burn agriculture techniques)	13	11	11	3	9	10	14
Agriculture excavation	5	6	2	2	2	5	6
Playing with UXO items	2	12	1	5	3	4	6
Unintentional disturbance of UXOs	1	4	1	5	4	0	4

Attempting to destroy or dismantle UXO items	6	2	2	2	3	2	3
Cutting grass and wood	0	1	1	0	0	2	2
Total Accidents	27	36	18	17	21	23	35

Land use following clearance, by Province, 1997 - 2021					
Province	Total Area Cleared (ha)	Types of land use			
		Agriculture Area (ha)	Agriculture Area (%)	Development Area (ha)	Development Area (%)
Attapeu	6,558	4,602	70%	1,956	30%
Bokeo	80	0	0%	80	100%
Bolikhamxai	3,063	664	22%	2,399	78%
Champasak	6,029	4,328	72%	1,701	28%
Huaphanh	3,962	3,491	88%	471	12%
Khammouan	9,159	7,579	83%	1,580	17%
Luangnamtha	9	0	0%	9	100%
Luangprabang	3,924	3,057	78%	867	22%
Oudomxay	128	0	0%	128	100%
Salavan	6,780	5,754	85%	1,026	15%
Savannakhet	11,675	9,724	83%	1,951	17%
Vientiane	64	1	2%	63	98%
Vientiane Capital	134	0	0%	134	100%
Xaisomboun	1,834	571	31%	1,263	69%
Xekong	4,761	3,483	73%	1,278	27%
Xiengkhuang	15,279	13,392	88%	1,887	12%
Grand Total	73,439	56,646	77%	16,793	23%

2021 UXO SECTOR FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Summary of Cash Contributions Received and Actual Expenditures (in USD)

For the year Ended 1st of January - 31st of December 2021

Organization	Financial Support	Actual Expenditure
Government		
NRA	1,219,256 ¹	1,649,555 ²
UXO Lao	8,008,738	9,168,324
<i>Total</i>	9,227,994	10,817,879
International Non-Government Organizations		
COPE	556,000	416,000
HALO	8,497,285	9,884,154
HI	654,582	654,582
MAG	10,301,749	10,301,749
NPA	7,691,243	6,683,182
TR	216,394	216,394
WE	1,072,694	1,072,694
<i>Total</i>	28,989,947	29,228,755
Commercial Clearance Companies		
AusLao	50,000	48,500
BSL	15,200	15,200
LXML	3,139,275	3,139,275
Milsearch	1,205,454	1,333,000
OUMMA*	_*	_*
<i>Total</i>	4,405,629	4,535,975
GRAND TOTAL	42,627,870	44,582,609

*OUMMA has not provided any financial information for 2021

Summary of In-Kind Government Contributions Received (in USD)

For the year Ended 1st of January - 31st of December 2021

Organization	Estimated Contribution
NRA	18,000
UXO Lao	170,041
Unit 58	<i>Salary of 7 unit of the Unit 58 is paid by Ministry of National Defense</i>
Total	188,041

Humanitarian Clearance Operators

Summary of Cash Contribution Received by Fund Source (in USD)

¹ In reference to NRA's Financial Report 2021

² Ibid.

For the year Ended 1st of January - 31st of December 2021

Fund Source	Amount
Bilateral	
Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs (BZ)	654,582
Fagforbundet (the Norwegian Union of Municipal and General Employees)	37,037
4th Greater Mekong Sub-Region Corridor Towns Development	9,000
Freeman Foundation	231,682
ISO-ITO	10,000
Japan International Cooperation System (JICS)	1,094,054
Japan Mine Action Service (JMAS)	134,610
Luxembourg Aid and (Development through its development cooperation agency LuxDev)	95,371
LXML	3,139,275
MAG Headquarters	90,000
Milsearch-Clients	1,205,454
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan	216,394
Namphak Hydropower	50,000
New Zealand Embassy	16,000
Norway	230,000
Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (NMFA)	1,180,569
The Embassy of Japan in the Lao PDR	95,218
The United Kingdom's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO)	2,342,194
United Methodist Committee on Relief of the General Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church (UMCOR)	43,206
U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)	837,645
US Army Corps Engineers, Alaska, U.S.	1,450
U.S. State Department, Bureau of Political-Military Affairs Weapons Removal and Abatement (PM/WRA)	22,375,000
United States Department of State	535,049
Tetra Tech	5,436,295
World Without Mine (WWM)	153,754
<i>Total</i>	40,213,839
UNDP-Managed Fund	
Ireland	323,535
Republic of Korea (through KOICA)	939,033
New Zealand	1,140,077
Luxembourg	3,572
<i>Total</i>	2,406,217
Government Contribution & Others	

Government of Lao PDR	4,750 ³
Others	3,064
<i>Total</i>	<i>7,814</i>
GRAND TOTAL	42,627,870

³ Government of Lao contributed to BSL, one of the accredited commercial operators in 2021

UXO SECTOR IN LAO PDR

1. International Treaties & Agreements

1) The Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM)

Purpose: to comprehensively ban the use and stockpiling of cluster munitions that cause unacceptable harm to civilians and secure adequate provision of care and rehabilitation to survivors and clearance of contaminated areas.

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

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

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

2) The Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW)

The United Nations Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW or CCWC), concluded at Geneva on October 10, 1980, and entered into force in December 1983, seeks to

prohibit or restrict the use of certain conventional weapons which are considered excessively injurious or whose effects are indiscriminate.

The purpose of the Convention is to ban or restrict the use of specific types of weapons that are considered to cause unnecessary or unjustifiable suffering to combatants or to affect civilians indiscriminately.

3) The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)

Purpose: to promote, protect and ensure the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by all persons with disabilities, and to promote respect for their inherent dignity.

Laos signed the Convention on January 15th, 2008 and deposited its instrument of ratification on September 25th, 2009. This Convention has significant implications particularly for the Victim Assistance side of UXO activities. Domestic Legislation will need to be drawn up in order to integrate treaty obligations into the local judiciary. This process has already commenced with the handing down of a Prime Ministerial Decree regarding the 'National Commission for Disabled People' in September 2009. The Decree, which replaces the formative 1995 version, outlines the expanded mandate of this existing body and identifies it to be the focal point for the domestic integration and implementation of the Disabilities Treaty. Accordingly, it will also play a lead role in forming the legal instruments needed to ensure full Treaty compliance. Importantly, VA providers in Laos can begin to harmonise their own strategies with the principles of the Convention, in the knowledge that the

Government of Laos is committed to meeting the obligations of the Treaty.

- Legislation and policies to implement the present Convention, and in other decision-making processes concerning issues relating to persons with disabilities, States Parties shall closely consult with and actively involve persons with disabilities, including children with disabilities, through their representative organizations.
- Nothing in the present Convention shall affect any provisions which are more conducive to the realization of the rights of persons with disabilities and which may be contained in the law of a State Party or international law in force for that State. There shall be no restriction upon or derogation from any of the human rights and fundamental freedoms recognized or existing in any State Party to the present Convention pursuant to law, conventions, regulation or custom on the pretext that the present Convention does not recognize such rights or freedoms or that it recognizes them to a lesser extent.
- The provisions of the present Convention shall extend to all parts of federal states without any limitations or exceptions.

4) International Mine Action Standards (IMAS)

The International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) are the standards in force for all UN mine action operations.

Initially endorsed by the UN Inter-Agency Coordination Group on Mine Action in 2001, the IMAS have remained a cornerstone of all mine action field interventions for over seventeen years.

In setting the standard for field operations worldwide, the IMAS framework continues to

actively drive safety, quality and efficiency. It therefore ensures confidence in mine action products across the sector.

The framework is the means by which a number of key disarmament conventions such as the Anti-personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC) and Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) can be practically implemented. It is used by affected countries as the basis for developing their national standards, and by donors to ensure that their support is effectively delivered to those most in need.

2. Legal, Policy and Institutional Framework

1) National Decrees

The Prime Minister's Decree, No. 67 dated the 12th of February 2018, describes the mandate of the NRA, including its role, duties and organisational structure. Article 2 defines the role of the NRA as "a Secretariat in assisting the Government in examining, supervising and coordinating with Line Ministries, Ministry-equivalent Agencies, Local Authorities and International Organisations at all levels to address UXO issues countrywide".

However, there is currently a new Decree on Regulatory for UXO/Mine Action which is due to come into force soon. There will be a revised role and responsibilities of the NRA. Article 67 of the new Decree on the Unexploded Ordnance Regulatory Authority defines four levels of authoritative committees being the Committee on Regulatory Authority at the Central Level, the Committee on Regulatory Authority at the Provincial Level, the Committee on Regulatory Authority at the District Level and

Village Network which extends the work to village levels.

The NRA Office still will function “as the Secretariat in assisting the Government in examining, supervising and coordinating with Line Ministries, Ministry-equivalent Agencies, Local Authorities and International Organisations at all levels to address UXO issues countrywide”. However, the mandate of the NRA Office is in process of revision and some organizational changes given the National Training Centre for Unexploded Ordnance has recently moved from UXO Lao to be under the NRA.

2) Sector Strategic Plan: Safe Path Forward III 2021-2030

The SPF III design was the result of a process of open dialogue and collaboration from all sector stakeholders which informed the final draft of the document. The new SPFIII document outlines the ambitions of the Lao PDR government.

- **Vision:**

By 2030, Lao people live in a safer environment from UXO and accelerate the socio-economic development of the country.

- **Guiding principles:**

The "Safe Path Forward III" for 2021-2030 is developed in line with policies direction, the constitution, laws, national socio-economic development plans, conventions, and international agreements that Lao PDR is a state party to, in order to ensure equality, fairness, transparency and accountability and participation of all parties in the society using modern tools and approach.

- **Overall Goal:**

Ensure safer lives and better livelihoods for target people through effectively

addressing UXO as a barrier to national development by 2030.

Four main goals:

Goal 1. Ensure all Lao people recognize and understand the dangers of UXO for safer communities and reduced casualties.

Goal 2. Land is safe from UXOs.

Goal 3. All UXO victims are well-supported.

Goal 4. Management of the UXO sector is prompt, efficient and effective.

- **Targets:**

By 2030, the UXO sector strives to achieve the following main targets:

Target 1. Reduce the number of UXO casualties to less than 380 people over ten years (average less than 38 people per year);

Target 2. Undertake survey to identify 250,000 hectares of CHAs

Target 3. Conduct clearance of UXO from **100,000** hectares of land for agricultural and development purposes;

Target 4. Support 11,400 UXO victims including livelihood development for better integration into society;

Target 5. UXO activities are integrated into relevant sector plans.

3) 9th National Socio-Economic Development Plan 2021-2025

In Lao PDR, UXO is now being considered as a cross-cutting issue relevant to all other sectors in the 9th NSEDP (2021-2025). Giving the UXO sector its own output (“Output 6: UXO clearance and lives safe from UXO” under “Outcome 3: Gradually enhanced people’s material and mental well-beings as per the direction of food and income security” according to the 9th NSEDP endorsed by GoL on March 2021 would elevate the UXO issue to a national level, increase awareness and adequately reflect the importance of SDG 18. In line with this, “UXO Sector Multi-Year Work Plan” (2021-2025) is being developed to ensure greater alignment with the 9th NSEDP, as well as SPF III. Please refer to Table 1 below for sector targets and priorities.

Targets and Indicators⁴	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake explosive ordnance risk education to inform communities about the risks and safe practices associated with UXO in 3,000 target villages and roll out the UXO curriculum in 500 schools to reduce the number of UXO casualties to less than 40 persons per year; • Conduct non-technical surveys to identify confirmed hazardous areas (CHA) in 2,776 villages, and technical surveys to identify CHA on 250,000 hectares, an average of 50,000 hectares of land per year; • Clear UXO on 50,000 hectares of agricultural land, community areas and economic centres, an average of 10,000 hectares of land per year; • Provide assistance to 5,760 victims of UXO, out of a total of 9,607 victims, in medical treatment, psychological support, healthcare and rehabilitation, vocational training and employment opportunities; of these, provide medical treatment to 250 people, provide psychological support to 250 people, provide rehabilitation to 750 people, provide vocational and on-the-job training to 2,010 people, and raise awareness on the rights of people with disabilities for 2,500 people.
Priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to address the issue of UXO so that people can live their lives safe from UXO and Sustainable Development Goals can be achieved by focusing on: • Disseminating explosive ordnance risk education to the wider community and providing timely assistance to victims so that they can continue their livelihoods and contribute to development; • Conducting more non-technical and technical surveys and increasing UXO clearance operations; • Strengthening UXO clearance agencies in terms of technical capacity, coordination, effective planning and responsibility of each sector; and increasing mobilisation of domestic and foreign financial support; Increasing coordination between the government and civil society organisations, which play an important role in assisting the government in the implementation of UXO clearance.

Table 1. Targets and Priorities of Output 6 in the 9th NSEDP (26th March 2021)

⁴ According to the result review of the past ten years’ achievement in Lao UXO sector, these planned targets and indicators seem to be achieved less than 50%. More support in the UXO sector is necessary to achieve these targets and indicators in the next 5 years.



SDG 18. LIVES SAFE FROM UXO

The GoL has embraced the UXO issues as a key development matter by establishing the national sustainable development goal, SDG 18: Lives safe from UXO, aimed at removing the UXO obstacle to the national development of the country.

There are three targets set under SDG 18

- ✓ By 2030, ensure that annual casualties from UXO accidents are eliminated to the extent possible
- ✓ By 2030, ensure residual UXO activities undertaken and all known UXO contamination in high priority areas and all villages defined as 'poor' cleared
- ✓ By 2030, ensure that all identified UXO survivors and victims have their needs met in health, and support provided for livelihoods/ employment to most poverty-risk survivors

National Sustainable Development Goal in Lao PDR: SDG 18

SDG 18: Remove the UXO Obstacle to National Development				
Selected SDG18 targets	Localized SDG indicators	Year	Available value	Source
18.1. By 2030, ensure that annual casualties from UXO accidents are eliminated to the extent possible.	18.1.1. Number of reported UXO casualties (Disaggregated by age group and sex): Total/ Male (boy)/ Female (girl)	2018 ⁵	T 24 M 15 (boy 9) F 9 (girl 5)	MoLSW / NRA
		2020	T 33 M 29 (boy 12) F 4 (girl 2)	
	18.1.2. Percentage of population in contaminated villages where the population has received information on UXO Confirmed Hazardous Areas (CHAs) (%)	2018	21.2	MoLSW / NRA
		2020	18.2	
18.2. UXO contamination cleared from high priority areas and villages defined as ‘poor’	18.2.1. Percentage of high priority Confirmed Hazardous Areas in remaining to be cleared (%)	2018	99.3	MoLSW / NRA
		2020	99.1	
	18.2.2. Number of villages defined as ‘poor’ with Confirmed Hazardous Areas remaining to be cleared	2018	1,983	MoLSW / NRA
		2019 ⁶	1,526	
18.3. Identified UXO survivors’ health and livelihoods needs met	18.3.1. Percentage of registered active age UXO survivors unable to earn sufficient income with access to basic income security (%)	2018	94.5	MoLSW / NRA
		2020	94.2	
	18.3.2. Percentage of registered UXO survivors mainstreamed into health, education and employment services (%)	2018	19.6	
		2020	20.9	

⁵ 2018, 2019 and 2020 figures are taken from Lao PDR’s Voluntary National Review (2021, GoL) 279472021_VNR_Report_Lao (1)_final.pdf

3. Stakeholder Overview

Multilateral, inter-governmental organizations

- 1) UNDP
 - Manages donor funds to build capacity and provide other support to the NRA and UXO Lao – in 2021 through the UNDP Lao UXO programme 2017-2021.
 - Places technical advisory and support personnel in NRA and UXO Lao.
 - Co-chairs the UXO SWG meeting.
- 2) Geneva International Center for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD)
 - Swiss-based International Non-Governmental Organization (INGO) which amongst other roles acts as international secretariat for the UN-approved IMAS.
 - The NRA is utilizing the IMSMA database which was first developed in 1999 with the GICHD's support.

National Government

- 1) Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA)
 - Within MOFA, the Department of International Organizations acts as the focal point for reporting on Lao PDR's commitments in implementing the CCM at the annual Meetings of States Parties.
- 2) Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare (MoLSW)
 - Provides strategic oversight to the UXO issue in Lao PDR.
 - Minister of LSW Chairs NRA and NRA Boards and also the UNDP Lao UXO Program Board.
- 3) Ministry of Health (MoH)
 - The MoH Centre for Medical Rehabilitation works with COPE, an INGO, to ensure that people with physical disabilities have local, affordable access to a quality, nationally managed rehabilitation service.

- 4) Ministry of National Defence (MND)
 - The MND is responsible for the humanitarian UXO teams of the LPA.
 - The MND supports these teams' salary costs, ensuring their long-term sustainability.
- 5) Lao Women's Union (LWU)
 - LWU and UN Women jointly produced the manual for trainers on gender mainstreaming in UXO sector in Lao PDR with support from Canada.
 - Could continue to support UXO gender issues.
- 6) Lao Youth Union (LYU)
 - LYU cooperates as village volunteers in Bolikhamxay and Salavan provinces and implements EORE activities in their communities funded by Turkish government through UNDP in 2020.

National UXO Operators –Government

- 1) Lao National Unexploded Ordnance Programme (UXO Lao)
 - Original national UXO operator established in 1996 with support from MAG, UNICEF, UNDP and other partners.
 - Is mandated to reduce the number of UXO casualties and accidents; and to increase the amount of the land available for food production and for other socio-economic development.
 - Undertakes Non-Technical Survey (NTS), Technical Survey (TS), clearance, Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) and EORE.
- 2) UXO Humanitarian Team of Lao People's Army (Unit 58)
 - Established in 2013. Focuses on survey and Area Clearance (AC).
 - Significant clearance activity funding from KOICA via UNDP.
 - Salaries paid by the MND.

Humanitarian UXO Operators- INGOs

- 1) The HALO Trust
 - UXO operator undertaking NTS, TS,

clearance, EOD and EORE.

2) Humanity & Inclusion (HI)

- UXO operator undertaking NTS, TS, clearance, EOD and EORE, within a comprehensive framework that includes post-clearance socioeconomic development.

3) Japan Mine Action Service (JMAS)

- Promotes UXO clearance with the Cluster Submunition Clearance Machine, which cuts bushes around the site and mechanically disposes of cluster submunitions.

4) Mines Advisory Group (MAG)

- Pioneered UXO action in Lao PDR since 1994 including assisting the establishment of UXO Lao.
- UXO operator undertaking NTS, TS, clearance, EOD and EORE.

5) Norwegian People's Aid (NPA)

- UXO operator undertaking NTS, TS, clearance, EOD and EORE.
- Also provides capacity needs assessment and support to NRA; and supports NRA's IM unit, through the Virtual Private Network (VPN) access to the IMSMA database.

6) World Education (WE)

- Manages two major US funded programs in Lao PDR
- Victims Medical Fund assisting UXO survivors and their families.
- Comprehensive EORE program including school curricula and teacher training in EORE.

7) Cooperative Prosthetic and Orthotic Enterprise (COPE)

- Partners with the Ministry of Health rehabilitation centres to provide nationwide physical rehabilitation services including UXO survivors.

8) Terra Renaissance (TR)

- Undertakes EORE activities in UXO impacted areas of the country.

Commercial UXO organizations/ operators accredited in 2021

- 1) ASA
- 2) AUSLAO Group
- 3) BSL
- 4) CHIFENG Lane Xang Mineral Limited
- 5) Duangchaleun
- 6) Great
- 7) INSEE
- 8) L&B
- 9) LAUNCH
- 10) LCY
- 11) Milsearch-Lao
- 12) NLN
- 13) Oumma
- 14) Phanvila
- 15) PSD
- 16) PSV
- 17) SBH
- 18) SDK
- 19) Sengphet
- 20) SG
- 21) SILAVAN
- 22) WOMA
- 23) XTD

Others

- 1) Tetra Tech (TT)
 - Manages US government support to the UXO sector in Lao.
 - Has managers and advisers supporting UXO Lao.
- 2) Quality of Life Association (QLA)
 - Provides support to victims of UXO, Persons with Disabilities (PWD) and poorer persons.

Overview: National Regulatory Authority for UXO/Mine Action in Lao PDR (NRA)



The National Regulatory Authority for UXO/Mine Action in Lao PDR (NRA) is an institution under the Government of Lao PDR responsible for providing policy direction, accreditation and managing and coordinating national and international operators. The NRA also acts as the technical focal point for all matters relating to international conventions and treaties and has a mandate to participate in international meetings and conferences related to UXO/ Mine Action and Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) as assigned by the Government of Lao PDR.

The NRA is responsible for the development and implementation of the National Strategic Plan for the UXO/mine action sector through a consultative process with the implementing agencies. External quality assurance, post-clearance impact assessment and overall monitoring of the sector are also responsibilities of the NRA.

The NRA is directed by a high-level inter-ministerial Board composed of representatives from 12 Government ministries and each province: Labour and Social Welfare (Chair), National Defence (Vice Chair), Foreign Affairs (Vice Chair), Planning and Investment (Vice-

Chair), Provinces, Public Health, Information, Culture and Tourism, Agriculture and Forestry, Finance, Post and Telecommunication, National Resources and Environment, Public Work and Transportation, Public Security, Education and Sport, Lao Front for National Construction, Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union, Lao Women's Union.

The NRA Office provides comprehensive secretarial and administrative support for the Board, as well as implements required operational activity. The NRA was established in partnership with the UNDP and continues with its ongoing support.

The structure of the NRA office is divided into two main sections: support and operations.

There are several sub-units housed under these sections, supervised by two deputy directors respectively.

Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE)

The EORE Unit of the NRA is responsible for ensuring the coordination and collaboration of operators conducting EORE activities. The Unit ensures operators work to national standards and

assists in the development of appropriate materials. The key achievements for 2021 include:

- Supporting the roll out of key EORE messages via provincial radio stations at a frequency of 8 times a month for each month of the year across 5 provincial radio stations in Vientiane Capital, Khammouane, Sekong, Salavan and Champasack.
- Coordinating EORE activities by village youth volunteers in 44 villages across 2 provinces in Xiengkhouang and Khammouane provinces. From training undertaken in 2020, volunteers disseminated EORE activities benefitting 5,294 individuals.
- Undertook an EORE workshop for NRA Provincial offices (PRAs) between the 6th and 11th of September 2021 at Thalat district, Vientiane province. Participants included the PRAs from Vientiane, Khammouane, Savannakhet, Salavan, Sekong, Champsaka, Attapeu, Xaysomboun, Bolikhamxai, PhongSaly, Xiengkhouang, LongPhabang, Huaphan, and also included representatives from Unit 58.

UXO Victim Assistance (VA)

The NRA VA Unit is responsible for ensuring the establishment of a national database on UXO/mine casualties and making sure that the

specific needs of survivors of mine/UXO accidents are addressed by the relevant operators.

The key achievements for 2021 include:

- Recorded new UXO accidents and casualties in IMSMA database and published monthly updates on NRA website. During the year (January to December 2021) there were 35 accidents, resulting in 63 new UXO casualties (47 injured and 16 killed).
- Conducted field missions to follow-up on new UXO accidents in provinces across the country. The NRA VA unit conducted three field missions in 7 provinces (21 in total) in Xiengkhuang, Huaphan, Vientiane, Savannakhet, Champasak, Sekong and Attapeu.
- Victim assistance project (Phase 2) which supported by South Korea via KOICA in Laos.
- This project is located in Xiengkhouang and Huaphan province to improve the quality of life of UXO victims by generating income through vocational training and providing livestock.
- The NRA VA unit provided assistance and ensured medical care for new UXO survivors who suffered accidents in 2021.

UXO Survey and Clearance

The UXO Survey and Clearance Unit is responsible driving efficiency and effectiveness amongst clearance operators. During 2021, the unit:

- Held 3 technical Working Group (TWG) meetings for the year.
- Conducted workshops on Coordination and Prioritization of UXO Technical Survey in Paksan District, Bolikhamxay for the Khammouane Provincial and District Authorities. From the 23rd to 27th of August 2021, the clearance unit conducted a Workshop on Coordination and Priorities of UXO Survey and Clearance for the Xaysomboun provincial and District authorities in Paksan District, Bolikhamxai Province.
- Issues of overlapping data collection between UXO Lao and MAG.
- The redistribution of responsibility for UXO survey between UXO Lao and MAG.
- The UXO clearance process and approval by each level of administration to ensure transparency and compliance with land use requirements after clearance.
- Prioritization planning and linkages with

The unit also conducted provincial coordination and field monitoring visits, as well as supported the implementing of priorities for survey and clearance activities amongst operators and PRAs. Over the year, the clearance unit visited operator clearance activities of UXO Lao, the Halo trust, and MAG in Khammouane, Savannaket and Xiengkhouang. Issues addressed included:

UNDP Contribution

In 2021, UNDP has worked closely with international development partners⁷, to support the UXO sector through technical and programmatic advisory and capacity development to NRA and UXO Lao. In doing so, UNDP contributed to all output- and outcome-level achievements attributed to the sector.

1. Oversight Management and Procurement

The UNDP Country Office (CO) worked closely with the NRA and UXO Lao to oversee the implementation of coordination and oversight activities for the UXO sector and provided technical and administrative support. To provide the necessary sector-level guidance, the UNDP provided technical advisory support to the NRA and UXO Lao through the deployment of a Finance Specialist and a Programme and Reporting Specialist, who provided full-time support to the NRA and UXO Lao as needed and supported strategic planning, project management and financial management.

2. Sector Leadership

As a co-chair of UXO sector working group, the UNDP assisted the Government of Lao PDR (GoL) in the coordination and the contribution of various partners in the UXO sector and support in developing a new ten-year national UXO sector strategy, Safe Path Forward III 2021-2030 (SPF III). The UNDP assisted the GoL in overseeing the funding gaps within the sector and ensuring sustainability of activities after the completion of funding arrangements under various donor Contribution Agreements.

3. Capacity Development

The UNDP advisory team closely collaborated with other development Partners to strengthen the capacity of the NRA and UXO Lao staff through assistance in the development of the new sector strategies and work plan. The UNDP also reviewed drafts of NRA and UXO Lao's 2021 Annual Work Plan (AWP) and assisted in its finalization after the Project Board Meeting, provided guidance on the 2021 procurement Plan, assisted the NRA and UXO Lao in preparation for the annual audit and Micro Assessment and implementation of related audit recommendations. The UNDP team also worked closely with the NRA and

⁷ Ireland, New Zealand, Republic of Korea (KOICA), Luxembourg, and Türkiye

UXO Lao to prepare and successfully submit several donor-specific reports as well as annual project progress reports and assisted the NRA in the preparation of the UXO Sector Annual Report.

4. Resource Mobilization

UNDP has been instrumental in engaging new and previous donors in financing the UXO sector. The new cost sharing arrangement with the government of New Zealand signed in 2020 provides new funding to the NRA and UXO Lao through UNDP to continue supporting UXO Lao Xiengkhouang (XK) team and enhance the effectiveness of the national UXO training centre and the sector through NRA in line with other activities under this framework (2021-2024). UNDP has been discussing with other existing and potential donors such as Luxembourg, Ireland, Japan, Germany, Canada and other development partners to support the sector beyond 2021. UNDP has successfully secured additional funding support from Ireland for UXO Lao and NRA's unfunded activities and procurement in 2021.

5. The Second Review Conference of the Convention on Cluster Munitions (2RC)

Due to COVID 19 restrictions on international travel, this year the Ministry of Foreign Affairs decided to nominate the Permanent Mission of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the United Nations Office in Geneva to take part in the Second Review Conference of the Convention on Cluster Munitions (2RC) which was held on 20-21 September 2021 in hybrid format at the Palais des Nations, Geneva.

6. The 24th International Meeting for National Director for Mine Action and United Nations Advisor (virtual meeting) in Bonn, Germany date 24-27 May 2021

Representatives from the NRA office led by Mr. Chomyaeng Phengthongsawat, Director General of the NRA and Mr. Chanmy Keodara, International Cooperation and Treaty Officer, attended the virtual meeting of the 24th International Meeting for National Directors for Mine Action and United Nations Advisors. Representatives has provided feedback and comments to the meeting written by provided some key points on issue and challenges of mine action operation in Lao PDR in the year of pandemic outbreak of COVID-19.

Financial Report

Projected Expenditure (per AWP) vs. Actual Expenditure by Donor (in USD) For the Year 1 January - 31 December 2021

Donors	Projected Expenditures (per AWP) – Original (USD)	Actual Expenditures (USD)	Actual Exp./ Projected Exp. (%)
UNDP-Managed Funds			
KOICA	1,338,715	1,003,983	75%
New Zealand	343,195	252,692	74%
Ireland	247,983	244,755	99%
Luxembourg	54,571	52,805	97%
Türkiye	6,206	-	0%
UNDP (TRAC-2)	110,000	94,291	86%
Government of Lao PDR ⁸	-	1,030	-
<i>Total</i>	<i>2,100,671</i>	<i>1,649,555</i>	<i>79%</i>
Bilateral Funds			
Tetra Tech (TT)	20,000	0	0%
<i>Total</i>	<i>20,000</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0%</i>
Unfunded	656,916	0	0%
GRAND TOTAL (Including Unfunded)	2,777,587	1,649,555	59%
GRAND TOTAL (Excluding Unfunded)	2,100,671	1,649,555	79%

Donors Contribution in 2021 (USD)

Amounts Received between 1 January and 31 December 2021	
Donor lists	Amount
KOICA	939,033
Ireland	118,666
New Zealand	157,985
Luxembourg	3,572
Total	1,219,256

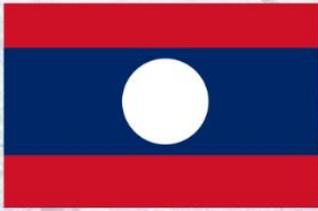
Transfers of Funds in 2021 (USD)

Funds transferred to another UXO sector operator	
Which organization were the funds transferred to?	How much was transferred?
Unit 58	97,799
Total	97,799⁹

⁸ Difference in exchange rate

⁹ Transferred fund had been received from KOICA and the transaction of 97,799 USD can be found from Unit 58's report (p.72 "Financial Report – Donor Contribution in 2021 (USD)")

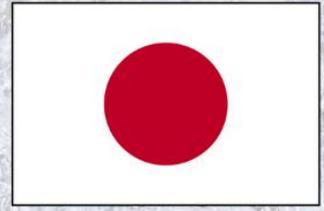
Donor Countries



Lao PDR



Ireland



Japan



Luxembourg



Netherlands



New Zealand



Norway



Republic of Korea



Türkiye



United Kingdom



United States



UNDP

Other Donors:

- Freeman Foundation
- Japanese Mine Action Service
- Norwegian Labour Union
- World Without Mines

UXO Operators Report

CNVFILLM FF1



23 ▶

CANVA STORIES

HUMANITARIAN OPERATORS¹⁰

¹⁰ UXO Operators' Report was composed in reference to the annual activity reports received by respective operators

Lao National Unexploded Ordnance Programme (UXO Lao)



Key activities in 2021

UXO Lao continued to implement its activities across nine of the most-heavily contaminated provinces in Lao PDR, the activities conducted throughout 2021 included:

▪ **Mine Risk Education / EORE**

UXO Lao conducted EORE with the aim to increase the awareness of people living in UXO-affected areas to the dangers of UXOs through various educational activities, for instance; songs, dances, plays, Q&As and puppet shows.

▪ **Non-Technical Survey / NTS**

UXO Lao conducted NTS by reviewing all UXO-related data on a village-by-village basis and consulting with as many households as possible to locate all known UXO contamination in the village. In addition, NTS identifies UXO for roving tasks and cluster munition evidence for follow up technical survey (TS). NTS also generates sketch maps of villages showing UXO related information such as previous clearance, confirmed hazardous areas (CHAs) and evidence points.

▪ **Technical Survey / TS**

Conducted TS by using the cluster munition (CM) evidence points as the starting points from which

detectors search systematically outwards in all directions to find the limits of the CM contamination. Boxes of 50 by 50 meters are used to manage and control the TS task. Boxes are searched until either a CM is found or 50% of the area is covered. If a box contains CM evidence, then the search continues in the adjacent boxes. Once the boundaries of the CM contamination have been identified the contaminated area is recorded and reported to the NRA as a CHA.

▪ **Area Clearance / AC**

UXO Lao conducted area clearance by focusing on clearance of CHAs, however as a GoL organization, UXO Lao sometimes carries out donor-approved AC for development projects. AC involves dedicated teams detecting and clearing land to a depth based on the intended land use. For agriculture, this depth is normally 25 centimeters. During AC, all UXOs are removed from the cleared area to the required depth of clearance.

▪ **Roving Tasks / RT**

UXO Lao conducted roving or spot tasks which involve the on-demand removal and destruction of UXOs when they are reported by villagers or survey teams.

Key achievements in 2021

The following information summarizes UXO Lao's achievements against targets in 2021

Tasks	Targets	Achievements	% Completed	Outcomes
EORE	332 villages to be visited	306 villages	92%	Reaching 156,682 people made aware of risks associated with UXOs through mine risk education.
NTS	94 villages to be surveyed	94 villages	100%	967 UXO items found during NTS conducted, of which, 647 items were cluster sub-munitions.
TS	4,200 hectares to be marked as Confirmed Hazardous Areas (CHAs)	4,731 hectares (417 sites)	113%	6,626 UXO items found during TS (83% were cluster sub-munitions)
AC	2,679 hectares to be cleared	2,653 hectares	99%	2,607 ha were allocated for agriculture and 46 ha were utilized for development projects purposes. During AC, a total of 33,736 UXO items were destroyed (78% were cluster sub-munitions and reaching a total of 43,199 beneficiaries.
RT	N/A	1,270 visits made in 521 villages across nine provinces	N/A	12,256 UXO items destroyed (71% were cluster sub-munitions)
UXO Destroyed	N/A	45,992 items of UXO destroyed	N/A	UXOs destroyed includes: 54 large aerial bombs, 35,028 CM, 27 mines and 10,883 other UXOs.

Case Study 1

In 2021, UXO Lao cleared over 2,600 hectares of agricultural land across 9 provinces, ensuring people can live safely and work in the fields without worry and fear, a few selected examples are given below:

For more than forty years, 44-year-old farmer **Minla Thanousone** and her husband, mother, and two children have been living in Tonneua village, Pek District, Xiengkhuang province, UXO contaminated area. Her family knows their land is at risk of contamination, and they have no choice, but to grow vegetables and livestock to survive.

Every year she works carefully on the land that has not been cleared. She can produce rice about 3-4 tons a year and sell about 1-2 tons a year, keeping the rest for survival. she also earns about 21 million kips per year from selling rice and vegetables such as cucumber, peppers, garlic and onion.

The UXO Lao clearance team cleared 14,570 square meters of Minla's from 1st to 10th November 2021, a total of 63 UXO found and destroyed, 43 of which were cluster munitions.

“My land was cleared by Xiengkhuang's clearance team and my family is now safe from UXO. I think that I will produce more rice and vegetables. In the future, I will expand my land for growing cassava and fishpond to make more money. Finally, I appreciate the donors who supported land clearance and thank the UXO Lao Xiengkhuang teams who released my land from

In late 2021, Domphone found a cluster munition in his back yard and reported it to the village authority and contacted UXO Lao Xiengkhuang directly to destroy it. Tonneua is a high

UXO and I hope that in the future there will be no more UXO in our province”- she said.



Case Study 2

Domphone Simmavong, 44-year-old farmer, lives in high contamination area in Tonneua village, Pek district for more than 40 years. He told that when he was young, during the Indochina war, his family was involved in an UXO accident near his house. As a result, his father passed away and his mother was injured from the UXO fragment.

After the bereavement of the head of the family his mother with three children works every day growing rice and vegetables, even though they worry about cluster munitions. They know their paddy field was contaminated, therefore, the dig carefully. For more than 20 years that he has been farming to take care of his family in the highly contaminated area. Every year he can produce rice for about 3 tons a year and sell about 1 ton of un-milled rice, and his income is about 23 million kip per year.

contamination area, this village has been determined as a CHAs and is a priority for clearance.

The UXO Lao clearance team released 8,085 square meters from November 11 to 17, 2021. A total of 45 UXO were found, 20 of which were cluster munitions. Domphone is very happy to see his land is safe from UXO “I feel that my family is safe from UXO and I also planned growing more vegetables and cassava for selling” Domphone said.



Challenges

- Dense vegetation remained an issue and slowed down both TS and AC field operations. Vegetation cutting was the main obstacle for teams because they had to cut dense vegetation by themselves. Due to the limited number of powered brush cutters provided, manual brush cutting increased the number of days spent cutting vegetation. This affected survey and clearance outputs and the achievement of annual targets. UXO Lao and Tetra Tech are planning to introduce the manual vegetation cutting teams in Savannakhet province as a trial project in 2022 to cope with dense vegetation issue at the field, the outputs of practical can be extended to other provinces in the years to come.
- Currently, UXO Lao deploys the clearance and TS teams to conduct roving tasks when an emergency report of UXO is submitted by villagers or the NTS team, as this is dangerous for the communities. However, roving tasks reduce the operational

efficiency and productivity of the TS and AC teams that perform them, and UXO Lao needs roving teams in each province. Due to funding shortfalls, UXO Lao is unable to employ roving teams for each province, except for Xiengkhuang province where UXO Lao receives funding support from the New Zealand Government through UNDP which the roving activity is run by specific team.

- In 2022, UXO Lao could possibly facing difficulty to run its operations in Luang Prabang Huaphan, Champasak and Sekong provinces due to the funding shortfall. Without new funding support, UXO Lao will standdown its operations in those provinces which will affecting the annual targets and expected outputs for 2022.

Partnerships

In 2021, UXO Lao collaborated with and was supported by a large number of local and international partners, including:

- The National Regulatory Authority for UXO/Mine Action Sector in Lao PDR (NRA)
- The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- The Government of Ireland
- The Government of Japan
- The Government of Lao PDR
- The Grand Duchy of Luxembourg
- The Government of New Zealand
- The Government of the United States of America
- Cambodian Mine Action Centre (CMAC)
- Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
- Japan Mine Action Service (JMAS)
- Japan International Cooperation System (JICS)
- Tetra Tech (TT)
- World Without Mines Foundation (WWM)

Priority activities for 2022

The following table shows UXO Lao AWP activities and target for 2022:

Provinces	Mine Risk Education (villages)	Non-Technical Survey (villages)	Technical Survey (ha.)	Area Clearance (ha.)
Luang Prabang	45	14	300	111
Huaphan	54	14	500	140
Xiengkhuang	50	15	1,200	705
Khammuane	60	12	500	355
Savannakhet	50	12	900	665
Salavan	60	12	500	383
Sekong	12	12	300	240
Champasak	50	16	450	202
Attapeu	50	12	350	388
Total	431	119	5,000	3,189



Operations Locations

Activity	Districts/Provinces
EORE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Luangprabang, Pakou, Nambak, Ngoi, Pakxeng, Phonxay, Phoukhoun/ Luang Prabang • Xamneua, Hiem, Viengxay, Xone/ Huaphan • Pek, Kham, Phoukood and Morkmay/ Xiengkhuang • Mahaxay, Boualapha, Xaybouathong, Xebangfay/ Khammuane • Phin, Sepon, Nong, Thaphalanxay and Vilabouly/ Savannakhet • Salavane, Ta Oi, Toumlan, Vapi, Khongxedon, Lao Ngam and Samouay/ Salavan • Lamam, Kaleum, Dakcheung and Thateng/ Sekong • Bachiengchaleunsouk, Paksong, Pathoumphone, Champasak, Mounlapamok, Sanasomboon, Soukhuma and Khong/ Champasak • Saysettha, Samkkhixay, Sanamxay, Sanxay and Phouvong/ Attapeu
NTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Luangprabang, Pakou, Nambak, Ngoi, Pakxeng, Phonxay, Phoukhoun/ Luang Prabang • Xamneua, Viengxay, Xone/ Huaphan • Pek, Kham, Phoukood and Morkmay/ Xiengkhuang • Mahaxay, Boualapha, Xaybouathong, Xebangfay/ Khammuane • Phin, Sepon, Nong, Thaphalanxay and Vilabouly/ Savannakhet • Salavane, Ta Oi, Toumlan, Vapi, Khongxedon, Lao Ngam and Samouay/ Salavan • Lamam, Kaleum, Dakcheung and Thateng/ Sekong • Pakse, Bachiengchaleunsouk, Paksong, Pathoumphone, Mounlapamok, Sanasomboon, Soukhuma and Khong/ Champasak • Saysettha, Samkkhixay, Sanamxay, Sanxay and Phouvong/ Attapeu

Financial Report

Summary of Funds Received (in USD) for the period of 1 January - 31 December 2021

Fund Sources	Earmarked (USD)	Unearmarked (USD)	Total (USD)	% to Total
UNDP-Managed Funds				
New Zealand	982,092	-	982,092	12%
Ireland	-	204,869	204,869	3%
Luxembourg	-	-	-	0%
Canada	-	-	-	0%
<i>Total</i>	982,092	204,869	1,186,961	15%
Bilateral Funds				
TT	5,436,295	-	5,436,295	68%
JICS	1,094,054	-	1,094,054	14%
NPA	-	-	-	0%
WWM	153,754	-	153,754	2%
Counterpart Fund	-	-	-	0%
JMAS	134,610	-	134,610	2%
<i>Total</i>	6,818,712	-	6,818,712	85%
Government Contribution and Others				
Government of Lao PDR	-	-	-	0%
Various - LP Sales Proceeds, Training Fees	-	3,064	3,064	0%
<i>Total</i>	-	3,064	3,064	0%
GRAND TOTAL	7,800,804	207,933	8,008,738	100%
% TOTAL	97%	3%		100%

Projected Expenditure (per AWP) vs. Actual Expenditure by Donor (in USD) For the Year 1 January - 31 December 2021

Donors	Projected Expenditures (per AWP) – Original (USD)	Projected Expenditures (per AWP) – Revised (USD)	Actual Expenditures (USD)	Actual Exp./ Projected Exp. (%)
UNDP-Managed Funds				
New Zealand	1,596,203	1,618,143	1,596,262	99%
Ireland	70,000	272,661	211,641	78%
Luxembourg	37,500	39,660	39,660	100%
Australia	-	-	1	-
Republic of Korea	-	-	394	-
<i>Total</i>	1,703,703	1,930,464	1,847,958	96%

Bilateral Funds				
TT	5,582,912	6,277,319	5,462,827	98%
JICS	2,093,983	2,093,983	1,498,043	72%
WWM	191,835	191,835	170,630	89%
Norway	-	-	14	-
Counterpart Fund	-	-	29,899	-
JMAS	-	228,398	135,912	-
<i>Total</i>	<i>7,868,730</i>	<i>8,791,536</i>	<i>7,297,325</i>	<i>83%</i>
Government Contribution and Others				
Others	-	-	23,041	-
Unfunded	1,237,936	408,739	0	0%
GRAND TOTAL (Including Unfunded)	10,810,369	11,130,739	9,168,324	82%
GRAND TOTAL (Excluding Unfunded)	9,572,433	10,722,000	9,168,324	86%

Donors Contribution in 2021 (USD)

Amounts Received between 1 January and 31 December 2021	
Donor lists	Amount
New Zealand	982,092
Ireland	204,869
TT	5,436,295
JICS	1,094,054
JMAS	134,610
WWM	153,754
Others	3,064
Total	8,008,738

Transfers of Funds in 2021 (USD)

Funds transferred to another UXO sector operator	
Which organization were the funds transferred to?	How much was transferred?
N/A	N/A
Total	-

Mines Advisory Group (MAG)



Activities in 2021

In 2021 MAG continued to implement high quality humanitarian mine action activities across two of the most heavily contaminated provinces in the country, Xiengkhouang and Khammouane. MAG also undertook extensive recruitment and training during 2021 as part of a significant expansion for clearance operations in Xieng Khouang. Activities conducted by MAG during 2021 include:

- NTS, during which the Community Liaison Teams (CLTs) conduct multiple village meetings, community mapping exercises and carries out household interviews to develop a comprehensive profile of the UXO contamination within that community. The CLTs continue to conduct their investigation of a village until they are satisfied that all historical data has been verified and any new evidence points gathered for future technical survey activities.
- TS is then carried out in areas where contamination has been confirmed through the NTS process. TS results in the establishment of CHA. MAG deployed 20 TS teams in Xiengkhouang province and one in Khammouane province.
- Clearance of land in priority CHAs, resulting in land that can be returned to the community for safe and productive use. MAG deployed 32 clearance teams in Xiengkhouang and 15 in Khammouane.
- 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.

- EORE sessions for communities.

Key achievements in 2021

With funding the US, UK and Norwegian and Luxembourg Governments, as well as a number of smaller donors, MAG continued humanitarian mine action activities in Khammouane and Xiengkhouang.

Key outputs for 2021 were:

- NTS of 58 villages, 35 in Khammouane and 23 in Xiengkhouang.
- TS established more than 16,000 hectares of confirmed hazardous area.
- Clearance activities resulted in more than 1,035 hectares being returned to communities. This included support for a number of development projects such as schools, bridges and tourism sites.
- Destruction of 20,348 items of UXO; 87% of which were cluster submunitions, through all activities (TS, clearance and EOD spot tasks)
- Roving teams responded to 2,236 spot tasks resulting in the destruction on 3,493 items of UXO.
- 274 EORE sessions with 6,571 people (1,740 women, 1,574 men, 825 girls and 859 boys).

Case Story

Mr. Vong is the village chief of Tham village, Khoun district, Xiengkhouang province. The village has 52 households.

“I have been the village chief since 1998. I receive a report from people in my village about a bomb they have found every week. Our village has many unexploded bombs, we have to be careful all the time when carrying our daily activities, such as farming, gardening or collecting food and wood from the forest.

In 1998 when I was using my buffalo to prepare the ground for planting rice I found 25 bombs in my rice fields in a single day. I was terrified, but I had no choice. I had to accept the reality as it was. If I left the bombs where I found them, I couldn't continue my rice planting. So I collected them into my wooden basket and put them all in a pond far away from the rice fields. For my village, life relies on agriculture, but the unexploded bombs stopped people from completely using the land. And in some areas it was totally impossible to use even a single meter. We made a request for the community land to be cleared. The area designated for clearance was divided between each household in the village,” said Mr. Vong.

In 2015, MAG cleared a further 50,157 square metres of community land in Tham village and found and destroyed 245 bombs.

“Previously, people in the village had tried to use the community land, but they found many bombs, they were scared and finally stopped using it. But after clearance, we can use it freely. We don't worry about bombs anymore. We use this land for gardening and growing vegetables to eat and sell. There are over 20 household using this land to plant vegetables in their section of the land. Each year households earn between 5-10,000,000 kip per year (USD 500 - 1,000) from gardening here. People who garden here also have free water to use year-round because in around 2017, after clearance, a Korean-funded project built a dam and irrigation system for us, and we have good product as a result,” Mr. Vong explained.

One resident who uses the land is Mrs Lamking.

“In the past, I let people rent my garden because my children were little. I have around 4,000m² of garden land. When my children reached 10 years old, I went back to using the garden myself. I have been gardening here for two years and each year [I earn money from the land]. Most of my plants are cabbages. I have used the money I have saved from using this garden to build a new house, I just finished it last year,” explains Mrs. Lamking.

Focus areas of work in 2022

- MAG will continue to seek funding for a range of donors to maintain and increase our operations in Lao PDR. MAG has secured new funding from the Luxembourg Government for 2022 which will support our work in Khammouane and in addition has secured a matched funding grant from the UK Government which will see a fundraising campaign in 2022 to support a clearance team in Khammouane in 2023. This will be an excellent opportunity to increase the awareness and reach new audiences and donors for Laos.
- MAG’s objective and organizational priorities in 2022 will be to continue to deliver high-quality, cost-effective operations. MAG will continue to conduct evidenced-based survey and clearance activities in Xieng Khouang and Khammouane. MAG will also continue to focus on enhancing operational efficiencies and effectiveness while delivering quality high-impact land release to beneficiary communities and development partners.
- MAG will also focus on the prioritization and impact of our work. Working closely with Government of Lao PDR partners and the communities where we work, same as seeking strategic partnerships and collaboration with other organizations which can maximize the impact of our clearance.
- MAG will also have a strong focus on gender, diversity and inclusion. MAG will embed gender-sensitivity and diversity and inclusion in our programming and practices, implementing strategies and suggestions from the last assessments.

Geography of operations

Activity	Districts/ Provinces
NTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mahaxai/ Khammouane • Nonghed, Pek/ Xieng Khouang
TS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bualapha/ Khammouane • Kham, Khoun, Nonghed, Pek, Phaxai, Phoukout/ Xieng Khouang
AC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bualapha, Gnommalath, Xaibouathong/ Khammouan • Khoun, Nonghed, Pek, Phaxai, Phoukout/ Xieng Khouang
RT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bualapha, Gnommalath, Mahaxai/ Khammouan • Kham, Khoun, Nonghed, Pek, Phaxai, Phoukout/ Xieng Khouang
EORE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mahaxai/ Khammouan • Khoun, Phaxai, Nonghet/ Xieng Khouang
Post-Clearance Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Xieng Khouang and Khammouane
Quality Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal -Quality Management in Xieng Khouang and Khammouane

Financial Report

MoU Project Name	Sign date	Period	Total amount from MoU (USD)	Breakdown yearly (USD)	Donor
UXO Survey in Xieng Khouang province, Lao PDR	21/09/18	To 31/12/21 and extended to 30/04/22	14,562,915	4,401,070	Weapons Removal and Abatement (WRA)
UXO Survey in Xieng Khouang province, Lao PDR (additional fund)	19/10/20	To 31/12/21	6,534,333	3,644,473	Weapons Removal and Abatement (WRA)
UXO Clearance in Khammouane province, Lao PDR (Phase II)	18/11/20	To 31/03/21	1,759,459	602,117	UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO)
Integrated Survey and Clearance of Cluster Munitions Contamination in Boualapha district, Khammouane province, Lao PDR (Phase VI)	22/12/20	To 31/07/21	542,363	394,458	Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (NMFA)
UXO clearance in support of community development in Gnommalath district, Khammouane province, Lao PDR	19/07/19	To 31/08/20 and extended to 28/02/21	500,000	43,206	United Methodist Committee on Relief of the General Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church
Clearing cluster munitions and unexploded ordnance from rural poor communities in Langkang-Vangmaner Focus Development Areas, Boualapha district, Khammouane province, Lao PDR, Phase II	24/03/20	To 31/08/21	272,728	149,584	Freeman Foundation
UXO Clearance in Khammouane province	26/05/21	To 30/06/21	90,000	90,000	HQ

Clearance of explosive ordnance for key development sites in Khammouane	20/01/21	To 31/01/22 and extended to 31/03/22	150,803	95,371	Luxembourg Development
Community Liaison and Emergency Response for Explosive Ordnance in Khammouane province	30/09/21	To 19/03/22	227,869	95,218	The Embassy of Japan in the Lao PDR
Integrated Survey and Clearance of Clusters Munitions Contamination in Boualapha.	08/02/22	To 31/07/22	667,096	131,905	NMFA
Clearing cluster munitions and UXO in Langkhang	19/05/22	To 31/08/22	203,780	82,098	Freeman Foundation
UXO Clearance in Khammouane province	21/03/22	To 31/03/22	1,079,855	572,249	UK FCDO

Direct cost (USD) received in 2021: 10,301,749 USD

Details expenditure for direct cost (summary from the period of January-December 2021 only): (USD)

Item	Amount
Personnel costs	1,709,796
Operational costs	7,014,319
EORE	134,231
UXO survey and clearance	6,880,088
Equipment costs	1,577,634
Total	10,301,749

Indirect cost (USD) received in 2021: 0 USD

Details expenditure for In-Direct cost (summary from the period of January-December 2021 only): (USD)

Item	Amount
Personnel costs	-
Equipment costs	-
Total	0

Donor contributions for 2021 (USD)

Item	Amount
U.S. State Department, Bureau of Political-Military Affairs Weapons Removal and Abatement (PM/WRA)	8,045,543
The United Kingdom's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO)	1,174,366
Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (NMFA)	526,363
United Methodist Committee on Relief of the General Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church (UMCOR)	43,206
Freeman Foundation	231,682
MAG Headquarters	90,000
Luxembourg Aid and Development (through its development cooperation agency LuxDev)	95,371
The Embassy of Japan in the Lao PDR	95,218
Total	10,301,749

Norwegian People's Aid (NPA)



Activities in 2021

In 2021, with additional funding from the Government of the United States, NPA expanded its clearance capacity significantly to deploy 20 BAC teams across all four southern provinces of Lao PDR, up from 9 BAC teams in 2020, while retaining a smaller capacity to respond to new survey requirements.

NPA conducted three primary activities during 2021:

- **Clearance** of high priority confirmed hazardous areas (CHAs) in Attapeu, Champasak, Saravane and Sekong provinces. NPA deployed 20 battle area clearance (BAC) teams in these provinces.
- **Cluster munition remnants survey (CMRS)**, including **non-technical survey** and **technical survey** in Attapeu, Champasak, and Saravane provinces. NPA deployed 8 CMRS teams in these provinces.
- **Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD)/Roving Tasks** in Attapeu, Champasak, Saravane, and Sekong provinces.

Key achievements in 2021

As recorded in the Lao PDR IMSMA database, NPA's key achievements in 2021 included:

- **Clearance:** 5.42km² (542 hectares) of contaminated land was cleared and handed over for use by local communities.
- **TS:** Approximately 5km² (502 hectares) covered by technical survey. A total number of 38 areas were confirmed as hazardous, with a size of approx. 1.59km² (159 hectares).
- **UXO Destruction:** Over 6,790 items, including 6,248 cluster munition remnants and 542 items of other UXO were found and destroyed during clearance, survey, and EOD spot task activities.
- **EOD/RT:** NPA teams completed 128 EOD/roving tasks, destroying 775 items of UXO and 1 anti-personnel mine.
- **Beneficiaries:** NPA recorded 6,558 persons as directly benefitting and 58,775 persons indirectly benefitting from survey and clearance activities in 2021.
- **Gender and diversity:** NPA continued its work with Proud To Be Us Laos, a national organization campaigning for the rights and non-discrimination of all persons regardless of sexual orientation, gender, identity, and expression (SOGIE), to hold a series of workshops, focused interviews, and staff trainings to promote gender equality and respect for SOGIE rights.
- **Environmental protection:** In partnership with Zero Waste Laos, NPA held our second-annual environmental awareness trainings for

over 400 staff members. We developed green office and operations tools to monitor NPA's environmental footprint; set up recycling points and composting facilities in 3 high schools in NPA's areas of operations; and supported Youth for Sustainable Development Goals events, with a focus on environmental protection, climate change, and SDG 18 on Lives Safe from UXO.

Case Study



Ms Khambay and her family (NPA Photo)

Ms. Khambay Munloun, a 55-year-old farmer and housewife could not imagine that her whole family, and especially her children, were living with a life-threatening unexploded object for decades.

The day was like any other in her life when she decided to do ordinary cleaning and burning of bush-cuttings with her daughter on her farm behind her house where she lived since 1973. The land has been used for planting coffee and

chayote for over 40 years. In 2021, her family also planted some pumpkins in a part of the farm close to their small vegetable garden and kitchen.

“While I was collecting bushes and almost started to burn it in the small chayote farm behind my house, I found something that looked like a small rotten pumpkin. As I have a problem with my eyesight and it was also my luck, I asked my husband to check it and found out that it was an item of unexploded ordnance. I was terrified after I found out that I almost burned it”, she said.

Her husband reported the item immediately to the village chief, along with warning kids and surrounding neighbors not to come close to the area where the item was found. The village chief then reported the explosive item to Norwegian People's Aid. The item was identified as a M-26 hand grenade. It was destroyed in situ, due to the condition of the item, on 15 February 2022, with cooperation and support from villagers to evacuate a few families in the proximity of the item. Thankfully, the outcome was a happy one, and Ms. Khambay's family can continue their lives and daily activities safely.

“I am very happy and I have no concerns about my kids, my family members, and my neighbors anymore since the explosive item was removed,” she said

Focus areas of work in 2022

NPA will continue to expand operations in 2022, with increased funding from the US Department of State (USDOS). Clearance will be conducted on confirmed hazardous areas identified as part of the USDOS-funded national survey and will focus on villages with limited socio-economic prospects and other areas prioritised in close coordination with and approved by provincial authorities and the National Regulatory Authority (NRA).

Nine multi-trained survey teams will also be retained in order to ensure that objectives of the CMRS are completed, and any future survey requirements can be addressed in NPA's areas of operations. NPA will likewise continue our work on protection of the environment and gender and diversity inclusion.

Additionally, in 2022, NPA will also commence a 3-year stand-alone capacity development project to support the NRA's information management capacity, with additional funding from the US Department of State, pending the signature of a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

Key challenges remain securing the necessary MOU framework and permissions to allow for the expansion of operations, procurement of equipment, and recruitment of team members in a timely manner. In addition, NPA was not able to introduce the use of tools, such as mine detection dogs or drones, to increase the efficiency of

survey and clearance operations as planned during 2021.

Partners

- The NRA
- MoLSW
- MoFA
- Provincial and District Authorities in Attapeu, Champasak, Saravane, and Sekong
- Governments of United States
- Government of Norway
- Norwegian Labour Union (Fagforbundet)

Geography of operations

Activity	Districts/ Provinces
NTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Salavan, Samouay, Ta-oy/ Salavan
TS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Samakkeixay, Sanxai, Xaysetha/ Attapeu Paksong, Xansoumboun/ Champasak Salavan, Samouay, Ta-oy, Toumlan, Vapi/ Salavan
Clearance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phouvong, Samakkeixay, Sanamxay, Sanxai/ Attapeu Bachiangchaleunsook, Moonlapamok, Paksong, Xanasomboun/ Champasack Khongxedone, Laongarm, Salavan, Samouay, Ta-oy, Toumlan, Vapi/ Salavan Dakcheung, Lamam/ Xekong
RT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phouvong, Samakkeixay, Sanxai, Xaysetha/ Attapeu Bachiangchaleunsook, Moonlapamok, Paksong, Sukhuma, Xanasomboun/ Champasack Khongxedone, Laongarm, Salavan, Samouay, Ta-oy, Toumlan, Vapi. Xekong: Dakcheung, Thateng/ Salavan
Post-Clearance Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phouvong, Sanxai, Xaysetha/ Attapeu: Bachiangchaleunsook, Moonlapamok, Paksong, Sukhuma, Xanasomboun/ Champasack Salavan, Samouay, Toumlan, Vapi. Xekong: Dakcheung, Lamam/ Salavan

Financial Report

MoU Project Name	Sign date	Period	Total amount from MoU (USD)	Breakdown yearly-2021 (USD)	Donor
Unexploded Ordnance UXO Survey and Clearance Phase IV	30/04/21	01/01/21-31/12/21	7,123,785	7,123,785	PMWRA NMFA Fagforbundet

Direct cost (USD) received in 2021: 6,223,785 USD

Details expenditure for direct cost (please summary from the period of January-December 2021 only): (USD)

Item	Amount
Personnel costs	650,617
Operational costs: UXO Survey and Clearance	4,757,660
Equipment costs	815,508
Total	6,223,785

Indirect cost (USD) received in 2021: 459,397 USD	
Details expenditure for direct cost (please summary from the period of January-December 2021 only): (USD)	
Item	Amount
Personnel costs	-
Operational costs: UXO Survey and Clearance	459,397
Equipment costs	-
Total	459,357

Donor contributions for 2021 (USD)

Donor lists	Amount
PM/WRA	7,000,000
NMFA	654,206
Fagforbundet	37,037
Total	7,691,243



Activities in 2021

In 2021 HALO continued with the comprehensive survey of Savannakhet Province. Whilst this U.S.-funded CMRS project was ongoing, U.S. and U.K. funded clearance teams continued with the clearance of high priority CHAs across the province. HALO also undertook extensive recruitment and training during 2021, part of a significant expansion resulting from U.S. Government funding, totaling \$7 million, for clearance operations. Activities conducted in Savannakhet Province during 2021 include:

- NTS in Atsaphon, Champhon, Outhoumphon, Phalanxai, Songkhon, Thapangthong, Vilabouly, Xaibouly, Xaiphouthong, Xepon, Xonnabouly.
- TS in Atsaphang thong, Atsaphon, Champhon, Nong, Phalanxai, Phin, Thapangthong, Vilabou ly, Xaibouly, Xepon, Xonnabouly.
- Clearance in Atsaphangthong, Nong, Phalanxai, Phin, Vilabouly, Xepon.
- EOD/RT in Atsaphang thong, Atsaphon, Champhon, Nong, Outhoumphon, Phalanxai. Phin, Song khon, Thapangthong, Vilabouly, Xai bouly, Xepon, Xonnabouly
- EORE in Atsaphangthong, Atsaphon, Champhon, Nong, Phalanxai, Phin, Songkhon, Thapangthong, Vila bouly, Xepon, Xonnabouly.

Key achievements in 2021

With continued support from the U.S. and U.K. governments, HALO increased its operational capacity by 36% during 2021, with programme expanding from 750 to 1,024 staff during the year. This represents a doubling in the size of the programme over the past two years. The HALO Trust's key achievements for 2021 include:

- Clearance of over 492 hectares of high priority land.
- NTS in 99 villages, TS in 177 villages and clearance in 69 villages.
- 760 EOD/RT.
- Destruction of 10,347 dangerous items of UXO, including 7,245 cluster munitions.

Case Study

During 2021 the Sepon Office of Labour Social Welfare requested HALO support to clear two areas in Kaenghouapa and Muangchan villages so that families on the banks of the Sepon Banghiang rivers, who had been badly affected by flooding over recent years, could be relocated to higher ground.

In October 2020, eastern Savannakhet Province was hit by severe flooding. Numerous villages along both rivers were inundated by the floodwaters, with homes and livestock being swept away.

In order to address the issue of similar flooding problems in the future, the Sepon District authorities decided to relocate a number of villages, including 16 families from Kaenghouapa and 30 from Muangchan. However, before they could be relocated the land had to be cleared of UXO.

When the HALO trust completed clearance in the two villages, 3.5 hectares had been cleared with 97 UXO being found and destroyed.

Focus areas of work in 2022

In 2022, the HALO trust will continue with the following activities across Savannakhet Province: UXO and mine clearance, survey, EOD and EORE. Additional U.S. Government funding of \$8.5 million will see the 2020-22 Clearance Project continue into 2023. The signing of a new MOU for this U.S. Government project will enable the HALO trust to transition teams across from survey to clearance activities as the Cluster Munition Remnants Survey (CMRS) is concluded in August 2022.

In March 2022, the HALO trust will conclude a U.K. Government (FCDO) clearance project. HALO will work with the Savannakhet provincial authorities and the NRA to agree upon a new MOU which will enable a further year of clearance activities in the province provincial authorities and the NRA to agree upon a new MOU which will enable a further year of clearance activities in the province.

The HALO trust will continue to work with the districts to recruit women and men from the poorest and most cluster munition contaminated areas of Savannakhet. In 2021 women accounted for 51% of the HALO trust's Laos workforce. Recruitment in 2022 will continue to empower women and men, including persons with disabilities, to work in operational and support positions.

Partners

- NRA
- Local Authorities at the Provincial and District Level
- Government of the United States
- Government of the United Kingdom

Personnel in 2021

Office Support				Operations			
National		International		National		International	
Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
42	32	1	1	459	491	5	0
Total		1,031					

Geography of operations

Activity	Districts/ Provinces
NTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Atsaphon, Champhon, Outhoumphon, Phalanxai, Songkhon, Thapangthong, Vilabouly, Xaibouly, Xaiphouthong, Xepon, Xonnabouly/ Savannakhet
TS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Atsaphangthong, Atsaphon, Champhon, Nong, Phalanxai, Phin, Thapangthong, Vilabouly, Xaibouly, Xepon, Xonnabouly/ Savannakhet
AC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Atsaphangthong, Nong, Phalanxai, Phin, Vilabouly, Xepon/ Savannakhet
RT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Atsaphangthong, Atsaphon, Champhon, Nong, Outhoumphon, Phalanxai, Phin, Songkhon, Thapangthong, Vilabouly, Xaibouly, Xepon, Xonnabouly/ Savannakhet
EORE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Atsaphangthong, Atsaphon, Champhon, Nong, Phalanxai, Phin, Songkhon, Thapangthong, Vilabouly, Xepon, Xonnabouly/ Savannakhet
Post-Clearance Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nong, Phalanxai, Phin, Vilabouly, Xepon/ Savannakhet

Financial Report

MoU Project Name	Sign date	Period	Total amount from MoU (USD)	Breakdown yearly-2021 (USD)	Donor
UXO Survey in Savannakhet Province	21/06/19	01/01/18 – 30/06/22	17,335,000	3,665,743	U.S. Govt (PM/WRA)
UXO Clearance for Savannakhet Province	30/04/21	01/04/20 – 31/03/21	1,824,550	618,419	U.K. Govt (FCDO)
UXO Survey and Clearance for Savannakhet Province	30/04/21	01/05/20 – 31/12/21	7,000,000	5,247,113	U.S. Govt (PM/WRA)

UXO Clearance for Savannakhet Province	19/05/22	01/04/21 – 31/03/22	546,000	352,878	U.K Govt (FCDO)
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Direct cost (USD) received in 2021: 9,078,961 USD

Details expenditure for direct cost: (USD)

Item	Amount
Personnel costs	5,474,993
Operational costs	1,033,131
EORE cost	15,497
UXO survey and clearance	1,017,634
Equipment costs	2,570,837
Total	9,078,961

Indirect cost (USD) received in 2021: 805,193 USD

Details expenditure for Indirect: (USD)

Item	Amount
Personnel costs	485,565
Operational costs	9,926
EORE cost	1,374
UXO survey and clearance	90,252
Equipment costs	228,002
Total	805,193

Donor contributions for 2021 (USD)

Donor lists	Amount
United States of America (PM/WRA)	7,329,457
United Kingdom (FCDO)	1,167,828
Total	8,497,285

Humanity & Inclusion (HI)



Activities in 2021

In 2021, Humanity & Inclusion (HI) continued Humanitarian Mine Action with the new Resilient Integrated Mine Action (RIMA) project in Houaphan province with two target districts: Houameuang and Hiem. Whilst this Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs 'BZ' funded, BUZA the RIMA project is conducting the clearance/survey of high priority CHA areas in 39 target villages. RIMA project also integrated Explosive Ordnance - Risk Education and Victim Assistance (VA) activities in 18 new villages.

The MOU was approved on the 19th July and all activities reported were implemented since then to the end of December 2021. In 2022, a new MOU with Phongsaly province will extend this project to a new area. Within only 4 months in 2021, the project achieved some indicators details below:

- **NTS:** NTS activity conducted through inclusive visit (NTS/EO-RE/VA) in 15 villages for data collection in compliance with the new IMAS 13.10
 - **TS:** Conduct TS to prioritized areas to identify new CHA
 - **AC** to clear CHAs prioritized according to a defined and participatory prioritization
- process to promote rural livelihoods and local development.
- **RT:** 100 % of UXO reported to be destroyed by roving team according to the emergency needs in the 2 target districts.
 - **Capacity building:** 6 staff from Provincial Offices of NRA and District Offices of Labour Social Welfare, benefit from the financial support, equipment and capacity development plan to fulfil their mission of supervision and quality monitoring
 - **EORE:** Deliver EORE through Safety briefings, and mobile risk education, UXO curriculum training for primary school teachers and establish the Community Safety Strategies.
 - **VA:** Provide Disability rights awareness Diversity and Inclusion and GALS (Gender Action Learning Systems) Training to authorities. Conduct the UXO survivors/persons with disabilities screening for beneficiary's priority for direct support to the most vulnerable persons (including UXO/landmines survivors) and referral to medical and rehabilitation services.

Key achievements in 2021

- **NTS:** NTS was completed in the first 15 new target villages, reported UXO were mostly done through the HI UXO hotline member **020 56611110**.
- **TS:** The highest socio-economic impact hazardous areas were planned and HI achieved TS target in total **1,150,000** sqms in the 7 affected villages resulting in 570,000 sqm of new CHA defined.
- **AC:** HI achieved **254,083** sqms of AC during this process for livelihood or development.
- **EOD:** HI was able to destroy 100% of the 1,021 UXO (including 977 cluster munitions) in 30 villages throughout all activities.
- **Capacity building:** 9 PNRA and DLSW staff were increased skills and knowledge of SOP- NTS operation, Clearance, Gender Action Learning System (GALS), coordination and Data base management (IMSMA). HI also provided office running cost and equipment/materials to PNRA and DLSW- HMG & Hiem district and it costed 5,480 USD.
- **EORE:** HI completed EORE awareness activities 15 new target villages in Houameuang and Hiem district in this year.
- HI reached 3,901 beneficiaries (women 1,259, men 1,185, girls 728, boys 729). 14 primary teachers were trained on UXO curriculum. HI used the Community safety approach in affected villages will integrate GALS set of tools and 20 CSFPs were trained for CSC approach.
- **VA:** The VA team conducting the screening of 323 persons with disabilities and EO survivors for future support. 16 health care staff were also trained to provide mental health support at provincial and district level and established referral pathways.

Case Study

HI started to understand the dynamics, and the different actors and projects in place in the province like the eco-tourism project from Wildlife Conservation Society.

In 2021, a new phase of the project was initiated with the RIMA project. HI considered the high-impact value of this area and project, and HI pushed to integrate the concerned villages into the frame of its MOU and prioritize this task that directly contribute to the one of the outcomes of the RIMA project:

“Communities living in EO contaminated areas improve their socio-economic situation through the integrated response”.

Local authorities and Provincial NRA were very supportive in this process. HI already provided EORE specific awareness to 30 rangers and an area clearance support for 13,649 sqms to Nam et Phou Loy National Park authorities (new touristic walking trail in the Night Safari area) according to an agreement of PNRA and local authorities, within our area of intervention.

Mr. Bounpheng – Director of Nam-Et Phou Loy National Park) said that:

“This was a very useful activity, now the project will build more shelters for visitors providing also more work to local villagers to increase their incomes for villagers in over 15 villages”.

This collaboration benefits to 15 villages (engaged as service providers in the eco-tourism projects) of 2 different provinces. It provides an additional income to affected

families and communities. 129 persons benefit directly from the clearance of this task and approximately 500-600 visitors will experience night safari and hiking trail every year.



EOD level 4 expert providing a tailor-made safety briefing to the rangers of the NEPL National Park

Focus areas of work in 2022

- **NTS:** NTS will continue to conduct through inclusive visit in 3 villages for data collection and plan for the deployment of 21 new villages in Phongsaly Province.
- **TS:** HI will plan with the authorities PNRA to identify an expected number of at least 650,000 square meters of new CHA.
- **AC:** HI to plan with PNRA to clear CHAs prioritized to promote rural livelihoods and development for an additional 817,250 sqms in Houaphan and prepare the plan for clearance in Phongsaly.

- **Roving Task:** The removing team will destroy 100 % of UXO reported and identified.
- **EORE:** EORE sessions will conducted in 3 remaining target villages in Houaphan through safety briefing, movie event and household visit, this includes the UXO curriculum 11 teachers training. HI will provide GALS training for 15 GALS champions in selected model villages. New villages of Phongsaly will also be added in 2022 once the MOU is finalized.
- **VA:** Conduct inclusive visit with UXO survivors/persons with disabilities in a 2nd round. HI will provide DIT for 40 CSFPs and including the First Aid training. HI will support sending survivors to access for health care services and will provide livelihood grant to selected victim people/ persons with disabilities.
- **Capacity building:** HI will provide the training topic to PNRA and DLSW based on capacity assessment result and will provide financial support, equipment base

on their requirement (Houaphan and Phongsaly)

Opportunities: HI is trying to connect and integrate better mine action into development actor organizations’ programs and government agencies to identify any potential of collaboration and partnership aiming at a greater impact on socio – economic/livelihood.

Challenges: HI has limited funding for UXO project and local authorities request too many support to government priorities on infrastructure and development tasks that it is over HI capacity with small clearance team.

Implementing Partners

- Provincial NRA office.
- District Labor and Social Welfare Offices Houameuang & Hiem.
- District Education and Sport Office.
- Lao Women Union.
- DAFO.
- Nam Et-Phou Loy/Wildlife Conservation Society/ Eco-Tourism project service providers (villagers from 15 villages).
- Poverty Reduction Fund.

Geographic operations

Activity	Districts/ Province
NTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Houameuang and Hiem/ Houaphan province.
TS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Houameuang/ Houaphan province.
AC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Houameuang/ Houaphan province.
RT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Houameuang and Hiem/ Houaphan province
VA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Houameuang and Hiem/ Houaphan province
EORE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Houameuang and Hiem/ Houaphan province.
Post-Clearance Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Houameuang/ Houaphan province.
Quality Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Houameuang/ Houaphan province.

Financial Report

MoU Project Name	Sign date	Period	Total amount from MoU (USD)	Breakdown yearly (USD)	Donor
Resilient Integrated Mine Action (RIMA) – Houaphan	29/7/21	31/8/23	1,889,395	Y1: 654,582 Y2: 847,126 Y3: 387,709	Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs (BZ)
Resilient Integrated Mine Action (RIMA) – Phongsaly	<i>Not signed yet</i>	2022-2024	586,540	-	Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs (BZ)

Direct costs (USD) received in 2021: 654,582 USD

Details expenditure for direct costs

Item	Amount (USD)
Personnel costs	130,000
Operational costs	65,800
EORE cost	358,420
VA	60,500
UXO survey and clearance	-
Equipment costs	39,500
Total	654,582

Humanitarian UXO Demining Teams of Lao People’s Army 58 (Unit 58)



Activities in 2021

Over 2021, Humanitarian UXO Demining Teams of Lao People’s Army (Unit 58) consisted of 7 teams that undertook EORE, NTS, TS, clearance and the destruction of ordnance, Activities were funded by KOICA through UNDP and under management of the NRA. Further Unit 58 also has cleared:

Province	Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (village)	Non-Technical Survey (village)	Technical survey(ha)	Area Clearance of UXO (ha)
Bolikhamxay	19	19	234	4.86
Vientiane	7	12	65	1.28
Khammuan	-	-	-	0.37
Xiengkhuang	-	-	-	3.33

Priority activities for 2022

Expansion of activities and deployment of teams to Bolikhamxay, and Vientiane provinces.

Partners

- The National Regulatory Authority for UXO/Mine Action Sector in Lao PDR.
- Ministry of National Defence (MND)
- KOICA
- UNDP Lao PDR
- Principal Authorities

Geography of operations

Activity	Districts/ Province
EORE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Khamkert, Viengthong/ Bolikhamxay. • Kaci, Hinherp/ Vientiane
NTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parkson, Parkkading, Khamkert, Viengthong/ Bolikhamxay. • Vangvieng, Kaci, Hinherp/Vientiane
TS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Khamkert/ Bolikhamxay • Kaci/ Vientiane
Clearance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Khamkert/ Bolikhamxay • Kaci/ Vientiane • Paek/ Xiengkhuang • Nakhaly/ Khammuanne
RT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parkson, Parkkading, Khamkert, Thapabard, Borlikhan/ Bolikhamxay • Kaci, Vangvieng/ Vientiane • Nakhaly/ Khamuanne • Sungthong/ Vientiane Capital

Financial Report

Expenditure for 2021 (USD)

Item	Amount
Personnel costs	Borne by the Ministry of National Defence
Operational costs	37,799
Equipment	60,000
Total	97,799

Donor contributions for 2021 (USD)

Donor	Amount
KOICA through UNDP Lao PDR	97,799
Total	97,799

World Education (WE)



Activities in 2021

In 2021, the War Victims Medical Fund (WVMF), continued supporting victims of UXO accidents with financial support for transportation, medicine, and a small subsistence allowance for a caregiver while they are in the hospital or rehabilitation center. The Fund also pays for ongoing medical treatment and surgical costs for survivors with severe injuries and provides financial support for funerals and spiritual ceremonies. In 2021, WVMF also supported provincial-level NRA staff to deliver support payments to families and share information about WVMF policies and procedures in villages.

The Comprehensive Mine Risk Education (EORE) in Lao PDR project, implemented in partnership with the MoES, closed on 30 September 2021. Key 2021 activities included training teachers about the new primary school EORE curriculum; training provincial and district staff to be EORE secondary school curriculum trainers; establishing EORE puppetry troupes; and supporting troupe performances.

WEI began working with MoES at central and provincial level, and the National Regulatory

Authority Office to review a draft Memorandum of Understanding for the Lawang (“Beware”): Expanding the Scope of EORE in Laos project.

WEI implements the USAID Okard Activity that supports disability inclusive development in Lao PDR. In 2021, in close partnership with the National Committee of Persons with Disabilities and the Elderly (NCDE), the Department of Healthcare and Rehabilitation (DHR) and the Center for Medical Rehabilitation (CMR) at the Ministry of Health (MoH), and two civil society organizations (Quality of Life Association [QLA] and Association for Rural Mobilization and Improvement [ARMI]), USAID Okard continued piloting an integrated victims assistance approach addressing unmet needs of UXO victims as well as of persons with disabilities from other causes.

Key achievements in 2021

- The **War Victims Medical Fund** supports victims and their families on an as-needed basis after a UXO accident occurs. In 2021, WVMF supported 41 cases. (40 involved first-time support and 1 involved follow-up care).
- The table below summarizes the **Comprehensive EORE Project's** 2021 achievements:

Activities	2021 Workplan	2021 Achievements	
	Target	Actual	Percentage (%)
Continue conduct EORE teacher trainings (Primary school)	180 teachers	180 teachers	100%
Conduct ToT on EORE lesson teaching for PESS and DESB (Secondary school)	92 people	92 people	100%
Conduct ToT workshops for PESS, DESB staff and teachers to be able to train/assist troupes and maintain/create puppets.	107 people	107 people	100%
Establish new EORE puppetry troupes	33 troupes	33 troupes	100%
Support puppetry performance on Women's day	20 performances	20 performances	100%
Print EORE supplementary materials (handbooks, storybooks, posters)	88,000	102,870 materials	117%
Comprehensive EORE Project completion report	To complete Comprehensive EORE Project completion report	Comprehensive EORE Project completion report has been completed	100%

The table below summarizes the **USAID Okard project's** 2021 achievements related to integrated approach of victim assistance:

Activities	2021 Workplan	2021 Achievements	
	Target	Actual	Percentage (%)
Support the referral for health and rehabilitation services	360 cases	<p>233 cases were referred for health and rehabilitation services providers from PRCs, CMR, and district and provincial hospitals, and received the needed health treatment and rehabilitation and assistive products.</p> <p>Of these, 11 are UXO survivors.</p>	64%
Support the beneficiaries to access to income generation activities	180	<p>167 cases assessed who commenced income generation activities</p> <p>Of these, 5 beneficiaries are UXO survivors.</p> <p>USAID Okard coordinated with NRA to conduct UXO land clearance for 33 families who then started income generation activities, totaling 1,968 square meters of land.</p>	92%

Case Study

Tounkham is an 18-year-old, who lives in Xiengkhouang province. In 2016, Tounkham accidentally touched a UXO while playing.

An explosion was triggered and launched shrapnel, which ultimately caused him to lose his left eye and two left-hand fingers. Tounkham continued to go to school, but he withdrew from participating in the community like he once did. Tounkham's parents tried their best to take care of his health, and encourage him to be more confident and get back to his school.

Tounkham was identified to the USAID Okard Community Based Inclusive Development (CBID) team by the head of the village. Through CBID Case Management, Tounkham was referred to the Provincial Hospital to assess his eye health and vision due to the UXO damage.

Tounkham's left eye was blind and was very sensitive to light and bacteria, so he was advised to have surgery to replace it with a prosthetic eye. In February 2022, the surgery was successfully completed. Tounkham now lives his life with a new prosthetic eye and glasses to improve the vision of his right eye and protect it from sunlight. This significantly boosted his confidence and self-esteem, so he's empowered to socialize, make new friends, focus on his education, and participate in social activities.

Tounkham hopes to continue his studies in Information Technology (IT) after high school graduation.

Psychosocial support is important in the recovery process following a UXO accident. If Tounkham and his family are interested, the CBID team will explore opportunities for him to engage with a peer-to-peer supporter who has experienced a similar accident, to encourage him to live independently and process what happened to him. His family will also be consulted and supported so they can better assist Tounkham physically and mentally through USAID Okard's activities, such as caregiver training, Social and Behavior Change Communications Group Discussions, and Self-Help Groups.

Focus areas of work in 2022

2022 priority activities for WVMF:

- After an accident, the WVMF will continue supporting immediate and ongoing medical costs for UXO survivors and funeral costs for victims' families;
- Coordinate with NRA and concerned ministries to obtain approval for a new Memorandum of Agreement (period of activity: June 2022-November 2024);
- With the NRA, conduct monitoring visits to UXO victims and families;

- Conduct workshops about WVMF policies for hospital staff;

2022 priority activities for the Lawang: Expanding the Scope of MRE project (pending MOU approval)

- Train secondary school teachers on the secondary school curriculum (developed under the Comprehensive EORE project) in 88 districts across 10 provinces;
- Conduct a needs assessment about how to integrate EORE activities into villages (with Village Education Development Committees [VEDCs]) and non-formal education (NFE) centers;
- Work with the Department of Non-Formal Education to create EORE lessons for NFE centers;
- Create an EORE handbook for VEDCs and Youth Volunteers;

2022 priority activities for USAID Okard

- Continue to support COPE and CMR/PRSC to provide prosthesis, orthosis, and walking aids for UXO survivors and other people with difficulties in moving, self-care, and activity of daily living;

- Continue to support CMR to train 150 Primary Health Care providers on essential rehabilitation interventions so UXO survivors, among others, access early and quality rehabilitation and assistive products after an accident; Equip a new Rehabilitation Unit in Kham District Hospital (Xiengkhouang) to increase availability of rehabilitation services for UXO survivors and others at the Primary Health Care level;
- Support DHR to procure and provide more assistive devices other than what COPE is already providing to CMR/PRSC with Okard funding.

Implementing Partners

- Ministry of Education and Sports (MoES)
- NRA
- NCDE
- DHR
- CMR
- COPE
- Quality of Life Association (QLA),
- Association for Rural Mobilization and Improvement (ARMI).

Geography of operations

Activity	Districts/ Provinces
EORE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sekong, Champassak, Savannakhet, Salavan, Attapeu, Borlikhamxay (all districts in each province)
VA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Luang Prabang, Xiengkhouang, Huaphan, Khammouane, Savannakhet, Salavan, Sekong, Champasack, Attapeu and UXO victims in other locations as requested by local authority and approved by NRA

Financial Report

MoU Project Name	Sign date	Period	Total amount from MoU (USD)	Breakdown yearly (USD)	Donor
Comprehensive Mine Risk Education (EORE) in Lao PDR	06/02/19	To 31/08/21, (31 months)	2,018,471	665,580	U.S. Department of State
War Victims Medical Fund in the Lao PDR	03/07/20	To 31/05/22 (21 months)	100,000	41,960	U.S. Department of State
USAID Okard	16/05/19	To 30/09/22	3,565,996	1,019,831	USAID

Direct cost (USD) received in 2021: 1,072,694 USD

Details expenditure for direct cost (please summary from the period of January-December 2021 only): (USD)

Item	Amount
Personnel costs	209,843
Operational costs	862,850
EORE cost	458,899
Victim Assistance	403,951
Total	1,072,694

Donor Contributions in 2021 (USD)

Amounts Received between 1 January and 31 December 2021 (USD)

Donor lists	Amount
United States Department of State (USDoS)	535,049
USAID	537,645
Total	1,072,694

Cooperative Orthotic & Prosthetic Enterprise (COPE)



Activities in 2021

In 2021 there were 678 devices delivered to clients with 112 repairs and 114 other assistive devices through CMR and 4 sub centres. The most common need following a UXO accident is a prosthesis (Artificial Limb) Of the 206 prostheses made.

Key achievements in 2021

- Conducted Mobile clinic camp in Khammouan Province
- Conducted follow up in Khammouan Province
- Conducted clubfoot refresher training for technical staff in CMR and 4 Sub-Centres at CMR
- On the job training on Knee Ankle Foot Orthosis in CMR and 4 Sub-Centres
- Quality Clinical Audit on Knee Ankle Foot Orthosis in CMR and 4 Sub-Centres
- Conducted management trip 4 Sub centres

Case Study

A little girl name Namwarn Keomanivanh is 8 months old baby, was born in 10th April 2021, she lives in Parkading village, Parkading district, Borlikhamxay province. She was born with one foot turn inward on her left side called “clubfoot”. To complete this treatment process, her parents need to bring her to CMR several times to change the DBB as appointed by the rehabilitation staff.

Right after birth, the doctor has identified this condition and advised mother to send the baby to Centre of Medical Rehabilitation (CMR) in Vientiane for treatment, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the country lockdown they cannot travel to CMR to get the treatment.

Namwarn was brought to CMR on 10th August 2021, after assessment the technical staff told Namwarns’ parents that clubfoot is the congenital birth defect (from birth) that causes one or both feet to turn inward, if the baby receive proper treatment and follow up with the first week or month there is a 95% chance to full recovery.

To correct the foot deformity, Namwarn must undergo at least 4-6 serial castings therefore her parents need to bring her back to CMR every week. to remove the old plaster cast and replace with the new plaster cast.

Today, Namwarn came to CMR again to remove her 5th cast and it is time to start wearing the brace called Dennis Brown Bar. The Dennis Brown Bar will help to correct the deformity and prevent the recurrent clubfoot but Namwarn needs to wear the DBB for 23 hours a day for 3 months and continue to wear at least 12 hours a day during naps and at night time until she reaches 4 years old.

Geography of operations

Activity	Districts/Provinces
VA	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Vientiane Capital

Financial Report

Item	Amount
Personnel costs	-
Operational costs	-
Total	416,000¹¹

Donor contributions for 2021 (USD)

Donor	Amount
Norway	230,000
USAID-Okard	300,000
New Zealand Embassy	16,000
ISO-ITO	10,000
Total	556,000

¹¹ COPE submitted the total annual expenditure without segregation of the expenditure per purpose.

Terra Renaissance (TR)



Activities in 2021

- TR implemented the UXO/Mine Risk education (EORE) recreations for young children two times in 7 target villages (Bouakkop, Nasala, Nakhampheang, Phousan, Keo, Viengxay, OrUn) in Pek district, Xiengkhouang Province.
- TR selected vocational training beneficiaries from UXO explosion accident and their family and low-income households.
- TR implemented vocational training on sewing in collaboration with Xiengkhouang Province Integrated vocational education and training college (IVET college) and totally 10 beneficiaries completed the training course.
- TR arranged additional sewing training for another 5 more beneficiaries and all of them completed the training.
- TR arranged Hmong dress training and men's clothes training for the 15 beneficiaries however only 11 of them joined these training. 4 beneficiaries could not take part in the trainings due to family matters.
- TR built 3 sewing shops in Yournguem area and 5 beneficiaries are assigned to each shop. Each shop's members are producing and selling clothes.
- TR and IVET college held mushroom growing training and 10 beneficiaries completed the training. After that Terra provided 5 mushroom huts and start-up budget (about 2 million LAK) to each pair (2 people own 1 hut).
- TR implemented 5-day beekeeping training and 26 beneficiaries completed the training.
- Community development Center (CDC) and 3 sewing shops were constructed in Yournguem area.

Key achievements in 2021

Terra planned EORE for young children in the 7 villages 2 times in 2020 and 2 times in 2021. However due to the COVID prevention measures, Terra could not conduct the EORE in 2020 but could implemented the EORE 2 times in 2021. Through the EORE in 2021, totally 458 young children and 219 villagers (mostly family members of the children) in 7 village had taken the EORE recreation.

Before the implementation of EORE, Terra carried out pre-test (evaluation of understanding and knowledge of UXO) for young children and the average score of the children was about 18%. After the 1st time EORE in the villages, the score improved up to about 68%.

Case Study

Terra carried out the EORE for young children in the villages and even 3 years old kids got improved the understanding on the UXO. One of our materials is picture story book. The score had jumped up from 5.21% to 49.29%.

Ms. Xoua Ya is UXO explosion victim in 2016 and the small fragment of UXO is still remain in her liver so she cannot work hard. Therefore, she made a decision to take part in the sewing training. She took all sewing training provided by Terra and now sew is working at Terra's sewing shops in Khangdon group and gained more than 1,500,000 LAK per month from sewing business.

Mr. Syvay a member of mushroom growing members selected from low-income households. He is actively growing and selling mushroom since right after the completion of mushroom training in January and February 2021. Now he gains 800,000 LAK per month from mushroom sales.

Ms. Lar is UXO explosion victim family and low-income households. She is always actively doing beekeeping and she harvested 4kg of honey in 2021 and more harvesting is expected in 2022. She is planning to join the sewing training in 2022 too (Ms. Lar, Beekeeping member).

Sewing course beneficiaries started clothes production and sales at each sewing shop and they gained totally about 40,000,000 LAK (about 4,000,000 LAK per person) in 2021.

Mushroom growing beneficiaries (10 people) gained totally about 30,000,000 LAK (about 3,000,000 LAK per person) by selling mushroom in 2021. Beekeeping harvested totally about 10kg of honey in 2021. Construction of the CDC and 3 shops had completed in August 2021.



Risk Education in a village (TR Photo)



Ms. Xoua Ya at Khangdon sewing shop

Focus areas of work in 2022

- In 2022, our organization is planning to implement the EORE 3-4 times for kindergarten children (K1–3) and Primary 1 and 2 pupils in Yordnguem area in Pek district, Xiengkhouang province. Since the most of our target are 100% Hmong student schools, so our Hmong UXO trainers will implement the EORE in Hmong. The challenges: The curriculum of kindergarten does not include EORE so we will just ask the school principals and classroom teachers to continue the EORE by our materials.
- The primary school curriculum has EORE and EORE textbook so we just ask the schools to use our EORE materials in the EORE periods.
- Terra, we will continue the follow-up of the members of 3 sewing shops, 5 mushroom huts to give instruction of mushroom growing skills in order to increase their incomes.
- In 2022, we will arrange the mushroom training for new 10 target beneficiaries and will provide 5 huts to them too. Through the experiences in 2021, we should select the location of mushroom huts more carefully, avoiding high humidity place. Some beneficiaries in 2021 were busy for other agricultural activities (rice planting, livestock growing etc.) so they did not fully pay attention to the mushroom growing.
- Due to cold weathers and heavy rain in 2021, bees in some bee boxes were escaped. In 2022, let beekeeping experts follow up our beekeeping beneficiaries more closely and encourage the beekeeping members take care of their bee boxes.
- Establishing management system of the CDC and 3 sewing shops.

Geography of operations

Activity	Districts/ Provinces
EORE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pek/ Xiengkhouang
VA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pek/ Xiengkhouang

Financial Report

MoU Project Name	Sign date	Period	Total amount from MoU (USD)	Breakdown yearly (USD)	Donor
UXO Risk Education and vocational training support for UXO victims and low-income families Project in Yordnguem group Pek district Xiengkhouang province	21/08/20	21/8/20 – 31/10/22	298,430	Jan – Dec 2021: 216,394	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan

Direct cost (USD) received in 2021: 203,851 USD

Details expenditure for direct cost (summary from the period of January-December 2021 only): (USD)

Item	Amount
Personnel costs	63,723
Operational costs	129,825
EORE	54,460
VA	73,365
Equipment costs	10,303
Total	203,851

Indirect cost (USD) received in 2021: 12,543 USD

Details expenditure for In-Direct cost (summary from the period of January-December 2021 only): (USD)

Item	Amount
Personnel costs	-
Operational costs	11,490
EORE cost	3,529
VA	8,231
Equipment costs	1,053
Total	12,543

Donor contributions for 2021 (USD)

Item	Amount
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan	216,394
Total	216,394

COMMERCIAL OPERATORS¹²

¹² UXO Operators' Report was composed in reference to the annual activity reports received by respective operators

AUSLAO Unexplored ordnance Clearance Co., LTD



Activities in 2021

Because of the covid 19 pandemic, many businesses and commercial projects especially in the energy and mine sectors which have been financed by foreign investors were postponed or stopped.

Auslao teams have been operated during 2021 in 2 seasons:

- Season 1 (Jan-Jun 2021): UXO Clearance works at access roads and 22 kV transmission line to the dams and other construction sites of Namphak Hydropower project in Paksong and Pathouphone districts, Champasak province.
- Season 2 (Jul-December 2021): UXO Clearance works at access roads, construction areas for camps, dams, powerhouse, areas of quarry and borrow pits and other construction sites of Namphak Hydropower project in Paksong and Pathouphone districts, Champasak province.

Key achievements in 2021

Due to Covid 19 lockdown and subsequent impact on planning as well as implementing of the projects during 2021 our company did not meet our targets fully.

The engineering teams of the project owner have been facing difficulties for arranging workers as well as equipment for continue civil survey and construction works. They therefore cannot

progress their 2 works and off cause cannot provide data and information for our survey team as planned. It caused some delayed works and only 2 teams of us are fully occupied during 2021. The administration team therefore change the strategy plan and focus on marketing and preparing projects for the operation in 2022.

Priority activities for 2022

Auslao Group Co.,Ltd is focusing on potential projects at energy and mine and road sectors which are in line with the future development strategic plan of GOL. Some of the projects are already contacted.

Clients

- EDL and EDL Gen
- Chaleun Sekong Energy Sole Co.,Ltd
- Phongsab Thavy Group Sole Co.,Ltd

Geography of operations

Activity	Districts/ Province
Clearance	Pathoumphone, Paksong/ Champasak
Roving tasks	Paksong/ Champasak

Financial Report

Expenditure for 2021 (USD)

Item	Amount
Personnel costs	23,450
Operational costs	12,550
Survey and Clearance	12,000
Equipment	500
Total	48,500

Client contributions for 2021 (USD)

Donor	Amount
Namphak Hydropower	50,000
Total	50,000



Activities in 2021



Sivilai Secondary School, Xaybouathong district, Khammouan Province: 7,173 m², funded by US Army.

Solid waste in Paksan district, Bolikhamxay Province: 96,000 m², funded by the fourth greater Mekong sub-region corridor towns development.

Dansavan international freight car park: 31,774 m², funded by Savannakhet budget.

UXO found: BLU 26:01; Artillery: 02; Mortar 02

Priorities for 2022

In 2022 we will complete 3 projects:

- Thakhek solid waste construction Area.
- Hospital construction Area for the national task force committee for prevention on control and response for COVID-19.
- Construction Area for RISL Attapeu/ GITEC-IGIP GmbH

Total Area projected cleared: 396,047.90 m²

Clients/Partners

- US Army Corps Engineers, Alaska, USA
- The fourth greater Mekong sub-region corridor towns development
- Savannakhet Authorities

Geography of operations

Activity	Districts/ Province
Survey and Area Clearance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Xaybouathong/ Khammouan • Paksan/ Bolikhamxay • Sepon District/ Savannakhet

Financial Report

Expenditure for 2021 (USD)

Item	Amount
Personnel costs	7,600
Operational costs	4,560
Equipment	3,040
Total	15,200

Client contributions for 2021 (USD)

Client	Amount
US Army Corps Engineers, Alaska, U.S.	1,450
4th Greater Mekong Sub-Region Corridor Towns Development	9,000
Government of Lao PDR	4,750
Total	15,200

OUMMA Unexplored ordnance Clearance Co., LTD



Key Achievements in 2021

Unexploded ordnance (UXO) clearance and destruction work in 2021, which Oumma UXO Clearance Co., Ltd. clears and destroys UXO, is completed as agreed between the donor and the operator.

Priorities for 2022

- **Challenges:** Oumma needs to continue to increase the quality of UXO clearance and destruction work within the company to be strong and of good quality, and to continue to find donors for this work.
- **Opportunities:** Based on past and current performance, our company can build trust with donors to ensure quality of work, safety from unexploded ordnance and help the society have employment.

Geography of operations

Activity	Districts/ Province
Survey and Clearance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hinboun/ Khamouanne• Xam Nua/ Houaphan• Xay District/ Oudomxai

Financials Report: *OUMMA did not submit the financial information in 2021*



Activities in 2021

- In 2021, LXML UXO team continued to detect and clear UXOs within the exploration and mining area, targeting mining area at Discovery depth, WTSF Dam extension, Maideng East pit and Discovery west 2B. Additionally, detection and clearance were conducted in exploration areas such as Red hill, Phouso, Vangyang, Dokbua and Kaban North.
- The company takes clearance for the community a priority especially along roads connecting the villages, Road 28A improvement, Houykieng backfill sinkholes and support Artefacts excavation. UXO identified near the mining area by the community were also demolished.
- LXML also conducted community outreach and awareness raising, on the dangers of UXO, at primary schools in mine affected villages after covid-19 outbreak compromised.

Priority activities for 2022

- In 2022, the operation will focus on exploration to extend the life of mine. UXO operation will support mining expansion plan and expand mining pits including supporting the water treatment project. These projects will generate income for the local community including our UXO employees, of which majority are locals.
- LXML's UXO Standard of Operation upholds safety first and maintains its safety records of 0 injury.

Key achievements in 2021

For the community, clearance was completed at Road 28A improvement, Houykieng backfill sinkholes and support Artefacts excavation. In addition, outreach and awareness raising activities have been conducted only 5 primary and secondary schools only. This because of covid-19 outbreak during 2021.

Case Study

LXML UXO team in cooperation with GAP EOD have successfully developed EM clearance equipment/system that was adapted/modified from the UltrTEM, battery-charged, and can detect a 250 lbs MK81 bomb at 2.9metres deep, within a highly radiated area. This type of equipment is a more convenient size and can be transported on a pick-up truck suitable to the current operating environment.

- We continue to consistently reinforce quality management. In 2022, we have planted over 200 UXO blind seeds to ensure the cleared land are 100% free of UXO remnants and confirm that the UXO are consistently achieving and delivery high quality clearance. In 2022, the aim is to maintain and reinforce operational standard and quality with projected 200 blind seeds to be planted.

Geography of operations

Activity	Districts/ Province
Risk education	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Vilabouly, Bounkham/ Savannakhet
Clearance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Vilabouly, Bounkham/ Savannakhet

Financial Report

Expenditure for 2021 (USD)

Item	Amount
Personnel costs	-
Survey and Clearance	-
Equipment	-
Indirect costs	-
Total	3,193,27513

Client contributions for 2021 (USD)

Client	Amount
Self-funded	3,139,275
Total	3,139,275

¹³ LXML submitted the total annual expenditure without segregation of the expenditure per purpose.

Activities in 2021

- 2021 saw Milsearch complete 28 years of continuous operation in the Lao PDR. The first nine months of the year proved very difficult from a commercial standpoint. COVID-19 prevented or impeded the movement of Milsearch staff around the country and prevented or impeded international client staff from coming in and out of the Lao PDR.
- By September, restrictions had started to ease and most notably, the US Defence POW/MIA Accounting Agency, which had suspended its operations due to COVID-19, resumed work in the Lao PDR.
- Milsearch Lao continued to support the mineral exploration and mining industry through Phu Bia Mining and Rio Tinto Exploration. Milsearch also continued to support the forestry sector through our Burapha Agroforestry Co., Ltd contract.
- Milsearch Lao continued to conduct historical ERW contamination threat and risk assessments both independently and in support of our parent company in Australia. These research projects supported land reclamation, marine construction, and telecommunications and power cabling.
- Of note, Milsearch Lao assisted our parent company in supporting Sun Cable in developing the world's largest solar energy infrastructure network and the world's first intercontinental power grid.
- Milsearch Lao projects in Vietnam and the South Pacific which were suspended due to COVID-19 travel restrictions did not recommence in 2021. Milsearch Lao

international projects bring much needed foreign revenue into the Lao PDR and hopefully this will recommence in 2022.

- Milsearch Lao remains committed to long term, 'worlds' best practice' ERW hazard reduction within the Lao PDR.

Key achievements in 2021



As one of our most notable 2021 key achievements, Milsearch retained all its Lao staff with no reduction in hours throughout the COVID-19 driven economic downturn. This was only achieved with the support of the Milsearch parent company in Australia. Milsearch Lao also drove a companywide shift to a phased 'strong foundations up building block' approach to the assessment and management of ERW contamination. This phased approach has been adopted by Milsearch for all our major projects and is closely aligned to that of the Construction Industry Research and Information Association (CIRIA). CIRIA provides guidelines for the management of ERW contamination both terrestrial and marine and has been widely adopted by the international construction industry. The phases are:

Phase 1 – ERW Threat Assessment (Historical Desktop Study)

Phase 2 – ERW Risk Assessment (Client Activities Matched Against the Threat)

Phase 3 – ERW Risk Management (Strategy and Procedures)

Phase 4 – ERW Risk Mitigation Planning (Design and Specification)

Phase 5 – ERW Risk Mitigation Delivery (ERW Safeguarding, Clearance and Disposal)

Each phase and service builds on the previous phase and service avoiding wasted or duplicated efforts. Milsearch understands however, that a ‘one size fits all’ solution is not effective for our varying client activities, or for all contamination types and locations. This understanding drives the Milsearch ‘toolbox’ methodology, with each phase providing a bespoke client and project specific service.

Case Study

As with 2020, we believe that in 2021 our biggest group beneficiary has been our own staff. The Milsearch COVID-19 management priority was to devise a ‘staff welfare first’ company survival plan. Assisting with our parent company projects has been intrinsic to the success of this plan. As a result, Milsearch was able to maintain all its staff on full hours and pay.



Priority activities for 2022

Milsearch is an Australian family-owned company with over 30 years’ experience in 22 countries as an international service provider in the remediation of land and offshore areas contaminated by explosive remnants of war (ERW). The company provides creative and innovative solutions to both government and private sectors in regions of the world that have been exposed to past conflict, military training, or munitions disposal. Our market is driven by the growing world population that needs more space, is transitioning to low carbon/renewable energy systems and is increasing global trade.

In 2022 Milsearch will:

- Continue to diversify our revenue stream.
- Continue to improve the quality of our product.
- Continue to support the NRA and the GOL.
- Continue to explore new technologies and methodologies.
- Continue to build the capacity 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.

Clients/Partners

- Phu Bia Mining (extractive)
- Rio Tinto Exploration (extractive)
- Nam Theun 2 Power Company (energy)
- Impact Electrons Asia (IEA) (energy)
- DPAA/S2S (US Defence project)
- Burapha Agro-Forestry Ltd (agriculture)

Geography of operations

Activity	Districts/ Province
Roving tasks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Khammouanne and Houaphan Provinces
Clearance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Xiengkhouang, Xaisomboun and Xekong Provinces

Financial Report

Expenditure for 2021 (USD)

Item	Amount
Personnel costs	566,000
Survey and Clearance	362,000
Equipment	51,000
Indirect costs	354,000
Total	1,333,000

Client contributions for 2021 (USD)

Client	Amount
Client Contribution	1,205,454
Total	1,205,454



**Further information please contact
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