



UXO Sector Annual Report 2010



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ນະຄອນຫຼວງວຽງຈັນ, 2010
No More Cluster Munitions
Vientiane 2010

2010 UXO Sector Annual Report

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Foreword:

Chairman of the National Regulatory Authority

Hosting the First Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions was a very important achievement in 2010. This brought to the forefront of the world the cluster munitions and unexploded ordnance problem the country is facing. With 41 of the 46 poorest districts contaminated by UXO, the correlation between UXO and poverty is quite clear. Holding the first Presidency of the CCM is a great honor to Lao PDR and the Government will continue to work on advocating the Convention.

With the creation of the localized Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 9, to reduce the impact of unexploded ordnance, the Lao Government, together with the United Nations and Development Partners, emphasized the importance of unexploded ordnance action in socio-economic development, the achievement of the MDGs, and the exiting from Least Developed Country status by 2020. MDG 9 links the UXO action to the Seventh National Socio-Economic Development Plan.

The launching of the Lao PDR Cluster Munitions Trust Fund is another sign that the Lao Government takes UXO action seriously. The Trust Fund is based on the framework of the Vientiane Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, increasing Government ownership, leadership, and discretion over resource allocation within the UXO Sector.

The Lao Government is grateful to all of the Development Partners who support the sector. While sustained and increasing contributions are needed, the Government is also looking at generating local resources to support UXO action.

The year 2010 brought about a new set of challenges in the UXO Sector that the Party and Lao Government will seek to address.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Asang Laoly', written over a light blue background.

Asang Laoly
Deputy Prime Minister,
Chairman of the NRA



Foreword:

Director of the National Regulatory Authority

The National Regulatory Authority (NRA) achieved a great deal in 2010. Preparations for the 1MSP notwithstanding, the NRA continued to move ahead in coordination activities, especially the establishment of NRA provincial offices and provincial UXO coordination committees, as well as the establishment of the International Treaty Support Unit.

We took pride when the Lao Government officially opened and assumed the Presidency of the First Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions. This is a great honor and this builds on the momentum generated from the signing in 2008 in Oslo, to its Entry into Force in February 2010, a mere 15 months after the 30th ratification was received.

Our achievements also include progress in the areas victim assistance, risk education, identification of priorities, quality management, and accreditation of operators. A noteworthy aspect of our work is in the area of quality management, which sought to improve the work of the sector. In addition, our project on post-clearance impact assessment gave us an insight to what clearance work achieves, qualifying the results of the number of hectares and UXO destroyed.

These are all important aspects of our mandate which we will continue to work on in the coming year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our staff who have brought out their best and whom I expect to do even better in the coming years. I would also like to extend my thanks to the technical advisors of the NRA who continually guide my staff in all their endeavors. I also do not want to forget the sector stakeholders. Last but not the least, I would like to express my gratitude to the Lao Government, the United Nations, and to the international donor community for all the support they've extended to the program.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Phoukhieo CHATHASOMBOUNE', written over a horizontal line.

Phoukhieo CHATHASOMBOUNE
Director



Foreword:

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

On 1 August 2010, the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) entered into force as binding international law, marking an historic achievement in global humanitarian disarmament. Lao PDR was at the forefront of efforts to realize this. The United Nations Secretary-General commended the treaty as a major advance for the global disarmament and humanitarian agendas that will help us to counter the widespread insecurity and suffering caused by these terrible weapons, particularly among civilians and children.

The Government of Lao PDR was privileged to hold the presidency of the Convention's inaugural year and hosted the successful First Meeting of States Parties (1MSP) in November 2010. Critically, the outcome of this meeting - the adoption of the Vientiane Declaration and Action Plan - sets out concrete, measurable steps and targets to fully implement the Convention within specific time periods.

The impressive development gains achieved by the Government should not be compromised by the legacy of UXO in Lao PDR. Thus, achieving the obligations under the Convention is critical for the welfare of the people and development. The world's most cluster-bombed country knows only too well the impact of these weapons. More than 20,000 people have been injured or killed in UXO accidents since 1974 and more than 200,000 hectares of prime agricultural land still need to be cleared. With most Lao people still living and working in rural areas, urgent action to accelerate the rate of clearance must be taken.

Despite the historic achievements of 2010, much work remains to be done. Key challenges to be overcome include accelerating clearance in the country, responding to the needs of UXO survivors, their affected families and communities, and advancing coordination to link UXO with other sectors and development initiatives, particularly poverty reduction.

This is work that none of us can do alone. Government, the United Nations, development partners and civil society must all play a role. Significant resources also will be needed, and I welcome recent indications that the Government is considering increasing its financial contribution to the UXO Sector. Continuing to effectively tackle the legacy of UXO ultimately will support the Government's overarching goal of growth with equity.

Min Pham

UN Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative,
Co-Chairperson of the UXO Sector Working Group



2010 SECTOR ACHIEVEMENTS: THE NUMBERS

HUMANITARIAN CLEARANCE OPERATORS

General Survey

Refers to UXO found/located through general survey activities.

Organization	Village	Visits	Bombs	Bombies¹	Landmines	Other UXO	Total
HIB	52	53	15	328	-	49	392
MAG	296	827	3	1,493	1	753	2,250
NPA	158	250	-	357	-	95	452
SODI	156	236	5	662	-	782	1,449
UXO LAO	1,334	1,967	319	5,728	180	4,244	10,471
Total:	1,996	3,333	342	8,568	181	5,923	15,014

Technical Survey

Refers to number of hectares of land released through the application of technical survey methodology.

Organization	Land Released				UXO found/destroyed				Total UXO destroyed
	Agriculture (m²)	Development (m²)	Total released (m²)	Beneficiaries	Bombs	Bombies	Landmines	Other UXO	
UXO LAO	3,882,869	1,328,891	5,211,760	98,288	1	23	-	88	112
									-
Total:	3,882,869	1,328,891	5,211,760	98,288	1	23	-	88	112

Roving Clearance

Refers to number of emergency EOD tasks conducted by different operators. UXO items found are either removed or destroyed.

Organization	Villages	Visits	Bombs	Bombies	Landmines	Other UXO	Total UXO destroyed
FSD ²	0	0	68	0	0	29	97
HIB	17	17	12	368	0	90	470
MAG	158	477	11	2,519	0	5,353	7,883
NPA	19	51	9	497	0	324	830
SODI	79	124	5	662	0	782	1,449
UXO LAO	985	1,448	558	10,414	181	12,038	23,191
Total:	1,258	2,117	663	14,460	181	18,616	33,920

1 "Bombies" is the word used in Lao PDR to designate cluster submunitions.

2 If there is no section on FSD, it's probably important to say something like "This was part of FSD's work to support the NRA's Quality Management of the UXO Sector."



Area Clearance

Refers to the number of square meters of land cleared through manual clearance methods. UXO found are either removed or destroyed.

Organization	Land Released				UXO found/destroyed				Total
	Agriculture (m ²)	Development (m ²)	Total released (m ²)	Beneficiaries	Bombs	Bombies	Land mines	Other UXO	
HIB	226,689	100,005	326,694	6,118	-	239	-	391	630
MAG	5,539,690	628,942	6,168,632	36,645	3	4,223	1	1,165	5,392
NPA	557,643	192,754	750,397	5,489	1	997	-	459	1,457
PSD	-	41,418	41,418	1	-	16	-	-	16
SODI	474,760	748,111	1,222,871	4,528	-	1,110	-	245	1,355
UXO LAO	18,847,659	2,612,014	21,459,673	125,051	35	13,155	17	12,246	25,453
Total:	25,646,441	4,323,244	29,969,685	177,832	39	19,740	18	14,506	34,303

SUMMARY UXO Found/Destroyed and Land cleared/Released through technical survey and Area clearance

Organization	Land Released				UXO found/destroyed				Total UXO destroyed
	Agriculture released (m ²)	Development (m ²)	Total released (m ²)	Beneficiaries	Bombs	Bombies	Land-mines	Other UXO	
ALL OPERATORS	29,529,310	5,652,135	35,181,445	276,120	703	34,223	199	33,210	68,335
Total:	29,529,310	5,652,135	35,181,445	276,120	703	34,223	199	33,210	68,335

COMMERCIAL COMPANIES:

General Survey

Refers to UXO found/located through general survey activities.

Organization	Village	Visits	Bomb	Bombies	Landmines	Other UXO	Total
ASA	14	14	-	-	-	18	18
Total:	14	14	-	-	-	18	18

Technical Survey

Refers to number of hectares of land released through the application of technical survey methodology.

Organization	Land Released				UXO found/destroyed				Total UXO destroyed
	Agriculture (m ²)	Development (m ²)	Total released (m ²)	Beneficiaries	Bombs	Bombies	Land-mine	Other UXO	
ASA	-	429,110	429,110	1703	-	-	-	-	-
Total:	-	429,110	429,110	1,703	-	-	-	-	-



Area Clearance

Refers to the number of square meters of land cleared through manual clearance methods. UXO found are either removed or destroyed.

Organization	Land Released				UXO found/destroyed				Total UXO destroyed
	Agriculture (m2)	Development (m2)	Total released (m2)	Beneficiaries	Bombs	Bombies	Land-mines	Other UXO	
ASA	-	2,384,927	2,384,927	23,913	7	734	13	839	1,593
MMG	-	496	496	4	5	219	-	211	435
MILSEARCH	-	71,067	71,067	2	-	22	-	-	22
PCL	23	2,438,581	2,438,604	-	-	316	3	216	535
Total:	23	4,895,071	4,895,094	23,919	12	1,291	16	1,266	2,585

SUMMARY UXO Found/Destroyed and Land cleared/Released through technical survey and Area clearance

Organization	Land Released				UXO found/destroyed				Total
	Agriculture (m2)	Development (m2)	Total released (m2)	Beneficiaries	Bombs	Bombies	Land-mines	Other UXO	
ALL OPERATORS	23	5,324,181	5,324,204	25,622	12	1,291	16	1,266	2,585
Total:	23	5,324,181	5,324,204	25,622	12	1,291	16	1,266	2,585

GRAND TOTAL (UXO found/destroyed and land cleared/released through technical survey and Area clearance)

	Agriculture/m2	Development/m2	Total/m2	Beneficiaries	Bombs	Bombies	Land-mines	Other UXO	Total UXO destroyed
Total:	29,529,333	10,976,316	40,505,649	301,742	715	35,514	215	34,476	70,920

UXO/Mine Risk Education Operators

Organization	Village and School Number	Children	Adult	Total recipients
DOE	42	4,308	1,815	6,123
HIB	141	12,255	12,044	24,299
HU	7	121	331	452
MAG	45	5,334	9,193	14,527
PWU	27	824	2,221	3,045
SODI	7	738	254	992
UXO LAO	617	65,218	84,062	149,280
WEC	1,805	186,778	6,437	193,215
Total:	2,691	275,576	116,357	391,933



2010 SECTOR FINANCIAL FIGURES

Financial Figures: Humanitarian Clearance Operators

<i>Organization</i>	<i>Contributions received in 2010</i>	<i>Expenditures in 2010</i>
HIB	677,848.94	577,451.65
JMAS	1,818,166	1,241,560.30
MAG	2,159,995.00	2,159,995.00
NPA	3,399,280.00	2,978,930.00
SODI	1,003,158	1,003,158
UXO Lao	6,578,009.07	6,454,226.13
Total:	15,636,457.01	14,415,321

Financial Figures: Commercial Clearance Operators

<i>Organization</i>	<i>Contributions received in 2010</i>	<i>Expenditures in 2010</i>
ASA	800,000	800,000
BACTEC	-	901,000
BSL	58,900	58,900
Milsearch	-	1,485,967
MMG LXML	-	3,867,370
PCL	1,300,000	970,000
PSD	57,959	57,959
Total:	2,216,859	8,141,196

Financial Figures: Victim Assistance and MRE Operators (All Operators)

<i>Organization</i>	<i>Contribution</i>	<i>Expenditures in 2010</i>
NRC (From 2009-2014)	7,210,317	1,227,027
AAR	253,302	172,189
WE	376,108	281,332
COPE	822,025.16	586,632
Total:	8,661,752.16	2,267,180

Financial Figures: Lao Government and UNDP on First Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (USD)

<i>Organization</i>	<i>Contributions received</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>
Lao Government	-	780,000
UNDP	838,929	838,929
Total	838,929	1,618,929

<i>All sectors</i>	<i>Contributions received</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>
Grand Total:	27,353,997.17	26,442,626



UXO FACTS AND FIGURES

- **Lao PDR is the most heavily bombed country, per capita, in history**
- **25% of villages in Lao PDR are contaminated with UXO**
- **All 17 provinces of Lao suffer UXO contamination**
- **Over 2 million tons of ordnance was dropped on Lao between 1964 and 1973**
- **580,000 bombing missions were flown over Lao**
- **Cluster submunitions or 'bombies' are the most common form of UXO remaining**
- **More than 270 million bombies were dropped on Laos**
- **Up to 30% failed to detonate**
- **Approximately 80 million unexploded bombies remained in Lao after the war**
- **Over 50,000 people have been killed or injured since 1964**
- **There were approximately 117 new casualties in 2010**
- **In the last decade 40% of all casualties were children**
- **In the last decade accidents caused by bombies increased to 30% of all casualties**

What is UXO?

Unexploded ordnance, or UXO, are explosive weapons that failed to detonate when they were fired, dropped, launched or projected, and still pose the risk of exploding.

UXO contamination in the Lao PDR consists of large bombs, rockets, grenades, artillery munitions, mortars, landmines and cluster submunitions.

A cluster munition is a conventional weapon that consists of an outer canister that is designed to disperse or release smaller bombs (submunitions or bomblets) that weigh less than 20 kilograms each. These submunitions are known throughout the Lao PDR as 'bombies'. The cluster munition is dropped from a plane or launched from the ground into the air, where it ejects the bombies over a wide area. Bombies that were dropped on the 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.

The 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 10,000 villages blighted by the presence of these remnants of war. More than 270 million bombies were dropped over the Lao PDR between 1964 to 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 left behind substantial amounts of other unexploded weaponry and munitions.





THE EFFECT OF UXO ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

UXO contamination has a significant impact on the development of Lao PDR. For poor and vulnerable subsistence-farming communities, contaminated land denies the community the chance to become self-sufficient. Major infrastructure development and business projects are delayed, or must budget up to 10% of the project costs for UXO clearance to be undertaken before the main project activities can be implemented.

With the need for both trauma and long-term care, the treatment of UXO victims places a burden on the country's existing limited medical facilities. Even those who recover from their wounds cannot always carry out the work needed in the subsistence-farming village. Providing the necessary support to these people can often mean that the village has insufficient resources left to assist any new development work within the community.

NRA ACTIVITIES 2010

The First Meeting of States Parties (1MSP) was obviously one of the key activities conducted by the NRA in 2010. Most NRA Units were mobilized and worked closely with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, UNDP and UXO Sector operators to ensure a successful conference (see separate report on the conference below). Upon the request of the Government, the NRA took the lead in the logistical planning and financial administration of the portion of the 1MSP funded by UXO Trust Fund resources. The NRA worked to structure information flows and ensures that all logistics and administration were carried out effectively and with the utmost transparency. Undertaking this event was a colossal task for the Lao Government, and the responsibility for logistics, particularly procurement and budget management rested with the NRA. The additional pressure on resources resulted in a slowing of the pace of work of other NRA activities.

In addition, the NRA and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs organized two workshops on the 1MSP with Government Subcommittees and key line ministries in order to ensure a smooth conference and help prepare the first transparency report submitted by the Lao PDR to the UN Secretary General in accordance with Article 7 of the Convention on Cluster Munitions. In the run-up to the 1MSP, the NRA organized workshops and field

visits for journalists to Savannakhet, thereby contributing to ensuring hundreds of media reports for the event. The NRA produced and disseminated several reports, fact sheets and booklets on the UXO problem and the Convention. The NRA also met with most donors or potential donors to the UXO Sector, including countries that had not yet joined the Convention on Cluster Munitions.

Despite the considerable additional workload generated by the organization of the 1MSP, the NRA core activities continued including: celebrating International UN Day for Mine/UXO Action, the Sector Working Groups and NRA board Meeting. Beside that, the Technical Working Groups on Clearance, Victim Assistance and Risk Education met on a regular basis (half-day meetings altogether) and the UXO Sector Working Group gathered in October to review progress and discuss challenges ahead.

The NRA worked to strengthen its cooperation with provincial authorities. In particular, the NRA convened a meeting with representatives of the southern provinces and established provincial offices in Savannakhet and Xiengkhouang in partnership with Handicap International Belgium (HIB) and Mines Advisory Group. In addition, the NRA initiated the creation of provincial committees in ten provinces and organized ten provincial victim assistance workshops in order to enhance casualty data collection and coordination. The cooperation between NRA and provincial authorities benefited considerably from a September 2010 Order from the NRA Vice Chair "to establish (or improve existing) Provincial Committees on UXO Management (PCM UXO) and District Committee on UXO Management (DCM UXO)."

The NRA conducted regular assessments of UXO operators and ensured that national standards continued to be monitored. A contract was signed with FSD in December enabling two teams to conduct Quality Assurance and Quality Control (QA/QC) activities from January to March 2011.

The NRA initiated and conducted a Post Clearance Impact Assessment (PCIA) in three districts (see separate report below) and organized four workshops to discuss and disseminate the findings with provincial and district authorities and operators. The report was well received and should help define an important new project, the "District Focused Approach to Management of the UXO Threat". The NRA worked with MAG, HIB and NPA to define the scope and methodology of this new approach. A pilot project will be launched in three districts in 2011.

Concerning UXO risk education (MRE), it is worth noting that the NRA casualty database recorded a substantial decrease of recorded UXO casualties: from about

300 casualties/year in the past decade to 117 casualties in 2010. The NRA initiated the preliminary steps of a KAP (Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices) survey in consultation with MRE operators that should help understand this decrease. While NRA's risk education staff was heavily mobilized for 1MSP preparations, the NRA drafted a Prime Minister Order "to increase safety measures in the scrap metal industry" and discussed it with stakeholders. The NRA risk education team also visited operators and shared findings through the MRE Technical Working Group. The NRA produced and disseminated two new MRE drama films.

Working closely with the MRE Unit, the NRA's Victim Assistance Unit kept collecting, updating and disseminating casualty data. The NRA released a new

report National Survey of UXO Victims and Accidents in February 2010. The NRA staff visited and collected information from all recorded casualties. As of 31 December 2010, 534 UXO casualties that occurred in 2008, 2009 and 2010 were recorded through the network of focal points.

Concerning information management, the NRA kept entering and validating historic and current data from UXO Sector operators and began rolling out the Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) to operators in order to enable gradual online reporting. It also prepared and supplied UXO contamination maps as required. In addition, the NRA launched its new website on September 3rd, 2010, a few weeks before the beginning of the 1MSP.



NRA FINANCIAL REPORT 2010

Expenditure in 2010

Expenditure in 2010 was disbursed via the NRA, UNDP, UNICEF, MAG, Armor Group and EC/EU

Table: Expenditure of UNDP and Lao Government Fund (US\$)

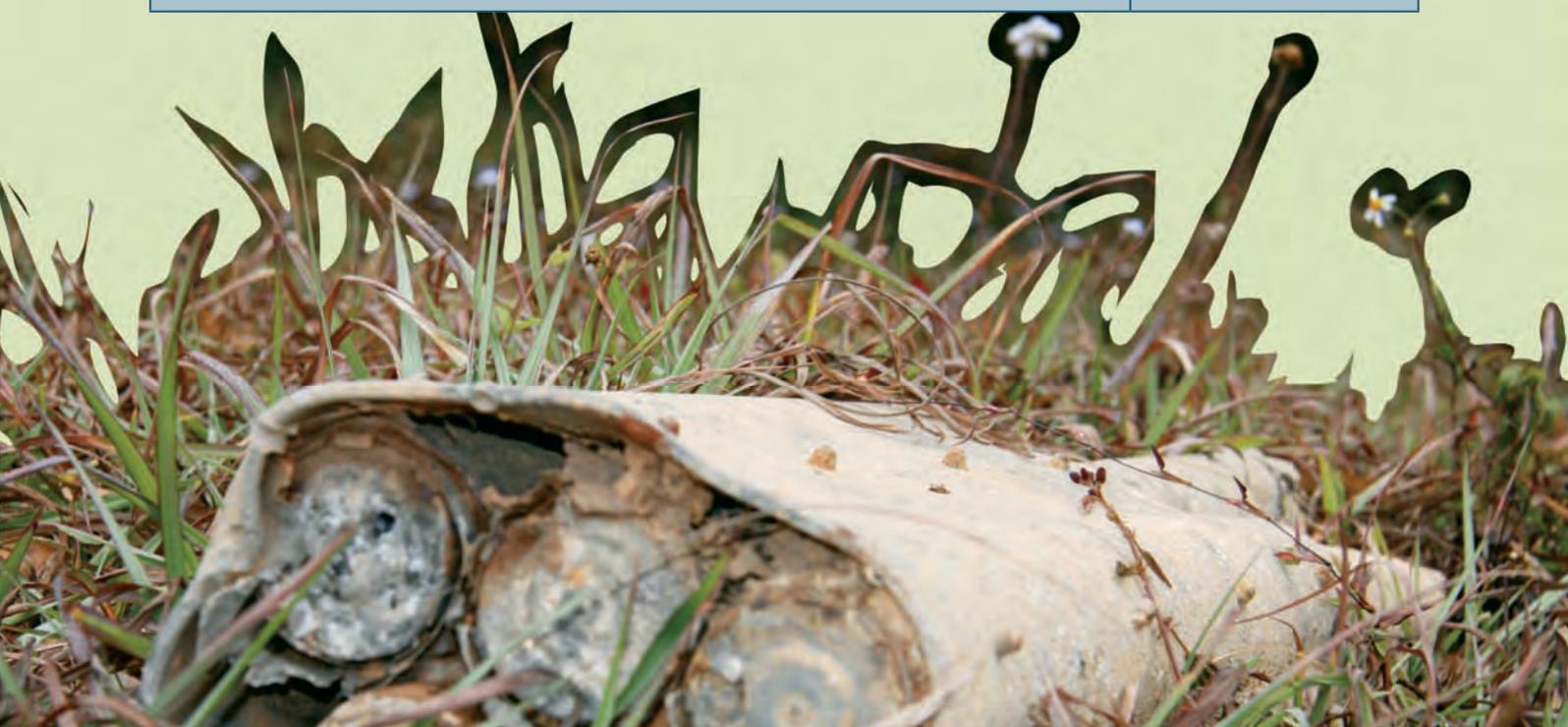
<i>Item</i>	<i>Total</i>
Personnel Costs	175,579.00
Consultants (National and International)	31,238.00
Operational Costs	222,380.00
Equipment Costs	26,116.00
Running Costs	65,681.00
First Meeting of States Parties (1MSP)	164,020.00
Total:	685,014.00

Table: Expenditure of Armour Group Fund (US\$)

<i>Item</i>	<i>Total</i>
Operational Costs	153,915.00
Total:	153,915.00

Table: Expenditure of Lao Government Fund (US\$)

<i>Item</i>	<i>Total</i>
First Meeting of States Parties (1MSP)	780,000.00
Total:	780,000.00



A large audience is seated in a conference hall, facing a stage. A large screen on the stage displays a man in a suit and glasses, identified as Dr. Thongloun Sisoulith. The audience is diverse in age and appearance. The stage is decorated with a floral arrangement. The overall atmosphere is formal and professional.

SPECIAL REPORTS

FIRST MEETING OF STATES PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON CLUSTER MUNITIONS

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr Thongloun Sisoulith address the plenary at the First Meeting of States Parties in Vientiane, Lao PDR, in November 2010.



The Lao Government hosted the First Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (1MSP) from 9 to 12 November 2010 in Vientiane. Over 1,200 people attended the 1MSP with 121 States and 159 international and regional organizations and NGOs. This number included 40 States Parties, 47 signatories, and 34 non-signatories. The 1MSP was chaired the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Lao PDR, Dr. Thongloun Sisoulith

This meeting laid the foundation for future engagement on the Convention by bringing together for the first time States Parties to the treaty, UN agencies, international organizations, civil society, and cluster bomb survivors. States shared progress and plans for implementation, and drew up a blueprint to translate the treaty into action and meet the lifesaving obligations they have consented to be bound by. Four documents were adopted: Vientiane Declaration, Vientiane Action Plan, Work Programme 2011 and Reporting Format.

420 participants saw clearance of cluster munitions and the severity of the problem during a field visit. The field visit was held in Xiengkhuang province with UXO Lao operations being visited.

Twenty-five organizations participated in the exhibition and various other activities during the 1MSP.

The Lao Government spent 6,250 million kip (about USD 780,000) outside of the expenditure made through the UN system.

Before the start of the 1MSP, a 1MSP launch event was hosted by the Lao Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The event aimed to raise the profile of the preparations towards the 1MSP and was attended by about 100 people including ambassadors and other members of the diplomatic corps, representatives of the UN, and many NGOs, Lao university students, and Lao press.

The opening ceremony began with a screening of a short film made by the NRA, "From Vision to Action," vividly depicting the effects of the use of cluster munitions and work being done to implement the convention's provisions in the Lao PDR.

Participants then had the honor of hearing the President of the Lao PDR address the ceremony, who appealed to delegates to seize the great opportunity before them to fully implement and realize the objectives and goals of the Convention and endorse the comprehensive Vientiane Action Plan and adopt the strong political Vientiane Declaration.

During the course of the First Meeting of States Parties, civil society participants from around the world offered dozens of side events on their work and on humanitarian issues related to the cluster munitions problem.

Australia, Belgium, European Union, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Switzerland and United Kingdom announced new or increased funding contributions for Lao PDR, while others such as Japan and France noted funding commitments since signing the convention.

Princess Astrid of Belgium gave a strong statement detailing the achievements of the convention and pledging Belgium's continued commitment to achieving its provisions. Belgium's funding commitment in past years in support of mine action programs was 6 million euro a year, she said, announcing however that in light of this conference, Belgium's funding commitment will reach 8 million euro.

Luxembourg's Minister for Foreign Affairs, Jean Asselborn, announced that Luxembourg will contribute 750,000 euro over the next five years in support of the Lao government's efforts on clearance, adding to the 2.7 million euro it has provided for clearance since 1999.

New Zealand's Minister of Disarmament, Hon. Georgina teHeuheu, announced that New Zealand would make a contribution of over 1 million dollars that will be used to target clearance in the north west of Laos.

Australia announced it would provide a further 1 million dollars to Laos to increase its capacity to implement the convention, increasing its total funding for the country to 4 million dollars since the launch of its 100 million mine action funding commitment in its 2010-2014 Mine Action Strategy launched in 2009.

Switzerland announced that it was contributing 3 million USD for clearance of UXO in Lao for the period of 2010-2013.

France delivered a statement on behalf of Minister of Foreign Affairs, Bernard Kouchner, which said that France has contributed 373,000 euro in 2010 specifically to Lao to combat cluster munitions. Japan also spoke about the importance it places on international cooperation and assistance, stating that since signing the CCM, it has provided more than 5.5 million USD for clearance and victim assistance to countries including Lao.

POST-CLEARANCE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

(Summary of findings from the report)

In the Lao PDR, humanitarian UXO action and UXO clearance specifically, aims to reduce UXO related injury and death and contribute to the Government of Lao PDR's National Growth and Poverty Eradication Strategy



(NGPES) (Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, 2004). One of the underlying theories of UXO action is that UXO clearance releases livelihood assets. The expectation is that program recipients will use these assets productively to accumulate other assets and improve livelihoods.

But is UXO action effective? Is it relevant and meeting the various stakeholders' needs? How does it support broader development initiatives? How do the poor benefit from UXO clearance? How do people use UXO cleared land in order to improve their livelihoods? How are benefits sustained? How does UXO clearance contribute to district and provincial poverty eradication plans? Is UXO clearance contributing to its overall goals of contributing to UXO related injury and poverty eradication?

This assessment was undertaken in three districts in three different provinces in Lao PDR during 2010 (Nong, Savannakhet; Pek, Xiengkhuang; and Paksong in Champassack) and aimed to begin to address these questions.

The assessment was restricted to clearance undertaken for humanitarian purposes.

The overall research question is 'Who benefits from UXO clearance, in what ways and in what contexts?'

The specific objectives were:

1. Identify impact of humanitarian UXO clearance on household livelihoods
2. Develop and test impact assessment tools which can be used for monitoring and assessment of benefits from UXO clearance in future
3. Develop 'the program theory' which can be used for monitoring and evaluation
4. Develop key recommendations to inform UXO clearance

According to the final report, UXO clearance is effective in increasing people's sense of safety and optimism for the future - prerequisites for accessing other development opportunities. The way in which households use cleared land depends on access to assets, values and sense of self-efficacy. Households with access to a range of assets (e.g. finance, equipment, labor, knowledge) and a sense of self-efficacy are able to use cleared land to accumulate other livelihood assets including finance. Households which have limited access to assets will use the land but it will take longer for such families to maximize its benefits. Demographic variables, for example, age, gender, sex of household head, do not seem to have a significant effect on outcomes nevertheless, women are



often excluded from pre and post clearance discussions with UXO agencies. The extent to which benefits are sustained over time is dependent on household context and the broader socio-economic context particularly:

1. Institutional policies/ practices
2. Market stability
3. Environment (e.g. soil quality, flood, drought, pests)
4. Stage in livelihood transition
5. Access to community assets

The program is effective in reducing exposure to UXO. It contributes indirectly to poverty reduction but impact is constrained by communication and prioritization processes. The program is relevant to national priorities but not always clearly linked into district level poverty reduction strategies. Cost efficiency or cost benefit analysis was not part of this assessment. Currently however, clearance assets are often repeatedly deployed to the same villages and it is not possible to state that any villages or districts are 'impact free'.

WOMEN IN THE SECTOR

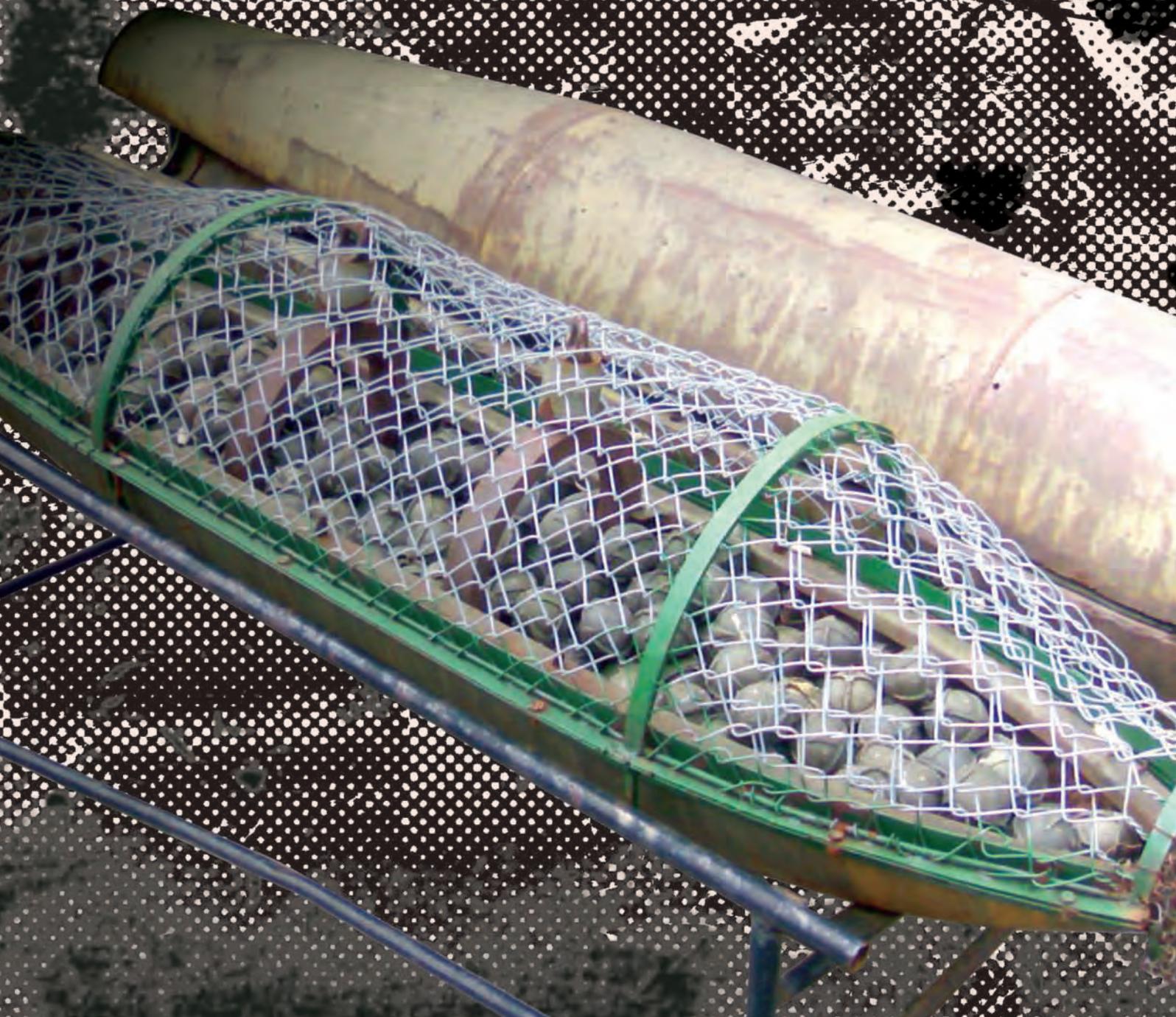
The clearance of the UXO and landmines has traditionally been a male profession, largely due to a role the military has played in these activities. However, today, more and more women are being given the opportunity to work as deminers and explosive ordnance disposal personnel.

In the Lao PDR, Mines Advisory Group (MAG), Handicap International Belgium (HIB), Norwegian People's Aid (NPA) and UXO Lao, all have female members of staff working in clearance operations. Employing women as deminers not only challenged social norm restricting women's employment in many affected communities around the world, but it also enabled women to make their own communities safe, and earn a good salary to be able to support their entire family. As Ms Manisia Torthongyer, member of the MAG all female clearance team, commented, "Our team shows that women can do anything, I want people to know that Lao women are as strong as women from other countries". Establishing a gender balance within the workforce of all UXO operators is also fundamental to ensuring that gender considerations are incorporated throughout the entire UXO action process in Lao PDR.





OPERATOR



REPORTS

Operator reports are based on a template prepared by the NRA office and sent to each operator. Information included in this section is based on the information submitted by each operator. Minor edits were done for consistency in format and presentation, but otherwise, they are as submitted.

Humanitarian Clearance Operators

1. Handicap International Belgium (HIB)
2. Lao National Unexploded Ordnance Programme (UXO Lao)
3. Mines Advisory Group (MAG)
4. Norwegian People's Aid (NPA)
5. Solidarity Service International (SODI)

Commercial Clearance Operators

1. ASA
2. BACTEC
3. BSL
4. Milsearch BPKP
5. MMG (Mineral Mines Group)/LXML
6. Phoenix Clearance Limited (PCL)
7. Phonsackda UXO Clearance Co, Ltd (PSD)

Risk Education and Victim Assistance Operators

1. Association for Aid and Relief (AAR)
2. Cooperative Prosthetic and Orthotic Enterprise (COPE)
3. National Rehabilitation Centre (NRC)
4. World Education/Consortium (WEC)



HUMANITARIAN CLEARANCE ORGANIZATIONS



HANDICAP INTERNATIONAL BELGIUM (HIB)

Activities in 2010

As with the previous year, Handicap International (HI) worked in Savannakhet Province in the Nong, Vilabuly and Sepon districts in 30 target villages.

HI carried out clearance and roving activities, conducted risk education and community liaison activities, Household Garden project, and the Ban Advocates Project.

EOD operations: clearance and roving activities

The annual work plan was done in close collaboration with the local authorities in order to be in line with their development plans. HI also worked in partnership with World Vision and Concern worldwide to clear the contaminated areas within their target villages. The purpose of land clearance for those organizations is as follows: (1) infrastructure development e.g. road construction (food for work), (2) health center, (3) school building, and (4) for food security such as: rice paddy expansion and farming land. HI fulfilled its mandate of supporting development organizations by following the work plan developed in close cooperation with district authorities.

Roving tasks were conducted on a monthly basis of around five days a month. These are based on requests made directly by local communities and HI community liaison teams.

Risk Education and Community Liaison activities

The HI risk education team conducted the following activities: (1) focus group discussions, (2) house to house visits, (3) safety briefings, (4) village volunteer trainings, and (5) mobile events. Community Liaisons activities were also conducted to the local authorities at district and village level, before conducting any CL/RE and UXO activity.

RE messages and materials used for the activities by the RE/CL team are listed below:

1. Flipchart with stand: the dangers of UXO- a guide for Adult "Lao Version" 20 sets,
2. Flipchart with stand: the dangers of UXO- a guide for Children "Lao Version" 20 sets,
3. Printing book (Parenting Technique Module 2nd edition. Lao version) "A guide for parents how to protect your children 1. 000 sets
4. The RE film about the child survivors of UXO funded by UNICEF

Household Garden Project

The household garden project was funded by UNICEF and implemented by Handicap International Belgium as a pilot project. The household garden project took place in Sepone and Nong district and has an innovative approach: proposing a sustainable way to generate additional income while preventing families with children from the scrap metal collection.

Ban Advocates project

The project was created in January 2010 and funded by the Norwegian Government. The purpose of the





project is to work with a group of Cluster Munitions Survivors in Lao PDR in order to advocate for a ban on cluster munitions and the full application of the rights of survivors and affected communities.

The main activities of the Ban Advocates were to attend trainings on advocacy and the cluster munitions convention, meet with embassies, and attend the 1st Meeting of State Parties of the Cluster Munition Convention.

ACHIEVEMENTS

EOD operations:

In 2010, HI cleared:

1. Farm land cleared: 226,689 m²
2. Other land cleared: 100,005 m²
3. Total Area cleared: 326,699 m²

Beneficiaries: 6,118 people

Total number of villages: 23

and destroyed during the clearance:

1. Bomb: 0
2. Bombie: 239
3. Mine : 0
4. Other: 391

Total: 630

During the roving activities, HI destroyed:

1. Bomb : 12
2. Bombie : 368
3. Mine : 0
4. Other: 90

Total: 470

Beneficiaries : 5,278 people

Total number of villages: 17

Risk Education and Community Liaison

HI conducted 19 focused group discussions for a total of 304 beneficiaries (including 68 boys and 63 girls under 18 years old, 102 males and 71 females over 18 years old.). 11 house to house visits were also conducted for a total of 145 beneficiaries including 12 boys and 12 girls under 18 years old, 46 males and 75 females.

HI organized 60 safety briefings with a total of 4,153 beneficiaries including 856 boys and 826 girls under 18 years old, 1,168 male and 1,303 female over 18 year old. 86 village volunteers were also trained including 61 males and 25 females.



39 mobile RE event were displayed. A total of 8,733 beneficiaries attended the event including 2,122 boys and 1,786 girls under 18 years old , 2,515 male and 2,310 female over 18 years old .

257 community liaison activities at district and village levels were done prior to RE or EOD activities.

Household Garden project:

30 families from 6 villages were selected in 2010 from different villages. The total beneficiaries are 253 people, included 117 females and 129 children.

Ban Advocates:

The Ban advocates attended two workshops in January and April 2010 on advocacy and the cluster munitions convention. They also attended the Bomb Day's celebration in August 2010.

The Ban Advocates also visited two embassies in Lao: Thailand and Cambodia.

They participated very actively in the 1st Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions which took place in November 2010, representing the voice from the ground. Mr. Thoummy, a Ban Advocate from Lao, found the strength to speak on behalf of all cluster munitions victims in front of a large audience of around 1,000 participants (delegates, journalists and members of the civil society) at the opening ceremony of this conference.

The Ban Advocates were happy to be participating in the event and to have the opportunity to contribute to such an important International Day that would raise awareness about UXO and cluster munitions in Laos.

At the event Ms. Phet Latxabout had the chance to give her speech on behalf of the Survivors in Laos and on behalf of Ban Advocates to share her story.



CASE STUDY OF AN ACHIEVEMENT OF THE ORGANIZATION IN 2010

On Friday 30 Jul 2010, Mr. Thoummy Silamphan, a Lao Ban Advocate, was invited by the Cluster Munitions Coalition to attend a meeting held in Bangkok, Thailand on the Cluster Munitions Treaty. He was present on behalf of the Lao Ban Advocates.

Thoummy also spoke on behalf of all cluster munitions victims in front of around 1,000 participants (delegates, journalists and members of the civil society) at the opening ceremony of the 1st Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions:

“My Name is Mr Thoummy Silamphan, age 22, from Nadou Village, Kham District, Xiengkhouang Province. The accident happened on July, 12, 1996. I had gone to look for bamboo shoots to feed my family.

When the bombie exploded, it cut my left hand, and caused me the most excruciating pain. I was lying on the ground bleeding. People from the closest village found and carried me to my house.

My parents saw how serious my injury was. I was still conscious and in a lot of pain. They asked other villagers to help carry me to the Kham District Hospital before referring to the hospital at Xiengkhouang province for better treatment. Sadly, doctors cut off my left hand. I am amputee; I went through a period of being very depressed about my new situation. Losing my hand made life far more difficult. However, my family supported me through that time, and I went on to continue studying until I graduated from high school, and attended Vongchareun Development College. I now work as a Field Assistant for World Education in Xiengkhouang. I want to represent survivors in order to promote the Convention, and I want to be a good example and to help others whose lives have been affected by UXO.”

2011 CHALLENGES AND/OR OPPORTUNITIES

1. HI will continue working in the 3 target districts: Nong, Villabuly and Sepon for clearance, roving, and risk education/community liaison activities. HI will target 40 villages in 2011.
2. If funding from UNICEF is confirmed, a new risk education activity will be conducted: the kids club.
3. HI also plans to implement the District Focused Approach in Nong District in 2011.



4. HI will build the capacities of the NRA Provincial Office in Savannakhet by providing them materials, equipment, trainings, and financial support.
5. HI is looking for resources to extend HI's capacities in term of EOD towards having one more clearance team and a permanent roving team.
6. HI will also develop its victim assistance support by reinforcing the links between both disability and UXO programs.

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS OR CLIENTS

Final beneficiaries include approximately 15,000 people from 40 villages in Nong, Sepon and Villabuly districts in Savannakhet Province who will directly benefit from UXO risk education, clearance and destruction of UXO in support of: a) district authority development activities b) Poverty Reduction Fund (PRF) sub-projects and c) Welthungerhilfe (WHH)³ development projects.

District Authorities (DA's) from Nong, Sepon and Villabuly may be considered a partner group and beneficiary as they will benefit by gaining a better understanding of the size of the UXO contamination, its impact and priorities for their districts and how this can, and should link to their own district development plans.



The NRA as the project partner may also be considered a target group as capacity of the NRA provincial staff will be strengthened to coordinate and monitor UXO activities in Savannakhet. The NRA will also benefit from the trial of a survey tool capturing lessons learned that are relevant to the whole sector.

District Authorities, the Poverty Reduction Fund (PRF) and Welthungerhilfe may be considered beneficiaries as UXO contaminated land will be cleared allowing for their development initiatives to commence free from the negative impacts of UXO contamination.

GEOGRAPHY OF OPERATIONS:

Activity	Provinces of Lao PDR implement activity in
Area clearance	Savannakhet Province, Districts of Nong, Sepon and Villabully
Survey and Roving clearance	Savannakhet Province, Districts of Nong, Sepon and Villabully
Risk Education	Savannakhet Province, Districts of Nong, Sepon and Villabully
Victim Assistance	Savannakhet Province, Districts of Nong, Sepon and Villabully
Other: House Hold Garden (still to be funded)	Savannakhet Province, Districts of Nong and Sepon

Donor contributions for 2010 (USD)

Donor	Contribution received in 2010 (USD)
European Union	225,610.75
UNICEF	192,410.00
CLM	3,500.00
Norway	19,500.00
Austrian Development Agency	260,000.00
Own Funds	5,100.00
TOTAL	706,120.75

³ HI will work with the Poverty Reduction Fund (PRF) and Welthungerhilfe (WHH) to ensure clearance tasks are linked to development projects.



“After losing his hand, Mr. Khambea continued to farm but found it very difficult.”

*Mr. Khambea: Household Garden Project beneficiary
24th June, 2010*



Case Study

Mr. Khambea is a UXO survivor and a beneficiary of the household garden project (HHG). In 1968, while preparing land to develop rice fields, he struck a bomb that was hidden beneath the scrub. It exploded, and his left hand was badly wounded. The wounds became infected, and Mr. Khambea had to have his left hand amputated. After losing his hand, Mr. Khambea continued to farm but found it very difficult. As he explains, “People with two hands use one hand to hold a piece of wood to make a

hole and the other to sprinkle the rice”. Mr. Khambea still has his farm, and still feeds his family rice from it but only a small amount of it.”

He got support from the HHG project to produce vegetables as chili, eggplant, papaya, cucumber, tomato, lettuce, cabbage, morning glory, garlic and beans depending on the season. He says that the garden has made his life and the life of his family better: “The garden is so close and easy to access. Whenever I’m hungry, I can pick vegetables to eat and so can my family. I can exchange my vegetables with my neighbors, who give me meat in return: chicken, pig and deer.”

Mr. Khambea emphasizes that the garden is very easy for him to maintain because it is not as physically arduous as rice farming. The main reason that he finds maintaining his garden easy is the training he received from the Handicap International household garden team, who provided him with simple techniques to keep the garden thriving year-round. Furthermore, Mr. Khambea receives help from his family when he works on the garden as they know that the land is clear of UXO. “Having the farm has made a big difference in my life. My life is so much easier now that I have this garden.”





LAO NATIONAL UXO PROGRAMME (UXO LAO)

UXO Lao's Activities in 2010

UXO Lao continued its mandate to increase more safe land for agriculture, increase available land for development activities and reduce the number of UXO casualties. To achieve its mandate, UXO Lao continued to implement its main five activities: (1) Community Awareness, (2) General Survey, (3) Roving operations, (4) Area clearance activities; and (5) Technical Survey, in the nine most impacted provinces.

2010 was a challenging year for UXO Lao as the Lao Government hosted the First Meeting of State Parties of the Convention on Cluster Munitions to which UXO Lao had the opportunity to host a field visit for the 1MSP delegates in Xiengkhuang Province. A display was also held at the Conference venue.

In early 2010, three mobile quality management/quality (QA/QC) control teams were deployed to cover the nine provinces which UXO Lao operate in. The teams are mandated to support the provincial operations in meeting the requirements stated in the Lao National Standards and UXO Lao standard operating procedures and that all activities are carried out in a safe and efficient manner. One team cover three provinces each, with the northern team covering Luangprabang, Huaphanh and Xiengkhuang, the middle team handling Khammuane,

Savannakhet and Champassak, while the southern team covers Saravane, Sekong and Attapeu. In 2010, the teams completed five inspections across nine provinces. The national QA/QC teams are recruited from the provinces they cover. Two international technical advisors seconded by the Swiss Government to UNDP and one from Amor Group North America support the development of the QA/QC teams.

Community Awareness Volunteers (CAV) are trained villagers who pass on UXO safety messages among their own communities on a voluntary basis. The program provides cost-effective, year-round, village-based access to UXO awareness information, especially in remote areas. There are 372 CA Volunteers across nine provinces including 82 females. A CAV assessment was conducted in Attapeu province to provide a basis for further improvement of the program.

Financial support in 2010 decreased as some current donors decreased their contribution amounts. However, UXO Lao was able to cope with contributions from private donations (individuals and small foundations) and new donors to the program, i.e. Austria. Also, UXO Lao received support from returning donors, the Republic of Korea and New Zealand.





Achievements 2010

Key Achievements

Operations:

1. Community Awareness: 617 villages of the 594 target visited;
2. Area Clearance: 2,145 hectares of the 2,513 hectares of land target cleared;
3. General Survey Tasks: 1,967 tasks of the 1,590 task target completed;
4. Roving Tasks: 1,448 tasks of the 1,673 task target completed; and
5. Technical Survey: 521 hectares of 551 hectares of land target released.

Detailed 2010 achievements:

Community Awareness			Survey		Roving	
Province	Visits	Beneficiaries	Villages	Visits	Villages	Visits
Luangprabang	71	25,189	113	158	65	99
Huaphanh	60	15,348	97	176	76	134
Xiengkhuang	54	7,182	193	243	161	225
Khammuane	70	24,016	118	130	53	82
Savannakhet	73	14,450	209	285	169	247
Saravane	72	22,912	167	170	189	255
Sekong	79	12,913	103	143	70	87
Champasak	71	13,257	234	536	115	215
Attapeu	67	14,013	100	126	87	104
TOTAL	617	149,280	1,334	1,967	985	1,448

Clearance					Technical Survey			
Province	Agriculture	Others	Total Area	Beneficiaries	Agriculture	Others	Total Area	Beneficiaries
Luangprabang	200.1250	8.8270	208.9520	30,876	26.5359	45.0688	71.6047	15,182
Huaphanh	212.2776	14.2838	226.5614	14,452	59.2731	2.1219	61.3950	5,546
Xiengkhuang	370.8383	49.3763	420.2146	17,388	41.7602	1.0161	42.7763	3,419
Khammuane	74.7272	26.9983	101.7255	13,161	64.7425	2.7835	67.5260	1,418
Savannakhet	282.9927	2.9202	285.9129	2,521	50.4757	13.2138	63.6895	2,921
Saravane	262.0030	64.1744	326.1774	9,730	52.4530	10.0296	62.4826	6,669
Sekong	100.9895	12.2435	113.2330	5,997	24.8345	1.8702	26.7047	7,329
Champasak	221.5936	31.9744	253.5680	17,523	32.5701	32.0123	64.5824	42,837
Attapeu	159.2190	50.4035	209.6225	13,403	35.6419	24.7729	60.4148	12,967
TOTAL	1,884.7659	261.2014	2,145.9673	125,051	388.2869	132.8891	521.1760	98,288



UXO Found, Removed and Destroyed Statistics

<i>UXO Removed/Destroyed</i>					
Task	Bombs	Bombies	Mines	Other	Total
Roving	558	10,414	181	12,038	23,191
Clearance	35	13,155	17	12,246	25,453
Technical Survey	1	23	0	88	112
TOTAL	594	23,592	198	24,372	48,756

Training

<i>Course</i>	<i>Course Count</i>	<i>Number of Participations</i>
UXO Clearance	2	57
Medic	3	15
SEOD	1	5
Team Leader	2	44
TOTAL	8	121

Procurement

Detectors

Ebinger 421:	03 units
Minelab F3:	16 units
Ebinger UPEX740 M:	12units
Vallon VMXC1:	37 units
Magnex 120:	02 units

Vehicles

Toyota Land Cruiser Hard Top: 05 units

2011 Challenges and/ or Opportunities

UXO Lao faces a funding shortfall in 2011 as only 48% of the US\$7M budget is secured despite the different expressions of support made during the First Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions in 2010.

Implementing Partners

1. Armor Group North America (AGNA)
2. Japan Mine Action Service (JMAS)
3. Mines Advisory Group (MAG)
4. Norwegian People's Aid (NPA)

Clients

1. International Fund for Agricultural Development
2. Japan International Cooperation Agency
3. Lao Government (rural development)
4. Norway
5. Poverty Reduction Fund
6. World Vision

Geographic Operations:

Luangprabang	– CA, SV, RV, CL and TS
Huaphanh	– CA, SV, RV, CL and TS
Xiengkhuang	– CA, SV, RV, CL and TS
Khammuane	– CA, SV, RV, CL and TS
Savannakhet	– CA, SV, RV, CL and TS
Champasak	– CA, SV, RV, CL and TS
Saravane	– CA, SV, RV, CL and TS
Sekong	– CA, SV, RV, CL and TS
Attapeu	– CA, SV, RV, CL and TS

Remarks: CA (Community Awareness), SV (Survey), RV (Roving), CL (Clearance) and TS (Technical Survey)

Expenditure:

As of 31 December 2010 (uncertified by auditors)



<i>Item</i>	<i>Expenditure in US\$</i>
Personnel Cost	3,428,545.25
Operating Cost	1,372,690.29
Special Operating Cost	305,365.19
Non-Expendable Equipment Costs	626,933.13
Expendable Equipment	453,477.33
Total	6,187,011.19
UNDP GMS charges	267,214.94
Total Expenditures	6,454,226.13

Donor Contributions and Income:

<i>Donor</i>	<i>Amount in (US\$)</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
AusAid	430,229.88	
AusAid	10,798.00	1MSP
Austria	93,269.00	LPB
Canada	19,155.00	1MSP
CERF	278,600.00	Katsana
EU	112,669.77	SK, ATP
France	3,180.00	1MSP
Germany	327,654.00	LPB
Ireland	816,046.91	HP, un-earmark, Flash Appeal Fund
JAIF	579,137.00	ATP
Japan	679,611.00	SRV, SK
JMAS	580,686.86	XKH
Norway/NPA	370,750.00	KM
Poland	30,681.00	SVK
UK/DIFID	35,000.00	TC
UNDP	400,000.00	
UNICEF	18,460.55	CA
US/Armor Group	1,434,377.34	SVK, CHS
US/MAG	177,000.00	KM, SVK
WWM	100,000.00	KM
Private Donation	34,854.42	
Sale UXO Lao Asset	6,161.97	
Reimbursable Operations	39,687.00	
Total Income 2010	6,578,009.70	



MINES ADVISORY GROUP (MAG)

Activities in 2010

MAG conducts UXO clearance activities in support of development action as well as supporting the growth of capacity in local authorities and the National Regulatory Authority (NRA). These actions directly support the Lao Government's National Growth and Poverty Eradication Strategy (NGPES) and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

During 2010 MAG implemented the following activities:

UXO Clearance for Development Action

MAG conducted UXO clearance on land often in remote and vulnerable communities with partner organization's implementing development actions, such as, water and sanitation projects, market gardens, agricultural expansion, and roads. During 2010 MAG conducted UXO clearance in partnership with 11 key development agencies, including, World Vision, Poverty Reduction Fund, Concern and the Mennonite Central Committee.

Operations

MAG deployed 9 Unexploded Ordnance Clearance teams (UCT), 2 Roving Teams and 11 Community Liaison teams to the provinces of Xiengkhuang and Khammuane.

Community Liaison (CL)

In collaboration with MAG development partners MAG CL teams conducted 347 village visits in targeted

communities to assess survey, map, prioritize, clear and return land to the community. This participatory process forms the basis of MAG's clearance operations and ensures that the needs of the most vulnerable and disadvantaged households are prioritized.

Joint Participatory Livelihood Assessments

During 2010 MAG joined with World Vision Laos to conduct joint participatory livelihood assessments in 24 villages of Mahaxay district, Khammuane province. The joint process ensures both UXO and livelihood information can be more easily accessed and shared by stakeholders.

Capacity Building of Local Authorities

MAG continued to build the capacity of local authorities under the EC Non-State Actor Project. The project is equipping 4 Department of Labour and Social Welfare Staff from Khammouane with the skills to carry out community liaison activities. Using these skills Government authorities in collaboration with MAG will draft the first district based clearance plans that directly match UXO clearance resources to district and provincial development plans.

Achievements:

MAG was successful in exceeding project targets in 2010. A summary of programme outputs is given below.

Target Areas	2010
# of village visits by CL teams	347
MRE sessions held	51
Direct beneficiaries of MRE messaging	11,892
Number of clearance tasks completed	660
Land cleared of ERW m ²	6,168,631
Emergency / Spot tasks completed	742
Total # UXO Destroyed	13,275
Direct beneficiaries of clearance & roving tasks	42,798
% of female staff as at Dec 2010	29%



Implementing Partners or Clients:

<i>Xiengkhouang</i>	
Partner	Action
Concern Worldwide	Irrigation construction Paddy Extension
WFP	Roads, Buildings
Helvetas (Rural Income Through Sustainable Energy)	MRE for selecting aluminum from war scrap to make spoons
Poverty Reduction Fund	Roads Water piping Village hall Schools
Education Department	School in Tha Thom District
Mennonite Central Committee	Irrigation construction Paddy Extension Child Fund Australia Schools, water piping
Helvetas (Upland Development in Nonghet)	water piping, roads
<i>Khammouane</i>	
Partner	Action
International Relief & Development (IRD)	School Maintenance & construction School Feeding Programme Market Gardens Agricultural Land Wells / Boreholes Latrines
Triangle	Irrigation systems and paddy extension
World Vision	Agricultural Land extension Live stock

Geography of Operations:

Activity	Provinces of Lao PDR implement activity in
Area clearance	Xiengkhouang and Khammouane Provinces
Survey and Roving clearance	Xiengkhouang and Khammouane Provinces
Risk Education	Xiengkhouang and Khammouane Provinces



Financials:

Expenditure for 2010 (USD)

<i>Item</i>	<i>Amount (USD)</i>
Direct cost (1)	
Personnel costs	1,201,958
Operational costs	341,410
Equipment – expendable	323,646
Equipment – non-expendable	114,735
TOTAL (1)	1,981,749
Other cost (1)	
Organization administrative charge	178,246
TOTAL (2)	178,246
TOTAL (1) +(2)	2,159,995

Donor contributions for 2010 (USD)

<i>Donor</i>	<i>Contribution received in 2010 (USD)</i>
DFID	225,651
EC	269,393
Guemsey Oversea Aid	39,140
MAG/America	969,831
Terra Fund	13,083
World Vision	642,898
TOTAL	2,159,995



Additional Case Studies:

UXO and development project brings increase in rice harvest for rural farmers



Mr Ngae a farmer in Namlong village expects to harvest 1 ton of rice this year

“This year I can productively grow rice because there is plenty of water, I also have more land so I aim to harvest 1,000 kg of rice or more. I think this year I could have enough rice to eat all year”. said Mr Ngae, rice farmer from Namlong village, Tha thom district Xieng Khouang province.

Mr Ngae is one of the 430 villages benefiting from a collaborative project between MAG and Concern Worldwide.

Under the project MAG conducted UXO clearance for two irrigation systems and extension of paddy areas, while Concern constructed the irrigation system and provided technical advice on improving farming methods.

Head of village, Mr Sivone said, “MAG cleared the land that brought safety and more confidence to the villagers to expand the area of their farmlands, as well Concern.

Worldwide support us to expand rice production area”.

“People have become healthier. These are the enormous results and the results go well with village development plan to alleviate poverty” said Mr Sivone.



One of the irrigation systems constructed by Concern Worldwide



Activities in 2010:

In 2010, NPA Laos carried out the following activities in Attapeu, Saravane and Sekong provinces:

- UXO survey and clearance of agricultural and development land
- Training of EOD technicians, surveyors and medics
- Land Release Survey in Sekong and Saravane provinces

Achievements:

NPA expanded its activities in three provinces:

- In Saravane, another team was added to make a total of three clearance teams.
- In Sekong, another two teams were added to make a total of three clearance teams.
- In Attapeu, an operations base was established and two new teams were trained and deployed

Case study of an achievement of the organization in 2010:

In 2010, NPA developed Land Release Survey (LRS) procedures to map the size and locations of cluster munition footprints. Trials began in October and, by the time of the 1st Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions in November, the first cluster munition footprints had been mapped. The procedure was presented to the conference as an example of how Laos could meet one of its commitments to the treaty.

The procedure gives the NRA a means by which it can "endeavour to identify the locations and size of all cluster munition contaminated areas, as precisely as possible" in accordance with the Vientiane Action Plan as agreed at the conference. At the field operations level, the LRS procedure allows Mine Action organisations to deploy clearance teams only to those areas that are actually contaminated.

Trials continued through the remainder of 2010 to refine and document the LRS procedure, so that it could be applied at a national level.

NPA also carried out trials with signature detectors, which can be tuned to discriminate between bomblets and scrap metal. The technology is still in its early stages of development, but shows promise and, if used properly, may speed up clearance operations.



NPA staffs on site

2011 Opportunities

In 2011, NPA will consolidate its operations in three provinces. Whilst there are no current plans for further expansion for 2011, preparations will start for an increase in clearance capacity in 2012. The expansion, by at least five more teams in Saravane province, will be funded by a Norwegian Television event, the NRK Telethon, to be held in October 2011. This will raise funds sufficient for five years of operations for the new teams.

The preparations in 2011 will include the training of Section Commanders and Team Leaders to lead and manage the new teams. Surveyors will also be trained to support the NRA's District Focused Approach (DFA) project.

NPA will increase national capacity even further by training Lao field staff as Instructors to train the new Deminers, Medics and Surveyors in 2012. Programme support staff, such as administrators, logisticians and IT specialists will also be trained as instructors to ensure that high standards are developed, maintained and improved in all programme activities.



NPA will also work with the NRA to develop a District Focused Approach (DFA) to UXO survey and clearance. NPA will deploy at least three survey teams in the heavily affected district of Ta Oy, Saravane. As part of the DFA project, Land Release Survey (LRS) procedures will also be used to define cluster munition footprints.

The aim will be to define areas of UXO contamination in and around individual villages. This information will be used to prioritise and deploy clearance and roving teams where and when they are most needed.

Implementing Partners or Clients:

NPA works with villagers to identify their needs and priorities for clearance. Survey and clearance teams normally spend one or two months in a village, clearing high priority tasks, before moving to the next villages.

NPA Laos has had a historical partnership with UXO Lao since 1997 when Technical Advisors assisted in the establishment and training of UXO clearance teams in Sekong and Attapeu provinces. In 2010, the partnership continued with NPA providing a grant of USD 280,000 towards the cost of UXO Lao operations in Saravane province.

Geography of Operations:

Activity	Provinces of Lao PDR implement activity in
Area clearance	Attapeu, Saravane, Sekong
Survey and Roving clearance	Attapeu, Saravane, Sekong

Financials:

Item	Amount (USD)
Personnel costs	1,527,320
Operational costs	895,800
Equipment – expendable	223,670
Equipment – non-expendable	332,140
TOTAL	2,978,930

Donor contributions for 2010 (USD)

Donor	Contribution received in 2010 (USD)
Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (NMFA)	(not including grant to UXO Lao) 2,667,150
United States Department of State (USDoS)	700,000
Norwegian Labour Union	32,130
TOTAL	3,399,280





Activities in 2010

2010 was the first year of implementation of SODI's Integrated Programme of Humanitarian UXO and Mine Clearance and of Projects for Poverty Alleviation and Development in Khamkeut District, Bolikhamxay Province.

Khamkeut, situated at the border to Vietnam and northern end of the former "Ho-Chi-Minh-Trail", is a highly UXO contaminated area, severely bombed especially with cluster bombs, and at the same time one of the 46 poorest districts of Lao PDR.

The aim of the SODI Programme is to clear the District of Khamkeut from ERW within 5 to 7 years' time to the extent that they do no longer pose an immediate threat to life and health of the population in their daily activities. To overcome the impediments of development caused by ERW and to improve living conditions of the local population, UXO clearance has to be followed and complemented by development activities.

The first year of implementation of the new programme was characterized by the following main activities:

1. Detailed needs assessments and Survey Level 1 in all 36 UXO contaminated villages of Khamkeut District
2. Planning Workshop with the heads of all 36 contaminated villages and representatives of all concerned offices of the district administration to strengthen the district focused approach of SODI's UXO clearance activities in Khamkeut
3. Survey Level 1 and needs assessment for roving activities and MRE in Viengthong District
4. Technical survey of all areas to clear in 2011 in the villages of KhouanChanh, Pakha and Nadeua
5. Selection and training of leading field staff and of additional clearance technicians and villager clearance assistants
6. Active participation in all advocacy and public relation activities of the sector like side events of the CCM 1MSP in November in Vientiane, the Meeting related to the entry into force of the CCM, the Mine Awareness Day and others
7. Start of MRE activities in Khamkeut district
8. Further development and training of the management and leading field staff including computer skills, English language



SODI clearance team overcomes some of many challenges they face when removing cluster munition from forest for demolition

9. Preparations for the construction of a primary school in Ban KhouanChanh and a clean water supply system in Ban Nadeua.

The SODI programme concentrates on UXO clearance in Khamkeut as the most heavily contaminated district in Bolikhamxay Province. Khamkeut is especially affected by cluster munitions. They represent about 80% of all the ammunition located and destroyed by SODI clearance activities so far. SODI strives to support Lao PDR in the practical implementation of the CCM in the programme's area of activities. Battlefield Area Clearance has started first in the two villages of KhouanChanh and Nadeua and will be extended to other highly contaminated villages of Khamkeut District. The Mobile Team of the programme is prepared to carry out roving and small area clearance tasks also in villages of other districts on request of provincial and local authorities or of the population of affected villages. SODI's operations in 2010 have further developed the Villager Assisted Clearance concept have created a solid basis for developing a sustainable system of clearing residual UXO contamination after the end of the programme in 2014-16.

Achievements

The fundamental achievement of SODI's integrated programme in 2010 was to make available new land for agricultural use by the population in Khamkeut and to reduce the risk to life and health of the people in their daily activities.



SODI supported 34 villages with area and roving clearance:

1. 1,222,871 m² of land cleared
2. 1,446 items of UXO destroyed during area clearance
3. 122 roving tasks completed by the Mobile Team in 34 villages, destroying 1,357 UXO
4. Survey level 1 of 1,950 ha of land to be released in the coming years
5. Survey level 2 of 199.8 ha of land to be cleared in 2011, including reserve tasks
6. MRE performances in 7 villages, instructing 897 children and 95 adults

The daily clearance activities were accompanied by the consolidation of the operational system of SODI's UXO/ Mine Action Programme (human resources, equipment, operational procedures and programme infrastructure).

1. Training in cooperation with UXO Lao of 8 EOD technicians level 3 to become Team Leaders or Section Commanders, of 2 EOD technicians level 1 and of 1 medic
2. Local training of additional 8 villager clearance assistants
3. Deployment of a Survey Team
4. Development and introduction of SODI's SOP in Lao PDR in line with the National Standards
5. Introduction of IMSMA into the report system of the project
6. Conclusion of the provisional accreditation for UXO clearance by the NRA and application for full accreditation for UXO clearance and MRE

Another very important achievement during the first year of regular operations was the further development and practical implementation of SODI's system of villager assistant clearance (VAC). People from the villages, where large area clearance was to carry out, cleared on a voluntary basis the bushes from the envisaged clearance sites. A fixed number of locally trained villager clearance assistants have been directly involved in the actual clearance process in form of a 3-men-drill (1 clearance technician - EOD level 1 - equipped with a detector works together with 2 assistants digging out the signals).

There were important lessons learnt in 2010:

1. The VAC creates a high motivation amongst the population of the respective villages to actively participate in planning and organization of the whole clearance activities, including voluntarily cutting vegetation.

2. The VAC integrating villager clearance assistants into the clearance process increases efficiency and cost effectiveness of clearance work
3. After a short time of consolidation the staff of villager clearance assistants became stable with very low fluctuation, allowing to contract health and accident insurance for them.
4. Villager clearance assistants are a pool of pre-qualified personnel in case of the need of recruitment of new clearance technicians.



Two external quality controls by the NRA and one evaluation in depth on behalf of the donor, the German Foreign Office, have proofed in 2010 that the program is fully operational and is working in line with the National Standards.

Case study of an achievement of the organization in 2010

Mr. Bounphon Thammavong, head of the village of KhuanChanh, explained to SODI during the survey in late 2009: "The old village of KhuanChanh was completely destroyed during the war and most of the people had to live in caves nearby. After the war, the village was rebuilt in another place alongside the new track of the national road no 8A. We would like to use the land of and around the old place of the village, because the soil is fertile there especially for planting dry rice and cash crops, but the area is heavily contaminated with cluster munitions."

About 120 villagers of KhuanChanh helped voluntarily to clear the area from bushes under supervision of some technicians of SODI. Clearing the area of 19.8 ha, the SODI team found and destroyed 859 UXO; amongst them 776 were cluster munitions.



Mr. Bounphon told us during the recent handover ceremony: "We are very happy, that the area is clear now for agricultural purposes. In early 2011 a village meeting will decide the allocation of the land for use mainly by poor and landless families. This will help us to reduce the poverty in our village which is still very high with about 35% of the inhabitants."

SODI will be back in about 6 month for Post Clearance Assessment (PCA)

2011 Challenges and/or Opportunities

2011 is the second year of regular implementation of the integrated programme of SODI. More responsibility for planning, organisation and control of all clearance and MRE activities will be transferred to Lao management and leading field staff. Lao Team Leader will be deployed after they had been successfully trained in 2010 at the UXO Lao Training Centre. Current expat Team Leader will shift into the position of TA's.

The area clearance capacity will be expanded by one more clearance team and clearance activities will be extended to new villages. After the amendment of SODI's SOP related to survey operations, the programme will start in 2010 with land release after extended technical survey.

MRE will cover all UXO affected villages of Khamkeut District and start performances in some villages of the neighbouring District of Viengthong.

The Team will make strenuous efforts to further develop the concepts of district focused approach of UXO clearance and of Villager Assisted Clearance (VAC) and to improve them in practice.



The team use metal detector to search the land for bombies and other UXO items

SODI hopes to get the final accreditation of the NRA for UXO clearance and MRE in Lao PDR.

Implementing Partners or Clients

SODI co-operates very closely with UXO Lao in the training of staff required in the programme and with the Provincial Coordinator of the NRA.

Steering Committees for the SODI programme are working in Bolikhamxay Province and Khamkeut District under direction of the Deputy Governors of the province and the district, involving the departments/offices of Labour and Social Welfare, Education, Public Health, Planning and Investment, Administration Office, the Army and the Police. The programme is collaborating very closely with the Lao Women Union at provincial, district and local levels, especially regarding development projects.

20 members of the clearance and MRE staff including medics are women. Special attention is to ensure that the work of the programme benefits ethnic minorities.



SODI MRE staff teaches students about the dangers of UXO



Geography of Operations:

Activity	Provinces of Lao PDR implement activity in
Area clearance	Khamkeut District in Bolikhamxay Provinces
Survey and Roving clearance	Bolikhamxay Provinces
Risk Education	Khamkeut District in Bolikhamxay Provinces

Financials:

Expenditure for 2010 (USD)

Item	Amount (USD)
Personnel costs	578,084
Operational costs	184,342
Special Operational costs	16,402
Equipment – expendable	103,255
Equipment – non-expendable	121,075
TOTAL	1,003,158

Donor contributions for 2010 (USD)

Donor	Contribution received in 2010 (USD)
German Foreign Office	1,003,158
TOTAL	1,003,158

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COMMERCIAL CLEARANCE OPERATORS



ASA POWER ENGINEERING CO.LTD.

Activities in 2010

ASA Power Engineering has carried out UXO Surveys & Clearance for Phonsavanh, Xamnuea 115 KV Power Transmission Line 170 KM in length for both safety for all people working at site, (employers, staff, engineer and equipment) and Community Awareness (CA) activities along the Right of Way (ROW) in Xiengkhouang (XKH) and Huaphanh (HP) provinces in cooperation with UXO Lao.

ASA Power Engineering has carried out UXO Surveys & Clearance for own camp and hot spring resort site the total area is 42 Hectare.

Achievements in 2010

With regard to project:

1. For Phonsavanh, Xamnuea 115 KV Power Transmission Line 170 KM we will finish the works on May 2011 and we surveyed and cleared UXO on the access road and ROW.
2. The NRA and UXO LAO have provided the senior staff technical transfer to ASA Lao staff, carried out definite times of CA activity as planned and implemented UXO clearance.

3. In cooperation with NRA and UXO Lao expert has offered information on suggested efficiency of UXO clearance, and tried to improve SOP, Standard of Operation Plan.

2010 Challenges and/or Opportunities

1. The location of activities is a difficult mountainous terrain and subject to high UXO contamination. It is also prone to extreme weather, and can often experience volatile shifts bringing on heavy storms or thick fog, which complicates the working conditions further.
2. So the coming year, the project will carry out UXO clearance and CA activities in collaboration with assistance of NRA and UXO Lao.

Implementing Partners or Clients

Our major partners are Lao Enterprise Electricity and the line easement teams working on the 24 KV high transmission line easement and 0.4 KV middle transmission line projects, who benefit from the removal of the UXO threat. Additionally, the local communities benefit receives improved security as UXO contamination is removed.

Geography of Operations:

Activity	Provinces of Lao PDR implement activity in
Area clearance	Xiengkouang and Huaphanh provinces
Survey and Roving clearance	Xiengkouang and Huaphanh provinces
Risk Education	Xiengkouang and Huaphanh provinces



Financials:

Expenditure for 2010 (USD)

<i>Item</i>	<i>Amount (USD)</i>
Personnel costs	259,599.55
Operational costs	250,345.45
Special Operational costs	50,000.00
Equipment – expendable	110,055.50
Equipment – non-expendable	130,000.00
TOTAL	800,000.00

Contributions for 2010 (USD)

<i>Donor</i>	<i>Contribution received in 2010 (USD)</i>
China Exim Bank (for EDL Contract)	800,000.00
TOTAL	800,000.00

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Equipment Testing Prior to the Commencement of Work

A subsidiary of the BACTEC group of global companies, has been established in Lao PDR to provide high quality professional Explosive Ordnance and Mine Action Services to the region including the Pacific Rim. BACTEC has extensive experience in the survey, investigation, consultancy, training, and clearance of areas contaminated with explosive remnants of war and mines, both on land and underwater. BACTEC provides high quality, independent services on all matters relating to explosives.

Activities in 2010

Throughout 2010 BACTEC Lao Limited conducted the following activities:

1. Supporting mineral exploration by supervising the vegetation reduction and visually searching 234km of magnetometer survey lines in extremely remote and rugged locations of Sekong.
2. UXO track and pad clearance supporting mineral exploration in Savannakhet.
3. Level 1 Survey and Risk assessment in Attapeu.
4. Mine Risk Education (MRE) presentations in Sekong, Attapeu, Khammouan and Savannakhet.
5. Supporting NTPC's commitment of assistance to the villages in its downstream area BACTEC UXO has continued to clear areas for water wells, fishponds, latrines and schools. With the generous support of NTPC we also conducted Mine Risk Education throughout the villages.
6. Path finding in support of downstream sediment sampling in Khammouan.

7. Track and pad clearance in support of bauxite exploration in Sekong and Attapeu. With the generous support of Lao Sanxai Minerals and their parent company Rio Tinto Exploration we also conducted Mine Risk Education at the villages within their exploration lease.
8. Path finding services in support of mineral exploration in Sekong.
9. Path finding services in support of the Houay Ho Power Company in Attapeu.
10. Path finding and mapping services in support of oil exploration in Sepon.
11. Based on cost recovery only, BACTEC conducted 26 days of training and QA/QC in support of Handicap International's excellent work.

Achievements

In what continues to be a very tough market for quality commercial UXO clearance, BACTEC has continued to win contracts and support the development of infrastructure, mineral exploration and oil and gas exploration throughout the Lao PDR.

In addition to this support of activities which contribute to the overall economic development of the Lao PDR, BACTEC has continued and expanded its Mine Risk Education program. BACTEC sees great merit in its MRE program which is made possible through the generous support of its clients listed below.

BACTEC Clients supporting MRE in Lao PDR:

1. Rio Tinto Exploration (RTX);
2. Nam Theun 2 Power Company (NTPC);
3. Lao Sanxai Minerals (LSM), and
4. Salamander Energy (SE).

BACTEC has also been able to continue its training programs with a two week auger course conducted for its deep search teams and ongoing medical and computer training.



MRE at Ban Xeno School

Case study of an achievement of the organization in 2010

The Lao Sanxai Exploration Camp in Sekong was constructed and operates under the supervision of BACTEC personnel using the health, safety and environmental standards comparable to world’s best practice. These standards are not only BACTEC company policy but reflect the demands of Lao Sanxai Minerals and its parent company Rio Tinto Exploration.

This camp provides food, accommodation and all medical and logistical support for:

1. UXO clearance teams;
2. Auger sampling teams;
3. Geologists;
4. Drivers;
5. Cooks, and
6. Camp support staff.

Operating a camp of this standard in such a remote location is seen as one of BACTEC finest achievements for 2010. This camp will continue to operate and be expanded throughout 2011 without compromise to health and safety and with a continuing ethos of minimum disruption to the environment and local communities.

Geography of Operations:

Activity	Provinces of Lao PDR implement activity in
Area clearance	Sekong, Attapeu, Khammouan, and Savannakhet
Survey and Roving clearance	Sepon, Khammouan, and Savannakhet
Risk Education	Sekong, Attapeu, Khammouan, and Savannakhet
Victim Assistance	Non Applicable
Training	Vientiane Capital, Xekong, and Attapeu

2011 Challenges and/or Opportunities:

Undoubtedly one of the biggest challenges in Lao is for BACTEC to continue to operate as a world’s best practice UXO Clearance Company in a market which has seen an increasing influx of “fly by night” non-accredited groups.

Regardless of this challenge to our market share BACTEC considers that there is a continuing and growing investment in Lao by reputable infrastructure, power and mineral exploration companies. These companies demand world’s best practice and the insurances to back it up.

This is the UXO clearance product that BACTEC provides.

Implementing Partners or Clients:

1. Salamander Energy – Oil exploration
2. Rio Tinto Exploration – Bauxite exploration
3. Lao Sanxai Minerals - Bauxite exploration
4. NTPC – Hydropower
5. Geomap Laos - Mineral systems mapping and exploration
6. Logantek – Geophysical exploration systems
7. Houay Ho Power Company - Hydropower
8. Handicap International – NGO providing technical assistance training and counseling services to local organizations of disabled people



Two Week Auger Course Conducted for Deep Search Personnel



Financials:

Expenditure for 2010 (USD)

<i>Item</i>	<i>Amount (USD)</i>
Personnel costs	389,000
Operational costs	288,000
Special Operational costs	-
Equipment – non-expendable	224,000
TOTAL	901,000

Contributions for 2010 (USD)

<i>Donor</i>	<i>Contribution received in 2010 (USD)</i>
BACTEC self-funded	901,000
TOTAL	901,000

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LAO BSL UNEXPLODED ORDNANCE DISPOSAL

Activities in 2010

In 2010, Lao BSL Unexploded Ordnance Disposal undertook UXO clearance operations in the areas designated for the installation of electricity foot posts and a proposed 24 KV and 0.4 KV transmission line easement at Savannaket, Saravanh and Sekong provinces (this was not a daily task, because as a small project as 10 hectare, and will be continued to other provinces when Lao Enterprise Electricity plans to expand the transmission line in the further.

Achievements in 2010

1. 14.0224 ha were cleared at Vilabouly district, Savannaket province and yielded 2 UXO
2. 13.5214 ha were cleared at Thomlanh, Saravanh and Vapee districts, Saravanh province and yielded 21 UXO
3. 14.1000 ha were cleared at thateng, lamam districts, Sekong province and yielded 22 UXO

Activities in 2011

1. BSL will continuing to conducted the UXO clearance in the area for the train way 1,200 hectare

2. BSL will continue to conduct the UXO clearance for Japan Programme 200 hectare in Saravanh province
3. BSL Unexploded Ordnance Disposal undertook UXO clearance operations in the areas designated for the rural installation of electricity foot posts and a proposed 22 KV and 0.4 KV in seven provinces of the south.

2010 Challenges and/or Opportunities

The location of activities is a difficult mountainous terrain and subject to extreme UXO contaminated areas. It is also prone to extreme weather, and can often experience volatile shifts bringing on heavy storms or thick fog, which complicates the working conditions further.

Implementing Partners or Clients

Our major partners are Lao Enterprise Electricity and the line easement teams working on the 24 KV high transmission line easement and 0.4 KV middle transmission line projects, who benefit from the removal of the UXO threat. Additionally, the local communities benefit from improved security as UXO contamination is removed.

BSL Geography of Operations

Activity	Provinces of Lao PDR implement activity in
Area clearance	Savannaket, Saravanh and Sekong Provinces
Survey and Roving clearance	Attapeu, Borlikamxay, Khammoun, Savannaket and Saravanh Provinces

Financials:

Expenditure for 2010 (USD)

Item	Amount (USD)
Personnel costs	16,000
Operational costs	15,000
Special Operational costs	
Equipment – expendable	1,300
Equipment – non-expendable	26,600
TOTAL	58,900

Contributions for 2010 (USD)

Donor (No)	Contribution received in 2010 (USD)
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MILSEARCH BPKP EOD Joint Venture Ltd.

Activities in 2010.

During the year UXO clearance in support of minerals exploration and mining activities was conducted in a number of locations within the Xiengkhouang and Vientiane Provinces. A further road clearance was conducted in Sekong to provide safe access for minerals exploration. A UXO survey and clearance task was also conducted in Saravane Province to enable the extension of an agricultural area located within an established plantation.

Achievements (maximum 400 words):

During the year 2010 Milsearch-BPKP completed a shallow and deep search of 46.7 hectares.

A total of 345 bomblets and 56 other items of UXO were located and destroyed during clearance operations

Milsearch-BPKP is committed to the continuous updating of technology in relation to UXO search instrumentation. The company has recently purchased a number of large-loop Minelab F3 UXO detectors. These instruments will soon be issued to field staff at several locations for side-by-side comparison trials with currently used equipment. The trials will judge the efficiency and effectiveness of the new instruments

2011 Challenges and/or Opportunities (maximum 150 words)

The affects of the global financial crisis now seem to be softening in Lao with an increase in minerals exploration and a number of infrastructure development and

construction projects starting or being planned for the near future. It is anticipated therefore that UXO clearance activities will also increase in 2011.

Unfortunately, from a commercial perspective, a large number of UXO companies and NGO's, who sometimes undertake commercial work, have now been established in the Lao PDR. The challenge for the future will be to remain cost competitive for the still relatively small amount of work available while maintaining the high degree of safety and quality necessary in the industry.

Implementing Partners or Clients

Milsearch-BPKP is a EOD joint venture company formed between the Australian UXO Company Milsearch Pty Ltd and Bolisat Phathana Khetphoudoi (BPKP) of the Lao P.D.R Prime Minister's Office. The two parties have worked together successfully in Lao since 1993.

The company currently conducts UXO clearance operations to provide a safe working environment for clients during, survey, exploration, development and construction activities. During the year 2010 EOD services were provided to Phu Bia Mining, Argonaut Resources and the Tsumura Co.

Geography of Operations:

During the reporting period UXO clearance tasks were conducted by Milsearch-BPKP in Phu Kham, Phonxai, and Ban Houay Xai in Vientiane Province. Other clearance tasks were conducted in the Phonsavan area of Xienkhouang Province and Ban Phokhan in Saravan Province.

Activity	Provinces of Lao PDR implement activity in
Area clearance	Xiengkhouang / Sekong / Vientiane / Saravane



Financials:

Expenditure for 2010 (USD)

<i>Item</i>	<i>Amount (USD)</i>
Personnel costs	961,029.00
Operational costs	499,453.00
Special Operational costs	N/A
Equipment – expendable	10,294.00
Equipment – non-expendable	15,191.00
TOTAL	1,485,967

Contributions for 2010 (USD)

<i>Donor</i>	<i>Contribution received in 2010 (USD)</i>
Milsearch self funded	1,485,967
TOTAL	1,485,967

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ລ້ານຊ້າງ ມິເນໂຣນລ໌ ຈຳກັດ
LXML SEPON

MMG (Mineral Mines Group)/LXML

Activities in 2010:

MMG UXO Clearance Department searched 802 Hectares of land and destroyed 707 UXO, in direct support of LXML Sepon Operations and local community development projects.

Significant research and development activities were conducted during 2010 to enhance the understanding of the affects that high geomagnetic soils has on the detect ability of deep buried UXO.

Achievements:

Safety

The UXO department accrued 1,644,857 man hours in 2010 with zero lost time injuries and a Total Reportable Injury Frequency Rate of 2.43.

Training

MMG UXO training highlights included successfully qualifying 90 x Level I, 18 x Level II & 9 x Level III EOD technicians; 3 x Lao technicians participating in manufacturer provided training in Germany, and, advanced GIS training for 6 operations staff.

Technology

MMG was able to work with SKY Research and GAP Geophysics to advance the development of Sub Audio Magnetics (SAM) and Man Portable Vector sensor systems, and with Alpha Geoscience to further develop the terraTEM and to trial EM63 systems.

MMG trialed and subsequently introduced the Minelab F3LS UXO detector; this detector was also successfully deployed into areas of high geomagnetic soils.

MMG UXO department geophysical capacity was significantly increased in 2010 achieving significant quality and productivity improvements.

Case study of an achievement of the organization in 2010:

Sub Audio Magnetics and Man Portable Vector sensor system trials



SAM is a technology that developed in the minerals exploration industry and is designed for deep detection of either ore bodies or metallic items such as unexploded ordnance. A novel aspect of the SAM technology is the use of large loops (here they were no larger than 40 m by 40 m) driven by a high-current transmitter (~400 Amps) that generates a bipolar step-function excitation.

Two different data-types are collected simultaneously in a SAM survey: (i) Total Field Magnetics (TFM) which measures distortions in the Earth's magnetic field caused by magnetic material in the field of view of the sensor; and (ii) Total Field Electromagnetic Induction (TFEMI)





which measures the secondary fields generated by the rapid turn-off of the transmitter. The use of large loops and a high current transmitter allows the SAM technology (the TFEMI signal specifically) to “see” much deeper than conventional electromagnetic induction (EMI) techniques. Key components of the SAM technology are (i) the Medium Power Transmitter (MPTX) and generator; (ii) a large loop of wire (up to 40 m by 40 m loops were used in this study); and (iii) caesium vapour total field magnetometers and the TM7 data acquisition system.

The MPV is a multi-static, multiple time channel, and multi-component time-domain EMI sensor. For this survey it was adapted for use with the transmitter deployed with the SAM system and was utilized as a replacement for the magnetometer receivers used with SAM; named “MPV Large Loop”.

2011 Challenges and/or Opportunities

1. Improve UXO department safety performance from 2010.
2. Increase UXO clearance production output through efficiency gains and technology selection.
3. Provide EOD Level 1 training opportunities to an additional 120 Vilabouly district residents; promote 27 UXO department staff to EOD Level 2, 9 to EOD Level 3 and 3 to IMAS EOD Level 4.



Man Portable Vector (MPV) sensor

Geography of Operations:

Activity	Provinces of Lao PDR implement activity in
Area clearance	Savannakhet and Khammouane

Financials:

Expenditure for 2010 (USD)

Item	Amount (USD)
Personnel costs	1,888,263
Operational costs	485,277
Special Operational costs (Detection in High Geomagnetic Soil Research)	1,493,830
TOTAL	3,867,370

Contributions for 2010 (USD)

Donor	Contribution received in 2010 (USD)
MMG self funded	3,867,370
TOTAL	3,867,370



PHOENIX CLEARANCE LIMITED (PCL)

Activities in 2010

In 2010 PCL worked in Phongsali, Khammuane, Saravan, Sekong, Attapeu and Champasack clearing a total of 650ha of land for hydro Power, Mining Exploration and Road Development. During the activities PCL employed approximately 100 Lao Staff and destroyed 2,200 UXO without incident.

Achievements

All contracts where completed on time and within budget.

Implementing Partners or Clients

1. Hydro Company and Charity Phongsali
2. Hydro Company in Khammouane
3. Mining Company in Saravan and Sekong
4. Mining Company in Champasack
5. Ministry of Public Works and Transport in Attapeu

THE BEGINNING

MIVAC Trust an Australian veterans organization sponsored PCL in the training of 12 female Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) Technicians.

The local Village headman commented, "They are fortunate because the opportunity for young woman to gain paid employment is almost non-existent in the village". All who graduate as Level One UXO Technicians will be employed by PCL receiving the same rate of pay as their male counterparts.

THE TRAINING

Once all the initial nervousness was overcome and the trainees started to get used to the technical terms training progressed steadily through UXO identification and hazards, Mine detector operation care and maintenance, clearance site set-up and operations, demolition sentry procedures and first aid.

Every lesson presented is formally tested and revised and tested again and again so procedures and actions become second nature.



PCL Female Bomb Disposal Technicians



Finally graduation day was reached all the young ladies have been informed that they have successfully completed the training and will be leaving tomorrow to join the 40 other PCL technicians two hours away clearing 350 hectares of land for a Chinese - Australian mining development,



Practical Training Detector operation



Formal Practical Testing Minelab Mine detector

Geography of Operations:

Activity	Provinces of Lao PDR implement activity in
Area clearance	Phongsali, Khammouane, Saravan, Sekong, Attapeu, Champasack
Survey and Roving clearance	Khammouane, Saravan and Sekong

Financials:

Expenditure for 2010 (USD)

Item	Amount (USD)
Personnel costs	320,000
Operational costs	330,000
Special Operational costs	75,000
Equipment – expendable	200,000
Equipment – non-expendable	45,000
TOTAL	970,000

Contributions for 2010 (USD)

Donor	Contribution received in 2010 (USD)
PCL self funded	1,300,000
TOTAL	1,300,000



PHONSACKDA UXO CLEARANCE CO., LTD



Phonsackda UXO Clearance Co, Ltd received accreditation to provide clearance of areas contaminated with explosive remnants of war as requested from local authorities and also foreign investor in Lao PDR. Management systems, staffs, high explosive ordnance professional were trained in order to adhere with National Standard.

Activities in 2010

Clearance task:

In 2010 Phonsackda UXO Clearance Co, Ltd conducted UXO clearance for the Development Agriculture industry (DAI)'s coal drilling project at Kangphanieng village, Nonghat district, Xiengkhoung province. They also undertook UXO clearance in the agriculture land. At the end of 2010, 25.5 hectares were cleared and yielded 812 UXO including 746 bombies.

Survey task:

PSD undertook survey operations in the areas designated for the installation of electricity foot posts and a proposed 22 KV and middle 0.4 KV transmission line easement in 3 districts namely: At, Soupbao and Huameung districts of Huaphan Province. Moreover, they undertook survey operations in the areas for tourism place in Xienkhoung province such as:

1. Phoukeng tourism in Pek district: 85,971 m²
2. Kangvieng tourism in Pek district: 135,466 m²
3. Phoukood tourism in Phoukood district: 94,938 m²
4. Phoukang Bangfai tourism in Phoukood district: 82,478 m²

UXO clearance equipment used include CEIA D1, VALLON VMX 1-3, MINELAB. F3, EBINGER. 505, and EBINGER 421.

Financials:

Expenditure for 2010 (USD)

<i>Item</i>	<i>Amount (USD)</i>
Personnel costs	12,300
Operational costs	27,150
Special Operational costs	3,500
Equipment – expendable	15,000
TOTAL	57,950

Contributions for 2010 (USD)

<i>Donor (No)</i>	<i>Contribution received in 2010 (USD)</i>
PSD self-funded	57,950



SURVIVOR/VICTIM ASSISTANCE ORGANIZATION and RISK EDUCATION ORGANIZATIONS



ASSOCIATION FOR AID AND RELIEF, JAPAN (AAR JAPAN)

Activities in 2010

Wheelchair provision project / Vientiane

In 2010 the project produced 332 wheelchairs and 174 hand-propelled tricycles, a total of 506 devices at the National Rehabilitation Center (NRC) Wheelchair Workshop, and these were distributed to people with disabilities residing in all 16 provinces and Vientiane municipality. The following activities were some main focuses of 2010:

1. Invited physio-therapist being in charge of our project from all 16 provinces for training of assessment of children and management skill.
2. Promoted a new type of wheelchair fit for outside and rough surfaces to all 16 provinces.
3. Follow up establishment of wheelchair repair system in provinces.
4. Handing over all management work to the National Rehabilitation Center. Management work included accounting, data management, production planning and reporting.

Assistance for Survivors of Cluster Munitions and Other UXOs / Xiengkhouang

In September 2010, AAR launched a new project in Xiengkhouang, one of the worst UXO affected provinces in Lao PDR. This 3-year project aims to support UXO survivors in Xiengkhouang by strengthening the level of emergency medical care for UXO survivors in villages and their transportation to medical facilities. It also enhances medical and livelihood assistance to the survivors of UXO accidents.

The following activities were some of the main activities undertaken in 2010:

1. Developed a training plan for Village Health Volunteers on how to provide basic first aid in village
2. Visited new UXO victims to assess the current situation of first aid in village
3. Provided fund to medical and livelihood assistance activities in Xiengkhouang

Achievements

Vientiane Wheelchair project

1. Provincial Rehabilitation Center (PRC) staff have improved their level of assessment for children and learned more about related wheelchair parts
2. A new type of wheelchair fit for outside rough surfaces was promoted to all 16 provinces.
3. A number of beneficiaries received the repair service from PRCs to have their devices fixed.
4. NRC staff is becoming in charge of the administrative work to take initiative of the wheelchair service.
5. Distributed 506 devices (332 wheelchairs and 174 tricycles) to persons with disabilities.

Case study of an achievement of the organization in 2010

Vientiane Wheelchair project

Mr. Khamphan, 57 years old, living in Vientiane capital, served as a soldier for almost 10 years. He stepped on a UXO and became a two leg amputee before he retired. He used to stay at the National Rehabilitation Center (NRC) for about 10 years. Later he decided to move out from NRC to live independently. His life has changed since then. He got married to a woman and is making a living by making handicrafts such as sticky rice boxes to sell.



2011 Challenges and/or Opportunities



Vientiane Wheelchair project

The project will continue the activities from 2010, giving special focus on transferring the administrative management to NRC and will complete handing over of the project to the NRC by the end of May 2011.

Implementing Partners or Clients

Vientiane Wheelchair project

1. AAR Japan works directly with the NRC and PRC (Provincial Rehabilitation Center) or the rehabilitation sections of provincial hospitals.
2. The operational budget (Training, administration, staff, field trips, etc.) is supported by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).
3. The production costs of wheelchairs are supported by various international and local organizations.

Assistance for Survivors of Cluster Munitions and Other UXOs / Xiengkhouang

The operational budget for the project in Xiengkhouang is supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, Grant Assistance of Japanese NGO Projects.

Geography of Operations:

Activity	Provinces of Lao PDR implement activity in
Victim Assistance	Vientiane Wheelchair project Distributed wheelchairs and tricycles to all 16 provinces Project in Xiengkhouang Developed first aid training plan to village health volunteers in Xiengkhouang

Financials:

Expenditure for 2010 (USD)

Vientiane / Wheelchair project

Item	Amount (USD)
Personnel costs	37,112
Operational costs	32,640
Special Operational costs	-
Equipment – expendable (Wheelchair Production Material)	64,763
Equipment – non-expendable	674
TOTAL	135,189



Assistance for Survivors of Cluster Munitions and Other UXOs / Xiengkhouang

<i>Item</i>	<i>Amount (USD)</i>
Personnel costs	10,000
Operational costs	26,500
Special Operational costs	-
Equipment – expendable	500
Equipment – non-expendable	-
TOTAL	37,000

Donor contributions for 2010 (USD)

Vientiane / Wheelchair project

<i>Donor</i>	<i>Contribution received in 2010 (USD)</i>
JICA	63,354
AAR Internal Fund	14,094
External Sponsorships (Production Costs)	54,636
Beneficiary Contribution	1,563
General Donation	35
Others	260
TOTAL	132,379

Assistance for Survivors of Cluster Munitions and Other UXOs / Xiengkhouang

<i>Donor</i>	<i>Contribution received in 2010 (USD)</i>
JICA	-
AAR Internal Fund	2,152
External Sponsorships (Production Costs)	-
Beneficiary Contribution	-
General Donation	-
Ministry of Foreign Affairs / Gov. of Japan	118,771
Others	-
TOTAL	120,923

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COOPERATIVE ORTHOTIC AND PROSTHETIC ENTERPRISE (COPE)

Activities in 2010

COPE continued in 2010 to support the development of rehabilitation services throughout Lao PDR, primarily focusing on prosthetic and orthotic (P&O), physiotherapy and occupational therapy. The program covered the cost of nearly 1000 people to access the P&O services, including over 200 UXO survivors. The physiotherapy 'training of trainer' mentoring program continued in 2010 with the training of a staff from both the national centre and the four provincial centres.

A number of aspects of the COPE program grew in 2010, including further development of the COPE Connect project. COPE Connect aims to develop and strength medical referrals networks around the country through disability identification training and educating local health officials on the services COPE with the National and Provincial Rehabilitation Centres provide. Clinical teams have also traveled to remote district centres to run medical assessments for surrounding populations. Such assessments have seen over 400 people referred to the rehabilitation services who had not previously accessed the services.

In 2010, COPE began to introduce occupational therapy (OT) as a discipline used in the rehabilitation sector in Lao PDR through the commencement of a training program at the NRC. With no formal training course for OT in the country, five physiotherapists working at the national centre were identified and began to receive trainings conducted by an expatriate OT Mentor. The training program will be expanded in 2011 to include staff from the provincial centres.

The numbers of tourists coming to the COPE Visitor Centre steadily grew throughout the year, reaching an average of over 600 visitors per month. A large number of visitors donated to the work of COPE during their visit and a number of people all over the world continued to raise funds in their local community for the program. The Visitor Centre team organized a number of events throughout the year including a children's festival day and an outdoor concert. COPE also hosted with the Australian Government and the Cluster Munition Coalition, over 500 delegates from the First Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions at an evening reception. The event highlighted the importance of providing comprehensive victim assistance in addressing the humanitarian issues caused by cluster munitions.

Achievements

1. In 2010, COPE with the National Rehabilitation Centre (NRC) produced over 1200 prosthetic and orthotic devices in the five centres throughout the country supplying close to 1000 patients.
2. The COPE Connect program expanded into nine provinces training over 400 provincial and district government staff in disability identification and referring over 400 people with disabilities to the P&O centres around the country. All of whom had not accessed the services previously.
3. Throughout 2010 the Visitor Centre received over 600 visitors per month and the sale of merchandise and donations received from visitors raised almost ten percent of the annual COPE program costs.
4. The Occupational Therapy Mentoring program began introducing the discipline to the NRC with five physiotherapists assigned to the training program.
5. The Physiotherapy 'Training of Trainers' program continued with 14 government staff from around the country receiving numerous skill development opportunities.

Case study of an achievement of the organization in 2010

Mrs Toui is a 53 year old farmer who lives in Vientiane Province with her husband and five children. She was fitted with her fourth new prosthesis from COPE on the last day of 2010 as her previous one was worn out.

In 1969, Mrs Toui was injured by the explosion from a cluster "bombie". The submunition exploded when she accidentally hit it with a hoe while clearing land to grow vegetables on the side of the main road north. Neighbors carried her to the district hospital. Her leg was so badly injured it had to be amputated.

Before she received her prosthetic leg, Mrs Toui was faced with many difficulties, both physically and mentally. Since being provided a prosthetic leg, her life has improved. "Moving around is more comfortable and I can take care of myself, so I do not need my husband and children to look after me all the time," said Mrs Toui. Mrs Toui now enjoys weaving and selling homemade handicrafts, such as sticky rice baskets, which are her family's main source of income.



Mrs Toui is an example of the need for long-term quality rehabilitation services available to all survivors. Although she was injured over four decades ago, she will continue to need the service for the rest of her life highlighting the need for sustainable provision of victim assistance.

2011 Challenges and/or Opportunities

In the coming year COPE will continue to focus on developing nation-wide and high quality physical rehabilitation services with the National Rehabilitation Centre, the Ministry of Health. This will include the continuation of the physiotherapy and occupational therapy mentoring programs at five sites around the country. While quality management structures for the production of prostheses will be enhanced, additional focus will also be on the development of the orthoses program offered by COPE/NRC. The COPE Connect outreach project will be evaluated and a multi-year plan developed to ensure the project is reaching all those who could benefit from the physical rehabilitation services. In addition, donor commitments will also facilitate infrastructure development at the National Rehabilitation Centre and the provincial centres.

Implementing Partners or Clients

COPE works in partnership with the National Rehabilitation Centre, the arm of the Ministry of Health dedicated to providing physical rehabilitation services and care for people with disabilities. COPE primarily



Cluster munitions display at COPE Visitor Centre

operates as a mentoring and resource mobilization organisation to support the provision of services through the NRC and the four Provincial Rehabilitation Centres under the NRC's auspice. Together COPE and the NRC are the only providers of prosthetic and orthotic devices in the country.

Geography of Operations:

Activity	Provinces of Lao PDR implement activity in
Victim Assistance	Rehabilitation Centres: Vientiane, LuangPrabung, Xiengkhoung and Champasack COPE Connect outreach: Attapeu, Bolikhamxay, Champasack, Huaphanh, Khammuane, Sekong, Vientiane Province, Udomxay and Xiengkhoung

Financials:

Expenditure for 2010 (USD)

Item	Amount (USD)
Personnel costs	241,987
Operational costs	344,645
Special Operational costs	-
Equipment – expendable	-
Equipment – non-expendable	-
TOTAL	586,632



Donor contributions for 2010 (USD)

Donor	Contribution received in 2010 (USD)
Association for Aid and Relief Japan (AAR)	25,654.57
AusAID	44,524.21
CARE	41,678.47
CBM	50,125.16
COPE Visitor Centre (local fundraising)	104,748.48
Deseret International Charities (DIC)	8,373.00
GDG/Paypal Donation	22,346.67
ICRC - SFD	29,196.61
LEPRA	36,204.56
Margaret J Hunter Foundation	16,346.33
Government of Norway	305,897.34
NRA/UNDP	25,000.00
Power: Paediatric Program	74,679.76
SFD	37,250.00
TOTAL	822,025.16

Additional Case Study

In 2011, with Laos as President of the Convention on Cluster Munitions, resource mobilization and advocacy activities for the sector will be on the increase. Firsthand accounts and stories from the field relating to the cluster munitions issue will lend weight to the case for increased support to the sector for the implementation of the Convention.

Monk Bounhome is 40 years old. He lives in Sisangvone temple in Vientiane Province. He has been a monk for almost 17 years and is one of the most respected and dedicated monks in Lao PDR. Monk Bounhome used to live in a temple in Savanakhet, which he raised funds for its construction. He has recently moved to Kasii district in order to help build another temple there.

This is the fourth time that Monk Bounhome has come to COPE to receive a new prosthesis. Monk Bounhome's had to replace his old leg as his previous one had broken and was no longer functional.

In 1987, Monk Bounhome was injured by a landmine while he was on duty as a soldier during the Lao – Thailand conflict in Xaiyabouly Province. After the accident Monk Bounhome was sent to hospital in Vientiane where he had a number of operations because his wound got infected. He told us that he is very thankful for the support that he was given by COPE at the National Rehabilitation Centre.



Cluster munitions display at COPE Visitor Centre

“The prosthesis is very useful for me as it helps me to move around freely. I am satisfied with it and I am more confident to participate in a normal life now,” said Monk Bounhome. Monk Bounhome has dedicated himself to spending the rest of his life learning and developing Buddhism in Lao PDR.



NATIONAL REHABILITATION CENTER (NRC), MINISTRY OF HEALTH

Activities in 2010

The National Rehabilitation Center (NRC) has three main activities such as: (1) the Physical Medicine Rehabilitation Hospital, (2) the Prosthetic-Orthotic and Wheelchair Workshop, and the (3) Special Education for the Deaf – Blind and the Vocational Training for Physical Disable Persons.

1. The Hospital provided the physical medicine rehabilitation and physiotherapy for clients totaling 11,083, including 280 inpatients and 74 operation cases.
2. 772 amputees and paralyzed received prosthetic and orthotic devices (these numbers include those from the four Regional branches: Luanprabang, Xiengkhouang, Savannaket and Champasack.)
3. 445 Wheelchairs and tricycles
4. 31 Blind students attending the inclusive education at the primary, lower, and upper secondary schools
5. 62 deaf students attending the primary and lower secondary school at NRC.
6. 100 physically disabled students joining the vocational training in two levels: one is Diploma of technical vocational and two is short term training.

Besides this regular work, the National Rehabilitation Center has 11 projects working with INGO's to provide the services in remote areas such as the community based rehabilitation programs for seven provinces, the health care fund for UXO's victims in eight provinces.

Achievements

UXO survivors and other disable persons needed the orthopedic, orthotic, wheelchair and physical medicine rehabilitation. The National Rehabilitation Center has four regional centers for the northern, northern east, middle and southern regions which are supported through COPE throughout the country.

In seven provinces by working with WE \ Consortium the UXO survivors received the medical treatment fund from this project.

In Xiengkhouang province, AAR supports the Health Center at Xiengkhouang and provides emergency health care equipment and retraining for UXO victims in this area.

In eight provinces by working with CBM and HIB, NRC provided community based rehabilitation to some target villages.

2011 Challenges and/or Opportunities

Following the Oslo Convention on Cluster Munitions we have the strategic plan to develop five rehabilitations centers for UXO victims which includes the National Rehabilitation Center. Beside improving buildings of the different rehabilitation places and the prosthetic orthotic workshop we also work with the Health Science University to prepare the Bachelor of Science in Physiotherapy and the prosthetic orthotic curriculum to be approve at the Ministry of Education.

Implementing Partners or Clients

The National Rehabilitation Center has eleven projects working with WE Consortium, HIB, COPE, American helping Asian Children, Foundation for Educational Development of Sisters of Saint Paul de Chartres, Deseret International Charity, JICA, AUSAID, AAR and Care International.



Geography of Operations:

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Provinces of Lao PDR implement activity in</i>
Risk Education	Xiengkhouang province
Victim Assistance	Throughout the country

Financials:

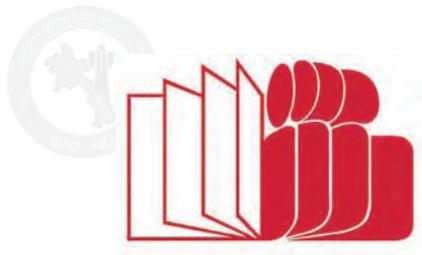
Expenditure for 2010 (USD)

<i>Item</i>	<i>Amount (USD)</i>
Personnel costs	368,108
Operational costs	613,513
Special Operational costs	-
Equipment – expendable	245,405
Equipment – non-expendable	-
TOTAL	1,227,027

Donor contributions for 2010 (USD)

<i>Donor</i>	<i>Contribution received in 2010 (USD)</i>
WE/Consortium	64,600
HIB	86,000
NRC/COPE	586,632
American Helping Asian Children	5,000
CBM	14,000
Foundation for educational development of sisters of Saint Paul de Chartres	250,000
JICA/Deseret International Charity/ AAR	56,000
Vatican Embassy in Bangkok	20,000
AAR	16,000
AusAid/ Care International	128,795
TOTAL	1,227,027

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WORLD EDUCATION/CONSORTIUM

Activities in 2010

World Education has been involved in the full range of prevention of UXO incidents and care of UXO survivors since 1996. Implementation of activities provides training in technical and management areas for sustainable capacity development.

UXO Victim and Survivor assistance:

Funding for the treatment of UXO survivors in five original provinces continued through 2010. In addition, emergency and continuing medical care services expanded to Khammouane and Sekong Provinces in 2009 – 10, which included development of 'War Victims Medical Fund' working groups to provide the funds for UXO survivors as well as develop a plan for upgrading treatment and referral skills for health care providers. World Education staff worked with the Departments of Health in these provinces to establish management systems, policies and to provide funds to cover treatment costs in seven provinces. In addition, funds have covered the treatment of UXO survivors outside the target areas through referral from the NRA.

Once a UXO survivor leaves the hospital, the medical and rehabilitation team visits the village, for follow-up and to discuss treatment and socio-economic plans. After that, people attend animal raising/veterinary skills workshops or other vocational training and receive small grants to establish small businesses.

UXO Education and Awareness Project:

Through collaboration with the Department of Primary and Preschool education (DPPE), Ministry of Education, World Education has helped to strengthen UXO education through an in-school curriculum at the primary school level. Management and training of trainers training has developed capacity of partners at central, provincial, district and school levels. The UXO Education project provides technical support seeks opportunities for the community teams to meet and exchange lessons learned from their experiences implementing project activities.

With the 2010/2011 school year, UXO education has expanded three new districts: Mok and Thatom districts, Xiengkhouang province and Sanamxay district, Attapeue province. The project team together with DPPE staff organized orientation workshops for 78 people in these districts, which included a project overview, coordination system, planning, reporting,

monitoring and support to the teachers in their districts level.

Partners have provided information about UXO dangers during National Teachers Day and International Children's Day as well as the other community festivals. The puppetry team from Viengthong School, Xiengkhouang Province, performed at the "Entry into Force" and the "First Meeting of states Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions."

The National strategic plan on the UXO education has been drafted with the DPPE for approval. The UXO Education team has also provided some comment and recommendation to the National plan of the NRA (Safe Path Forward 2).

Achievements

UXO Victim and Survivor Assistance:

1. Sixty-two UXO survivors received funding assistance through the War Victims Medical Funds.
2. Eight survivors received treatment by referral from the NRA. This includes the care at Friendship Hospital of the child injured in Bolikhamxay during the 1MSP meeting, six children injured in Champhone district in Savannakhet Province and treatment of a long-standing shrapnel injury of a man from LouangPrabang
3. Data from psycho-social surveys assessed the needs of 88 people which helped to develop personal development plans.
4. 89 UXO survivors and/or family members attended animal raising/veterinary skills trainings in Xiengkhouang and Khammouane provinces. UXO survivors received small grants to buy animals, supplemental food and vaccinations in order to raise them successfully.

Expansion to Khammouane and Sekong Provinces:

1. Establish War Victims Medical Fund working groups, composed of 17 people in each province so UXO survivors can receive medical care more quickly
2. Establish training networks to provide emergency medical training to staff at province, district, sub-district health centers and village health volunteers
3. Training of trainers training for 40 medical and nursing staff in Khammouane and Sekong



Provinces. The sustainability of this training system starts with developing ability of medical and nursing staff to learn new training methods to train other staff more effectively.

UXO Education and Awareness project:

1. Trained 145 new teachers, 39 new district staff, and 78 people attended the annual lessons learned meetings
2. Conducted the pre-and post-test of the student in one school in each of the thirty-seven districts in nine provinces
3. Conducted trainings on project management and training of trainers for province and district Department of Education staff.
4. Fifty-two puppetry teams gave 121 performances for over 25,000 people at community events,
5. Teachers with puppetry experience organized four workshops for sixty-six children, setting up new puppetry teams,
6. Supported UXO information dissemination during National teacher's day and National Children's day,
7. Printing and distributing teaching material to provincials and districts offices
8. Develop UXO education strategic plan with DPPE.

Case study of an achievement of the organization in 2010

Vienthong Primary was one of the first schools in Pek District, Xiengkhouang Province, to use both the UXO Education and Awareness Curriculum and to develop a puppetry program. The teachers attended the first teacher training in 1998 and the puppetry training in 1999. Since then, the school children have taken the responsibility of reporting UXO to their teachers or parents. With the puppetry performances, they also bring the information about the danger of UXO out into the community.

Since 1999, about seventy children have participated as puppeteers, continued by graduating fifth graders teaching the new puppeteers entering third grade about how to hold their puppets and coaching them to memorize their lines. The puppetry team performs at school activities, such as International Children's Day, and at nearby village schools. The teams perform a variety of stories, such as 'Things to Remember,' where children tell an old man about UXO safety messages and 'Turning Iron into Money,' where a child tells other children that it is dangerous to look for scrap metal.

The puppetry team from Vienthong school also brought these messages to Vientiane during 2010. They

performed at the 'Entry into Force' meeting on 1 August and again during a World Education/AAR side event at the First Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (1MSP).

Extra benefits of the puppetry program is that the puppeteers become more confident in public speaking as well as in their personal lives. They tell other children what they have learned about the danger of UXO.

2011 Challenges and/or Opportunities

UXO Victim and Survivor assistance:

1. Continuing to raise funds for UXO survivor care and livelihoods development
2. Working with the Xiengkhouang Department of Health to develop a sustainable model for the UXO Survivor Information Center
3. Standardizing and expanding technical training and War Victims Medical Fund management training activities to new target areas
4. Training for staff at province to village levels in Khammouane and Sekong Provinces

UXO Education and Awareness:

1. Teacher training and follow up
2. Conduct training to teachers in teacher college
3. Work with Village Education Development Committee (VEDC) to involve community in UXO awareness activities
4. Continue to support and encourage DPPE in development of UXO Education Strategic plan
5. Continue to integrate UXO lesson into grade 1 to 4 into the National Curriculum
6. Develop media products and a standard manual for teaching UXO training methods
7. Conduct two action research studies

Implementing Partners or Clients

UXO victim/ survivor assistance:

1. National Rehabilitation Center is the main counterpart on the central level and provides coordinates central and province level activities
2. Departments of Health and province and district hospitals in Xiengkhouang, Huaphan, Khammouane, Savannakhet, Salavan, Champasak and Sekong Provinces are involved in management of WVMF and implementing training activities.

UXO Education and Awareness Project:

1. Department of Primary and Preschool education (DPPE), Ministry of Education



Beneficiaries:

1. Nearly 800 UXO survivors and family members who have received past treatment funding
2. An estimated 50 – 75 new UXO survivors who will receive treatment funding
3. Families of people who died as a result of a UXO incident and people identified on NRA VA survey who will be surveyed and involved in livelihoods activities
4. An additional 121 teachers, 3000 students in 19 schools in three districts of Mok, Thathom and Sanamxay districts.

Case study:

Establishing the training networks in Khammouane and Sekong Provinces:

World Education has worked with the Departments of Health in Salavan and Champasak provinces through the “Support for War Victims and People with Disabilities Project”. In both provinces, sustainability of skills upgrading was facilitated by improving the skills of medical and nursing staff to train both at their work sites but also at district, sub-district and village levels. The trainers from Champasak have since use their training skills to provide training both in the province and district hospitals and also to organization training for other organizations.

In collaboration with the Department of Health in Champasak province, World Education and Province Hospital trainers designed the Training of Trainers program for thirty-seven medical and nursing staff in Khammouane and Sekong Provinces. The Champasak trainers divided into three teams, each team composed of two people who worked with the TOT students for three day periods.

Each province TOT training had different challenges. In Khammouane, many of the staff had attended TOT before and they got the chance to exchange ideas and upgrade their skills. In Sekong, learning training methods was new for the participants but they learned a lot during the training. “This training has been very helpful,” one nurse said. “When nurses go for trainings in Vientiane, they read their notes to us. But now we know about how to really share what we’ve learned!”

Through funding from Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement, the people who participated in TOT will work together with World Education to organize training at the district, sub-district and village levels. In addition to training, this funding will also provide essential medical equipment and supplies for emergency care of UXO survivors.

Geography of Operations:

Activity	Provinces of Lao PDR implement activity in
Risk Education	High risk districts in Xiengkhouang, Huaphan, LuangPrabang, Khammouane, Savannakhet, Salavan, Champasak, Sekong and Attapeu
Victim Assistance	Xiengkhouang, Huaphan, Khammouane, Savannakhet, Salavan, Champasak and Sekong

Financials:

Expenditure for 2010 (USD)

Item	Amount (USD)
Personnel costs	-
Operational costs	281,233
Special Operational costs	-
Equipment – expendable	-
Equipment – non-expendable	-
TOTAL	281,233



Donor contributions for 2010 (USD)

<i>Donor</i>	<i>Contribution received in 2010 (USD)</i>
USAID	47,200
U.S. Department of State, Office of Weapons Removal & Abatement for UXO Education	113,200
U.S. Department of State, Office of Weapons Removal & Abatement for Victims Assistant	112,800
McKnight Foundation	23,730
Niarchos Foundation for UXO Education	14,933
Niarchos Foundation for Victims Assistant	21,867
AAR Japan	30,378
Embassy of the Netherlands	12,000
TOTAL	376,108

Ms. Chansamone, UXO survivor and new WVMF committee member in Sekong Province

On that day in 2008, Ms. Chansamone was just doing her job. Her sub-district health center in Khaxang Kang village was organizing an immunization campaign and she travel to Sekong district town to get vaccines from the Department of Health. She was walking, carrying her younger child, when the bomb exploded. A group of men, about 100 meters behind her, had been dismantling it. The men all died: Ms. Chansamone survived, with injuries to her legs. Fortunately, her daughter only received a small wound on her hand.

Following the incident, bystanders rushed her to the hospital. "I was lucky," she said. "If this had happened in my village, it would have taken most of the day to get medical treatment." After a week at the province hospital, she continued three weeks of treatment at the Military Hospital in Pakse.

After treatment, she had to learn how to walk again. "It's still very difficult, I have foot drop because of the tendon injury. I have to lift my foot very high and it's tiring." She was very determined to returned to her work at the sub-district health center. "I've been there since 2000 after I graduated from nursing assistant school. I don't come from this village – I'm originally from Champasak province, but I like to help the people in this sub-district who have so many needs."

In 2010, she returned to school and is now a mid-level nurse. "Even though I have a disability, I feel responsible for my neighbors." She is proud of her position on the Sekong War Victims Medical Fund Project Management committee. "I know what it is like to be a UXO survivor. I hope I can help by speaking up for their needs."

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For further information please contact the:

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