

Guidelines for the use of UXO Risk Education Materials

Lao PDR 2008



Guidelines prepared by the National Regulatory
Authority for the UXO Sector in Lao PDR
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PART ONE: Background Information for Educators & Facilitators

1.1. The Guidelines and the Materials

These guidelines are designed to accompany the UXO Risk Education materials that were developed in 2007 by the National Regulatory Authority for the UXO Sector in Lao PDR (NRA) and MAG with financial support from UNICEF. The materials and messages were developed through workshops held in Xieng Khouang province and Khammouane province with the participation of villagers from UXO affected villages. The participating villages defined the messages and materials they felt best addressed their needs and the risk behaviour identified.

The UXO Risk Education materials consist of:

- 8 posters with different messages targeting different groups
- 5 radio/audio spots in 3 languages (Lao, Hmong, Khamu)
- T-shirts for adults and children
- Bags for adults and children

These guidelines are designed for UXO Operators to help them to use the materials to the best effect. UXO/MRE materials are an essential part of risk education processes, but the effectiveness of the materials will depend on the way they are used. These guidelines are designed with the idea that:

A poster on a wall will have limited impact as an educational tool, but a poster used actively to generate discussion and thought in a local setting may help people to consider the risk they take and the steps they can take to reduce the risk. Learning and thinking about risk are the first steps towards action in changing behaviour.

Education processes should help people learn, think, discuss, decide, plan prepare and practice. The messages and materials should not be used as stand-alone materials but should be used to reinforce presentations or discussions. T-shirts, posters, bags, audio spots can be used together with different target groups to reinforce the messages. Different communicators can be involved in the processes of risk education, for example, UXO Risk Educators, UXO Clearance teams, radio presenters, school teachers, local authorities, village volunteers, parents and children.

As the materials were developed with community input, this can be capitalised on and used as a starting point to develop further community responsibility for promoting safe behaviour within villages. UXO Risk Educators cannot take all the responsibility for encouraging safe behaviour - local communities also need to take responsibility! Using the materials as a starting point for discussion on subjects such as scrap metal collection, communities can be encouraged to develop and implement plans for promoting safe behaviour and imposing penalties for behaviour that is agreed to be unacceptable.

The materials are designed for specific high risk target groups and so it is very important to ensure that the right materials are used with the right groups and in the right target areas.

1.2. Where We Need to Work (Target Areas)

As the number of UXO Operators in Lao PDR is relatively small compared to the level of contamination, we need to make sure that we are working in the areas with most need.

The first goal in the National UXO/MRE Strategy for Lao PDR is as follows:
A targeted UXO risk reduction strategy focusing on high-risk areas and high-risk groups

This means that it is important when we are planning our UXO/MRE activities that we try to ensure we are working in areas that are high-risk. High-risk areas can be identified as having a high level of UXO contamination and may also have a high incidence of accidents as people are coming into contact with UXO regularly. An active scrap metal trade, including items of UXO, is also a good indication that the area is high risk.

- **How to Identify High-Risk Areas**

We can identify high-risk areas by using the following data and sources of information:

- List of affected villages from the 1997 Handicap International Impact Survey which identified severe, high and medium impact villages. However, we need to be aware that this data is now dated and the situation may have changed. Clearance may have taken place or villages may have moved to less contaminated areas.

- Contamination maps which can be provided by the NRA. The maps can show location and amount of bombing and also types of bombs dropped.
- Information from district and provincial authorities. Provincial authorities may be able to give a general indication of high risk areas, but district authorities should be able to give a clearer picture of which villages have high levels of contamination, accidents and active scrap metal trading.
- Victim Information Data. Currently there is no systematic collection of accident and victim data in Lao PDR. Some organisations do collect and report accidents (for example, UXO Lao, Handicap International and World Education). The NRA will be able to give you data of villages where recorded accidents have occurred over the recent years. Once the Lao Victim Information System is established on IMSMA at the NRA we will have a better picture of accidents and where they occur throughout Lao. This will make it easier for UXO Operators to target high-risk areas.
- Village Survey. Before working in a village UXO Operators should conduct a survey to understand the situation related to UXO contamination and impact, livelihood activities, population etc. The survey should also include information on high risk groups such as scrap metal collectors.
- UXO/MRE visits. Each UXO Operator should document the situation in the villages they are working in or have worked in. If a village is no longer impacted by UXO this should be noted on reports and time and resources should be put in to villages where it is known there is higher impact. Discussions with villagers can provide an up-to-date situation of how UXO continue to impact the village.
- Local Mapping. Local mapping can be conducted with communities to map their villages and to indicate the location of contaminated areas, of high-risk people (for example scrap metal collectors, dealers, poor families), and of resource use in relation to the contamination. Accident locations can also be recorded. Maps are useful for helping people to visualise problems with UXO and can generate discussion around the issue and who is affected.

1.3. Who We Need to Target (Target Groups)

In addition to targeting the right areas in which to work, we also need to identify the at-risk groups to work with. "At-risk groups" refers to the people who are exposed to UXO risk to a greater extent than other people

and therefore are more likely to have a UXO accident. While all people living within a UXO contaminated environment are at some level of risk, some people may be more at risk than others and it are these people we need to make a special effort to target.

In 2006 a UXO Risk Education Needs Assessment was conducted by MAG and the Lao Youth Union with support from UNICEF, AusAID and CDC. This assessment helped to provide a clearer understanding of who is at risk of UXO accidents and what factors lead to risk taking behaviour.

- **Risk-Taking Behaviour**

The UXO Risk Education Needs Assessment identified the following groups who are particularly high risk:

- Adults who actively collect scrap metal
- Scrap metal dealers
- Adults who deliberately dismantle UXO
- Adults who move UXO out of farming land
- Adults and children who work on agricultural land
- Children who opportunistically and actively collect scrap metal
- Children who play or tamper with UXO
- Out of school youth and young children

The majority of these groups are at risk because they **INTENTIONALLY** expose themselves to UXO risk. This means that they deliberately come in to contact with UXO, for example, moving UXO from agricultural land or collecting scrap metal, or dismantling UXO. The reasons why they do this may be complex. It may be because they want to protect their children, because they feel they cannot wait for a clearance team, or because they are motivated by economic benefits. Usually it is driven by poverty and the need to provide for a family. People who intentionally expose themselves to UXO risk often weigh up the risks of touching ordnance with the perceived benefits. Routine handling of UXO does not always result in harm and people may think they can control the risk, for example by moving an item carefully, being sure not to hit it, or not touching UXO they are not familiar with.

Some of these groups are at risk because they **UNINTENTIONALLY** expose themselves to UXO risk. This may be because they are not fully aware of the risk, they are inattentive or they lack knowledge. For example, people may be unintentionally exposed to UXO risk if they are working on agricultural land, or if they work in scrap metal yards. Young children (under

8 years) often unintentionally expose themselves to UXO risk as they are too young to understand the risk posed by the UXO.

Taking risks with UXO may also vary over time (time of day, time of year, time of life). For example, scrap metal collection will often take place in the dry season when access is easier and people have no agricultural work to attend to. Males are far more at risk from UXO injury than females, and the majority of adults killed or injured are aged between 18 and 45 years. It is males of this age who often decide to intentionally take risks with UXO.

People who intentionally expose themselves to UXO risk in Lao PDR often have a high level of awareness of risk taking but continue to take risks. This makes these groups of people a difficult, but important, target group for UXO risk education.

It is not useful to anyone if we provide messages and materials that are not relevant to the situation. During the field testing of the UXO/MRE materials it was noted by a few communities that messages relating to scrap metal collection or dealing were not relevant to their villages because the activities did not take place there. This highlights the importance of careful targeting for the use of materials, both in terms of target area and target group.

1.4. How We Need to Work (Methods and Approach)

Many of the people who form our target audience for UXO/MRE in Lao PDR have lived in UXO contaminated areas for a long time. Some lived through the war; others have grown up in contaminated communities. They are often familiar with UXO and some handle UXO regularly. As UXO Risk Educators we are also working with people of different age, sex, ethnic group, knowledge and experience. One presentation on risk education will not fit the experiences and education needs of all. Our work needs to reflect the different groups of people and their different levels of awareness regarding UXO risk.

- **Information, Education and Communication (IEC)**

Information, Education and Communication (IEC) approaches give people factual information and messages. For example, in UXO Risk Education in Lao PDR we give the following information and messages:

- UXO recognition
- The effects of UXO
- Dangerous areas
- Dangerous activities (e.g. scrap metal collection and dealing, tampering, throwing or touching UXO)
- How to protect yourself and others (e.g. digging carefully with a spade, lighting a fire on rocks, not collecting scrap metal)
- Marking and reporting
- Myths/misconceptions (e.g. it is not true that digging for scrap metal in a bomb crater is safer)

In IEC approaches the UXO Risk Educators work as “teachers” and provide information to fill gaps in knowledge. In Lao PDR we are already very good at providing good, factual information on UXO risks and danger.

While the IEC approach is still important in Lao as children are growing up in contaminated areas and some sectors of the population do not fully understand UXO risk and how to protect themselves, the approach is not so effective for the high-risk groups who INTENTIONALLY take risks with UXO. Often these groups have a high level of awareness about UXO risk, but they still continue to handle or touch UXO. To more effectively target these high-risk groups we need to think about approaches that can facilitate Behaviour Change.

- **Behaviour Change Communication**

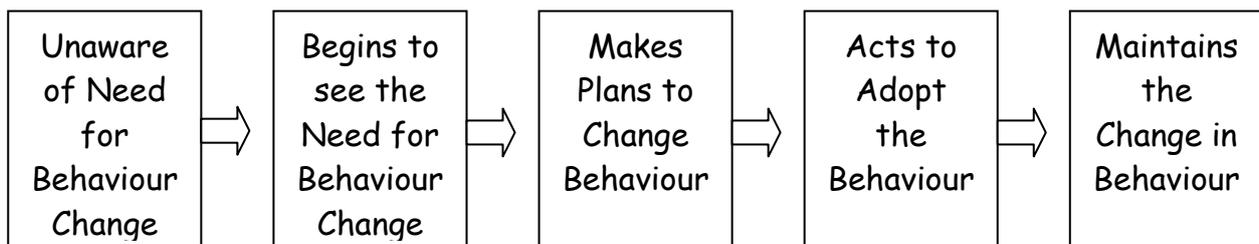
Behaviour Change Communication (BCC) approaches aim to help people change their behaviour from high-risk behaviour to low-risk or no-risk behaviour. BCC recognises that we have to address behaviour change at different levels. These levels can be divided into three main categories:

- **Personal Level:** This is unique to each person and refers to their knowledge and skills, their attitudes and beliefs and their personal needs.
- **Social Level:** This refers to the social norms and relationships that make up the society in which a person lives. It includes the influence of family, friends and acquaintances.
- **Environmental Level:** This relates to bigger issues that we cannot control as an individual but that affects the way we live. This includes UXO contamination, wealth and poverty, policies and legislation, availability of services such as UXO clearance, victim assistance etc.

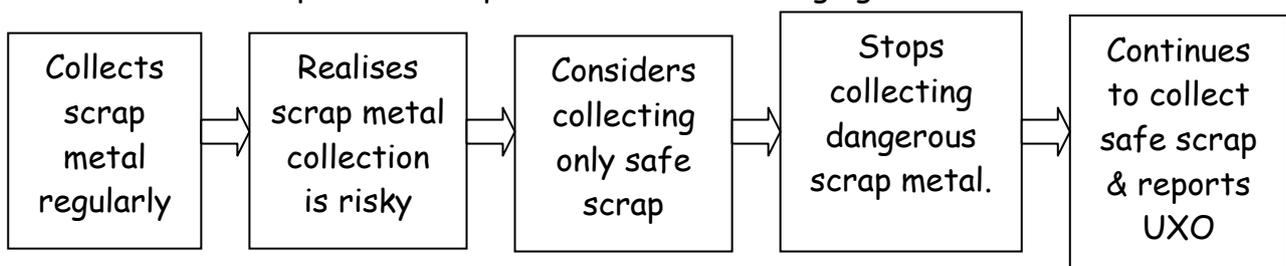
BCC recognises that there are both BARRIERS to behaviour change and FACILITATORS of behaviour change at each of these levels. Barriers make it hard to change behaviour. Facilitators make it easier to change behaviour. For example, a young boy may be scared to touch a UXO (this is a personal facilitator), but his friends push him to come to look for scrap metal in bomb craters (peer pressure, which is a barrier at social level) and there is no legislation or control in the village to prevent this behaviour (environmental barrier). If we can address the BARRIERS to behaviour change (knowledge gaps, peer pressure, lack of parental supervision and legislation) then we may be able to help this boy change his behaviour for the better.

Personal	Social	Environmental
Facilitators	Facilitators	Facilitators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scared to touch UXO 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UXO education in school Teachers provide strong guidance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UXO agency can respond to UXO reports
Barriers	Barriers	Barriers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of knowledge of what item is Lack of comprehension about power of explosives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of parental supervision Peer pressure from friends 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UXO in the community No legislation No village control on risk behaviour

For a person to change behaviour there are several stages of change:



Here is an example of a scrap metal collector changing behaviour.



This process may take a long time, or it may happen more quickly - it will depend on the person, the situation they are in and the alternative options (for livelihood for example) there may be. There may also be some setbacks along the way before the person maintains the change in behaviour.

- **How do we do Behaviour Change Communication (BCC)?**

As UXO Risk Educators we can help people with this process of changing from high-risk to low-risk or no-risk behaviour. In this approach the UXO Risk Educators work as "facilitators" - we can facilitate learning, thinking, discussion, analysis and planning, but we cannot change people's behaviour ourselves. Only an individual can change his or her own behaviour. We can only facilitate the individual's ability to change behaviour by:

- Providing accurate information and filling in knowledge gaps, particularly if risk-takers are misinformed
- Facilitating discussions that offer alternative ways of thinking and acting and positive arguments for change (highlight positive benefits and rewards)
- Encouraging weighing of pros and cons of risk activities and of changing behaviour
- Providing local role model stories of people who have successfully changed their behaviour
- Helping people develop relevant skills that can help them overcome the obstacles and barriers to behaviour change. These skills can include better decision-making, resisting peer pressure, parental control.
- Helping people to practice the skills through activities like role play
- Helping people to plan ahead and anticipate problems and solutions
- Helping to connect people to relevant services (such as UXO clearance, roving response, development activities, victim assistance).

At a personal level, people can consider behaviour change if they receive accurate information, if they perceive the information is relevant and realistic to their situation, if they can develop the skills and confidence to be able to change behaviour, and if they feel the outcome will be beneficial for them.

The new MRE materials are intended to provide both information and messages (IEC) and also to serve as the focus for discussions and activities that can lead towards behaviour change (BCC).

These guidelines are designed for UXO Risk Educators working with small groups of high risk people. The small groups will allow for discussions and activities where every learner can contribute. The UXO Risk Educators can provide information to fill any knowledge gaps, and the learners can discuss and analyse their activities and explore options for doing things more safely. Each session should close with a brief summary of the key points raised and agreed on during the discussions and activities.

Frequent, short, repeat visits to work with high risk groups will be more effective than long, one-off visits with no follow up. These guidelines are developed to help you in these aims.

1.5. Cooperation with Other Organisations and Services

The social and environmental levels can reinforce risk taking behaviour. For example:

- Limited employment opportunities or limited agricultural land may mean people feel they have no option but to collect and sell scrap metal.
- A lack of clear legislation on the sale of UXO results in no enforcement by the police or local authorities when people collect and sell UXO.
- A lack of Roving Response when people report a UXO may result in them moving the UXO to a safer place themselves.
- A lack of parental responsibility means that children are free to play and tamper with UXO or even to go scrap metal collecting.

Changes in behaviour at a personal level can be encouraged and supported by facilitating changes at the social and environmental level. This suggests that UXO Risk Educators cannot facilitate behaviour change alone. We have to work with other organisations, groups and individuals who also have something to contribute to facilitating behaviour change related to UXO risk taking. These other actors include:

- Clearance and roving teams
- Development organisations
- Victim Assistance services
- Local authorities
- Parents and teachers
- National authorities such as the NRA

Here are some examples of why cooperation is important:

- **Reporting and Response**

An important message in many of the UXO Risk Education materials is that if local people find a UXO they should report to their local authorities. For this message to be effective, the reporting system from local level to the UXO Operators and to the tasking of the Roving Response teams needs to work well. For UXO Operators working in a small number of villages this is easier to achieve, but for UXO Operators covering a larger area it is more difficult. In areas where there is no UXO clearance capacity we need to think about how to get the response to the people. We may need to review local level report forms and develop monitoring systems that will track how requests are made and responded to. The sooner a UXO report is responded to, the less likely it will be for a person to take a risk with the UXO. Teaching proper reporting procedures is important, but ensuring there will be a response to the report is just as important.

"We do not report to the Village Leader or the UXO agencies because they do not come to clear quickly. When we report this year the UXO agency will come next year." Female, Saravan province. (UXO Risk Education Needs Assessment, 2006:50)

- **Legislation**

Legislation and regulatory controls are an important part of a risk minimisation strategy, and in Lao PDR this relates particularly to the selling and buying of UXO and the use of local detectors. While provincial decrees exist in many of the contaminated provinces, their content is inconsistent and they are often not enforced. The broader strategy regarding the scrap metal trade will have to engage the appropriate authorities, including the NRA, to design methods to ensure the provisions in the decree are implemented through national to local level and along the borders. A review of existing legislation and decrees is also required to further clarify the regulations concerning the scrap metal trade and then to involve the relevant stakeholders, such as the police, in the implementation.

- **Community Responsibility**

UXO Operators have often taken the responsibility for educating communities about UXO risk, but they do not always leave behind the skills for the community to manage the risk themselves. Some UXO Operators have set up programmes whereby they train village volunteers to provide risk education and to report ordnance to UXO Operators and this is a good step towards developing community skills to manage risk.

During visits to villages discussions could be held to determine what forms of behaviour related to UXO risk are unacceptable for the community. This could be linked to local concerns and values such as care for children, safe communities and strong families. The community can be encouraged to develop their own regulations regarding UXO risk and to discuss what penalties can be imposed if people ignore the community regulations. In this way villagers could (for example) decide that it was forbidden for people to bring live ordnance into the village because this increased the likelihood of injury to other people. They could decide that children collecting scrap metal was too dangerous and could encourage parents, local authorities the police and scrap metal dealers to enforce this. Each high-risk community could discuss which measures were appropriate to their specific local context and what they could manage to implement. The UXO Risk Educators can support them to develop and implement their regulations.

- **Parent-Child Responsibilities**

At household level, parents may need to be encouraged to take more responsibility for their children's behaviour. It will be important to encourage greater parental responsibility regarding access to metal detectors; taking children scrap metal collecting and being aware of where children are in their free time. Children also need to be supported to develop the skills and responsibilities to minimise risk for themselves and their siblings, particularly if their parents work away from home for long periods of time. Children and adults can be supported and trained to take on more responsibility for safe behaviour within their family units, and this process would also need to be endorsed and supported by local village authorities and the school system

- **Community Development Initiatives**

Usually risk-taking with UXO is motivated by poverty. People find UXO to sell or they extend their agricultural land in contaminated areas because they need to grow more rice for their families. Development interventions can help to alleviate some of the economic pressures people face in rural areas and this in turn can help to reduce the need for people to take risks with UXO. Food-for-work to develop community infrastructure could, for example, target families vulnerable to UXO risk and provide them with an occupation and income during lean periods. At a school in Xieng Khouang, local children are growing ginger to sell, which may reduce their need to collect scrap metal for pocket money. Links with development organisations may take time to establish, and it is also difficult to ensure the activities

target the individuals and families who are high-risk. However, where possible UXO Operators should try to make and build these links.

1.6. Guideline Structure

These guidelines are organised according to high risk group. Under each high risk group some guidance is provided on:

- The characteristics of the risk group (sex, age)
- The risk behaviours that have been identified
- The approach location and timing
- The relevant materials to use with this target group
- The key messages contained in the materials
- Some examples of activities and discussions that can be facilitated based on the materials
- Key learning points to be derived from the activities

The guidelines are guidelines only and UXO Operators are encouraged to experiment and expand on the activities here. New ideas can be incorporated into the guidelines based on your feedback.

A final section looks at how we can monitor behaviour change among individuals and groups in the villages and communities where we work.

PART TWO: Activities for Risk Groups

2.1. Some General Guidelines

When conducting UXO risk education activities it is useful to remember the following points:

- When making initial contact in a village, spend some time to find out what the situation is in the village. Ask about village size, history of village, livelihood activities. Ask about villagers recent experiences with UXO, accidents that have occurred, where the UXO contamination is and who is affected. Identify the people and families who are high risk according to the categories outlined in this guideline. Note ethnic groups and languages spoken. The village authorities, teachers and other interested villagers will be able to help you with this.
- Visit the individuals and families that have been identified as high risk. Find out something about their activities and daily routine. Ask them when you can best meet with them to discuss UXO risk.
- For discussion sessions keep the numbers small - ten people or under. Discussion groups can be divided as:
 - Family groups
 - Groups of people conducting a similar activity (e.g. a group of scrap metal collectors working together; a group of mothers)
 - Female groups
 - Male groups
- Do not expect people to come to you. People who undertake high risk activities often have little free time. Make the effort to go to them where they are working, or at their house, or at a location that is convenient for them.
- Try to keep discussion times short, preferably not over 30 minutes, but ensure repeat visits to the same groups of people to discuss new topics and follow up on progress.
- In each session focus on one topic only. Other topics can be discussed during the next visits.
- During follow up visits ask participants if they remembered what was discussed the previous time and if they have been able to take any action. Ask what they were able to do and what was difficult for them to do. Discuss how they can deal with the problems.

- Be aware of cultural differences between areas. The posters may not reflect exactly the farming techniques and tools, the dress and the livelihood activities of the different ethnic groups in Lao. These aspects can become subjects of discussion rather than barriers to communication.
- Language is important and whenever possible discussions should be held in the appropriate local languages. It is not necessary to read the messages on the poster - the pictures can be discussed and the messages deduced.
- The audio spots are in 3 languages - Lao, Hmong and Khamu. Make sure you use the correct language for your target group. Tell the NRA what other languages the audio spots should be recorded in.
- People in villages tend to use local names to talk about UXO and are not familiar with technical names. UXO Risk Educators should learn and use these local names. Using technical names may alienate people and cause a barrier to communication.

2.2. Risk Group: Adults Who Actively Collect Scrap Metal

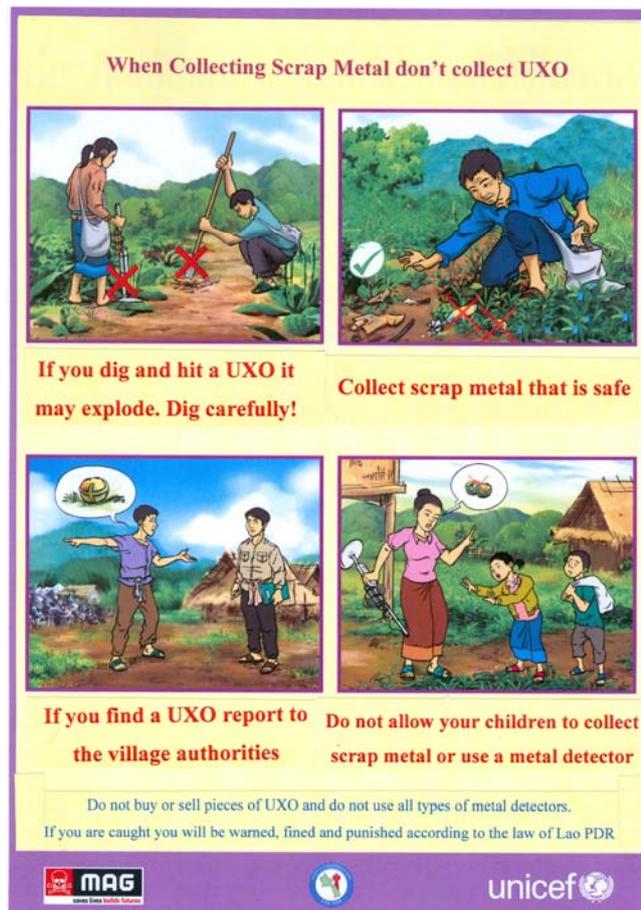
In many parts of Lao PDR people are involved in the collection of scrap metal for sale and as a result often expose themselves to UXO risk. Scrap metal collectors are identified as a high risk group, especially those who actively search for sub-surface scrap using cheap metal detectors which can be purchased locally. Others look for scrap metal opportunistically, on their way to forests or fields or in their spare time.

Both children and adults collect scrap metal, but have to be addressed as different groups because they have different levels of awareness and adults are better able to develop strategies to reduce risk. This section looks specifically at adults (over 18 years old). Adult scrap metal collectors should be encouraged to prevent children from undertaking scrap metal collection activities because of the higher risk involved for children.

Scrap metal collectors often have a high level of awareness surrounding the risk of UXO but continue to undertake high risk activities, which are often economically motivated. Some have strategies that they use to try to reduce the risk of their activities. Sometimes these strategies are not well-informed. Adult scrap metal collectors often want advice on how to continue to collect scrap metal but to do it more safely.

- **Risk Group**

Adults (over 18 years of age) who actively collect scrap metal for sale, often using a cheap, locally available metal detector. The UXO Risk Education Needs Assessment found that the majority of adult scrap metal collectors are male (60%), but a sizeable percentage are women (30%). Activities should be aimed at both men and women, but also address special concerns associated with each group. For example, men are more likely to attempt to open UXO. Women may take their children with them while looking for scrap metal, thus putting the children at risk.



- **Risk Behaviours**

Key risk behaviours that have been identified by the risk assessment include:

- ❖ Digging to investigate metal detector signals and unintentionally or intentionally coming into contact with UXO
- ❖ Collecting parts or whole UXO for sale
- ❖ Putting scrap metal (including UXO) into bags and throwing bags into trucks
- ❖ Breaking open UXO
- ❖ Digging in bomb craters with the belief this is safer
- ❖ Believing metal detector signals indicate if a piece of metal is a UXO

- **Time and Location**

Scrap metal collection often reaches a peak towards the end of the dry season when food stores are at the lowest and people need to make money to support their families. The dry season also allows better access to areas for scrap metal collection. Active scrap metal collectors may work almost all year round with the exception of the farming season.

"We collect scrap metal all year round except in the farming season [June and July]; more and more people go collecting scrap when they have no jobs in the fields." Male scrap metal collector, Khammouane province, (UXO Risk Education Needs Assessment, 2006:36)

UXO Risk Educators can effectively work with scrap metal collectors during the periods when they are collecting scrap. Scrap metal collectors are often out of the village at this time. To work with scrap metal collectors you need to find the main routes of the scrap metal trade. Collectors will often be waiting for scrap metal trucks or at scrap metal yards at a particular time of day - these may be good times to find them and work with them on a regular basis.

In villages you may be able to target families that collect scrap metal in their homes in the evening or during the times of year when they are not collecting scrap. During the farming season potential scrap metal collectors can be targeted to encourage them to think about what alternatives to scrap metal collection there may be during the dry season.

- **Materials**

The key risk education materials that can be used with Scrap Metal Collectors are;

- ❖ **Poster for Scrap Metal Collectors**

This poster is aimed at adults who undertake scrap metal collection as a livelihood activity and is one of the first materials that specifically targets this high risk group.

- ❖ **UXO Identification Poster**

This poster will be useful to discuss with scrap metal collectors what particular types of UXO look like and for identification purposes. It can also facilitate discussions about old and degraded UXO still being dangerous and how it is sometimes difficult to distinguish scrap from UXO.

- ❖ **Audio/Radio Spots: 01 and 02**

Audio spot 01 addresses information on the provincial decrees regarding the sale and buying of UXO and the use of metal detectors. Audio spot 02 presents the danger of digging to investigate metal detector signals. The spots can be used to discuss these topics.

- **Key Messages**

The key messages for scrap metal collectors are as follows:

- ❖ Digging for scrap metal is a dangerous activity as we can easily strike a UXO

- ❖ If collecting scrap metal, avoid collecting UXO and collect “safe scrap”
- ❖ If you find a UXO while collecting scrap metal, leave it where it is and report to the local authorities
- ❖ Do not allow your children to collect scrap metal or use a metal detector
- ❖ Information on the government decrees concerning the use of metal detectors and the trading of UXO and explosives

- **Activities and Learning Points**

The following activities and learning points are divided into topics that address either a risk behaviour or safer practice. You can use the posters to initiate discussions around the pictures and/or messages on the poster, and the audio spots to listen and then discuss.

Digging for Scrap Metal

Using the Poster for Scrap Metal Collectors, look together at the first picture showing a man and woman with a metal detector digging for a UXO.

You may also play **Audio spot 02**. The spot tells the story of two people searching and digging for scrap metal using a metal detector. They get a signal and start to dig, but hit a UXO which explodes. The narrator warns us that if we are going to dig for scrap metal it has to be done very carefully as we may hit a UXO.

Ask the learners to discuss what they heard in the audio spot and what they see in the picture. Use the following questions to explore the issue with the learners:

- ❖ Tell me about your experience of finding scrap metal. How do you find scrap metal? Do you use a metal detector and a hoe to dig?
- ❖ What do you do when you hear the signal of the metal detector?
- ❖ How do you know if it is UXO or scrap metal? Does the sound of the metal detector tell you?
- ❖ Do you dig to investigate all signals? If not, why not?
- ❖ Explain how you dig to get the scrap metal. Do you have special techniques for digging depending on the sound?
- ❖ Is it safer to dig for scrap metal at certain times of the year? In the dry season is it more difficult to dig carefully?

Give an example of what some scrap metal collectors have said:

"I feel safer when digging, more confident that it isn't a UXO when I hear the small beeps"

"The system of the detector is that if we find a small piece of scrap we get a different sound, if we find a large piece of scrap we get no sound."

(UXO Risk Education Needs Assessment, 2006:9)

Do they agree with this? Ask the learners to discuss their experience and if it is safer to dig if there are small beeps. Give the example of fuzes:

A fuze is the mechanism that starts the detonation process in a UXO. They are fitted to bombs, rockets, mortars, landmines, artillery shells. But a fuze may become detached from its main explosive device. It can be large or very small, but it is still dangerous. A metal detector will not be able to tell you if you have found a small fuze.

Ask them how they can make digging for scrap metal safer.

Possible answers may be:

- ❖ Always dig carefully, even if the detector signals the metal is small - even small fragments of bombs or fuzes may explode if hit
- ❖ Digging carefully means digging around the site of the signal gently and removing the earth slowly until the metal object is revealed
- ❖ If the object looks as though it may be a UXO stop digging, don't touch it
- ❖ When you find many UXO in an area stop looking and move on to another area
- ❖ Mark the UXO with a local sign and report to the nearest authorities
- ❖ Don't let other people stand nearby when you are digging - if there is a UXO and it explodes, only one person will be hurt
- ❖ Tell your wife/husband where you are going when you collect scrap metal - if you don't come home they will know where to look for you

Key learning points

At the end of the discussion summarise the main learning points together with the scrap metal collectors.

- ❖ Cheap metal detectors are basic equipment and do not give accurate signals. The metal detector cannot tell you whether a UXO or explosive item is under the ground. ALWAYS dig carefully.
- ❖ If you think it is a UXO, stop, mark and report
- ❖ When digging for scrap metal don't let other people stand nearby
- ❖ Inform your wife/husband where you are going to collect scrap metal

Collecting Safe Scrap Metal

Using the poster for Scrap Metal Collectors, look at the image of the man collecting safe scrap and avoiding the UXO. Ask the learners to discuss what the picture shows. Ask them to talk about their own experience using the following questions as prompts:

- ❖ Where do you go looking for scrap metal? What areas are good for looking for scrap metal?
- ❖ Are some areas safer than others (e.g. bomb craters)? Why do you think this?
- ❖ Can you always tell if a piece of metal is dangerous or if it is safe? How can you tell?
- ❖ What do you do with dangerous items? Is it ever ok to take dangerous items?
- ❖ Is it possible to collect only safe scrap?

Give an example of what some scrap metal collectors have said:

"Bomb craters are safer to collect scrap metal in as the bomb has already exploded and there are only bomb fragments left." Female scrap collector, Khammouane province. (UXO Risk Education Needs Assessment, 2006:47)

Do they agree with this? Ask the learners to discuss their experience and if it is safer to collect scrap metal in bomb craters. Ask them how they can make collecting scrap metal safer.

Possible answers may be:

- ❖ If the object looks as though it may be a UXO stop digging, don't touch it
- ❖ When you find many UXO in an area stop looking and move on to another area
- ❖ Mark the UXO with a local sign and report to the nearest authorities
- ❖ Don't dig in bomb craters or other areas where there are clear signs of bombing.

Key learning points

At the end of the discussion summarise the main learning points together with the scrap metal collectors.

- ❖ Digging in bomb craters is not safer. In Lao many bombs were dropped one on top of the other. One bomb may have exploded but others may not.
- ❖ Collect only scrap you know to be safe. If you are unsure, leave it
- ❖ Report UXO you find to the nearest authorities

Reporting UXO

Ask learners to look at the image on the poster for Scrap Metal Collectors concerning reporting UXO to the local authorities. Ask learners to discuss this using the following questions as prompts:

- ❖ Do you ever report UXO when you find them while scrap metal collecting?
- ❖ Who do you report to?
- ❖ Do you mark the UXO? What type of sign do you use?
- ❖ If you report, do people respond to the report?
- ❖ Who comes? How long after it has been reported?

Discuss with local people who they report to and what the response is like. Ask their ideas for how the system can be improved. UXO Risk Educators should ensure that information regarding reporting and response is taken back to their organisations.

Key learning points

At the end of the discussion summarise the main learning points together with the scrap metal collectors.

- ❖ If you find a UXO, don't touch it, mark it and report it to the local authority
- ❖ If there is no response to UXO reports in your village, ask your village chief to report the problem at the district level meeting

Parental Supervision

Ask learners to look at the image on the poster for Scrap Metal Collectors concerning not allowing children to collect scrap metal or use a metal detector.

Discuss with the scrap metal collectors if their children collect scrap metal.

- ❖ Do they accompany the adults, or do they go with their friends?

- ❖ Why do they go to collect scrap metal? When do they go? What do they spend the money on?
- ❖ Do parents ever provide advice to the children about UXO and the dangers of scrap metal collecting?

Discuss with the scrap metal collectors why it is more dangerous for children to collect scrap metal.

Possible answers may be:

- ❖ Children are less aware of the dangers of UXO, digging for scrap etc.
- ❖ Children may become over-excited and be less careful when looking for scrap
- ❖ Children cannot identify dangerous objects as easily
- ❖ Children can encourage each other to take risks (peer pressure)
- ❖ If there is an explosion, children are more likely to be killed

Do they know of any real stories of children who have been injured and killed while looking for scrap metal? What did they think was the cause of the accident?

How can parents prevent their children getting injured and killed?

Possible answers may be:

- ❖ Don't take children with you when you go scrap metal collecting
- ❖ Don't let children have metal detectors and don't let them go scrap metal collecting
- ❖ Know where your child is going and what they will be doing
- ❖ Give them advice on the dangers of UXO and warn them not to touch
- ❖ Ask teachers and the village chief to reinforce the warnings if children don't listen
- ❖ If your children have spending money, find out where they got it from and make sure it was not through scrap metal collection

Key Learning Points

At the end of the discussion summarise the main learning points together with the scrap metal collectors.

- ❖ Scrap Metal Collection can be very dangerous and even fatal for children. Parents have responsibility to prevent their children from collecting scrap metal.

Provincial Decrees on the Scrap Metal Trade

Ask the learners to look at the poster for Scrap Metal Collectors and draw their attention to the statement at the bottom of the poster on the provincial decrees.

Play **Audio Spot 01**. The spot has the sound of two people searching and digging for scrap metal using a metal detector. There is an explosion. Information is provided on the provincial decree about the illegal use of metal detectors and sale of bombs and explosives.

Ask the scrap metal collectors to provide feedback on the spot and/or the poster. What was it about? Had they heard this information before? Do they know about the provincial decree?

Inform scrap metal collectors that there are provincial decrees which ban the buying or selling of UXO and the use of metal detectors without a licence.

- ❖ Were they aware of the provincial decree?
- ❖ Have they ever heard of people being warned, fined or punished?
- ❖ Does knowing about this decree change anything for them? What does it change?

Key Learning Point

At the end of the discussion summarise the main learning points together with the scrap metal collectors.

- ❖ According to the law of Lao PDR, the buying and selling of UXO and the use of metal detectors (without a licence) is illegal.

2.3. Risk Group: Scrap Metal Dealers

The role of the scrap metal dealer is to provide a local market for the scrap collector and to support the collection and transportation of metal to foundries (either in Laos or Vietnam). The scrap metal trade is going to continue despite Risk Education warnings about the risks involved. What UXO Risk Educators need to aim towards is to make the scrap metal trade a safer enterprise by encouraging dealer responsibility.

Scrap metal dealers are not always aware of the risks they face in their job. Although they may be aware that UXO are dangerous, they are not always

able to identify UXO within scrap metal. Even if they try to introduce strategies to minimise risk, for example by separating dangerous items from other scrap, they are still handling UXO on a routine basis and often in residential areas. It is important for UXO Risk Educators to establish a working relationship with scrap metal dealers and to educate them about safe and unsafe practices and to ensure that unsafe objects can be removed by clearance teams.

Scrap metal dealers can be encouraged to tell scrap metal collectors that they will not buy UXO. They can also pass on information about the law and provincial decrees to the scrap metal collectors.

Ideally work with scrap metal dealers should tie in with a Roving Response and regular surveillance of scrap metal yards for dangerous objects. Scrap Metal dealers can also help identify collectors who take risks with UXO and places where hazardous items have been found and collected.

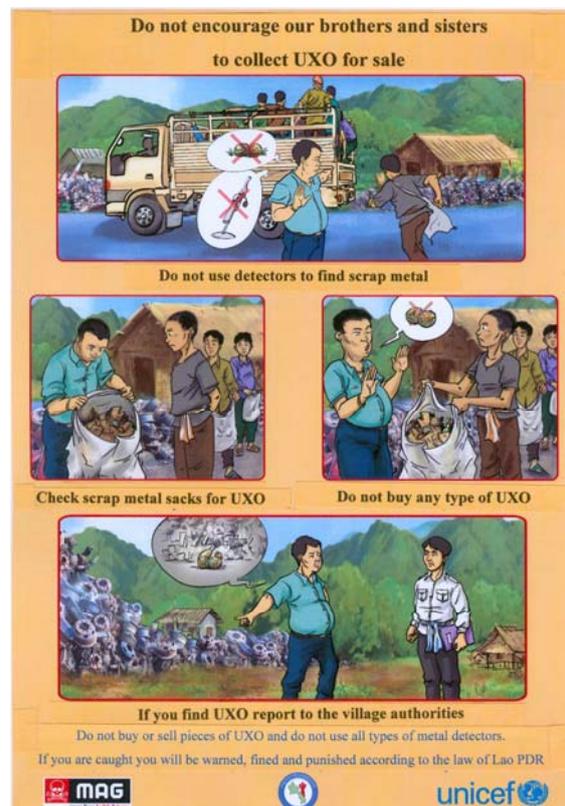
- **Risk Group**

Adults who deal in scrap metal. There is no data available on the number of men and women acting as scrap metal dealers, however both men and women are involved in this activity. Scrap metal yards are often situated in populated areas, creating a risk for all those who live nearby. The scrap metal dealer and his/her family usually live on the site, putting all their family at risk.

- **Risk Behaviours**

Key risk behaviours that have been identified by the UXO Risk Education Needs Assessment include:

- ❖ Through the purchasing of scrap metal intentionally and unintentionally coming into contact with UXO
- ❖ Moving bags of scrap metal without checking for explosive items
- ❖ Moving, handling and storing UXO within a residential area



- ❖ Scrap metal dealers are sometimes also responsible for taking scrap metal collectors in trucks to look for scrap metal and provide them with metal detectors

- **Time and Location**

You may need to coordinate with the local authorities before working with scrap metal dealers. The local authorities can also assist in endorsing the provincial decrees and the need to make the scrap metal trade safer.

Scrap metal dealers are usually to be found in their yards, although they are often busy and will not welcome having their business interrupted. First approach the scrap metal dealers and explain that you can work with them to help to make their activities safer. The best approach is to ask the scrap metal dealers for a specific time each week when you can come to the yard to talk to the dealer and his/her family and to help check the yard for dangerous items. If an immediate response can be generated to remove the dangerous items the scrap metal dealers will be more willing to cooperate with us. The scrap metal business will peak during the dry season when more people are actively involved in collecting scrap metal. This will be the important time to regularly check yards and remove dangerous ordnance.

The time spent with scrap metal dealers needs to be relatively short so as not to take time away from their business. Regular visits of half an hour are better than one-off visits of an hour or longer. Discuss the topics with the dealers. Help them to develop a strategy to make their yard safer. Return regularly to check up with them on progress and to note any dangerous items their yard may have.

Materials

The key risk education materials that can be used with Scrap Metal Collectors are;

- **Poster for Scrap Metal Dealers**

This poster is specifically targets scrap metal dealers in the attempt to encourage them to undertake safe practices within their business. It is intended that this poster would be used as part of a campaign with scrap metal dealers to improve the safety of their yards and the safety of scrap metal collectors who work for them.

- **UXO Identification Poster**

This poster will be useful to discuss with scrap metal dealers what particular types of UXO look like and for identification purposes. Copies of the poster

can be displayed in the scrap metal yard and the dealer can be encouraged to tell scrap metal collectors not to collect any of the UXO or mines.

"Without knowing it I have bought many things from villagers; BLUs with explosives, hand grenades with no pins, bullets, mortar shells with gunpowder inside." Female scrap metal dealer, Xieng Khouang (UXO Risk Education Needs Assessment 2006:10)

- **Audio/Radio Spots: 01 and 03**

Audio spot 01 addresses information on the provincial decrees regarding the sale and buying of UXO and the use of metal detectors. Audio spot 03 concerns the transactions between scrap metal collectors and dealers when scrap metal is weighed and transported. Sacks of scrap metal are weighed and thrown into a car and as a result a UXO in the sack explodes. The message is that when buying and selling metal you should carefully check for UXO.

- **T-shirt and Bag**

The T-shirt and bag can be distributed to scrap metal dealers who agree to implement safer practices in their yards. Posters can also be put up in the yards to raise awareness of the provincial decrees. The T-shirt and bag reinforce the messages that appear on the poster for scrap metal dealers and in radio spots.

Key Messages

The key messages from these materials are as follows:

- ❖ Scrap metal dealers have a responsibility for making sure scrap metal collectors do not collect UXO for sale and not to use metal detectors
- ❖ Dealers should check sacks of scrap metal before purchasing to check for UXO. If a UXO or suspected dangerous object is found, do not buy it, but keep in a safe place (e.g. sandbag small section in the yard) and report.
- ❖ Accidents happen when people are loading and transporting scrap metal as they don't check the bags for UXO. Dealers should check sacks of scrap metal before moving the sacks as movement may cause a UXO to explode
- ❖ Report dangerous objects in your yard to the local authorities/UXO organisations for removal
- ❖ Information on the government decrees concerning the use of metal detectors and the trading of UXO and explosives

Activities and Learning Points

Ask the learners to study the Scrap metal dealer poster picture by picture. Ask them to read the messages on the poster or to say what they think the messages are based on each picture.

Discuss the following key themes with the Scrap Metal Dealers using the questions and the poster illustrations as a guide and to prompt the discussions.

Working with Scrap Metal Collectors

Ask the scrap metal dealers if they work directly with scrap metal collectors. Discuss their relationship with scrap metal collectors using the following questions as a guide:

- ❖ Are they responsible to take them out to areas where scrap metal can be found?
- ❖ Do they give them any advice?
- ❖ Do they provide them with metal detectors?
- ❖ What is their response when scrap metal collectors come with UXO to sell?
- ❖ Have they ever had any collectors having an accident?
- ❖ How did they deal with that?
- ❖ How do we think we can make it safer for the collectors and the dealers?
- ❖ What advice can scrap metal dealers give the collectors?

Key learning points

At the end of the discussion summarise the main learning points together with the scrap metal dealers. Hopefully they will have come up with some strategies they can use with scrap metal collectors to reduce the risk for all involved. Some examples could be:

- ❖ Do not allow scrap metal collectors to use metal detectors
- ❖ Warn scrap metal collectors not to collect UXO
- ❖ State that you will not buy UXO from scrap metal collectors
- ❖ If a scrap metal collector brings a UXO to your yard, ask them to put it in a corner of the yard. Do not pay them for the UXO. Report the UXO immediately.
- ❖ Encourage scrap metal collectors to bring safe scrap - only pay for safe scrap
- ❖ Encourage scrap metal collectors to report to the dealer UXO that they have found. Tell them not to touch the UXO but to report it.

Any strategies or guidelines developed by the dealers can be written up on a large board or piece of paper and posted in their yards.

Safe temporary storage areas for UXO and other suspect objects can be made from sandbags with the help of UXO Organisations. These storage areas should be checked and cleared regularly by the UXO organisations.

Checking Bags and Reporting UXO

Look at the poster pictures depicting checking the scrap metal sacks and reporting UXO. Play the **audio spot 03**.

Live ordnance is being sold to dealers when it has been mixed with other scrap metal, either intentionally by scrap metal collectors who are trying to increase the weight of the scrap they are selling, or unintentionally as the scrap collector is unaware that the items are dangerous.

Ask the scrap metal dealers if they have ever encountered this problem. Discuss what they have heard or experienced. Tell the true story below of what can happen if sacks are not checked.

"Before we were farmers, but in 2003 we moved to this village and built a small house and thought we would try a small business. My husband saw that there were a lot of people sending scrap metal to Phonsavan and he thought it would be a good idea to stop them and buy it here and then sell it to the Vietnamese. One Vietnamese dealer gave us the money in advance to buy the scrap metal. We would sell our scrap to the Vietnamese; the first time we sold 6 tonnes, the second time 7 tonnes, and the third time 3 tonnes. On the fourth time we had 10 tonnes ready to sell when my husband went to our small tractor to pick up the scrap our friend had collected in the surrounding villages. Our family normally checked the scrap for UXO, but this time we thought our friends had checked. There were 5 sacks to load onto our tractor. When my husband loaded the last sack it exploded. At first I thought my husband was ok, but then I shook him and tried to wake him, but I found that a large piece of metal had gone into his heart. My son and I were also hit by shrapnel. It was a very sad day." Scrap metal dealers, Xieng Khouang province. (UXO Risk Education Needs Assessment, 2006:53).

How can we prevent this problem happening again? Ask the scrap metal dealers what their strategies would be to prevent this happening.

Possible answers could be:

- ❖ Check all sacks for dangerous items before moving or weighing them.
- ❖ If you find something dangerous, don't buy it
- ❖ Put suspect items together as far from homes and people as possible. Put a sign marking the objects as dangerous. Report the UXO immediately to the local authorities, UXO risk educators or UXO Operators.
- ❖ Do not move the UXO again.

Find out what support the scrap metal dealers need to implement the safer strategies and try to assist in providing this support. This could include identification of UXO or parts of UXO, making a safe area for temporary UXO storage, ensuring there is a response when dealers report UXO, providing some risk education materials so that the dealers can also educate the scrap metal collectors who work for them.

- **Key Learning Points**

Summarise the main learning points from the discussion.

- ❖ All bombs, parts of bombs, fuses etc can be dangerous
- ❖ Always check scrap metal bags for explosive items
- ❖ We should not buy explosive items
- ❖ We should limit touching explosive items - we may be lucky to touch or move UXO many times but one day they will explode
- ❖ Place explosive items away from people and mark
- ❖ Report immediately

Provincial Decrees on the Scrap Metal Trade

Play **Audio Spot 01**. The spot has the sound of two people searching and digging for scrap metal using a metal detector. There is an explosion. Information is provided on the provincial decree about the illegal use of metal detectors and sale of bombs and explosives.

Draw attention to the message on the provincial decrees at the bottom of the poster.

Ask the scrap metal dealers to provide feedback on the spot and/or the poster.

- ❖ What was it about?
- ❖ Had they heard this information before?
- ❖ Do they know about the provincial decree?
- ❖ Have they ever heard of people being warned, fined or punished?
- ❖ Does knowing about this decree change anything for them? What does it change?

Inform scrap metal dealers that there are provincial decrees which ban the buying or selling of UXO and the use of metal detectors without a licence. Encourage dealers to pass on this information to scrap metal collectors and other dealers. Encourage them to display the information in their yard.

Key Learning Point

- ❖ According to the law of Lao PDR, the buying and selling of UXO and the use of metal detectors (without a licence) is illegal.

2.4. Risk Group: Children who Play or Tamper with UXO and Collect Scrap Metal

Children are living in an environment where UXO are part of everyday life. The familiarity with UXO in children's environment may make it difficult for younger children (particularly those under 8 years old) to distinguish between items which are safe and highly dangerous items they may come across in their communities.

Children may also witness their parents or other community members they hold in high esteem moving or tampering with UXO. Children are naturally curious and so will often watch these activities. The fact that these activities are being carried out by adults may give a false sense that there is no danger.

Many children are actively involved in scrap metal collection as their parents, siblings or friends are involved and it is an activity that can earn them some pocket money. Their familiarity with this activity often makes them over-confident in their ability to discern scrap from dangerous items. Scrap metal collecting is very dangerous for children because children are less able to rationalise the risks involved and to tell the difference between scrap and UXO. Children are more likely to be killed if there is an accident. The materials are designed with the message that children should not collect scrap metal.

Parental responsibility is important and some parents need to be encouraged to be more vigilant in their child care, knowing where their children are and what they are doing. In provinces where the scrap metal trade is active children can often be seen with metal detectors or collecting scrap metal together with their parents. This shows the need for developing a strategy that will enable parents to educate their children and that will provide for a supportive environment within the community to encourage this.

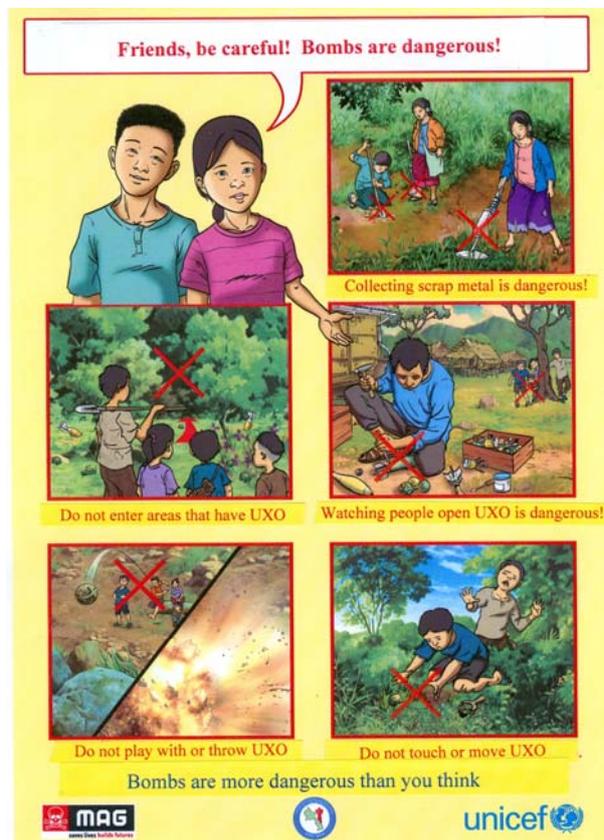
- **Risk Group**

Children who play or tamper with UXO are predominantly boys of all age groups. The UXO Risk Education Needs Assessment (2006) found that of the 4% of children who played with UXO, 77% were boys representing all ages. Young children of both sexes (0-8 years old) are also likely to play, pick up and handle UXO.

52% of children surveyed in the UXO Risk Education Needs Assessment had collected scrap metal. Both boys and girls are involved in collecting scrap metal, but it is usually boys, aged 8 - 18 years who are most active. The UXO Risk Education Needs Assessment found that 76% of the children collecting scrap metal were boys.

While boys are the main instigators of unsafe behaviour, other children may be curious and watch, particularly younger children. Peer pressure may also push children to take risks.

Children in-school may receive UXO risk education as part of their curriculum, but children out of school will be less likely to have opportunities to be educated and will also have more free time to go scrap metal collecting. Children often collect scrap metal to earn pocket money so that they can buy school supplies, clothes and sweets. Addressing the economic motivation of scrap metal collection by children will be important to discuss.



- **Risk Behaviours**

Key risk behaviours for children identified by the UXO Risk Education Needs Assessment include:

- ❖ Playing, picking up and handling UXO
- ❖ Watching adults or other children play, handle or tamper with UXO
- ❖ Opportunistically and actively collecting scrap metal, using a detector and digging

- **Time and Location**

Children are more likely to take risks with UXO during their free time - during holidays or after school. Children who do not attend school will be more likely to collect scrap metal on a more regular basis. Organising risk education activities during children's free time will help to keep them occupied and divert them from going to look for scrap metal.

Children are probably the easiest group to target as they are always interested in activities happening in their village. As boys are the main risk takers with UXO, it will be important to hold separate group discussions with boys and girls as boys may be more likely to dominate the discussions and will have different experiences. Girls, who are often given responsibility for sibling care, can also be encouraged to take a role to protect younger children and to admonish boys who are taking risks. Younger children (under 08 years) should be educated separately from older children to ensure that their education needs are met.

It is important to target the boys who are known to be actively involved in scrap metal collection or who are known to play with UXO and to discuss with them in more depth about dangerous activities and risk taking.

- **Materials**

The key risk education materials that can be used with children are;

- **Poster for Children, Friends be Careful**

The activities depicted on this poster were identified by children as the common activities that they had heard (or knew) caused accidents. Specifically this includes scrap metal collection, watching adults open UXO, playing and touching UXO (particularly bombies) and entering contaminated areas when they go to look for crickets, frogs etc. The message at the bottom of the poster is that bombs are more dangerous than you think - this was based on the children's concern that young people did play with UXO because they wanted to see the explosion, but they had no idea how powerful the explosion would be.

- **Three photograph posters**

These three posters show photographs with different types of bombies in the foreground. Each poster carries a warning about the danger of UXO and below the picture there is the question, "What should we do?" The posters draw attention to the following facts:

- That even though a UXO may look old, it may still be dangerous and explode
- That what we may think is scrap metal may actually be UXO
- That UXO are dangerous

- **UXO Identification Poster**

This poster will be useful to discuss with children what UXO they may have seen in their village or around their village. The poster can be used to discuss what UXO may look like - old and degraded or new, but that whatever it looks like it is still dangerous. Children can be encouraged to draw UXO that they may have seen that are not featured in the poster.

- **Audio/Radio Spots: 04 and 05**

Audio Spot 04: Two children talk about going to dig for crickets and bamboo shoots (sweet potatoes in the Hmong version). When in the forest they also find a big metal object which they try to break up to carry. The UXO explodes. The message is that parents should pay attention and advise their children to be aware of UXO.

Audio Spot 05: One child persuades another to go and look for scrap metal, saying he has done it many times with no problem. They find a UXO and the boy tries to break it open. The UXO explodes. The message is that even if you have moved and opened UXO many times one will finally explode. This message is a good example of risk taking due to peer pressure.

- **T-shirt and Bag**

The T-shirt and bag for children reinforces the messages that appear on the posters for children and also in the audio/radio spots, and again underline the importance of parental responsibility to keep children safe. The T-shirt can be provided to children who take responsibility to educate other children on UXO risk, or who help to keep their younger siblings safe from UXO. T-shirts could also be provided to adults who take part in parenting training on UXO risk so that they can provide it to their children as an additional incentive for safe behaviour. T-shirts can be provided to children who become "positive role models" in that they change their risk-taking behaviour and are then able to tell their story to others.

- **Key Messages**

The key messages from these materials are as follows:

- ❖ Collecting scrap metal is very dangerous and should not be done by children
- ❖ It is very difficult to tell the difference between safe and unsafe scrap metal
- ❖ All bombs are dangerous, whatever they look like
- ❖ It is very dangerous to touch, dismantle or play with UXO or suspicious objects
- ❖ If you find a UXO or suspicious object, report to the local authorities or your parents or teacher
- ❖ It is dangerous to watch adults or other children touch, dismantle or play with UXO
- ❖ Always tell your parents where you are going and what you will be doing
- ❖ Explosions are more powerful than you think

Scrap Metal Collecting

Look at the poster "Friends, be careful! Bombs are dangerous!" Ask the children to look at the picture of children collecting scrap metal. Discuss with the children whether they have ever been to collect scrap metal, if so, who they go with, how often they go and whether they use a metal detector and dig for scrap metal.

- ❖ Do they think it is a dangerous activity? Why?
- ❖ What motivates them to go and collect scrap metal? (is it family or friends who push them to go? Is it because they want to earn money? What do they spend the money on?)

Ask the children if they know why scrap metal collecting is dangerous for children. Maybe they have some experience of friends or other children in the village being injured or killed while looking for scrap metal. Ask them to tell these stories.

Answers may include:

- ❖ Difficult to tell safe scrap from dangerous scrap
- ❖ Digging to investigate a signal you could hit a UXO
- ❖ If there is an accident, children are more likely to be killed
- ❖ Adults may tamper and break open UXO nearby and we could be injured or killed

Enforce the message that scrap metal collecting is very dangerous for children and they should not go scrap metal collecting.

Important issues to discuss with children are peer pressure and economic motivation (earning money to buy sweets, clothes and school supplies) which can both be strong factors in encouraging children, particularly boys, to undertake dangerous activities. Although these motivations are not addressed directly by the messages it will be important for the UXO Risk Educators to discuss motivational factors together with the target group.

Audio Spot 05

Play the spot. Ask the children what happened in the story. Why did one boy persuade the other boy to go scrap metal collecting? Has this ever happened to you? Did you go or did you refuse?

Act it out!

Ask a small group of children to act out a small role play with two children going scrap metal collecting and trying to persuade another child to come with them. The other child has to refuse to go - this should help children to practice resisting peer pressure.

Discuss with children ideas on how they can earn pocket money in ways other than going scrap metal collecting. Maybe they can give examples of other children in the village who have stopped scrap metal collection and earn pocket money in a different way. Ask them to think about how they can set up a plan to earn money in other ways.

Key Learning Points

Ask the children to summarise the key learning points. This could include:

- ❖ Scrap metal collection is very dangerous
- ❖ Children should not go scrap metal collecting
- ❖ We can say NO if our friends and families ask us to go scrap metal collecting
- ❖ We can find other ways of earning money to buy sweets, clothes, school books

Don't Touch or Play with UXO

Tell a story of children who were killed and injured while touching or playing with a UXO - if you can find an example from the province you are working in that will be best.

"In March 2005 a bad accident occurred in our village. A company was to establish a nursery and had dug up all the land in a field with machinery. Some of the children went down to the lake to go for a swim and when they had finished they walked back across the field which had been dug up. We believe they found a BLU and all the children gathered round to look at it, we are not sure, but they may have tried to break it open. The UXO exploded and all of the children were killed." Village leader, Xieng Khouang province. (UXO Risk Education Needs Assessment, 2006:60) The children were aged between 4 and 6 years of age. 5 children were killed in the accident, 3 of whom were from the same family.

On 17th January 2008 a UXO accident occurred in the village of Ban Phonehai, Sepon district, Savannakhet province. Nine children were involved in the accident. Four were killed and five slightly injured. The dead children were all boys, aged between 9-14 years old. The other children, 3 girls and 2 boys, aged from two years to 9 years were injured by fragments from the bomb. Some of them were digging for crabs around the bomb crater, and others were looking at a young cow that had died in the same crater. Fragments from a bombie (BLU 26) were found and it is suspected that while they were digging one of them found the item and they maybe picked it up, dropped it or hit it." Accident recorded by Handicap International.

Or play **Audio Spot 04**. Two children talk about going to dig for crickets and bamboo shoots. When in the forest they also find a big metal object which they try to break up to carry. The UXO explodes.

Ask the children their feedback on the story.

- ❖ Why do you think the children touched the UXO?
- ❖ Why do you think they may have tried to break it open?
- ❖ Have you ever done anything like this? Do you know of any other children who have done something like this?
- ❖ What happened?
- ❖ Why were so many of the children in these stories injured or killed?
- ❖ How do you think the families of these children felt when they were killed? How would your family feel if you were killed or injured?
- ❖ What should you do if you find a UXO or strange object?

Discuss with the children if they ever go to areas where they know there are UXO. What sort of areas are these? What do they go to do there?

Do they think it is sensible to go to these areas? Could they go somewhere else to collect crickets or frogs or sweet potatoes? If there is nowhere else to go, how can they make sure it is safe?

Key Learning Points

Ask the children to summarise the main points they have learned.

- ❖ It is very dangerous to touch or play with UXO
- ❖ It is very dangerous to try to open UXO
- ❖ Even small parts, like the fuses, can explode - they can be activated at any time
- ❖ When a UXO explodes, the explosion will be very big - you will be unable to escape being injured or killed
- ❖ If you are injured or killed it will have a bit impact on your family
- ❖ If you find a UXO or strange object you should report to the local authorities, your parents or your teacher.
- ❖ Don't go into areas that you know have UXO when you are looking for crickets etc.

Watching Adult Risk Behaviour

The poster for children shows a picture of an adult dismantling a bomb and children watching.

- ❖ Have children ever watched an adult do something like this? Can they explain what happened?
- ❖ Is it a sensible thing for adults to do?
- ❖ Why do we say that children should not watch an adult doing this? What are the reasons?
- ❖ What should you do in the future if you see an adult do this?
- ❖ What should you do if your father or older brother does things like this?

Act it out!

Ask a group of children to act out a scene. Two children can play a father and his friend opening a UXO in the village. The children gather around and watch. Two children play the role of the son/daughter of the father. What will they tell their father and his friend? What will they tell the other children who gather round to watch?

Key Learning Points;

- ❖ Adults do not always do sensible things. We should be aware when adults are doing something dangerous

- ❖ If you watch adults tampering with UXO, if the UXO explodes you could also be injured or killed
- ❖ You should have the responsibility to tell other children not to watch these activities but to go as far away as possible
- ❖ If you see an adult tamper with UXO, move away, warn other children to move away. Report the person to a responsible adult
- ❖ If your father or brother tampers with UXO you can tell them it is dangerous and they should not do it in the village or near to the family

Parents as Educators

With a group of parents discussions can also be facilitated on parental responsibility for ensuring that children are kept away from UXO and the scrap metal trade. Relevant materials are:

- ❖ Poster for scrap metal collectors: The final picture in the poster shows a mother taking a metal detector away from her children and telling them not to go out to look for scrap metal because of the danger of UXO
- ❖ Audio spot 04 - two children go and dig for crickets and bamboo shoots - the mother should pay attention and advise their children to be aware of UXO.

Facilitate a discussion with parents about whether their children may undertake dangerous activities such as scrap metal collection or when they go to forest areas to look for food they may be in danger of UXO.

- ❖ How can parents make sure their children are not at risk from UXO danger?
- ❖ What do you do already to protect your children?
- ❖ Do you think there is more you could do?
- ❖ Do your children listen to you? If they don't listen, how can you solve this problem?

T-shirts and bags for children can be provided to the parents who take part in parenting on UXO risk so they can provide it to their children as an additional incentive for safe behaviour.

Key learning points:

- ❖ Parents have a responsibility for their children's actions and activities
- ❖ Parents should be aware of where their children are and what they are doing

- ❖ Teachers and village authorities can be called on to reinforce parental advice
- ❖ Parents should be responsible for taking UXO reports from children and reporting to village authorities

2.5. Risk Group: Farmers

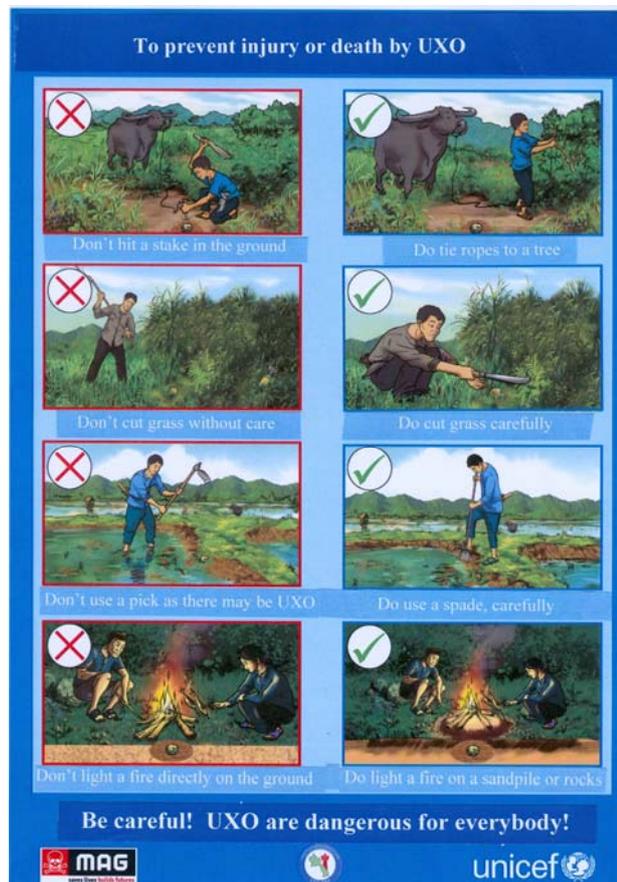
The majority of rural people in Lao are farmers, even if they undertake other secondary activities. Adults and children who work on agricultural land tend to be exposed to risk involuntarily, especially when they are extending land, cutting vegetation, collecting forest products, or even grazing animals. Domestic fires and burning fields may also detonate UXO. As the UXO Risk Education Needs Assessment (2006) points out, accidental exposure to sub-surface UXO while farming is generally feared due to the lack of control people have over the situation.

However, farmers may also move UXO out of agricultural land. According to the UXO Risk Education Needs Assessment, this is predominantly men over 36 years of age. The primary reason farmers give for moving UXO out of their farming land is to reduce the risk of accidentally hitting a UXO when digging or ploughing.

- **Risk Group**

The risk group is farmers who are working in paddy cultivation and swidden agriculture, or as agricultural labourers. 29% of all adults surveyed in the UXO Risk Education Needs Assessment reported finding UXO in their farming land in the 12 months before the survey. 59% of the adults were men, with 41% women. Both men and women are at risk when working in agricultural land, and also children as they often work in farming land with their family members.

10% of all adults surveyed for



the UXO Risk Education Needs Assessment had previously moved UXO in order to be able to use land for farming. 80% of these people were men. The primary reason for moving UXO was to reduce the risk of involuntary contact with UXO while farming. While adults identified that touching and moving UXO is one of the primary activities that can cause UXO to explode, this knowledge is overridden by the desire to move UXO out of farming land to make it safer to farm.

- **Risk Behaviour**

- ❖ Unintentional contact with sub-surface UXO
- ❖ Moving and relocating UXO

- **Time and Location**

As the majority of rural Lao people are farmers, it is relatively easy to target people for education about safer practices in farming as it will be relevant for most people. While farmers can be targeted in the villages when they are not in their fields, it may also be worth walking out to fields to meet farmers there as discussions can then happen more in the context of their own farming activities.

It will be important to try to target farmers to discuss safer farming practices at a time when it is relevant. For example, a good time to reinforce safety messages concerning farming is before land preparation takes place at the end of the dry season. Land preparation, both for paddy and swidden, can increase risk for people as this may be when they are opening up new areas of land, clearing land by burning, cutting vegetation etc. During cultivation visits can be made to the fields to reinforce messages and to ensure that any UXO found are being reported and responded to.

When discussing moving UXO out of farming land it may be necessary to target a male audience as they are more likely to undertake this activity, although the dangers of moving UXO should be discussed more widely in an effort to encourage people not to move UXO but to report. Obviously this then needs to be followed up with a quick Roving Response to be effective.

- **Materials**

The risk education materials that can be used for farmers include:

- ❖ **The farming poster**

This poster is an update of UXO risk education materials that have been used in Lao PDR in the past. It depicts the farming activities of rural people

(with an attempt to reflect activities that are common to most ethnic groups) and shows how such activities can be potentially dangerous and how risk can be minimized in contaminated areas by adapting the way things are done.

❖ **The UXO identification poster**

This poster will be useful to discuss with farmers what UXO they may have seen in their village or in their fields. It can also help with the identification of UXO for reporting purposes.

Safer Farming Practices

People are already familiar with many of the messages on safer farming techniques. What we need to know is how practical these messages are. Can people follow them? If not, what should they do? The messages may be so familiar that people take them for granted but do not necessarily follow the advice.

The pictures depict adults conducting the farming activities, although children also assist with farming activities and so can find the messages relevant. The activities pictured are usually conducted by men. Ask women if there are farming activities they conduct that may put them at risk from UXO.

The poster works well when used as a focus for small group discussions around farming activities. The poster can be used as a starting point for discussions about how farming activities can be made safer in contaminated areas. The poster shows only a few activities, but different groups of people may identify different activities that they believe are high risk. The poster talks about UXO being dangerous for everybody, which refers to the fact that UXO can be a risk for all ethnic groups. A good thing to establish are the types of farming activities conducted in your target areas with the particular ethnic groups in that area. UXO Risk Educators can discuss how the activities can be made safer, using the poster as a trigger.

- ❖ Discuss with the villagers if the farming activities shown on the poster are similar to what they do. Are any key activities missing that they think put people at risk from UXO? What time of year do these activities happen? Who conducts these activities (men or women?)
- ❖ Discuss what tools they use for farming - how they dig the land, how they plant the seeds, how they cultivate. Each of these activities may

have a risk from UXO. As commercial farming activities expand in Lao PDR, the messages may take on additional relevance for people working as farm labourers. Certain messages may also have to be updated in the future as farming becomes more mechanized and farmers use hand-tractors and tractors.

- ❖ Referring to the poster, discuss how they feel they can try to make farming activities safer. If people say they can use a spade to dig carefully, question them if they can actually do this in reality. If not, why not? What other solutions may there be?

Based on the discussions with farmers, write down a list of key things the farmers agree will make their farming practice safer. Ask them to test these methods in the fields. Come back to follow up on their progress. Ask them what problems they faced and discuss how these problems can be solved.

Key Learning Points

- ❖ How to farm more safely, with less risk of hitting UXO

Moving UXO out of Fields

The risk behaviour of farmers moving UXO out of their fields can only really be solved by having a quick Roving Response that can move the UXO out of the field when they are found. Farmers can be encouraged to mark the UXO and to report it. Ask farmers what are the best methods for marking a UXO, for example, covering with thorn branches or marking with crossed sticks.

Explain that some types of bombs are designed to explode when moved (Blu 36) but it is difficult to distinguish these from a Blu 26. Therefore, even if we move UXO carefully, we may still be at risk of an accident.

Discuss with farmers what they can do to reduce the number of times they have to move UXO.

Some possible answers could be:

- ❖ Do not touch the UXO, but mark it and report to the local authorities
- ❖ Farm around the UXO if possible
- ❖ Only move UXO if it is the final option
- ❖ Do not move any UXO you are not familiar with or that look unstable

- ❖ If you do move UXO, place them in safe places where children cannot reach, for example in tree stumps or covered by thorn bushes
- ❖ Do not bring UXO back to the village
- ❖ If there is no response to your UXO report, ask your village authorities to bring up the issue at the next district meeting

Key Learning Points

- ❖ Safe action to take if you find a UXO in your field
- ❖ How to report and to follow up on reports

2.6. Materials for All Groups

Some of the posters can be used for all of the risk groups to generate discussion about UXO danger, what to do if we come across UXO and how we can recognise that something is a UXO.

Question Posters

The three question posters show different types of bombies in the foreground and children standing in the background, and in some cases reaching forward as though to touch the UXO, their identification camouflaged by foliage. Each poster carries a warning about the danger of UXO, and below the picture there is a question, "What should we do?" The posters draw attention to the facts:

- ❖ Even though a UXO may look old, it may still be dangerous and explode
- ❖ That what we may think is scrap metal may actually be a UXO
- ❖ That all UXO are dangerous

The posters can be used with all of the risk groups. They are intended to encourage people to think about what they should do if they find a bombie or UXO. Discussions can focus around the following topics:

- ❖ What real ordnance looks like in the forest, around the village, in the fields, and how it is often difficult to see that it is a UXO. It can be easy to mistake a UXO for something else.
- ❖ What we may think is scrap metal may actually be a UXO. It is difficult to know for sure that something is not a UXO.
- ❖ Even if UXO is old and rusted it may still be dangerous and explode. In some cases it can be more dangerous because it is instable.

- ❖ When we find a UXO like this, what should be the steps that we take? Appropriate answers will relate to not touching, marking and reporting to a responsible adult or local authorities.

Old UXO may still explode!



What should we do?

MAG unicef

This panel features a blue background. At the top, the text 'Old UXO may still explode!' is written in white. Below this is a photograph of two children in a forest setting, looking down at a round, metallic object on the ground. At the bottom of the panel, the text 'What should we do?' is written in white. In the bottom left corner, there is a red and white 'MAG' logo. In the bottom center, there is a small circular icon with a person and a bomb. In the bottom right corner, the 'unicef' logo is displayed in white.

Scrap metal may be a UXO!



What should we do?

MAG unicef

This panel features a green background. At the top, the text 'Scrap metal may be a UXO!' is written in white. Below this is a photograph of a piece of rusted, jagged metal lying on the ground among leaves and twigs. At the bottom of the panel, the text 'What should we do?' is written in white. In the bottom left corner, there is a red and white 'MAG' logo. In the bottom center, there is a small circular icon with a person and a bomb. In the bottom right corner, the 'unicef' logo is displayed in white.

UXO are dangerous!



What should we do?

MAG unicef

This panel features a brown background. At the top, the text 'UXO are dangerous!' is written in white. Below this is a photograph of a round, yellowish object on the ground near a tree trunk, surrounded by dry leaves. At the bottom of the panel, the text 'What should we do?' is written in white. In the bottom left corner, there is a red and white 'MAG' logo. In the bottom center, there is a small circular icon with a person and a bomb. In the bottom right corner, the 'unicef' logo is displayed in white.

UXO Identification Poster

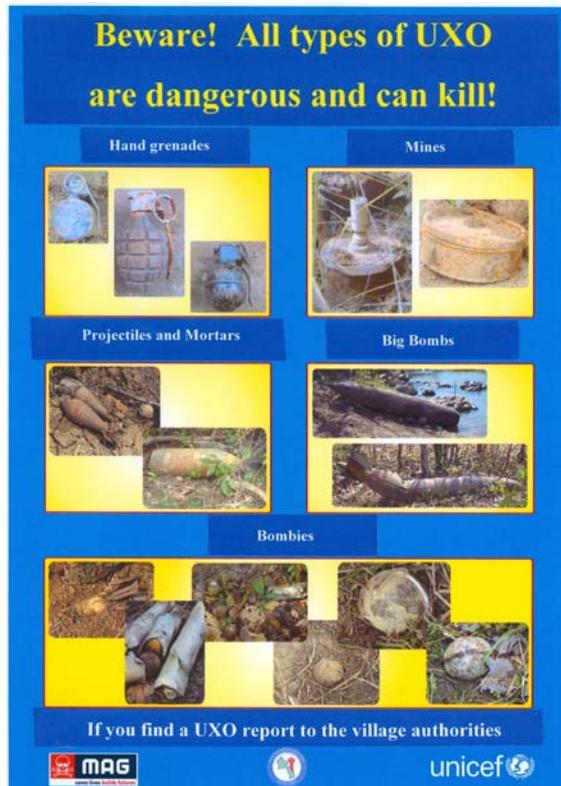
The UXO Identification poster can be used in a variety of situations, for example, to understand the type of contamination in an area, to gauge people's knowledge of ordnance or to aid UXO identification in scrap metal yards or with scrap metal collectors. It can be used with all target groups to help them better identify potentially dangerous objects.

The most common UXO and mines in Lao PDR are depicted in photographs, and where possible, in situ as people would find them in everyday life. They are at different stages of degradation. The

message at the top of the poster tells people to beware of UXO as all types have the potential to kill. At the bottom the poster encourages people to report UXO they find to the village authorities.

The ordnance are arranged in main groups and simply labelled as big bombs, bombies, mines, hand grenades, projectiles and mortars. The technical names of the ordnance are not given. UXO Risk Educators should use the local names used by the villagers. Technical names may create a barrier to communication.

People may have encountered UXO or mines that are not depicted in this poster. The UXO Risk Educators should encourage them to discuss what type of ordnance they have found. They can even draw pictures of what they have found.



PART THREE: Measuring Change

In each of the villages where we work, we need to see what the impact of our UXO Risk Education Activities is. This is becoming increasingly important as we need to be confident that our activities are actually helping the local people living with UXO, rather than just taking up their time. It is also important so that we can report to our donors and other stakeholders about the effectiveness of our activities.

Measuring change is easier in the villages where we work on a regular basis as we can monitor the change gradually over time. In villages where we have a one-off visit, it is difficult to see what impact our activities may have if there is no follow up.

Monitoring is the activity we use to measure progress and change. We need to do this on a regular routine basis. The criteria we may want to monitor include:

- **Awareness:** The degree of information local communities and individuals have about UXO risk
- **Attitude and Behaviour:** The way people may change their attitudes or behaviour as a result of increased knowledge and discussions about alternative activities or safer behaviour
- **Participation:** Who is involved in risk education activities, who is targeted and how they are targeted. This will include criteria such as high risk groups, men, women, boys and girls.
- **Reporting and Responsiveness:** The way in which people undertake reporting of UXO and the responsiveness of the agencies to the reports
- **Sustainability:** Examples of local communities, scrap metal dealers, local authorities taking responsibility for making their communities or businesses safer.
- **Suggestions for improvement:** Documenting local community suggestions as to how we can make UXO risk education more targeted to their needs.

- **Collecting Baseline Data**

Before we can monitor what has changed, we need to understand the situation in a community before our activities begin. We need to compile information on the village situation, the impact of UXO, levels of UXO awareness, and risk behaviour and activities. To collect this information the following activities could be conducted:

- Meetings with relevant local authorities to discuss the UXO situation, for example, history of war, UXO incident data, contamination areas, levels of contamination, history of UXO clearance and risk education work in the area. Find out if there are groups in the community who may be at higher risk of UXO injury because of where they live or because of the activities they are involved in.
- Identify other relevant information they may have, for example, knowledge of services or development assistance programmes operating in the area, local information documenting population movements, general socio-economic information.
- Conduct transect walks through the community with some of the key local informants. Note where scrap metal dealers are living, where families are that go scrap metal collecting, note housing conditions, note livelihood occupations.
- Hold small groups discussions with authorities, local men, local women, children to find out their perspectives on the UXO situation and impact.
- Hold small group discussions and interviews with those groups of people who have been identified as most at risk.
- Use village mapping with different groups of people to gather information about the area and village population. Note the location of risk areas and households of high-risk people.

- **Indicators for Measuring Change**

We can monitor the implementation of the use of risk education materials using process indicators. Process indicators will show whether the activities that were planned are being carried out effectively. This could include number of villages visited, number of discussion groups held, number of materials distributed. This tells us what we have done, but it doesn't tell us how effective our activities have been.

Impact indicators will help us to assess what progress is being made towards reaching our objectives and what impact the work has had on our target groups. The indicators should be able to demonstrate changes reflecting the impact of our work in relation to our objectives. This is more difficult to measure, but it is the most important aspect of our work that we should monitor.

The following table outlines the overall goal and objectives from the National Strategic Plan for MRE in Lao PDR (1st January 2007 - 31 December 2010) and provides some examples of indicators that we can use to measure our impact in risk-taking behaviour change:

Goal	Objectives	Indicators
<p>A Targeted UXO Risk Reduction Strategy focusing on high-risk areas and high-risk groups.</p>	<p>To identify highly impacted communities and at risk groups</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (Increase in) number of villages targeted for UXO risk education with high number of recent accidents • (Decrease in) number of villages targeted for UXO risk education where there have been no accidents in recent years
	<p>To deliver risk education to identified at risk groups</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (Increase in) number of group discussions held with specified high risk groups • (Increase in) number of repeat sessions held with these specified high risk groups
	<p>To increase UXO awareness and behaviour change among targeted at risk groups</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (Decrease in) number of families who undertake scrap metal collection in a village • (Decrease in) number of metal detectors being used in a village • (Increase in) number of scrap metal dealers who establish safety guidelines • (Increase in) number of scrap metal dealers who refuse to buy UXO • (Increase in) number of positive adult role model stories that emerge from communities • (Increase in) number of positive child role model stories that emerge from communities • (Increase in) number of safety guidelines developed by communities • (Decrease in) number of accidents caused by intentional

		risk taking in target areas
	To maintain gender considerations in MRE activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (Increase in) number of focus group discussions held with different sexes • (Increase in) number of women UXO Risk Educators within organisations and at community level • (Increase in) number of activities conducted with a specific gender focus
	To promote a timely response to requests for clearance of UXO by affected communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (Increase in) number of reports of UXO to UXO organisations from scrap metal dealers • (Increase in) number of reports of UXO to UXO organisations from communities • (Increase in) number of local level requests that are responded to by roving teams • (Decrease in) the average time taken to respond to requests
	To facilitate the timely reporting of UXO casualties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (Increase in) number of casualty reports submitted by UXO Risk Educators • (Increase in) number of casualty reports submitted by targeted communities

- **Qualitative Data for Measuring Change**

The indicators above are quantitative indicators which give us a numerical record of both the process and the impact. But while it will tell us "what" and "how many", there are still many questions remaining, such as, who, where, and, most importantly, why.

We also need descriptive, qualitative data that can provide some background to the figures. This data can help to EXPLAIN why the numbers are as they are and to give some positive examples to support the indicators. It can help to develop an understanding of why people may have changed their behaviour and how the behaviour change can be sustained.

For example, we can use qualitative data to show cases of parental and community involvement, changes in individual self-esteem and confidence, levels of knowledge, and examples of behaviour change.

Here are some examples of qualitative information that can be collected to support the indicators:

- At the beginning of a campaign targeting scrap metal dealers and collectors, **engage the local community in producing a visual mapping of the scrap metal trade in the village.** It could show shops selling detectors, scrap metal dealers, houses of families who collect scrap metal, houses where someone has been injured or killed through their involvement in the scrap trade. Use a plastic sheet as an overlay and at regular periods, perhaps every 6 months, ask the villagers to mark on the map any changes that have occurred - for example, if families have stopped collecting scrap metal, or if dealers have developed a code of conduct etc.
- **Personalise success stories through role model stories.** We often use examples of UXO incidents that have happened in a community to show negative behaviour. Here we should be documenting positive role model stories - local people who have changed their behaviour for the better. The UXO experiences that will be most interesting and relevant to villagers are those that occur to people like themselves, in villages like their own.
- **Descriptions and photographs evidencing greater community responsibility** - for example local regulations regarding the scrap metal trade, community signboards outlining safe behaviour, or parents using materials to educate their children.

- **Hold small group discussions or interviews with at-risk groups** to explore whether people feel they have changed their behaviour and/or adopted safer practices, and the reasons why. Discuss whether they feel they will be able to maintain the behaviour change. Write up the main points from the group discussions.

- **UXO Incidents and Casualties as a Measure of Change**

Often UXO risk education impact is seen to relate to the number of UXO incidents in target areas and the activities the people were doing at the time of the accident. A decrease in the number of UXO incidents and victims is taken as an indicator of the benefits and effectiveness of a risk education intervention, while an increase in the number of mine accidents and victims points to the limitations of the project. However, in Lao PDR it is difficult to measure our overall success in this way as there is not yet a systematic victim and incident information collection system. Once this is established we should be better able to see the trends and consider if risk education has been a factor in reducing casualties.

However, when looking at incident and casualty data it is also important to consider the other factors that may affect a rise or a fall in casualty rates - for example, clearance, roving response, scrap metal prices, good harvests, new labour opportunities. All for these factors may also affect the risks taken by people and thus affect the numbers of casualties and incidents.

It is possible to record incidents, casualties and causes in individual villages where we work and then measure change over the time risk education activities are implemented in that village. Some questions to ask ourselves include:

- Have incidents increased or decreased?
- What activities were people doing at the time of the accident?
- Has intentional risk taking increased or decreased as a cause of accidents?
- Has unintentional risk taking increased or decreased as a cause of accidents?
- What other factors in the community may affect incident and victim figures?