

UXO Sector Annual Work Plan 2017 (Interim Update)

Name of Sector Working Groups: Unexploded Ordnance

SWG Chair and Co-Chairs:

- **Minister of Labour and Social Welfare (Chair)**
- **UNDP Resident Representative (co-Chair) and Ambassador of the United States of America to Lao PDR (co-Chair)**

SWG Secretariat Focal Points:

- **Government Officials: Phoukhieo Chanthasomboune, NRA**
- **Development Partners: B. Murali, UNDP; Machut Shishak, US Embassy**

Technical Supporting Staffs:

- **Government Officials: Bounpheng Sisawath, NRA**
- **Development Partners: Nils Christensen, UNDP; Phil Bean, US Embassy**

I. Key focus of the Sector contributing to the sectoral outcomes

- Establish task-prioritisation system based on development criteria;
- Establish and roll-out sector level annual work planning;
- Implement *Survey to Safety* strategy;
- Improve cost-recovery mechanisms for UXO support to development projects;
- Integrate principles of Linking Mine Action with Development (LMAD) into UXO sector.

II. Overviews of Sector Performance in 2017 (Activities, actions and outputs)

Activities and actions	Outputs/targets	Link to 8 th NSED M&E framework	Timeframe	Responsible parties	Update – End July 2017	
A. Thematic (substantive) areas						
1. Actions/activities relating to the 12th HL RTM key recommendation/discussion points						
1.1	Ensure commitment to and on-going implementation of an evidence based survey to allow a systematic approach to establishing the remaining UXO contamination in support of developing a multi-year planning and long term resource mobilization strategy	Finalise <i>Survey to Safety</i> Strategy and publish implementation plan.	#73 / #74	June 2017	NRA / GoL	<i>Survey to Safety</i> Strategy will be updated to encompass projected resources. Implementation plan is in process of being finalised. INGOs have submitted survey proposals to the Government of the United States of America. Consultations on the finalisation of the updated survey procedures continue.
1.2	Use mid-term review of Safe Path Forward 2 to more closely link priority operations to national development priorities, introduce streamlining of operations to increase productivity and revise clearance measured by the number of hectares with more realistic and appropriate targets	Finalise and publish Planning and Prioritisation Guidelines and create Sector Annual Work Plan for 2017 based on priority tasks.	#73 / #74	June 2017	NRA / GoL	Prioritization is ongoing. Provinces are providing areas for development. Currently: more than 51,000 Ha of CHAs identified. (Information as of 3 October 2017). Of this provincial authorities consider at least 10,000 Ha of CHAs as high priority for clearance. This work will commence in 2018. Work being undertaken to prioritize CHAs to ensure CHAs preventing development are identified. In addition, some villages scheduled for development activities will need to be prioritized for survey.
1.3	Better articulate needs for remaining UXO contamination. This includes sharing the operators' work plan, transparent reporting	Implement Joint Monitoring Mission and transition to using IMSMA for all data reporting.	#73 / #74 / #75 / #76	December 2017	NRA / GoL	Transition to using IMSMA for all data reporting continues an on track for December 2017 timeframe. 2018 Sector work plan will have increased details on operators work plans. Over 10 joint monitoring missions have occurred in January – July timeframe.

Activities and actions	Outputs/targets	Link to 8 th NSED M&E framework	Timeframe	Responsible parties	Update – End July 2017
and joint monitoring missions with donors.					
1.4 Scale up resources and capacities.	Finalise and sign UNDP Project Document for 2017-2021 and distribute for contributions.	#73 / #74 / #75 / #76	October 2016	GoL / UNDP	UNDP Project Document for 2017-2021 signed with starting date 1 June 2017.
1.5 Strengthen the overall multi-stakeholder partnership for accelerating efforts to address UXO problems through a sector-wide approach with periodic oversight meetings of key Government ministries, DPs and implementing partners	Hold regular sector meetings including Policy Forum; commit to monthly progress data publication on NRA website.	#73 / #74 / #75 / #76	December 2017	NRA	On track.
2. Other substantive actions/activities					
2.1 Establish sector-wide liability guidance in National Standards.	Guidance published.	#73 / #74	December 2017	NRA	On track.
2.2 Establish Sector Monitoring and Evaluation Framework to measure and communicate contribution of UXO sector to development progress.	Framework published with roles and responsibilities.	#73 / #74 / #75 / #76	December 2017	NRA	NRA has no resources for this activity. (M&E Unit at NRA), activity to start once resources are available.
2.3 Establish standards for use of historical data within Lao PDR UXO National Standards.	National Standards updated.	#73	December 2017	NRA	Historical data will be used as for <i>Survey to Safety</i> and are part of new survey procedures. Update of National Standards will be completed after survey procedures finalised.
B. Communication and outreach activities with the sector and across Sector Working Groups					

Activities and actions	Outputs/targets	Link to 8 th NSED M&E framework	Timeframe	Responsible parties	Update – End July 2017
1. Host UXO Policy Forum for stakeholder engagement.	Minutes published.	#73 / #74 / #75 / #76	November 2016	NRA	On track. Policy Forum will be organised if necessary before RTM.
2. Improve linkages with Poverty and Livelihoods-related SWGs.	Share Minutes from UXO SWG and invite key organisations.	#73 / #74 / #75 / #76	Monthly, starting during 2017.	NRA	Output achieved. Increased technical cooperation to enable UXO support to development required.
3. Improve linkages with Education and Health-related SWGs.	Share Minutes from UXO SWG and invite key organisations.	#73 / #74 / #75 / #76	Monthly, starting during 2017.	NRA	Output achieved. Increased technical cooperation to enable UXO support to development required. This includes coordination with the Ministry of Education & Sports on integrating UXO curriculum in primary schools, as well as coordination and collaboration through the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare with the Ministry of Health on assistance to UXO victims.
C. Actions for fostering greater partnerships and effective development cooperation (in line with the Vientiane Declaration and Country Action Plan)					
1. Develop Action Plan for implementation of Announcement 93 for improved cost recovery for UXO support to development projects.	Next steps clarified.	#73 / #74	December 2017	GoL	In late of 2016, the Prime Minister of Laos issued the Order No. 39/PM, dated 28/9/2016 to replace the announcement No. 93. The new Order stipulates that development projects in provinces and district affected by UXO must undergo survey and clearance before project implementation, and these development projects must also allocate funding for survey and clearance.
2. Increase and report cash contribution of Government of Lao PDR to UXO sector.	Contribution increased from 2015 and details on expenditures shared with DPs.	#73 / #74 / #75 / #76	December 2017	GoL	2016 cash contribution by Government of Lao PDR in excess of \$700,000 which include: the NRA and UXO Lao rental, tax exemption for project equipment of UXO operators, Lao army humanitarian team training and operation cost for survey and clearance.
3. Clarify process for establishing Memoranda of Understanding for UXO work.	Process clarified.	#73 / #74 / #75 / #76	December 2017	GoL	On-going.

III. Monitoring and reporting

NRA will be responsible for reporting on the progress of the Sector Working Group based on these targets and plans. Reporting will take place at the next Annual Sector Working Group meeting in November 2017.

IV. Calendar of key events during the year

See events calendar in other document.