



Lao National Unexploded Ordnance Programme (UXO LAO)



**Annual Report
2011**



2011 AT A GLANCE

OPERATIONS

Community Awareness activities: 587 UXO risk awareness activities. 98% of the work plan target completed.

General Survey tasks: 2,154 survey tasks in 1,392 villages. 127% of the work plan target completed.

Roving tasks: 1,625 roving tasks in 1,136 villages. 97% of the 2009 work plan target completed.

Area clearance operations: 2,385 hectares of land cleared. 94% of the work plan target completed.

Technical Survey tasks: re-classified 553 hectares of land cleared. 99% of the work plan target completed.

Support to development agencies: 300 hectares of land for ten different development agencies

FINANCIAL

Budget: US\$ 7,891,416

Expenditure: US\$ 6,966,903

RESOURCES

National personnel: 1,066 personnel, including 1,016 (96%) in provincial operations and offices

Number of female personnel: 197 (18%) female personnel, including 138 in operations.

International advisors: 4 personnel

Number of detectors: 1,065 functioning detectors, including 120 Ebinger 421GC and 500 Vallon VMXC1 detectors.

Number of vehicles: 170 four-wheel vehicles and 97 motorcycles

(Photo above: Mr. Bounpone Sayasenh, UXO Lao Director visits Female Demining Team , UXO Lao Xiengkhuang province)

2011 Annual Report

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UXO Lao Operations are composed of:



Community Awareness

Increases the awareness of people in affected areas through various UXO risk education activities such as plays and puppet shows.



Area Clearance and Roving Task

Area clearance involves searching for UXO under the ground using detectors. Agricultural land is cleared to a depth of 25cm.

Roving clearance involves the removal and destruction of UXO found on the surface by villagers/surveyors.



General and Technical Survey

General survey activities identifies locations of UXO reported as well as developing maps for use by area clearance teams.

Technical survey involves the release of land through evaluation of available information and with a 25% sampling of the area in question.



From the National Programme Director



2011 – the 15th year of UXO Lao operations – was yet again a productive and very active year within UXO Lao. Following the surge of activities related to the 1st meeting of the States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions, activities in the field have continued and strengthened and activities have cleared more than 2,385 Ha of land, allowing the population of Laos to move forward in their daily lives.

In 2011, UXO Lao remained focused on the clearance of agricultural land, infrastructure and other development projects. The Poverty Reduction programme and development of special economic development zones in some poor districts were the focus of UXO clearance in some districts and a number of these were supported by UXO Lao clearance teams in 2011.

I believe that this output – almost 10% more cleared land than in the previous year – has not been achieved at the expense of quality, and the quality management teams introduced to UXO Lao in 2010 have continued to operate throughout the organisation with a high degree of effectiveness. We do not however believe that there are still no improvements to be made and we will strive to do so as the programme continues.

During 2011, we have also been very successful with our funding requests and are now in an enviable position of having sufficient support – some of it long term support – to ensure operations throughout 2012. There is, however, still much work to be done and we are ready to rise to that challenge.

2011 saw a significant number of staff leave UXO Lao for other opportunities. The fact that staff turnover is increasing is a concern and the real salary value has steadily decreased as Laos becomes more prosperous and the currency stronger. The significant number of staff leaving the project during the year has a direct impact in UXO Lao's ability to achieve the workplan targets and further add to the financial requirements to train replacement staff. We hope to rectify this issue in 2012. UXO Lao has, however, increased its proportion of female staff to 18% - a 5% increase on 2011 numbers.

In 2012, we hope to build on our success in 2011 – not just in terms of numbers of hectares cleared, people given risk education, but also focusing on the effectiveness and targeting of those activities. We are doing well, but we do not stop trying to do better. I would like to thank the donors, the government of Lao PDR, the United Nations and, just as importantly, the staff of UXO Lao for their efforts and support to UXO Lao through 2011.

Bounpone Sayasenh

From the Chief Technical Advisor



Having recently had the honour to join UXO Lao as the Chief Technical Advisor, it is a pleasure to look back over 2011 and the work of UXO Lao. Having first visited UXO Lao in 1997, and continuing to return regularly, I have seen the slow and steady development of the organisation into the strong national capacity it is today.

I have been fortunate to join UXO Lao at a time of great international focus – the success of the first meeting of the States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions brought Laos into the world's focus – and since then, UXO Lao has maintained this momentum, not least in the area of funding, where we find ourselves strong for the following year. Although this is a good position to be in, it is certainly not one to rest on.

Although clearance statistics for 2011 were up more than 10% on 2010's, this does not tell the full story. Cleared land is but one output and not always a useful measure on its own. During 2011, UXO Lao focused on its technical survey operations to try to focus clearance assets on more appropriate land. This development is still ongoing and will continue to develop through 2012, but the processes will eventually result in more effective utilisation of assets, more effective clearance, better value for money for donors and ultimately a more secure and comfortable life for the population of Laos.

All of this does not happen overnight and I commend the UXO Lao staff at all levels for their thinking and desire to improve the quality of UXO Lao's work. I will do my personal best to support the staff of the programme to move forwards towards a more effective future.

Tim Lardner



ACCOMPLISHMENTS in 2011

COMMUNITY AWARENESS (CA) ACTIVITIES: conducted 587 UXO risk awareness activities in different villages reaching 143,447 people, including 65,870 children.

Achieved 98% of the 2011 work plan target of 598 activities.

GENERAL SURVEY TASKS: conducted 2,154 survey tasks in 1,392 villages, recording the location of 15,577 different UXO items, including 163 big bombs and 6,061 cluster munitions.

Exceeded by 27% the 2011 work plan target of 1,695 survey tasks.

ROVING TASKS: conducted 1,625 roving tasks in 1,136 villages, removing or destroying 135,999 different UXO items reported by villagers or CA/survey team members, including 197 big bombs and 8,347 cluster munitions.

Achieved 94% of the 2011 work plan target of 1,681 roving tasks.

AREA CLEARANCE OPERATIONS: using UXO detectors, cleared 20,997 different UXO items from 2,385 hectares of land, including 16 big bombs and 10,441 cluster munitions. Reached 408,584 beneficiaries. Agricultural land was cleared to the national standard depth of 25 centimetres.

Cleared 2,126 hectares of Agriculture land and 258 hectares for different development agencies in support of their various socio-economic development projects.

Achieved 94% of the 2011 work plan target of 2,528 hectares of land.

TECHNICAL SURVEY TASKS: re-classified 553 hectares of land as low priority for clearance through technical survey. Reached 234,544 beneficiaries. Removed or destroyed 167 different UXO items, including 1 big bomb, 48 cluster munitions.

Achieved 99% of the 2011 work plan target of 558 hectares of land reclassified.

(Photo above: New primary school at Dong village, Pek district, Xiengkhuang province was constructed after UXOs were cleared by UXO Lao Demining team) .

Province	COMMUNITY AWARENESS ACTIVITIES			GENERAL SURVEY TASKS		ROVING TASKS	
	CA activities (villages)*	Beneficiaries (Children)	Total CA Beneficiaries	Survey (no. of tasks)	No. of Villages	Roving (no. of tasks)	No. of Villages
LuangPrabang	65	9,040	26,025	180	116	105	70
Huaphanh	65	7,304	15,941	173	101	140	90
Xiengkhuang	66	4,607	8,925	331	188	304	186
Khammuane	69	11,883	26,312	211	168	170	120
Savannakhet	62	5,309	10,778	301	236	312	245
Saravane	64	6,148	15,686	178	175	239	186
Sekong	67	5,651	11,165	137	95	66	52
Champasack	65	8,610	15,277	499	225	170	102
Attapeu	64	7,316	13,338	144	88	119	85
TOTAL	587	65,870	143,447	2,154	1,329	1,625	1,136

includes community awareness volunteer activities

Province	AREA CLEARANCE OPERATIONS				TECHNICAL SURVEY TASKS				
	Farm Land (Ha)	Other Land (Ha)	Total Area (Ha)	Beneficiaries	Farm Land (ha)	Other Land (Ha)	Total Area (Ha)	Beneficiaries	
LuangPrabang	176	23	199	14,259	36	24	60	14,729	
Huaphanh	218	7	225	18,838	61	2	63	5,393	
Xiengkhuang	355	78	433	296,782	65	2	67	2,035	
Khammuane	192	40	233	28,385	65	0	66	3,299	
Savannakhet	389	5	395	8,677	63	3	66	3,359	
Saravane	297	42	339	13,875	47	18	65	9,861	
Sekong	159	19	178	3,173	30	16	47	2,574	
Champasack	230	5	235	7,149	24	37	61	12,386	
Attapeu	107	35	143	17,446	47	6	54	4,117	
TOTAL	2,126	258	2,385	408,584	443	110	553	57,753	

FIELD OPERATIONS ACHIEVEMENT

Unexploded Ordnance Items Found, Removed, or Destroyed

Province	General Survey Tasks*					Roving Tasks				
	Bombs	Bombies	Mines	Other UXO	TOTAL	Bombs	Bombies	Mines	Other UXO	TOTAL
LuangPrabang	4	370	4	4,561	4,939	7	106	1	116,843	116,957
Huaphanh	6	185	10	300	501	6	197	11	379	593
Xiengkhuang	5	1,395	1	1,841	3,242	10	2,010	2	2,804	4,826
Khammuane	61	740	2	604	1,407	26	1,173	54	1,390	2,643
Savannakhet	20	1,130	13	496	1,659	35	1,408	19	761	2,223
Saravane	18	133	1	63	215	85	1,364	0	2,029	3,478
Sekong	33	928	3	299	1,263	17	891	2	1,470	2,380
Champasack	9	338	8	962	1,317	6	561	5	1,448	2,020
Attapeu	7	842	4	181	1,034	5	637	1	236	879
TOTAL	163	6,061	46	9,307	15,577	197	8,347	95	127,360	135,999

* UXO items surveyed are classified as found as they are either removed or destroyed through roving or area clearance operations.

Province	Area Clearance Operations					Technical Survey Tasks				
	Bombs	Bombies	Mines	Other UXO	TOTAL	Bombs	Bombies	Mines	Other UXO	TOTAL
LuangPrabang	0	862	5	1,257	2,124	0	0	0	7	7
Huaphanh	0	626	5	506	1,137	0	0	0	0	0
Xiengkhuang	6	4,335	0	2,027	6,411	0	3	0	93	96
Khammuane	0	154	0	1,580	1,734	0	0	0	0	0
Savannakhet	0	411	1	1,151	1,563	0	0	0	0	0
Saravane	9	971	0	1,390	2,370	0	3	0	9	12
Sekong	0	1,107	0	1,077	2,184	1	8	0	3	12
Champasack	1	1,407	0	985	2,393	0	0	0	0	0
Attapeu	0	568	0	513	1,081	0	34	0	6	40
TOTAL	16	10,441	11	10,529	20,997	1	48	0	118	167

Summary of Progress towards achieving the Country Programme Outcome

In 2011, UXO Lao released 2,938 hectares of land through area clearance and technical survey activities and reached 466,337 beneficiaries. Within the year, UXO Lao destroyed 157,163 items of UXO through clearance, technical survey and roving tasks. The removal or destruction of UXO increases the safety of people living in UXO impacted communities and increases the amount of safe land available for food production and other socio-economic development activities.

UXO Lao conducted risk education activities designed to increase the awareness of people living in UXO affected areas about the dangers of unexploded ordnance and to change the behavior of 'high risk' target groups. During the reporting period, 587 risk education activities were conducted by UXO Lao staff and Village Volunteers and reached 143,447 people, including 77,577 children. Risk education activities are closely linked with survey activities by allowing villagers to assist survey teams in identifying the location of UXO. Further, 1,625 roving tasks were conducted in 1,136 villages removing 135,999 items of UXO. These efforts have contributed to a decrease in the recorded number of casualties from 302 to only 92 within the four year period from 2008 – 2011.

UXO Lao had also supported the work of other development agencies such as the Poverty Reduction Fund, Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), World Vision, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), International Fund for Agriculture and Development, International Relief and Development, CARE International and a private donation from Norwegian Schoolchildren. During the reporting period, UXO Lao cleared 300 hectares of land in direct support of development agencies with 253 villages benefitting from the clearance. Support is given through clearing land for the development agencies' projects – be it the construction of a school building, hospital, district health care centre, market place, or more land for agriculture, which is linked to an integrated development programme. UXO Lao has cleared land at no cost to these agencies and thus also contributed to further socio-economic development in the country. UXO Lao does not clear land for commercial investors or for investment purposes.

UXO Lao employs female staff in management and in operations. UXO Lao has one all female UXO clearance team, and also employs women as medics, deminers, and community awareness personnel. UXO Lao has about 18% of female staff employed in 2011 which represents a 5% increase compared to 2010.

Output Result

Output 1: Operational Result

Number of hectares released under Clearance Activities

Province	2011 Target	2011 Achieved	% of Target Achieved
Luang Prabang	233	199	89%
Houaphan	220	225	103%
Xiengkhuang	432	433	100%
Khammouane	220	233	106%
Savannakhet	432	395	91%
Saravane	330	339	103%
Sekong	220	178	81%
Champasack	230	235	103%
Attapeu	220	148	65%



Number of hectares Cleared through Technical Survey

Province	2011 Target	2011 Achieved	% of Target Achieved
Luang Prabang	62	60	98%
Houaphan	63	63	100%
Xiengkhuang	66	67	102%
Khammouane	63	66	105%
Savannakhet	63	66	105%
Saravane	62	65	105%
Sekong	56	47	85%
Champasack	61	61	100%
Attapeu	62	54	87%



Number of Roving Tasks Conducted			
Province	2011 Target	2011 Achieved	% of Target Achieved
Luang Prabang	114	105	92%
Houaphan	150	140	93%
Xiengkhuang	306	304	99%
Khammouane	150	170	113%
Savannakhet	300	312	104%
Saravane	182	239	131%
Sekong	130	66	51%
Champasack	204	170	83%
Attapeu	115	144	125%



Number of General Survey Tasks Conducted:			
Province	2011 Target	2011 Achieved	% of Target Achieved
Luang Prabang	114	180	158%
Houaphan	150	173	115%
Xiengkhuang	318	331	104%
Khammouane	150	211	141%
Savannakhet	306	301	98%
Saravane	182	170	98%
Sekong	130	137	105%
Champasack	204	499	45%
Attapeu	115	144	125%



Number of Community Awareness Activities Conducted			
Province	2011 Target	2011 Achieved	% of Target Achieved
Luang Prabang	69	65	94%
Houaphan	65	65	100%
Xiengkhuang	70	66	94%
Khammouane	69	69	100%
Savannakhet	60	62	103%
Saravane	64	64	100%
Sekong	73	67	92%
Champasack	65	65	100%
Attapeu	63	64	102%



Training Centre:			
	Target	Actual	% of Target Achieved
Training Courses Conducted	14	6	43%
Personnel Trained	197	99	50%

Update on gender mainstreaming

UXO Lao follows the Lao Government's policy on gender. During this period, UXO Lao total staff number 1066, 869 male and 197 female (18.5%). The number of female staff increased by 5% in 2011 (from 177 in January 2011 to 197 in December 2011). UXO Lao provides equality in the workplace and in its HR policies, encouraging female applicants at all levels within the organization.

UXO Clearance and Development SUPPORT TO DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES

UXO clearance activities contribute not only to saving lives but also to increasing the socio-economic opportunities for some of the poorest districts. Regression analysis in the Lao PDR Poverty Assessment Report (2003) confirms that both the initial level of UXO contamination as well as the progress in UXO clearance accounts for positive changes in poverty from 1997/8 to 2002/3.

With the degree of UXO contamination in the country, any kind of development program taking place in UXO affected areas (road building, school construction, or tourism development) are at risk from UXO and require substantial extra resources for UXO clearance.

While UXO Lao clears land for development agency projects at no cost to such organisations, development agencies are encouraged to provide financial contributions to help offset UXO Lao costs.

Development agency	Project type	AreaCleared (Ha)	Province	No.of Villages benefiting
Poverty Reduction Fund	School, Road, Rice Field, Aqueduct, Office of Education Division	48.14	HP, SVK, ATP	25
ADRA	Aqueduct	0.17	XKH	1
USA	Aqueduct, School, Hospital, Basin	2.23	XKH, ATP	5
Namngum	Garden	5.56	XKH	1
Lao Government	School, Health Care Centre	7.30	LPB	18
Save the Children Norway	School construction	0.71	LPB	1
World Vision	School construction	0.77	LPB	2
JICA	School construction, Rice Field	3.15	LPB, SRV	3
IFAD	School construction, Rice Field	60.23	LPB, SRV, ATP	51
EFA-FTI	School construction	2.46	LPB	6
Ministry of Education	School construction	3.34	SRV	5
Ministry of Public Health	Sanitation	0.71	SRV	1
IRD	School, Irrigation, Sanitation	20.11	KM	26
CARE	Rice Field, Road, Coffee Garden, Pond, Plantation	43.00	SK	55
PRF	School	0.40	SK	1
Bamboo Shoot's Association	Rice Field	101.72	SVK	52
TOTAL:		300.01		253

TRAINING and TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

TRAINING

In the year 2011 UXO Lao conducted six courses for 99 trainees from UXO Lao and SODI at the UXO Lao Training Centre in Ban Ilay, Vientiane. The organization has a core team of national staff as instructors. Courses graduation as below:

1. UXO Clearance course x 2 – 70 trainees
2. Basic Medic course x 3 – 27 trainees
3. Medic Refresher course x 1 – 2 trainees

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

UXO Lao personnel benefit from the support provided by international technical advisors. In 2011, focus on technical assistance shifted from field operations (EOD) to the field of quality management. This is aimed at reducing the number of field technical advisors over the next 18 to 24 months. At the end of 2009. During 2011, there were 4 Technical Advisors supporting UXO Lao. Headquarters technical advisors:

1. UNDP Senior Technical Advisor
2. UNDP Finance Technical Advisor
3. ArmorGroup Quality Management Technical Advisor

UPDATE ON PARTNERSHIPS

UXO Lao secured about US\$5.89 M in funding during the period, some of which cover the 2011 to 2013 funding periods. UXO Lao is working to develop more long-term funding agreements which would allow the organisation to consider expansion plans necessary to meet the requirements of the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM). Long term funding with maximum flexibility (unearmarked funds) are needed to allow UXO Lao to increase productivity.

The project supports the participation of the UXO Lao National Director in the Mine Action National Directors and UN Advisors Meeting. The meeting favours exchanges of experiences and lessons learned between UXO/landmine affected countries. The project also actively supports the Lao PDR participation in the Convention on Cluster Munitions. As a follow up to the 1st meeting of the States Parties, in 2011 Lao PDR made several presentations on the Lao experience to events attended by other most affected countries. The project has also promoted exchanges of experience and lessons learnt between Lao PDR and Cambodia (clearance technology), as well as Vietnam (information management).

Output 2: Strengthened Quality and Effectiveness of UXO Lao Programme and Operations.

Activity Result 1 – UXO Lao receives coordinated and planned capacity building and technical advice, complies with internationally accepted norms and standards, and mobilises its own resources.

UXO Lao receives coordinated and planned capacity building and technical advice and adopts a complete organisation quality management approach.

Status: ON-GOING but behind schedule due to the delay of the New Technical Advisor's arrival. Management and technical advice is provided to UXO Lao Senior Management through the provision of a Senior Technical Advisor. As part of the sustainability/exit strategy, the programme will continue to reduce the reliance on international technical advisors. In November 2010, UNDP and UXO Lao agreed that the positions of Senior Technical Advisor and Programme Technical Advisor will be combined by January 2012. The previous STA left UXO Lao in July 2011, with the Programme TA position being vacated in October 2011. The new STA starts with UXO Lao in January 2012.

- Technology review/examination: UXO Lao operates to internationally accepted norms and standards. This compliance has been supported by the technical advice and capacity building provided by the Senior Technical Advisor.
- Due to the decision to combine the two posts, the evaluation of new technologies for UXO clearance is on hold pending the arrival of the new STA.
- Donor liaison and resource mobilisation: UXO Lao has increased its capacity to mobilise resources and work directly with donor organisations. National staff have begun working with representatives from various donor countries with reduced input from international advisors. This has been made possible through the ongoing assistance and support of the Senior Technical Advisor and the Programme Technical Advisor.

Activity Result 2 - UXO Lao financial management and accountability strengthened by focused capacity building.

The Finance Technical Specialist focuses on improvements within the financial management of the organisation. This component was delayed due to the gap in the filling the position of Financial Management Technical Advisor (TA). The new Financial Management TA arrived in March 2011 and this component of the project is now moving ahead. Coaching and mentoring in terms of strategic financial management, budget preparation and monitoring, fund management, internal monitoring, and audit compliance are being provided and a new financial management information system is being installed.

Activity Result 3 - Programme management and public information functions of UXO Lao are further improved through the support of the UNDP Programme Advisor.

The ability of the Programme and Public Information Unit to perform the required ongoing tasks and reporting functions has increased. As a result of the coaching and mentoring provided by the Programme TA, Programme unit staff are now preparing proposals/reports from templates. By mid 2011, the Programme TA was requested to provide support to the Programme Unit of the NRA two days per week. As part of the TA exit strategy the position of Programme TA was vacated in October 2011, with the responsibility for programme oversight being transferred to the new STA Position.

Activity Result 4 – Three roving UXO Lao Quality Assurance/Quality Control teams are deployed and cover the nine provincial operations.

Each team completed QA/QC activities of 5 inspections (visits) per province. These visits consisted of the following activities:

- QA on clearance teams (96 teams).
- QA on internal QC carried out by clearance team leaders (14 times).
- QA on Explosive Ordnance Disposal tasks (82 times).
- QA on Technical Survey teams (9 teams).
- QA on General Survey teams (22 teams).
- QA on Risk Education team (9 teams).
- QA on external QC carried out by SEOD/Team leader (7 times).
- External QC on completed sites (132 sites).
- QC on General Survey reports (89 reports)
- QC on Technical Survey Completion reports (65 reports)
- Assessed Accident Response Plan (ARP) practices (80 times)
- Assessed explosive management and FFE UXOs, (9 times).
- Tested knowledge of General Surveyor on UXO identification (45 persons)
- Tested knowledge of clearance team leaders on carrying out their internal QC (60 persons).
- Conducted Post Clearance Assessment (PCA) survey (40 sites).

UXO Lao Operation support to the Poverty Reduction.

UXO Lao operation is focus on supporting the Lao Government Poverty Reduction Plan. In 2011 UXO Lao is worked in 36 poor districts which were affected by UXO to clear the land for poor families, to give them safe land to make agricultural productions improve their lives. The two tables are shown the UXO Lao operations for support Poverty Reduction Plan:

Province	All Districts	UXO Lao Districts	Poor Districts	UXO Lao in poor districts	No. of tasks		Beneficiaries for all tasks	
					Clearance	Tech survey	Clearance	Tech survey
Luang Prabang	12	12	5	5	185	63	14,254	14,729
Houaphan	8	8	7	7	88	12	18,838	5,393
Xiengkhuang	8	4	5	2	132	17	269,782	2,035
Khammouane	9	7	5	4	178	49	28,385	3,299
Savannakhet	15	8	6	6	231	24	8,677	3,359
Saravane	8	7	3	3	148	20	13,875	9,831
Sekong	4	4	2	2	124	44	3,173	3,574
Champasack	10	10	4	4	164	43	7,149	12,386
Attapeu	9	5	3	3	127	57	17,446	4,117
TOTAL	79	65	40	36	1,377	329	408,579	57,753

Province	All Districts	UXO Lao Districts	Poor Districts	UXO Lao in poor districts	No. of households		Beneficiaries from households	
					Clearance	Tech survey	Clearance	Tech survey
Luang Prabang	12	12	5	5	161	29	1,691	244
Houaphan	8	8	7	7	78	9	9,432	3,153
Xiengkhuang	8	4	5	2	100	13	4,232	175
Khammouane	9	7	5	4	121	48	2,933	1,799
Savannakhet	15	8	6	6	218	23	1,806	2,552
Saravane	8	7	3	3	125	7	1,538	3,555
Sekong	4	4	2	2	111	36	1,444	666
Champasack	10	10	4	4	155	12	1,338	64
Attapeu	9	5	3	3	198	49	8,159	1,266
TOTAL	79	65	40	36	1,167	226	32,573	13,474

MAJOR PROCUREMENT IN 2011

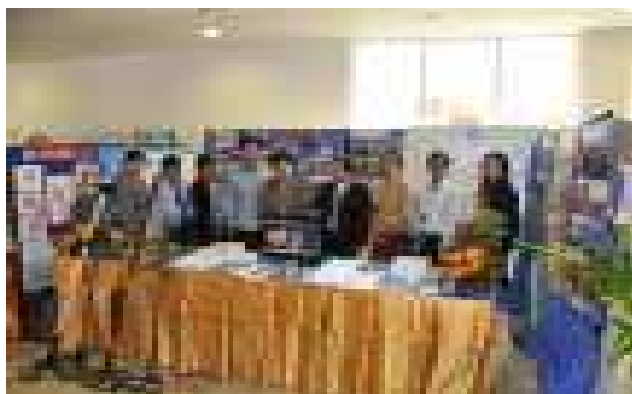
UXO Lao procured the following major equipment and vehicles in 2011. Items procured with funds managed by UNDP are procured for UXO Lao by UNDP following UNDP's rules and regulations. Items procured with funds provided direct to UXO Lao follow UXO Lao's procurement system which are approved by both UNDP and the Lao Government.

Major Item/Description	Number
Toyota L/C Hard Top	02
Ebinger UPEX740M Large loop	16
Vallon VMXC1 detector	15
Desktop computer	10
Laptop computer	05
Scanner	10
Printer	07

UXO ACCIDENTS RECORDED BY UXO LAO IN 2011

UXO Lao receives accident reports from provincial authorities in the provinces it operates in. The organization does not actively collect UXO accident data. The table below is a summary of reports received in 2011. It does not reflect the nationwide figures of UXO accidents.

Province	Number of Accident	Number of Victim			Injury				Death			
					Child		Adult		Child		Adult	
		Injury	Death	Total	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Luang Prabang	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Houaphan	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Xiengkhuang	6	6	3	9	3	0	3	0	1	0	2	0
Khammouane	3	7	3	10	7	0	0	0	3	0	0	0
Savannakhet	8	12	3	15	7	0	5	0	3	0	0	0
Saravane	5	7	1	8	3	1	0	3	1	0	0	0
Sekong	3	3	4	7	1	1	1	0	4	0	0	0
Champasack	1	1	1	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Attapeu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	27	37	15	52	21	2	11	3	12	0	3	0



UXO LAO EXPENDITURE IN 2011 (all amounts are in US\$)

COST CENTER	NO	UNDP	TC	AT	SK	CH	SL	SVK	HP	XK	KH	LP	TOTAL
PERSONNEL													
International Advisors	0	719,542	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	719,542
National Staff	223,272	0	28,284	234,432	261,343	266,807	336,956	471,297	274,507	449,384	280,684	287,945	3,114,911
Travel Expenses	32,096	5,929	2,974	4,364	701	1,405	1,684	10,143	2,137	3,434	4,819	2,473	72,159
Total Personnel	255,368	725,471	31,258	238,796	262,044	268,212	338,640	481,440	276,644	452,818	285,503	290,418	3,906,612
OPERATING COSTS													
Fuel	41,541	0	10,684	53,269	77,769	42,503	71,568	87,390	47,840	75,948	67,010	91,055	666,604
Office Operating Costs	11,656	0	7,218	6,217	8,479	6,950	13,343	13,940	8,449	12,832	9,510	7,531	106,125
Capital Works and Building Maintenance	52	0	827	200	2,271	1,287	3,060	36,406	18,052	15,356	58,202	4,511	140,224
Communication Costs	7,461	225	259	1,060	1,298	1,130	954	2,858	1,153	712	1,144	1,804	20,058
Vehicles Operating Costs	23,573	119,430	5,865	24,092	71,746	41,828	60,845	70,207	36,724	50,482	78,344	39,285	622,367
Other Equipment Operating Costs	3,050	17,851	1,116	1,775	1,815	1,536	8,870	8,230	5,236	5,169	3,099	12,018	69,769
Printing Costs	9,298	0	233	713	1,881	1,252	1,261	2,602	897	1,849	405	1,452	21,816
Freight, Transport, Customs, Postal Handling	1,506	1,145	587	3,430	2,570	931	2,568	1,314	2,306	4,167	1,271	1,997	24,097
Other Operating Costs	1,705	0	0	1,170	4,938	1,458	2,441	2,444	2,037	2,138	1,135	1,971	21,482
Total Operating Costs	99,824	138,956	26,789	91,953	172,816	98,875	164,910	225,391	122,694	168,599	220,120	161,597	1,692,542
SPECIAL OPERATING COSTS													
Equipment Trials and Pilot Projects	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Training	10,766	3,003	66,295	11,953	7,397	4,421	11,996	8,269	10,273	13,240	13,893	7,925	169,431
Public Information (Radio, Video, etc.)	387	990	30	41	119	274	90	208	182	5	97	0	2,396
International Travel and Conferences	1,029	21,817	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	22,846
UNDP Admin. Costs = GMS/BC/ISS	0	353,788	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	353,788
Audit and External Evaluation	0	2,390	0	10,410	11,408	0	998	0	0	0	0	0	25,206
Other Special Operating Costs	4,738	11,583	1,959	1,905	2,670	2,741	2,250	4,577	921	4,220	2,633	3,810	44,007
Total Special Operating Costs	16,920	393,571	68,284	24,309	21,594	7,409	15,334	13,054	11,376	17,465	16,623	11,735	617,674
NON EXPENDABLE EQUIPMENT													
Vehicles	0	33,800	0	0	0	0	456	0	0	0	33,100	0	67,356
Office Equipment and Furniture	3,016	22,160	9,228	1,947	365	3,112	4,188	2,590	1,994	4,238	1,342	4,984	59,164
Operations Equipment	80	124,335	368	4,745	4,020	263	69	27,636	116	1,140	23,123	0	185,895
Total Non Expendable Equipment	3,096	180,295	9,596	6,692	4,385	3,375	4,713	30,226	2,110	5,378	57,565	4,984	312,415
EXPENDABLE EQUIPMENT													
Office Supplies	1,925	11,589	1,474	2,046	1,818	1,010	3,986	3,714	4,582	5,918	1,329	4,844	44,235
Personnel and Medical Supplies	0	38,209	3,058	6,651	13,601	12,122	22,433	24,063	6,454	9,442	19,546	19,244	174,823
Other Consumables	0	78,843	310	6,527	23,920	7,294	25,173	17,972	5,914	10,652	21,148	20,849	218,602
Total Expendable Equipment	1,925	128,641	4,842	15,224	39,339	20,426	51,592	45,749	16,950	26,012	42,023	44,937	437,660
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	377,151	1,566,934	140,769	376,974	500,178	398,297	575,189	795,860	429,774	670,272	621,834	513,671	6,966,903



The People of UXO Lao

Staff distribution and composition (as of 31 December, 2011)

Area	Office	Office (F)	SEOD	Deminer	Deminer (F)	TS	Survey	CA	CA (F)	Medic	Medic (F)	Driver	Cleaner	Guard	Total (F)	Total Pers
NO	36	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	1	13	42
TC	5	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	8
HP	9	2	3	49	4	5	6	6	2	7	4	9	2	2	14	98
LP	9	3	3	55	5	3	4	6	2	7	3	13	1	3	14	104
XK	10	2	1	96	9	3	8	6	2	14	3	16	2	3	18	159
KH	9	3	2	47	3	4	3	5	2	6	0	7	2	0	11	85
SVK	9	2	3	100	27	4	8	6	0	14	12	18	4	4	45	170
CH	10	3	2	43	10	4	4	5	1	8	3	8	1	4	19	89
SL	10	1	3	73	10	3	5	5	0	10	3	10	4	4	18	127
SK	8	2	2	48	8	4	4	5	0	8	2	10	2	2	16	93
AT	10	1	2	47	15	4	3	5	2	6	6	8	3	3	27	91
TOTAL	125	31	22	559	91	34	45	49	11	80	36	103	24	26	197	1,066



Lao PDR is the most cluster munitions and UXO affected nation in the world. Over two million tons of explosive ordnance were dropped over the country with more than half a million US bombing missions carried out over Laos between 1964 to 1973. This includes more than 270 million anti-personnel sub-munitions (known as “bombies” in Lao) released from cluster bombs.

Significant land battles, including those during the war for independence during the French colonial era, the Second World War, and between the Pathet Lao and the Royal Lao forces, have also contributed vast quantities of unexploded heavy bombs, rockets, grenades, artillery munitions, mortars, anti-personnel landmines and improvised explosive devices.

It is estimated that up to 30% of all ordnance malfunctioned and remain in the ground as unexploded ordnance (UXO). Such UXO continue to maim and kill people and hinders the country’s socio-economic development and food security. It is estimated that over 87,000 square kilometres of the country are UXO contaminated. A countrywide survey on the socio-economic impact of UXO in 1996/1997 found significant UXO contamination in 15 provinces, with 25% of all villages in the country reporting UXO.

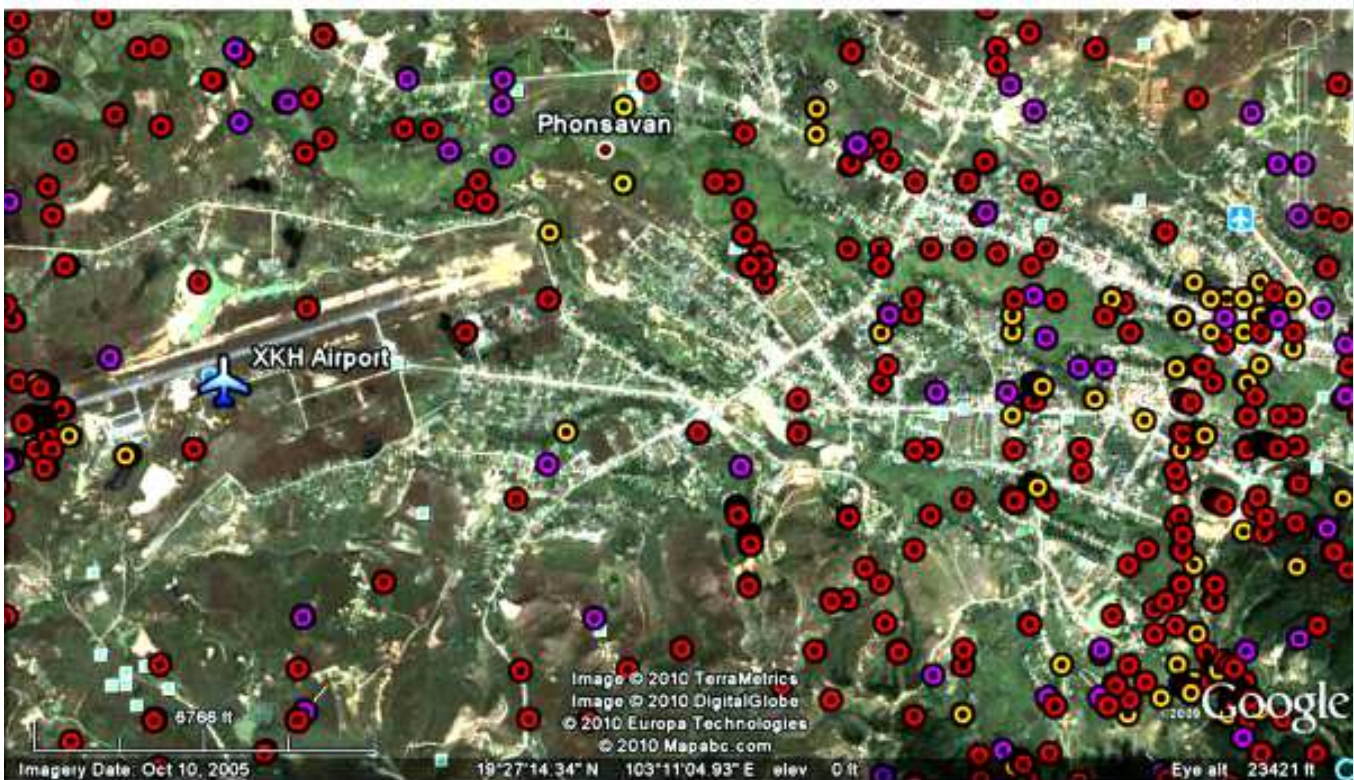
The National Socio-Economic Development Plan (NSEDPP) of the Government of Lao PDR (GoL) identifies the correlation between the presence of UXO and the

prevalence of poverty. Poor districts are most often the ones impacted by the presence of UXO. The UXO problem is a cross-cutting issue that needs to be addressed to achieve the GoL’s Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) as well as leaving behind the least developed nation status by 2020.

The 1996/97 socio-economic impact of UXO survey states that UXO added “an unknown factor into all of the villages future plans and limits these to only the most essential and important activities.” As UXO may be found everywhere (village centres, lowland and upland rice fields, and forest areas), UXO clearance is necessary for improved and equitable access to land, markets, and socio-economic services. This leads to the enhancement of the livelihoods of poor, vulnerable, and food insecure populations through sustainable development within the MDGs and NSEDPP framework.

Lao PDR is the most cluster munitions and UXO affected nation with over two million tons of explosive ordnance dropped over the country.

IMPACT OF UXO IN LAO PDR



Bombing data superimposed on Google Earth’s imagery of Xiengkhuang Province from 7.1km above. Each red circle indicates a bombing mission. The airport is clearly marked. The current town is on the upper right hand corner of the photo.

Bombing data may be downloaded from the National Regulatory Authority website, www.nra.gov.la and opened using Google Earth’s free software.

UXO IMPACT IN THE PROVINCES

SAVANNAKHET PROVINCE

The three eastern districts of Savannakhet were extensively bombed due to the presence of the Ho Chi Minh Trail. The Trail crossed the province at Vilabuly district in the north, through Sepone in the east, and south in Nong. The Trail then continued south through Ta Oi district in Saravane Province. The role of the Pathet Lao (PL) was to protect the eastern zones, allowing the free flow of traffic along the trail area. The US planned to cut off the Ho Chi Minh trail and launched major offensives after retaking Sepone and moving the population west. One of these battles, Lam Seun 719, was intended by the US and Royal Lao Army (RLA) to change the course of the war. However, despite the deployment of 60,000 South Vietnamese troops, the US effort was defeated. Following this defeat, aerial bombing became more intense.

In the centre of the province, the districts of Phine and Atsaphangthong experienced battles as the front-line moved continuously back and forth from the Sepone border in the east to the Outhoomphone border in the west.

The other four districts of Atsaphangthong, Champhone, Xonbuly, and Thapangthong experienced similar activities during the war. These areas were more firmly under the control of the RLA but with some small incursions from the PL forces. During the early 1970's, occasional ground battles were fought in this area with tactical air support from the Royalist troops and the US.

Of the 1,041 villages surveyed, more than 625 reported the presence of UXO, making up more than one-third of the villages in the province. In addition, 190 villages are deemed severely contaminated, and 194 are considered highly contaminated, representing more than one quarter of all the heavily affected villages in Lao. From the total number of villages in Savannakhet, 47% are still reporting contamination by UXO. A total of 730 villages were subjected to bombing strikes during the war, of which three quarters are still affected.

Savannakhet has had 2,681 accidents since 1973 to 1996, making it the province with the highest number of victims in the country. The civilian victims of this war have been reportedly more numerous since 1973 than the casualties that occurred during the war period. The province follows the national trend with most accidents located in the centre of the village and upland and lowland rice fields. It also follows closely the trend regarding the victim's activity when they had the accident, with agriculture and handling UXO being the most frequent activities. The province does have a larger than average number of accidents occurring with AP bomblets, the remainder of accidents following the national trend.

Savannakhet ranks 1st out of the nine provinces severely impacted by UXO.

XIENGKHUANG PROVINCE

Xiengkhuang was always considered a strategically important geographic area. Fighting has occurred in the area since the Japanese occupation during the Second World War, continuing after the French return, and on into the period when the US replaced the French in supporting the Royalist

Government, and the beginning of the Second Indo-China war.

Unlike other UXO affected provinces, it appears that the war in Xiengkhuang involved nearly the whole territory of the province. Intense air and ground battles occurred regularly between the Pathet Lao and their Vietnamese allies with the forces allied with the Royal Lao Government.

The Plain of Jars (PDJ) is a central plateau area overlooked by mountains and hills. Control of this was essential for the control of the province and the northern military theatre. Many of the wartime military activities concentrated around this area, as opposing forces battled for control of the plain itself, the surrounding mountains, and transit routes.

Pathet Lao (PL) and People's Army of Vietnam (PAVN) troops used National Route 7. The Route crossed from near the Vietnamese border in the east, to the Luangprabang border in the west, and National Route 6 travelling south from Huaphanh and connecting with Route 7 on the north-eastern part of the Plain of Jars. There were also minor transit routes criss-crossing the province that were also targets for aerial bombardment. Military camps, airbases, and Lima sites were often located on mountains and hills in positions that gave them the ability to control the surrounding areas. The great majority of villages reported moderate to severe intensity of military activities near their villages during the war.

Of the 498 villages surveyed in 1996 and 1997, two-thirds of the villages reported the presence of UXO. Of these, 129 villages are severely contaminated, with only 76 villages reporting never having had a problem with UXO. The most common type of UXO reported in the provinces are anti-personnel BLUs, followed by mortars and projectiles. Only Pek and Morkmay districts did not report the presence of mines, while nearly half of all the villages in the district of Phookood reporting them. Unlike other affected provinces, Xiengkhuang has UXO in many locations and not just limited to a few areas around the villages. These include village centres, grazing lands, and lowland rice fields. In addition, significant numbers of villages report contamination of upland fields.

Xiengkhuang ranks 2nd among the nine provinces severely impacted by UXO.

SARAVANE PROVINCE

Saravane province was closed by the Ho Chi Minh Trail area. It was also affected by other major southern military campaigns of the Bolovens Plateau in 1974. The eastern districts of the province are very mountainous and difficult to travel but were the site of intense military traffic and were the target of constant bombing.

The effects of war were concentrated around the provincial road system, important population centres, and in the area of the former Ho Chi Minh trail. Over one-half of the villages surveyed in the 1996 UXO impact survey in the province reported the presence of UXO. UXO found are mainly

bomblets, big bombs, and mortars. Villages report UXO in their lowland rice fields, village centres, and forest areas.

Saravane ranks 3rd out of the ten provinces severely impacted by the presence of UXO.

KHAMMUANE PROVINCE

The eastern part of Khammuane province was a typical Ho Chi Minh trail area, with Mu Gia pass in Bualapha being the main entry point of Vietnamese trucks into Lao PDR. At the beginning of the war and up to the end of the 1960's, trucks were taking National Route 12 for a few kilometres, then crossing the Seybanfay river and going directly south to Savannakhet province. This route was a major supply route and played a major role during the conflict. It experienced very heavy bombing especially along its eastern end.

Of the 705 villages surveyed during the 1996 impact survey, nearly all reported UXO in all locations of the village territory, rice fields, and forest areas. Most of the UXO reported were bomblets, large bombs, mortars, and projectiles.

Khammuane ranks 4th out of the nine provinces severely impacted by the presence of UXO.

SEKONG PROVINCE

Sekong was considered strategically important due to the location of a section of the Ho Chi Minh trail in the eastern part of the province. Most Vietnamese trucks travelled through the mountainous and difficult to access districts of Kaleum and Dakcheung in the east.

Of the 324 villages surveyed in the 1996 UXO impact survey, nearly two thirds reported contamination by UXO. Most common UXO reported are bomblets and big bombs, with significant number of mortars and projectiles. UXO is reported in all locations around the villages and in upland rice fields.

Sekong ranks 5th out of the nine provinces severely impacted by the presence of UXO.

CHAMPASACK PROVINCE

During the war, most of Champasack was under the control of the Royal Lao Army (RLA), with Pathet Lao (PL) forces located mainly in some eastern areas. The US and Thai military presence was also very high, with numerous large air bases and military camps situated around the province. Aerial bombing raids from such bases were carried out over the Ho Chi Minh Trail area and in support of Royalist troops and bases on the Bolovens Plateau, a strategically important area as it overlooked the south-eastern Trail area.

In 1971, there were large battles for the central area of Pakxong, concentrating around the roads going to Bachiang District in the west, Lao Ngan north in Saravane, and north-east into Thateng district in Sekong. Airstrikes were concentrated in these areas. In addition, while Lao PDR remained neutral during the Cambodian conflict in

the late 1970's and 1980's, Khmer Rouge troops entered Lao PDR and laid mines along some of its south-western borders. Landmines are still reported in the forested areas near the Cambodian and Thai borders.

Nearly one-quarter of the 894 villages surveyed during the 1996 UXO impact survey reported contamination by UXO. The province reported high numbers of big bombs, mortars, and bomblets. UXO is mainly found in forested areas, centres of villages, and rice fields.

Champasack ranks 6th out of the nine provinces severely impacted by the presence of UXO.

HUAPHANH PROVINCE

Huaphanh and Phongsaly provinces were recognised Pathet Lao strongholds since the 1950's. Due to the proximity of Vietnam and the presence of the Pathet Lao headquarters in Viengxay district, Huaphanh was a strategically important area and had many major military activities. The area around National Route 6 experience intense aerial bombing and ground offensives as well as National Route 1.

The district of Huameuang was also important as the site of the Royal Lao Government's alternative centre for the duration of the war, as well as the site of a major RLA military camp. Viengthong district was the site of an important RLA-US military base and other smaller bases built by the CIA and were subjected to intense and ongoing air and ground offensives. The districts of Xamneua, Viengthong, and Huameuang were also subjected to intense bombings by the US.

Huaphanh is a highly affected province with 149 villages reporting the presence of UXO. The war in the province was limited to specific areas which now show relatively high levels of UXO contamination. Bomblets and large bombs are the main type of UXO reported, with some mortars and projectiles. UXO are reported mainly in the forests.

Huaphanh ranks 7th of the nine provinces severely impacted by the presence of UXO.

ATTAPU PROVINCE

During the war, Attapeu province was mostly under the control of the Royal Lao Army (RLA), with the exception of some mountainous eastern area. The RLA was based in and around the provincial capital and had many military camps stationed there. Fighting focused on military bases located on the mountains of the Phu Louang on the eastern slopes of the Bolovens Plateau.

Nearly three quarters of villages surveyed in the 1996 UXO impact survey reported that they experienced moderate to very high intensity of wartime activities. 57% of these villages reported the presence of UXO. Bomblets are the most common type of UXO reported, followed by big bombs. UXO is found in all locations - centres of villages, lowland and upland rice fields, and forested areas.

Attapeu ranks 8th out of the nine provinces severely impacted by the presence of UXO.

LUANGPRABANG PROVINCE

During the conflict, Luangprabang was strategically and symbolically important. First, it was one of the old royal capitals and the seat of the former royal family. Second, it was an important strategic stronghold for Royalist forces.

The Pathet Lao (PL) and the People's Army of Vietnam (PAVN) were stationed in Phongsaly province. During attempts to liberate the provincial capital, they continually pushed south through the north of Luangprabang. The two forces also moved west through Xiengkhuang province along National Route 7 to the intersection of Route 7 and National Route 13 at Sala Phoukhoun.

Sala Phoukhoun, with the intersection of National Route 7 running west from Xiengkhuang and National Route 13 running north from Vientiane to Luangprabang town, was strategically important since it linked the two main roads leading to the major Royalist Government strongholds of Luangprabang and Vientiane. Intense fighting occurred on occasions when the PL and PAVN forces were able to push far enough west from Xiengkhuang to threaten Royalist control of Route 13. Most of the time, the Royalist forces were able to maintain control of the area, although there were times when Sala Phoukhoun was under control of the PL and PAVN.

The Royal Lao Army (RLA) was not really interested in the low numbers of PL forces in the districts of Nambak, Ngoi, and Pak Ou. However, the RLA attacked these forces when they believed that the PL troops were planning to move south towards the capital. After a brief victory, the RLA was forced out of the area and the PL forces were able to push south until they were close enough to shell the airport in Luangprabang town itself. The PL held this territory until the end of the war, but was subjected to airstrikes from (Royal Lao Air Force) RLA and Royal Thai Air Force (RTAF) planes.

The contamination map strongly reflects the history of the war, with contamination limited to those districts near present day Nambak and along the Nam Ou River, as well as in the districts of Luangprabang and Phoukhoun. Nearly one quarter of the villages surveyed in Luangprabang province reported the presence of UXO. 457 villages reported moderate to severe intensity of wartime activities, with UXO contamination being reported as high to severe in 58 of the villages surveyed. Villagers reported that the most significant types of UXO were the large bombs, followed by AP bomblets, and mortars. Village centres, upland rice fields, and forest areas are areas where UXO is commonly reported. However, UXO never affected the vast majority of villages in the provinces.

Luangprabang has had 925 people killed or injured due to UXO since the war, ranking it 4th in the country. The province had very high casualties immediately after the war with accident numbers dropping over the years, unlike neighbouring Xiengkhuang or Huaphanh. Accidents commonly occur in upland rice fields and village centres and are primarily caused by handling UXO and working in the fields.

The number of accidents involving AP bomblets is lower than the national trend. Accidents involving mines and grenades are higher. This is probably due to the nature of the ground battles in the area around Nambak district, where the majority of the accidents have occurred.

The most affected areas are Nambak, Ngoi, Pak Ou, Luangprabang, and Phoukhoun districts.

Luangprabang ranks 9th of the nine provinces severely impacted by the presence of UXO.



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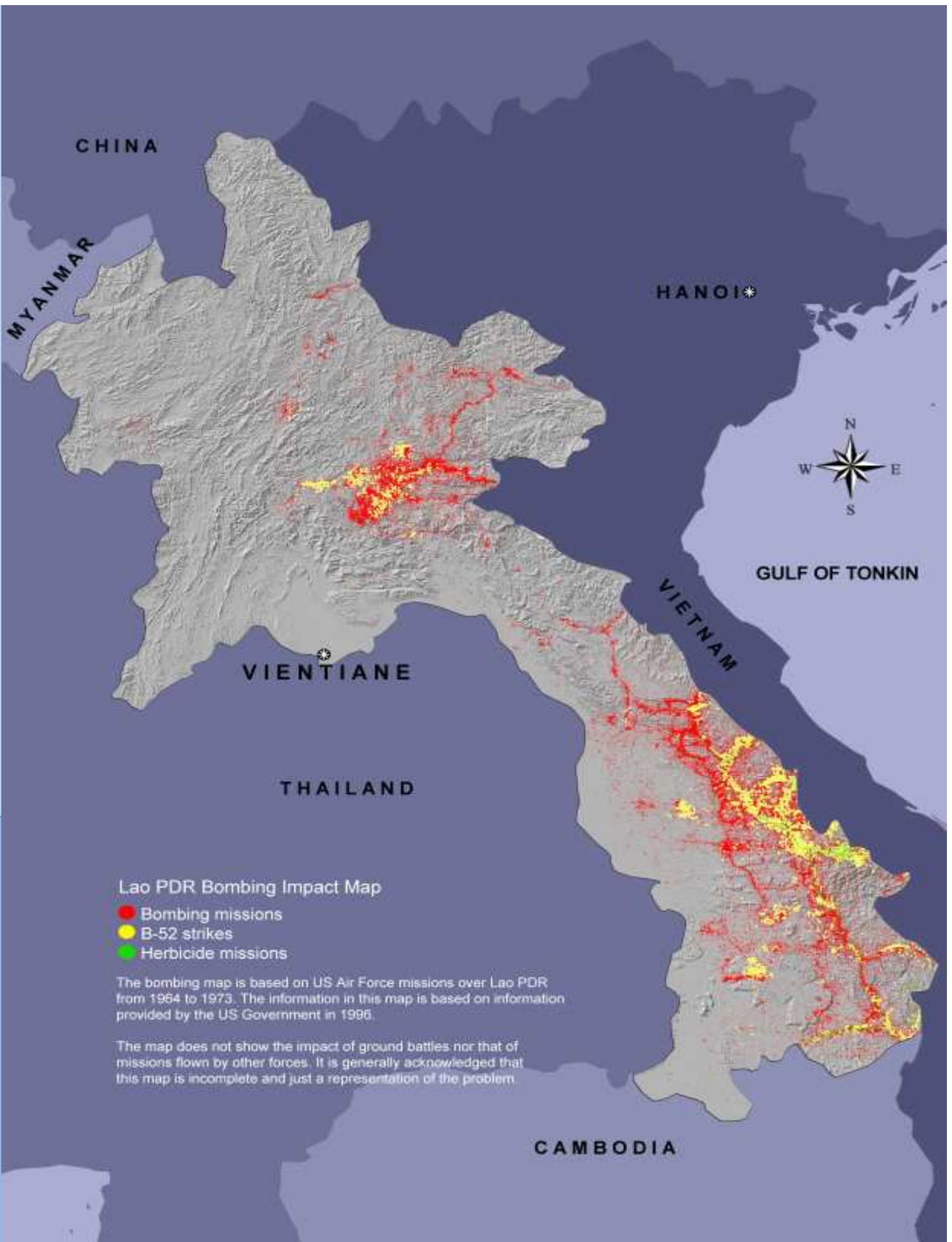
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