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UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

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PROJECT DOCUMENT

Lao People's Democratic Republic

- **Project Title**: Supporting Effectiveness and Efficiency in the UXO Sector to contribute to the achievement of SDG 18 and Safe Path Forward III (SPF III).
- **Project Number:** NRA: 00120365 (Output ID 00116549),
  UXO Lao: 00120364 (Output ID 00116548)
- **Implementing Partner:** Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare with the National Regulatory Authority (NRA) and UXO Lao
- **Start Date:** April 2022 **End Date:** December 2026
- **PAC Meeting date:** 25th March 2022

Brief Description
The project aims to strengthen development focused land release and other UXO activities (Victim Assistance, Explosive Ordnance Risk Reduction and advocacy) in support of achieving SDG 18 and implementing government's Safe Path Forward III 2021-2030 (SPF III), a national ten-year UXO sector strategic plan. The project will focus on the realization of the rights of communities to live and develop their communities free from the threat of injury of UXO. The project will achieve this through support to high priority land release, and support to the NRA to better coordinate, prioritize and monitor UXO and mine activities for a more efficient and effective sector, driving SDG 18, SPF III and compliance with the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM).
Contributing Outcome (UNSDCF/CPD, RPD or GPD): UNSDCF(2022-2026) Strategic Priority 2: Inclusive Prosperity (and Joint Output 2.6. Rural development and UXOs) By 2026, people, especially the most vulnerable and marginalized, will benefit from more inclusive, resilient, transformative, and sustainable socio-economic and demographic opportunities to reduce poverty and inequalities CPD(2022-2026) Output 1.1: Development, financing and implementation of pro-poor/ green growth (COVID-19 recovery) policies, including a comprehensive social protection system, is strengthened. CPD Output 1.2: Select ministries and local authorities in targeted provinces develop, implement and report on sectoral and local development plans that integrate SDGs (including SDG18). CPD Output 1.3: Vulnerable groups, especially women, young people, persons with disabilities, ethnic groups and those impacted by unexploded ordnance, have increased access to vocational training (TVET), employment and entrepreneurship opportunities. Indicative Output(s) with gender marker[2]: **Gender marker:** 2

Total resources required:		25 mil USD
Total projected funding:		
	UNDP:	0.2 mil USD
	Donors:	Republic of Korea (RoK): 11mil USD New Zealand (NZ): 5.4 mil USD Germany (GER): 1.5 mil USD (tbc) Luxembourg (LUX): 1.35mil USD (tbc) Ireland (IRE): 1.1 mil USD (tbc) Canada (CAN): 0.7 mil USD
	Government:	TBD
	In-Kind:	TBD
Unfunded:		7.5 mil USD

Agreed by (signatures)[1]:

Government	UNDP
Print Name: Baykham Katiya, Minister of Labour and Social Welfare	DocuSigned by: Ricarda Rieger 91CFF4E1EC9245E... Print Name: Ricarda Rieger, Resident Representative, UNDP Lao PDR
Date: 6 April 2022	Date: 6 April 2022

[1] Note: Adjust signatures as needed

[2] The Gender Marker measures how much a project invests in gender equality and women's empowerment. Select one for each output: GEN3 (Gender equality as a principle objective); GEN2 (Gender equality as a significant objective); GEN1 (Limited contribution to gender equality); GEN0 (No contribution to gender quality)

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I. DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGE

Lao PDR is among the most heavily bombed countries per capita in the world, with over two million tons of munitions dropped on it during the Indochina War (1964-1973). This includes 270 million sub-munitions from cluster bombs, up to 30% of which may have failed to detonate. While the number of accidents has dropped markedly from 302 in December 2008 to 56 in December 2021, UXO contamination remains as a threat to the safety of population especially children, and an obstacle to rural development in poor and remote areas. Around 80% of people in Lao PDR live in rural areas, where livelihood opportunities are often uncertain, and food and nutrition security indicators are particularly poor. 42 of the 46 poorest districts in the country are UXO contaminated, UXO contamination can lead to loss of livestock, restricted access to land, food insecurity, insufficient basic infrastructure, reduced crop production, increased transport costs, disability, employment shortages, and other negative socio-economic outcomes. The exact total extent and location of contamination in the country is currently uncertain despite decades of systematic survey.

The UXO sector in Lao PDR consists of the National Regulatory Authority for the UXO/Mine Action Sector in the Lao PDR (NRA), Lao national Unexploded Ordnance Programme (UXO Lao), humanitarian Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), several accredited commercial companies providing UXO services, and seven humanitarian clearance teams within the Lao People's Army (Unit 58). According to the Prime Minister's Decree No: *67/PM*, dated 12th February 2018, the overall coordination and sector lead from the Government side is mandated to rest with the NRA through the Ministry of Labour & Social Welfare (MLSW). Since the mid-1990s, UNDP has been the leading development partner supporting the UXO sector in Lao PDR. UNDP, with other partners, have helped create the two key state institutions in the UXO sector, namely UXO Lao (the main National clearance capacity) and the NRA (the Regulatory Authority). The Minister of Labour and Social Welfare chairs both the NRA Board and the UXO Sector Working Group. UNDP also serves as Co-Chair of the UXO Sector Working Group, together with the United States. The Sector Working Group is tasked to coordinate all partners concerned in the sector and achieve development effectiveness.

As acknowledged in the final evaluation report of the current UXO project (2017-2021), national institutions need to improve their capacity for strategic planning, coordination, quality management and information management to improve UXO Action operations. The evaluation also recommended that UNDP continue to develop the capacity of Unit 58 and improve resource mobilization to secure more funding for the sector.

In Lao PDR, the UXO and explosive contamination challenge is highly relevant to all 17 United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as it places constraints on all aspects of sustainable development and poverty eradication. As a crosscutting theme across all SDGs, in 2016 the Government of Laos also adopted an 18th national-level SDG – "Lives safe from UXO". The crosscutting nature of the UXO and explosive hazard challenge places UNDP Lao PDR in a highly relevant role, as globally UNDP acts as the SDG facilitator and enabler across the UN system. The United Nations Mine Action Strategy 2019-2023 also emphasizes the role of UNDP on linking mine action to development and achievement of the SDGs and helping UXO/mine-affected communities achieve resilience and sustainable development.

The new National Strategic Plan for the UXO sector, SPF III, will aim at reducing the impact of UXO and guides the implementation of several important international conventions and declarations, including the CCM, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and the Unted Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) Declaration on the Decade of the Disabled. It also details the goals of the government and its development partners over the 2011-2020 period and the planned actions for reducing the humanitarian and socio-

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economic threats posed by UXOs to the point where the residual contamination and challenges can be adequately addressed.

In Lao PDR, UXO is being considered as a cross-cutting issue relevant to all other sectors in the 9th National Socio-Economic Development Plan for 2021-2025 (9th NSEDP). Giving the UXO sector its own output ("Output 6: UXO clearance progressively accelerated, and more lives made safe from UXO" under "Outcome 3: Enhanced well-being of the people" according to the 9th NSEDP endorsed by the GoL on March 2021) would elevate the UXO issue to a national level, increase awareness and adequately reflect the importance of SDG 18. In line with this, SPF III (2021-2030) and UXO Sector Multi-Year Work Plan (2021-2025) are being reviewed and revised to ensure greater alignment with the 9th NSEDP, as well as national gender equality strategies.

Drawing on key documents such as the NRA Capacity Needs Assessment Report, the results of the SPF II, as well as UNDP's ongoing assessment of the UXO situation, four areas have been identified where UNDP can add value in support of progress towards the achievement of SDG 18, SPF III and CCM compliance. Laos is a signatory of the CCM since 2008 that obliges the state to destroy stockpiles (Art.3), clear munitions and undertake risk education (Art. 4), assist victims (Art. 5), cooperate with international community (Art. 6), report (Art. 7), and implement national legal and administrative measures to implement the Convention (Art. 9). The Lao government is obligated to destroy all cluster munition remnants in areas under its jurisdiction or control no later than 31 July 2025.

Improving holistic coordination, capacity and multi-sectoral approach to link land release with development priorities.

The extent of contamination in the country is extremely high and the maintenance of support to land release (both across UXOs and mines) is critical to ensure the rate of land release is maintained or increased. This is demonstrated by progress towards CCM objectives.

The NRA's capacity for monitoring and undertaking the critical role of supervision of operations can be expanded. A well-coordinated planning and more focus on results based can lead teams are working effectively and efficiently with clear evaluative and analytical products. The technical support for this purpose will be identified jointly between Government of Lao PDR (GoL) and UNDP within scope of this project with the aim of clarifying and codifying responsibilities to ensure that a structured and sectoral approach is taken.

The Mine Action Review[2] (MAR) also highlighted some key problem areas, notably the need for better data management using IMSMA, the need for improved cooperation between operators, coordination at a decentralised level (provincial, district and village) and integration with respective development processes, and the development of a national planning and prioritisation system aiming to better ensure productive use of land post release/clearance.

Although Lao PDR's ratification of the Convention of Cluster Munitions (CCM) obliges the country to clear known UXO contamination by 2025, without a clear baseline it is difficult to plan properly and to indicate timeframes for clearance throughout the country. Survey activities are underway to establish the extent of known contamination for clearance and to establish a national baseline.

[2] Lao People's Democratic Republic | Mine Action Review
https://www.mineactionreview.org/country/lao-peoples-democratic-republic

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Individuals continue to engage in unsafe behaviour.

Despite comprehensive risk education activities over the last years, UXO casualties persist and disproportionately affect boys and men in daily life activities. This points to gendered practices in rural areas (such as land clearance for planting and livestock herding for boys and men, water and firewood collection, cooking for girls and women), which may increase their exposure to the danger of the UXOs. It may also indicate that education is not the only solution where behaviour is not necessarily directly impacted by knowledge acquisition.

UXO victim rights are not fulfilled.

Male casualties in many UXO accidents cases create female-headed households, which make up 80 percent of the poorest households in a given relevant sample. UXO victims' access to services are sporadic, are often dependent on geographic location. Victims including survivors and their families are often not aware of, nor have access to, services that they are entitled to (medical care, rehabilitation, vocational training, psychosocial support etc.). More generally, persons with disabilities do not receive any disability allowance.

Need for stronger policy and legislative environment.

There is a recognition by the state that there is a need for legislation to support the formalization of CCM compliance. The NRA has established a Legislative Drafting Committee for this purpose, which has already held consultative meetings with Ministry officials, including the Lao Women's Union (LWU) to ensure the gender aspects are adequately reflected. A draft national legislation to support the implementation of the CCM and survey/clearance of UXO has been prepared but is not yet finalized and adopted.

Need stronger compliance national legislation on rapid MoU process. An issue on MoU process link to capacity building for both government official and international operators.

To meet CCM obligations, landmine needs to be cleared in order to increase land release rate.

II. STRATEGY

IF high-priority land is released for more productive use, community exposure to UXO accidents is reduced and UXO sector services are efficiently delivered and well-coordinated, **THEN** Lao people, especially the most vulnerable and marginalized, will have improved access to safer land and secure livelihoods, contributing to poverty reduction.

UNDP, working with government partners, notably the National Regulatory Authority and UXO Lao, will work to address four major challenges to the UXO sector in country, notably: i) Improving holistic coordination, capacity and multi-sectoral approach to link land release with development priorities; ii) individuals continue to undertake unsafe behaviour with UXO: iii) UXO victims' rights are not fully met; iv) need for stronger policy and legislative environment.

Safe Land Release

Through a combination of technical support and financing key areas for both clearance and the wider sector, UNDP aims to drive greater efficiency and effectiveness in all pillars of UXO and mine action whilst ensuring the highest levels of safety are achieved for both partners and rights holders. UNDP will support national clearance capacity to hasten land release for impacted communities and will drive change in strengthening prioritization, planning and national standards. This will in turn

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drive greater alignment with national development objectives and support the sector to respond better to community priorities. UNDP will also work to support policy and legislative change in the sector to eliminate obstacles for effective land release and victim support to drive efficiencies. Working at a downstream level, UNDP will work with partners to enhance provincial level planning capacities and its integration of UXO issues with other provincial level authorities to strengthen post clearance land use, making stronger linkages between land release and development initiatives.

As identified in the recent capacity needs assessment of the National Regulatory Authority (NRA), there is a clear need to work with the NRA in strengthening the National Standards and the monitoring capacity of the authority to drive accountability and to ensure the credibility of the NRA in front of operators, national and international. Strong monitoring will also support continuous learning in the sector and can contribute to reducing operator accidents and improved productivity (thus hastening attainment of national targets as expressed in the government's strategic document Safe Path Forward III).

Behaviour changes amongst at-risk groups

Supporting Explosive Ordnance Risk Reduction (EORR) in the sector will go beyond education materials to support a review of the pillar work in country where the ultimate result needed is behaviour change of at-risk groups (where national statistics clearly demonstrate an engendered bias towards boys and men). UNDP will support a drive towards understanding the motivations of risk-takers and will work with partners to address a review of practice and standards in EORR to look to focusing efforts on behaviour change (where the focus often is on knowledge acquisition). UNDP will undertake a baseline and endline survey using Knowledge, Attitude and Practice (KAP) methodology to identify behaviour change as a key output of the work in the sub-sector.

Realisation of rights of victims of UXO

UNDP will work with the NRA to strengthen data management of victims to enable duty bearers (e.g. providers of rehabilitation services, organizations working on creating income sources) to support victims of UXO and ensure the NRA provides accessible and reliable data for the provision of services.

Enabling environment

UNDP will work to support legislation and policy work to strengthen the enabling environment for UXO/Mine action and to support law and policy work to drive impact at a community level. UNDP will also lead dialogue, advocate for and support greater national institutions towards establishing sustainability in UXO Sector and diversification of funding in the sector. UNDP will also pursue dialogue with the government on consideration of the Mine Ban Treaty.

Mainstreaming

Mainstreaming inclusion (including gender, disability, and ethnic considerations) and the environment into UNDP UXO programming will assist the sector in driving equity, reducing the environmental impact of UXO work and strive to improve productivity in the sector where there remain significant challenges in meeting CCM obligations. Careful consideration will be given to the engendered nature of UXO victims, the role of women and men in land release processes, EORR and victim assistance. Given the gender gap of the Lao PDR, opportunity will be explored to increase women's engagement and participation in UXO related activities. For this, 1 or 2 humanitarian army clearance teams to be allocated as female teams by 2025 so that more females can play leadership roles, and the Unit 58 will maintain the percentage of female personnel among its 20 teams to at

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least 15% women to ensure women's participation in the sector. Further, the project will work to ensure for participation of gender, ethnics and persons with disability in planning and community consultations.

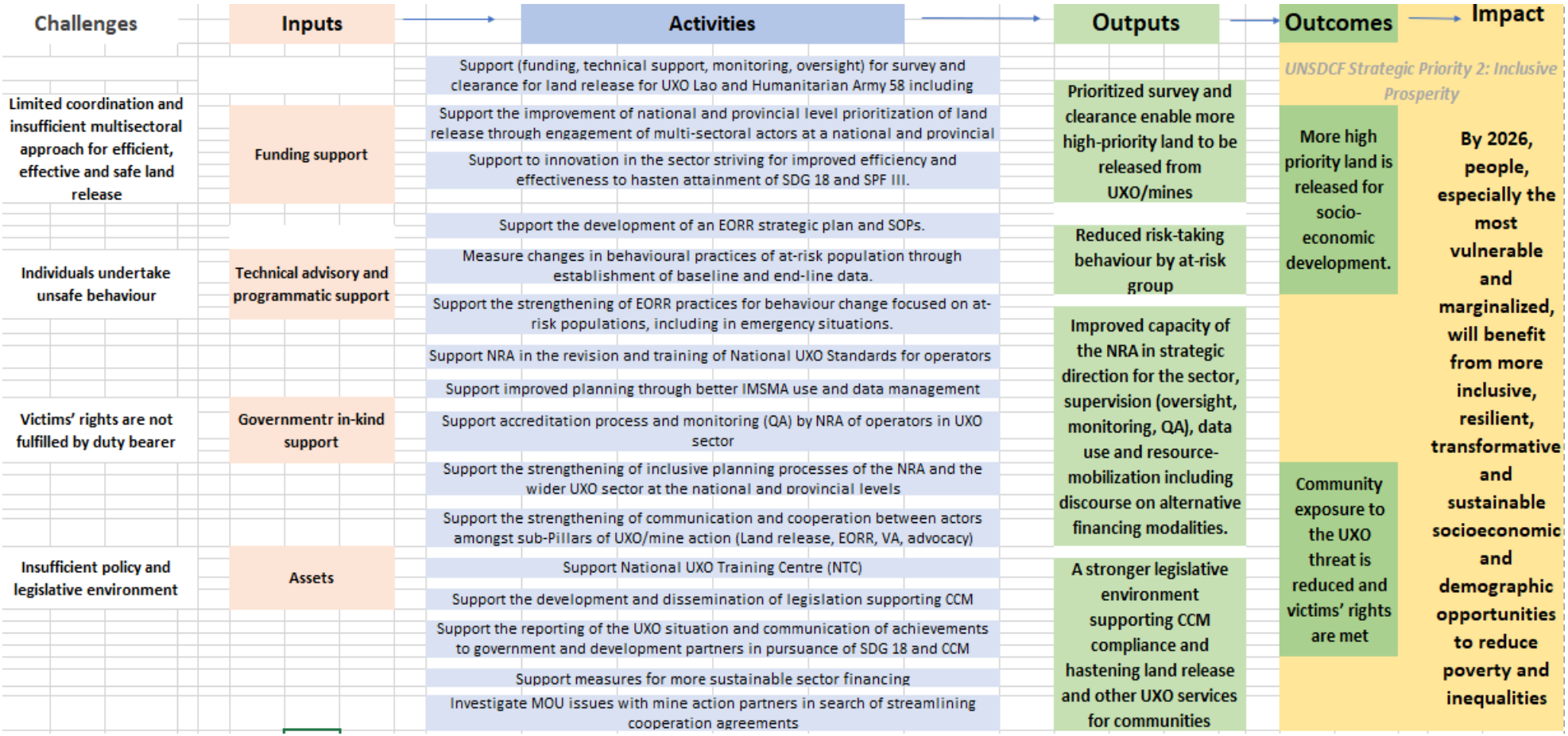
Innovation

Given that national targets under the SPF II (Safe Path Forward II) were not met, UNDP will work to promote innovation across all aspects of the sector with the view to accelerating progress towards CCM targets. UNDP will work to support learning from trials, new concepts, and piloting ideas with the aim of scaling up success and embracing failure as a tool for learning.

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III. RESULTS AND PARTNERSHIPS

Expected Results



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Impact:

- By 2026, people, especially the most vulnerable and marginalized, will benefit from more inclusive, resilient, transformative, and sustainable socio-economic and demographic opportunities to reduce poverty and inequalities

Outcomes:

- More high priority land is released for socio-economic development.
- Community exposure to the UXO threat is reduced and victims' rights are met.

Outputs:

- Prioritized survey and clearance enable more land to be released from UXO/mines.
- Reduced risk-taking behaviour by at-risk groups.
- Improved capacity of the NRA in strategic direction for the sector, supervision (oversight, monitoring, QA), data use and resource-mobilization including discourse on alternative financing modalities.
- A stronger legislative environment supporting CCM compliance and hastening land release and other UXO services for communities.

Activity summary:

(A) Prioritized survey and clearance enable more land to be released from community development.

UNDP will provide financial and technical support for the implementation of survey and clearance for land release activities, primarily through UXO Lao and Humanitarian teams of the Lao People's Army (Unit 58), in accordance with the revised National Standards. UNDP will also support improved prioritization for land release at both national and provincial levels, based on the Government of Lao PDR's directives ensuring humanitarian and development considerations. The project will further support the NRA to develop and pilot a national plan to prioritize and maintain land release mechanisms and processes in close cooperation with all relevant ministries and other government and non-government institutions conducting survey and clearance. In addition, UNDP will enhance the institutional capacity of UXO Lao and Unit 58 in effective survey and clearance in line with national standards and ensure that post-clearance impact assessments are conducted on land cleared of UXO. The NRA's national IMSMA database will be further improved to support sectoral management and progress reporting especially planning for land release. UNDP will work with operators in the UXO/mine action sector to provide a platform for innovation with the aim of learning from experiences and scaling successes. The project plans to support the Lao People's Army to create 13 teams in addition to the seven existing ones and one additional clearance team for UXO Lao.

As demonstrated in the Theory of Change, to ensure prioritized survey and clearance for land release, the following activities will be implemented:

a) Support (funding, technical support, monitoring, oversight) for survey and clearance for land release for UXO Lao and Humanitarian Army 58 including Roving Teams.

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b) Support the improvement of national and provincial level prioritization of land release through engagement of multi-sectoral actors at a national and provincial level.
c) Support to innovation in the sector striving for improved efficiency and effectiveness to hasten attainment of SDG 18 and SPF III.

(B) Reduced risk-taking behaviour by at-risk group

Explosive Ordnance Risk Reduction (previously known as MRE) has been a critical component of several UXO/Mine actions in Lao PDR. Several past assessments also noted that Explosive Ordnance Risk Reduction activities in Lao PDR have increased the risk awareness of affected communities. The Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices (KAP) Survey on EORR conducted in 2011 among populations at risk for UXO (1,050 adults and 750 children) confirmed that the EORR programme was targeting the right groups and had a significant impact on reducing high-risk UXO/mine risk behaviors among target groups. Since the last KAP study was conducted ten years ago, UNDP plans to conduct another KAP survey to analyse current UXO awareness and effective means of communicating information about UXO based on which to set up a baseline and end-line data in risk education and to revise EORR activities where needed.

UNDP will support the NRA and the sector to formulate a behaviour-change focused EORR strategic plan and accompanying SoPs. The aim will be to drive results in risk reduction of at-risk population through stronger analysis of knowledge, attitude and practice. UNDP will support EORR through proven channels of effective communication and new media and social networks.

UNDP will support the deployment of dedicated Explosive Ordnance Risk Reduction teams in XiengKhouang, Bolikhamxay, Vientiane, and Xaysomboun provinces in addition to one EORR team operating in 9 contaminated areas, and widely disseminates UXO/EORR messages in UXO-contaminated provinces through radio broadcasts, rural volunteers, and school curricula targeting at-risk populations. In particular, the project will implement the following activities:

a) Support the development of an EORR strategic plan and SOPs.
b) Measure changes in behavioural practices of at-risk population through establishment of baseline and end-line data.
c) Support the strengthening of EORR practices for behaviour change focused on at-risk populations, including in emergency situations.

(C) Improved capacity of the NRA in strategic direction for the sector, supervision (oversight, monitoring, QA), data use and resource-mobilization including discourse on alternative financing modalities.

The final UNDP UXO project evaluation undertaken in 2021 indicated that the NRA has been gradually strengthening its role and responsibilities within the UXO sector. The NRA, however, recognize their need for ongoing support and continued improvement. UNDP will work to enhance the NRA's institutional capacity covering supervision, coordination, data management, and resource mobilization to work towards greater national ownership and sustainability in the sector.

UNDP will support the NRA to review and revise the National Standards in line with International Mine Action Standards to strengthen the safety and effectiveness of all UXO operators' activities. UNDP will also strengthen data management across all the pillars of UXO/Mine action in supporting data integrity, access, and utilisation. One key component of support will be to strengthen the NRA's supervision capacity through a review of quality assurance processes. In line with taking a more integrated approach to planning, involving other ministries such as agriculture, public works and transport, health etc., UNDP will strengthen the engagement of the Provincial Regulatory Authorities

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in each of the 13 provinces that they are present, to align UXO/Mine Action with local development targets. As per recommendations from the MAR, UNDP will support the NRA to strengthen coordination with other actors in the sector to build stronger partnerships with operators and stakeholders across each of the pillars. UNDP will support the National Training Centre to drive continuity in skills in the sector and to promote national sustainability and residual capacity.

a) Support NRA in the revision and training of National UXO Standards for operators
b) Support improved planning through better IMSMA use and data management
c) Support accreditation process and monitoring (QA) by NRA of operators in UXO sector
d) Support the strengthening of inclusive planning processes of the NRA and the wider UXO sector at the national and provincial level
e) Support the strengthening of communication and cooperation between actors amongst sub-Pillars of UXO/mine action (Land release, EORR, VA, advocacy)
f) Support National UXO Training Centre (NTC)

(D) A stronger legislative environment supporting CCM compliance and hastening land release and other UXO services for communities.

UNDP will support the GoL to fully achieve their obligations under the CCM, which will further enshrined in SDG 18, as well as ensuring attendance and participation at CCM-related events and the annual meeting of State Parties. Article 9 of the CCM mandates all State Parties to take all appropriate legal measures to implement the CCM, including the imposition of legal sanctions. The NRA has established a Legislative Drafting Committee for this purpose, which has already held consultative meetings with Ministry officials. UNDP will work with the NRA to ensure that legislation is finalised in a timely manner following consultations with relevant stakeholders. The GoL is obligated to submit an annual transparency report under both the CCM and the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) (Protocol V). The NRA, with technical advice from UNDP, will continue to work closely with MOFA to ensure that these reports are submitted in a timely manner and that all the relevant information is provided. UNDP will also support the GoL to debate a coherent, long-term donor engagement and a sustainable financing strategy to ensure long term sustainability of the sector. Over the last few years, donors have been responsible for funding 95% of activities with an overdependence on a single donor. There is an imperative to research alternative financing models to drive sustainability in the sector and to ensure communities are served as long as the UXO threat remains. Funding scenarios may change significantly over coming years and the Government must work to diversify resource mobilisation including national contributions.

a) Support the development and dissemination of legislation supporting CCM compliance
b) Support the reporting of the UXO situation and communication of achievements to government and development partners in pursuance of SDG 18 and CCM objectives
c) Support measures for more sustainable sector financing
d) Investigate MOU issues with UXO/mine action partners in search of streamlining cooperation agreements

Resources Required to Achieve the Expected Results

The project has estimated and costed all financial and human resources required to successfully achieve its intended outputs. The details can be seen in the attached Multi-Year Work Plan.

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Partnerships

UNDP's support to the UXO national institutions is aligned with the objectives of the 9th National Socio-Economic Development Plan. As co-chair of the UXO Sector Working Group, and with its co-chairing and convening of the Round Table Process, UNDP has a key advocacy role in UXO and development in Lao PDR.

While the official implementing partner on behalf of the government of Lao PDR, will be the MoLSW, the primary responsible parties for project implementation are the NRA and UXO Lao. In the context of UNDP's broader project of support to the sector, work with the NRA focuses on sector-level strategy, policy development, quality management, upholding of the Lao PDR UXO National Standards, ensuring data and information management, and supporting fora for stakeholder engagement. UNDP's support to UXO Lao primarily entails technical support to financial management, and technical and financial support to Survey, Clearance and Mine Risk Education operations. UNDP's support to both organisations is provided in accordance with the National Implementation Modality guidelines, if require and aims at building the capacities and accountabilities of both. Both t[3].

The work of the NRA and UXO Lao is overseen by the NRA Board with its overarching UXO sector mandate in Lao PDR. In the board concerned line Ministries are represented. The NRA board is chaired by the Minister of Labour and Social Welfare. Key members of the Board include the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Défense, Ministry of Security and Ministry of Planning and Investment. The active collaboration of all Ministries represented on the NRA Board is required for UXO sector planning to proceed on the best evidence-basis available.

UNDP will continue to play a key role to facilitate cooperation between the GoL and Development Partners as co-chair of the Sector Working Group, to contribute further to ensure that work in the sector meets humanitarian as well as development objectives, to strengthen national ownership and to promote better coordination within the sector and with other sectors of development.

This project will continue to support the two national institutions NRA and UXO Lao in developing national capacity to address the long-term humanitarian and development challenges caused by the threat of UXO through the provision of technical advisors to undertake all aspects of planning, implementation, quality assurance and financial management providing project support.

UNDP is intended to further strengthen the institutional capacity for the UXO Sector governance and coordination, as well as for the better linkage with the UXO sector with the other sectors to promote aligned and coordinated national response to poverty reduction and longer-term sustainable human development, by strengthening both horizontal and vertical linkages. In all of its activities, UNDP will ensure to focus on developing national capacity to undertake all aspects of planning, implementation, quality assurance and financial management in order to address the long-term humanitarian and development challenges posed by the presence of UXO.

UNDP will support the NRA to develop a long-term resource mobilization strategy to support the transition strategy outlining cost recovery schemes for admin expenditures, future potentials for external funding support and access to national budget allocations examining various fundraising opportunities, private sector cooperation, and corporate social responsibility partnerships.

[3] At the time of writing, the key bilateral donors to UXO Lao (outside of the UNDP Project) were the United States of America, Japan, WWM; NRA's primary bilateral donor was the United States of America.

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UNDP will look for synergies across wider UNDP programming to build on experiences in governance, Natural Resources Management and Climate Change (NRMCC) and livelihoods and poverty reduction to better integrate UXO and SDG 18 into wider development agendas. Striving to engage provincial authorities to strengthen prioritisation and land use post clearance will also present an opportunity to engage with other UN partners (such as FAO for agriculture, UNICEF for EORR etc.) under the delivering as one agenda.

Risks and Assumptions

Capacity gap in terms of data management and the government's high dependence on donor funding will be a constraint for the sector's substantial government ownership, which consists of a broad range of relevant ministries and provides oversight and coordination to the sector. This project aims to base future UXO coordination on good data; the clear and transparent development-focused criteria will rely on the successful collaboration of the relevant agencies and line ministries in information sharing. In addition, the frequent turnover of NRA staff and the NRA's ability to attract new capable team will limit capacity development gains as human resources are one of the critical components of building the capacity of the NRA.

The detailed key risks to the implementation of this project are summarised in the Risk Log. In addition, through the application of UNDP's new Social and Environmental Standards screening, developmental risks have also been identified (see both in the attached Annexes).

A general assumption for the purpose of this project will be that the GoL and its structures continue its current support and strategy for the UXO sector, including the funding of the humanitarian teams of Lao People's Army (Unit 58). A second assumption is that there are continuous commitment and cooperation from development partners and other UXO sector partners. This assumption is based on UNDP's current donor intelligence and consultation with key sector partners at the time of writing. The assumption has influenced the design of the project in that capacity building activities are envisaged to ensure that the NRA has adequate ability to manage and coordinate this expected increase in sector activity. Another assumption built into this project is that the Government of Lao PDR will continue to cooperate sufficiently with UNDP in the implementation of the activities and that information will be shared between the two to the extent necessary. This assumption is based on UNDP's previous successful partnerships with the Government of Lao PDR both within and external to the UXO sector. All activities and plans in this project depend on continued positive cooperation. Finally, to ensure greater national ownership and resilience of the sector in the country, as well as to sustain the gains made through the project, the Government will need to continue to engage in dialogue with domestic and international partners regarding the increase of their contributions to the sector, including a portion of the salaries of NRA and UXO Lao staff.

Stakeholder Engagement

The ultimate beneficiaries of this project are land users in UXO-affected areas. Poverty rates coincide significantly with UXO contamination, meaning that these districts are poorer than average in Lao PDR. "Land users" in the case of clearance and mine risk education to the populations of villages where activities take place. In some cases, land will be cleared in order to support proposed development activities; in these scenarios, the primary beneficiaries will still be the populations in the affected areas, with the benefit provided to them being both the removal of the UXO threat from a specific area of land as well as the subsequent service provided, which in previous experience has ranged from village ponds to hospitals and schools. It is assumed that such developments are of benefit to the communities. Primary beneficiaries are typically represented by a village chief who will be consulted on all matters relating to UXO clearance and other activities. The village chief will

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also be involved in the planning of development activities, providing an outlet for citizen consultation in those cases. UNDP's technical advisory and programme support staff consulted with beneficiaries during various reporting and monitoring visits to field locations, and the insights gained have shaped this project.

UXO Lao and Army Unit 58 interact directly with affected communities as they implement survey, clearance and explosive ordnance risk reduction activities. The engagement of the primary beneficiaries in the process of UXO clearance is enabled through both non-technical survey and EORR activities, which routinely seek to engage the entire populations of villages in both identifying evidence of contamination by systematically surveyed and delivery risk education messages. As such, the target groups, being the populations of the villages where UXO activities take place, are engaged in the process. UNDP support to land release and risk reduction activities will focus on gaps for equitable coverage across the country as well as responsive to donor preferences.

The project's secondary beneficiaries are the NRA, UXO Lao, and Unit 58. These will benefit from the capacity-building support provided by UNDP's technical advisors. They will also benefit from the programmatic oversight provided by this project. The NRA has a pan-governmental Board which effectively provides oversight over the sector on behalf of the Government of Lao PDR. UNDP will seek to further engage members of this board in order to ensure that this oversight role is exercised to its maximum positive effect, for example though collaboration with the Lao Women's Union. In this sense, UNDP's capacity building will lie on three tracks: 1) on-the-job training for responsible individuals within the NRA and UXO Lao; 2) institutionalisation of good practices through internal policy development; 3) support to higher-level sector oversight to ensure lasting national ownership.

South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSC/TrC)

UNDP will leverage South-South and Triangular Cooperation for capacity development although, inevitably, opportunities for such international cooperation have been severely limited by Covid-related travel restrictions. South-South cooperation to exchange experiences on specific issues including operations, quality management and human resources has been promoted by JICA between UXO Lao and the Cambodian Mine Action Centre (CMAC). As part of its GMAP II funded support to strengthen capacity for information management, NPA organized exchanges between Cambodia, Lao PDR and Vietnam.

UNDP's technical advisory support to both IPs will include work to identify relevant and appropriate opportunities for South-South cooperation, focusing particularly on mine action management experience in Cambodia and Viet Nam including closer cooperation between UNDP offices in the region. UNDP country offices in Lao PDR, Viet Nam and Cambodia (which all receive KOICA funding for UXO activities) plan to convene regular online meetings to share updates on upcoming events and explore the possibilities of joint MEL, visits, workshops, etc. UNDP will seek and support opportunities for the NRA and UXO Lao to learn from and share best-practice regional experiences, with a focus on the implementation of Survey and Clearance, Explosive Ordnance Risk Reduction, Victim Assistance and Information Management. The engagement with the ASEAN Regional Mine Action Centre (ARMAC) will also be further explored especially in the areas of capacity development and potential joint workshops/meetings.

Knowledge

- The IMSMA National database including database on UXO survivors will be regularly updated and maintained by the NRA as an internal knowledge and planning tool.

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- Lessons Learned will be captured in Annual Project Reports and presented to the Project Board.
- Various technical reports such as Capacity Need Assessment, Post Clearance Impact Assessment will be produced.
- UNDP will conduct a KAP survey and widely distribute.
- The project will produce a discussion paper on alternative financing for the sector.

Sustainability and Scaling Up

UNDP will support the existing national institutions to implement essential UXO sector activities. The capacity building element of this project will be delivered through the deployment of technical assistance to the NRA and based on the principle of learning-by-doing and will be detailed in a Capacity Need Assessment Action Plan for the NRA early in the project cycle.

In terms of sustainability for the sector, technical support will be provided for the articulation of options for transition of the sector into national ownership. This will support the NRA and the Government of Lao PDR in understanding the opportunities and risks of different potential courses of action. A sustainability strategy including plans for donors diversification, resource mobilisation and transition to increased national responsibility will be drafted by NRA with UNDP's technical support; it will also be presented to and discussed at the UXO Sector Working Group.

Clearance of Confirmed Hazardous Areas (CHA) will have sustainable outcomes in that land will be permanently made safer for use. In addition, the establishment of a process for task prioritisation will be supported by UNDP and implemented by the NRA in the longer term once incorporated into the organisation's standard practices. Support to financial management, Monitoring and Evaluation capacity will also strengthen the NRA's ability to identify issues in the sector and independently articulate evidence-based strategies to address them.

IV. PROJECT MANAGEMENT

This project will provide a concise framework for the implementation of all UNDP's work in the UXO sector from 2022-2026 in line with GOL's rules and regulations. Subsequent agreements signed with Development Partners will feed into this strategy and will therefore align efficiently and transparently with overall goals.

While the official implementing partner on behalf of the Government of Lao PDR will be the MoLSW, the primary responsible parties for the implementation are the NRA and UXO Lao which are best placed to deliver most of the outputs planned in this project. UXO Lao is the cheapest clearance operator per beneficiary in the country and has the largest capacity for UXO clearance and EORR. The NRA is the only organisation with a mandate to coordinate and regulate the UXO sector from the Government of Lao PDR.

Project Management

The Project Board will manage the project and ensure that it is aligned with the Multi Year Work Plan of the UXO national institutions. NRA's Provincial Offices in the contaminated provinces will coordinate UXO survey and CHA clearance, VA and EORR activities at the provincial level. Project quality assurance and support will be delivered by the UXO Portfolio Manager, working under the

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direct supervision of the UNDP Deputy Resident Representative, and will be supported by Programme Officers and a Programme Associate.

UNDP's direct technical support will be provided by a team led by the CTA (Chief Technical Advisor), Financial Technical Specialist, and a M&E and Reporting Specialist. All technical advisors will be based in the offices of the IPs (NRA and UXO Lao). The project will be audited in accordance with the UNDP NIM Audit policies and procedures, as per the UNDP HACT assessment framework. The objective of the HACT framework is to support a closer alignment of development aid with national priorities and to strengthen national capacities for management and accountability, with the ultimate objective of gradually shifting to national systems. It is intended to serve as a simplified set of procedures on requesting, disbursing, providing assurance, and reporting on funds to effectively manage risks, reduce transaction costs and promote sustainable development in a coordinated manner.

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V. RESULTS FRAMEWORK[4]

[4] UNDP publishes its project information (indicators, baselines, targets and results) to meet the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) standards. Make sure that indicators are S.M.A.R.T. (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant and Time-bound), provide accurate baselines and targets underpinned by reliable evidence and data, and avoid acronyms so that external audience clearly understand the results of the project.

Intended Impact as stated in the UNSDCF/Country [or Global/Regional] Programme Results and Resource Framework:

By 2026, people, especially the most vulnerable and marginalized, will benefit from more inclusive, resilient, transformative, and sustainable socio-economic and demographic opportunities to reduce poverty and inequalities.

Outcome indicators as stated in the Country Programme [or Global/Regional] Results and Resources Framework, including baseline and targets:

1. Percentage of high priority hazardous areas remaining to be cleared (disaggregated by village poverty levels)

Baseline: 99.25 / Target: 98.78

2. Number of reported UXO casualties

Baseline: 33 / Target:< 15

Applicable Output(s) from the UNDP Strategic Plan:

Output 1.1: Development, financing and implementation of pro-poor/ green growth (COVID-19 recovery) policies, including a comprehensive social protection system, is strengthened.

Output 1.2: Select ministries and local authorities in targeted provinces develop, implement and report on sectoral and local development plans that integrate SDGs (including SDG18).

Output 1.3: Vulnerable groups, especially women, young people, persons with disabilities, ethnic groups and those impacted by unexploded ordnance, have increased access to vocational training (TVET), employment and entrepreneurship opportunities.

Project title and Atlas/Quantum Project Number: Supporting Effectiveness and Efficiency in the UXO Sector to contribute to the achievement of SDG 18 and Safe Path Forward III (SPF III).

Project Number: 00120364 (Output ID: 00116548)

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS[5]	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE		TARGETS[6] (by frequency of data collection)						DATA COLLECTION METHODS & RISKS
			Value	Year 2021	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	FINAL	
Output 1 Prioritized survey and clearance enable more high-priority land to be released from UXO/mines	***1.1*** *A national prioritization plan is fully integrated into NS*	Plan and NS	No	2021	*No*	No	Yes	Yes	*Yes*	*Yes*	Document review
	1.2 *Area of land (ha) a) surveyed and b) released (by UNDP funded teams)*	IMSMA	a) 1,876 b) 571 ha	*2021*	a) 3752 b) 1146 ha	a) 5628 b) 1713 ha	a) 7504 b) 2284 ha	a) 9380 b) 2856 ha	a) 11256 b) 3426 ha	a) 11256 b)3426 ha (In total)	Survey

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	***1.3** Availability of a platform for discussing innovative ideas*	Project MEL documents	*No*	*2021*	*No*	*Yes*	*Yes*	*Yes*	*Yes*	*Yes*	Process monitoring
Output 2 Reduced risk-taking behaviour by at-risk group(s)	***2.1** Availability of updated EORR national standards*	EORR standards	No	2021	*No*	No	Yes	Yes	*Yes*	*Yes*	Document review
	***2.2** Increase in percentage of individuals (disaggregated by age, gender, ethnicity, and geography) from target at-risk groups changing KAP*	KAP survey report	*TBD*	*2022*	-	-	*3%*	-	*10%*	*10% in comp to baseline*	KAP survey
Output 3 Improved capacity of the NRA in strategic direction for the sector, supervision (oversight, monitoring, QA), data use and resource-mobilization including discourse on alternative financing modalities	***3.1**. Frequency of QA missions by the NRA to UXO operators per year*	NRA QA mission report	*20 times*	*2021*	*24 times*	*24 times*	*24 times*	*24 times*	*24 times*	*120 times*	QA mission
	***3.2.** Percentage of total Provincial Regulatory authorities (PRAs) engaged in provincial planning process*	NRA Annual Progress report	*0*	*2021*	*No*	*7%*	*15%*	*30%*	*45%*	*45% (6 out of 13)*	Document review
	***3.3.** Availability of the NRA RM strategy*	NRA RM strategy	*No*	*2021*	*No*	*No*	*No*	*Yes*	*Yes*	*Yes*	Document review
	***3.4.** Alternative financing discussion paper on UXO sector is distributed*	MEL documents	*No*	*2021*	*No*	*No*	*No*	*Yes*	*Yes*	*Yes*	Monitoring the discussion, check the availability and distribution of discussion paper
Output 4 A stronger legislative environment supporting CCM compliance and hastening land release and other UXO services for communities	***4.1.** Number of laws and/or policy documents (SPF III, prioritization plan, PM Decree) developed, revised and/or advocated by the NRA*	Laws and policy documents; NRA Annual Progress report	*0*	*2021*	*1*	*2*	*3*	*3*	*3*	*3*	Document review

[5] It is recommended that projects use output indicators from the Strategic Plan IRRF, as relevant, in addition to project-specific results indicators. Indicators should be disaggregated by sex or for other targeted groups where relevant.

[6] Targets are accumulated numbers from year 2021.

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VI. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

In accordance with UNDP's programming policies and procedures, the project will be monitored through the following monitoring and evaluation plans: *[Note: monitoring and evaluation plans should be adapted to project context, as needed]*

Monitoring Plan

Monitoring Activity	Purpose	Frequency	Expected Action	Partners (if joint)	Cost (if any)
Track results progress	Progress data against the results indicators in the RRF will be collected and analysed to assess the progress of the project in achieving the agreed outputs.	Quarterly, or in the frequency required for each indicator.	Slower than expected progress will be addressed by project management.	UXO Lao, NRA	
Monitor and Manage Risk	Identify specific risks that may threaten achievement of intended results. Identify and monitor risk management actions using a risk log. This includes monitoring measures and plans that may have been required as per UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards. Audits will be conducted in accordance with UNDP's audit policy to manage financial risk.	Quarterly	Risks are identified by project management and actions are taken to manage risk. The risk log is actively maintained to keep track of identified risks and actions taken.	UXO Lao, NRA	
Learn	Knowledge, good practices and lessons will be captured regularly, as well as actively sourced from other projects and partners and integrated back into the project.	At least annually	Relevant lessons are captured by the project team and used to inform management decisions.	UXO Lao, NRA	
Annual Project Quality Assurance	The quality of the project will be assessed against UNDP's quality standards to identify project strengths and weaknesses and to inform management decision making to improve the project.	Annually	Areas of strength and weakness will be reviewed by project management and used to inform decisions to improve project performance.	UXO Lao, NRA	
Review and Make Course Corrections	Internal review of data and evidence from all monitoring actions to inform decision making.	At least annually	Performance data, risks, lessons and quality will be discussed by the project board and used to make course corrections.	UXO Lao, NRA	

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Project Report	A progress report will be presented to the Project Board and key stakeholders, consisting of progress data showing the results achieved against pre-defined annual targets at the output level, the annual project quality rating summary, an updated risk long with mitigation measures, and any evaluation or review reports prepared over the period.	Annually, and at the end of the project (final report)		UXO Lao, NRA	
Project Review (Project Board)	The project's governance mechanism (i.e., project board) will hold regular project reviews to assess the performance of the project and review the Multi-Year Work Plan to ensure realistic budgeting over the life of the project. In the project's final year, the Project Board shall hold an end-of project review to capture lessons learned and discuss opportunities for scaling up and to socialize project results and lessons learned with relevant audiences.	Biannually)	Any quality concerns or slower than expected progress should be discussed by the project board and management actions agreed to address the issues identified.	UXO Lao, NRA	

Evaluation Plan[7]

Evaluation Title	Partners (if joint)	Related Strategic Plan Output	UNSDCF/CPD Outcome	Planned Completion Date	Key Evaluation Stakeholders	Cost and Source of Funding
Mid-Term Evaluation	NRA, UXO Lao			June 2024	UNDP, GoL	40,000, TBA
Final Evaluation	NRA, UXO Lao			June 2026	UNDP, GoL	50,000, TBA

[7] Optional, if needed

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VII. MULTI-YEAR WORK PLAN [89]

All anticipated programmatic and operational costs to support the project, including development effectiveness and implementation support arrangements, need to be identified, estimated and fully costed in the project budget under the relevant output(s). This includes activities that directly support the project, such as communication, human resources, procurement, finance, audit, policy advisory, quality assurance, reporting, management, etc. All services which are directly related to the project need to be disclosed transparently in the project document. For further guidance, please refer to POPP PPM Formulate Development Projects 3.0 Procedures > Step 3.2 > Prepare Fully Costed Budgets for Projects.

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	Planned Budget by Year					Resp. Party	Donor	Planned Budget	
		2022 (9 Month)	2023	2024	2025	2026			Budget Description	Amount
Output 1. Prioritized survey and clearance enable more land to be released from UXO/mines	Support (funding, technical support, monitoring, oversight) for survey and clearance for land release for UXO Lao and Humanitarian Army 58 including Roving Teams.	4,244,394	2,930,482	4,735,689	3,106,528	2,244,710	UNDP	KOICA/NZ/LUX/ IRELAND/CANADA/UNDP/TBC	Programme andTechnical Support to NRA & UXO LAO	17,261,804
	Support the improvement of national and provincial level prioritization of land release through engagement of multi-sectoral actors at a national and provincial level.	86,100	8,000	8,000	88,100	2,000	NRA	KOICA	NRA Programme support	192,200
	Support to innovation in the sector striving for improved efficiency and effectiveness to hasten attainment of SDG 18 and SPF III.	-	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	UXO LAO/NRA	TBC	Programme support	200,000
							Sub total of Output 1			**17,654,004**
Output 2. Reduced risk-taking behaviour by at-risk group .	Support the development of an EORR strategic plan and SOPs.	62,850	68,650	77,650	77,650	15,600	NRA	KOICA	NRA Programme support	302,400
	Measure changes in behavioural practices of at-risk population through establishment of baseline and end-line data	10,000		-	-	10,000	NRA	KOICA	NRA Programme support	20,000
	Support the strengthening of EORR practices for behaviour change focused on at-risk populations, including in emergency situations.	73,077	98,892	109,092	53,880	9,112	NRA/UXO LAO	KOICA/NZ	NRA/UXO LAO Programme support	344,053
							Sub total of Output 2			**666,453**

[8] Cost definitions and classifications for programme and development effectiveness costs to be charged to the project are defined in the Executive Board decision DP/2010/32

[9] Changes to a project budget affecting the scope (outputs), completion date, or total estimated project costs require a formal budget revision that must be signed by the project board. In other cases, the UNDP programme manager alone may sign the revision provided the other signatories have no objection. This procedure may be applied for example when the purpose of the revision is only to re-phase activities among years.

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Output 3. Improved capacity of the NRA in strategic direction for the sector, supervision (oversight, monitoring, QA), data use and resource-mobilization including discourse on alternative financing modalities	Support NRA in the revision and training of National UXO Standards for operators	27,950	57,350	97,350	77,350	9,400	NRA	KOICA	NRA Programme support	269,400
	Support improved planning through better IMSMA use and data management	136,708	171,800	186,050	154,450	40,992	NRA	KOICA/NZ	NRA Programme support including VA & IMSMA personal cost	690,000
	Support accreditation process and monitoring (QA) by NRA of operators in UXO sector	248,424	346,511	235,056	206,956	73,487	NRA	KOICA/NZ	NRA Programme support including QA/QC personal cost	1,110,434
	Support the strengthening of inclusive planning processes of the NRA and the wider UXO sector at national and provincial level	23,000	16,000	56,000	20,000	-	NRA	KOICA	NRA Programme support	115,000
	Support the strengthening of communication and cooperation between actors amongst sub-Pillars of UXO/mine action (Land release, EORR, VA, advocacy)	292,960	413,780	342,780	365,408	84,820	NRA	KOICA	NRA Programme support including NRA Staff cost	1,499,748
	Support National UXO Training Center	26,250	35,000	35,000	-	-	NRA	NZ	NRA Programme support	96,250
Sub total of Output 3										**3,780,832**
Output 4. A stronger legislative environment supporting CCM compliance and hastening land release and other UXO services for communities	Support the development and dissemination of legislation supporting CCM compliance	47,600	52,300	59,300	17,500	3,000	NRA	KOICA/NZ	NRA Programme support	179,700
	Support the reporting of the UXO situation and communication of achievements to government and development partners in pursuance of SDG 18 and CCM objectives	103,500	139,100	156,100	136,100	35,600	NRA	KOICA	NRA Programme support including PO, RR & ICTS personal cost	570,400
	Support measures for more sustainable sector financing	10,000	70,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	UNDP	TBC	Programme support	110,000
	Investigate MOU issues with mine action partners in search of streamlining cooperation agreements		5,000	-	5,000		NRA	KOICA	NRA Programme support	10,000
Sub total of Output 4										**870,100**
UNDP General Management Support (8%)		405,810	348,229	496,645	357,514	179,098	UNDP	KOOCA/NZ/LUX /IRELAND/CANADA/TBC	GMS	1,787,296
UN Coordination Levy (1%)		54,814	47,011	67,047	48,264	24,178	UNDP	KOOCA/NZ/LUX /IRELAND/CANADA/TBC	UN LEVY	241,315
Sub total of General Management Support Cost										**2,028,611**
Grand Total		**5,853,438**	**4,858,105**	**6,721,760**	**4,774,700**	**2,791,997**				**25,000,000**

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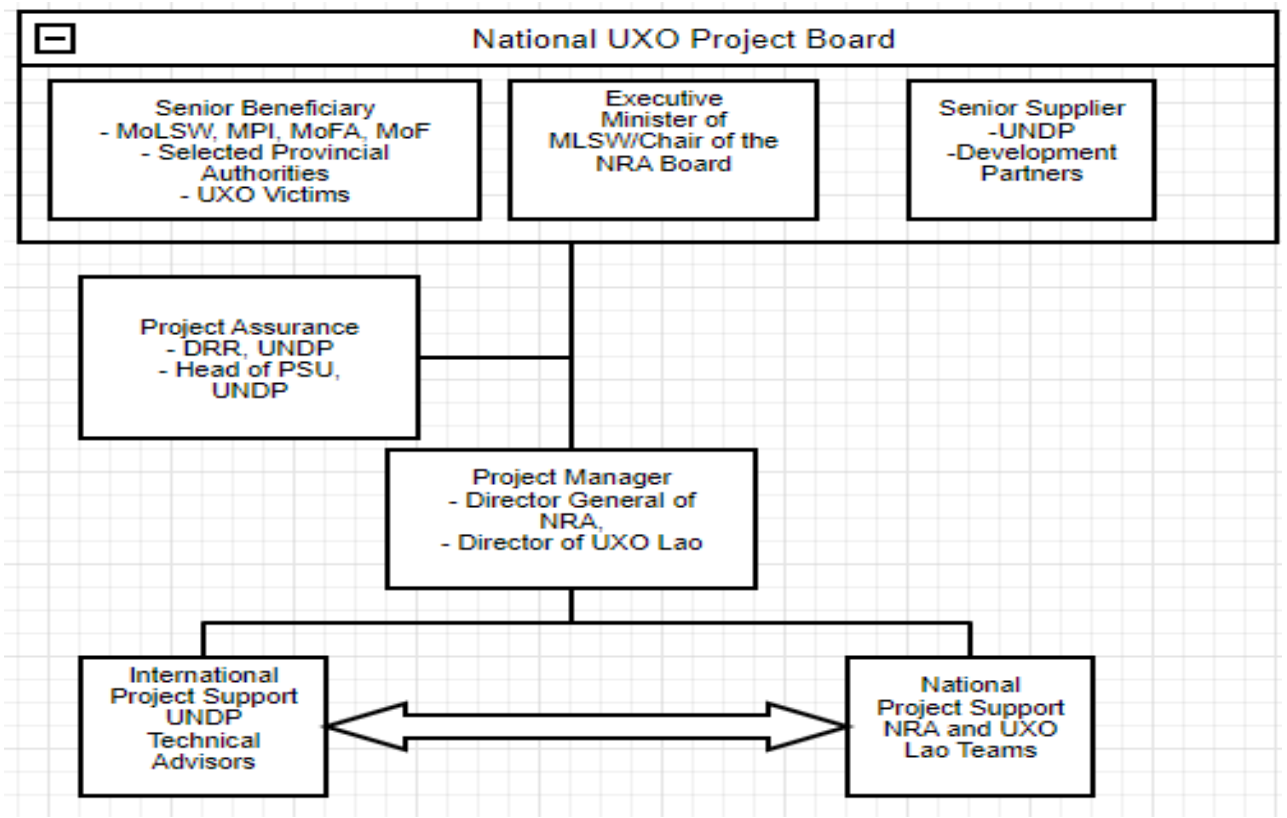
VIII. GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Explain the roles and responsibilities of the parties involved in governing and managing the project. While an example diagram is below, it is not required to follow this diagram exactly. A project can be jointly governed with other projects, for example, through a national steering sub-committee linked to Results Groups under the UNDG Standard Operating Procedures for countries adopting the Delivering as One approach.

Minimum requirements for a project's governance arrangements include stakeholder representation (i.e., UNDP, national partners, beneficiary representatives, donors, etc.) with authority to make decisions regarding the project. Describe how target groups will be engaged in decision making for the project, to ensure their voice and participation. The project's management arrangements must include, at minimum, a project manager and project assurance that advises the project governance mechanism. This section should specify the minimum frequency the governance mechanism will convene (i.e., at least annually.)

The project will be managed in accordance with UNDP policies and procedures governing National Implementation Modality (NIM).

Project Organization Structure



DocuSign Envelope ID: 267BDB33-5D41-40C7-8480-98B10A7F2D0B

The **Project Board,** co-chaired by the Chairperson/Deputy Chair of the NRA Board and the UNDP Resident Representative, will:

- Approve budget, work plan and annual reports.
- Approve the recruitment of project senior management.
- monitor progress on the implementation of the Annual Work Plans and discuss challenges.
- review the contribution made by the Project to the NSEDP and the UNSDCF.
- review future plans and provide guidance to the National Project Managers.
- review ongoing project risks and how to mitigate them

The **Senior Supplier** role will be undertaken by the UNDP Resident Representative along with representatives of Development Partners who have contributed financial or technical support to the project.

The **Senior Beneficiary** role will be undertaken by representatives of project beneficiaries. This will include representatives from local communities and provincial authorities, convened by the NRA. Their primary function is to ensure the realization of project results from the perspective of project beneficiaries.

Project Board Meetings can be undertaken when deemed necessary by the Project Board, at least twice a year. Meetings may be carried out virtually when in-person meetings are not possible. Prior to the Annual Review Meeting, Annual Project Progress Reports will be produced and shared by the NRA and UXO Lao, detailing the progress of the project in terms of the Results Framework, as well as the reporting on expenditures disaggregated by activity and contributor.

The **Project Managers** will be the Directors of the two Implementing Partners, NRA and UXO Lao. Such an arrangement will contribute to better coordination and resource allocation as well as to reduced transaction costs. In coordination with the UNDP team, they will:

- Plan project activities and monitor progress;
- Draft Terms of reference, work specifications and mobilize goods and services as required;
- Monitor events as determined by the Project Monitoring Schedule Plan and update the plan as required;
- Manage requests for the provision of financial resources by UNDP, using advance of funds, direct payments, or reimbursement using the Fund Authorization and Certificate of Expenditures (FACE) form;
- Monitor financial resources and accounting to ensure accuracy and reliability of financial reports;
- Prepare and submit financial and progress reports to UNDP on a quarterly basis;
- Manage and monitor the project risks identified, appraising the Board of new risks, seeking guidance as required and maintaining the Project Risks Log;
- Manage issues, requests for change and maintain an Issues Log;
- Prepare quarterly and annual progress reports and submit to Programme Board and other relevant parties, including UNDP;
- Prepare annual report and submit to the Project Board;

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- Prepare and electronically publish Annual Work Plans and Quarterly Work Plans.
- Approve the recruitment of TAs and consultants

Project Assurance is the responsibility of the Project Board members who will:

- Ensure that funds are made available to the project;
- Update RBM logs in Atlas/Quantum based on information provided from Project Managers;
- Ensure that critical project information is monitored and updated in ATLAS/Quantum;
- Monitor the project's progress towards intended outputs;
- Ensure that Project Progress Reports are prepared and submitted on time;
- Ensure that financial reports are submitted to UNDP on time, and that CDRs are prepared and submitted to the Project Board after each quarterly settlement is completed and annually when the CDR is finalized;
- Perform oversight activities, such as periodic monitoring visits and "spot checks";
- Capture lessons learned during project implementation.

UNDP Support Services

As per the Letter of Agreement (LoA) between the Government of Lao PDR and UNDP with respect to the provision of support services by the UNDP Country Office for nationally implemented programmes, UNDP shall provide, at the request of the implementing partner, the following support services and recover the actual direct and indirect costs incurred by the Country Office in delivering such services as stipulated in the LoA:

- Payments, disbursements and other financial transactions;
- Recruitment of project senior management and consultants;
- Procurement of services and equipment;
- Organization of training activities, conferences, and workshops;
- Travel authorization, Government clearances ticketing and travel arrangements; and,
- Shipment, customs clearance and vehicle registration.
- Report on financial resources and accounting to ensure accuracy and reliability;

Project Support will be provided by the staff of the NRA and UXO Lao, who will carry out the following functions:

1. Establish and maintain project files;
2. Collect project related information and data;
3. Assist in financial management tasks under the responsibility of the Project Managers;
4. Help organize Project Board meetings and other meetings/workshops;
5. Establish document control procedures in line with the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP);
6. Compile, copy and distribute all project reports;
7. Review technical reports;
8. Assist the Project Managers in monitoring activities carried out by responsible parties; and,
9. Assist in financial management tasks under the responsibility of the Project Manager.

DocuSign Envelope ID: 267BDB33-5D41-40C7-8480-98B10A7F2D0B

Government of Lao PDR Cost-Sharing

As noted in the Strategy section above, UNDP will work with the Government of Lao PDR to increase its contribution to the costs of the project, either in cash or in-kind (this could include tax exemption, radio frequency, office space, salary of Lao Army Humanitarian Teams, etc).

Assets

Assets will be managed as per UNDP policies and any relevant NIM guidelines. At the end of the project tenure, the ownership of assets will be transferred to the Government of Lao PDR.

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IX. LEGAL CONTEXT

Standard Basic Assistance Agreement (SBAA)

This project document shall be the instrument referred to as such in Article 1 of the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement between the Government of Lao PDR and UNDP, signed on 10 October 1988. All references in the SBAA to "Executing Agency" shall be deemed to refer to "Implementing Partner."

X. RISK MANAGEMENT

Government Entity (NIM)

1. Consistent with the Article III of the SBAA *[or the Supplemental Provisions to the Project Document]*, the responsibility for the safety and security of the Implementing Partner and its personnel and property, and of UNDP's property in the Implementing Partner's custody, rests with the Implementing Partner. To this end, the Implementing Partner shall:
   a) put in place an appropriate security plan and maintain the security plan, taking into account the security situation in the country where the project is being carried;
   b) assume all risks and liabilities related to the Implementing Partner's security, and the full implementation of the security plan.

2. UNDP reserves the right to verify whether such a plan is in place, and to suggest modifications to the plan when necessary. Failure to maintain and implement an appropriate security plan as required hereunder shall be deemed a breach of the Implementing Partner's obligations under this Project Document.

3. The Implementing Partner agrees to undertake all reasonable efforts to ensure that no UNDP funds received pursuant to the Project Document are used to provide support to individuals or entities associated with terrorism and that the recipients of any amounts provided by UNDP hereunder do not appear on the list maintained by the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999). The list can be accessed via http://www.un.org/sc/committees/1267/aq_sanctions_list.shtml.

4. The Implementing Partner acknowledges and agrees that UNDP will not tolerate sexual harassment and sexual exploitation and abuse of anyone by the Implementing Partner, and each of its responsible parties, their respective sub-recipients and other entities involved in Project implementation, either as contractors or subcontractors and their personnel, and any individuals performing services for them under the Project Document.

   (a) In the implementation of the activities under this Project Document, the Implementing Partner, and each of its sub-parties referred to above, shall comply with the standards of conduct set forth in the Secretary General's Bulletin ST/SGB/2003/13 of 9 October 2003, concerning "Special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse" ("SEA").

   (b) Moreover, and without limitation to the application of other regulations, rules, policies and procedures bearing upon the performance of the activities under this Project Document, in the implementation of activities, the Implementing Partner, and each of its sub-parties referred to above, shall not engage in any form of sexual harassment ("SH"). SH is defined as any unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature that might reasonably be expected or be perceived to cause offense or humiliation, when such conduct interferes with work, is made a condition of employment or creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive work environment.

5. a) In the performance of the activities under this Project Document, the Implementing Partner shall (with respect to its own activities) and shall require from its sub-parties referred to in paragraph 4 (with respect to their activities) that they, have minimum standards and procedures in place, or a plan to develop and/or improve such standards and procedures to be able to take effective preventive and investigative action.

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These should include policies on sexual harassment and sexual exploitation and abuse; policies on whistleblowing/protection against retaliation; and complaints, disciplinary and investigative mechanisms. In line with this, the Implementing Partner will and will require that such sub-parties will take all appropriate measures to:

i. Prevent its employees, agents or any other persons engaged to perform any services under this Project Document, from engaging in SH or SEA;

ii. Offer employees and associated personnel training on prevention and response to SH and SEA, where the Implementing Partner and its sub-parties referred to in paragraph 4 have not put in place its own training regarding the prevention of SH and SEA, the Implementing Partner and its sub-parties may use the training material available at UNDP;

iii. Report and monitor allegations of SH and SEA of which the Implementing Partner and its sub-parties referred to in paragraph 4 have been informed or have otherwise become aware, and status thereof;

iv. Refer victims/survivors of SH and SEA to safe and confidential victim assistance; and

v. Promptly and confidentially record and investigate any allegations credible enough to warrant an investigation of SH or SEA. The Implementing Partner shall advise UNDP of any such allegations received and investigations being conducted by itself or any of its sub-parties referred to in paragraph 4 with respect to their activities under the Project Document, and shall keep UNDP informed during the investigation by it or any of such sub-parties, to the extent that such notification (i) does not jeopardize the conduct of the investigation, including but not limited to the safety or security of persons, and/or (ii) is not in contravention of any laws applicable to it. Following the investigation, the Implementing Partner shall advise UNDP of any actions taken by it or any of the other entities further to the investigation.

b) The Implementing Partner shall establish that it has complied with the foregoing, to the satisfaction of UNDP, when requested by UNDP or any party acting on its behalf to provide such confirmation. Failure of the Implementing Partner, and each of its sub-parties referred to in paragraph 4, to comply of the foregoing, as determined by UNDP, shall be considered grounds for suspension or termination of the Project.

6. Social and environmental sustainability will be enhanced through application of the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards (http://www.undp.org/ses) and related Accountability Mechanism (http://www.undp.org/secu-srm).

7. The Implementing Partner shall: (a) conduct project and programme-related activities in a manner consistent with the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards, (b) implement any management or mitigation plan prepared for the project or programme to comply with such standards, and (c) engage in a constructive and timely manner to address any concerns and complaints raised through the Accountability Mechanism. UNDP will seek to ensure that communities and other project stakeholders are informed of and have access to the Accountability Mechanism.

8. All signatories to the Project Document shall cooperate in good faith with any exercise to evaluate any programme or project-related commitments or compliance with the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards. This includes providing access to project sites, relevant personnel, information, and documentation.

9. The Implementing Partner will take appropriate steps to prevent misuse of funds, fraud or corruption, by its officials, consultants, responsible parties, subcontractors and sub-recipients in implementing the project or using UNDP funds. The Implementing Partner will ensure that its financial management, anti-corruption and anti-fraud policies are in place and enforced for all funding received from or through UNDP.

10. The requirements of the following documents, then in force at the time of signature of the Project Document, apply to the Implementing Partner: (a) UNDP Policy on Fraud and other Corrupt Practices and (b) UNDP Office of Audit and Investigations Investigation Guidelines. The Implementing Partner agrees to the requirements of the above documents, which are an integral part of this Project Document and are available online at www.undp.org.

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11. In the event that an investigation is required, UNDP has the obligation to conduct investigations relating to any aspect of UNDP projects and programmes in accordance with UNDP's regulations, rules, policies and procedures. The Implementing Partner shall provide its full cooperation, including making available personnel, relevant documentation, and granting access to the Implementing Partner's (and its consultants', responsible parties', subcontractors' and sub-recipients') premises, for such purposes at reasonable times and on reasonable conditions as may be required for the purpose of an investigation. Should there be a limitation in meeting this obligation, UNDP shall consult with the Implementing Partner to find a solution.

12. The signatories to this Project Document will promptly inform one another in case of any incidence of inappropriate use of funds, or credible allegation of fraud or corruption with due confidentiality.

    Where the Implementing Partner becomes aware that a UNDP project or activity, in whole or in part, is the focus of investigation for alleged fraud/corruption, the Implementing Partner will inform the UNDP Resident Representative/Head of Office, who will promptly inform UNDP's Office of Audit and Investigations (OAI). The Implementing Partner shall provide regular updates to the head of UNDP in the country and OAI of the status of, and actions relating to, such investigation.

13. *Choose one of the three following options:*

    Option 1: UNDP shall be entitled to a refund from the Implementing Partner of any funds provided that have been used inappropriately, including through fraud or corruption, or otherwise paid other than in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Project Document. Such amount may be deducted by UNDP from any payment due to the Implementing Partner under this or any other agreement. Recovery of such amount by UNDP shall not diminish or curtail the Implementing Partner's obligations under this Project Document.

    Where such funds have not been refunded to UNDP, the Implementing Partner agrees that donors to UNDP (including the Government) whose funding is the source, in whole or in part, of the funds for the activities under this Project Document, may seek recourse to the Implementing Partner for the recovery of any funds determined by UNDP to have been used inappropriately, including through fraud or corruption, or otherwise paid other than in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Project Document.

    Note: The term "Project Document" as used in this clause shall be deemed to include any relevant subsidiary agreement further to the Project Document, including those with responsible parties, subcontractors and sub-recipients.

14. Each contract issued by the Implementing Partner in connection with this Project Document shall include a provision representing that no fees, gratuities, rebates, gifts, commissions or other payments, other than those shown in the proposal, have been given, received, or promised in connection with the selection process or in contract execution, and that the recipient of funds from the Implementing Partner shall cooperate with any and all investigations and post-payment audits.

15. Should UNDP refer to the relevant national authorities for appropriate legal action any alleged wrongdoing relating to the project, the Government will ensure that the relevant national authorities shall actively investigate the same and take appropriate legal action against all individuals found to have participated in the wrongdoing, recover and return any recovered funds to UNDP.

16. The Implementing Partner shall ensure that all of its obligations set forth under this section entitled "Risk Management" are passed on to each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient and that all the clauses under this section entitled "Risk Management Standard Clauses" are included, *mutatis mutandis*, in all sub-contracts or sub-agreements entered into further to this Project Document.

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XI. ANNEXES

1. **Project Quality Assurance Report**

2. **Social and Environmental Screening Template** [English] [French] [Spanish], including additional Social and Environmental Assessments or Management Plans as relevant. *(NOTE: The SES Screening is not required for projects in which UNDP is Administrative Agent only and/or projects comprised solely of reports, coordination of events, trainings, workshops, meetings, conferences, preparation of communication materials, strengthening capacities of partners to participate in international negotiations and conferences, partnership coordination and management of networks, or global/regional projects with no country level activities).*

3. **Risk Analysis**. Use the standard Risk Register template. Please refer to the Deliverable Description of the Risk Register for instructions

4. **Capacity Assessment:** Results of capacity assessments of Implementing Partner (including HACT Micro Assessment)

5. **Project Board Terms of Reference and TORs of key management positions**

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Annex 2: Social and Environmental Screening Template (2021 SESP Template, Version 1)

The completed template, which constitutes the Social and Environmental Screening Report, must be included as an annex to the Project Document at the design stage. Note: this template will be converted into an online tool. The online version will guide users through the process and will embed relevant guidance.

Project Information

Project Information	
1. Project Title	Supporting Effectiveness and Efficiency in the UXO Sector to contribute to the achievement of SDG 18 and Safe Path Forward III (SPF III).
2. Project Number (i.e. Atlas project ID, PIMS+)	NRA: 00120365 (Output ID 00116549), UXO Lao: 00120364 (Output ID 00116548)
3. Location (Global/Region/Country)	Lao PDR
4. Project stage (Design or Implementation)	Design
5. Date	23rd March 2022

Part A. Integrating Programming Principles to Strengthen Social and Environmental Sustainability

QUESTION 1: How Does the Project Integrate the Programming Principles in Order to Strengthen Social and Environmental Sustainability?
Briefly describe in the space below how the project mainstreams the human rights-based approach
The project will address the enabling environment by supporting work on the ten-year strategy for the UXO sector, as well as legislation. It will seek to build the capacity of duty bearers, in this case NRA and UXO Lao. The project will also seek to realize the rights of right holders, namely people living in and around UXO-contaminated areas, including UXO survivors through working to remove the threat of UXO and landmines to promote economic development and to combat poverty A key aspect of this project will entail support to the National Regulatory Authority for the UXO/Mine Action Sector (NRA) to develop a transparent and clear process of prioritization based on maximizing development and livelihoods outcomes. The improvement of transparency in sector-level task prioritization will enable improved monitoring of the use of UXO-sector resources and will enable analysis of beneficiary groups. In addition, UNDP will support the process of Post Clearance Assessments which will monitor land-use after clearance by humanitarian clearance operators. This is intended to protect land-users and has a particular focus on small agricultural producers; however, UNDP will work to advise on a system that allows for investment or appropriate changes in the use of land. Additionally, the project includes the development of a sectoral Monitoring and Evaluation Plan. UNDP will support the NRA in the development of this plan and will advise on what should be included to ensure it is in accordance with the principles of HRBA and can verify whether vulnerable groups are included in survey and clearance consultations at the village level.
Briefly describe in the space below how the project is likely to improve gender equality and women's empowerment

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The project includes components designed to improve the management and use of data by the NRA. This includes increased collection and use of gender- and age-disaggregated data (GADD), where feasible relating to primary beneficiaries, victims of accidents and staff who are exposed to adult learning resources provided through the project. In addition, the NRA has affirmed its commitment to enhancing gender mainstreaming in the UXO sector as a part of the SPFIII sector strategy.

Among 13 new teams under the Humanitarian clearance teams of Lao People's Army (Unit 58), 1 or 2 teams to be allocated as female teams by 2026 so that more females can be assigned as leaders. Also, the Unit 58 will maintain the percentage of female personnel among its 20 teams to a minimum of 15%. It also reflects a recognition that women are generally underrepresented in the management and running of the UXO sector. The NRA with UNDP's support will also provide gender mainstreaming ToT to train all entities engaged in the UXO sector in gender mainstreaming, based on a manual entitled, "The Manual for Trainers on Gender Mainstreaming in the UXO Sector in Lao PDR", available at the NRA website in both the Lao and English languages.

Briefly describe in the space below how the project mainstreams sustainability and resilience

The main operational activities of the project will be undertaken in line with the Lao PDR UXO National Standards, including the standards relating to environment and resilience. Lao PDR is one of the few countries with a national standard specific to environmental management. It covers measures for environmental management that the NRA and all operators have to consider the legal obligations of the Lao PDR Environmental Protection Law (EPL). Therefore, the project will ensure the full compliance of the Lao EPL by the implementing partners, NRA, UXO Lao and Unit 58.

This project seeks to address poverty and inequality and reduce vulnerabilities while maintaining and enhancing natural capital. UNDP supports the Government of Lao PDR's efforts to reduce risks and vulnerabilities associated with UXO threats and hazards. In designing development cooperation activities, UNDP seeks to support the Government of Lao PDR and implementing partners to identify opportunities to advance sustainability and resiliency dimensions of development initiatives and strengthen environmental management and protection.

Briefly describe in the space below how the project strengthens accountability to stakeholders

UNDP does not support activities that do not comply with national law and obligations under international law, whichever is the higher standard. In line with this principle, this project promotes accountability to project stakeholders by (i) enabling active local community engagement and participation in decision-making, particularly those at risk of being left behind; and (ii) ensuring stakeholders can communicate their concerns and have access to rights-compatible complaints redress processes and mechanisms.

This project also supports an accountability mechanism, so called UXO hotline, that ensures individuals, peoples, and communities affected by projects or UXO have access to appropriate procedures for hearing, sharing information, and jointly addressing issues related to the social and/or environmental impacts of UNDP-supported projects.

Part B. Identifying and Managing Social and Environmental Risks

QUESTION 2: What are the Potential Social and Environmental Risks? *Note: Complete SESP Attachment 1 before responding to Question 2.*	**QUESTION 3: What is the level of significance of the potential social and environmental risks?** *Note: Respond to Questions 4 and 5below before proceeding to Question 5*			**QUESTION 6: Describe the assessment and management measures for each risk rated Moderate, Substantial or High**
Risk Description (broken down by event, cause, impact)	***Impact and Likelihood (1-5)***	***Significance (Low, Moderate Substantial, High)***	***Comments (optional)***	***Description of assessment and management measures for risks rated as Moderate, Substantial or High***

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Risk 1: Government not in a position to meet the rights of Lao population due to limited capacity of land release mechanisms in the face of significant contamination of UXOs. (Screening question P2)	I = 2 L = 2	Low	Duty bearers (specifically MoLSW through NRA and UXO Lao) do not have enough capacity mass to be able to meet rights holders needs across all of the country due to the scale of the problem of UXO contamination. Prioritization work will strengthen people focused land release but will not redress the realization of rights of all affected populations within the project period.	Accelerating progress in land release and looking for innovation measures which will hasten project (as well as SDG18, government strategic Safe Path Forward III and CCM treaty) are embedded into the project design and assessed as part of UNDP's added value.
Risk 2: Rights for UXO clearance are not widely known and communities are not fully engaged in the prioritization process. (Screening question P3)	I = 2 L = 2	Low	Prioritization currently coordinated by the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare; national prioritization plan will be developed over the project period for increased transparency.	UNDP will advocate for clear communication of prioritization criteria and support the improvement of national and provincial level prioritization of land release through engagement of multi-sectoral actors at a national and provincial level.
Risk 3: Project activities engage in activities which bring people together (community consultations, meetings etc.) which may hasten COVID 19 transmission (Screening question 3.4)	I = 3 L = 4	Moderate	-	Project will adhere to UN and government guidance on social distancing, hygiene measures, PPE use and possible cessation of face to face meetings to hinder COVID transmission.
Risk 4: The project, through the identification and destruction of explosives (and the use of secondary explosives to destroy ordnance), means that partners and communities come into contact with explosive materials (and the subsequent threat to life and possible injury). (Screening question 3.5, 7.6, 8.3)	I = 4 L = 2	Moderate	Clear National Standards and Standard Operating Procedures minimize the risk of error or injury during operations. EORR strategic plan and methodologies developed to reduce risk-taking behaviours of local populations at-risk.	The project will support and strengthen national standards (through revision, support to enforcement, quality assurance etc.) The principal aim of National Standards in the sector, owned by the NRA, is to reduce risk both to operators directly seeking and engaging with explosive ordnance, as well as working to reduce the risk profile of at-risk groups in affected communities.
Risk 5: Partner organizations engaged in ordnance clearance and community focused activities are mobile and move around project areas. Historically this can lead to conflicts with host communities as well as other issues, such as HIV transmission.	I = 3 L = 1	Low	-	The project, through community liaison activities, will work to support and strengthen community dialogue with project staff to ensure strong understanding of purpose and to ensure project accountability with local populations. Activities delivered through operator Standard Operating Procedures (SoPs) for community liaison.

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(Screening question 3.7)				
Risk 6: Project may undertake activities adjacent to heritage sites. (Screening question 4.1)	I = 2 L = 2	Low		
[add additional rows as needed]				

QUESTION 4: What is the overall project risk categorization?

Low Risk	☐	
Moderate Risk	X	
Substantial Risk	☐	
High Risk	☐	

QUESTION 5: Based on the identified risks and risk categorization, what requirements of the SES are triggered? (check all that apply)

Question only required for Moderate, Substantial and High Risk projects

Is assessment required? (check if "yes")	☐			***Status? (completed, planned)***
if yes, indicate overall type and status		☐	Targeted assessment(s)	
		☐	ESIA (Environmental and Social Impact Assessment)	
		☐	SESA (Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment)	
Are management plans required? (check if "yes)	☐			
If yes, indicate overall type		☐	Targeted management plans (e.g. Gender Action Plan, Emergency Response Plan, Waste Management Plan, others)	
		☐	ESMP (Environmental and Social Management Plan which may include range of targeted plans)	
		☐	ESMF (Environmental and Social Management Framework)	
Based on identified risks, which Principles/Project-level Standards triggered?		**Comments (not required)**		
Overarching Principle: Leave No One Behind				
Human Rights	☐			
Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment	☐			

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	Accountability	☐	
	1. Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management	☐	
	2. Climate Change and Disaster Risks	☐	
	3. Community Health, Safety and Security	X	The project will adhere to UN and government guidance on epidemic disease to hinder disease transmission within the country, as well as working to reduce the risk profile of at-risk groups in affected communities.
	4. Cultural Heritage	☐	
	5. Displacement and Resettlement	☐	
	6. Indigenous Peoples	☐	
	7. Labour and Working Conditions	X	The project will support and strengthen national standards in the sector, owned by the NRA, is to mitigate risk both to operators directly seeking and engaging with explosive ordnance.
	8. Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency	☐	

Final Sign Off

Final Screening at the design-stage is not complete until the following signatures are included

Signature	***Date***	***Description***
QA Assessor DocuSigned by: Minyoung Kim 705EB719478E4EB...	1 APR 2022	UNDP staff member responsible for the project, typically a UNDP Programme Manager (Head of Unit). Final signature confirms they have "checked" to ensure that the SESP is adequately conducted.
QA Approver DocuSigned by: 8B46E7FC81674ED... Catherine Phuong	1 APR 2022	UNDP senior manager, typically the UNDP Deputy Country Director (DCD), Country Director (CD), Deputy Resident Representative (DRR), or Resident Representative (RR). The QA Approver cannot also be the QA Assessor. Final signature confirms they have "cleared" the SESP prior to submittal to the PAC.
PAC Chair DocuSigned by: 8B46E7FC81674ED... Catherine Phuong	1 APR 2022	UNDP chair of the PAC. In some cases PAC Chair may also be the QA Approver. Final signature confirms that the SESP was considered as part of the project appraisal and considered in recommendations of the PAC.

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SESP Attachment 1. Social and Environmental Risk Screening Checklist

Checklist Potential Social and Environmental Risks		
INSTRUCTIONS: The risk screening checklist will assist in answering Questions 2-6 of the Screening Template. Answers to the checklist questions help to (1) identify potential risks, (2) determine the overall risk categorization of the project, and (3) determine required level of assessment and management measures. Refer to the SES toolkit for further guidance on addressing screening questions.		
Overarching Principle: Leave No One Behind **Human Rights**		**Answer (Yes/No)**
P.1	Have local communities or individuals raised human rights concerns regarding the project (e.g. during the stakeholder engagement process, grievance processes, public statements)?	*No*
P.2	Is there a risk that duty-bearers (e.g. government agencies) do not have the capacity to meet their obligations in the project?	*Yes*
P.3	Is there a risk that rights-holders (e.g. project-affected persons) do not have the capacity to claim their rights?	*Yes*
Would the project potentially involve or lead to:		
P.4	adverse impacts on enjoyment of the human rights (civil, political, economic, social or cultural) of the affected population and particularly of marginalized groups?	No
P.5	inequitable or discriminatory impacts on affected populations, particularly people living in poverty or marginalized or excluded individuals or groups, including persons with disabilities?[1]	No
P.6	restrictions in availability, quality of and/or access to resources or basic services, in particular to marginalized individuals or groups, including persons with disabilities?	No
P.7	exacerbation of conflicts among and/or the risk of violence to project-affected communities and individuals?	No
Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment		
P.8	Have women's groups/leaders raised gender equality concerns regarding the project, (e.g. during the stakeholder engagement process, grievance processes, public statements)?	No
Would the project potentially involve or lead to:		
P.9	adverse impacts on gender equality and/or the situation of women and girls?	No
P.10	reproducing discriminations against women based on gender, especially regarding participation in design and implementation or access to opportunities and benefits?	No
P.11	limitations on women's ability to use, develop and protect natural resources, taking into account different roles and positions of women and men in accessing environmental goods and services? *For example, activities that could lead to natural resources degradation or depletion in communities who depend on these resources for their livelihoods and well being*	No
P.12	exacerbation of risks of gender-based violence? *For example, through the influx of workers to a community, changes in community and household power dynamics, increased exposure to unsafe public places and/or transport, etc*.	No
Sustainability and Resilience: Screening questions regarding risks associated with sustainability and resilience are encompassed by the Standard-specific questions below		

[1] Prohibited grounds of discrimination include race, ethnicity, sex, age, language, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, political or other opinion, national or social or geographical origin, property, birth or other status including as an indigenous person or as a member of a minority. References to "women and men" or similar is understood to include women and men, boys and girls, and other groups discriminated against based on their gender identities, such as transgender and transsexual people.

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Accountability		
Would the project potentially involve or lead to:		
P.13	exclusion of any potentially affected stakeholders, in particular marginalized groups and excluded individuals (including persons with disabilities), from fully participating in decisions that may affect them?	No
P.14	grievances or objections from potentially affected stakeholders?	No
P.15	risks of retaliation or reprisals against stakeholders who express concerns or grievances, or who seek to participate in or to obtain information on the project?	No
Project-Level Standards		
Standard 1: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management		
Would the project potentially involve or lead to:		
1.1	adverse impacts to habitats (e.g. modified, natural, and critical habitats) and/or ecosystems and ecosystem services? *For example, through habitat loss, conversion or degradation, fragmentation, hydrological changes*	No
1.2	activities within or adjacent to critical habitats and/or environmentally sensitive areas, including (but not limited to) legally protected areas (e.g. nature reserve, national park), areas proposed for protection, or recognized as such by authoritative sources and/or indigenous peoples or local communities?	No
1.3	changes to the use of lands and resources that may have adverse impacts on habitats, ecosystems, and/or livelihoods? (Note: if restrictions and/or limitations of access to lands would apply, refer to Standard 5)	No
1.4	risks to endangered species (e.g. reduction, encroachment on habitat)?	No
1.5	exacerbation of illegal wildlife trade?	No
1.6	introduction of invasive alien species?	No
1.7	adverse impacts on soils?	No
1.8	harvesting of natural forests, plantation development, or reforestation?	No
1.9	significant agricultural production?	No
1.10	animal husbandry or harvesting of fish populations or other aquatic species?	No
1.11	significant extraction, diversion or containment of surface or ground water? *For example, construction of dams, reservoirs, river basin developments, groundwater extraction*	No
1.12	handling or utilization of genetically modified organisms/living modified organisms?[2]	No
1.13	utilization of genetic resources? (e.g. collection and/or harvesting, commercial development)[3]	No
1.14	adverse transboundary or global environmental concerns?	No
Standard 2: Climate Change and Disaster Risks		
Would the project potentially involve or lead to:		
2.1	areas subject to hazards such as earthquakes, floods, landslides, severe winds, storm surges, tsunami or volcanic eruptions?	No
2.2	outputs and outcomes sensitive or vulnerable to potential impacts of climate change or disasters?	No

[2] See the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.

[3] See the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Nagoya Protocol on access and benefit sharing from use of genetic resources.

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	For example, through increased precipitation, drought, temperature, salinity, extreme events, earthquakes	
2.3	increases in vulnerability to climate change impacts or disaster risks now or in the future (also known as maladaptive or negative coping practices)? *For example, changes to land use planning may encourage further development of floodplains, potentially increasing the population's vulnerability to climate change, specifically flooding*	No
2.4	increases of greenhouse gas emissions, black carbon emissions or other drivers of climate change?	No
Standard 3: Community Health, Safety and Security		
Would the project potentially involve or lead to:		
3.1	construction and/or infrastructure development (e.g. roads, buildings, dams)? (Note: the GEF does not finance projects that would involve the construction or rehabilitation of large or complex dams)	No
3.2	air pollution, noise, vibration, traffic, injuries, physical hazards, poor surface water quality due to runoff, erosion, sanitation?	No
3.3	harm or losses due to failure of structural elements of the project (e.g. collapse of buildings or infrastructure)?	No
3.4	risks of water-borne or other vector-borne diseases (e.g. temporary breeding habitats), communicable and noncommunicable diseases, nutritional disorders, mental health?	Yes
3.5	transport, storage, and use and/or disposal of hazardous or dangerous materials (e.g. explosives, fuel and other chemicals during construction and operation)?	Yes
3.6	adverse impacts on ecosystems and ecosystem services relevant to communities' health (e.g. food, surface water purification, natural buffers from flooding)?	No
3.7	influx of project workers to project areas?	Yes
3.8	engagement of security personnel to protect facilities and property or to support project activities?	No
Standard 4: Cultural Heritage		
Would the project potentially involve or lead to:		
4.1	activities adjacent to or within a Cultural Heritage site?	Yes
4.2	significant excavations, demolitions, movement of earth, flooding or other environmental changes?	No
4.3	adverse impacts to sites, structures, or objects with historical, cultural, artistic, traditional or religious values or intangible forms of culture (e.g. knowledge, innovations, practices)? (Note: projects intended to protect and conserve Cultural Heritage may also have inadvertent adverse impacts)	No
4.4	alterations to landscapes and natural features with cultural significance?	No
4.5	utilization of tangible and/or intangible forms (e.g. practices, traditional knowledge) of Cultural Heritage for commercial or other purposes?	No
Standard 5: Displacement and Resettlement		
Would the project potentially involve or lead to:		
5.1	temporary or permanent and full or partial physical displacement (including people without legally recognizable claims to land)?	No
5.2	economic displacement (e.g. loss of assets or access to resources due to land acquisition or access restrictions – even in the absence of physical relocation)?	No

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5.3	risk of forced evictions?[4]	No
5.4	impacts on or changes to land tenure arrangements and/or community based property rights/customary rights to land, territories and/or resources?	No
Standard 6: Indigenous Peoples		
Would the project potentially involve or lead to:		
6.1	areas where indigenous peoples are present (including project area of influence)?	No
6.2	activities located on lands and territories claimed by indigenous peoples?	No
6.3	impacts (positive or negative) to the human rights, lands, natural resources, territories, and traditional livelihoods of indigenous peoples (regardless of whether indigenous peoples possess the legal titles to such areas, whether the project is located within or outside of the lands and territories inhabited by the affected peoples, or whether the indigenous peoples are recognized as indigenous peoples by the country in question)? *If the answer to screening question 6.3 is "yes", then the potential risk impacts are considered significant and the project would be categorized as either Substantial Risk or High Risk*	No
6.4	the absence of culturally appropriate consultations carried out with the objective of achieving FPIC on matters that may affect the rights and interests, lands, resources, territories and traditional livelihoods of the indigenous peoples concerned?	No
6.5	the utilization and/or commercial development of natural resources on lands and territories claimed by indigenous peoples?	No
6.6	forced eviction or the whole or partial physical or economic displacement of indigenous peoples, including through access restrictions to lands, territories, and resources? *Consider, and where appropriate ensure, consistency with the answers under Standard 5 above*	No
6.7	adverse impacts on the development priorities of indigenous peoples as defined by them?	No
6.8	risks to the physical and cultural survival of indigenous peoples?	No
6.9	impacts on the Cultural Heritage of indigenous peoples, including through the commercialization or use of their traditional knowledge and practices? *Consider, and where appropriate ensure, consistency with the answers under Standard 4 above.*	No
Standard 7: Labour and Working Conditions		
Would the project potentially involve or lead to: (note: applies to project and contractor workers)		
7.1	working conditions that do not meet national labour laws and international commitments?	No
7.2	working conditions that may deny freedom of association and collective bargaining?	No
7.3	use of child labour?	No
7.4	use of forced labour?	No
7.5	discriminatory working conditions and/or lack of equal opportunity?	No
7.6	occupational health and safety risks due to physical, chemical, biological and psychosocial hazards (including violence and harassment) throughout the project life-cycle?	Yes
Standard 8: Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency		
Would the project potentially involve or lead to:		

[4] Forced eviction is defined here as the permanent or temporary removal against their will of individuals, families or communities from the homes and/or land which they occupy, without the provision of, and access to, appropriate forms of legal or other protection. Forced evictions constitute gross violations of a range of internationally recognized human rights.

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8.1	the release of pollutants to the environment due to routine or non-routine circumstances with the potential for adverse local, regional, and/or transboundary impacts?	No
8.2	the generation of waste (both hazardous and non-hazardous)?	No
8.3	the manufacture, trade, release, and/or use of hazardous materials and/or chemicals?	Yes
8.4	the use of chemicals or materials subject to international bans or phase-outs? *For example, DDT, PCBs and other chemicals listed in international conventions such as the Montreal Protocol, Minamata Convention, Basel Convention, Rotterdam Convention, Stockholm Convention*	No
8.5	the application of pesticides that may have a negative effect on the environment or human health?	No
8.6	significant consumption of raw materials, energy, and/or water?	No

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ANNEX 3: PROJECT RISK ANALYSIS

A. Offline Project Risk Register for Project Document Template

Project Title: Supporting Effectiveness and Efficiency in the UXO Sector to contribute to the achievement of SDG 18 and Safe Path Forward III (SPF III).				**Project Number: NRA: 00120365 (Output ID 00116549), UXO Lao: 00120364 (Output ID 00116548)**	**Date: 23 March 2022**
#	**Description**	**Risk Category**	**Impact & Likelihood = Risk Level**	**Risk Treatment / Management Measures**	**Risk Owner**
1	Decrease in external funding due to changes in donor priorities and high dependency of the UXO sector on the international community.	Financial Political	L = 3 I = 2	Advocacy for Increased Government of Lao PDR contribution to the UXO sector, as well as continued donor funding to support expanded activities over time. Preference of multi-year contributions. Advocacy for long-term sustainable financing strategy and develop a strategy for the sector.	NRA UXO Lao GoL
2	Increased capacity is not applied in the sector due to internal political dynamics etc.	Operational Political	L = 3 I = 3	Close dialogue with key stakeholders to promote changes in the sector. High level advocacy of the removal of bureaucratic obstacles.	NRA UXO Lao GoL
3	Delays in implementation of land release and innovation components of the project due to bureaucratic obstacles (e.g. MoU issues)	Programmatic	L = 4 I = 3	Support partners in ensuring provincial and district authorities are informed and approve project MoUs. Support NRA to facilitate dialogue with key stakeholders.	UNDP, NRA, MoFA
4	UNDP may be associated with high-profile accident, financial irregularities, false reporting in the UXO sector.	Reputational	L = 2 I = 5	Undertake financial audits. Ensure compliance with national standards on accident investigation. Undertake regular monitoring of the project activities.	UNDP
5	Changes in governance arrangements or key personnel in NRA and/or UXO Lao.	Governance Management	L = 3 I = 3	NRA Board will ensure a smooth transition to any such developments. NRA monitoring procedures and PCA procedures to mitigate negative impact of staff turnover. NRA Board will facilitate open dialogue to address any concerns of project partners.	NRA Board