Promoting women’s equal participation and contribution in the UXO sector in Lao PDR

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Why ensure Gender Equality and women’s Empowerment in the UXO sector?

- The government’s commitment to advance women’s participation in the national development process, through national and sector specific policies
- Lao UXO National Gender Mainstreaming Strategy follows the UN Security Council Resolution “Women, peace, Security”
- CEDAW
- Convention on the Rights of Disabilities
- Convention on Cluster Munitions
- Beijing Platform for Action
- The CSW highlighted the special concerns for women in mine affected areas
Canada supported Project: Promoting women’s participation in UXO sector management and in Victim Assistance

- Lao Women’s Union and UN Women jointly implement the project, with support from National Regulatory Authorities (NRA) which coordinates all UXO programs in Lao PDR

- **A Pilot project** completed in February 2018, made an Assessment on HOW the UXO programs promote women’s participation and benefits in:
  - Management of UXO programs;
  - Risk Education programs;
  - Victim assistance;
  - Land Clearance
New project: Promoting Women´s Participation in UXO sector Management and Victim assistance

Focus on:

❖ Developing training tools for integrating Gender equality in Management, Risk Education, Land Clearance Action and Victim Assistance;

❖ Organise Training of Trainers for LWU, NRA and other mine sector actors;

❖ Organise Gender mainstreaming and Women´s Leadership Training;

❖ Pilot a Women´s Victim Assistance Program in Xieng Khouang Province which is heavily contaminated. Goal is to reach women victims, women whose husbands /children are victims.
Slogan: “Gender equality for National Development”

LWU offers poor women skills training leading to income generation

LWU is member of the NRA board to ensure that participation objectives benefit the thousands of poor rural women UXO victims in the local communities
LWU/NRA and UN Women: Gender Mainstreaming seminar for UXO sector staff in Xieng Khouang  February 2018
Launch of project and Leadership Training for UXO partners from government and NGOs
Why Investing in women in UXO Sector?

Both women and men contribute to decision making

More equal Access to Victim Assistance

Improved outcomes in Land Clearance
How to achieve gender equality in UXO sector employment?

- Education
  - Men’s jobs
  - Women’s jobs
  - Best person for job

- Laws

- Awareness campaigns

- Sharing family responsibilities
Women workers in a UXO Land Clearance Field
A Woman Land Clearance worker in action
Gender mainstreaming in mine action in Lao PDR

1. Mapping and statistics by sex of people in mined areas
2. Analysis of their situation by sex
3. Design of interventions with consultation of both men and women
4. Implementation: Recruitment of women and men de miners; Training on de mining
5. Design of gender indicators (beneficiaries); Training on gender
6. Monitoring indicators
7. Evaluation Results

Recruitment of women and men de-miners
Training on de-mining
THANK YOU