



 **UN
WOMEN**
United Nations Entity for Gender Equality
and the Empowerment of Women

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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.

LAO WOMEN'S UNION

- ▶ 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?



How to achieve gender equality in UXO sector employment?



Education

Men's jobs
Women's jobs
Best person for job



Laws

Sharing family responsibilities

Awareness campaigns



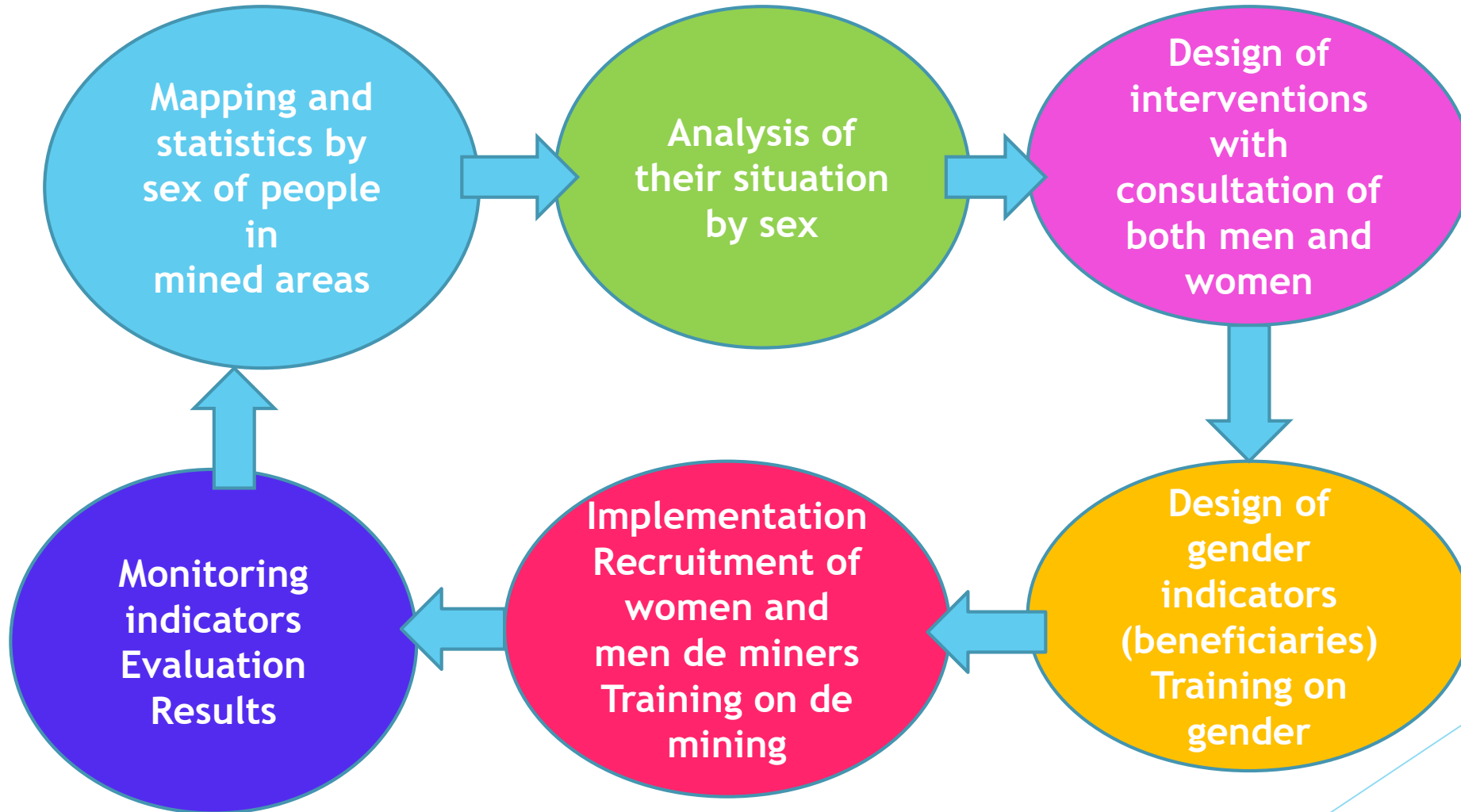
Women workers in a UXO Land Clearance Field



A Woman Land Clearance worker in action



Gender mainstreaming in mine action in Lao PDR



▶ *THANK YOU*