



*Building an environment for a better life and a sustainable future*

## Both Lao and Japanese govt. staff monitored XKH Project

From September 1 to 3, the project was assessed by three government staff from the Lao Ministries of Foreign Affairs, the Labor & Social Welfare, and the Japanese Embassy, which have assisted JMAS. I greatly appreciated their monitoring progress on the on-going project, and their gathering villagers' comments in cooperation with UXO Lao-XKH.



At meetings with the XKH Deputy Governor and the Labor & Social Welfare Provincial Director, the officials favorably assessed the project, and showed great confidence in how JMAS's efforts continued after the project's termination on March 11 2010.



On a sadder note, we visited a UXO victim, a 30-year-old man who has 4 children under the age of 10.

It was clear that he was not able to work because his left knee has scrap metals from a UXO explosion that occurred when he tried to dig a bamboo shoot with sickle.

Without any income, he and his wife were very worried for their children's futures.

(JMAS Representative, Mr. Kurokawa)

## Impression of blasting bombs from JMAS New-Comer Staff

How terrible the photograph of blasting bombs is!!

I feel so sorry for the people injured by and suffering from the effects of the bombs. I am very glad to have participated in work by the JMAS office where they are undertaking many activities to help people in Laos.

(Ms. Shimamoto, accountant at JMAS-VTE office)



## Community Awareness activity at Attapue Project

During the rainy season, Mr. Nakajo, JMAS Technical Advisor (TA), in cooperation with UXO Lao staff, followed up community awareness activities at Xaysettha District, Attapue Province. Using this opportunity, he collaborated fully with UXO Lao team leader and worked closely with him.

Consequently, many children became interested in his story of the danger from UXO explosions, which was shown through presentations and illustrations. Finally, he offered them educational materials, such as pencils, notebooks, and erasers.



## Impression of UXO problems from Japanese Teacher and Student

(1). My students and I were very pleased that we could inspect with our own eyes UXO clearance activity in the field, in XKH, around August 1 when Ban Cluster Bomb entered into force. Furthermore, we were lucky that Mr. Kariya, JMAS TA, gave a nice briefing to help us understand clearly. I'm sure this opportunity will benefit us in future. Thank you so much.

(Seiichiro HASUI, Associate Professor, Area of Social Sciences, Department of Humanities, Ibaragi University)

(2). When I was a college student, I had studied about International Cooperation Activities, and had several opportunities to visit Laos. However, as my major was education, I had seldom thought about UXO problems.

I appreciate JMAS staff (May)'s suggestion to get a briefing on UXO concerns. There is a big difference between knowledge and ignorance. I realized it today!

I don't know yet what I should do to help out on this matter, but if I have a chance, I would like to visit the UXO-affected area in the future to see it with my own eyes.

(Ms. Nanae TONDA)