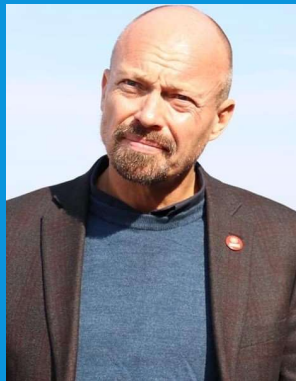


Towards a mine-free world



Pehr Lodhammar
Head of UNMAS in Iraq



Marion Loddó
Landmine Monitor editor

A webinar by UNA-Sweden

Moderated by Jens Petersson,
senior advisor on peace issues at UNA-Sweden.

Thursday November 25th 2021, 3 pm – 4 pm CET



LANDMINE & CLUSTER MUNITION MONITOR

*Documenting the global landmine
and cluster munitions situation*



Deminer at work in the surroundings of Bashir, Iraq.
© HI, 2019

Presentation outline

OVERVIEW & OBJECTIVES

GLOBAL LANDMINE SITUATION

Q&A





Overview

- Civil society initiative providing independent and factual research.
- Reporting on the global landmine and cluster munition problems and solutions since 1999 and 2010 respectively.
- Monitor system at a glance:

Reports on universalization and implementation of the Mine Ban Treaty and Convention on Cluster Munitions.

Contributions from a global network of researchers and three editorial teams.

Features two annual reports, online country profiles, and maps.

This 10-year old boy was injured during an airstrike near a market in Sanaa, Yemen.
© ISNA Agency/HI, 2019

LANDMINE & CLUSTER MUNITION
MONITOR

Objectives

Through extensive collection, analysis, and distribution of publicly available information, the Monitor aims at:

- Providing a global overview of the international community's response to the landmine, cluster munition and ERW problem;
- Acting as a reliable one-stop hub of latest developments on all aspects of mine action;
- Promoting and advancing discussion on mine-, cluster munition-, ERW- related issues;
- Complementing transparency reporting;
- Contributing to efforts toward a mine and cluster munition free world.



Woman deminer searches a mine-contaminated agricultural field in Ukraine.
© Oleksandr Batushnvak/DDG, 2019

LANDMINE & CLUSTER MUNITION
MONITOR



Landmine Monitor 2021

The Impact of Mine/ERW

- Monitor recorded at least **7,073 mine/ERW casualties** in 2020: 2,492 killed; 4,561 injured; 20 casualties unknown.
- **Civilians represented 80%** of all mine/ERW casualties where their status was known.
- **Children accounted for half** of all civilian casualties where the age was known.
- **At least 60 states/areas contaminated by mines:**
 - 33 States Parties that declared clearance obligations;
 - 22 states not party and 5 other areas.

Beneficiary of PRODECO, EU-funded development and demining project in the mine contaminated regions of Borku and Ennedi.
© Gwenn Dubourthoumieu/HI, 2020

LANDMINE & CLUSTER MUNITION
MONITOR

Landmine Monitor 2021

Landmine use in 2020–2021

- **Confirmed new use by the government forces of Myanmar** (state not party).
- **NSAGs use in at least six countries:** Afghanistan, Colombia, India, Myanmar, Nigeria, and Pakistan.
- As yet, **unconfirmed allegations of sporadic mine use by NSAGs in a dozen countries:** Cameroon, Egypt, Niger, Philippines, Thailand, Tunisia, and Venezuela.
- Unconfirmed indications of new mine use during the **conflict over Nagorno-Karabakh** in 2020.

MAG team provides an explosive ordnance risk education session in an IDP camp, in Nigeria.
© Sean Sutton/MAG, 2020





Landmine Monitor 2021

Status of the Mine Ban Treaty

- **164 States Parties to the Mine Ban Treaty**; the Marshall Islands is the last signatory yet to ratify.
- **33 states remaining outside of the treaty**, largely acting in compliance with the treaty—with a few exceptions.
- At least **70 non-state armed groups (NSAGs)** have committed to halt using antipersonnel mines since 1997.

A landmine charge fashioned from a large pickle jar in Tal Afar, Iraq.
© Sean Sutton/MAG, 2021

LANDMINE & CLUSTER MUNITION
MONITOR



Landmine Monitor 2021

Stockpiles and Mines Retained

- States Parties have destroyed more than **55 million stockpiled antipersonnel mines**, incl. 106,500+ in 2020.
- **Sri Lanka** completed the destruction of its landmine stockpile in 2021.
- **Greece** and **Ukraine** possess a combined total of approx. 3.6 million antipersonnel mines.
- **63 States Parties** have reported that they retain a combined total of more than 135,000 antipersonnel mines for training and research purposes.
 - *Sweden is retaining 5,964 mines for permitted purposes.*

NPA deminer marking out a contaminated zone in Iraq.
© Marijn van Broekhoven/NPA, 2021

LANDMINE & CLUSTER MUNITION
MONITOR

Landmine Monitor 2021

Clearance

- States Parties reported clearance of at least **146km² and destruction of +135,500 antipersonnel mines in 2020** (compared to 156km² cleared and +122,000 in 2019).
- **Chile and UK** have completed clearance of all mined areas in 2020.
- Mine clearance was suspended in several countries and areas due to COVID-19 related restrictions in 2020.
- **Seven States Parties requested extensions** to their clearance deadlines in 2021:

Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guinea-Bissau, Mauritania, Nigeria, Somalia, and Turkey.

Deminers during a refresher training after COVID-19
standdown in South Lebanon.
© NPA Lebanon, 2020





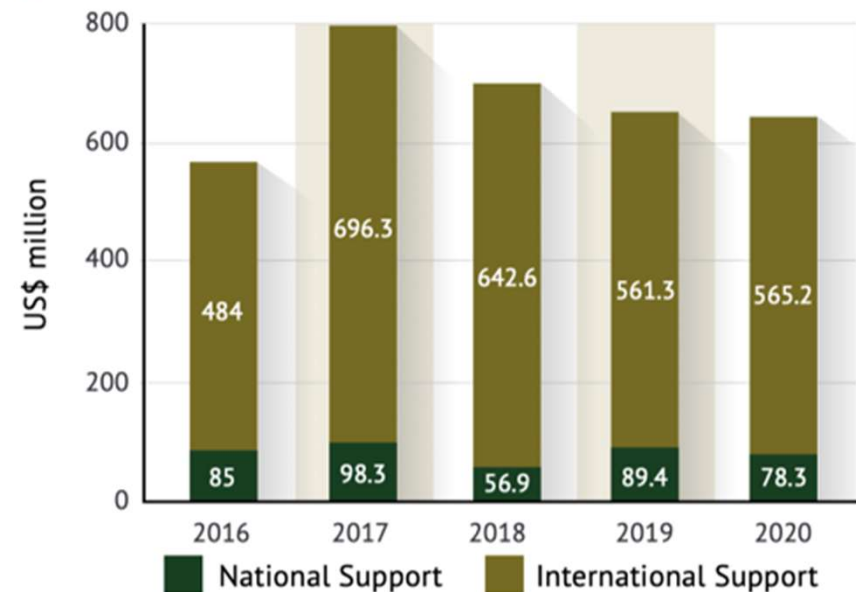
Landmine Monitor 2021

Risk Education

- Risk education has been **greatly impacted by pandemic** in 2020.
 - States Parties and operators adapted to the changing circumstances by implementing and expanding online methods.
- **Risk groups:**
 - Adult men = primary risk group;
 - Children = key risk group (mostly from ERW);
 - Women and girls = key role in promoting safe behavior among their families and communities.

School children in Juba, South Sudan, are educated by DCA about the risk of mines.

© Anna Elisabeth G. Gade/DCA South Sudan, 2021



NPA deminer searches a contaminated agricultural field in Ha Trung Village, Vietnam.

© Hien Ngo/NPA-Project RENEW, 2020

Landmine Monitor 2021

Support for Mine Action

- Approx. **US\$643.5 million** in *global* support in 2020.
- 33 donors contributed **\$565.2 million** in *international* support – decrease of \$3.9 million from 2019.
 - Top 5 mine action donors—US, EU, Germany, Japan, Norway—contributed over \$426.1 million (77%);
 - Sweden was 10th largest donor in 2020 and contributed \$9.1 million to mine action efforts in 12 countries.
 - Top 5 recipient states—Iraq, Lao PDR, Afghanistan, Colombia, Croatia—received \$252.8 million (45%).
- 14 affected states reported providing **\$78.3 million** in national support.

LANDMINE & CLUSTER MUNITION
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Thank you.

-
- www.the-monitor.org | @MineMonitor
 - For further information, please contact:
monitor2@icblcmc.org

Children in Afghanistan are educated about the risk of mines and other explosive remnants of war.
© FSD, 2019

United Nations Mine Action Service UNMAS

Pehr Lodhammar
Chief Mine Action Programme

UNMAS Iraq

25 November 2021



What is Mine Action

Mine action is a combination of [humanitarian aid](#) and [development studies](#) that aim to reduce the social, economic and environmental impact of [landmines](#) and the [explosive remnants of war \(ERW\)](#).

Mine action consist of five complementary groups of activities:

- **Humanitarian demining**, i.e. mine and ERW survey, land release, mapping, marking and clearance;
- **Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE)**, i.e. the communication to the public of the risks posed from ERW and how to act in the presence of ERW;
- **Victim assistance**, including rehabilitation and reintegration of mine victims;
- **Stockpile destruction**; and
- **Advocacy** to promote policies and practices that will reduce the threat from landmines and ERW.

United Nations Mine Action Service

Overview

The **United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS)** is located within the [United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations](#) that specializes in coordinating and implementing activities to limit the threat posed by [mines](#), [explosive remnants of war](#) and [improvised explosive devices](#).

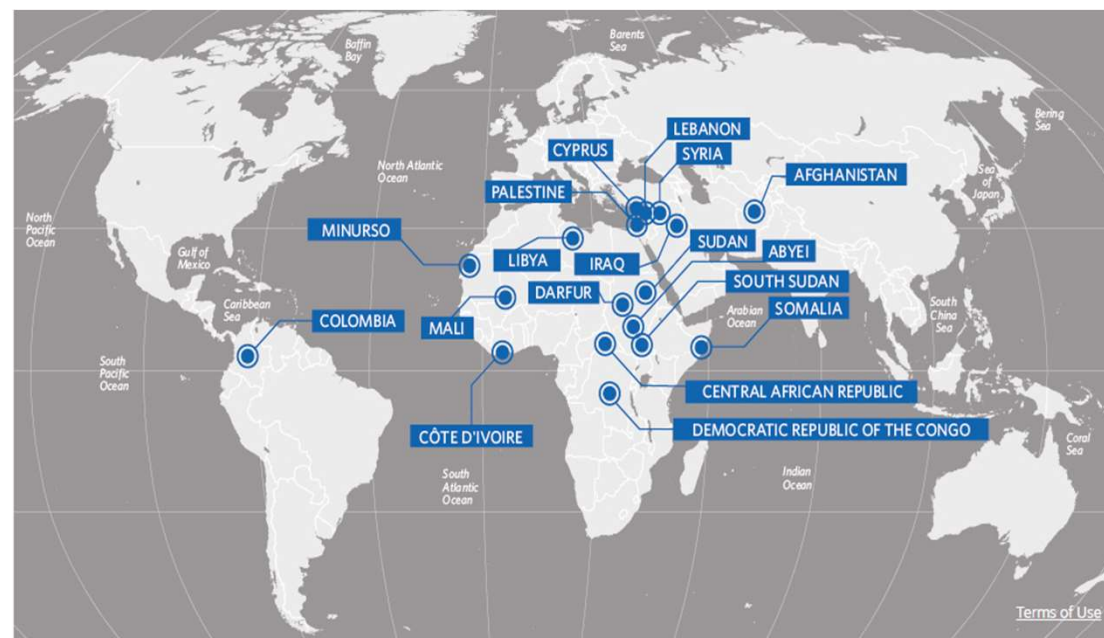
UNMAS was formally formed in 1997, when the Department of Peacekeeping Operation's Demining Unit and the Department of Humanitarian Affairs' Mine Clearance and Policy Unit were merged. It was created to act as the "UN focal point" regarding mine action and works to support the vision of a "world free of the threat of landmines and unexploded ordnance".

The work of UNMAS is divided into five pillars:

- Clearance
- Explosive Ordnance Risk Education
- Victim Assistance
- Advocacy
- Stockpile Destruction

UNMAS Global

UNMAS provides direct support and assistance to 19 countries/territories/missions:

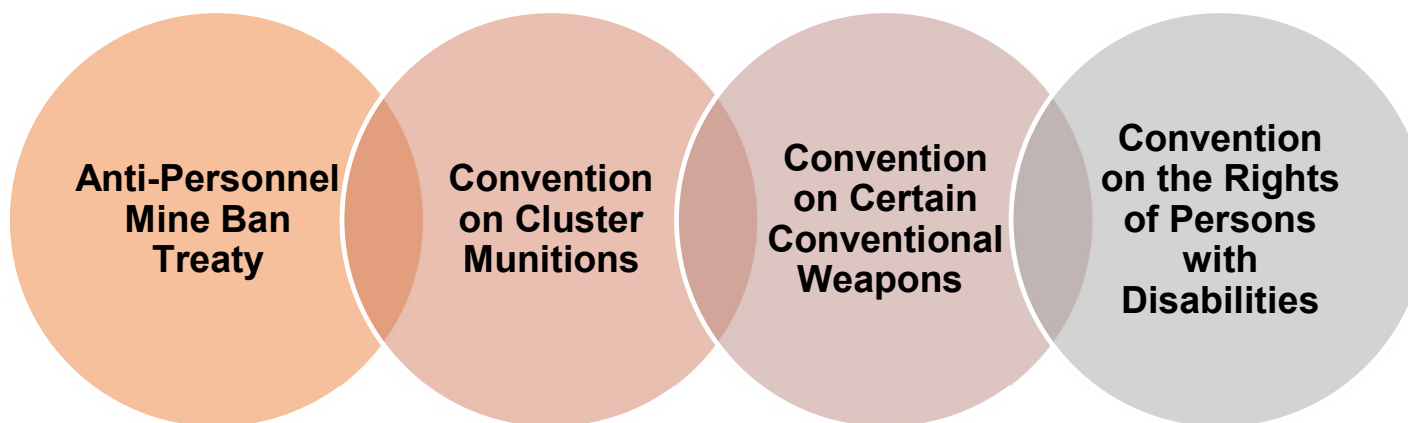


POLICY, ADVOCACY, AND TREATIES

UNMAS identifies emerging trends in the field and [develops policies](#) to enhance sector-wide operational effectiveness and accountability. This is one of UNMAS key responsibilities as the chair of [the United Nations Inter-Agency Coordination Group for Mine Action](#).

UNMAS leads UN advocacy in support of international legal instruments, which regulate or ban the use of landmines, cluster munitions, explosive remnants of war (ERW) and improvised explosive devices (IEDs), while promoting the rights of people affected by these weapons.

Some of the key Mine Action conventions and treaties are:





NEEDS
DRIVEN.
PEOPLE
CENTRED.

United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS)

UNMAS Iraq

UNMAS Iraq was formally established in June 2015.

Launched operations in Iraq in 2016 under United Nations Security Council Resolution 2470.

UNMAS Iraq received support from 20 different donors and funding up to USD 76M in 2019 with a total of over USD 225M.



UNMAS Pillars



Technical Support

Explosive Hazard
Management



Explosive Ordnance Risk
Education



Funding of UNMAS Iraq

UNMAS Iraq practices a programmatic approach – multi-donor efforts funding modality.

UNMAS Iraq is solely funded bilaterally through contributions to the UN Voluntary Trust Fund.

UNMAS Iraq has supported the UNDP FFS (United Nations Development Programme, Funding Facility for Stabilization(FFS)), but resource mobilization is done independently of the FFS.

To date, UNMAS Iraq has received contributions from Australia, Canada, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, the European Union, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, New Zealand (including in-kind support), the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Korea, **Sweden/SIDA** (including in-kind support), and the United Kingdom.



Iraqi Landscape – What is the problem?

- Iraq has been at a near continuous state of conflict for three decades, beginning in 1979 with the Iraq-Iran War until 2017 with the latest conflict to liberate certain Iraqi cities/towns from ISIL control.
- Years of conflict has contributed to several layers of explosive ordnance contamination.



Millions of legacy landmines, as well of explosive remnants of war including cluster munitions; still contaminate vast swathes of land, particularly in the South of Iraq.

Latest conflict with ISIL adding millions of more complex and lethal explosive ordnance, including improvised explosive devices.

Contamination in Liberated/Retaken Areas

Conflict with ISIL has yielded “new types of contamination”



Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs):

homemade, easily camouflaged, lethal, with civilians most vulnerable and often in urban environments.



ISIL engaged in a “new” type of warfare and left thousands of IEDs to ensure destabilization in country and instill fear in communities.



ISIL planted IEDs not only on roads but also residential area, buildings, bridges, under-water, making survey and clearance operations costly and high-risk.



IEDs left behind have no particular shape or form, can range anywhere from children's toys to cookware items to vehicle based improvised explosive devices.

UNMAS Iraq three pillars



Technical Support (TS)

- Provide technical & advisory support to national mine action entities
- Review of nine National Mine Action Standards
- Support the Government of Iraq coordination with other ministries and donors
- Provide trainings and workshops
- Support Mol police officers with EOD/IEDD/EHFR/DSIM courses

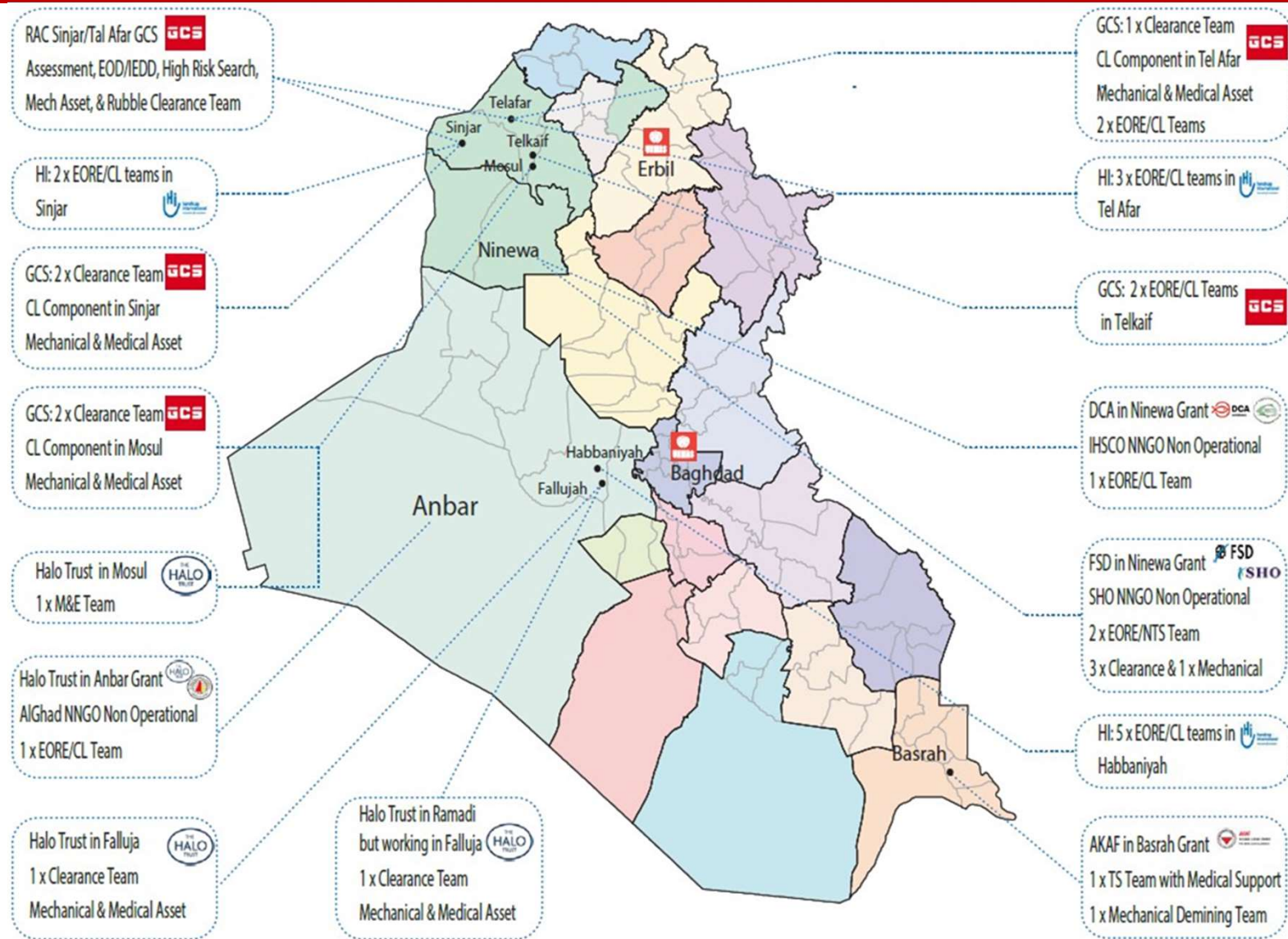
Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE)

- In-person EORE sessions to at-risk populations
- Indirect EORE activities: billboards, TV spots, social media campaign “Safe Steps”
- EORE awareness sessions to cash-for-work workers
- Support IDPs in the context of camp closure

Explosive Hazard Management (EHM)

- Survey (Non Technical Survey)
- Clearance operations
- Quality control of survey and clearance teams of Implementing Partners
- Developed Standard Working Procedures

UNMAS Iraq Operational Footprint



United Nations Mine Action Service - Iraq

1. Technical Support



Explosive Ordnance First Responder training delivered to Ministry of Interior entities, and EOD/IEDD training to police in governorates. Training is delivered by a national-and-international mixed training team from Mol and UNMAS



Cooperation with and support to the two National Mine Action Authorities in federal Iraq and the Kurdish Region of Iraq.

Supporting National Authorities and Stakeholders

NMAA (National Mine Action Authority)



DMA

**Directorate of
Mine Action**

IKMAA

**Iraqi Kurdistan
Mine Action
Agency**

The main collaboration between UNMAS Iraq and partners happens through active liaison and coordination, training and support in international conventions, venues and MA events.

Gol (Government of Iraq)

Ministry of Interior (MoI):

Training of male and female police - Explosive Hazard First Responder, EOD/IEDD and post blast investigation.

Ministry of Defence (MoD):

Coordination and dialogue

Joint Coordination and Monitoring Center (JCMC): active coordination on movement of staff and operations - general mine action training (**Introduction of Humanitarian Mine Action Basic Management**).

National Operations Center (NoC):

Senior level coordination (they represent the Government of Iraq on a senior level) - general mine action training.

Partners (NGOs / Commercial Companies):

Grants and contracts to conduct survey, clearance and EORE on the ground.

Technical Support to GoI

Directorate of Mine Action (DMA)

February 2020 – March 2021

Females: 19 - Males: 52

Total Number of trainees: 71

Training description: Core Mine Action skills, Core Mine Action skills Hazard, clearance requirements, Introduction to Quality Management, Advanced quality Management, Strategic planning, Result Base Management

Joint coordination and Monitoring Center (JCMC)

July 2018 – August 2021

Females: 63 - Males: 367

Total Number of trainees: 346

Training description: Introduction to Humanitarian Mine Action Basic Management in several Governorates.

Iraq Kurdistan Mine Action Agency (IKMAA)

November 2016 – Present

Females: 9 - Males: 104

Total Number of trainees: 113

Training description: Ops management, M&E for EORE, and IEDD Management

Ministry of Interior (MoI)

November 2016 – Present

Females: 375 - Males: 1,734

Total Number of trainees: 2,109

Training description: IEDD, EOD, EHFR/T3, First Aid, Drone Training, IED Basic /GPS course and IED awareness

United Nations Mine Action Service - Iraq

2. Explosive Hazard Management (EHM)

SURVEY

Surveyed over 219 million sqm

CLEARANCE

Cleared 59,900 items of explosive ordnance, including 3,997 IEDs

UNMAS work in the areas retaken from ISIL and has resulted in the survey and clearance of over 9.6 million sqm.



Since inception, UNMAS Iraq has focused its activities on Explosive Hazard Management.



Explosive ordnance impede the safe return of IDPs (Internally Displaced People) and rehabilitation/reconstruction efforts.



Infrastructure is affected by unprecedented quantities of explosive ordnance, including IEDs left behind by ISIL.



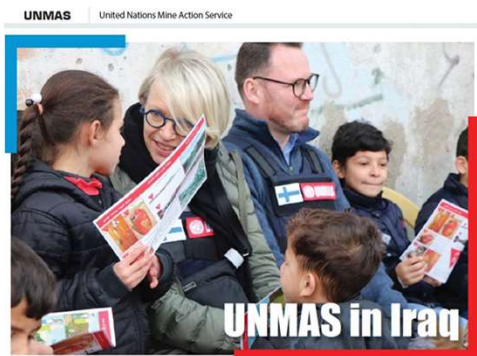
Clearance of explosive ordnance allows safe rehabilitation and reconstruction to go forward - mine action is an enabler.



NEEDS
DRIVEN.
PEOPLE
CENTRED.

United Nations Mine Action Service - Iraq

3. Explosive Ordnance Risk education (EORE)



EORE are activities that seek to reduce the risk of death and injury from mines and ERW (Explosive Remnants of War), by raising awareness and promoting safe behavior through delivery of life saving messages.



Workshops



RE Sessions



School RE Sessions

**Serves
two
groups:**

The Iraqi
population
exposed to
the threat of
explosive
ordnance;
and

Humanitarian
workers
working in
areas
affected by
explosive
ordnance.

Provided EORE to more than 1.2 million people.

Gender in Mine Action

Gender mainstreaming in UNMAS activities



Gender mainstreaming & women's empowerment within Technical Support initiatives for NMAAs and other GoI entities



Gender-responsive community liaisons teams are mixed-gender



Mixed-gender trainings and female training to Ministry of Interior



UNMAS Iraq internal processes and planning, including recruitment, country strategy development & donor proposals gender mainstreamed

Advocacy



Member of the UN Gender Task Force and International Gender Group



UNMAS advocates for gender mainstreaming in mine action processes & reports

Communication



Videos on 'Women in Mine Action' highlighting the roles of females in mine action



Digital story: [UNMAS Breaks Gender Barriers in Iraq](#) and The Gender Drama (*Safe Home*)



Event: Celebration of the International Women's Day in Baghdad with UNMAS led events

Challenges and Way Forward

1. COVID-19
2. Security situation
3. Lack of political stability in the central government
4. Fluent and uncertain leadership situation within Iraqi Mine Action Authorities
5. Sustainable funding at a required level - new grants are funded for one year only

1. Nationalization for sustainable mine action response
2. Continuation of technical support to the national mine action authorities.
3. Expansion of UNMAS operations from the retaken areas to Southern Iraq.

A typical work day in Iraq



Thank you!

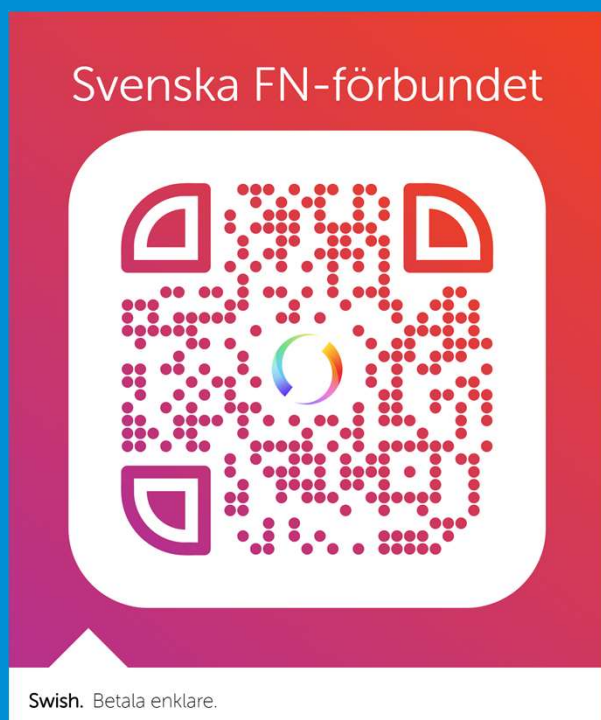


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Jens Petersson

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