



## **Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanism for the UN Strategy for Mine Action 2013-2018:**

### **Report from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Round of Data Collection** ***May 2016***

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## 1. Executive Summary

In 2014, UNMAS led the Inter-Agency Coordination Group for Mine Action (IACG-MA) to develop the Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanism for the UN Mine Action Strategy 2013-2018 (M&E Mechanism) to support evidence-based policy-making and results-based management. This report presents the complete results and analysis data collected through the M&E Mechanism for the UN Mine Action Strategy as of 1 July of 2015.

The report first describes the governance and implementation of the M&E Mechanism, followed by discussions of data sources, methodologies, and approaches to data collection and analysis. Key points include the selection of country-identified starting points for cumulative data collection and the implication for data aggregation and analysis, and the effect on the findings of recent improvements in data quality and analysis.

The report considers the mine action work of the UN, focusing on risk reduction, national ownership, and policy. Beginning by discussing the risks posed by mines/ERW, the report concludes that, as in previous rounds of data collection, the M&E Mechanism shows the disproportionate impact of mines/ERW on men and boys, and on civilians. A discussion of risk reduction follows, including UN supported work in clearance and land release and in Mine/ERW Risk Education. Though data availability remains limited, responses indicate that the majority of land released back to the community is put into productive use. Mine/ERW Risk Education programmes continue to target high-risk communities, while also employing broader approaches in recognition of population mobility.

Recognizing the importance of national ownership, the M&E Mechanism looks at national legislation and policy, national governance of mine action programmes, and national capacities mine action. Countries are enhancing national policy frameworks, and the report highlights opportunities for south-south cooperation to support capacity enhancement in the coordination of mine action actors and in mine action planning. The report next discusses the ratification among mine-affected countries of important international treaties and instruments relevant to mine action, such as the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention.

The report then analyses the implementation of the UN Gender Guidelines for Mine Action Programmes. The data present an encouraging picture while also highlighting areas for improvement. Specifically, the findings indicate that mine action programmes consistently implement guidelines associated with ensuring that threat assessments in affected communities generate comprehensive gender sensitive and representative information; and those guidelines ensuring that opportunities to benefit from demining activities (including through training and employment) are equally available to all people. Work remains, however, to ensure that programmes equally implement guidelines ensuring that survey/clearance teams do not adversely affect local populations.

The IACG-MA appreciates the contributions of UN entities participating in the third round of data collection, including FAO, OCHA, OHCHR, the UN Department of Political Affairs, UNHCR, UNOPS, UN-Women, WFP, and the WHO. The IACG-MA thanks the dedicated staff of UNDP, UNICEF, and UNMAS who support the M&E Mechanism as Survey Focal Points. Finally, the IACG-MA gratefully acknowledges the countries and territories that participate in the M&E Mechanism: Abyei, Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Cambodia, the Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Darfur, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Eritrea, Jordan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libya, Mali, Mozambique, Nepal, the State of Palestine, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tajikistan, and Western Sahara.

## 2. Introduction

Members of the IACG-MA are responsible for the M&E Mechanism and have established the inter-agency Consultative Working Group (CWG) to regularly review progress, manage implementation and contribute to the development of the Survey instrument and related guidance documents for the M&E Mechanism. UNDP, UNICEF, UNOPS, and UNMAS are represented at the CWG, as well as a Headquarters M&E Support Team comprised of two staff members dedicated full-time to the M&E Mechanism.

In each country or territory that participates in the M&E Mechanism, UNDP, UNICEF, or UNMAS takes responsibility for coordinating data collection (i.e. Survey Focal Point). The entities not serving as the Survey Focal Point contribute data to the Survey by collaborating in the data collection process<sup>1</sup>. Survey Focal Points work with national authorities as well as implementing partners to collect data. The most recent round of data collection included 25 countries and territories in which the United Nations has a mine action presence. Many other UN entities and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are also engaged in contributing to the survey through coordination with the designated Survey Focal Point.

### 2.1 DATA AND ANALYSIS

Data used to develop these findings comes from completed rounds of data collection for the Survey and from the Strategic Objective 4 dataset.<sup>2</sup> In total, three rounds of Survey data collection are complete.<sup>3</sup> Most analyses presented include data from all countries and territories participating in the third round of data collection; analyses presenting trends over time, however, are limited to a set of 20 countries and territories that participated in both the second and third rounds of data collection.<sup>4</sup> As participation continues to grow, analyses presenting change over time will include a larger dataset.

Survey Focal Points consult a variety of data sources when completing the Survey. To facilitate complete documentation for consistency, comparability, and replicability of data, each question in the Survey includes space for respondents to cite and describe data sources as well as document any challenges faced and methodological decisions made in the course of data collection, aggregation, and survey completion. Survey Focal Points indicate that Survey data usually comes from several different organizations (UN entities, national mine action authorities, implementing partners, and other stakeholders) and from a variety of documents and types of data sources including IMSMA reports, internal programme implementation data, monthly reports from implementing partners, plans and documents published by the national mine action authority, etc. The Headquarters M&E Support Team and the CWG work closely with Survey Focal Points to support the careful documentation and tracking of data sources and data collection methodologies.

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<sup>1</sup> Across the 25 countries and territories participating in the third round of data collection, UN staff from seven UNDP country offices, ten mine action programmes supported by UNICEF, and 14 UNMAS programmes participated in data collection either by serving as Survey Focal Points or by working with the designated Survey Focal Point entity.

<sup>2</sup> The Strategic Objective 4 dataset is an annual data collection exercise the results of which are analyzed together with the data collected through the Survey. The dataset includes 89 mine-affected countries and territories and covers topics including treaty status and country-level characteristics (GDP, population, regime type, etc.). Data collection for the Strategic Objective 4 dataset is undertaken by the IACG-MA M&E Support team based at UN Headquarters in New York, and the data comes from publicly sourced databases maintained by third parties and partner organizations including the World Bank, the Uppsala Conflict Data Program, the Polity Project of the Center for Systemic Peace, and the Landmine Monitor, amongst others.

<sup>3</sup> Round 1 (concluded 30 June 2014), Round 2 (concluded 31 December 2014), and Round 3 (concluded 30 June 2015).

<sup>4</sup> Abyei, Afghanistan, Cambodia, the Central African Republic, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Darfur, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Eritrea, Libya, Mali, Mozambique, Nepal, the State of Palestine, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tajikistan, and Western Sahara.

The Survey records a series of totals including number of casualties, number of EOD spot tasks completed, and number of square hectares of contaminated land identified. Unless otherwise specified, the timeframe for these totals are the totals-to-date, being the cumulative total from a specified start date to the end of the relevant reporting period.<sup>5</sup> Different countries select different start dates according to their context. The first time a country/territory completes the survey, the Survey Focal Point is asked to select and document a practical starting point that makes sense given local context and the availability of data. Most programmes choose to count from the start of UN mine action programming in country or from the start of formal information management (IMSMA or equivalent) in country. Aside from one country that began its cumulative counts in 1990, the starting points that programmes selected are distributed between 2002 and 2014.

The variation in start dates for the cumulative counts has important implications for data aggregation and analyses. For example, the cumulative total number of mine/ERW victims in different countries/territories cannot be compared. Instead, analysis must use the raw totals to generate other points that can be compared, such as the casualty rate per million people per month, or the number of new casualties reported from one year to the next. Similar care must be taken when aggregating data from different countries and territories.

Data collected through the Survey is analysed to identify progress made towards achieving the Strategic Objectives articulated in the UN Mine Action Strategy 2013-2018. Progress against the outcome indicators are analysed in relation to concurrent changes in UN inputs and activities in the mine action sector. The approach is intended to provide a thorough analysis of progress, including a final investigation into the UN's contribution towards this progress (where possible). The analysis includes descriptive statistics and cross-sectional analysis to illustrate trends and commonalities. Future analyses will also control for country-level characteristics and, where possible, illustrate trends and underlying relationships between UN inputs and outcomes that may be useful for programming and evaluation.

## 2.2 IMPROVEMENTS IN DATA QUALITY AND REPORTING

Data reporting has improved with each round of data collection as respondents become more familiar with the tool and as the M&E Support Team improves both the tool and the support available to complete it. Tracking and reporting data on affected infrastructure in particular improved in the third round of data collection, with several programmes updating their internal monitoring tools to collect this and other previously unavailable data requested in the Survey. As a consequence of such adjustments in field-level collection of data related to affected infrastructure and to other questions and topics throughout the Survey, the most recent round of data collection is more complete than the preceding rounds. With the third round of data collection concluded, the M&E team now has sufficient data to investigate and attempt to explain trends over time. Some of the observed changes are attributable to these improvements in reporting. Next steps will focus on addressing data availability, which remains a challenge in some contexts.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> 30 June 2015 is the end date for the third round of data collection.

<sup>6</sup> Data sensitivity and access has been raised by some national authorities in relation to, for example, data related to Weapons and Ammunition Management, as such data is considered to be a matter of national security. In other contexts, particularly in places affected by conflict, comprehensive data collection may be constrained by the degree of freedom of movement and overall access; it has been noted, for example, that in the cases of the Central African Republic, Libya, and Somalia data collection is constrained by challenges of security and access.

### 3. Acronyms

APMBC: Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention	M&E: Monitoring and evaluation
AU: African Union	MoU: Memorandum of understanding
BAC: Battle Area Clearance	NGO: Non-governmental organization
C-IED: Counter-IED	NTS: Non-technical survey
CCW: Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons	OHCHR: Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
CCM: Convention on Cluster Munitions	SHA: Suspected Hazardous Area
CHA: Confirmed Hazardous Area	UN VTF: United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Action
DMC: Afghanistan Department of Mine Clearance	UN Women: United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
DPKO: Department for Peacekeeping Operations	UNDP: United Nations Development Programme
EOD: Explosive ordnance disposal	UNHCR: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
ERW: Explosive remnants of war	UNICEF: United Nations Children's Fund
FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization	UNMAS: United Nations Mine Action Service
GICHD: Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining	UNOAU: United Nations Office to the African Union
GMAP: Gender and Mine Action Programme	UNODA: United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs
IACG-MA: Inter-Agency Coordination Group on Mine Action	UNOPS: United Nations Office for Project Services
IASC: Inter-Agency Standing Committee	UNRWA: United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
IDP: Internally displaced person	WFP: World Food Programme
IED: Improvised explosive device	WHO: World Health Organization
IMAS: International Mine Action Standards	
IMIS: Information Management Integrated System	

#### 4. The UN in Mine Action: A Focus on Risk Reduction, National Ownership, and Policy

Mines and ERW remain a deadly threat in countries and territories in which the UN supports mine action programmes. Globally, over 85 countries and territories are affected by mines/ERW including cluster munitions; the UN has a mine action presence in half of these. Moreover, the UN operates or supports mine action programmes in 84% of the countries and territories classified as heavily or very heavily contaminated.<sup>7</sup>

Mine/ERW-affected countries and territories face a variety of challenges. These countries are predominantly of middle and low-income status,<sup>8</sup> and many are currently experiencing violent conflict<sup>9</sup> and/or facing significant governance challenges.<sup>10</sup> Findings from the M&E Mechanism indicated that UN-supported mine action programmes have been successful even in the most challenging mine-affected countries and contexts.

The M&E Mechanism tracks the number of people in participating countries and territories who are at risk because of their close proximity to mine/ERW affected areas. The resultant figures – data for which is likely underreported due to challenges of availability<sup>11</sup> – show that at least 14.5 million people live in close proximity to mine/ERW affected areas, and an additional 4.7 million seasonally migrate through mine/ERW affected corridors. During the rainy season in Eritrea, for example, nomadic people move from place to place in search of grazing and pasture lands for their animals. This seasonal migration takes them through mine and ERW contaminated areas, thus increasing their level of risk.

It is important to note that “close proximity” has yet to be defined at the global level and has instead been determined at the country and territory level based on local context and risk factors. In Afghanistan, for example, “close proximity” is defined as within 500 meters of a hazardous area, and the team arrived at these estimates using land scan data (Geographic Information Systems (GIS)) and from conducting non-technical survey. In Mali, the team considers all residents of districts that contain contaminated areas to be living in close proximity to affected areas. While the current flexibility enables greater adaptability and ease of implementation at the field level, a more standardized definition would facilitate more consistent tracking of the number of people in close proximity to contaminated areas, enabling greater comparability across different contexts, and thereby contribute to better tracking of global trends.

As was the case in 2014, mines and ERW disproportionately impact 1) men and boys, and 2) civilians.<sup>12</sup> Reported casualties from mines/ERW increased very slightly from 2014 to 2015, as did the casualty rate, which increased from 3.298 to 3.777 casualties due to mines/ERW per million people per month. While increases in casualty rates

<sup>7</sup> International Campaign to Ban Landmines – Cluster Munitions Coalition (ICBL-CMC), *Landmine Monitor 2013* (Geneva, 2014) pg. 23. Available from: <http://www.the-monitor.org/index.php/publications/display?url=lm/2013/> (accessed 15 December 2014).

<sup>8</sup> World Bank, GDP statistics. World Development Indicators database. Available from: <http://databank.worldbank.org/data/home.aspx> (accessed 15 December 2014).

<sup>9</sup> Uppsala Universitet, Department of Peace and Conflict Research, Uppsala Conflict Data Program, UCDP Database. Available from: <http://www.pcr.uu.se/research/UCDP/> (accessed 15 December 2014).

<sup>10</sup> Center for Systemic Peace, Polity Project, Polity IV Dataset. Available from: <http://www.systemicpeace.org/polityproject.html> (accessed 15 December 2014).

<sup>11</sup> Eleven of 25 participating countries and territories are able to provide data on the number of people who live in close proximity to mine/ERW contaminated areas, and of those four provided data disaggregated by age and gender. Two of 25 countries and territories (Afghanistan and Eritrea) are able to provide data on the number of people who seasonally migrate through mine/ERW areas. Estimations on the nomadic population in Afghanistan come from the Afghan Ministry of Borders and Tribes; in Eritrea, the Zobas (Regional Administration) provide these estimates of seasonal migration, though the data are not available with age and gender disaggregation.

<sup>12</sup> Some organizations distinguish between victim-activated improvised explosive devices (IEDs) and IEDs that are remote detonated, command detonated, or launched. In this survey, victim-activated IEDs are considered explosive remnants of war (ERW); deaths and injuries from such devices are counted together with deaths and injuries from mines/ERW. Victims of remote detonated, command detonated, or launched IEDs are counted separately.

warrant close monitoring, it is too early to draw any conclusions about the significance or scope of the change: casualty rates fluctuate in response to many factors.<sup>13</sup>

#### 4.1 RISK REDUCTION

It is clear from the data that a great deal of work in survey, clearance, and release of contaminated land and infrastructure has been accomplished from 2014 to 2015. UN-supported mine action programmes report that increasing proportions of contaminated land and infrastructure have been identified, cleared, and returned back to the community. Cumulatively, over 8 million EOD spot tasks have been completed, with the average number of completed EOD spot tasks per country increasing by eight percent in 2015 relative to 2014.<sup>14</sup> The data also demonstrate improvements in the biannual (six months) rates of clearance of affected infrastructure (see Table 2 in Annex 1). These changes could be attributed to a number of factors, including data quality and reporting as discussed in section 2.2, increasing availability of non-UN resources, or the possibility that UN-supported mine action programmes carried out clearance with consistent if not increased efficiency in 2015 relative to 2014. As biannual clearance rates in many areas improved, UN funding for these efforts remained stable or decreased for most UN programmes supporting clearance and land release.

Mine action programmes – and particularly those including clearance and land release activities – are typically undertaken in order to enable and support development outcomes. Interestingly, and critically for evaluation, these development outcomes vary by country and context. In the language of results-based management, the same outputs of survey and clearance work could have a multiplier effect by supporting outcome and impact objectives in other sectors, such as education, livelihoods, or humanitarian work, depending on whether the activities are targeted at schools, markets and agricultural land, or the communities of displaced people. This makes it essential for evaluators of mine action programmes to understand and articulate the context and prioritisation processes involved in programme implementation.

The prioritisation process – i.e. the process through which national mine action authorities and UN and other practitioners determine the order in which contaminated areas will be cleared – varies from country to country. In some contexts, a more flexible and responsive approach is more effective than a full and formal prioritisation process.<sup>15</sup> Generally speaking, however, the prioritisation process is one in which an appropriate civil authority reconciles a set of development priorities with a set of humanitarian priorities (sometimes called technical priorities) for mine clearance, creating a set of national priorities that are then applied locally in consultation with local authorities. Development priorities are set by the government in accordance with their plans for land use; examples include the prioritisation of land and infrastructure relevant to extractive industries, tourism, or fishing. Humanitarian priorities are set by the mine action authority, and are typically determined by the level of physical risk that contaminated areas pose to civilians. The UN can add value by providing guidance in the development of humanitarian recommendations, supporting the civil authority in reconciling development and humanitarian priorities, and increasing the scale at which clearance can be implemented.

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<sup>13</sup> Casualty rates have been shown to be affected by external factors including season (summer vs. winter, school in or out of session, harvesting, etc.), escalations (and de-escalations) of conflict, population movements, and economic factors including changes in the price of scrap metal, etc.

<sup>14</sup> As with all cumulative counts in the survey, completed EOD spot tasks are reported cumulatively to the end of the reporting period as discussed in section 1.1 (Data and Analysis).

<sup>15</sup> In Côte d'Ivoire and the Central African Republic, for example, the scale of contamination is such that an "ad-hoc" approach suffices: hazards are cleared on an ongoing basis as they are identified and reported.

Once survey, clearance, and land release tasks are complete, it is possible to investigate and consider their effect on the intended outcomes, both humanitarian and development.<sup>16</sup> A critical piece of this process is understanding if and how formerly contaminated lands are put into productive use. As with the prioritisation process, the tools and processes through which this question is investigated vary by country and programme. Some programmes conduct specific post-clearance assessment visits six months after clearance activities are completed; others conduct broader assessments. In Afghanistan, the mine action authority samples 10-20% of the areas cleared in the past year and conducts an annual Livelihood Survey. As a result of varying approaches, the quantitative data on post-clearance land use currently available through the M&E Mechanism is limited; however, respondents were able to provide valuable descriptions and contextual information. Where data is available, responses indicate that the majority of cleared land is put into productive use.<sup>17</sup> Where cleared lands are not in productive use, respondents cited economic factors in affected communities.<sup>18</sup>

Mine/ERW Risk Education programmes in countries with a UN mine action presence continue to educate at-risk populations. Under the leadership of national authorities where relevant, Mine/ERW Risk Education practitioners work with local volunteers, schools, health facilities, media, and NGOs in at-risk communities to maintain community awareness and promote safe behaviours. In 2015 alone, Mine/ERW risk education programmes reached over 1 million additional people. Cumulatively, 35 million people have received Mine/ERW Risk Education in countries and territories with a UN mine action presence, representing 9% of the total population of countries in which the United Nations supports mine action.<sup>19</sup>

Interestingly, in countries and territories in which data on both the population living in close proximity to contaminated areas and the number of beneficiaries of Mine/ERW Risk Education are available, the proportion of people receiving Mine/ERW Risk Education (11% of total population, or 23.4 million people) is nearly double the proportion of the population reported to be in close proximity to contaminated areas (6% of the population, or 13 million people). Anecdotal evidence provides solid context with which to interpret this finding. For example, many Mine/ERW Risk Education practitioners intentionally repeat sessions and programmes in at-risk communities to sustain the message over time. Such repetition is considered good practice, especially in high-risk situations where population movement and conflict is dynamic, and where complacency appears to be an issue in risk-taking behaviour.

Moreover, Mine/ERW Risk Education is often intentionally delivered outside of communities currently at risk in anticipation of future mobility. For example, in Chad and Eritrea, government workers including teachers and health workers are frequently rotating to different regions, including to contaminated areas. Children in Eritrea who commute daily from home to school typically travel five to fifteen kilometres each way, often through mine/ERW contaminated areas. In addition, students advancing in school may also be required to transfer from safe areas to contaminated regions. International humanitarian aid workers based in areas without contamination are also vulnerable as they occasionally travel to or through contaminated regions for delivery of humanitarian materials or programme monitoring. In many countries with such local dynamics, the UN supports the widespread

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<sup>16</sup> An investigation of the efficacy of the prioritisation process vis-à-vis humanitarian priorities and outcomes is beyond the scope of the current M&E Mechanism; however it could be explored in future iterations of the M&E Mechanism.

<sup>17</sup> The results of Afghanistan's most recent Livelihoods Survey show that 100% of cleared areas are in productive use, and another government study found 99% in productive use.

<sup>18</sup> Respondents in Algeria and Afghanistan said that unfavourable economic environments prevented people from making full and productive use of their land.

<sup>19</sup> The M&E Mechanism defines a direct beneficiary as someone who attends an in-person Mine/ERW Risk Education session of any kind (lesson, presentation, briefing, training, receive a door-to-door visit, attend a child friendly space, etc.) provided by an educator of any kind (teacher, member of an NGO, religious leader, community member/leader, police or military officer, etc.).

delivery of Mine/ERW Risk Education, beyond the highly contaminated areas, particularly through the integration of Mine/ERW Risk Education into school curricula, public health information, and the use of local radio or television platforms to deliver Mine/ERW Risk Education.

#### 4.2 NATIONAL OWNERSHIP

The M&E Mechanism looks closely at national legislation and policy, national governance of mine action programmes including victim assistance services, and national capacities in critical mine action activity areas. Encouragingly, half of countries in which the UN supports mine action have a national mine action strategy or have incorporated mine action into existing national strategies. In Tajikistan, for example, the Mine Action Strategy is a Ministry of Defence document; the Palestinian Mine Action Centre and – and thus the Palestinian mine action strategy – is housed in the Ministry of the Interior; and in Egypt, a draft national strategic plan is being developed within the Executive Secretariat for the Demining and Development of the North West Coast. The UN supports national strategy development by providing technical support and funding. For example, the UN has supported the government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to draft a six year demining work plan, and a national strategic work plan which is currently under review. With UN support, the Mine Action Centre of Afghanistan is developing a new Afghan Mine Action Strategy, and provincial development plans address mine action issues.

The Capacity Assessment Tool in the Survey is completed by UN Survey Focal Points. Where the partnership between the UN and the national authority is close and positive, the anecdotal feedback from the field has been very positive. The Capacity Assessment Tool created a platform for constructive discussion and assessment, and national authorities felt that the UN “listened [to them] and paid attention to the areas of capacity need identified.”

Data from the Capacity Assessment indicates that the UN continues to work in contexts with significant national capacity challenges. Resource mobilization, the procurement of mine action services, and victim assistance are the areas of lowest assessed capacity and also the areas most frequently identified as in need of improved capacity. Countries and territories report stronger capacity in quality assurance, with 80% (16 countries and territories) reporting basic, moderate, or good capacity in place, and two reporting independent capacity in place.

The distributions of assessed capacity in coordination and mine action planning are particularly interesting. All but two countries/territories have at least basic capacity in place, and four have independent capacity in place, in both of these domains. This information indicates a potential opportunity for south-south cooperation: the countries that have high and independent capacity in these areas could potentially provide assistance to their peers that report basic, moderate, or a need for enhanced capacity in place. This would represent an additional area of support the United Nations could provide.

#### 4.3 NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL POLICY

The M&E Mechanism looks closely at the extent to which national authorities institutionalize mine action through the adoption and implementation of national law and policy frameworks. Policy frameworks for addressing the needs of victims and survivors of mines/ERW are considered, as are national policies and strategies on mine action overall, on information management, and on the transition of mine action programmes from the UN to national authorities, where relevant. The examination of national policies is closely tied to the analysis of capacity discussed above, as the policy and capacity are mutually reinforcing and reciprocal.

In several countries participating in the third round of data collection, issues of transition (from the UN to a national authority) and transition planning are not relevant for one or more of several possible reasons. In several participating countries including Algeria, Cambodia, Colombia, Eritrea, and Sudan, transition is complete or not relevant as the national authority already assumes full responsibility for mine action.<sup>20</sup> In such countries and contexts, the role of the UN is to provide technical guidance and advice on mine action issues upon request. UN entities in transitioned contexts typically support mine action concurrently and in relation to other development and humanitarian initiatives in their portfolio. In other participating countries and territories, questions of transition are not relevant at this time due to weak governance structures. Of the participating countries and territories for which questions of transition are relevant, 56% (9 of 16) have a transition plan in place.<sup>21</sup> In encouraging signs of progress in 2015, the Somali Explosive Management Authority made significant steps towards establishing itself formally within government (with explosive hazard legislation passed, funding for personnel approved through the government budget, and development of a national plan for clearance), while in Tajikistan five mine action staff transitioned from UN roles to positions in national mine action entities (three to the Tajikistan National Mine Action Centre and two to a Tajik NGO).

Given the critical importance of information management in mine action, the M&E Mechanism looks at several indicators related to databases and information management policy and data. The data indicate that national authorities have made improvements in information management from 2014 to 2015, in both capacity (demonstrated through the capacity assessment) and in the numbers of national authorities who collect and maintain casualty data including casualty data from incidents involving improvised explosive devices (IEDs).<sup>22</sup> In the latest round of data collection, three additional national authorities have begun collecting casualty data from incidents involving IEDs.<sup>23</sup>

As is true of national capacity, the M&E Mechanism considers international conventions and treaties concerning mine action in relation to national policy frameworks, as the former are intended to influence and shape policy at the national level. Thus, the M&E Mechanism also tracks the extent to which mine/ERW-affected countries accede to international normative frameworks such as the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, the Convention on Cluster Munitions, the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons, and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

In 2015, the Democratic Republic of the Congo along with Vietnam acceded to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, bringing the percentage of mine/ERW-affected countries and territories that are states parties to the CRPD from 93% to 94%. The extent to which the UN supports victim assistance service provision remained unchanged among the countries and territories participating in both the second and third rounds of data collection. The data do, however, reflect the full transition of responsibility for the delivery of victim assistance services in the Democratic Republic of the Congo from the UN to the national authority. The UN continues to

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<sup>20</sup> Transition was completed in Eritrea, for example, in 2002; however the UN continued to provide technical and financial support to the Eritrean Demining Authority up to 2011.

<sup>21</sup> A transition plan is developed by the UN in collaboration with national authorities that outlines the process whereby the national authority assumes primary responsibility for mine action within their jurisdiction (and the UN withdraws or scales down operations). The UN Strategy articulates the need for each country to establish a transition plan. A transition plan should also include the specific areas to be 'transitioned' and an explanation of the UN's supporting role. Additional information about Transition planning can be found in the UNMAS/GICHD [A Guide on Transitioning Mine Action Programmes](#).

<sup>22</sup> Some organizations distinguish between victim-activated IEDs and IEDs that are remote detonated, command detonated, or launched. In this survey, victim-activated IEDs are considered explosive remnants of war (ERW); deaths and injuries from such devices are counted together with deaths and injuries from mines/ERW. Victims of remote detonated, command detonated, or launched IEDs are counted separately.

<sup>23</sup> Afghanistan, Libya, and the State of Palestine.

support victim assistance services in the Democratic Republic of the Congo through partnership with and financial support of the national authority. Encouragingly, 55% of countries (12 of 22) in which the UN supports mine action programmes have a national disability policy framework or strategy that provides for victims & survivors of mines/ERW, and an additional six states have national disability policies or strategies that do not include an explicit reference to victims & survivors of mines/ERW.<sup>24</sup> These numbers are improved since 2014; Somalia now has a disability policy that provides for victims & survivors, and Tajikistan is in the process of adopting a new and expanded disability programme that is aligned with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

As in 2014, 68% of affected countries are States Parties to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention and 73% of those with a United Nations presence are States Parties. While there were no changes in the number of accessions to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention in 2015, several mine affected countries ratified or became signatories to other important and mine action related treaties, including the Convention on Cluster Munitions, the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons, and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities as previously discussed.

The First Review Conference for the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) in September of 2015 served as a focus for a significant lobbying campaign by civil society, States Parties, and the UN for treaty universalisation. Encouragingly, 2015 saw ten new accessions to the CCM. Among these were Somalia and the State of Palestine, both mine-affected countries with a UN mine action presence. The effect of these changes on overall findings from the M&E Mechanism is small, however, as the remaining new accessions are from countries that are not in the dataset of mine-affected countries. As of 2015, 49% of affected countries are States Parties to the CCM; among countries with a UN mine action presence, 58% are States Parties to the CCM. This is a slight improvement over 2014, in which these figures were 48% and 56%, respectively. Algeria and the State of Palestine both ratified the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons in 2015, and these improvements are reflected in Table 6 (see Annex 1).

## 5. Implementation of the UN Gender Guidelines for Mine Action Programmes

As part of the Survey, respondents were asked to report on the extent to which the UN Gender Guidelines for mine action programmes were applied by indicating the frequency with which each activity-specific guideline is implemented in their mine action programme.<sup>25</sup> <sup>26</sup>Where possible, the assessment reflects all UN-supported mine action work across a country or territory. The findings indicate that UN-supported mine action programmes were increasingly designed and implemented with gender sensitivity in 2015. A comparison of responses from rounds two and three of data collection show increases in the proportion of UN-supported mine action programmes that reported consistent implementation of the UN Gender Guidelines for Mine Action programmes.<sup>27</sup>

Overall, the data present an encouraging picture of gender sensitivity in UN mine action programmes. Programmes very consistently follow gender guidelines associated with research and data collection; assembling

<sup>24</sup> Thus, 82% (18 of 22) of countries have a national disability policy framework.

<sup>25</sup> A scale of “Almost Always”, “Often”, “Sometimes”, or “Rarely” is used.

<sup>26</sup> Gabriele Russo and others, *Gender Guidelines for Mine Action Programmes*, (New York, New York, United Nations, 2010). Available from: <http://www.mineaction.org/sites/default/files/publications/MA-Guidelines-WEB.pdf> (accessed 15 February 2016).

<sup>27</sup> “Consistent implementation” means- that a programme reported following the guidelines associated with each theme (community liaison, assessment of threat, programme design, and employment opportunities) at least half of the time; many report doing so at least 75% of the time.

survey teams, disaggregating survey data based on the gender of both interviewer and respondent, and ensuring gender balance among interviewers and respondents. The data also highlight a few opportunities for improvement in this area (see Annex 1 Figure 10), and programmes are encouraged to collect information from organizations representing both men and women, where relevant, and to ensure that survey/clearance teams receive training in gender-sensitive data collection. Programmes report consistent implementation of key guidelines aimed at encouraging women's employment in mine action, such as ensuring the accessibility and relevance of vacancy announcements and fostering a work environment that meets the needs of women and men. There are areas of concern in the findings which aim to analyse the success of Community Liaison efforts.<sup>28</sup> The use of multiple-object questions in this section made it challenging to determine where programmes are achieving the expected results and where additional work is required. The Survey is being revised to enable better examination of these issues in future rounds of data collection so that specific recommendations and solutions can be developed and implemented.

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<sup>28</sup> The relevant guidelines, quoted as follows, are found on pg. 20 of the [Gender Guidelines for Mine Action Programmes](#); 1) "Provide information and training to survey/clearance teams on local customs and behavioural codes associated with gender roles, STI prevention, and UN codes of conduct to ensure that expected standards of conduct are observed to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse." 2) "Inform community members about codes of conduct and procedures for registering complaints or allegations of sexual exploitation or abuse."

## 6. Annex 1: Tables and Charts

As discussed in the Introduction (section 1.1), the timeframe for cumulative totals runs from the start date identified by each participating country/territory to the end of the relevant reporting period.<sup>29</sup>

### 6.1 VISION OF THE UN STRATEGY FOR MINE ACTION 2013-2018

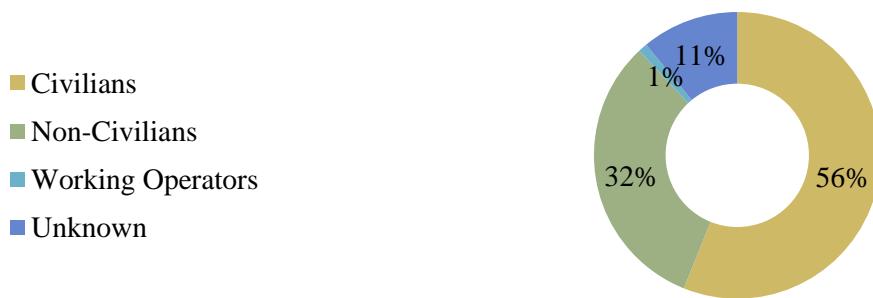
*“...a world free of the threat of mines and ERW, including cluster munitions, where individuals and communities live in a safe environment conducive to development and where the human rights and the needs of mine and ERW victims are met and survivors are fully integrated and equal members of their societies.”<sup>30</sup>*

Table 1. Mine/ERW Casualties Rate (Restricted) <sup>31</sup>	2014	2015
Casualties (combined deaths & injuries) due to mines/ERW per million people per month.	3.298	3.777

**Figure 1. Mine/ERW Casualties in 2015 (Age and Gender)**



**Figure 2. Mine/ERW Casualties in 2015 (Victim Type)**



<sup>29</sup> 30 June 2015 for the third round of data collection.

<sup>30</sup> United Nations, *The Strategy of the United Nations on Mine Action 2013-2018*. Available from:

[http://www.mineaction.org/sites/default/files/publications/mine\\_action\\_strategy\\_mar15.pdf](http://www.mineaction.org/sites/default/files/publications/mine_action_strategy_mar15.pdf) (accessed 15 February 2016)

<sup>31</sup> Restricted to the 14 countries and territories participating in all three rounds of data collection: Abyei, Afghanistan, Côte d'Ivoire, Darfur, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Mali, Mozambique, the State of Palestine, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, and Western Sahara.

## 6.2 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1 OF THE UN STRATEGY FOR MINE ACTION 2013-2018

*Strategic Objective 1: Risks to individuals and the socio-economic impacts of mines and ERW, including cluster munitions, are reduced.<sup>32</sup>*

<b>Table 2. Clearance Indicators</b>	<b>2015<sup>33</sup></b>	<b>Increase in percentage points<sup>34</sup> from 2014 to 2015</b>
Average percent of land that has been surveyed. <sup>35</sup>	58%	2%
Percent of suspected and confirmed hazardous areas that have been returned to communities (SHA & CHA released, BAC and Minefields).	89%	4%

<b>Table 3. Affected Infrastructure<sup>36</sup></b>		<b>2014</b>	<b>2015<sup>37</sup></b>
<b>Hospitals</b>	Known and Identified	15	98
	Cleared	8	73
	Biannual clearance rate	57%	78%
	Percent cleared of total identified (cumulative)	53%	74%
<b>Educational Facilities</b>	Known and Identified	59	216
	Cleared	43	190
	Biannual clearance rate	42%	94%
	Percent cleared of total identified (cumulative)	73%	88%
<b>Markets</b>	Known and Identified	43	519
	Cleared	36	363
	Biannual clearance rate	42%	69%
	Percent cleared of total identified (cumulative)	84%	70%
<b>Religious Facilities<sup>38</sup></b>	Known and Identified	-	3
	Cleared	-	3
	Biannual clearance rate	-	100%
	Percent cleared of total identified (cumulative)	-	100%
<b>Government Buildings</b>	Known and Identified	73	260
	Cleared	70	215
	Biannual clearance rate	40%	78%
	Percent cleared of total identified (cumulative)	96%	83%

<sup>32</sup> United Nations, *The Strategy of the United Nations on Mine Action 2013-2018*. Available from: [http://www.mineaction.org/sites/default/files/publications/mine\\_action\\_strategy\\_mar15.pdf](http://www.mineaction.org/sites/default/files/publications/mine_action_strategy_mar15.pdf) (accessed 15 February 2016).

<sup>33</sup> Includes all 25 countries and territories participating in Round 3.

<sup>34</sup> Restricted to the 20 countries and territories participating in both Round 2 and Round 3.

<sup>35</sup> Survey respondents are asked, “what percentage of the country has been surveyed?,” and the reported proportions are averaged.

<sup>36</sup> Restricted to the 20 countries and territories participating in both Round 2 and Round 3.

<sup>37</sup> The significant increases in the reported numbers of affected and cleared infrastructure are primarily driven by increases in the data reported by three countries. Based on the detailed notes that each country provided, it is concluded that the increases in aggregate totals are a result of better reporting in these countries as described in Section 2.2, greater availability of data due to the expansion of survey and clearance activities, and (in one case) an increase in hostilities in 2014 that is reflected in the 2015 data.

<sup>38</sup> Data on the identification and clearance of contaminated religious facilities comes from the Central African Republic and from Mali, both of whom started this reporting in the third round of data collection.

<b>Table 4. People in close proximity to affected areas</b>	<b>Men</b>	<b>Women</b>	<b>Boys</b>	<b>Girls</b>	<b>(Age &amp; gender unknown)</b>	<b>Total</b>
Estimated number of people known to be living in close proximity to mine /ERW affected areas. <sup>39</sup>	1,769,525	1,749,103	1,018,498	1,419,349	7,670,691	14,477,166 (6% of population)
Estimated number of people who seasonally migrate to mine/ERW affected corridors (in addition to above). <sup>40</sup>	15,000	9,000	30,000	18,000	4,657,232	4,726,232 (13% of population)

**Table 5. Mine/ERW Risk Education Programmes**

Number of programmes funded.	83
Number of sessions conducted.	10,157,201
Number of direct beneficiaries. <sup>41</sup>	35,258,967

In countries/territories providing data on the number of people living in close proximity to affected areas and the number of people receiving Mine/ERW Risk Education, an estimated 6% of the population (i.e. 13 million people) live in close proximity to mines/ERW, and 11% of the population (i.e. 23.4 million people) have received Mine/ERW Risk Education.<sup>42 43 44</sup> Across all participating countries/territories that provided Mine/ERW Risk Education data, 9% of the population (i.e. 34.8 million people) has received Mine/ERW Risk Education.<sup>45</sup>

<sup>39</sup> Data from 11 countries and territories: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Eritrea, Jordan, Mali, Mozambique, the State of Palestine, and Tajikistan.

<sup>40</sup> Data from two countries and territories: Afghanistan and Eritrea.

<sup>41</sup> The M&E Mechanism defines a direct beneficiary as someone who attends a Mine/ERW Risk Education session of any kind (lesson, presentation, briefing, training, receive a door-to-door visit, attend a child friendly space, etc.) provided by an educator of any kind (teacher, member of an NGO, religious leader, community member/leader, police or military officer, etc.).

<sup>42</sup> “Close proximity” has yet to be defined at the global level and has instead been determined at the country and territory level based on local context and risk factors. In Afghanistan, for example, “close proximity” is defined as within living 500 meters of a hazardous area. In Mali, the team considers all residents of districts that contain contaminated areas to be living in close proximity to affected areas.

<sup>43</sup> The extent to which UN-supported Mine/ERW Risk Education programmes successfully reach people identified as living in close proximity to mines/ERW is not tracked at the international level through the M&E Mechanism; however, such programmes are designed to reach at-risk populations.

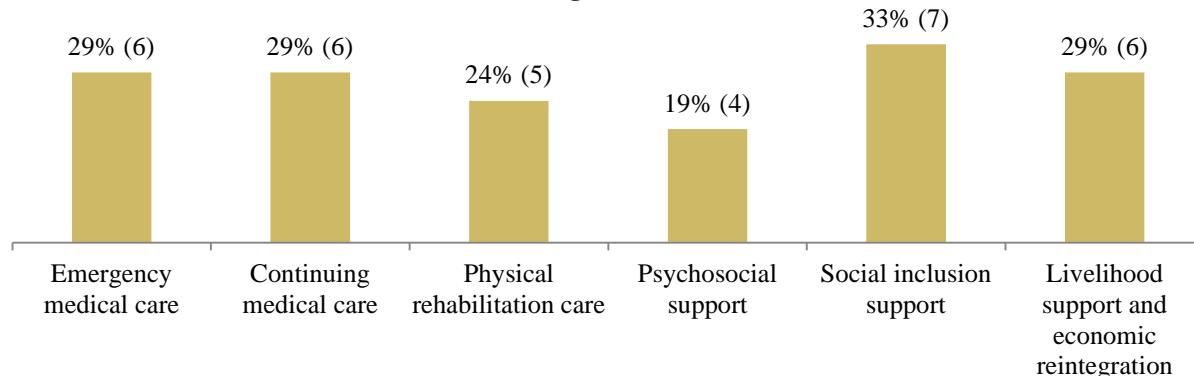
<sup>44</sup> Data from 10 countries and territories: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Eritrea, Jordan, Mali, Mozambique, the State of Palestine, and Tajikistan.

<sup>45</sup> Data from 18 countries and territories: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, the Central African Republic, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Eritrea, Jordan, Libya, Mali, Nepal, the State of Palestine, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, and Tajikistan.

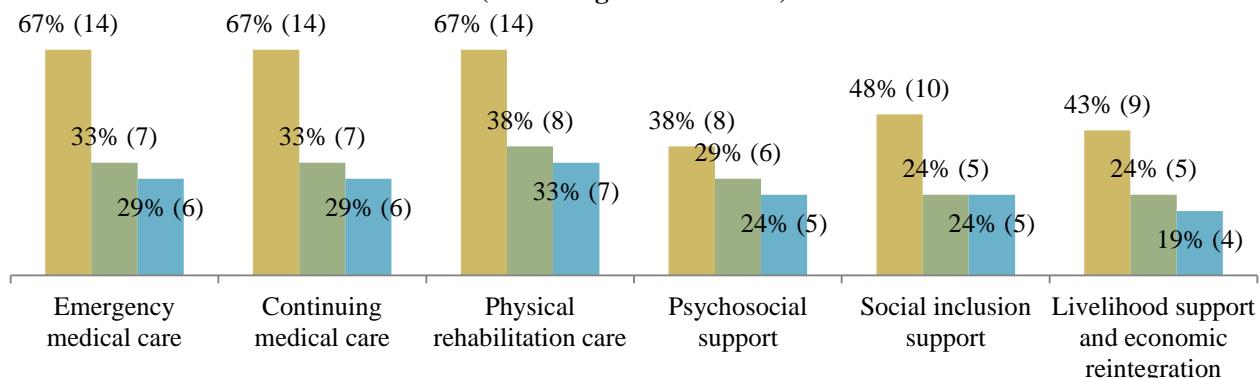
### 6.3 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2 OF THE UN STRATEGY FOR MINE ACTION 2013-2018

*Strategic Objective 2: Comprehensive support is provided by national and international actors to mine and ERW victims within a broader response to injury and disability.<sup>46</sup> <sup>47</sup>*

**Figure 3. Countries and Territories in which the UN Supports Service Provision (Percentage and Number)**



**Figure 4. National Authorities that Provide Victim Assistance Services (Percentage and Number)**



- Percent of countries/territories in which national authorities provide victim assistance
- Percent of countries/territories in which national authorities provide victim assistance with age sensitivity
- Percent of countries/territories in which national authorities provide victim assistance with gender sensitivity

<sup>46</sup> United Nations, *The Strategy of the United Nations on Mine Action 2013-2018*. Available from:

[http://www.mineaction.org/sites/default/files/publications/mine\\_action\\_strategy\\_mar15.pdf](http://www.mineaction.org/sites/default/files/publications/mine_action_strategy_mar15.pdf) (accessed 15 February 2016)

<sup>47</sup> Twenty-one countries and territories provided data to generate Figures 3 and 4.

## **6.4 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3 OF THE UN STRATEGY FOR MINE ACTION 2013-2018**

*Strategic Objective 3: The transfer of mine action functions to national actors is accelerated, with national capacity to fulfil mine action responsibilities increased.<sup>48</sup>*

Figures 5 and Figure 6 summarize the complete findings from the Capacity Assessment discussed in Section 4.2 (National Ownership). The Capacity Assessment is completed by Survey Focal Points in collaboration with National Authorities where possible. Where such collaboration is not possible, assessments are made by the United Nations on behalf of the National Authority. To complete the Capacity Assessment, respondents consider a series of “core” mine action activity areas (listed below) and assess national capacity in each area:

- Coordination of mine action actors
- Injury surveillance
- Quality assurance (including accreditation)
- Mine action planning
- Marking, fencing, survey and clearance
- Information management
- Explosive ordnance disposal
- Stockpile management
- Mine/ERW risk education (including MRE related surveys)
- Victim assistance
- Resource mobilization
- Procurement of mine action services
- Advocacy for mine action in national legislation

The assessment of capacity is based on five dimensions: i) resource allocation, ii) activity management, iii) policies and framework development, iv) knowledge of relevant issues, and v) planning. Capacity is assessed according to the following scale:

- **Need for increased capacity:** National authorities do not allocate resources or work on this activity; have not developed frameworks or policies in place for this activity; have little to no institutional knowledge on this issue; do not engage in planning for this activity.
- **Basic capacity in place:** National authorities have allocated some resources to this area; manage activities from time to time; have no policies or frameworks in place for this activity; have some knowledge of the relevant issues; engage in little to no planning for this activity.
- **Moderate capacity in place:** National authorities are adequately resourced in this area; actively manage activities in this area; have or are in the process of developing relevant policies and frameworks; have sufficient knowledge of this issue; and engage in planning for this activity.
- **Good capacity in place:** National authorities have expert knowledge in this activity and are resourced in this area; actively manage activities; have developed relevant policies and frameworks; engage in both short- and long-term planning; adaptively respond to new challenges and issues; and effectively mitigate risk in this area.
- **Independent capacity in place:** National authorities manage this activity independently from external support.

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<sup>48</sup> United Nations, *The Strategy of the United Nations on Mine Action 2013-2018*. Available from: [http://www.mineaction.org/sites/default/files/publications/mine\\_action\\_strategy\\_mar15.pdf](http://www.mineaction.org/sites/default/files/publications/mine_action_strategy_mar15.pdf) (accessed 15 February 2016).

The top line of Figure 5 below is to be interpreted as follows: in the area of resource mobilization, seven countries/territories expressed a need for increased capacity. Four countries/territories each reported basic and moderate capacity in place, two reported good capacity in place, and one reported independent capacity in place. Five countries/territories reported that resource mobilization was inapplicable in their context, and data were unavailable for the remaining two countries/territories.

**Figure 5. Capacity Assessment for 2015**

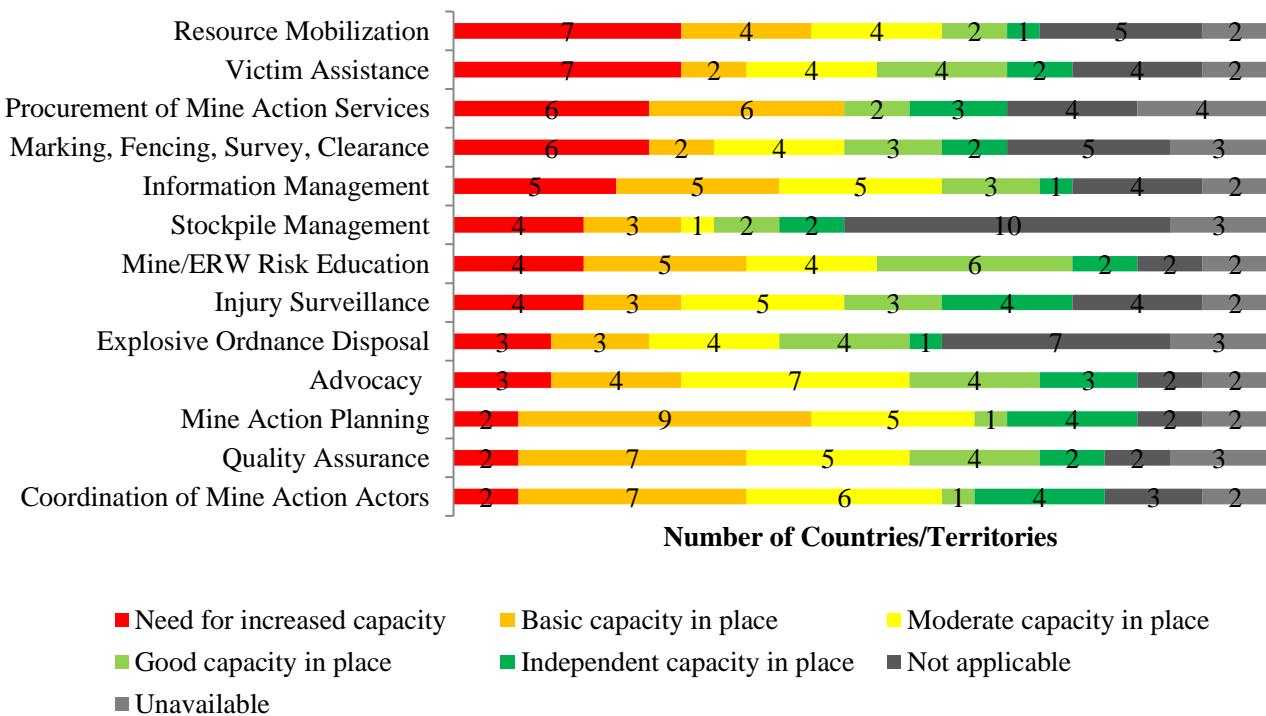
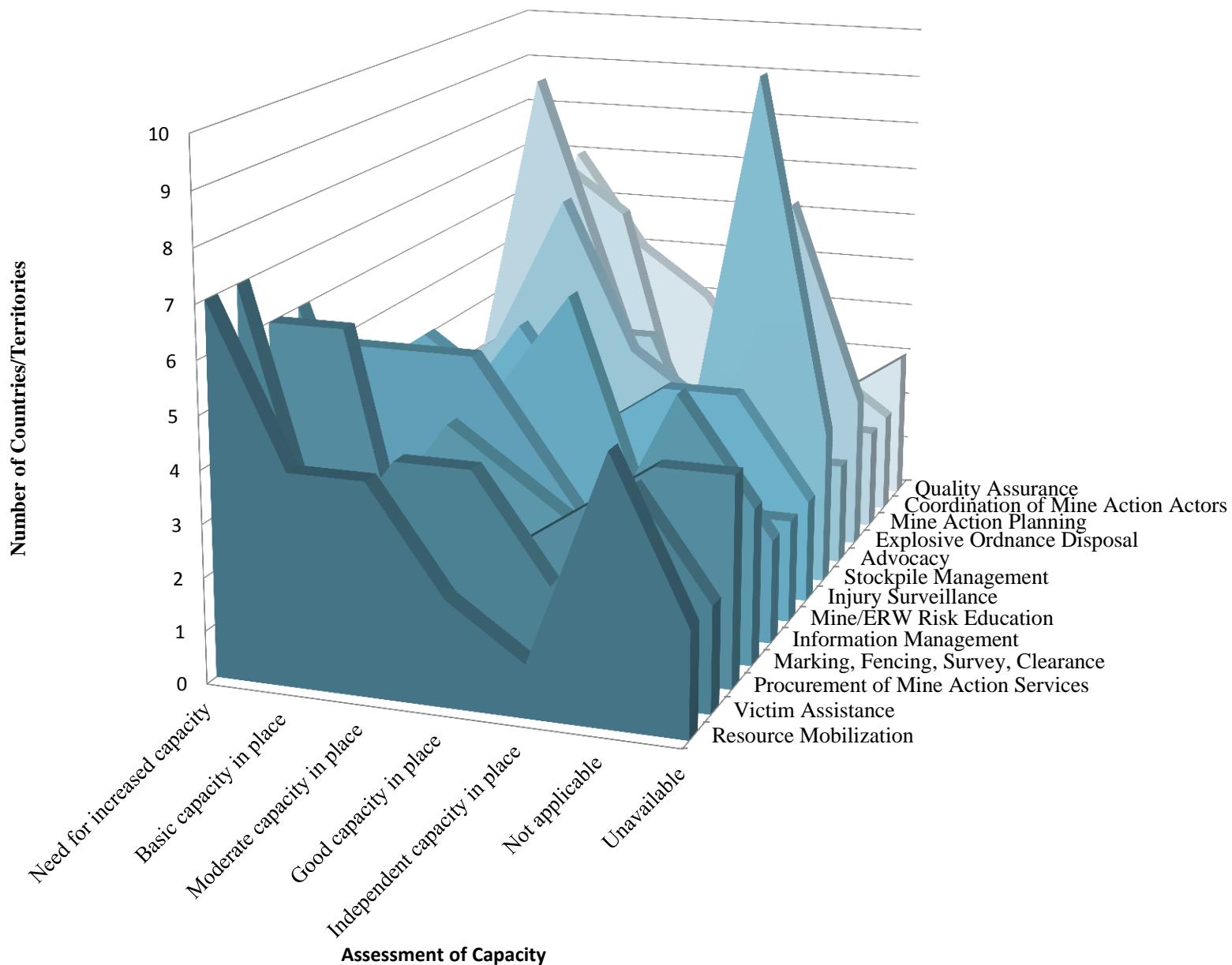


Figure 6 presents the same information in a different and more visual style of chart. The area chart facilitates understanding of overlapping and complementary areas of capacity.

**Figure 6. 2015 Capacity Assessment Area Chart**



<b>Table 4. Indicators of National Ownership and Transition</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>
Percent of national authorities who have adopted a national strategy for mine action.	59%	59%
Percent of national authorities with plan in place for the transfer of mine action responsibilities to national authorities (i.e. a transition plan).	57%	57%
Percent of transition plans that are regularly monitored.	63%	63%

<b>Table 5. Information Management Indicators</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>
Percent of national authorities who have adopted a plan or strategy on information management.	71%	71%
Percent of national authorities who collect and maintain data on civilian and non-civilian deaths and injuries resulting from landmines, ERW including cluster munitions, in a database (IMSMA or other).	65%	76%
Percent of national authorities who collect age and gender disaggregated data.	67%	67%
Percent of national authorities who collect and maintain data on civilian and non-civilian deaths and injuries resulting from IEDs in a database (IMSMA or other).	63%	75%

## 6.5 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 4 OF THE UN STRATEGY FOR MINE ACTION 2013-2018

*Strategic Objective 4: Mine action is promoted and integrated in multilateral instruments and frameworks as well as national plans and legislation.<sup>49</sup>*

<b>Table 6. International Humanitarian Law (IHL) Instrument</b>	<b>All Mine-Affected Countries</b>		<b>Mine-affected countries with a UN mine action presence</b>	
	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>
Anti-personnel Mine Ban Convention	68%	68%	73%	73%
Convention on Cluster Munitions	48%	49%	56%	58%
Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) <sup>50</sup>	60%	63%	56%	60%
CCW Amended Protocol II	78%	75%	72%	67%
CCW Amended Protocol V	61%	58%	56%	52%
Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	93%	94%	89%	91%

## 6.6 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UN GENDER GUIDELINES FOR MINE ACTION PROGRAMMES

Respondents were asked to report on the extent to which the UN Gender Guidelines for Mine Action Programmes were applied by selecting, within each assessed activity area, if the specific activity area within the Guidelines was implemented ‘Almost Always’, ‘Often’, ‘Sometimes’, or ‘Rarely’.<sup>51</sup> Where possible, the assessment reflects all UN mine action work across a country or territory.

The fourteen activity areas in the Gender Guidelines are grouped according to four key themes:

<sup>49</sup> United Nations, *The Strategy of the United Nations on Mine Action 2013-2018*. Available from:

[http://www.mineaction.org/sites/default/files/publications/mine\\_action\\_strategy\\_mar15.pdf](http://www.mineaction.org/sites/default/files/publications/mine_action_strategy_mar15.pdf) (accessed 15 February 2016).

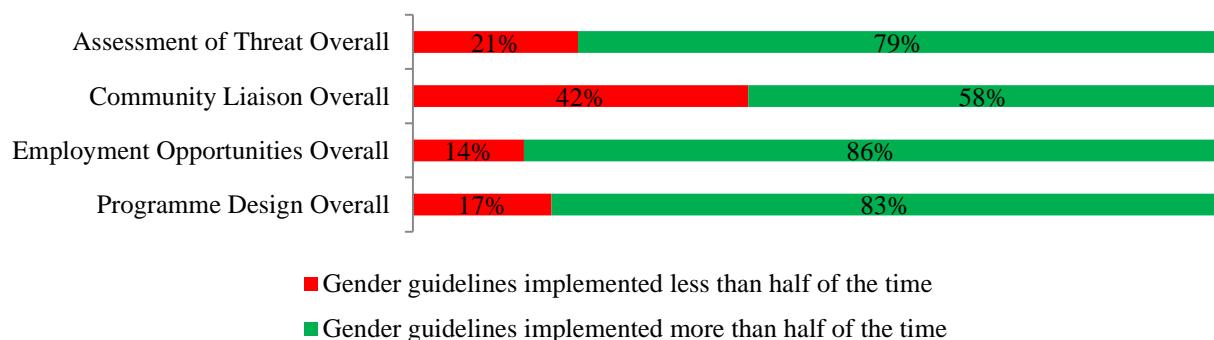
<sup>50</sup> Algeria and the State of Palestine both ratified the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons in 2015, as reflected in the increase from 2014 to 2015 in Table 6. As neither acceded to CCW Amended Protocol II or CCW Amended Protocol V, however, the percentages related to these decreased from 2014 to 2015 (i.e. the denominator increased by two while the numerator remained constant).

<sup>51</sup> 0-25% of the time; 25-50% of the time; 50-75% of the time; or 75-100% of the time.

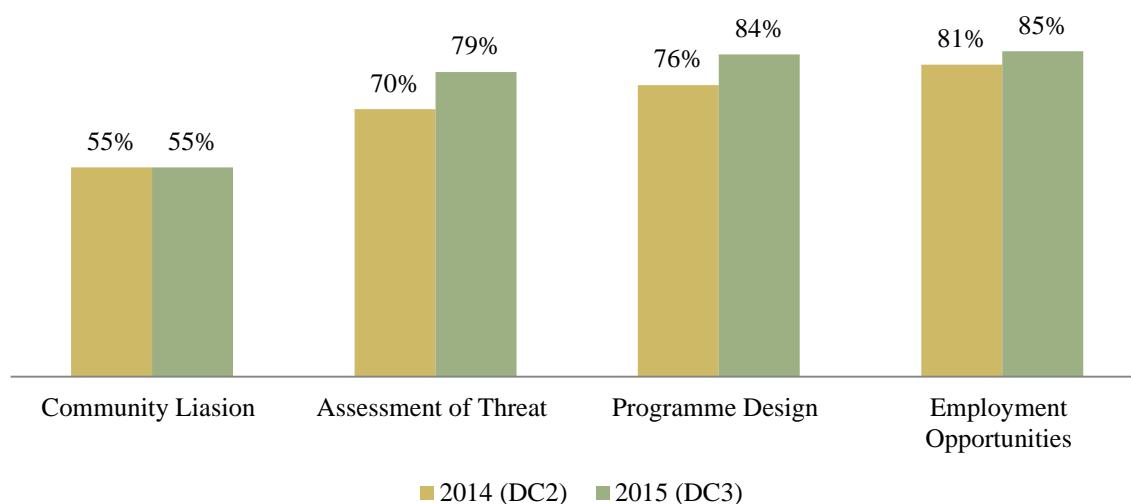
- **Assessment of Threat:** These guidelines aim to ensure that information on the threat of mines and ERW is comprehensive, gender sensitive, representative, and collected from adults and children of both sexes.
- **Community Liaison:** These guidelines aim to ensure that mine action teams do not adversely affect local populations by ensuring that engagement with community members respects local norms and customs.
- **Employment Opportunities in the Mine Action Sector:** These guidelines aim to ensure that men and women enjoy the same level of access to, and equally benefit from, mine action activities (including training and employment opportunities).
- **Programme Design:** These guidelines aim to ensure that the needs of adults and children of both sexes are considered, and that gender is overtly considered, especially when prioritizing areas for clearance, Mine/ERW Risk Education, and Victim Assistance.

Figure 7 shows the percent of UN-supported mine action programmes that consistently implement the UN gender guidelines in each of the four thematic areas. “Consistent implementation” means that a programme reported following the guidelines associated with each theme (community liaison, assessment of threat, programme design, and employment opportunities) at least half of the time; many report doing so at least 75% of the time.

**Figure 7. Consistent Implementation of UN Gender Guidelines**

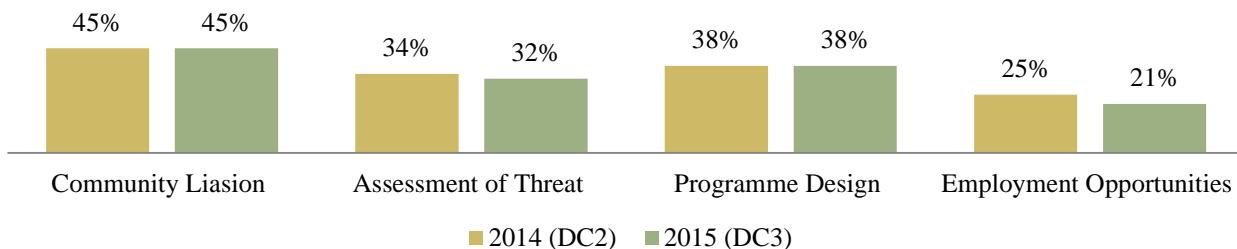


**Figure 8. Consistent Implementation**  
Restricted to the 20 participants of both Round 2 and Round 3



The chart below indicates the proportion of questions in each domain that were designated not applicable or for which data were unavailable. As with other questions in the Survey, the availability of data and the relevance of Survey questions are both closely monitored. Efforts are ongoing to ensure relevance and improve data availability.

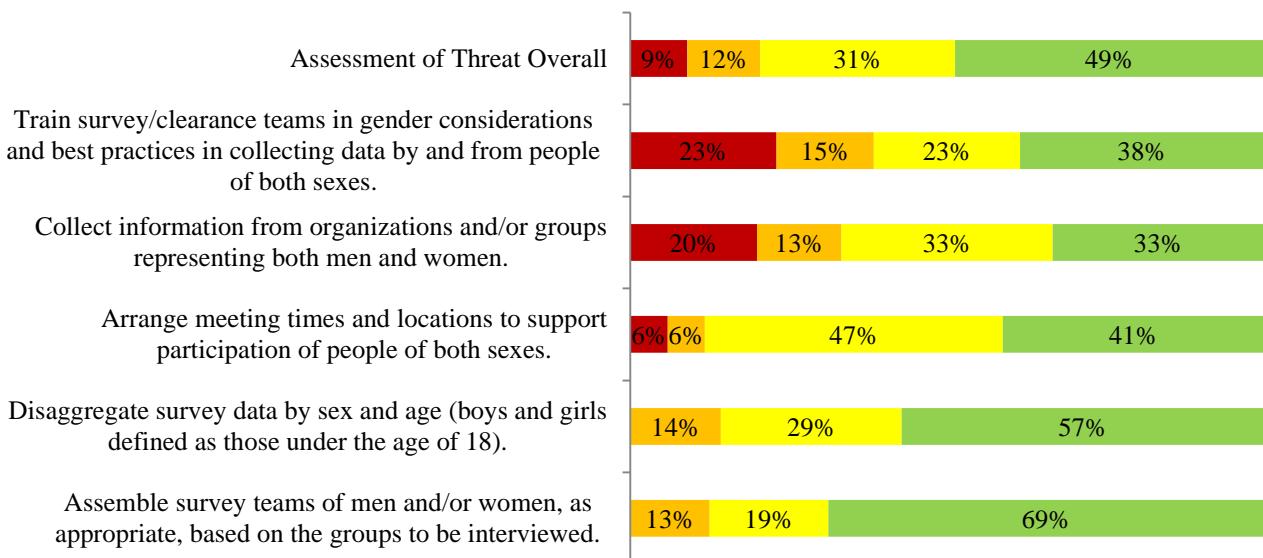
**Figure 9. Questions Designated Not Applicable or for which Data were Unavailable**



Detailed findings are presented by theme. Each chart uses the legend below. The colour blocks represent the frequency (amount of time) that programmes report implementing each activity area in the Gender Guidelines.

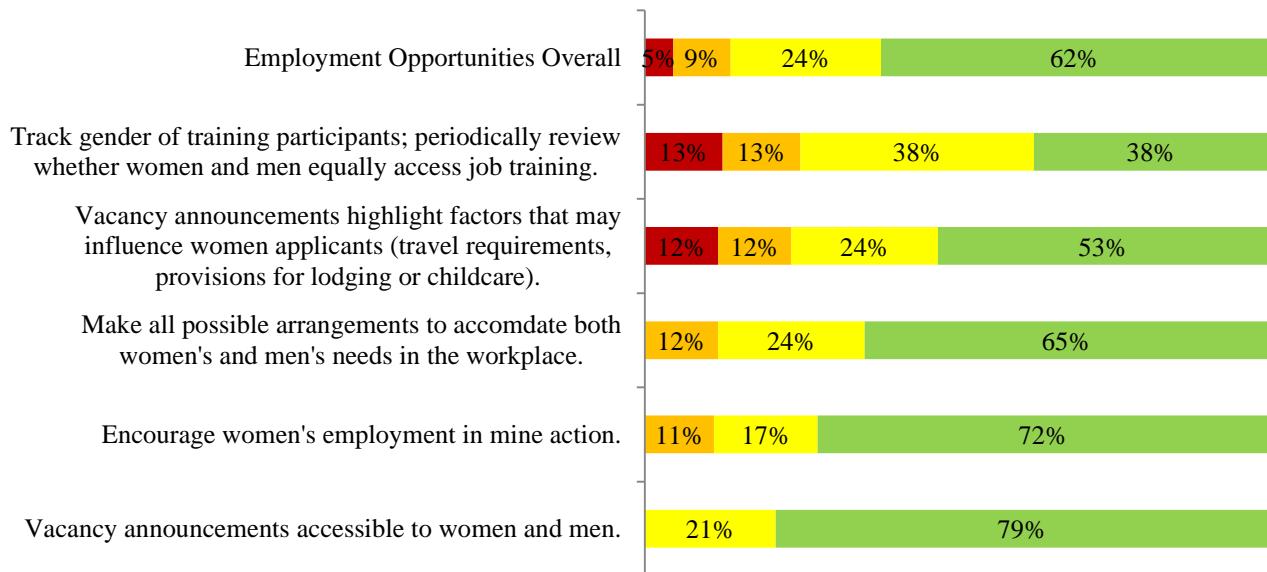
*Legend: ■ Rarely ■ Sometimes ■ Often ■ Almost always*

**Figure 10. Assessment of Threat**

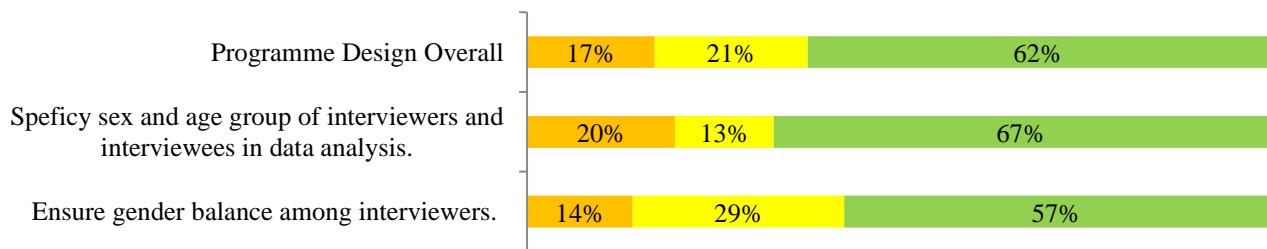


**Legend:**  **Rarely**     **Sometimes**     **Often**     **Almost always**

**Figure 11. Employment Opportunities in the Mine Action Sector**



**Figure 12. Programme Design**



## 6.7 COUNTRY-LEVEL CHARACTERISTICS

Out of all the countries and territories in which the UN has a mine action presence, the 25 countries and territories participating in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Round of the Survey face some of the most significant challenges.

Table 7. Survey Participants	Survey participants	All countries/ territories with a UN mine action presence
Number of countries	25	48
Heavily or very heavily contaminated <sup>52</sup>	64%	57%
Experiencing violent conflict	64%	52%
Middle-income	44%	54%
Low-income	44%	38%
Facing governance challenges <sup>53</sup>	64%	43%
Average GDP per capita (constant 2005 USD) <sup>54</sup>	\$1,540	\$2,532
Median GDP per capita (constant 2005 USD)	\$746	\$936

### 6.7.1 MINE-AFFECTED COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES: INTRODUCTORY STATISTICS

The dataset of mine-affected countries and territories analysed through the M&E Mechanism includes 81 countries and seven territories. Included countries are those in which UN mine action entities have a programmatic presence and those identified by the Landmine Monitor and the Cluster Munitions Monitor. 44 of the 81 countries have a UN mine action presence (54%), and four of the seven territories have a UN mine action presence (57%);

- 36% (32) are classified as heavily or very heavily contaminated; the UN has a mine action presence in 84% of these (27 out of 32 countries and territories so classified).<sup>55</sup>
- 39% of mine-affected countries and territories are currently experiencing some degree of violent conflict; among countries and territories with a UN mine action presence, this figure is 52%.<sup>56</sup>
- 57% of mine-affected countries are classified by the World Bank as middle-income countries and 27% as low-income countries; of those with a UN mine action presence, these figures are 54% and 38%, respectively.<sup>57</sup>
- Globally, 26.2% of people are under the age of 15. In mine-affected countries, an average of 32% (median of 30%) of the population is under the age of 15; these figures rise to an average of 36% (median of 41%) among mine-affected countries with a UN mine action presence.

<sup>52</sup> International Campaign to Ban Landmines – Cluster Munitions Coalition (ICBL-CMC), *Landmine Monitor 2013* (Geneva, 2014) pg. 23. Available from: <http://www.the-monitor.org/index.php/publications/display?url=lm/2013/> (accessed 15 December 2014).

<sup>53</sup> Center for Systemic Peace, Polity Project, Polity IV Dataset. Available from: <http://www.systemicpeace.org/polityproject.html> (accessed 15 December 2014).

<sup>54</sup> I.e. the values have been adjusted for inflation (and consequent changes in purchasing power) to enable sound comparison across years and currencies.

<sup>55</sup> International Campaign to Ban Landmines – Cluster Munitions Coalition (ICBL-CMC), *Landmine Monitor 2013* (Geneva, 2014) pg. 23. Available from: <http://www.the-monitor.org/index.php/publications/display?url=lm/2013/> (accessed 15 December 2014).

<sup>56</sup> Uppsala Universitet, Department of Peace and Conflict Research, Uppsala Conflict Data Program, UCDP Database. Available from: <http://www.pcr.uu.se/research/UCDP/> (accessed 15 December 2014).

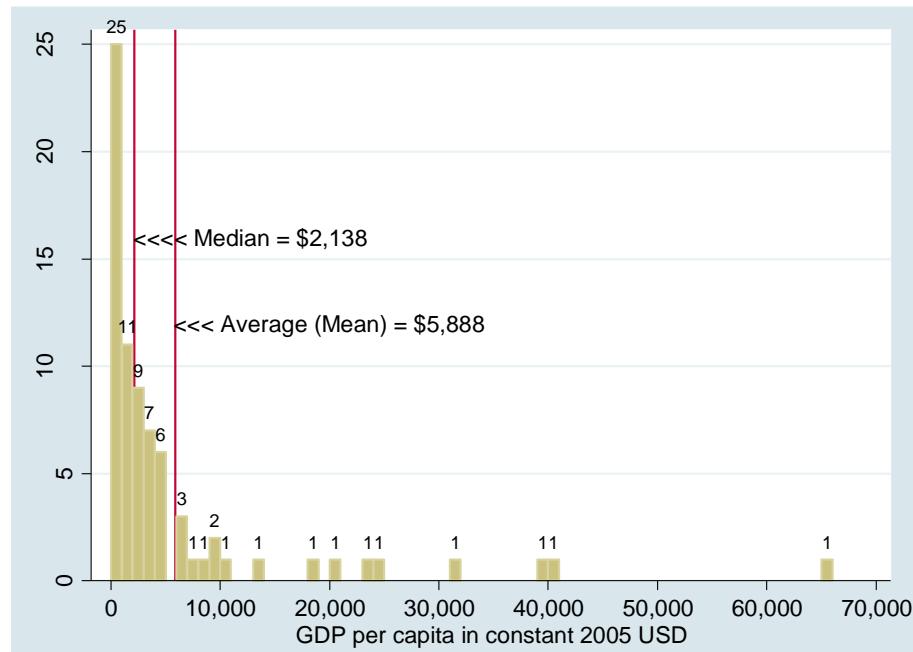
<sup>57</sup> World Bank, Country and Lending Groups. Available from: <http://data.worldbank.org/about/country-and-lending-groups> (accessed 15 December 2014).

## 6.7.2 GDP PER CAPITA IN CONSTANT 2005 USD<sup>58</sup> (MINE-AFFECTED COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES)

Violent conflict has a significant and long-lasting impact on economic outcomes and poverty. The average cost of a civil war or conflict is equivalent to approximately 30 years of GDP growth for a mid-size developing country, and trade levels can take 20 years to recover after a major episode of violence.<sup>59 60</sup> Countries that experience major violence have, on average, significantly higher poverty rates in comparison to countries that have not experienced violent conflict.<sup>61</sup>

Among the mine-affected countries in the M&E Mechanism dataset, the average GDP per capita is \$5,888; however, this average is skewed by outliers in the dataset (i.e. by mine-affected countries with high GDPs such as Germany and South Korea). Half of mine-affected countries in the dataset have a GDP per capital of \$2,138 or less (i.e. \$2,138 is the median value). These figures are lower among countries with a UN mine action presence: the mean GDP per capita for mine-affected countries with a UN presence is \$2,532, and the median is \$936.

**Figure 13 Histogram: GDP Per Capita in Constant 2005 USD**



<sup>58</sup> World Bank, GDP statistics. World Development Indicators database. Available from: <http://databank.worldbank.org/data/home.aspx> (accessed 15 December 2014).

<sup>59</sup> World Bank, *World Development Report 2011: Conflict, Security and Development*. (Washington, D.C., World Bank, 2011) Available from: <http://go.worldbank.org/1BOIJMD8H0> (accessed 15 February 2014).

<sup>60</sup> Martin, Mayer, and Thoenig 2008 in *World Development Report 2011: Conflict, Security and Development*. (Washington, D.C., World Bank, 2011) Available from: <http://go.worldbank.org/1BOIJMD8H0> (accessed 15 February 2014).

<sup>61</sup> World Bank, *World Development Report 2011: Conflict, Security and Development*. (Washington, D.C., World Bank, 2011) Available from: <http://go.worldbank.org/1BOIJMD8H0> (accessed 15 February 2014).

## 7. Annex 2: Glossary of Selected Mine Action Terms

The following definitions have been copied from the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) 04.10, Glossary of mine action terms, definitions and abbreviations; Second Edition, 1 January 2003, Amendment 7, August 2014. The complete glossary is available [on the IMAS website](#).

3.20. Battle Area Clearance (BAC): (2005) The systematic and controlled clearance of hazardous areas where the hazards are known not to include mines.

3.29. Cancelled area or cancelled land (m2): (2013) A defined area concluded not to contain evidence of mine/ERW contamination following the non-technical survey of a SHA/CHA.

3.35. Clearance: (2013) In the context of mine action, the term refers to tasks or actions to ensure the removal and/or the destruction of all mine and ERW hazards from a specified area to a specified depth.

3.39. Cluster munition:<sup>62</sup> (2009) Cluster munition refers to a conventional munition that is designed to disperse or release explosive sub-munitions each weighing less than 20 kilograms, and includes those explosive submunitions. (Convention on Cluster Munitions)

3.48. Confirmed Hazardous Area (CHA): (2013) Refers to an area where the presence of mine/ERW contamination has been confirmed on the basis of direct evidence of the presence of mines/ERW.

3.61. Demining or humanitarian demining:<sup>63</sup> Activities which lead to the removal of mine and ERW hazards, including technical survey, mapping, clearance, marking, post-clearance documentation, community mine action liaison and the handover of cleared land. Demining may be carried out by different types of organizations, such as NGOs, commercial companies, national mine action teams or military units. Demining may be emergency-based or developmental.

3.98. Explosive Ordnance (EO): All munitions containing explosives, nuclear fission or fusion materials and biological and chemical agents. This includes bombs and warheads; guided and ballistic missiles; artillery, mortar, rocket and small arms ammunition; all mines, torpedoes and depth charges; pyrotechnics; clusters and dispensers; cartridge and propellant actuated devices; electroexplosive devices; clandestine and improvised explosive devices; and all similar or related items or components explosive in nature. [AAP-6]

3.99. Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD): (2005) The detection, identification, evaluation, render safe, recovery and disposal of explosive ordnance (EO). EOD may be undertaken: a) as a routine part of mine clearance operations, upon discovery of ERW; b) to dispose of ERW discovered outside hazardous areas, (this may be a single item of ERW, or a larger number inside a specific area); or c) to dispose of EO which has become hazardous by deterioration, damage or attempted destruction.

3.100. Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) (2005) Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) and Abandoned Explosive Ordnance (AXO). (Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons Protocol V).

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<sup>62</sup> The following definition of cluster munition is for political purposes as defined in the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM). From a technical point of view cluster munitions are included in the overall definition of Explosive Remnants of War.

<sup>63</sup> In IMAS standards and guides, the terms demining and humanitarian demining are interchangeable.

3.111. Gender analysis: (2009) The study of the differences in men's and women's roles as well as their different access to and control over resources. It is a tool for improving the understanding of how the differences between men and women influence their opportunities and problems and can identify the challenges to participation in development.

3.121. Handover: (2009) The process by which the beneficiary (for example, the NMAA on behalf of the local community or land user) receives and accepts land which was previously suspected of containing an explosive hazard but which has subsequently had this suspicion removed, or reduced to a tolerable level, either through non-technical survey, technical survey or clearance.

3.137. Improvised Explosive Device (IED): (2013) A device placed or fabricated in an improvised manner incorporating explosive material, destructive, lethal, noxious, incendiary, pyrotechnic materials or chemicals designed to destroy, disfigure, distract or harass. They may incorporate military stores, but are normally devised from non-military components (IATG 01.40:2011).

3.142. IMSMA (Information Management System for Mine Action): (2007) IMSMA provides users with support for data collection, data storage, reporting, information analysis, and project management activities. Its primary use is by the staffs of MACs at national and regional level, however the system is also deployed in support of the implementers of mine action projects and demining organizations at all levels.

3.153. International Mine Action Standards (IMAS): (2009) Documents developed by the UN on behalf of the international community, which aim to improve safety, quality and efficiency in mine action by providing guidance, by establishing principles and, in some cases, by defining international requirements and specifications.

3.159. Land release: (2013) In the context of mine action, the term describes the process of applying all reasonable effort to identify, define, and remove all presence and suspicion of mines/ERW through non-technical survey, technical survey and/or clearance. The criteria for "all reasonable effort" shall be defined by the NMAA.

3.168. Marking: Emplacement of a measure or combination of measures to identify the position of a hazard or the boundary of a hazardous area. This may include the use of signs, paint marks etc., or the erection of physical barriers.

3.174. Mine: Munition designed to be placed under, on or near the ground or other surface area and to be exploded by the presence, proximity or contact of a person or a vehicle. [Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention]

3.176. Mine action: (2009) Activities which aim to reduce the social, economic and environmental impact of mines, and ERW including unexploded sub-munitions.

- Note: Mine action is not just about demining; it is also about people and societies, and how they are affected by landmine and ERW contamination. The objective of mine action is to reduce the risk from landmines and ERW to a level where people can live safely; in which economic, social and health development can occur free from the constraints imposed by landmine and ERW contamination, and in which the victims' different needs can be addressed.
- Mine action comprises five complementary groups of activities a) Mine Risk Education; b) humanitarian demining, i.e. mine and ERW survey, mapping, marking and clearance; c) victim assistance, including rehabilitation and reintegration; d) stockpile destruction; and e) advocacy against the use of APM.
- Note: A number of other enabling activities are required to support these five components of mine action, including: assessment and planning, the mobilisation and prioritisation of resources, information

management, human skills development and management training, quality management and the application of effective, appropriate and safe equipment.

3.177. Mine Action Centre (MAC) or Mine Action Coordination Centre (MACC): (2009) An organization that, on behalf of the National Mine Action Authority where it exists, typically is responsible for planning, coordination, overseeing and in some cases implementation of mine action projects. For national mine action programmes, the MAC/MACC usually acts as the operational office of the NMAA.

3.186. Mine Risk Education (MRE): (2009) Activities which seek to reduce the risk of injury from mines/ERW by raising awareness of men, women, and children in accordance with their different vulnerabilities, roles and needs, and promoting behavioural change including public information dissemination, education and training, and community mine action liaison.

3.197. National Mine Action Authority (NMAA): (2009) The government entity, often an inter-ministerial committee, in a mine-affected country charged with the responsibility for the regulation, management and coordination of mine action.

3.200. Non-Technical Survey: (2013) Refers to the collection and analysis of data, without the use of technical interventions, about the presence, type, distribution and surrounding environment of mine/ERW contamination, in order to define better where mine/ERW contamination is present, and where it is not, and to support land release prioritisation and decision-making processes through the provision of evidence.

3.210. Post clearance assessment: (2009) Surveys to assess the effectiveness and efficiency of mine action planning, priority setting, and implementation processes, aiming to enhance the productivity and effectiveness of mine action, monitor post-clearance land use, ensure priority-setting processes are clear, transparent and carried out correctly, and help identify problems faced by communities in transforming the outputs of mine action (e.g. cleared land) into sustainable developmental outcomes.

3.242. Reduced land (m2): (2013) A defined area concluded not to contain evidence of mine/ERW contamination following the technical survey of a SHA/CHA.

3.250. Risk: Combination of the probability of occurrence of harm and the severity of that harm. [ISO Guide 51:1999(E)]

3.282. Suspected Hazardous Area (SHA): (2013) An area where there is reasonable suspicion of mine/ERW contamination on the basis of indirect evidence of the presence of mines/ERW.

3.287. Technical survey: (2013) Refers to the collection and analysis of data, using appropriate technical interventions, about the presence, type, distribution and surrounding environment of mine/ERW contamination, in order to define better where mine/ERW contamination is present, and where it is not, and to support land release prioritisation and decision making processes through the provision of evidence.

3.299. Unexploded Ordnance (UXO): Explosive Ordnance (EO) that has been primed, fused, armed or otherwise prepared for use or used. It may have been fired, dropped, launched or projected yet remains unexploded either through malfunction or design or for any other reason.