



MAG CWMD Global Update April 2011



Iraq: MAG CWD team leader in Dohuk, Muhammad Sa'ady, preparing a safe demolition for the items found in Derabun collective town



Sudan: Large UXO stockpile found in Kassala state just three metres from a water well and 13 metres from village housing.

MAG and CWMD – MAG uses the term Conventional Weapons Management and Disposal (CWMD) to refer to its work in support of weapons and ammunition disposal and security. This includes dealing with Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW), as well as items such as aircraft bombs, large calibre artillery, mortar ammunition and rockets. The term also reflects the different roles that MAG takes on within this sector, from direct clearance activities and Physical Security and Stockpile Management (PSSM), to capacity building and training. CWMD is a coordinated and integrated approach which supports states to develop sustainable solutions to armed violence, and is an essential contribution to local, national and regional security and aspects of Armed Violence Reduction (AVR).

MAG is currently undertaking CWMD projects in Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Iraq, Somalia and Sudan.

Burundi

*MAG Burundi started in 2007 with a programme to support the Government of Burundi in **reducing the threat of SALW and unsecured stockpiles**. MAG is currently offering technical support to the Weapons Destruction Workshop and is supporting the Burundian Government in implementing the Nairobi Protocol - Articles 6, 7, 8 and 9.*

Following the end of the Survey of Army SALW in February, MAG is looking for funding to implement the second phase of a PSSM project with the Force de Defense Nationale (FDN – Burundian Army) which will bring solutions to the weaknesses identified during the survey. Activities identified as priorities are: the destruction of degraded, obsolete or surplus weapons and ammunition; the rehabilitation or construction of armouries and ammunition depots; and the training of armourers.

For more information on this or any of MAG's programmes across the world, please visit www.maginternational.org

Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

*MAG DRC launched a nationwide CWMD programme in September 2006 and in May 2007 received written authorisation from the Ministry of Defence to **destroy surplus military stocks** in all Military Regions. Also in May 2007, a destruction centre was established by MAG at the Central Logistics Base in Kinshasa. In September 2008 MAG received written authorisation from the Ministry of the Interior (extended in April 2009) to commence CWMD activities with **the Congolese National Police**.*

*MAG DRC is currently operating **one mobile CWMD team, a mobile stockpile assessment team, and the destruction team** based at the Logistics Central Base under funding from the US Department of State Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement (WRA). Under funding from the Dutch Government MAG is also creating official **national PSSM standards**, providing training in these standards and undertaking the evaluation and refurbishment of ammunition stockpiles.*

Under MAG's Dutch funded PSSM project, the training of ordnance specialists from four military regions began during the month of April in the Central Logistics School in Kinshasa. The rehabilitation of the armoury in the Central Logistic Base continues. In preparation for the construction of the new ammunition depot in the Central Logistics Base in Kinshasa, the road to the location was rehabilitated. The tender for the construction of the new ammunition depot was launched and the bid analysis has been completed. A MAG clearance team is currently verifying that there are no UXO in the area in which the new ammunition depot will be constructed. Construction of the depot should begin at the beginning of May.

During the month of April, the PSSM assessment team evaluated the ammunition depot in Kananga and is in the process of finalising the report, to be presented to the Congolese Armed Forces (FARDC - Forces Armées de la République Démocratique du Congo) in May.

Under the WRA funded project, the mobile destruction and assessment teams were deployed to Goma region during February. A total of 4.9 tons of ammunition was destroyed during the month of April in North Kivu (Goma and Goma-Beni axis).

At the Arms Destruction Workshop an additional 800 arms were destroyed.

Iraq

*MAG Iraq started implementing the CWMD programme in August 2007 with the **support of the US Department of State WRA**. To date, MAG Iraq Conventional Weapons Disposal (CWD) teams have successfully responded to more than **11,097 emergency tasks** to safely remove and destroy **324,608 CW items**. Since it began MAG Iraq's CWMD programme has **directly benefited more than 1 million individuals**.*

*MAG's **Small Arms and Light Weapons Risk Education (SALW RE) programme** began with RE sessions in schools in July 2008. Working with local partners, MAG's SALW RE warns children of the threats of playing with SALW, with the aim of reducing the risk to children in homes with unguarded SALW.*

In April, four CWD response teams continued operations, deploying to reported stockpiles of conventional weapons. Teams deployed 97 times from the programme's three operation bases to 75 different villages, completing 182 emergency conventional weapons destruction tasks in Sulimaniyah, Dohuk, Mosul, Diyala and Kirkuk Governorates. This month, 5,584 CW were safely destroyed. Items included 70mm PG, anti-personnel landmines, anti-tank landmines, fuses, mortars, projectiles and small arms ammunition in addition to several other types of unexploded ordnance. Teams destroyed 53 stockpiles.

In Dohuk, the CWD team deployed to Derabun collective town of Rizgari sub-district to safely remove and destroy four stockpiles of 267 items of CW. The team in Sulimaniyah deployed to Basne village of

Siwail sub-district to safely remove and destroy two stockpiles of 96 items of CW. Items were posing a significant threat to the local communities in the area.

The dedicated MAG Community Liaison (CL) teams funded by WRA conducted 5 visits to 5 different villages in Kirkuk and Sulimaniyah, liaising with local authorities, farmers, shepherds, teachers, village leaders and other villagers. MAG CL teams delivered 6 SALW RE sessions to 97 primary school students and shepherds in Dohuk and Sulimaniyah governorates.

Somalia

*MAG commenced its CWMD activities in the Puntland region of Somalia in May 2008 with funding from the US Department of State WRA. MAG **trained an Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) team** consisting of **7 Puntland Police officers** and further provided technical assistance and equipment for the team performing CWMD activities throughout Puntland. All training and field operations are carried out in close coordination with the national governing authority the Puntland Mine Action Centre (PMAC). With further funding from WRA, activities in Puntland re-started in September 2009. The UK Government's Conflict Prevention Pool is providing funding for additional **Community Liaison Teams** and survey activities from August 2010 and has recently granted an extension from April 2011.*

During the month of April 2011, the EOD team continued the task of clearing the Siinay Military compound in Galkayo. The 310sqm site was heavily contaminated and posed a risk to local communities who regularly wandered through the grounds. The team found and destroyed 678 items in a demolition in Galkayo representing 1.583 US tonnes of explosives. It was the largest amount of explosives found and destroyed since the beginning of the grant and is a significant representation of MAG's reputation in Puntland.

The month started with International Mine Action Day on 4 April, which aims to raise awareness among community members and government about humanitarian mine action. The Country Programme Manager, on invitation from the Somaliland Mine Action Centre, attended events in Hargeysa, representing MAG in Somaliland. In Garowe, the day was coordinated by PMAC and involved a number of events. The CL teams were heavily involved, from school visits the week before to giving informal Mine Risk Education (MRE) to soccer players at the end of the day during the inaugural Mine Action Day Cup. The CL teams also coordinated a public rally from the town centre, made a presentation to VIPs invited to the event at the Ministry of Security compound in Garowe, and provided MRE to participants of the day.

With their skills further developed during March's training, the CL teams deployed to the Mudug region in April visiting 42 communities and reaching 12,818 people with MRE messages.

Sudan

*MAG has been implementing CWMD activities in Sudan since 2005. There are two **specialist EOD teams**, funded by WRA in southern Sudan. One team (MAT1) concentrates on operations in Central and Western Equatoria, while the second team (MAT2) concentrates on operations in Jonglei and Eastern Equatoria. Additionally MAG has **eight Multi-Task Teams (MTTs) and thirteen Community Liaison Teams** operating in Kassala, Blue Nile, Greater Equatoria and Jonglei. The integrated MTTs conduct minefield survey and clearance, as well as carrying out CW disposal as necessary. MAG Sudan conducts integrated operations and the CL teams are the main generators of Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) Dangerous Area (DA) Reports which are cleared by the MAG technical teams.*

In South Sudan the teams logistically disposed of 14 Anti Personnel Mines, 2,083 UXO and 56,557 Small Arms Ammunition. They completed 33 spot tasks and 1 stockpile and approximately 9,070 people benefitted from the disposal activities.

In North Sudan, MTT1 continued work in Hamesh Korieb and were joined by MTT2 in mid-April. Together the teams completed 36,540sqm of Battle Area Clearance disposing of 163 UXO. The teams also conducted 8 emergency spot tasks. Approximately 5,500 people benefitted from these activities.

In April the CL teams in South Sudan deployed in Greater Equatoria region and generated 94 new DA reports which were reported to the EOD teams for disposal.

CL teams 10, 12 and 13 deployed to Hamesh Korieb, Rural Kassala and Telkuk respectively, generating 25 DA reports, 8 of which were disposed of by MAG clearance teams on the same day.

A summary of the outputs from the month of April can be found below:

Summary Table	Number removed and destroyed
ERW removed/destroyed	
AP mines	14
AT mines	0
SAA	56,557
MANPADS – Tube	0
MANPADS – Battery	0
Other UXO	2,246
Total ERW removed/destroyed	58,817
Number of demolitions	10
Spot tasks completed	41
Newly reported DAs	119
Beneficiaries	14,570

MAG would like to express its gratitude to the following current donors to our CWMD projects around the globe:

- Act for Peace
- AECID - Spanish Government
- Belgian Government
- CHF
- CIDA
- DFAIT (Canadian Dept of Foreign Affairs and International trade)
- DFID
- Dutch Government
- ECHO
- GOAL
- Stichting Vluchteling
- Swiss Government
- UK Government, Africa Conflict Prevention Pool
- UN
- United States Department of State, Political Military Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement