



MAG CWMD Global Update August 2011



Somalia: Police armoury construction



South Sudan: Location of anti-tank mine found during spot task, Juba Nimule Road

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, the Republic of South Sudan, 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**. Until earlier this year MAG has been offering technical support to the Weapons Destruction Workshop and supporting the Burundian Government in implementing the Nairobi Protocol - Articles 6, 7, 8 and 9.*

A survey of military SALW was completed in February 2011. The next phase of support to the Burundian Army – the destruction of their surplus weapons and ammunition – is expected to start in October, thanks to confirmation of funding from the US Department of State Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement (WRA).

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

MAG continues to look for funding for the other components of the PSSM project with the Army: the rehabilitation or construction of armouries and ammunition depots, and the training of armourers.

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, Camp Kokolo in Kinshasa, under funding from the US Department of State WRA.*

Under funding from the UNDP (through the German Government) MAG has recently commenced the implementation of a weapon securitisation project, through which the following will be achieved: the Forces Armées de la DRC (FARDC) capacity in the management of SALW will be strengthened; 100 FARDC and Police National Congolais (PNC) armouries in Kinshasa and Bas Congo Provinces will be surveyed; and weapons marking at the Central Logistics Base will commence (pending governmental decision on national marking codes).

Under the recently completed project as funded by the Dutch Government, MAG created official national PSSM standards, provided training in these standards and undertook the evaluation and refurbishment of ammunition stockpiles.

Under the WRA funded project, the mobile destruction team continued to operate in North Kivu Province during the month of August. A total of 15.9 tons of ammunition was destroyed during the month and at the Arms Destruction Workshop an additional 800 arms were destroyed.

With funding from UNDP and under the newly commenced weapon securitisation project, a total of 10 FARDC armouries and 10 PNC armouries were surveyed in Kinshasa during August. A total of 38 armouries have been assessed since the beginning of the project. Twelve FARDC and PNC personnel were trained in weapons management during the month of August, meaning a total of 44 FARDC and PNC personnel have been trained during this project. All required equipment has been purchased to ensure that the DRC weapons marking machines are fully functional. MAG continues to work with the FARDC and the PNC to research and develop ideas for prefabricated armoury units.

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 **11,950 emergency tasks** to safely remove and destroy **358,052 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.*

The MAG Iraq programme was closed from 7 August to 4 September for Ramadan and Eid El Fitr holidays. CWD response teams will participate in refresher training conducted by the programme Training, Monitoring and Evaluation Unit in early September. Medics will also participate in refresher training conducted by Canada-based Global Medic.

In August, 4 CWD response teams conducted operations for three days, deploying to reported stockpiles of CW. Teams deployed 23 times from the programme's three operation bases to 21 different villages, completing 38 emergency conventional weapons destruction tasks in Sulimaniyah, Dohuk, Mosul, Diyala, Erbil and Kirkuk Governorates. This month, 2,372 CW were safely destroyed.

This included items of 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 22 stockpiles.

The dedicated MAG Community Liaison (CL) teams funded by WRA conducted 8 liaison visits to 4 different villages in Kirkuk, liaising with local authorities, farmers, shepherds, teachers, village leaders and other villagers. MAG CL teams delivered 3 Risk Education (RE) sessions to 23 primary school students and villagers in Kirkuk 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 (CPP) is providing funding for additional **Community Liaison Teams** and survey activities from August 2010 and granted an extension from April 2011.*

To further address CWMD needs in Somalia, MAG established a project with CPP funds in June 2011 in South Galkayo, Galmudug State, which will pioneer CMWD efforts in the southern regions using a similar model to that which was successful in Puntland.

A new base has been established in Hargeysa, Somaliland, with funding from AusAid addressing safe storage mechanisms for police armouries. Commencing in June 2011 the programme is working closely with Somaliland authorities to provide appropriate equipment and training, and to reduce the risk of weaponry being misplaced.

Garowe, Puntland

The EOD team conducted a non-technical mine field survey further highlighting the need to address the negative impact of landmines in Somalia. They also conducted several spot-tasks and continued training under the guidance of the Technical Field Manager (TFM). The EOD team responded to a personal stockpile which had 79 items of explosives that a family handed over after 20 years of storing them in their house. The team safely removed the items and relocated them to the Central Demolition Site (CDS) for future destruction.

The CL teams continued their work with deployments in previously unvisited areas of Sool and Ayn regions. They visited 17 communities and delivered Mine Risk Education (MRE) to almost 4,500 people living in high risk environments. In addition, 11 dangerous area reports were collected, representing over 100 items in need of clearance.

South Galkayo

Training was completed for both the EOD teams and the CL teams. As part of their training, the EOD team set up a CDS which will be used for all collected items that are not appropriate for destruction in-situ. The CL teams represented MAG for the first time in public in South Galkayo by attending and addressing the crowd at Galmudug State's 5th anniversary. With the encouragement and support of the Galmudug President, the Team Leader introduced MAG and Humanitarian Mine Action (HMA) to the 1500+ community members who attended.

The base is now fully established. It is expected that both teams will be fully operational towards the end of September with deployments to areas even further south.

Somaliland

The programme made significant advances in establishing suppliers for quality, locally made gun racks. The TFM visited the Coast Guard to meet suppliers and review the possibility of armoury refurbishment in Berbera, a significant hub for anti-piracy in Somalia. Relationships with the Somaliland authorities were further strengthened with MAG providing both effective and efficient armoury refurbishment and a commitment to PSSM in Somaliland.

Republic of South Sudan

MAG has been implementing CWMD activities in South Sudan since 2005. In August MAG had one specialist EOD team (MAT2) funded by WRA in South Sudan, concentrating on operations in Greater Equatoria and Jonglei States. Additionally, MAG had four Multi-Task Teams (MTTs) and eight CL Teams operating in Greater Equatoria during July. While the MTTs primarily focus on minefield survey and clearance, they also carry out CW disposal as necessary. MAG South 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.

MAT1 spent the majority of the month completing 83 MAG CL spot tasks in Magwi County. In total 6 stockpiles of ERW were cleared, including 509 UXO and 8,991 pieces of Small Arms Ammunition (SAA). Additionally the team completed 4 emergency UNMAO spot tasks and 1 stockpile along the Juba/Nimule road that were assigned to MAG by the UN Mine Action Coordination Centre. During these tasks, 71 UXO, 1 Anti-Tank (AT) Mine, and 742 pieces of SAA were removed.

MAT2 spent the majority of the month completing 63 MAG CL spot tasks and 1 stockpile in Magwi and Obbo Counties in Eastern Equatoria. 1 stockpile, 2 Anti-Personnel (AP) mines, 1 AT mine, 1,769 UXO, 1 missile and 43,697 pieces of SAA were cleared.

In total 87 new DA reports were filed by MAG CL teams in South Sudan in August 2011, and all were referred to MAG technical teams for action.

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

Summary Table	Number removed and destroyed
Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) removed/destroyed	
AT mines	2
AP mines	2
Missiles	1
SAA	53,430
Submunitions	130
Other UXO	2,219
Total ERW removed/destroyed	55,784
Battle Area Clearance (sqm)	70,400
Number of demolitions	7
Stockpiles completed	8
Newly reported DAs	150
Beneficiaries	252,493

Sudan

MAG has been implementing CWMD activities in Sudan since 2007. There are four specialist MTTs, funded by WRA, DFID and ECHO in Sudan, supported by a mechanical asset funded by UN CHF. Two teams (MTTs 1&2) concentrate on operations in Kassala, while the remaining two teams (MTTs 3&5) divide their operational time between Kassala and Blue Nile States. Additionally MAG has four CL Teams operating in Kassala, Blue Nile, and White Nile States. While the MTTs primarily focus on minefield survey and clearance, they also carry out CW disposal through EOD spot tasks and Battle Area Clearance as necessary. MAG Sudan conducts integrated operations; the CL teams are the main generators of DA Reports which are confirmed and cleared by MAG's technical teams.

In August, no CWMD activities were carried out in Sudan, with all teams on operational stand down whilst TFMs delivered an EOD 2 course in Khartoum.

CL teams 10, 12 and 13 deployed to Hamesh Korieb, Rural Kassala and Telkuk respectively. CL 11 was re-deployed to Kosti Way Station, White Nile State. Together the teams generated 9 DA reports.

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
- AusAid
- Belgian Government
- CHF
- CIDA
- DFAIT (Canadian Dept of Foreign Affairs and International trade)
- DFID
- Dutch Government
- EU
- GOAL
- Stichting Vluchteling
- UK Government, Africa Conflict Prevention Pool
- UN
- United States Department of State, Political Military Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement
- United States Department of State, Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration