



MAG CWMD Global Update January 2011



MAG CWD response team leader in Dohuk completing information about the CW found in Kharabadar village. In total, 417 hazardous items were safely removed and destroyed



Destruction of police guns, Swaziland

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, 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, 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, Rwanda, Somalia, Sudan and Swaziland.

Burundi

*MAG Burundi started in 2007 with a programme to support the Government of Burundi in **reducing the threat of Small Arms and Light Weapons (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.*

In January, the survey of Army SALW, funded by the Swiss Department of Foreign Affairs, continued in 19 depots in the 2nd and 3rd Military Regions. The survey is expected to be completed at the end of February and will allow the Force de Défense Nationale (FDN) to identify the main issues regarding the management and storage of their SALW stocks, as well as to identify solutions.

The initial conclusions are as follows:

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- There are many weapons and ammunition which are degraded, obsolete or surplus, and some ammunition represent a high risk of accidental explosion;
- The infrastructure for the storage of weapons and ammunition is poor; most stocks need security improvements and armouries need to be built;
- The armourers lack training to safely store and manage weapons and ammunition.

MAG Burundi is looking for funding to implement solutions to the weaknesses identified, such as:

- The destruction of degraded, obsolete or surplus weapons and ammunition;
- The rehabilitation or construction of armouries and ammunition depots;
- 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 under funding from the US Department of State Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement. Under funding from the Dutch Government MAG is also creating official national **Physical Storage and Stockpile Management (PSSM)** standards, providing training in these standards and undertaking the evaluation and refurbishment of ammunition stockpiles.*

Under MAG's Dutch funded Physical Storage and Stockpile Management (PSSM) project, in January the rehabilitation of the Arms Destruction workshop and student housing in Camp Loano (in Kinshasa) was completed. The PSSM team identified the location and drafted architectural plans for a new ammunition depot to be constructed at the Central Logistics Base (Camp Kokolo) in Kinshasa. The forecasted risk and impact assessment of the new ammunition depot has also been completed. The tender for the rehabilitation of the armoury in Camp Kokolo has been launched. Additionally, together with the FARDC (Congolese Army), the team has completed drafting the training material for the PSSM training, to begin in February, which will work with FARDC personnel from the ordnance department at the Logistics School of the Central Logistics Base.

Under the US Department of State funded project, 800 arms were destroyed in January at the Arms Destruction Workshop. The mobile destruction and assessment teams were on leave during January and will deploy to Goma at the beginning of next month.

Iraq

*MAG Iraq started implementing the CWMD programme in August 2007 with the **support of PMWRA**. To date, MAG Iraq CWD teams have successfully responded to more than **10,020 emergency tasks** to safely remove and destroy **293,810 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 January, four CWD response teams participated in the one-week annual refresher training conducted by the programme Training, Monitoring and Evaluation Unit (TMEU) after the programme close-down for Christmas and the New Year. After the completion of the refresher training, the teams continued operations, deploying to reported stockpiles of CW. Teams deployed 80 times from the

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programme's three operations bases to 46 different villages, completing 132 emergency conventional weapons destruction tasks in Sulimaniyah, Dohuk, Mosul, Diyala and Kirkuk Governorates. This month, 3,643 CW were safely destroyed. Items 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 24 stockpiles.

In Chamchamal, CWD team deployed to Chimany Azady village of Kirkuk governorate to safely remove and destroy two stockpiles of 1,595 items of CW. Team in Dohuk deployed to Kharabadar village in Zakho area to safely remove and destroy eight stockpiles of 417 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 PM/WRA conducted 11 liaison visits to 8 different villages in Kirkuk and Sulimaniyah, meeting with local authorities, farmers, shepherds, teachers, village leaders and other villagers. MAG CL teams delivered 2 SALW Risk Education (RE) sessions to 7 shepherds and farmers in Dohuk governorate.

Rwanda

MAG started CWMD activities in Rwanda in November 2008 and will close country operations in early 2011. During this period MAG has provided technical assistance and training to the Rwanda Defense Forces (RDF) in basic stockpile management and the destruction of surplus SALW and munitions. Since 2008 MAG has established a central weapons destruction workshop at Kanombe near Kigali and trained two RDF teams in weapons recognition and weapons cutting. A central demolition site for the destruction of munitions was also identified at Gabiro in northeast Rwanda.

In December MAG completed the development of several generic management tools for use with national partners to support their weapons management and to provide accountable record keeping systems for both SALW and munitions.

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 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 OWRA, activities in Puntland re-started in September 2009. The UK Government's Conflict Pool (CP) is providing funding for additional **Community Liaison Teams** and survey activities from August 2010.*

In January 2011, the Puntland Mine Action Centre (PMAC) EOD team, supported by MAG's Technical Field Managers (TFMs), deployed to Galcaio and Bosaso. During these deployments, one stockpile was assessed and destroyed and 37,000 m² of Battle Area Clearance (BAC) was conducted.

The EOD team also conducted a total of 15 Mine Risk Education (MRE) sessions in various communities around Puntland. These communities had been identified by the Community Liaison (CL) teams as requiring MRE, even though they are not mentioned on the preliminary community target list.

In January the team also welcomed an international Community Liaison Manager (CLM), whose presence in Somalia has helped further develop the already established CL teams. In January the CLM worked to refine reporting techniques, improving the team's data analysis capabilities and renewing the focus on training and development of the teams. In addition, work was done on developing MAG Somalia's CL SOPs.

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 from the Kapoeta base. Additionally MAG has **eight Multi-Task Teams and***

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twelve Community Liaison (CL) Teams operating in Kassala, Blue Nile and Greater Ekuatoria. While the MTTs primarily focus on minefield survey and clearance, they also carry out CW disposal as necessary. MAG Sudan conducts integrated operations and the CL teams are the main generators of UXO Dangerous Area Reports which are cleared by the MAG technical teams.

In southern Sudan, MAT1 (funded by PM/WRA) spent the majority of the month in the Jebel Kujur area, close to Juba town completing 60 spot tasks which directly benefitted approximately 940 people. In total the team logistically removed 2 AP mines, 10 AT mines, and 226 items of UXO. Due to the referendum for secession being held in January, there was also a lot of media interest in MAG's work in southern Sudan. MAT1 received two media visits, one resulting in an article in the Swedish Newspaper 'Dagens Nyheter'. The second visit was from the international press agency AFP, who ran the story online, resulting in several other news agencies also running the article.

Also in southern Sudan MAT2 (funded by PM/WRA) deployed to Boma in Jonglei State to start work on two stockpiles, logistical disposing of 73 AT mines, 3,515 Small Arms Ammunition and 2,366 other items of UXO. Remaining items will be destroyed in early February. Approximately 2,900 people benefitted from these activities.

Community Liaison (CL) teams in southern Sudan deployed across Greater Ekuatoria and collected 41 new Dangerous Area (DA) reports, which will be passed on to the MAG EOD teams for swift clearance.

In northern Sudan, MAG's Multi Task Teams exercised an unscheduled stand down of operations throughout January. This was due to difficulties in acquiring visas for Technical Field Managers. Whilst awaiting their visas, the TFMs deployed to southern Sudan to support operations in Yei and Kapoeta. All technical staff have now arrived in North Sudan, and operations will resume at the beginning of February. CL10 did manage to deploy to Rural Kassala in January, during which time nine new DA reports were generated.

A summary of the outputs from the month of January is below:

ERW removed/destroyed	
AP mines	2
AT mines	83
Small Arms Ammunition	3,515
Other UXO	2,592
Total ERW removed/destroyed	6,192
Number of demolitions	4
Spot tasks completed	60
Newly reported Dangerous Areas	50
Direct beneficiaries	3,800

Swaziland

In Swaziland, MAG is undertaking a short project with the Swaziland Police (RSPS) and Army (USDF) to help them to **reduce their stocks of identified unserviceable and unusable SALW** and to **improve storage conditions** for their remaining stocks of weapons. Activities in country started in January 2011.

In January, 328 small arms from the police of all types were destroyed, most of which were being kept by the Arms Registry Office, in the armory of the Swaziland Police Headquarters. In addition, 457 munitions were destroyed, as listed below.

Type	Quantity
Grenades	
No MK1 hand grenades	396
RGD grenades	6

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RG 42 hand grenades	8
RKG3 hand grenade grip and switch	1
F1 hand grenades	16
Mines	
TM 57 anti-tank mine	1
POM Z 2 anti-personnel mine fragmentation	3
Limpet mines	3
Miscellaneous	
Artillery fuses	5
Trip flare	1
TM 57 mine fuse	9
Rockets	
PG2	1
PG7	5
Missiles	
SAM 7 (head guidance device only)	2
Total number of items	457

In February, MAG will continue with the destruction of weapons held by the Army, and the installation of gun racks, using the model developed in the Burundi programme.

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

- Act for Peace
- Belgian Government
- CHF
- CIDA
- DFAIT (Canadian Dept of Foreign Affairs and International trade)
- DFID
- Dutch Government
- ECHO
- GOAL
- Spanish Government
- Swiss Government
- 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

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