



MAG CWMD Global Update May 2011



Somalia: EOD team preparing a demolition of items collected at the Siinay Military Compound



DRC: Ammunition depot under construction

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**. Until recently 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.*

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.

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*

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*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 Ammunition Stockpile Norms were sent to the National Logistics Working Group for review and to ensure coherence with the national strategy. The Ammunition Stockpile Risk Assessment for Kananga was completed during the month of May and was presented to the relevant military and civilian authorities in Kananga, as well as a group of international stakeholders and potential donors. In May, the assessment team visited Kisangani but was not granted access to the ammunition depot. The assessment team will continue to liaise with the relevant officials. The reconstruction of the ammunition depot in the Central Logistics Base is approximately 50% complete (walls erected and foundation laid on all four ammunition magazines and the guard post) and 42% of the fence and blast wall has been constructed. The second group of 17 ammunition technicians (including one woman) from the Military Regions are currently being trained in ammunition stockpile management at the Ecole Logistic (began on the 23rd May). The rehabilitation of the armoury at the Central Logistics Base was completed in May.

Under the US Department of State funded project, the mobile destruction team was deployed to Goma, destroying 3 tons of ammunition. 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 **11,377 emergency tasks** to safely remove and destroy **331,843 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 May, four CWD response teams continued operations, deploying to reported stockpiles of CW. Teams deployed 153 times from the programme's three operation bases to 102 different villages, completing 280 emergency conventional weapons destruction tasks in Sulimaniyah, Dohuk, Mosul, Diyala and Kirkuk Governorates. This month, 7,235 CW were safely destroyed, including 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 68 stockpiles.

In Sulimaniyah, MAG partnered with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) to safely remove and destroy a stockpile of 10 CW from a water project site in Hawar village of Halabja district. The items were blocking access to a water well and posing a threat to the IOM water well restoration team.

The dedicated MAG Community Liaison (CL) teams funded by WRA conducted 12 liaison visits to 9 different villages in Kirkuk and Sulimaniyah, liaising with local authorities, farmers, shepherds, teachers, village leaders and other villagers. MAG CL teams delivered 9 SALW RE sessions to 116 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 May, the EOD team worked on two PMAC Task Dossiers and a total of 13 Dangerous Area reports. The first task focused on Galkayo and included a Siinay Military explosives store containing 40 items. Through continued efforts to support local authorities, two police stations were also visited and 22 items removed. The second task of 5 DAs took place in Kakkar region and involved the removal of 181 items from the Qardho police station as well as a number of items from public areas where civilians were at risk.

In between tasks, the Technical Field Manager (TFM) conducted several training sessions including three demolition training sessions. The team welcomed a new interim TFM for Puntland who was involved in inspecting the new ammunition storage compound. Following this, the new interim TFM deployed with the team to visit a number of police stations in Galkayo and collected items for later disposal.

CL teams received further training conducted by the Community Liaison Manager focusing on monitoring and evaluation which was then followed by a telephone survey of Focal Points – community representatives who have agreed to continue delivering Mine Risk Education to their communities. It was found through this process that Focal Points required additional support in training and materials. The CL teams then deployed to Nugal and Mudug regions focusing on providing necessary outreach to Focal Points.

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 MAT1 received a visit from an Al Jazeera news crew in early May. Al Jazeera interviewed MAG staff and filmed a demolition in Central Equatoria. The piece will be part of an Al Jazeera feature on South Sudan, due to be aired in coming weeks. The team had a successful month completing 52 UXO spot tasks in Yei and Juba Counties, destroying 7,653 items.

MAT2 discovered a large stockpile in Nimule, Eastern Equatoria, and spent the month of May working on this task, which included 22 MANPADS tubes. Additionally more than 6,000 items of Small Arms Ammunition (SAA) and over 7,000 items of UXO were destroyed. In total the team cleared 13,752 items.

In North Sudan, MTT1 spent the first half of May in Hamash Korieb before returning to Talkuk to continue the survey and clearance of DAs. MTT2 remained in Hamash Korieb for the duration of the month, identifying a stockpile containing 440 mortars. Together the teams completed 528,461sqm of

Battle Area Clearance, completed 19 spot tasks and disposed of 1,284 UXO. Approximately 13,450 people benefitted from these activities.

CL teams 1, 2, 4 and 5 operated in Central Equatoria, reporting 46 new DAs. Meanwhile CL teams 3, 6, 7 and 9 deployed to Eastern Equatoria and gathered 40 DA reports. In total 86 new DA reports were filed by MAG CL teams in South Sudan in May 2011, and all were referred to the MAG EOD teams for action.

CL teams 10, 12 and 13 deployed to Hamesh Korieb, Rural Kassala and Telkuk respectively. Together the team generated 29 DA reports, 19 of which were disposed of by MAG clearance teams on the same day.

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

Summary Table	Number removed and destroyed
Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) removed/destroyed	
AP mines	15
AT mines	36
SAA	12,842
MANPADS – Tube	22
MANPADS – Gripstock	8
MANPADS – Battery	7
Other UXO	9,759
Total ERW removed/destroyed	22,689
Battle Area Clearance (sqm)	533,511
Number of demolitions	59
Spot tasks completed	71
Newly reported DAs	115
Beneficiaries	16,060

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
- United States Department of State, Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration

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