

CONFLICT RECOVERY PROGRAMME FOR LEBANON



Donor Update

March 2008

SUMMARY OF THIS MONTH'S ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS

- **Visual search & clearance of 287,255 m²** of land through hand, electronic, and visual techniques.
- **Removal and destruction of 231 hazardous Remnants of Conflict¹** – 219 sub-munitions and 12 items of unexploded ordnance

BATTLE AREA CLEARANCE AND EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL

The continued focus of clearance for this month has moved towards clearance of agricultural and pastoral areas for the recovery of livelihoods.

MAG worked in the following areas and achieved the following outputs from 1st March to 31st March 2008:

- **Area 6:** 20 BAC teams, one mechanical team, and one reconnaissance team continue to operate. They worked in 15 villages: Yohmor, Zawtar West, Arnoun, Aadchit, Kafar Sir, Jibchit, Mazraar Doumiet, Qaaqaiat Al Jisr, Sejoud, Kafer Roumane, Qosaybeh, Al Nabatieh Al Tahta, Arab Salem, Habbouche, and Houmin El Fawka. These teams have used visual and electronic methods of clearance, clearing an area of 287,255 square metres. 231 Remnants of Conflict were found and destroyed.

All teams are contributing to the **social and economic recovery and development** of South Lebanon through the safe, efficient, and effective clearance of Remnants of Conflict.

COMMUNITY LIAISON (CL)

All Contact Officers have continued to undertake community liaison activities at the pre-clearance, clearance, and post-clearance stages.

There were 282 activities during the month, including 24 data collection activities², 35 liaison activities, 16 UXO tasking reports, and 152 other activities that support clearance work by providing control point locations and storage areas, securing land owner's approval for using their house/fields for clearance activities, liaison with local authorities, and emphasizing public safety messages to communities undergoing clearance.

EMERGENCY UXO CLEARANCE IN NAHR EL-BARED REFUGEE CAMP, TRIPOLI

MAG still has international technical staff and 4 Mine Action Teams available to undertake UXO clearance and/or provide technical support to UNRWA and other humanitarian agencies.

¹ MAG uses the term *Remnants of Conflict* (RoC) to describe all items recovered and destroyed as part of its humanitarian disarmament activities, which include Anti-Personal and Anti-Vehicle mines, Explosive Remnants of War (ERW), abandoned and unexploded ordnance (UXO) and SA/LW. This term has been developed to reflect more accurately the broad range of clearance activities undertaken by MAG.

² Data collection includes population, socio-economic data, village services and beneficiary details. If the teams discover a minefield/dangerous area then information is collected specific to the dangerous area/minefield in addition to the general information form.

TOTAL OUTPUTS OF THE MAG EMERGENCY RESPONSE IN SOUTH LEBANON

	Aug 06- Oct 07	Nov '07	Dec '07	Jan '08	Feb '08	Mar '08	TOTAL
Area Searched (Visual/Hand/ Electronic Check) (m ²)	5,948,367	511,755	193,008	116,914	315,581	287,255	7,372,880
Mines Removed/Destroyed	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
UXO Removed/Destroyed	735	30	2	20	14	12	813
Bomblets/Sub Munitions destroyed	15,733	234	122	87	273	219	16,668
No. of Dangerous Areas Cleared	219	4	0	0	15	4	242

Area searched 15th-31st August 2006 not recorded due to rapid emergency clearance (cessation of hostilities on 14th August 2006)

MAG's work is SAVING LIVES...

In Lebanon alone:

- Almost 7.4 million m² of land cleared and made safe
- More than 17,000 Remnants of Conflict destroyed
- 242 dangerous areas cleared
- Assisting 450,000 people at risk from death or injury from Remnants of Conflict
- Helping humanitarian agencies to deliver emergency and rehabilitation aid **free from the risk of death and injury**

...AND MAKING A REAL DIFFERENCE

Improved Safety of Communities

By removing the threats of Remnants of Conflict, and increasing vulnerable groups' awareness of these threats, a tangible **improvement of the safety of communities** affected by conflict is being achieved.

Rebuilding Communities

By removing the threat of Remnants of Conflict, communities can return to areas previously vacated or re-establish themselves elsewhere. As such, the quality of life of a population can be increased and a **more stable and productive environment created**.

Supporting the Recovery of Sustainable Livelihoods

The presence of Remnants of Conflict restricts community recovery and development. Once a community has been able to re-establish itself in a physical location, it also must develop a livelihood upon which it can sustain itself. The presence of Remnants of Conflict limits the land available for economic use such as farming and agriculture, business, and tourism, and acts as a barrier to natural resources. **By removing Remnants of Conflict MAG allows vital land to be utilized and for communities to improve their livelihoods.**

Key Contribution to National Recovery Efforts

By creating a safe environment, MAG is supporting the reconstruction of Lebanon's primary infrastructure, including schools and medical facilities, which is **vital for the mid-to-long-term recovery and development of the country.**

DONORS

- Adopt A Minefield
- DFID
- European Commission
- German Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (NMFA)
- US Department of State, Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement
- United Nations Office for Project Services

For more information on MAG's work in Lebanon, or any of its programmes across the world, please visit www.maginternational.org or contact:

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