



A deminer uncovering a POMZ mine under an electricity pylon.



A partially cleared pylon. Once work is completed the land is returned to the local population.

Reporting Period: 01 May 2011 – 31 May 2011

Summary of Outputs:

- **Progress on 1 demining task** by the MAG-CD demining team;
- **Clearance of 553m² of land** by the MAG-CD demining team;
- **Rapid response to 3 EOD spot tasks** by the MAG-CD demining team;
- **Destruction of 4 explosive items** by the MAG-CD demining team.

In May, the MAG-Civilian Defence (CD) demining team worked to clear contaminated land surrounding power pylons in Bubanza province. The project is being funded by the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs. Work on one power pylon was completed in May and the team made significant progress clearing a second pylon, which should be completed in early June. The demining team found, neutralized, and destroyed one hand-grenade and one anti-personnel mine that were concealed in the pylons. After the discovery of the latter, a press conference was held on May 25 to highlight the work of the team and to inform the local population about the risks of Explosive Remnants of War (ERW). The Governor of Bubanza, other local authorities and media attended the press conference. The MAG-CD demining team also received a visit from the Swiss Ambassador on May 12.

In total, over 553 m² of land was cleared in May and the process of releasing the land to the population is underway. Thus, this clearance project is not only reducing the physical threat of ERW's, it is freeing up land for agricultural production, which is a major source of income for many in Burundi.

The team also responded to three Explosive Ordinance Disposal (EOD) tasks in May: the collection of 10 ERW from the Civilian Defence office in Bujumbura, an investigation of a suspected ERW found in a home in Bubanza province, and the *in-situ* destruction of two highly unstable hand-grenades in Bujumbura-Rural.

MAG continues to look for funding to implement Weapons and Ammunition Physical Security and Stockpile Management projects with the Force de Défense Nationale (FDN – Burundian Army)

MAG would like to express its gratitude to the following current donors to the Burundi programme:

Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs

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