

## **SUMMARY OF MONTHLY ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS**

**Reporting period: 01 May – 31 May 2010**

- **Clearance of 173,825 m<sup>2</sup>** of suspect land by MAG clearance teams
- **Removal and destruction of 1,604 dangerous items:** 361 Anti-Personnel mines, 20 Anti-Tank mine, 1,223 items of Unexploded Ordnance (UXO); including 531 Small Arms, Light Weapons (SALW), 444 Cluster Munitions, 10 items of 101+mm, and 238 other items.
- **Beneficiaries of MAG activities;** 13,502 people from 2,769 families.
- **Community Liaison activities;** 1 team meeting, 34 village visits, 8 pre-clearance assessments, 1 post-clearance assessment, 2 technical assessments, the generation of 31 UXO reports, 3 case studies and 9 Risk Reduction Education (RRE) sessions.
- **Mine Risk Reduction Education** reached 1,826 individuals in 108 sessions.
- Preparation of 107,448 m<sup>2</sup> of land by mechanical vegetation clearance and hand held strimmers.

### **Reducing Risk in Northwest Cambodia**

Whilst extensive Mine Risk Education (MRE) has been delivered in Cambodia for many years, mine risk is still a major factor for the lives of people living in the northwest of Cambodia. Over the last four years there has been a general downward trend in the number of accidents caused by mines and Explosive Remnants of War (ERW), but in May this year there was a significant increase in accidents, with 50 new casualties from 19 accidents in 8 provinces. This represents an increase of 317% compared with the 12 casualties reported in May 2009. Many of the accidents today are caused by farmers extending farming land in suspect areas. The greater mechanisation of farming in the northwest is also resulting in an increasing number of accidents caused by anti-tank mines. In addition accidents are still being caused by people tampering with ordnance. The MAG Community Liaison teams are addressing the ongoing problem of mine risk in communities by providing targeted risk reduction education to communities.

On the 20<sup>th</sup> of May, MAG's Community Liaison team (CLT8) delivered mine risk reduction education within the village of Bour Run village, Bavel district of Battambang. Before arrival in the village, the CL team consulted all available secondary data regarding the mine/ERW impact in the village and any reported high risk activities. On arrival in the village the team met with the village chief and the Community Based Mine Risk Reduction (CBMRR) volunteer to identify specific households whose livelihood activities are thought to be at-risk from the impact of mines and ERW and to gather information regarding specific groups of people undertaking high risk activities. Once the data collection was completed, the CL team developed targeted MRE sessions appropriate to the high risk activities and individuals identified. Sessions were then conducted with each of the groups at a time and place that was suitable for them. In Bour Run village high risk people included those that intended to extend land for agriculture, persons that are likely to access unsafe areas to collect natural resources and forest products, economic migrants that may travel through suspected areas, and persons likely to deliberately tamper with explosives out of curiosity or familiarity. As it is understood that communities sometimes have little choice but to put themselves in direct danger from explosive items, when promoting and providing Mine RRE to target groups the CL team conduct participatory discussions to try to encourage suggestions for livelihood alternatives, behaviour change and safe practices when undertaking high risk activities



*MAG's CL teams holding a participatory session with an identified at-risk group in Bour village*



*Basic mine risk education includes communicating the message that local villagers should not touch mines or ERW*

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