



MAG medics participating in refresher training conducted by paramedics from Canada-based Global Medic

SUMMARY OF THIS MONTH'S ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS

The programme continued to reduce risk to vulnerable communities and support conflict recovery and rehabilitation by implementing Humanitarian Mine Action (HMA), Conventional Weapons Destruction (CWD) and Small Arms Light Weapons (SALW) projects in **Dahuk, Diyala, Erbil, Kirkuk, Ninewah, and Sulimaniyah** governorates

- MAG teams **searched and cleared 132,994 m²** of land using hand, electronic, and visual techniques safely removing and destroying **887 hazardous items**
- Mine Risk Education (MRE) teams delivered **139 MRE sessions reaching 2,983 individuals in 89 villages** Erbil, Dahuk and Sulimaniyah governorates
- Community Liaison (CL) teams identified **71 dangerous areas in 42 different villages.**
- 8 SALW emergency teams **deployed 71 times to complete 317 tasks** during January, **destroying 1,822 items of SALW**
- Mechanical assets were used to clear and prepare **80 m²** of land and processed **1,576 m³** of soil

SUMMARY OF IMPACT

- **Creating a more secure environment** for the Iraqi people by reducing risk to life and limb
- **Building safer communities** and working to improve the **futures of people** affected by explosive remnants of conflict
- **Facilitating national reconstruction** by freeing up land that can be used for livelihood generation and infrastructure projects
- **Contributing to economic growth and stability** by creating safer environments and communities and increasing economic independence for families working in farming and herding
- **Facilitating repatriation** by handing back cleared land that has previously been denied to its returning residents due to contamination by explosive remnants of conflict
- Contributing to the **building of sustainable Iraqi Humanitarian Mine Action Capabilities** in country

OPERATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

- Operations resumed in mid-January after the annual winter holiday and technical refresher training
- Refresher training for medics also took place in January led by paramedics from Canada-based Global Medic. MAG medics were trained in the most up-to-date trauma techniques at the Chamchamal operations base
- Training for two local NGOs was conducted to build national capacity in delivering MRE in central Iraq
- Preparations were completed to start Peshmerga training project. MAG's Training, Monitoring and Evaluation Unit (TMEU) will train and develop Iraq's national capacity by establishing a sustainable humanitarian Conventional Weapon (CW) section within the Peshmerga to undertake humanitarian CW clearance operations in Erbil governorate of Iraq.

- In partnership with Marshall Legacy Institute MAG continued to deploy 3 Mine Detection Dogs with a dedicated clearance team to conduct clearance and verification of medium and low risk areas at a task in Kirkuk governorate during January. Operations are ongoing at this task

DEMINEING & CLEARANCE OPERATIONS

- **Diyana sector:** Mine Action Teams (MATs) searched and cleared **5,836 m²** of contaminated land, destroying a total of **557 hazardous items**. MAG's teams in Diyana continued working on 4 ongoing tasks in support of **socio-economic rehabilitation, agricultural development and infrastructure development** in Choman, Peran and Sidakan sub districts in Erbil governorate
- **Dahuk sector:** MATs searched and cleared **91,007 m²** of contaminated land, removing and destroying **43 hazardous items**. Operations continued working on 3 prioritized tasks in support of **conflict recovery, IDP resettlement and socio-economic development** in Rzgari and Batel sub districts
- **Chamchamal sector:** MATs searched and cleared **22,135 m²** of contaminated land. Teams removed and destroyed **230 hazardous items**. Operations continued working on 6 ongoing tasks in support of **conflict recovery, agricultural and development**. Clearance operations in 1 prioritized task were completed in support of **agricultural development** in Qara Hanjir, Shwan, Laylan and Daquq sub districts
- **Sulimaniyah sector:** MATs searched and cleared **14,016 m²** of contaminated land. Teams removed and destroyed **57 hazardous items**. MATs continued working on 6 tasks in support of **agricultural development, socio-economic rehabilitation and tourism development** in Sharbazher and Dokan districts
- **Mechanical assets:** Teams deployed across northern Iraq to **support MATs and improve the efficiency of operations**. Three armoured wheeled shovels and two sifters were used to clear **80 m²** of land and **excavate 1,200 m³** and **sift 376 m³** of contaminated soil.

SMALL ARMS LIGHT WEAPONS (SALW) EMERGENCY RESPONSE

- **4 dedicated CL teams** deployed from Dahuk, Diyana, Sulimaniyah and Chamchamal sectors to identify and prioritize instances of SALW contamination for removal and destruction
- CL teams continued the SALW awareness project, which aims to warn children and other vulnerable groups about the dangers of SALW. A children's activity book, as well as posters and leaflets, were specially designed to support the project. Teams conducted **9 awareness sessions and distributed 292 booklets and stickers**.
- **8 SALW emergency teams deployed 71 times supporting regional security and conflict recovery** during January **completing 317 tasks**.
- Teams destroyed **1,822 items of SALW** in January, with over **91,890 items now destroyed** as part of the SALW project

COMMUNITY LIAISON (CL)

- Teams identified **71 dangerous areas in 42 villages** that pose a threat to resident communities and block socio-economic development
- Teams in Dahuk met with local authority and Public Relations Office within the governor's office to discuss IDPs issues and how MAG Iraq programme can support IDP resettlement through clearing CW contaminated areas
- Teams in Chamchamal met with the educational department in Kirkuk governorate discussing MRE for primary schools programme

MINE RISK EDUCATION (MRE)

- MRE teams delivered **139 MRE sessions in 89 villages** reaching **2,983 vulnerable individuals** in Erbil, Sulimaniyah and Dahuk governorates. **150 MRE posters were distributed during the month of January** to different age groups of students, children and villagers in Erbil, Kirkuk and Sulimaniyah.
- Teams conducted **113 visits** to the primary schools in Erbil, Dahuk and Sulimaniyah. Teams visited the schools to follow up the teachers trained during the month of July, August and September 2008. Teams **distributed 585 MRE booklets** during these visits.

DONORS

MAG would like to express gratitude to the following donors to the Iraq programme:

- Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement, US Department of State
- Irish Aid
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of the Netherlands
- Belgian Government
- Stichting Vluchteling
- Marshall Legacy Institute
- Talisman Energy

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