



MAG Iraq Community Liaison Manager conducting MRE training for IMCO staff

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 466,184 m²** of land using hand, electronic, and visual techniques safely removing and destroying **553 hazardous items**. Additional **132,622 m²** of suspected hazardous land were made safe through demarcation
- Mine Risk Education (MRE) teams delivered **160 MRE sessions reaching 11,324 individuals in 124 villages** in Erbil, Diyala, Dahuk, Kirkuk, Ninewah and Sulimaniyah governorates
- Community Liaison (CL) teams identified **184 dangerous areas in 73 different villages**. Team visited **3 villages in Erbil and 3 villages in Diyala governorates** visiting **39 households to conduct community assessment survey**
- 8 SALW emergency teams **deployed 152 times to complete 953 tasks** during April, **destroying 11,297 items of SALW**
- Mechanical assets were used to process **5,964 m³** of contaminated earth
- Mine Detection Dogs (MDD) were used to clear **13,841 m² of low and medium risk parts** of 2 minefields in Chimany Azady and Qazan Blakh village in Kirkuk governorate.

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

- MAG Iraq continued to support the capacity building of the Iraqi Mine & UXO Clearance Organization (IMCO) by conducting training for 12 staff. Training, led by MAG's national staff managers, covered CL, MRE and information management. Participants also conducted a field visit with MAG CL to communities in Sulimaniyah
- Coordination meetings were conducted with local partner NGOs working in Diyala and Kirkuk

DEMINE & CLEARANCE OPERATIONS

- **Diyana sector:** MATs searched and cleared **19,359 m²** of contaminated land, destroying a total of **160 conventional weapons**. 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 of Erbil governorate. Team identified 4 new minefields in Sari Bardi, Tawkan and Bndazian villages in Erbil governorate. **131,382 m² of suspected hazardous land was demarcated**
- **Dahuk sector:** MATs searched and cleared **71,349 m²** of contaminated land, removing and destroying **81 conventional weapons**. Operations continued working on 4 prioritised tasks in support of **IDP resettlement and socio-economic development** in Rzgari, Zawita and Batel sub districts of Dahuk governorate and Zommar sub district of Mosul governorate. Teams completed clearance operations in 2 prioritised tasks in Hasanava and Pirmus villages in Dahuk governorate. Teams demarcated additional **1,240 m² of suspected hazardous land** in Shilkya village in Ninewah
- **Chamchamal sector:** MATs searched and cleared **33,013 m²** of contaminated land. Teams removed and destroyed **258 conventional weapons**. Teams continued working on 5 tasks in support of **agricultural development** in Qara Hanjir, Shwan, Laylan and Daquq sub districts
- **Sulimaniyah sector:** MATs searched and cleared **342,463 m²** of contaminated land. Teams removed and destroyed **54 conventional weapons**. MATs continued working on 7 tasks in support of **agricultural development, socio-economic rehabilitation and tourism development** in Sharbazher and Dokan districts in Sulimaniyah governorate and Khanaqin district in Diyala governorate
- **Mechanical assets:** Teams deployed across northern Iraq to **support MATs and improve the efficiency of operations**. Three armoured wheeled shovels, one excavator, the Allu bucket tool and the Rotar sifter were used to **excavate 4,633 m³ and sift 1,331 m³** of contaminated soil
- **Mine Detection Dogs:** MDD teams deployed to Qazan Blakh village in Kirkuk governorate and cleared **3,884 m² of suspected contaminated land in low and medium risk areas**. The team also deployed to a minefield in Chimany Azady village in Kirkuk clearing, **9,957 m² of suspected contaminated land in low and medium risk area**

SMALL ARMS LIGHT WEAPONS (SALW) EMERGENCY RESPONSE

- **4 dedicated CL teams** deployed from Dahuk, Diyana, Sulimaniyah and Chamchamal sectors to identify and prioritise stockpiles and caches of SALW for safe 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 **7 awareness sessions and distributed 199 booklets and stickers**
- **8 SALW emergency teams deployed 152 times supporting regional security and conflict recovery** during April **completing 953 tasks** in 40 different villages in Dahuk, Mosul, Erbil, Sulimaniyah, Diyala and Kirkuk governorates
- Teams destroyed **11,297 items of SALW** in April, with over **121,670 items now destroyed** as part of the SALW project

COMMUNITY LIAISON (CL)

- Teams visited **39 households in 6 villages in Erbil and Diyala governorates** to conduct community assessment. Visits involved interviews with **348 individuals**, including women and children
- Teams identified **184 dangerous areas in 73 villages** that pose a threat to resident communities and block socio-economic development

MINE RISK EDUCATION (MRE)

- MRE teams delivered **160 MRE sessions in 124 villages** reaching **11,324 vulnerable individual** in Erbil, Sulimaniyah, Kirkuk, Diyala, Mosul and Dahuk governorates. **2,239 MRE posters and leaflets were distributed** to different age groups of students, children and villagers
- Teams conducted **99 primary school follow up** visits. Team visited **122 primary school teachers** of which 101 were males and 21 were female teachers. Teachers were trained by MAG in MRE delivery in 2008

DONORS

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