



MAG de-miner defusing a Valmara anti-personnel landmine in Dahuk

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) and Conventional Weapons Destruction (CWD) projects in **Dahuk, Diyala, Erbil, Kirkuk, Ninewah, and Sulimaniyah** governorates

- MAG teams **released 172,349 m²** of land using hand, electronic, and visual techniques safely removing and destroying **239 hazardous items**. Additional **1,187,357 m²** of suspected hazardous land were made safe through demarcation
- Mine Risk Education (MRE) teams delivered **254 MRE sessions reaching 3,985 individuals in 124 villages** in Diyala, Dahuk, Kirkuk and Sulimaniyah governorates
- Community Liaison (CL) teams identified **214 dangerous areas in 67 different villages**. Team visited **22 villages** in Dahuk, Kirkuk and Sulimaniyah governorates visiting **97 households to conduct community assessment survey**
- 6 CWD response teams **deployed 106 times to complete 291 tasks** during August, **destroying 7,485 items of CW**
- Mechanical assets were used to clear and prepare **4,130 m²** of land and process **13,344 m³** of contaminated earth
- Mine Detection Dogs (MDD) were used to clear **1,318 m² of low and medium risk parts** of a prioritized minefield in Chemany Azady village of 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

- Training for national dog handlers is ongoing in partnership with Marshall Legacy Institute and Global Training Academy
- Coordination meetings with Iraqi Kurdistan Mine Action Affairs (IKMAA), General Directorate for Mine Affairs (GDMA) and the KRG Ministry of Education (MoE) were conducted during August to discuss operational efficiency as well as the primary school follow up programme

DEMINEING & CLEARANCE OPERATIONS

- **Dahuk sector:** MATs released **10,130 m²** of contaminated land, removing and destroying **20 conventional weapons**. Teams continued working on 4 prioritised tasks in support of **IDP resettlement, agricultural development and socio-economic development** in Bamrne, Sarsink and Chamanke sub-districts of Dahuk governorate. Teams identified two new minefields through demarcation in Kani Masi sub-district. **26,159 m² of suspected contaminated land was demarcated**. One cleared minefield has been handed over to local community in Rizgari sub-district
- **Chamchamal sector:** MATs released **71,013 m²** of contaminated land. Teams removed and destroyed **57 conventional weapons**. Teams continued working on 3 tasks in support of **agricultural development and socio-economic development** in Qara Hanjir, Kirkuk and Daquq sub-districts of Kirkuk governorate.
- **Sulimaniyah sector:** MATs released **91,206 m²** of contaminated land. Teams removed and destroyed **78 conventional weapons**. MATs continued working on 6 tasks in support of **agricultural development, socio-economic rehabilitation, tourism development and conflict recovery** in Mawat, Arbat, Tanjaro and Bazyan sub-districts in Sulimaniyah governorate and Khanaqin district in Diyala governorate. Team identified **8 new minefields** through demarcation in Tanjaro, Mawat, Khormal, Darbandikhan and Sruchk sub-districts of Sulimaniyah and Daquq sub-district in Kirkuk governorate. **1,161,198 m² of suspected hazardous land was demarcated**
- **Mechanical assets:** Teams deployed across northern Iraq to **support MATs and improve the efficiency of operations**. Assets and attachments were used to **clear and prepare 4,130 m² of contaminated land and to excavate 7,599 m³ and sift 5,745 m³ of contaminated soil** in Sulimaniyah, Kirkuk, Diyala, Dahuk and Erbil governorates. Mechanical team removed and destroyed **84 conventional weapons**
- **Mine Detection Dogs:** MDD teams were deployed to Mamsha, Yahyawa and Pirijan villages in Kirkuk governorate to clear **1,318 m² of suspected contaminated land in low and medium risk areas**

CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS DESTRUCTION (CWD) EMERGENCY RESPONSE

- **4 dedicated CL teams** deployed from Dahuk, Sulimaniyah and Chamchamal sectors to identify and prioritize stockpiles and caches of CW 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 **8 awareness sessions to 159 vulnerable individuals and distributed 1,432 booklets and painting books**
- **6 CWD response teams deployed 106 times supporting regional security and conflict recovery** during August **completing 291 tasks** in 87 different villages in Dahuk, Mosul, Erbil, Sulimaniyah, Diyala and Kirkuk governorates
- Teams destroyed **7,485 items of CW** in August

COMMUNITY LIAISON (CL)

- Teams identified **214 dangerous areas in 56 villages** that pose a threat to resident communities and block socio-economic development
- Teams visited **97 households in 22 different villages** of Dahuk, Kirkuk and Sulimaniyah governorates to **conduct community assessment survey**. Team **interviewed 913 individuals** during their visits

MINE RISK EDUCATION (MRE)

- MRE teams delivered **137 MRE sessions in 124 villages** reaching **1,867 vulnerable individual** in Kirkuk, Diyala, Sulimaniyah and Dahuk governorates. **860 MRE posters and leaflets were distributed** to different age groups of students, children and villagers
- Teams continued conducting MRE and SALW awareness delivery training for the local primary teachers participating in the teachers training conducted by the Ministry of Education within the Kurdistan Regional government. **17 teachers training sessions were conducted for 450 primary school teachers**
- Teams from local partner NGOs working in Diyala and Kirkuk governorates conducted **117 MRE sessions in 11 different villages** to more than **2,118 individuals** and distributed **2,459 MRE leaflets** to more than **6,938 individuals**

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
- Stichting Vluchteling
- Marshall Legacy Institute
- German Government

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

Mufleh Talouzi, Country Programme Manager

MAG Iraq, Ainkawa, Erbil, Iraq

Korek: +964-750-445-1981; e-mail: mufleh.talouzi@magiraq.org.uk

Katie Foster, Regional Desk Officer

MAG 68 Sackville Street Manchester M1 3NJ United Kingdom

Tel: +44 161 236 4311 Fax: +44 161 236 6244; E-mail: katie.foster@maginternational.org