



*MAT undertaking clearance in Diyala*



*Medics participating the Global Medic training*

**Reporting period: January 2010**

**Summary of outputs:**

- MATs **released 71,550 m<sup>2</sup>** of land through a combination of hand, electronic, hand clearance and area reduction
- MATs **removed and destroyed 36** hazardous items
- CWD response teams **completed 81 tasks** to **safely remove and destroy 1,427** Conventional Weapons
- CL teams **conducted 121 MRE sessions** targeting **3,292 beneficiaries**

**Summary of activities:**

This month, all teams participated in the annual refresher training conducted after the programme winter closedown for Christmas and New Year holidays. Mine Action Teams (MATs) from the programme's three sectors participated in the refresher training conducted by the programme's Training, Monitoring and Evaluation Unit (TMEU).

Conventional Weapons Destruction (CWD) response team participated in the refresher training conducted by MAG Iraq Technical Field Manager (TFM) at Sulimaniyah sector. 15 personnel from the programme's three CWD response teams participated in the training including three team leaders. Community Liaison (CL) teams from Dahuk, Chamchamal and Sulimaniyah sectors participated in the refresher training conducted by MAG Iraq Community Liaison Manager's (CLMs). Sector Managers (SMs), Field Operations Managers (FOMs), Supervisors and Team Leaders from the programme's three sectors participated in the refresher training conducted by MAG Iraq TFM's in Chamchamal sector. All personnel relevant to mechanical operations received training on Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).

The MAG Iraq programme received a visit from Canada based Global Medic. Two paramedics conducted refresher training for all the programme medics at Chamchamal sector. Medics received training in the most up-to-date trauma techniques.

All programme teams re-deployed to the field resuming clearance, CL and CWD activities in mid-January.

**Dohuk**

In Dohuk sector one MAT funded by SIDA completed the Basic De-mining Course (BDC) conducted by TMEU on January 14<sup>th</sup> and deployed to undertake clearance operations on January 17<sup>th</sup>. Three additional MATs funded by SIDA and Irish Aid resumed operations on January 17<sup>th</sup> after the completions of the annual refresher training. The sector received a support visit from the Logistics officer based in Erbil HQ to assist the re-deployment of teams.

CL teams funded by the Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement, US Department of State, SIDA and Irish Aid deployed on a daily basis to 19 different villages in Dohuk and

Ninewa (Mosul) governorates to deliver MRE, primary school follow up, and identify and report unguarded stockpiles/cashes of conventional weapons. Teams visited the mayor of Faida and Zummar sub-districts of Ninewa (Mosul) governorate to discuss MAG's operations in the area and gather information about the future infrastructure development plans and the support required from MAG. Teams also visited the mayor of Rizgari sub-district of Dohuk governorate to discuss the preparation of the handover ceremonies of Cham Kafir minefield and Bany Sor BAC.

MAG CLM and Community Liaison Coordinator (CLC) conducted Mine Risk Education (MRE) sessions for two days to the Iraqi Red Crescent Society (IRCS) teams working in Dohuk. The CLC met with MRE department within the Iraqi Kurdistan Mine Action Authority (IKMAA) in Erbil to discuss the IMSMA reporting forms.

CLC participated in the NGO monthly coordination meeting held in Dohuk's governor office by the Office of Public Relations. Different members from Iraqi Kurdistan Parliament and NGOs working in Dohuk attended the meeting. During the meeting, the need of more coordination and communication among the national and international NGOs was discussed.

Handover ceremonies were held for Cham Kafir minefield in Rizgari sub-district. MAG Dohuk sector manager and CLC attended the ceremonies. The cleared minefield was handed over to the land owner in attendance of Rizgari mayor and other government officials and local authorities' representatives. During the ceremonies, the sub-district mayor thanked MAG for all the live saving work undertaken in Dohuk and Iraq.

### **Sulimaniyah**

Teams funded by the Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement, US Department of State and German Government resumed operations on January 10<sup>th</sup> after the completion of the annual refresher training.

CL teams funded by the Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement, US Department of State, Stichting Vluchteling, UNICEF and the German Government met with the mayors of Zalan, Mawat, Chwarta, Halabja, Citak, Gapion, Khormal, Bamo, Qorato, Maydan and Darbandikhan sub-districts of Sulimaniyah and Diyala governorates discussing the re-deployment of MAG teams. Teams conducted liaison visits to the sub-districts informing the villagers about the re-deployment of MAG teams in the surrounding areas.

Sector Manager and CLM met with the MRE department within the General Directorate for Mine Affairs (GDMA) and the Ministry of Interior Radio Station in preparation for a UNICEF funded Small Arms and Light Weapons Risk Education (SALW RE) workshop.

The sector hosted the UNICEF funded SALW RE workshop from January 17<sup>th</sup> to January 21<sup>st</sup>. Six national NGOs and two youth centres from Baghdad, Basra, Diyala and Kirkuk governorates participated in the workshop. The workshop was conducted by MAG CLM with the support of MAG Projects Manager, Programme Officer and Deputy Programme Officer. Representatives from GDMA, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Interior and local and international media participated in the workshop.

The sector's annual and quarterly operations work plans were discussed during a meeting held in the sector. The meeting also included the discussion of the CL work plans.

### **Chamchamal**

Teams funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of the Netherlands and the Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement, US Department of State resumed operations on January 20<sup>th</sup> after the completion of the annual refresher training.

CL teams funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of the Netherlands and the Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement, US Department of State met with the mayor of Laylan, Qarahanjir and Qadir Karamm sub-districts discussing the re-deployment of MAG

teams. Teams conducted liaison visits to Yahyawa, Terkashkan, Bebani Gawra and Yarwaly villages informing the villagers about the re-deployment of MAG teams in the surrounding areas.

The Mine Detection Dogs (MDD) accreditation area has been prepared for an internal assessment to be conducted for four MDD prior to their re-deployment.

All the programme mechanical assets and attachments were fully maintained during the month at the sector's workshop. Machines were transported to operational sites in preparation for deployment.

MAG would like to express its gratitude to the following current donors to the Iraq programme.



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The US Army Night Vision and Electronic Sensors Directorate

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Katie Foster  
[katie.foster@maginternational.org](mailto:katie.foster@maginternational.org)  
+44 (0)161 238 5464

Mufleh Talouzi  
[mufleh.talouzi@magiraq.org.uk](mailto:mufleh.talouzi@magiraq.org.uk)  
+964 (0) 750 445 1981