



MAG CWD response team in Dohuk removing CW items from Zakho sub-district



CWD response team leader in Dohuk filling information about the CW found in Zakho

Reporting period: 01 – 31 January 2011

Summary of outputs:

- MAG teams **released 359,390 m²** of land through a combination of electronic, hand mechanical, MDD clearance and area reduction
- MAG teams **removed and destroyed 591** hazardous items
- CWD response teams **completed 132 tasks to safely remove and destroy 3,643** Conventional Weapons (CW)
- MAG and national partner NGO's CL teams **conducted 288 Mine Risk Education (MRE) sessions** targeting **4,306 beneficiaries** and **5 Small Arms and Light Weapons Risk Education (SALWRE) session** targeting **37 individuals**

In January, MAG Iraq teams participated in the one week annual refresher training conducted by the programme Training, Monitoring and Evaluation Unit (TMEU) after the programme close down for Christmas and New Year holidays. Operations were resumed after the completion of the refresher training.

MAG Iraq MATs completed clearance operations in one prioritized area in Kirkuk governorate. This has directly benefited 95 individuals and supported agricultural development by enabling access to important land used by local shepherds for grazing. The land that was previously contaminated with cluster-munitions in Chimany Azady village will be handed over to the local communities in coordination with GDMA once the quality assurance process is conducted.

MAG MATs were deployed to demarcate six minefields in Sulimaniyah, Kirkuk and Dohuk governorates. In total, 642,378 m² of suspected hazardous land was demarcated to International Mine Action Standards (IMAS).

Coordination meetings were held with both regional Mine Action authorities, the Iraqi Kurdistan Mine Action Agency (IKMAA) and the General Directorate of Mine Affairs (GDMA). Activities, plans and priorities were the main points of the meetings agenda. Meetings were held to discuss the annual refresher training and the resumption of operations.

17 MATs deploying from the programme's 3 operations bases in Sulimaniyah, Chamchamal and Dohuk continued the clearance operations on different clearance tasks, which, when completed, will support agricultural development, poverty reduction, IDP resettlement and conflict recovery.

11 Community Liaison (CL) teams continued on a daily basis to deliver MRE and SALW RE, conduct training of trainers for community leaders and teachers, carry out primary school follow up visits, distribute leaflets, and identify and report unguarded stockpiles of CW. Teams visited 127 different villages in Kirkuk, Sulimaniyah, Diyala, Dohuk and Ninewa (Mosul) governorates. CL teams continued to liaise with land owners and local authorities to secure their support for clearance activities.

CL staff in Sulimaniyah and Dohuk delivered SALW RE to 37 shepherds, farmers and students in order to minimize the risk of death or injury posed by SALW.

Local partner NGOs, Al Ghad and Work for Peace CL staff delivered 124 MRE sessions to 1,366 individuals from 27 different villages of Kirkuk and Diyala governorates. Teams were deployed to gather information and collect data in 1 dangerous area in Diyala governorate. Teams continued to conduct Community Assessment Surveys in 3 villages of Kirkuk and Diyala governorates.

MAG's Conventional Weapons Destruction (CWD) teams were deployed to 46 different villages completing 132 emergency tasks to safely remove and destroy 3,643 CW. Highlights included the removal and safe destruction of 2 stockpiles of 1,595 hazardous items in the Qarahanjir area of Kirkuk and the safe removal and destruction of 7 CW stockpiles of 417 hazardous items in the Zakho sub-district of Dohuk. These items were posing a significant threat to the local communities.

During the annual refresher training, MAG Iraq's mechanical assets and tools were fully serviced and maintained. Mechanical faults and failures were fixed by mechanics from Chamchamal and Erbil workshops. MAG's 2 mechanical teams and 2 manual support teams worked in 3 prioritized minefields in Sulimaniyah and Kirkuk governorates to support MATs in achieving operational efficiency.

Mine Detection Dogs (MDD) and manual support teams continued their activities after the annual refresher training. Teams have been deployed to 1 prioritized minefield in Kirkuk governorate, undertaking clearance operations in low and medium risk areas of the minefields and supporting MATs in achieving operational efficiency and quality.

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



- Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement, US Department of State
- The US Army Night Vision and Electronic Sensors Directorate
- MAG America
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of the Netherlands
- SIDA (Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency)
- German Government
- Irish Aid
- Stichting Vluchteling
- Government of Belgium

For more information on this or other MAG programmes across the world, please visit www.maginternational.org or contact:

Katie Foster, Desk Officer
Katie.foster@maginternational.org
+44 (0)161 238 5464

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