



*MDD and handler undertaking clearance operations in Kirkuk*



*National partner NGO's CL team delivering SALW risk education session to primary school students in Diyala*

**Reporting period: 01 – 30 June 2010**

**Summary of outputs:**

- MAG teams **released 568,807 m<sup>2</sup>** of land through a combination of electronic, hand clearance and area reduction
- MAG teams **removed and destroyed 3,623** hazardous items
- CWD response teams **completed 282 tasks** to **safely remove and destroy 6,889** Conventional Weapons (CW)
- MAG and national partner NGO's CL teams **conducted 166 Mine Risk Education (MRE) sessions** targeting **1,375 beneficiaries** and **59 Small Arms and Light Weapons Risk Education (SALWRE) sessions** targeting **6,673 beneficiaries**

In June, MAG Iraq Mine Action Teams (MAT) completed clearance operations in 8 prioritized clearance tasks in Diyala, Dohuk, Ninewa (Mosul), Sulimaniyah and Kirkuk governorates directly benefiting more than 2,752 individuals and support agricultural and socio-economic development in the region. Teams handed over 4 areas of cleared land. 2 areas were handed over in Sulimaniyah and 2 in Dohuk. The cleared land will be used by local communities for agricultural and socio-economic development.

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. Handover of the cleared lands to the local communities were also discussed during the meetings.

2 additional MATs in Chamchamal supported by the Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement, US Department of State were added to MAG Iraq's operational capacity. In total, 16 MATs deploying from the programme's 3 operations bases in Sulimaniyah, Chamchamal and Dohuk continued clearance operations in 7 clearance tasks supporting agricultural and socio-economic development and conflict recovery. MATs were deployed to 7 newly identified clearance sites in Dohuk, Ninewa (Mosul), Sulimaniyah and Kirkuk. MATs identified 4 new contaminated areas of land through demarcation in Laylan and Qarahanjir sub-districts of Kirkuk governorate.

11 Community Liaison (CL) teams continued to deploy on daily basis to deliver MRE and Small Arms and Light Weapons Risk Education (SALW RE), and to conduct training of trainers for community leaders and teachers, primary school follow up visits, community assessment surveys, leaflet distribution, and identifying and reporting unguarded stockpiles of CW. Teams visited 211 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 approval for clearance activities.

CL staff in Dohuk delivered MRE sessions to 117 staff of Forest Guard Forces of Sarskin, Atrush and Zawita areas to help minimise the risk of landmines and UXO on the lives of the staff while undertaking their activities.

Local partner NGOs and MAG CL staff conducted the SALW RE poster competition funded by the current UNICEF project in Kirkuk. Teams delivered 68 SALW RE sessions to groups of villagers and students in Diyala and Kirkuk.

Partner CL teams continued to conduct training sessions in MRE and SALW RE delivery for community leaders including village leaders and religious leaders in Diyala and Kirkuk. In total, teams conducted 44 training sessions to 30 religious leaders and 14 village leaders in Diyala and Kirkuk.

MAG's Conventional Weapons Destruction (CWD) teams deployed to 107 different villages completing 282 emergency tasks to safely remove and destroy 6,889 CW. Highlights include the removal and safe destruction of 2 stockpiles of 82 hazardous items in Penjwin area of Sulimaniyah and the destruction of 109 hazardous items in Mawat area of Sulimaniyah. Items were posing significant threat to the local communities.

MAG's 2 mechanical teams and 2 manual support teams worked in 6 prioritized minefields in Sulimaniyah and Kirkuk governorates to support MATs in achieving operations' efficiency. This month, mechanical and support teams deployed 9 different mechanical assets and attachments.

Mine Detection Dogs (MDD) and manual support teams continued their activities in 6 prioritized minefields in Sulimaniyah and Kirkuk governorate undertaking clearance operations in low and medium risk areas of the minefields supporting MATs in achieving operations' efficiency and quality.

The programmes' Training, Monitoring and Evaluation unit (TMEU) conducted an assessment for the supervisory staff in Dohuk on the use of Global Positioning System (GPS) devices. Required refresher trainings will be conducted for the staff that did not pass the assessment in July 2010.

The TMEU conducted refresher trainings for the selected CL staff to deliver MRE/SALW RE training of trainers in preparation for the annual teachers training organised by the Ministry of Education. MAG CL staff will deliver a 5 days training to the newly graduated primary school teachers in July 2010.

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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
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of the Netherlands
- Government of Belgium
- SIDA (Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency)
- German Government
- Irish Aid
- Stichting Vluchteling
- The United Nations Children's Fund
- Marshall Legacy Institute

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