



MAG MAT team conducting clearance operations in Dohuk using Large Loop detector



MAG MAT team conducting clearance operations in Diyala

Reporting period: 01 March – 30 April 2011

Summary of outputs:

- MAG teams **released 751,248 m²** of land through a combination of electronic, hand mechanical, MDD clearance and area reduction
- MAG teams **removed and destroyed 16,044** hazardous items
- CWD response teams **completed 434 emergency response tasks** to safely remove and destroy different types of Conventional Weapons (CW)
- MAG CL teams **conducted 23 Risk Education (RE) sessions** targeting **1,264 beneficiaries**

MAG Iraq has successfully secured continuation funding from US Department of State – WRA and German Government for 2011-2012 for the deployment of 9 Mine Action Teams (MAT), 4 Conventional Weapons Destruction Teams (CWD), 7 Community Liaison Teams (CL), 1 Mechanical and 1 manual support team, 3 Mine Detection Dog (MDD) Units and 2 manual support teams. Continuation funding from Stichting Vluchteling has also been secured for the deployment of 5 CL teams by national partners in Kirkuk and Diyala governorates.

MAG Iraq MATs completed clearance operations in 15 prioritized clearance tasks in Sulimaniyah, Kirkuk, Diyala, Dohuk and Ninewah (Mosul) governorates directly benefiting more than 5,100 individuals and supporting agricultural development by enabling access to important land used by local farmers and shepherds for growing wheat, barley and chickpeas and grazing. The cleared land will be handed over to the local communities in coordination with IKMAA and GDMA once the quality assurance process is conducted.

MAG MATs deployed to re-demarcate 31 minefields in Sulimaniyah, Kirkuk, Diyala, Dohuk and Ninewah (Mosul) governorates. In total, 360,168 m² of suspected hazardous land was re-demarcated to IMAS¹. The original demarcation of these minefields has been disrupted throughout the years and re-demarcation has been deemed vital to warn the local communities, returning refugees and IDPs about the contaminated areas.

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 clearance operations in different clearance tasks that, when completed, will support agricultural development, poverty reduction, and conflict recovery.

¹ International Mine Action Standards

11 Community Liaison (CL) teams continued to deploy on daily basis to deliver risk education, conduct training of trainers for community leaders and teachers, primary school follow up visits, leaflet distribution, and identifying and reporting unguarded stockpiles of CW. Teams visited different contaminated 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.

MAG's Conventional Weapons Destruction (CWD) teams deployed to different contaminated villages completing 434 emergency tasks to safely remove and destroy 10,806 CW. Highlights included the removal and safe destruction of 4 stockpiles of 267 hazardous items in Derabun collective town in Dohuk and the safe removal and destruction of 2 CW stockpiles of 1,242 hazardous items in Chimany Azady area of Kirkuk. These items were posing significant threat to the local communities.

MAG's 2 mechanical teams and 2 manual support teams worked in 13 prioritized minefields in Sulimaniyah and Kirkuk governorates to support MATs in achieving operational efficiency.

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

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



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- SIDA (Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency)
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of the Netherlands
- Stichting Vluchteling
- German Government
- Irish Aid
- Government of Belgium
- MAG America

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