



*MAG CL officer delivering MRE to IDPs in Shiladze, Dohuk*



*MAG deminer conducting minefield clearance in Kirkuk*

**Reporting period: 01 – 31 May 2010**

**Summary of outputs:**

- MAG teams **released 301,813 m<sup>2</sup>** of land through a combination of electronic, hand clearance and area reduction
- MAG teams **removed and destroyed 845** hazardous items
- CWD response teams **completed 280 tasks** to **safely remove and destroy 4,042** Conventional Weapons (CW)
- MAG and national partner NGO's CL teams **conducted 181 Mine Risk Education (MRE) sessions** targeting **1,115 beneficiaries** and **46 Small Arms and Light Weapons Risk Education (SALWRE) sessions** targeting **1,862 beneficiaries**

In May, MAG Iraq Mine Action Teams (MAT) completed clearance operations in 3 prioritized clearance tasks in Ninewa (Mosul) and Kirkuk governorates directly benefiting more than 1,300 individuals and supporting agricultural development in the region. Teams handed over 7 areas of cleared land to the local authorities, 6 were handed over in Chamchamal on the 17<sup>th</sup> of May and 1 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). The meetings were held to discuss activities, plans and priorities and the handover of cleared lands to communities.

14 MATs deploying from the programme's 3 operations bases in Sulimaniyah, Chamchamal and Dohuk, continued clearance operations in 10 ongoing minefields and 1 ongoing Battle Area Clearance (BAC) task supporting agricultural development and conflict recovery. MATs were deployed to 3 newly identified BAC tasks in Dohuk, 1 BAC task in Ninewa (Mosul) and 1 minefield in Diyala.

11 Community Liaison (CL) teams continued to deploy on daily basis to deliver MRE and Small Arms and Light Weapons Risk Education (SALW RE). The CL teams also conducted training of trainers sessions for community leaders and teachers, primary school follow up visits, community assessment surveys, leaflet distribution, and identified and reported unguarded stockpiles of Conventional Weapons (CW). During this month, teams visited 210 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.

Local partner NGOs and MAG CL staff conducted the SALW RE poster competition supported by the current UNICEF project. Youth centres from Kirkuk and Diyala governorates participated in the poster competition to design SALW RE posters. Final results of the poster competition will be announced

during the first week of June, when posters from 3 youth centres will be chosen and will be printed to be used as SALW RE materials.

Partner CL teams delivered MRE sessions to staff from government service providers, including the departments of agriculture, electricity, health and reconstruction in Dibis, Haweja, Daquq, Taza and Altun-Copri areas of Kirkuk governorate as well as Qorattoo and Khanaqin areas of Diyala governorate. Teams delivered SALW RE sessions to youths from different youth centres in Laylan, Altun-Copri, Dibis, Daquq, Kazewa and Rizgary areas of Kirkuk governorate and Khanaqin in Diyala governorate. In total, 89 youth received SALW RE of which 34 were female and 55 were male.

MAG's Conventional Weapons Destruction (CWD) teams deployed to 109 different villages completing 208 emergency tasks to safely remove and destroy 4,042 items of CW. Highlights include the removal and safe destruction of 1 stockpile of 526 hazardous items found by a local mine action company undertaking clearance operations in Mahmud Qajar village in Diyala as well as the destruction of 62 hazardous items in 5 different villages of Fayda sub-district in Ninewa (Mosul).

MAG's 2 mechanical teams and 2 manual mechanical support teams worked in 3 prioritized minefields in Sulimaniyah and Kirkuk governorates to support MATs in achieving operational efficiency and quality. This month, mechanical and support teams deployed 8 different mechanical assets and attachments.

Mine Detection Dogs (MDD) and manual support team continued their activities in 3 prioritized minefields in Kirkuk governorate undertaking clearance operations in low and medium risk areas of the minefields supporting MATs in achieving operational efficiency and quality.

The programmes' Training, Monitoring and Evaluation unit (TMEU) started the Basic Demining Course (BDC) in Chamchamal with the financial support of the Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement, US Department of State. 35 participants successfully passed the course. The newly graduated deminers will deploy in 2 new MATs from Chamchamal to undertake clearance operations in Kirkuk and Sulimaniyah in June 2010.

An additional CWD response team was trained by the TMEU in Sulimaniyah sector and was deployed to undertake CWD operations in Sulimaniyah and Diyala governorates.

The TMEU started the preparations for conducting the MRE/SALW RE training of trainers during the annual teachers training organised by the Ministry of Education. MAG CL staff will deliver a 5 day 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:



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