



MAG de-miner undertaking clearance activities in Dahuk governorate

SUMMARY OF THIS MONTH'S ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS

The programme continued to reduce risk to vulnerable communities and support conflict recovery and rehabilitation by implementing Humanitarian Mine Action (HMA) and Conventional Weapons Destruction (CWD) projects in **Dahuk, Diyala, Erbil, Kirkuk, Ninewah, and Sulimaniyah** governorates

- MAG teams **released 303,637 m²** of land using hand, electronic, and visual techniques safely removing and destroying **315 hazardous items**. Additional **485,146 m²** of suspected hazardous land were made safe through demarcation
- Mine Risk Education (MRE) teams delivered **81 MRE sessions reaching 2,707 individuals in 49 villages** in Diyala, Dahuk, Kirkuk, Mosul and Sulimaniyah governorates
- Community Liaison (CL) teams identified **265 dangerous areas in 78 different villages**. Teams visited **11 villages** in Diyala, Dahuk, Sulimaniyah and Kirkuk governorates visiting **87 households to conduct community assessment survey**
- 6 CWD response teams **deployed 124 times to complete 313 tasks** during October, **destroying 21,516 items of CW**
- Mechanical assets were used to clear and prepare **19,008 m²** of land and process **9,296 m³** of contaminated earth
- Mine Detection Dogs (MDD) were used to clear **14,661 m² of low and medium risk parts** of one prioritized minefield in Balaso village of Diyala governorate. MDD team found **7 hazardous items**.

SUMMARY OF IMPACT

- **Creating a more secure environment** for the Iraqi people by reducing risk to life and limb
- **Building safer communities** and working to improve the **futures of people** affected by explosive remnants of conflict
- **Facilitating national reconstruction** by freeing up land that can be used for livelihood generation and infrastructure projects
- **Contributing to economic growth and stability** by creating safer environments and communities and increasing economic independence for families working in farming and herding
- **Facilitating repatriation** by handing back cleared land that has previously been denied to its returning residents due to contamination by explosive remnants of conflict
- Contributing to the **building of sustainable Iraqi Humanitarian Mine Action Capabilities** in country

OPERATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

- Training for national dog handlers is ongoing in partnership with Marshall Legacy Institute and Global Training Academy. Accreditation of the dogs and the handlers will be conducted by the General Directorate for Mine Affairs (GDMA) in November 2009
- Financial Management training course is planned to be conducted by MAG Iraq for 4 staff of local partner NGOs working in Diyala and Kirkuk governorates. The teams conducted MRE delivery training sessions for religious leaders in 20 different villages of Kirkuk and Diyala governorates in November 2009

DEMINEING & CLEARANCE OPERATIONS

- **Dahuk sector:** MATs released **131,117 m²** of contaminated land, removing and destroying **20 conventional weapons**. Teams continued working on 3 prioritised tasks in support of **IDP resettlement and agricultural development** in Bamrre and Spindara and Baghluja villages. Teams completed clearance operations of two prioritized areas in Spindara and Baghluja villages. Teams started clearance operations in one new prioritized minefield in Badarashke village in support of **socio-economic development**. MAG teams identified one new minefield through demarcation in Siyaratika village. **1,880 m² of suspected contaminated land was demarcated**
- **Chamchamal sector:** MATs released **32,189 m²** of contaminated land. Teams removed and destroyed **8 conventional weapons**. Teams continued working on 3 tasks in support of **agricultural development and socio-economic development** in Tkya Jabary sub-district of Sulimaniyah governorate and Shwan sub-district of Kirkuk governorate
- **Sulimaniyah sector:** MATs released **140,331 m²** of contaminated land. Teams removed and destroyed **157 conventional weapons**. MATs continued working on 4 tasks in support of **agricultural development, socio-economic rehabilitation, tourism development and conflict recovery** in Tanjaro and Takya sub-districts in Sulimaniyah governorate and Khanaqin district in Diyala governorate. Teams completed clearance operations in 4 prioritized areas in Tanjaro, Mawat, Penjwin and Beyara sub-districts in Sulimaniyah governorate and started clearance operations in 3 prioritized tasks in Mawat, Qara Dakh and Gapilon sub-districts of Sulimaniyah governorate. Teams demarcated **7 minefields** in Mawat and Zalan sub-districts of Sulimaniyah governorate. **483,266 m² of suspected hazardous land was demarcated**
- **Mechanical assets:** Teams deployed in northern Iraq to **support MATs and improve the efficiency of operations**. Assets and attachments were used to **clear 18,758 m² and prepare 250 m² of contaminated land and to excavate 4,220 m³ and sift 5,076 m³** of contaminated soil in Diyala governorate. Mechanical team removed and destroyed **130 conventional weapons**
- **Mine Detection Dogs:** MDD teams were deployed to Balaso village in Diyala governorate to clear **14,661 m² of suspected contaminated land in low and medium risk areas**. Teams found **7 anti-personnel landmines**

CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS DESTRUCTION (CWD) EMERGENCY RESPONSE

- **4 dedicated CL teams** deployed from Dahuk, Sulimaniyah and Chamchamal sectors to identify and prioritize stockpiles and caches of CW for safe removal and destruction
- CL teams continued the SALW awareness project, which aims to warn children and other vulnerable groups about the dangers of SALW. A children's activity book, as well as posters and leaflets, were specially designed to support the project. Teams conducted **5 awareness sessions to 146 vulnerable individuals and distributed 170 booklets**
- **6 CWD response teams deployed 124 times supporting regional security and conflict recovery** during October **completing 313 tasks** in 75 different villages in Dahuk, Mosul, Erbil, Sulimaniyah, Diyala and Kirkuk governorates
- Teams destroyed **21,516 items of CW** in October

COMMUNITY LIAISON (CL)

- Teams identified **265 dangerous areas in 78 villages** that pose a threat to resident communities and block socio-economic development
- Teams visited **87 households in 11 different villages** of Diyala, Dahuk, Sulimaniyah and Kirkuk governorates to **conduct community assessment survey**. Teams **interviewed 1,123 individuals** during their visits

MINE RISK EDUCATION (MRE)

- MRE teams delivered **53 MRE sessions in 44 villages** reaching **2,354 vulnerable individual** in Dahuk, Sulimaniyah, Mosul, Kirkuk and Diyala governorates. **652 MRE booklets and posters were distributed** to different age groups of students, children and villagers
- Teams from local partner NGOs conducting primary school teachers monitoring visits, and MRE and SALW awareness delivery training for religious leaders in 24 different villages of Kirkuk and Diyala governorate. Religious leaders will conduct MRE sessions to villagers during Friday sermon in the mosques
- Teams from local partner NGOs working in Diyala and Kirkuk governorates conducted **28 MRE sessions in 5 different villages to 353 individuals** and distributed **58 MRE leaflets to 441 individuals**

DONORS

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- Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement, US Department of State
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- German Government

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