



School students in Kirkuk walk by minefields on their way to school everyday



Villagers in Kirkuk working in their farmland after it was cleared by MAG in 2009

Reporting period: 01 – 31 October 2010

Summary of outputs:

- MAG teams **released 368,992 m²** of land through a combination of electronic, hand mechanical, MDD clearance and area reduction
- MAG teams **removed and destroyed 416** hazardous items
- CWD response teams **completed 196 tasks** to **safely remove and destroy 7,434** Conventional Weapons (CW)
- MAG and national partner NGO's CL teams **conducted 144 Mine Risk Education (MRE) sessions** targeting **1,215 beneficiaries** and **three Small Arms and Light Weapons Risk Education (SALWRE) session** targeting **59 individuals**

In October, MAG Iraq started implementing the Cluster Munitions Clearance project in Kirkuk with the financial support of Act for Peace. One multi-skilled Mine Action Team (MAT) have been trained and equipped by the programme's Training, Monitoring and Evaluation unit (TMEU) in MAG's operations base in Chamchamal. The team will deploy to undertake Battle Area Clearance (BAC) of prioritized cluster munitions-contaminated sites in Kirkuk governorate.

Through the completion of five clearance operations in the prioritized areas of Dohuk, Kirkuk and Diyala governorates, 2,450 individuals have directly benefited clearance activities. MAGs clearance operations have supported village rehabilitation as well as agricultural and socio-economic development in the region.

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 meeting's agenda. Arrangements for handing over cleared land to local communities were also discussed during the meetings.

16 MATs deploying from the programme's 3 operations bases in Sulimaniyah, Chamchamal and Dohuk continued clearance operations in 11 clearance tasks that, when completed, will support agricultural and socio-economic development and conflict recovery. MATs were deployed to 5 prioritized clearance sites in Takya area of Sulimaniyah, Daquq area of Kirkuk, and Batel area of Dohuk. Clearance sites were prioritized through the community assessment survey conducted by MAG Community Liaison (CL) teams. MAG teams identified 5 new contaminated areas through demarcation in Takya and Qaradakh sub-districts of Sulimaniyah, and Shwan and Daquq sub-districts of Kirkuk.

11 Community Liaison (CL) teams have been deployed on a daily basis, delivering a variety of tasks including: MRE and SALWRE; conducting training of trainers for community leaders and teachers; performing primary school follow up visits; distributing leaflets; and identifying and reporting unguarded stockpiles of CW. The teams have visited 180 different villages in Kirkuk, Sulimaniyah, Diyala, Dohuk and Ninewa (Mosul) governorates continuously liaising with local land owners and authorities in order to secure their approval for clearance activities.

CL teams interviewed 612 individuals to gather vulnerable contamination data, completing community assessment survey's for two villages in Dohuk, two in Kirkuk and eight in Sulimaniyah governorates. CL staff delivered capacity building training sessions in MRE delivery to two primary school teachers in Sulimaniyah governorate.

Local partner NGOs, Al Ghad and Work for Peace CL staff conducted 79 primary school follow up visits to identify further training needs and distribute MRE materials including posters, leaflets, and booklets for the primary school teachers trained in March, April and July 2010.

MAG's Conventional Weapons Destruction (CWD) teams deployed to 82 different villages completing 196 emergency tasks to safely remove and destroy 7,434 CW. Highlights included the removal and safe destruction of three stockpiles of 797 hazardous items in Chimany and the Azady area of Kirkuk as well as the safe removal and destruction of two CW stockpiles of 100 hazardous items that were posing a significant threat to local communities in Derabun collective town of Dohuk.

MAG's two mechanical teams and two manual support teams worked in three prioritized minefields in Diyala and Kirkuk governorates to support MATs in achieving operational efficiency. This month, mechanical and support teams deployed nine different mechanical assets and attachments.

Mine Detection Dogs (MDD) and manual support teams continued their activities in six 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 two Basic Demining Courses (BDC) in MAG's operations base in Chamchamal and Dohuk. 45 participants successfully graduated from the BDC and will be deployed within MAG MATs.

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



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- German Government
- Act for Peace
- Stichting Vluchteling
- Marshall Legacy Institute

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