



Full excavation, BAC, Harouf



Mine Risk Education at Beaufort Castle

Reporting period: 1st – 31st January 2011 (10 days refresher training and re-accreditation)

- **Clearance, confirmation, and processing of 35,190m² and 449m³** of land using a toolbox approach, including surface and sub surface clearance, electronic detectors, and mechanical processing in Battle Area Clearance work in southern Lebanon affected primarily by cluster sub munitions, as well as mine clearance on the Blue Line and in the Chouf mountains.
- **46,544 direct beneficiaries** and 20,425 indirect beneficiaries
- **Removal and destruction of 348 hazardous Explosive Remnants of War:** 13 sub-munitions, 12 items of unexploded ordnance and 323 anti-personnel landmines

The primary focus of clearance remains prioritising access to cleared land for investment in agriculture and public services for the development of **livelihoods and infrastructure**. MAG deployed seven Battle Area Clearance (BAC) Teams, to continue on-going BAC in five villages: Al Kham, Jibchit, Mayfadoun, Yohmor and Zawtar Al Gharbiyah. One MAG Mine Action Team (MAT) continued to work on the minefield site in Houla, on the Blue Line. The second MAT worked in the Mtolleh minefield in the Chouf with mechanical support. MAG Lebanon used its mechanical assets to support manual clearance around destroyed buildings and construction sites; the Mechanical Team worked to support minefield clearance in Dellafeh.

All teams are contributing to the **social and economic recovery and development** of Central and South Lebanon through the safe, efficient, and effective clearance of Explosive Remnants of War. In addition 12,790m² (36%) were subject to Quality Assurance of clearance/ verification activities. The terrain where MAG Lebanon works is rocky, mountainous and often heavily vegetated, or built up areas which contain a lot of miscellaneous items, which give the same reading as EO scrap. All items need inspection to confirm an area is free from ERW. In January MAG cut **18,850m² of vegetation** and removed **16,748 items of Explosive Ordnance scrap** and a further **45,364 items of scrap metal**. MAG Lebanon carries out manual and mechanical sub-surface clearance and excavation to 20cm depth on its sites; during this month 72% of activities were subsurface clearance and 19.5% full excavation work.

Community Liaison (CL) activities continued during the operational period, at the pre-clearance, clearance, and post-clearance stages of MAG's work. There were 59 CL activities conducted during the month. Information collected by the CL teams demonstrate that so far **790m² of cleared land has been used for agricultural development**, primarily olive and fruit groves and horticultural greenhouses and 290m² for the development of shelters and settlements. The CL team carried out Mine Risk Education for workers at the historic Al Shakif Castle (Beaufort castle) near Nabatieh. The 900 year old crusader castle has been used as a fort by different groups over the years, including the French, Palestinians and Israel and is currently in disrepair- it is being renovated and during the course of the work the labourers and engineers have found munitions.

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

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ U.S. Department of State, Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement ▪ German Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs ▪ Government of Japan ▪ Government of Spain AECID | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Norwegian Royal Ministry of Foreign Affairs ▪ MAG America ▪ European Commission ▪ AusAID ▪ American Task Force for Lebanon |
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