



MAG Sri Lanka Programme Update June 2010

saves lives **builds futures**



MAG Sri Lanka's first all-female Mine Action team in action in Periyapandivirichchan village in Mannar District. The team was recruited and trained during January and February this year and consist of recent and current IDPs as well as widows of conflict. The opportunities MAG provides them through employment is seen as a crucial precursor in rebuilding their lives and supporting their families.

Reporting Period: 01- 30 June 2010

Activities & Outputs Summary:

- **Non-technical Survey (NTS) ongoing in 2 Grama Niladhari (GN) in Puthukudiyurippu Division in Mullaitivu District, and technical survey and clearance in Mannar and Vavuniya Districts**
- **NTS completed in 5 GN in Puthukudiyurippu DS Division, Mullaitivu District, releasing 153.6km² of land.**
- **3 clearance tasks ongoing** in Periyapandivirichchan in Madhu Division, Adampan in Manthai West DS Division, both in Mannar District, and Paddikudiyiruppu in Vavuniya
- **Clearance of 366,769m² of land** during the month
- **726 anti-personnel mines, 95 items of unexploded ordnance (UXO) uncovered**
- **Safer Village Pilot undertaken in Sinnapandivirichchan in Madhu Division**

Impact Summary:

- By the end of June **4,038 individuals (1,412 families)** have returned to areas released through non-technical survey by MAG in Maritimpittu DS Division in Mullaitivu District.
- A further 13,541 individuals (3,370 families) are expected to return to areas released during the reporting period
- Please visit <http://www.maginternational.org/MAG/en/news/sri-lanka-updates/> for case studies highlighting the impact of MAG's work in Sri Lanka

ACTIVITIES

MAG Sri Lanka is carrying out emergency survey of priority areas in Northern Sri Lanka and clearing them from landmines and UXO, for the return of IDPs currently being accommodated in camps in Vavuniya District. According to a Government statement on 29 June 2010, 45,998 IDPs are reported to remain in temporary camps in Vavuniya¹.

Community Liaison (CL) teams completed non-technical survey in 5 tasks in Puthukudiyurippu DS Division in Mullaitivu district during the month. In all 153,642,350m² was released in Thevipuram, Suganthipuram, Vallipuram and Udayarkaddu North and South DS Divisions. 12,327,650m² was identified for follow on technical survey and clearance in the 5 Divisions through the NTS process. NTS will be ongoing in Visuamadu East and West DS Divisions in July.

Technical Survey and Clearance activities continue in Periyapandivirichchan in Madhu Division, Adampan in Manthai West Division, both in Mannar District and Paddikudiyurippu in Vavuniya North. These activities cleared 107,133m² of land through manual clearance and 259,636m² of land through Battle Area Clearance and manual clearance in May. A total of 726 anti-personnel mines and 95 UXO were uncovered during the month, with 350 landmines being found in Periyapandivirichchan during the space of a week. Clearance and technical survey teams were deployed to Maritimepittu DS Division in Mullaitivu District during the last week of June. This is in the area where the war ended over 12 months ago, and is the first time any agency has deployed clearance teams to the region.

At the end of June, 4,038 individuals (1,412 families) had returned to areas released by MAG in Mullaitivu District. Please refer to the table opposite for a breakdown by GN Division.

| GN | Resettled families | Resettled individuals |
|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Mulliyawalai North | 164 | 519 |
| Mulliyawalai Center | 126 | 330 |
| Mulliyawalai West | 450 | 1,243 |
| Mulliyawalai East | 385 | 1,110 |
| Mulliyawalai South | 135 | 407 |
| Kumulamunai West | 152 | 429 |
| Total | 1,412 | 4,038 |

Programme visits – the following visits took place during May:

- The programme hosted a visit by David Ashley, First Secretary (Regional Adviser, South Asia), and Jane Barham, First Secretary (Development) of the British High Commission, Colombo, and Neil Barry, Humanitarian Specialist, Conflict, Humanitarian and Security Department at UK DFID on Wednesday 30th June. This included a visit to Mullaitivu District.
- MAG hosted a visit in Vavuniya in w/c 13th June by Sally McKay, Country Manager, AusAID, and Dulani Sirisena, Senior Programme Officer, AusAID.
- Bekim Shala, PM, Philippa Copland, CLM, and Christy Martin, CL Supervisor hosted a visit by Kayo Imamura, the Second Secretary, Embassy of Japan on 10th June. It included a visit to Puthukudiyurippu in Mullaitivu District.

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- *AusAID*
- *CIDA*
- *Stichting Vluchteling*

For more information on this or any of MAG's programmes across the world please visit www.maginternational.org, or contact:

Matt Thomas (Regional Desk Officer) e-mail: Matt.Thomas@maginternational.org
MAG, 68 Sackville Street, Manchester, M1 3NJ, UK Tel: +44 161 236 4311 Fax: +44 161 236 6244

¹ <http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/db900SID/ADGO-86VPY4?OpenDocument&rc=3&cc=lka>