

24TH



INTERNATIONAL MEETING OF

MINE

ACTION

NATIONAL DIRECTORS AND UNITED NATIONS ADVISERS

The NDM-UN is the annual meeting of mine action stakeholders where national governments, the UN community and civil society meet to discuss emerging issues and exchange good practices and lessons learned. Discussion topics this year will include: mine action financing in times of scarcity; novel approaches in mine action; community engagement; localizing mine action; capacity development; and inclusion, diversity and racial equity. A rich side event agenda will offer opportunities to consider national case studies and good practices, and to deep dive into thematic areas, as well as to explore innovative approaches and solutions to the most pressing challenges facing the mine action sector today.

25 – 27 May 2021

A G E N D A

Pre - Event

Monday 24 May

17:30-18:30

Pre-Event Reception

A reception to welcome participants to the 24th International Meeting of Mine Action National Directors and United Nations Advisers offering an introduction to the Hopin event platform as well as opportunities for guest connecting and networking.

Event

Tuesday 25 May

14:00 - 15:00

Opening Ceremony

Chair: Ms. Ilene Cohn, Acting Director, UNMAS

- H.E. Mr. Niels Annen, Minister of State, German Federal Foreign Office
- Mr. Jean-Pierre Lacroix, Under-Secretary-General, Department of Peace Operations and Chair, Inter-Agency Coordination Group on Mine Action, United Nations
- Ms. Luz Dary Landázury, President, Association of Survivors of Antipersonnel Mines of Nariño's Pacific Coast
- Mr. Daniel Craig, United Nations Global Advocate for the Elimination of Mines and Explosive Hazards

Welcome and introduction to the conference platform followed by opening remarks to set the context for the meeting. A minute of silence for fallen colleagues will be observed.

15:00 - 16:00

Plenary Session 1 - Staying the Course: Mine Action Financing in Times of Scarcity

Chair: Mr. William Chemaly, Global Protection Cluster Coordinator (UNHCR)

Panelists:

- Mr. Mohammad Breikat, National Director, National Committee for Demining and Rehabilitation of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
- Dr. Mizuta Shinichi, Minister-Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations, New York
- Ms. Marie-Alphie Dallest, Manager, Social Finance UK

The COVID-pandemic and its effects on the global economy are putting pressure on donor budgets while at the same time exacerbating needs and exposing vulnerable populations to new threats. In this session, panelists will discuss sustainable resource mobilisation from different perspectives including cross-sector learning, outcomes-based financing and national level efforts.

16:00-16:30

Break

16:30 - 17:30

Three Concurrent Side Events (details on Page 7)

- *Standardising Beneficiary Definitions in Humanitarian Mine Action in Practice*
- *Environmental Assessment in Humanitarian Mine Action*
- *Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in Mine Action*

17:30-18:30

Plenary Session 2 - Novel Approaches in Mine Action

Chair: H.E. Mr. Robbert Gabriëlse, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the Conference on Disarmament, Geneva

Panelists:

- Mr. Erik Tollefsen, Head, Weapon Contamination Unit, International Committee of the Red Cross
- Ms. Martha Isabel Hurtado Granada, Coordinadora, Grupo de Acción Integral contra Minas Antipersonal, Colombia
- Ms. Tammy Hall, Head, Standards and Operations, GICHD
- Ms. Abigail Hartley (UNMAS), on behalf of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group on Mine Action
- Dr. José Schulz, Head of Division of Humanitarian Assistance - Operations, German Federal Foreign Office

Innovation, both in technology and in approach, has played a key role in better equipping national authorities and all other stakeholders to address challenges posed by explosive ordnance. In this session, panelists will touch on a range of novel approaches across a variety of mine action activities such as urban contamination survey and clearance, ensuring more diverse workforces and cross-pollination of technology between sectors.

Wednesday 26 May

14:00-15:00

Plenary Session 3 - Community Engagement Matters

Chair: Ms. Meritxell Relaño, Deputy Director Emergency Operations, UNICEF

Panelists:

- H.E. Mr. Ly Panharith, Deputy Secretary General, Cambodian Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority
- Ms. Alessia Radice, Communication for Development Specialist, Social Norms, UNICEF
- Mr. Guy Mondjii, Country Director, Viamo Nigeria
- Ms. Alexandra Letcher, Community Liaison Manager - Team Leader, Mines Advisory Group, Iraq
- Ms. Lyuba Guerassimova, Programme Officer, UNMAS Afghanistan

Mine action should be needs-centred and people driven. The sector is duty bound to involve affected populations in the decisions that concern them. Speakers from affected countries and the international community will be invited to discuss their approaches to community engagement in and beyond mine action.

15:00-16:00

Three Concurrent Side Events (details on Page 8)

- *Cash and Voucher Assistance for Clearance, Land Release and Survivor Assistance*
- *Women Inclusion in Mine Action, Challenges and Change*
- *Stage of Play: Linking Mine Action and the SDGs*

16:00-16:30

Break

16:30-17:30

Three Concurrent Side Events (details on Page 9)

- *Demining in Border Areas - Enhancing Cross Border Cooperation and Assistance*
- *Managing Uncertainty in an Explosive Hazard Contaminated Environment - The Survey, Prioritisation and Clearance of Recovered areas in Souther Tripoli and Beyond*
- *Impact of Explosive Ordnance on Vulnerable People in Syria, Specifically Children*

17:30-18:30

Plenary Session 4 - Localizing Mine Action: How to Improve

Chair: Maître Sudi Kimputu, National Coordinator, Centre Congolais de Lutte Antimines

Panelists:

- Ms. Fatuma Ibrahim, Senior Localization Specialist, Child Protection Area of Responsibility
- Mr. Abraham Makuei, Co-Coordinator, Jonglei State Child Protection Working Group, Community in Need Aid (CINA, NGO), South Sudan
- Ms. Marie Dahan, Coordinator, Mine Action Area of Responsibility, Yemen
- Mr. Ameen AlaQili, Director, Yemen Mine Action Program

This session will explore recent and promising practices on localizing mine action. Participants will discuss, inter alia: promoting local leadership; strengthening technical and institutional capacities of local mine action organizations; and increasing cooperation between donors, government ministries, humanitarian and development actors.

Thursday 27 May

14:00-15:00

Plenary Session 5 - Capacity Development: Opportunities and Impact

Chair: Amb. Stefano Toscano, Director, GICHD

Panelists:

- Ms. Oksana Leshchenko, Policy and Programme Advisor, UNDP
- Mr. Valon Kumnova, Head, Mine Action Programmes, GICHD
- Brig. Gen. Jihad Al Bechaalany, Director, Lebanon Mine Action Center
- Ms. Nguyen Thi Dieu Linh, Provincial Programme Manager, Norwegian People's Aid Vietnam
- Mr. Christian Rydning, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Norway to the United Nations, Geneva

Effective mine action requires ownership and long-term commitment at the national level. This panel will take a broad look at capacity development and strengthening by addressing questions relating to sustainability; integration of mine action into the wider security sector; progress and effectiveness; as well as transition and exit strategies.

15:00-16:00

Three Concurrent Side Events (details on Page 10)

- *Doing it Right, Doing it Better: EORE Voices from the Field*
- *Approaches to Counter the Threat Posed by IEDs - Examples from Yemen and the Sahel Region*
- *Long Term Impacts of Explosive Weapons in Populated Areas - Implications for the Mine Action Sector*

16:00-16:30

Break

16:30-17:30

Plenary Session 6 - Inclusion and Diversity: Racial Equity in Mine Action

Chair: Mr. Bruno Donat, Chief, UNMAS Geneva office and Global Coordinator, Mine Action Area of Responsibility

Panelists:

- Ms. Bintou Keita, Under-Secretary-General, United Nations
- Ms. Valentina Stivanello, Country Director, Mines Advisory Group, Sri Lanka
- Brig. Gen. Khalid Hamdan Adam, Director, National Mine Action Center, the Republic of the Sudan
- Mr. Wolfgang Bindseil, Chair, Mine Action Support Group, German Federal Foreign Office

Inspired by the call of the United Nations Secretary-General for global engagement to understand and address the way racism and discrimination manifest themselves in the work environment, this session aims to showcase and encourage leadership on diversity, inclusion and racial equity in the mine action sector by taking stock of the current situation and discussing possible ways forward.

17:30-18:30

Closing Ceremony

Chair: Ms. Ilene Cohn, Acting Director, UNMAS

- Mr. Alexandre Zouev, Assistant Secretary-General for Rule of Law and Security Institutions, Department of Peace Operations, United Nations
- Ms. Sibylle Katharina Sorg, Director-General, Crisis Prevention, Stabilisation, Peacebuilding and Humanitarian Assistance, German Federal Foreign Office

Remarks to close the 24th International Meeting of Mine Action National Directors and United Nations Advisers.



SIDE EVENTS



TUESDAY 25 MAY 16:30 - 17:30

- ***Standardising Beneficiary Definitions in Humanitarian Mine Action in Practice***

This event will discuss why standardizing beneficiary definitions (SBDs) in humanitarian mine action matters and what progress and challenges are encountered in implementing and adopting them. By doing this, we seek additional buy-in from National Directors and donors while preparing the ground for the International Mine Action Standard Review Board to adopt the revised and new beneficiary definitions.

Chair: Ms. Tammy Hall, Head, Standards and Operations, GICHD

Speakers:

Mr. Sebastian Kasack, Senior Community Liaison Advisor, Mines Advisory Group

Mr. Shafi Ullah Ahmadzai, Head of Quality Management, Directorate of Mine Action Coordination, Afghanistan

H.E. Mr. Ly Panharith, Deputy Secretary General, Cambodian Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority

Ms. Katharina Dolezalek, Desk Officer for Humanitarian Assistance, Division of Humanitarian Assistance – Operations, German Federal Foreign Office

Ms. Nokutenda Masiyanise, HALO, Zimbabwe

Ms. Hoàng Thị Mai Chi, Mines Advisory Group, Vietnam

Mr. Lionel Pechera, Advisor, Mine Action Standards, GICHD

Ms. Laurie Druelle, Armed Violence Reduction Projects Development Manager, Handicap International - Humanity and Inclusion

- ***Environmental Assessment in Humanitarian Mine Action***

This hands-on workshop will provide mine action stakeholders with guidance on how to build and use environmental assessment tools. It will additionally present examples of such tools from both mine action and the broader humanitarian sector.

Speakers:

Ms. Kendra Dupuy, Senior Advisor Environment, Norwegian People's Aid

Ms. Linsey Cottrell, Environmental Policy Officer, Conflict and Environment Observatory

- ***Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in Mine Action***

This side event seeks to raise awareness on the importance of integrating Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) in Victim Assistance and Mine Action at large. Psychosocial support is one aspect of Victim Assistance which has not received the attention or resources necessary to meet the needs of mine survivors and affected communities. A panel will discuss the importance of MHPSS and ways to strengthen its role in Mine Action during this side event.

Speakers:

Ms. Elke Hottentot, Policy Lead Armed Violence Reduction & Global Victim Assistance Specialist, Handicap International - Humanity and Inclusion

Mr. Firoz Alizada, Implementation Support Officer, Implementation Support Unit

Ms. Sarah Harrison, MHPSS in Emergencies Technical Advisor

Mr. Paul Bekkers, Special Envoy MPHSS, Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs

WEDNESDAY 26 MAY 15:00 - 16:00

- **Cash and Voucher Assistance for Clearance, Land Release and Survivor Assistance**

Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) can be a useful tool enabling HMA agencies and/or their partners to bridge gaps between service availability and service access. The GPC Task Team on Cash for Protection and several members of the Mine Action AoR teamed up in 2020 to research the extent to which CVA was being leveraged in support of MA outcomes and to identify key gaps and opportunities. The side-event presents findings from the research as well as insights from field experiences.

Chair: Mr. Richard MacCormac, Head of Humanitarian Disarmament and Peacebuilding, Danish Refugee Council, and Co-Coordinator, Mine Action Area of Responsibility

Speakers:

Ms. Tenzin Manell, Co-Chair, GPC Task Team on Cash for Protection and Associate Director, Cash and Livelihoods, Women's Refugee Commission

Mr. Bill Marsden Research Consultant, Independent Consultant

Mr. Rune Persson, Programme and Operations Coordinator, Danish Refugee Council

Ms. Keiko Tamura, Head of Programme Development, Quality and Accountability, Hand in Hand Aid for Aid and Development

- **Women Inclusion in Mine Action, Challenges and Change**

This session will discuss changes and impact of women's social and economic empowerment through mine action employment in Iraq. In addition it will highlighting the role, objectives and achievements of the Directorate of Mine Action of Iraq (DMA) Gender Unit in promoting gender mainstreaming across the different levels of mine action activities. The side event will also include sharing the findings on explosive ordnance threat-mitigation capacity of female security officers in northeast Nigeria.

Chair: Ms. Salima Inseel Karam, Head of DMA Gender Unit, Directorate of Mine Action, Iraq

Speakers:

Ms. Kawther Ajwad AlMalaki, Gender Equality Officer, UNMAS Iraq

Mr. Jeffrey McMurdo, Socio-Economic Rapid Impact and Perception Consultant, UNMAS Iraq

Ms. Noor Munther Dawod, EHM Team Leader, Fondation Suisse de déminage (FSD)

Ms Harshi Gunawardana, Programme and Communications Officer, UNMAS Nigeria

Ms. Sawsan Ismail Ibrahim, Directorate of Mine Action, Iraq

Mr. Ahmed Aljasim, Head of Planning and Information Department, Directorate of Mine Action, Iraq

- **State of Play: Linking Mine Action and the SDGs**

Linking mine action and the SDGs is crucial to improve how the sector generates, measures and communicates its impact on sustainable development, as well as to enable new synergies to facilitate work in a sustainable, efficient and effective manner. This side event will discuss the achievements and the progress made by the sector as it streamlines its work with the SDGs. The panelists will share national experiences regarding the role of mine action in SDG-policy making processes at the national level, as well as the adoption of the SDGs by the sector across the full cycle of mine action programmes.

Chair: Amb. Stefano Toscano, Director, GICHD

Speakers:

Mr. Luca Renda, Recovery Solutions and Human Mobility Team Leader, UNDP

Ms. Ángela Hoyos Iborra, Advisor, GICHD

Mr. Mohammad Shafiq Yousufi, Director, Directorate of Mine Action Coordination, Afghanistan

Mr. Slobodan Tadic, Sector Leader Justice and Security, Senior Programme Coordinator, UNDP

Ms. Martha Isabel Hurtado Granada, Coordinadora, Grupo de Acción Integral contra Minas Antipersonal, Colombia

WEDNESDAY 26 MAY 16:30 - 17:30

- ***Demining in Border Areas – Enhancing Cross Border Cooperation & Assistance***

This side event aims to dig deeper into the challenges and opportunities presented by the cross-border demining efforts to minimize conflict-related deaths and disabilities. It will lend the participant DMAC's lens that looks into the aforementioned issue in detail; case studies will be presented to expose the problems faced and assist the participants relate to the extent of the problem. This side event will help uncover key issues currently unknown to the global mine action community and isolate possible solutions that will help in removing the threats of life and limb where delivering demining projects are either not possible or hampered by various challenges.

Chair: Mr. Mohammad Shafiq Yousufi, Director, Directorate of Mine Action Coordination, Afghanistan

Speakers:

Ms. Ruth Bottomley, Consultant and Research Specialist, ICBL-CMC

Mr. 'Muhabbat Ibrahim, Director, Tajikistan Mine Action Centre

Mr. Farhad Arabpour Dahouei, Field Manager Assistance & Partnership, ICRC, Iran

Mr. Francisco Moreno, The Columbian Campaign to Ban Landmines

Mr. Shafi Ullah Ahmadzai, Head of Quality Management, Directorate of Mine Action Coordination, Afghanistan

Mr. Fazel Rahman, Head of Operations, Directorate of Mine Action Coordination, Afghanistan

Mr. Abdul Hamid Ibrahim, Head of EORE, Directorate of Mine Action Coordination, Afghanistan

Ms. Sadaf Ahmadzai, Front Office Assistant, Directorate of Mine Action Coordination, Afghanistan

- ***Managing Uncertainty in an Explosive Hazard Contaminated Environment – The Survey, Prioritisation and Clearance of Recovered Areas in Southern Tripoli and Beyond***

The landscape of southern Tripoli has been littered with explosive hazards. Booby traps, landmines and Improvised Explosive Devices faced the anxious returnees. The threats exhibited a level of sophistication and ingenuity beyond the training and experience of many of the clearance organisations. The LibMAC, as the de facto National Mine Action Authority, undertook the task of coordinating the survey, prioritisation and clearance necessary to facilitate safe and dignified returns. Despite a concerted effort by governmental and non-governmental clearance organisations, there were casualties. Dedicated resources were, and still are, needed to sustain existing operations and to scale up activities to implement the Ceasefire Agreement and capitalize on the opportunities it creates.

Chair: Mr. Lance Malin, Chief, UNMAS Libya

Speakers:

Brig. Mohamed Altorgman, Director, Libyan Mine Action Centre

Ms. Julie E Myers, Senior Programme Officer, UNMAS Libya

Mr. Bob Seddon, Threat Mitigation Advisor, UNMAS Libya

- ***Impact of Explosive Ordnance on Vulnerable People in Syria, Specifically Children***

In Syria, 1 out of 4 victims of landmines and Explosive Ordnance (EO) is a child, and men and boys are considered to be the most exposed to the risk of explosive ordnance. This side event will highlight the impact of landmines and explosive ordnance on children, as well as the people across Syria, and also discuss challenges faced in the implementation of Mine Action activities. We also plan to shed light on the role of volunteers, and our efforts in dissemination of risk education messages in the areas difficult to reach.

Speakers:

Mr. Habibulhaq Javed, Head of office, UNMAS Syria

Ms. Ghada Kachachi, Deputy Representative, UNICEF Syria

Mr. Jonathan Thorpe, Humanitarian Advisor for Syria and Lebanon, Australian Embassy in Beirut, Lebanon

THURSDAY 27 MAY 15:00 - 16:00

- ***Doing it Right, Doing it Better: EORE Voices from the Field***

This side event will spotlight the experiences and innovations of the field practitioners working at the forefront of explosive ordnance risk education, showing how local organisations and communities are persevering in the face of challenges. Developments from the joint UN initiative from Lebanon on EORE for Refugees from Syria in the Context of Return will also be highlighted.

Chair: Brig. Gen. Jihad Al Bechaalany, Director, Lebanon Mine Action Centre

Speakers: Representatives of national and community-based organisations delivering EORE (TBD)

- ***Approaches to Counter the Threat Posed by IEDs – Examples from Yemen and the Sahel Region***

The event will expose the challenges posed by improvised explosive devices in the Sahel region and Yemen. It will demonstrate novel human-rights based capacity development interventions based on the UNIDIR C-IED model and how such interventions could be implemented by other Member States. It will describe how life and livelihood can be saved through a focus on community consultation, IED disposal training and risk education, and how strengthening the evidential process, explosive hazard data collection and mitigating the illicit diversion of explosive precursors and IED components can restore confidence in the Rule of Law.

Chair: Ms. Josephine Dresner, International Policy and Partnerships Director, Mines Advisory Group

Speakers:

Ms. Heike Thiele, Director for Civilian Crisis Prevention and Stabilisation, German Federal Foreign Office

Mr. Alfredo Malaret Baldo, Co-Author Counter-IED Capability Maturity Model, UNDIR

Mr. Gareth Collett, Chief Technical Advisor C-IED, UNDP, Yemen

Mr. Stephen Bryant, Chief Technical Advisor Mine Action, UNDP, Yemen

- ***Long Term Impacts of Explosive Weapons in Populated Areas – Implications for the Mine Action Sector***

The humanitarian consequences of the use of explosive weapons in populated areas (EWIPA) are immense. This event will explore the challenges that urban contamination resulting from the use of EWIPA poses for mine action operations. It will explore how operators are responding to these challenges through innovation, partnership and people-centric approaches. It will also highlight findings from 10 years of data collection on EWIPA. All this against the backdrop of ongoing diplomatic negotiations on a political declaration on EWIPA, led by Ireland.

Chair: Ms. Silvia Cattaneo, Policy Advisor, GICHD

Speakers:

Mr. Iaian Overton, Director, Action on Armed Violence

Mr. Douglas Kilama, RE Technical Coordinator, Humanity and Inclusion, Yemen

Ms. Roxana Bobolicu, International Policy Manager, Mines Advisory Group

Mr. Rasmus Sandvoll Weschke, Advisor Mine Action and Disarmament, Norwegian People's Aid