



UNMAS

UNMAS as the Mine Action Coordinator in Gaza



In the absence of a formally designated authority, UNMAS is currently serving as the Mine Action Coordinator in Gaza, in line with its global mandate to coordinate humanitarian mine action. In this role, UNMAS provides critical support to all humanitarian mine action partners in Gaza through standardization, training, tasking, accreditation, quality assurance, advocacy and operational facilitation to enable partners to enter and operate effectively in Gaza.

This interim responsibility is distinct from, yet complementary to UNMAS' established role as co-chair of the Mine Action Area of Responsibility (MA AoR) across the occupied Palestinian territory, under the Protection Cluster. The MA AoR enables partners to harmonize their humanitarian mine action responses and houses multiple Technical Working Groups co-led by UNMAS and NGOs to tackle key thematic issues. Together, these functions position UNMAS as both a coordinator and an operational enabler, ensuring continuity and effectiveness of mine action in Gaza until a dedicated authority is formally established.

Key Responsibilities of the Mine Action Coordinator:

1. **Tasking and Prioritization**
2. **Operational Support to Partners**
3. **Standardization, Quality Assurance and Capacity Enhancement**
4. **Strategic Advocacy and Fundraising**



4

Technical Standards and Guidelines developed



11

HMA organizations reporting to UNMAS



3

Organizations operating under UNMAS EOD tasking/prioritization

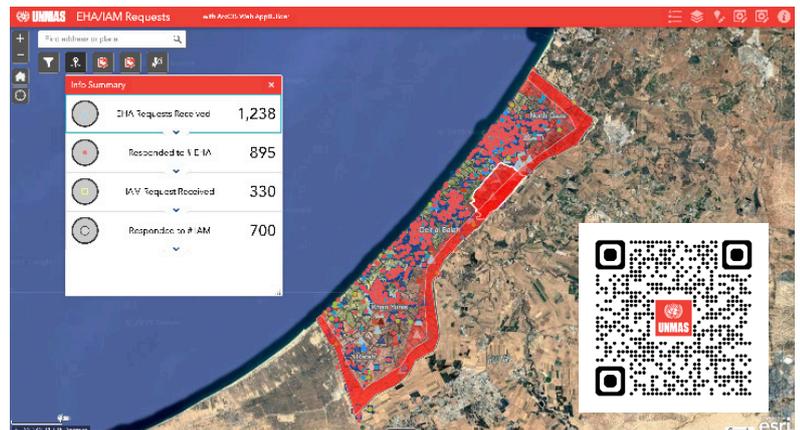


382

Personnel received EORE Training of Trainers

1. Tasking and Prioritization

To streamline explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) operations, on behalf of the sector UNMAS prioritizes humanitarian partners' requests for mine action support according to core humanitarian principles, ensuring that interventions reach those in the most urgent need. Partners submit requests through a centralized online platform and once prioritized, UNMAS assigns tasks to humanitarian mine action partners, enabling resources to be deployed safely, strategically and efficiently across Gaza. Partners then report their activities to UNMAS on a monthly basis, providing a consolidated overview of the collective response and ensuring transparency, accountability, and coordination across the sector.



Scan the QR code to access UNMAS Information Management System, submit requests for humanitarian mine action support, or view the map of the sector's response in Gaza.

2. Operational Support to Partners

Operating in Gaza presents unique security, access and financial constraints that limit partners' ability to operate. To address these challenges, UNMAS has innovated to facilitate safe and feasible entry for partners. For example, during periods of high-intensity kinetic activity, when it was exceptionally difficult for organizations to deploy EOD personnel but the need was critical, UNMAS established an 'in-kind' arrangement, welcoming INGO EOD personnel to the UNMAS team for periods of 1-3 months throughout 2024 and 2025. This enabled INGOs to maintain a presence in Gaza with personnel operating under UN security management systems.

Since October 2025 the humanitarian community has observed a shift to a more enabling environment, allowing some partners to enter Gaza independently. UNMAS continues to provide essential technical, logistical and administrative support such as providing housing and entry support for personnel arriving in Gaza. To further strengthen the sector's reach, UNMAS is also exploring the provision of grants to help partners expand their operational capacity and footprint, further strengthening the sector's reach and sustainability.



3. Standardization, Quality Assurance, and Capacity Enhancement



Maintaining high operational standards is a cornerstone of the UNMAS mission. To this end, UNMAS delivers comprehensive training programmes, including Training of Trainers for Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) and specialized inductions for newly deployed EOD personnel. These efforts are reinforced through ongoing Quality Assurance activities across both EORE and EOD activities.

Beyond training, UNMAS leads the development of sector-wide standards and guidelines, ensuring a unified operational framework for all partners. To date, UNMAS has delivered Training of Trainers to nine organizations and developed Technical Standards and Guidelines for Explosive Hazard Assessments, Marking EO and Hazard Areas, Medical Support, and EOD.

These initiatives strengthen the effectiveness, consistency and sustainability of humanitarian mine action in Gaza, enabling partners to deliver a safer and more impactful response for affected communities.

4. Strategic Advocacy and Funding



**2026 Flash Appeal:
Mine Action Needs**

**\$110 million
for Gaza**

Recognizing that funding, equipment and access are critical bottlenecks for the sector, UNMAS leads advocacy efforts with key stakeholders including relevant authorities and Member State representatives. Through the development of key advocacy documents and appeals, and the organization of workshops and donor fora - including as part of the MA AoR - UNMAS works to secure the entry of essential supplies, facilitate partner access into and around Gaza, expand the humanitarian mine action scope and encourage increased funding to the sector.

In December 2025, the 2026 Flash Appeal was released, highlighting the \$110 million needed for the humanitarian mine action sector to continue delivering in Gaza in the first half of 2026. For more information, read the full [2026 Flash Appeal](#) on OCHA's website.



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