



Highlights

One Integrated Route Assessment and Clearance Team (IRACT), reinforced with one Patrol Support Team (PST), continued implementation of the dry season deployment plan.

UNMAS participates in joint integrated mission patrols, which strengthen coordination, enhance data collection, and support effective and coordinated field-level interventions.

National Community Liaison Officers are actively communicating within their communities, providing safety messages and collecting information on any explosive hazards found.



Safety Induction Training at Diffra COB



EORE in Abyei



Joint Integrated Patrol Team in Teshween

Stats **APRIL 2026**

729 Community members received lifesaving explosive ordnance risk education messages within the Abyei area

199 Newly arrived uniformed and civilian members of UNISFA received safety induction briefing

48 Explosive ordnance risk education sessions conducted in the Abyei area

17,849 Square meters of land cleared and made safe from explosive ordnance

*** HIGHLIGHTS ***

MINE AWARENESS AND ASSISTANCE IN MINE ACTION CELEBRATION AT AMIET MARKET

International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action is officially observed each year on 4 April. The 2026 theme, **"Invest in Peace, Invest in Mine Action"** underscores the urgent need to accelerate mine clearance, strengthen risk education, expand victim assistance, reduce weapons stockpiles, and continue advocating for a mine-free world.

In the Abyei area, this year's commemoration was held on 2 April, bringing community members together to raise awareness about mine action and promote safety. The event was organized by the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) with support from The Development Initiative (TDI) and Pakistani Battalion (PAKBATT) and took place at Amiet Market.

Amiet Market was deliberately selected as the venue due to the recent arrival of many people displaced by the ongoing conflict in Sudan, as well as because it is the location where the most recent explosive ordnance accidents occurred. Amiet Market is also a place where large numbers of people from the North and South of the Abyei area circulate on a daily basis. Hosting the event in such a busy and accessible location allowed the community to engage easily and learn through practical, hands-on activities in a familiar environment.

The day offered a balance of learning and enjoyment. The TDI team organized interactive games, including memory card and puzzle games, designed to help participants recognize dangerous items such as landmines and ERW. Children, adults, and newly arrived community members eagerly took part, learning vital safety messages while having fun.

A key part of the event was the safety briefings, delivered by TDI Team Leaders and Community Liaison Officers (CLOs). These sessions covered essential Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) messages, emphasizing the importance of not touching unfamiliar objects, avoiding suspected hazardous areas, and reporting anything suspicious to the authorities. These simple but critical actions can save lives, particularly for those who are new to the area.

One of the highlights of the day was a live demonstration of Battle Area Clearance (BAC) techniques. Community members had the opportunity to see firsthand how mine action teams safely identify and manage explosive hazards, showcasing the skill, precision, and care involved in this life-saving work.

The event also featured a display of demining equipment, with explanations on how each tool is used and why it is essential for protecting both deminers and the surrounding community.

The celebration was further enriched by the participation of PAKBATT, who supported the event and actively joined the activities. Major Omar Niez, Ammunition Technician Officer, shared his reflections:

"I am glad to be part of these celebrations. It is a good thing what the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) has done, bringing the celebrations to the community so they can better understand mine action operations. This helps build confidence in UNMAS's work and shows that the community is involved. Every activity in mine action is carried out for the benefit of the community. As key stakeholders, we must always remember that anything done without the community is not truly for the community."

At the end of the day, it was clear that the event achieved far more than simply celebrating International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action. It strengthened trust, shared life-saving knowledge, and reassured the community that mine action teams are committed to their safety. In Amiet Market, where many lives have been disrupted by conflict, the celebration served as a powerful reminder that awareness, education, and collective effort can restore hope and provide lasting protection.



Display of various mine action equipment



Various presentations for visitors

**IF YOU SEE AN ITEM OF CONCERN, DO NOT TOUCH IT!
CONTACT UNMAS UNISFA IMMEDIATELY!
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