



## 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.**



Explosive ordnance risk education in Duop



Safety induction training at Dukra COB

## Stats **MAY 2026**

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

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

**51** Explosive ordnance risk education sessions conducted in the Abyei area

**42,903** Square meters of land cleared and made safe from explosive ordnance



## UNMAS TEAMS CONDUCTING INTEGRATED PATROLS WITHIN THE ABYEI AREA

The United Nations Mine Action Services (UNMAS), in conjunction with its implementing partner The Development Initiative (TDI), is implementing a comprehensive range of operational activities across the Abyei area. These activities include, delivery of Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE), Manual Mine Clearance (MMC), Battle Area Clearance (BAC), Weapons and Ammunition Management (WAM), Non-Technical Survey (NTS), Route Assessment Verification and Clearance (RAVC) operations as well as Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) where the focus is on the identification and safe recovery or disposing of Explosive Remnants of War (ERW).

During the month of May 2026, UNMAS teams participated in Integrated Patrols in conjunction with United Nations Police (UNPOL), United Nations Military Observers (UNMO) and UNISFA Force Protection Unit (FPU). Depending on the sector of operation, the patrols were supported by different troop contingents in each of the three sectors of Abyei. UNISFA Integrated Patrols represent a coordinated and multi-component operational approach for the protection of civilians. This structure ensures that both security and humanitarian objectives are addressed simultaneously.

The primary purpose of Integrated Patrols is to conduct multiple activities within a single deployment. During these patrols, UNMAS teams conduct on-site assessments, including NTS, to gather information from the local communities on suspected hazardous areas and the presence of explosive ordnance.

Concurrently, EORE sessions are delivered directly to community members to raise awareness about the risks posed by unexploded and abandoned ordnance, and to promote safe behavior practices. In addition, EOD-qualified personnel from the UNMAS teams conduct spot tasks, identifying, marking and explosive threat disposal. This immediate response capability reduces the risk to civilians and peacekeepers and contributes to restoring safe access to land, infrastructure, and key community resources.

During Integrated Patrols in Sector Centre, Joint Military Observer Team (JMOT) Leader, Captain Gulnara Bermanova (UNMO), regarding the involvement of UNMAS teams in Integrated Patrols stated: "In the past few months, I read reports about how Explosive Ordnance Risk Education was positively impacting children in the Amiet area, where children successfully identified and reported suspicious objects without touching them. I have now personally witnessed several EORE sessions and observed how effective they are in changing unsafe behaviour into safe behaviour. UNMAS work is very vital in saving lives within these affected areas."

### Conclusion

The participation of UNMAS teams in Integrated Patrols across the Abyei area significantly enhanced the effectiveness and safety of patrol operations conducted jointly with UNPOL, UNMO and UNISFA Force Protection Units. Through this integration, UNMAS teams contributed directly to improving civilian safety, increasing community confidence, and supporting freedom of movement for both peacekeepers and local populations.

The Integrated Patrols also strengthened cooperation and coordination between UNMAS and other UNISFA components while improving community engagement and information gathering within affected areas. Feedback received from UNMO and UNPOL personnel demonstrated the operational value and positive impact of including UNMAS teams within Integrated Patrols.

This joint activity has proven to be an effective approach in addressing both security and explosive ordnance threats within the Abyei area, while simultaneously supporting civilian protection, operational mobility, and community awareness. Continued integration of UNMAS teams into patrol activities remains essential to maintaining safe access and reducing explosive ordnance risks within the Abyei area.

Ramos Fitumoray, UNPOL Rumajak Team Leader, stated "These Integrated Patrols have greatly improved with the participation of UNMAS teams. Their efforts in ensuring routes are safe and explosive ordnance threats are addressed allow us to conduct patrols confidently and safely during our activities."

JMOT Deputy Team Leader, Captain Loren Mapako (UNMO) stated: "The first time I deployed to Abyei from my country, I attended the UNMAS Safety Induction Training. The knowledge from that training remains in my mind whenever I conduct patrols, especially knowing that we are travelling on safe routes cleared by UNMAS teams. Previously, our patrols mainly focused on theoretical aspects of civilian protection, but with UNMAS teams participating and conducting practical activities, the Integrated Patrols have become more effective and engaging."



Integrated Patrol in Abyei

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