



Highlights

An Integrated Route Assessment and Clearance Team (IRACT), supported by a Patrol Support Team (PST), continued to implement activities in the Abyei Area during June.

Following the demobilization of the IRACT on 30 June, an Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Team will remain operational from 1 July to 30 September to respond to emergency intervention requirements during the wet-season stand-down period.

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



Safety briefing in Amathabek



Safety induction training at Abyei HQ

Stats **JUNE 2026**

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

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

36 Explosive ordnance risk education sessions conducted in the Abyei area

7,345 Square meters of land cleared and made safe from explosive ordnance

WOMEN IN KADHIAN VILLAGE GAIN LIFESAVING KNOWLEDGE THROUGH EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE RISK EDUCATION

On 03 June 2026, women from Kadhian village participated in a targeted Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) session facilitated by the UNISFA Gender Section, with support from the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) and implementing partner The Development Initiative (TDI). While most of the participants had previously received explosive ordnance risk education (EORE) through earlier community engagement initiatives, this session was specifically tailored to address the unique role of women as mothers, caregivers, and key influencers within their households and communities.

Recognising that men and boys account for the majority of explosive ordnance victims, the session focused on equipping women with practical safety messages that they could share with family members who are most at risk, including husbands, brothers, and sons. Through this approach, the initiative sought to strengthen community level protection by empowering women to act as advocates for safer behaviour and risk reduction.

Led as an initiative of the UNISFA Gender Section, the session provided an inclusive platform for participants to build on their existing knowledge, discuss the specific risks faced by their families, and explore ways to reduce exposure to explosive remnants of war (ERW) in the Abyei Box. Years after conflict, communities in Abyei remain exposed to the hidden dangers from Explosive Remnants of War (ERW). These hazards are often found in familiar environments near homes, water sources, and grazing areas placing civilians at continuous risk when carrying out their day to day activities. Children remain particularly vulnerable to explosive remnants of war (ERW) due to their natural curiosity. Regular reinforcement of safety messages and EORE remains essential to sustaining safe behaviours among affected populations and reducing the risk of injury or loss of life resulting from exposure to explosive remnants of war (ERW).

The EORE session adopted an interactive, participatory approach, combining practical demonstrations with open discussions. Facilitators focused on equipping participants with clear, actionable knowledge to recognize and respond to explosive threats in their communities.

Key components of the session included:

- Identifying common types of explosive hazards.
- Understanding the risks associated with unexploded ordnance.
- Learning safe behavioural practices when encountering suspicious objects.
- Encouraging the sharing of safety messages within families and communities.
- A strong emphasis was placed on the role of women as protectors and educators within their households. Participants were encouraged to pass on this lifesaving information, particularly to children.

Participants were equipped with essential safety principles, including:

- Explosive remnants of war can remain dangerous for many years and must always be treated as a serious threat.
- Never touch, move, disturb, or attempt to investigate suspicious objects.
- Immediately leave the area and prevent others from approaching.
- Report any suspected hazardous item to local authorities, UNMAS, or UNISFA.
- Share risk awareness messages with family members, especially children.
- Community vigilance and timely reporting are critical to preventing accidents.



The session strengthened participants' understanding of explosive risks and improved their confidence in responding to potential hazards. Women actively engaged in discussions, sharing personal experiences and raising concerns about safety in their village. Participants demonstrated increased awareness of how to identify and avoid explosive hazards. Women expressed a strong commitment to disseminate information within their households and neighbourhoods. The session reinforced the importance of local reporting mechanisms and community responsibility in reducing the risk. Importantly, the activity highlighted the central role women play in safeguarding their families and promoting safer behaviours across the community.

Mariah Akhot, one of the attendees, reflected on the experience and her words underscore the shift from awareness to empowerment where knowledge translates into action and community protection.

"I would like to thank the UNMAS team, and the UNISFA Gender Office for bringing this important training to our community. Today, we have learned how to protect ourselves and our children, and I will make sure to share these messages with my family and neighbours. This knowledge will help our community stay safer and save lives in the future."



Gender workshop participants

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