

A person wearing a wide-brimmed hat and a woven basket stands in a cracked, dry field under a cloudy sky. The person is seen from behind, holding a long wooden staff. The ground is parched and cracked, symbolizing environmental degradation.

UN-NDM 26 Mine Action, Climate and the Environment

Thursday 22nd June 2023

Kristin Holme Obrestad

Norwegian People's Aid

**on behalf of the Environmental Issues and
Mine Action Working Group**



Environmental Issues and Mine Action (EIMA) Working Group

Photo: © Sean Sutton / MAG

www.environmentinmineaction.org

Members:

- APOPO
- Campaña Colombiana Contra Minas (CCCM)
- Conflict and Environment Observatory (CEOBS)
- Danish Refugee Council (DRC)
- Geode / Deminetec
- Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining
- HALO Trust
- Humanity and Inclusion (HI)
- ICBL-CMC
- International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)
- John Hopkins University, WSE Energetics Research Group
- Legacies of War
- Mine Action Review
- Mines Advisory Group (MAG)
- Norwegian People's Aid (NPA)
- Swiss Foundation for Mine Action (FSD)
- United Nations Development Department (UNDP)
- US State Department Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement (PM/WRA)
- Zero Waste Laos

Today:



Mine action, climate and the environment:

- The environmental impact from
 - explosive ordnance on the environment
 - land release
 - organisations and their climate + environment footprint
- Climate resilience and post-clearance land use
- Challenges and opportunities

1. Direct impact of explosive ordnance



- Soil degradation
- Release of hazardous chemicals
- Hinder access to land
- Put pressure on natural resources
- Risk from forest fires
- Risk to animals

2. Environmental Impact of Land Release



- Vegetation removal and ground preparation
 - Mechanical systems
 - Worksites and waste
 - Explosive ordnance disposal
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- **Integrating environmental assessments to influence prioritization, planning and activities.**



3. Organisational Impact and Carbon Footprint

- Climate and Environment Charter
- Reducing own climate and environment footprint
 - Humanitarian Carbon Calculator
 - Set targets and monitor
 - Procurement
 - Green energy
 - Waste management



Moving from fossil fuel to renewable energy





**Waste management:
reduce, reuse, recycle**

4. Post-clearance land use and Climate resilience



Photo: MAG

Long-term environmental impact of conflict in Angola, Halo Trust

- Biodiversity hotspots
- Conduct survey of native tree species degradation and peatland loss in the region
- In partnership with US Forest Service and The Nature Conservancy
- Halo Trust's access, local knowledge, logistical networks and community trust are key



Syntropic Farming, APOPO

- Climate-smart solutions and food security
- In partnership with Sustainable Agriculture Tanzania
- Scaling up in more countries



Restoring Mangroves in El Salvador Halo Trust

- Mangroves important for climate resilience, biodiversity and carbon storage
- Working with local partner
- Success rate:
 - survival rates of trees
 - Increased long-term community engagement protecting the mangroves
- Working with local partner



5. Challenges and opportunities

- Low priority(?)
- Awareness and knowledge gap
- Longer-term vision
- Funding for greening operations and post-clearance projects
- IMAS 7.13
- Partnerships
- Innovation



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