UNMAS Afghanistan
Enabling humanitarian and development initiatives unimpeded by explosive ordnance
**UN-EMACCA**

1989
- Establishing the **Mine Action Programme of Afghanistan (MAPA)**

1990
- Inception of the **Directorate of Mine Action Coordination (DMAC)**

2012
- The DMAC began to execute aspects of the MAPA programme management

2018
- The DMAC assumed the in-country mine action coordination role

Aug 2021
- After the Taliban’s takeover, the DMAC functions were significantly affected

Sep 2021
- UNMAS established the **UN-EMACCA**

- Key stakeholders have been **consulted and approved** of the UN-EMACCA establishment
- UN-EMACCA is a **temporary** stand-in for the DMAC and is independent from the de facto Government
- All funds for the UN-EMACCA will be channeled through and controlled and managed by UNMAS and no funds will be used to support the Taliban or the de facto Government
- The former civil servants will remain at the DMAC and continue to perform aspects of their duties
- Discussion on the **division of roles and responsibilities** between the UN-EMACCA and the de facto national authority is ongoing
Innovation

| AMAS DATABASING | • Initiative aimed at **databasing the Afg. MA Standards**
• Ensures alignment between AMAS and IMAS
• Enables stakeholders to easy use of AMAS for their needs |

| 30 YEARS OF MINE ACTION | • Evaluation of the impact of MA over the past three decades
• Several dimensions (safety, social, psychosocial, economic) and at different levels (individual, community, country-wide).
• Nine key recommendations for the future |

| SBCC EORE | • **Mass media EORE** utilizing social and behaviour change communication
• **Large-scale roll-out** using trusted media partners |

| AIM CLEARANCE | • **Training and mentoring of humanitarian NGOs** to enable the large scale clearance of abandoned improvised mines
• **Key focus for the sector** in the years to come
• **More investment**, including in **equipment**, is needed |
Funding Needs

USD $50,000,000 in 2021 to cover:

- Deployment of QRTs
- Village-by-village survey and land release
- EORE through mass media and in-person at IDP settlements and host communities
- CPP training for communities and NNGOs
- IED-specific hostile environment training for humanitarian organizations
- Mine action in-country coordination

Projecting a Need of $100,000,000 For Mine Action In Afghanistan in 2022.
Key Challenges

- Afghanistan has **one of the highest levels** of explosive hazard contamination: new + legacy
- Abandoned improvised mines (AIM) and ERW continue to pose the **biggest threat to civilians**
- People of frequent movements are in **high danger**: IDPs, refugees, returnees, humanitarian workers
- Suspended financial support for DMAC **affected mine action coordination**
- Explosive hazards and/or the perception of the presence of explosive hazards will **negatively impact the delivery of ALL humanitarian projects** in Afghanistan **over the next 18 months**
- Administrative challenges: **visas** and the continued closure of the Tajik border in Khorog
Opportunities

Insecurity no longer impedes humanitarian mine action efforts in most parts of the country and increased Taliban assistance offered in:

- **Identifying areas** and/or providing details on the density and extent of contaminated by explosive ordnance (IM and ERW), which wasn’t possible before.

- **Accessing previously restricted/hard to reach areas** where vulnerable population have remained marginalized in receiving humanitarian services.

- **Releasing high impact areas** contaminated by IM and ERW in recent conflicts (increased community requests endorsed by de facto authorities).
## UNMAS Response

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<th>CLEARANCE</th>
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| • Deploy *quick response teams (QRTs)*
| • Village-by-village non-technical survey and EOD
| • *Land release* in compliance with international conventions |

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<th>RISK EDUCATION</th>
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| • Face-to-Face EORE
| • Mass media EORE
| • Conflict Prevention and Preparedness (CPP)
| • IED-specific hostile environment training |

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<th>VICTIM ASSISTANCE</th>
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| • Victim assistance services
| • High-level advocacy |

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<th>COORDINATION</th>
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| • Propose *financial, technical, and strategic support* for Emergency Coordination
| • Establish the *United Nations Emergency Mine Action Coordination Center for Afghanistan (UN-EMACCA)* |
## UNICEF & EORE

### OVERVIEW
- Target **children** in schools and communities and their **caregivers**
- **EORE training** for teachers and facilitators
- **Distribute speaking and comic books** through community structure programming to all provinces

### CHALLENGES
- New contamination **poses children to daily risks**
- High risk for **IDPs**
- **Lack of funding** for EORE
- The **attitude** of the de facto Government on EORE is **unknown**

### KEY ASKS
- High level **advocacy** to stop using EO
- **Funding** for EORE
- A **nation-level KAP survey** - inclusion of EORE in school curriculum
- UNMAS expertise to support **capacity building**
- Strengthening **sector-wise coordination**
- Strengthening **victim referral system**
- Increasing **access** to specialized services
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