Humanitarian Mine Action in Afghanistan

Global MASG
27 April 2022
Operational Update

Overview

AFG - Projects and Teams Dashboard

Projects
- AOAD Zabul Physical Rehabilitation in Emergency Project-1399 (1 team)
- Balkh German Range Clearance Project 2021 (9 teams)
- DDG DANIDA Demining Project-2021 (6 teams)
- DDG ECHO Demining Project - 2021

Organizations
- AOAD (1 team)
- DRC (35 teams)
- HI (15 teams)

Donors
- ALP PMWRA (12 teams)
- DANIDA (6 teams)
- DOS (18 teams)
- ECHO (53 teams)
- ECHO, Norway (6 teams)
- FCDO (3 teams)

Teams
- 220

Workforce
- 2,557

Team List
- AOAD - VA team - AOAD-VA-01
  - Project: AOAD Zabul Physical Rehabilitation in Emergency Project-1399
  - Donor: WHO (Bilateral)
- DRC - CS team - DDG-CS-1
  - Project: DDG DANIDA Demining Project 2021
  - Donor: DANIDA (Bilateral)
- DRC - CS team - DDG-CS-12
  - Project: DDG Netherlands Funded Demining Project-1400
  - Donor: Netherlands (Bilateral)
- DRC - CS team - DDG-CS-13
  - Project: DDG Netherlands Funded Demining Project-1400
  - Donor: Netherlands (Bilateral)
| Coordination | Solutions – as of 19 April 2022 |

**Optimal Scenario**
Re-activate the national coordination mechanism

- Based on Humanitarian Exceptions or after the DFA is recognized by the international community
- The DMAC is properly funded
- National technical experts return to work
- Daily coordination functions resume for all MAPA projects

**Realistic Scenario**
Key coordination functions resume for humanitarian MA-short to mid-term

- Enables tasking and prioritization, quality and information management
- Ensures impactful mine action response to support overall humanitarian operations in the country
- Coordination by multiple entities and through liaison with DMAC

**Worst-case Scenario**
No coordination mechanism

- Loss of national technical capacity and - to some extent - ownership over the MAPA
- IPs act on individual information and capacity
- Lack of response and/or duplication of efforts
- Declined MA project quality and impact
- Damaged MA reputation
DMAC agreed to the approved division of responsibilities between the DMAC and the temporary coordination body, including the quality management and information management for bilaterally and UN-funded HMA operations.

DMAC agreed for this humanitarian mine action coordination body to be managed by UNMAS, including the compound and personnel.

DMAC will exchange operational information with the new temporary humanitarian mine action coordination body and UNMAS without interference with the humanitarian mine action coordination body’s management.

The coordination mechanism will be re-evaluated after six months to ensure it is fit for purpose and stakeholders will be invited to review its performance as well as the workflow.
Humanitarian mine action projects implemented by MAPA can be implemented based on humanitarian principles.

Full adherence to all the international treaties relating to the prohibition of the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personnel mines, the destruction of cluster munitions and explosive remnants of war, the assistance to victims and the prohibition of certain weapons to which the former Islamic Republic of Afghanistan agreed to.

Coordination is conducted in the most efficient manner in the long term, which includes reducing the overall cost of the DMAC and any other coordination to USD 1,500,000 to 2,000,000 per year by aligning the coordination personnel’s salaries with the MAPA salaries and reducing operational costs wherever possible. (as per DMAC’s letter to donors on 20 January 2022)

Full transparency when it comes to how funds allocated to coordination are spent and will ensure it is used to enable demining and the continued advancement of the MAPA

Work with all stakeholders particularly national counterparts to ensure the safety of MAPA organizations and personnel, as well facilitate unconditional access to all parts of Afghanistan to enable the delivery of humanitarian mine action
| Coordination | Urgent Appeal |

- Following the agreement from DMAC there is an opportunity to operationalize a temporary, independent humanitarian mine action coordination center.
- **UNMAS is requesting an urgent financial support from donors to establish and operate the center until the 31 December 2022**
- Budget to cover personnel, travel and operational expenses of the coordination center - **no funds will be allocated to DMAC or any DFA entities**

**Emergency request: USD 800,000**

**2023: USD 1,500,000**
In 2020, UNMAS Afghanistan developed an ambitious gender action plan which included supporting implementing partners (IPs) to mainstream gender in their activities. Accordingly the programme embedded dedicated equality and diversity (E&D) experts within various national mine action organisations. These individuals were extensively trained by UNMAS experts and initially were provided to the organisations at no cost.

In 2021, UNMAS requested the organisations to begin integrating their own funding for these experts, which resulted in a change of modality in 2022 that allowed cost sharing and required IPs to design their own action plans for equality and diversity mainstreaming. It is expected that by the end of the initiative, the E&D experts will be fully funded by IPs and be part of the core senior management team.

Improvements have been noted both in the enabling environment that the organisations enshrine and the gender & diversity responsive nature of their mine action operations, as a result of this initiative. The E&D experts will continue to improve internal policies and conduct field missions to project sites in 2022.

To provide continual support, UNMAS Afghanistan has a Gender and Equality Expert on a retainer contract to provide regular advice and support.
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