



DIGITAL INNOVATION – mineaction.net updates (May 2021)

1. The **freely available mineaction.net IMAS tool now has 400 users**. It is widely used by the mine action community and recent investments have improved the speed and utility of the tool to address requests and increasing demands
2. A project is underway with **UNMAS/Afghanistan to support the Department of Mine Action Coordination (DMAC) with the databasing of the Afghan national standards, linking them digitally to the IMAS database and providing a ‘smart’ updating arrangement** to support their operations, address OAP#5 and LAP#6 and promote long term national ownership and sustainability. Half the Afghan Mine Action Standards (AMAS) have been databased already and work is on-going. By the time of the MASG meeting the databasing phase of the project will have been completed and DMAC will possess a fully functioning NMAS tool for the Afghan programme. This will be the very first time that a NMAS will have been incorporated into the system. Work on digitally linking of AMAS to NMAS will continue into the summer.

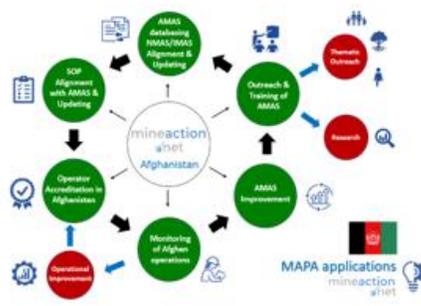
International Mine Action Standards (IMAS)



A screenshot of the IMAS search results page. The page displays a table of search results with columns for 'IMAS #', 'Section', 'Degree of Compliance', and 'Title'. The table contains several rows of data, including details about specific IMAS standards and their compliance status.

IMAS #	Section	Degree of Compliance	Title
10.10	5.6	Not	Special efforts shall be made to ensure gender balance and diversity of profiles within the staff composition.
10.10	11.1	Not	The IMAS responsible for the overall strategy and policy decisions related to mine action is the working for the design and monitoring the implementation of mine action legislation...
10.10	11.2	Not	In the field, necessary police action of the operational level, the IMAS is responsible to perform the following tasks:

Afghanistan Mine Action Standards (AMAS)



A screenshot of the AMAS search results page. The page displays a table of search results with columns for 'AMAS #', 'Section', 'Degree of Compliance', and 'Title'. The table contains several rows of data, including details about specific AMAS standards and their compliance status.

AMAS #	Section	Degree of Compliance	Title
10.10.01	1.1	Not	Working in a minefield requires a high level of concentration and attention to detail. The user must be able to identify and avoid the minefield.
10.10.01	1.2	Not	Working in a minefield requires a high level of concentration and attention to detail. The user must be able to identify and avoid the minefield.
10.10.01	1.3	Not	Working in a minefield requires a high level of concentration and attention to detail. The user must be able to identify and avoid the minefield.

IMAS & NMAS linkages

IMAS entries

10.60	0	Should	Investigation of accidents and incidents is a significant responsibility and should be carried out to the highest standa...
10.60	1	May	This standard does not apply to investigations carried out to satisfy national or police requirements, although the rele...
10.60	41	Should	Real or potential consequential harm shall be categorised as: + fatal, One or more work related deaths, + major injury...
10.60	42	Should	The following accidents and incidents shall be reported to the MMA and investigated in accordance with the requirements...
10.60	43	Should	Organisations should encourage staff to report near misses and be seen to address possible causal factors that enabled t...

NMAS entries

0733	1	Should	These requirements shall be complied with to ensure that the environment is not degraded by mine action work and land is...	NMAS	IMAC	IMAC	IMAC	IMAC
0733	2	Should	Special attention shall be given to national legislation as requirements for protection of the environment are often amb...	NMAS	IMAC	IMAC	IMAC	IMAC
0733	4	Should	NMAA shall define reasonable mitigation measures based on cost-benefit considerations of different methods and end produ...	NMAS	IMAC	IMAC	IMAC	IMAC
0733	4	Should	NMAA, MAC and operators shall take all reasonable measures to ensure that the environment in which mine action operation...	NMAS	IMAC	IMAC	IMAC	IMAC
0733	4	Should	Particular attention shall be given to environmental conditions that are required for subsistence or economic purposes t...	NMAS	IMAC	IMAC	IMAC	IMAC
0733	4	Should	Planning for mine action operations shall identify and assess relevant environmental aspects and determine appropriate a...	NMAS	IMAC	IMAC	IMAC	IMAC
0733	4	Should	Mine action operations shall be conducted in a manner that minimises the adverse impact on the	NMAS	IMAC	IMAC	IMAC	IMAC

Smart updating

New or changed entries in IMAS are 'flagged'

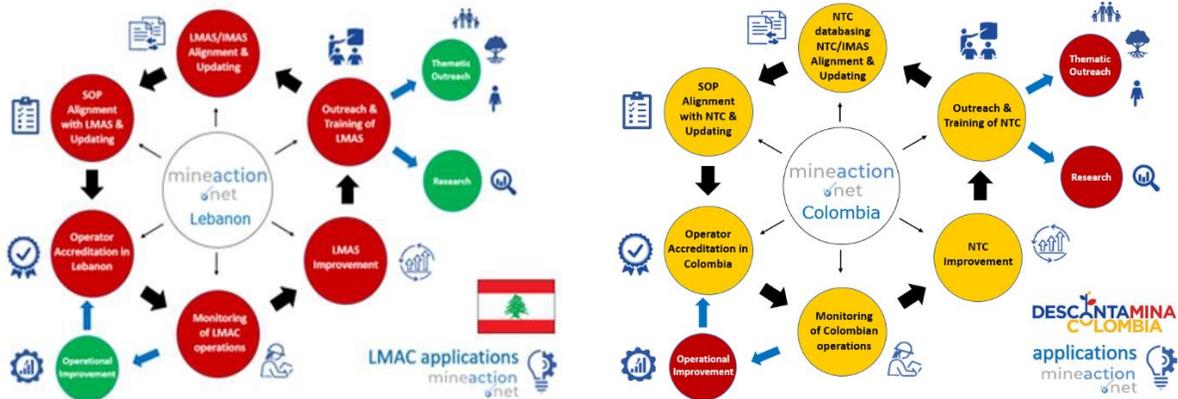
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Affected entries in NMAS change to yellow to show that their status is 'uncertain' and needs review

0733	1	Should	These requirements shall be complied with to ensure that the environment is not degraded by mine action work and land is...	NMAS	IMAC	IMAC	IMAC	IMAC	Yellow
0733	2	Should	Special attention shall be given to national legislation as requirements for protection of the environment are often amb...	NMAS	IMAC	IMAC	IMAC	IMAC	Green
0733	4	Should	NMAA shall define reasonable mitigation measures based on cost-benefit considerations of different methods and end produ...	NMAS	IMAC	IMAC	IMAC	IMAC	Green
0733	4	Should	NMAA, MAC and operators shall take all reasonable measures to ensure that the environment in which mine action operation...	NMAS	IMAC	IMAC	IMAC	IMAC	Yellow
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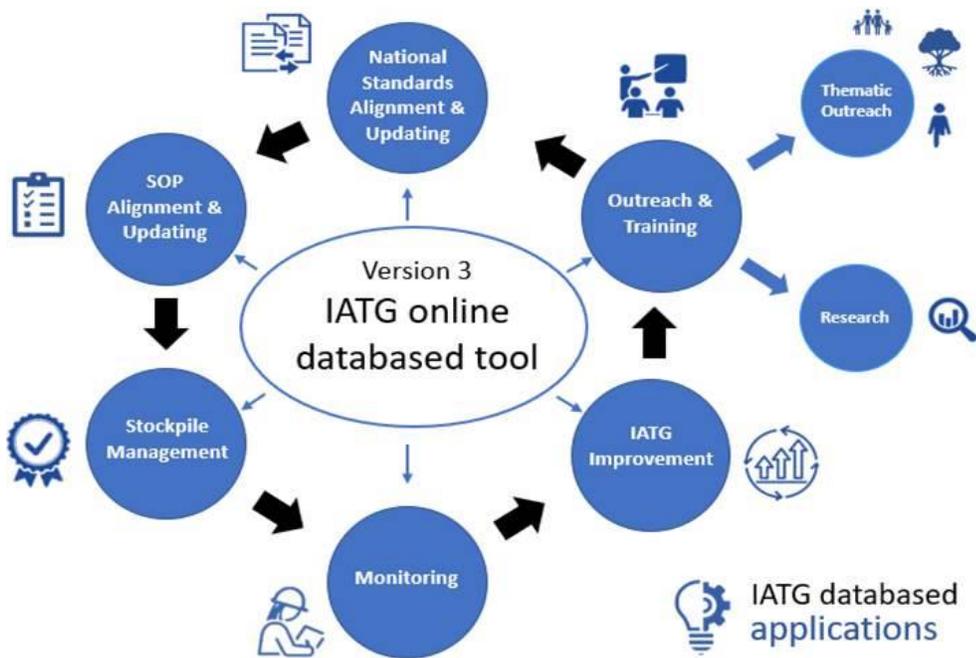
Schematic illustration of NMAS-IMAS linkages and updating

- Several other countries are engaged in discussions concerning proposals to obtain support to implement similar projects. In Q2 2021 at least one additional project concerning the databasing of NMAS is expected to be endorsed.



The benefits of the Afghan project can be duplicated in other affected states if so desired

- In Q4 2020 a successful pilot project funded by NPA for databasing 8 key **International Ammunition Technical Guidelines (IATG)** was completed. This was presented and well received by UNODA and AMAT in Q1 2021 and funds are being sort to database the entire guidelines to support the release of the new version (version 3) of the IATG.



- Conversations with UNIDIR and the UN DDR unit concerning collaboration on the development of Apps for the small arms standards (**MOSAIC**) and the Integrated DDR Standards (**IDDRS**) have been fruitful and are on-going
- mineaction.net in multiple languages.** When incorporated, the database structure would immediately flag specific text in the non-English language versions of IMAS (and NMAS) when changes in the English version occur. This would provide a system to ensure that all the language versions remain current with the usual rolling changes and maintenance to IMAS.

7. In 2020, the mineaction.net tool was promoted in the *Innovation Section* of the Mine Action Review concerning both the ‘Clearing the Mines’ and ‘Clearing the Cluster Munition Remnant’ publications and has been elevated in forums such as the Mine Action Support Group (MASG), NDM and the Intersessional and MSP meetings of the APMBC and CCM.



INNOVATION

Finally, Fenix Insight, a UK-based mine action company, has developed a valuable online repository for IMAS. All of the normative references in the IMAS (“shall”, “should”, and “may”) have been incorporated in a searchable database at <https://mineaction.net>. The IMAS, which were developed collaboratively by experts in the sector, have continued to evolve throughout the 20 years of the APMBC, to capture and promote minimum good practice (including, crucially on Land Release). They serve as an invaluable tool for helping national authorities develop their own national standards and Fenix’s online repository makes the IMAS more accessible than ever, providing a valuable tool for the mine action sector.

- *Clearing the Landmines – Mine Action Review 2020*

INTERNATIONAL MINE ACTION STANDARDS (IMAS)



Fenix Insight, a UK-based mine action company, has developed a valuable online repository for IMAS. All of the normative references in the IMAS (“shall”, “should”, and “may”) have been incorporated in a searchable database at <https://mineaction.net>. The IMAS serve as an invaluable tool for helping national authorities develop their own national mine action standards (NMAS) and standing operating procedures (SOPs) and Fenix’s online repository makes the IMAS more accessible than ever, providing a valuable tool for the mine action sector.

- *Clearing the Cluster Munitions Remnants 2020*

8. **New standards and important cross cutting thematic**s which can be easily filtered for compliance requirements through mineaction.net have been promoted including through the user base

