

BACKGROUND NOTE

Plenary Session IV. Localizing Mine Action-How to Improve.

Date and time:	Tuesday, 26 May 2021, 5:30p.m. – 6:30p.m. (CEST)
Chair:	Maître Sudi Kimputu , Congolese Mine Action Centre (CCLAM), Democratic Republic of the Congo
Speakers:	Ms. Fatuma Ibrahim , Senior Localization Specialist, Child Protection Area of Responsibility Mr. Abraham Makuei , Co-Coordinator, Jonglei State Child Protection Working Group, Community in Need Aid (CINA, NGO), South Sudan Ms. Marie Dahan , Coordinator, Mine Action Area of Responsibility, Yemen Mr. Ameen AlaQili , Director, Yemen Mine Action Programme

Introduction

With a global setting characterized by new conflicts, COVID-19, rising humanitarian needs, funding gaps, access constraints and the continued risk of explosive ordnance, now more than ever, strengthening local capacity and collaborating with local actors in humanitarian response – including mine action - is pivotal to improve access, sustainability and efficiency.

At the World Humanitarian Summit in 2016, a group of donors and humanitarian organizations committed to the localization of humanitarian assistance including by channeling 25% of funding directly to national NGOs to improve outcomes for affected people and reduce transactional costs. This initiative represented a commitment to support national responders on the frontline.

Consistent with this commitment, the Mine Action Area of Responsibility seeks to ensure that its forthcoming strategy recognizes the importance of localization. Through exploring successful initiatives in a number of operations, this plenary will share the potential for replicability and/or building on initiatives for localizing mine action through lessons learned and best practices

Purpose of the Session

The plenary will present the initiatives underway to localize mine action and identify factors and challenges that should be considered to adapt mine action programming and make it *as local as possible and as international as necessary*. The anticipated outcome will be to define concrete recommendations to increase participation and leadership of local NGOs and national authorities in the mine action sector.

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Format for the Plenary: (60 minutes)

Introductory remarks by Chair	05 minutes
Poll on views of HMA sector regarding the state of localization	05 minutes
Short video from SMAWT/SMACO and AFRILAM	05 minutes
Presentation by Ms. Fatuma Ibrahim and Mr. Abraham Makuei	05 minutes
Presentation by Ms. Marie Dahan and Mr. Ameen AlaQili	05 minutes
Discussion and Q & A	30 minutes
Closing remarks by the Chair	05 minutes

Guiding Questions

It has been five years since a group of donors and humanitarian organizations committed themselves to localization. Now is a pertinent time to take stock of the following:

- Where are we with localization in mine action?
- What works?
- What can we do better?
- How can we strengthen the representation and leadership of local actors in mine action coordination mechanisms?