



UN Inter-Agency Coordination Group on Mine Action
(IACG-MA)

The United Nations Mine Action Strategy

2021 Progress Report

M&E Mechanism

May 2022



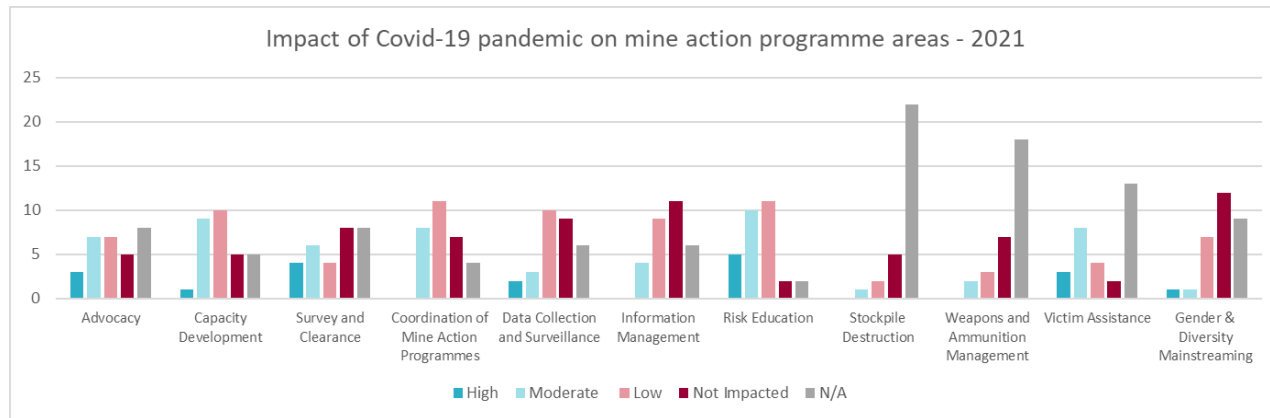
Findings on the progress made towards the Strategic Outcomes of the United Nations Mine Action Strategy

1- Key Findings – Annual Comparison

| | Countries/ Territories | Casualties | UN EORE Beneficiaries | UN Mine Action Funds (\$) |
|------|---------------------------|------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| 2021 | 30 | 12,153 | 2,479,373 | 206,678,105 |
| 2020 | 30 | 8,898 | 2,361,638 | 205,032,759 |
| 2019 | 29 | 15,764 | 3,758,347 | 249,013,674 |
| 2018 | 30 | 13,599 | 4,620,708 | 250,801,811 |

The data are primarily captured through the M&E country-level survey. In 2021, **30 out of 34 countries** with UN mine action operations presence – including UNDP, UNICEF and UNMAS – **completed the survey**. Completion rate is 88%.

2- COVID-19 Pandemic and Mine Action Operations - 2021

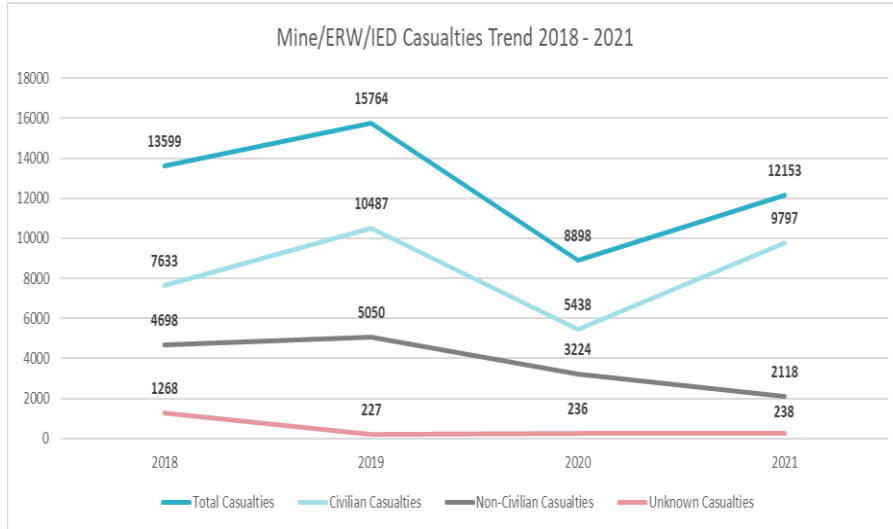


While the COVID-19 pandemic continued to impact UN-Mine Action operations, evidence show **sings of recovery after the end of global lockdowns and the ease of restrictive health measures**. In 2021, most countries reported low to moderate or no impact on mine action activities. Survey and Clearance and Risk Education, are two programme areas that the pandemic is still affecting, but to a lesser extent in 2021.



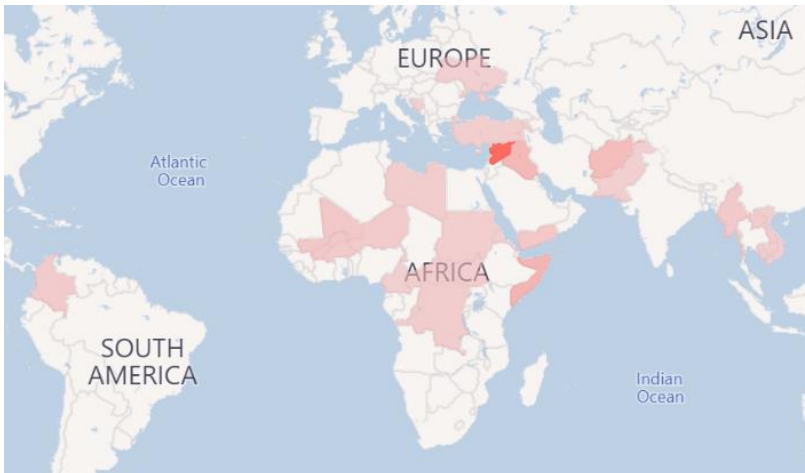
Strategic Outcome 1: Protection of individuals and communities from the risks and socio-economic impacts of explosive ordnance strengthened

1- Assessment of Casualties and Risks



As the world emerged from lockdowns and restrictive health policy measures, the number of explosive ordnance casualties, including civilians, peacekeepers and uniformed personnel in countries and territories with a UN presence, has risen to just **over 12,000**.

The unprecedentedly low figure of almost 9,000 total casualties we reported for 2020 came with a caution; that the drop could be linked to COVID19-related mobility and data collection restrictions, a caveat that sadly proved to be true. Syria in 2021, for example, reported a much higher casualty rate than 2020, but they are still comparable to those of 2019.



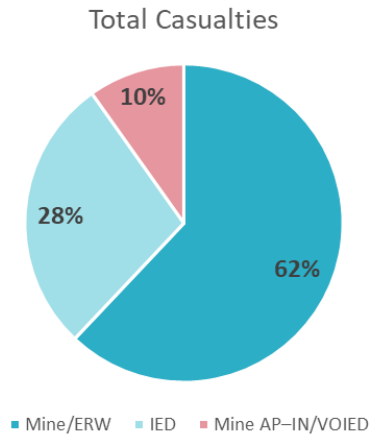
The highest numbers of casualties were recorded in **Syria followed by Somalia, Iraq, Afghanistan, and Yemen**.

It should be noted that Iraq and Afghanistan reported a decrease in number of casualties in 2021, compared to 2020 reaching the lowest casualty rates since 2018, the Strategy baseline.



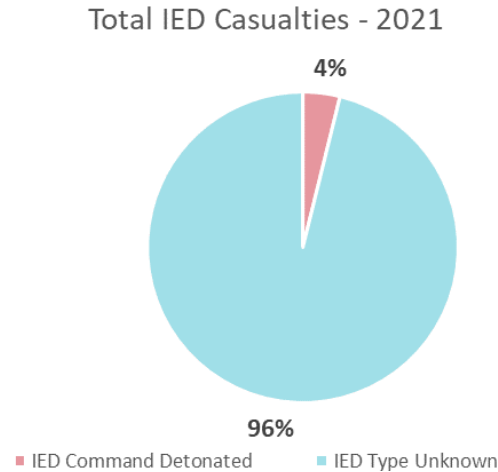
Strategic Outcome 1: Protection of individuals and communities from the risks and socio-economic impacts of explosive ordnance strengthened

1- Assessment of Casualties and Risks – Ctnd



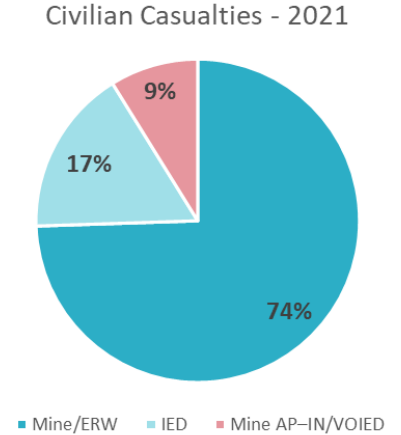
Data show that the percentage of casualties caused by mines and ERW (including mines AP-IN/VOIED) **increased from 54% in 2020 to 72% in 2021.**

IEDs conversely caused less casualties in 2021 with the percentage of IED casualties dropping from 46% to 28%.



96% of IEDs remain of an unknown type.

The high rate of casualties attributed to unknown IEDs types remain a major contributor to aggregate casualty data.



Traditional mines and ERW cause 74% of civilian casualties.

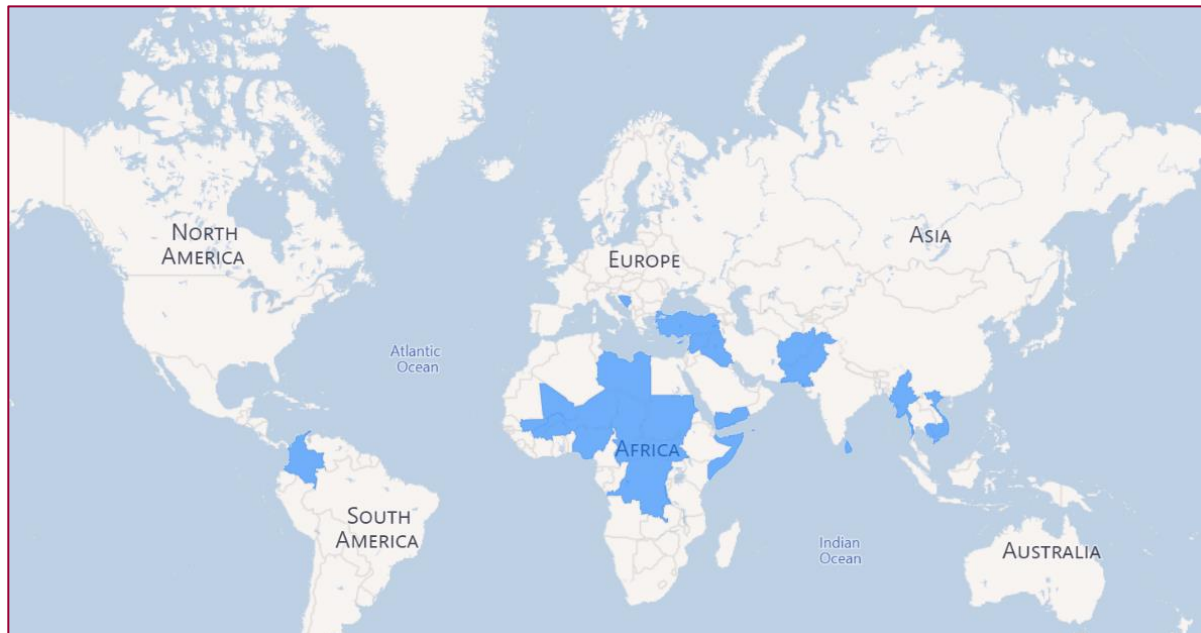
Civilians continue to be the most affected by explosive ordnance, with increased percentage of civilian casualties out of total casualties from **61% to an alarming 81% in 2021.**



Strategic Outcome 1: Protection of individuals and communities from the risks and socio-economic impacts of explosive ordnance strengthened

2- Contamination and Clearance

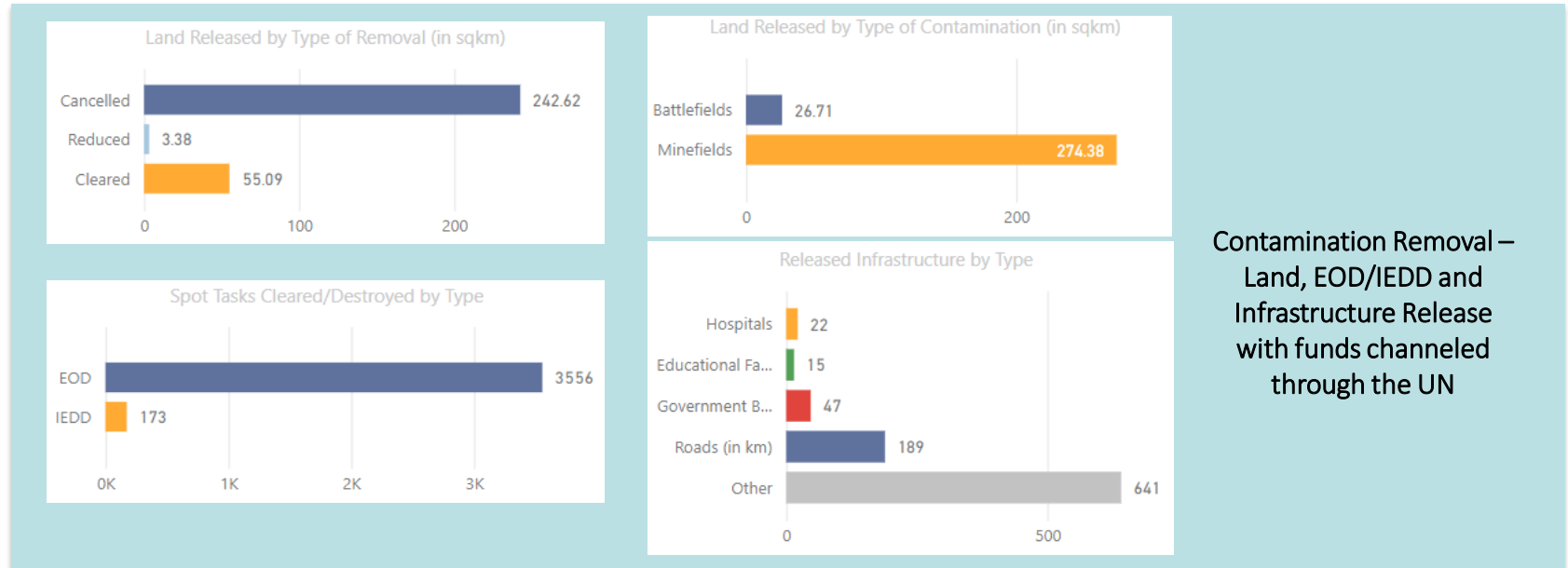
- The UN continued to protect people by clearing contamination and returning safe lands to communities. In 2021, the UN was able to clear and return to the communities over **300 km²** of land (27 km² of former battlefields and 274 km² of minefields), almost **double the area of 2020**.
- Also, in 2021, almost 9,000 km² of battlefields and minefields were designated as suspected hazardous areas (SHA), and almost 1800 km² were designated as confirmed hazardous areas (CHA).





Strategic Outcome 1: Protection of individuals and communities from the risks and socio-economic impacts of explosive ordnance strengthened

2- Contamination and Clearance



Contamination Removal – Land, EOD/IEDD and Infrastructure Release with funds channeled through the UN

- The UN continued to protect people by clearing contamination and returning safe lands to communities. In 2021, the UN was able to clear and return to the communities **300 km² of land** (27 km² of former battlefields and 274 km² of minefields), **almost double the area of 2020**.
- Also, the number of EOD/IEDD spot tasks increased from **3,394 in 2020 to 3,729 in 2021**. Protection of individuals and communities was also enhanced by releasing **725 infrastructures points** such as hospitals, schools, and government buildings, and **189 km** of roads.

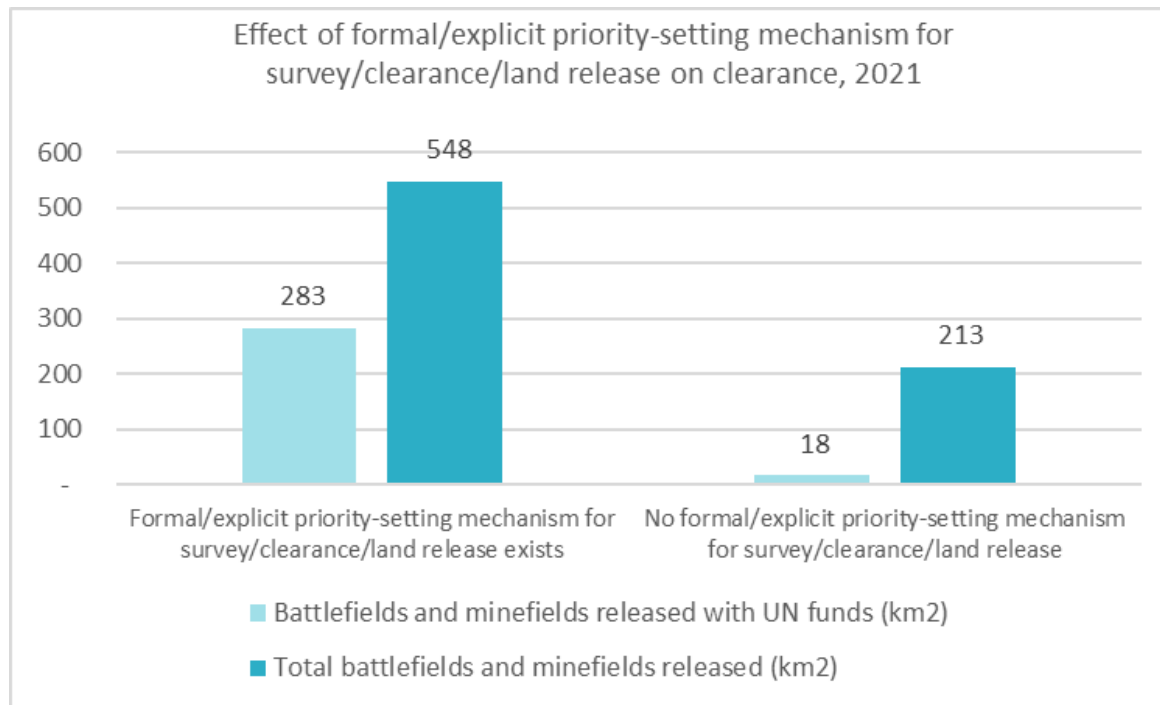


Strategic Outcome 1: Protection of individuals and communities from the risks and socio-economic impacts of explosive ordnance strengthened

2- Contamination and Clearance

At the institutional level, the survey examined the effect of a **formal/explicit priority-setting mechanism for survey/clearance/land release on levels clearance** and noted that the countries that already established such a mechanism were able to clear up to 51% of total battlefields and minefields cleared. On the other hand, countries that did not establish a similar mechanism was able to clear only 8% of the total land cleared in the given countries.

This is a clear evidence of how the **support that the UN is providing** to establish formal survey/clearance/land release priority-setting mechanisms at the national level are resulting in better protection against the threats of explosive ordnance.

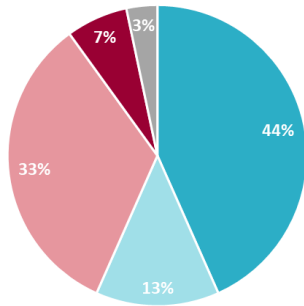




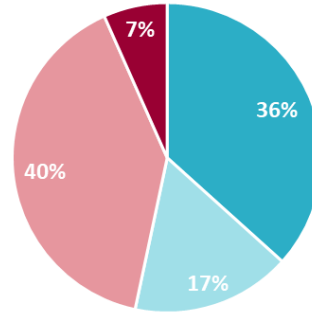
Strategic Outcome 1: Protection of individuals and communities from the risks and socio-economic impacts of explosive ordnance strengthened

4- Risk Education

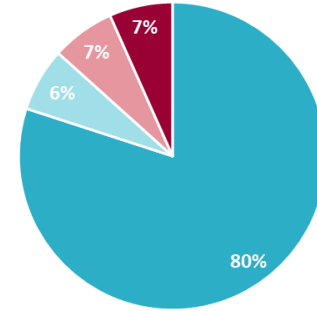
Existence of EORE priority-setting mechanism - 2021



Integration of EORE into school curricula - 2021



EORE Focal Point - 2021



■ Yes ■ In Progress ■ No ■ N/A ■ UA

UN-funded Face-to-face beneficiaries are up from 2.4 million to almost 2.5 million during reporting year.

Key EORE Figures

UN-funded EORE beneficiaries increased from 53% to 58% between 2020 and 2021.

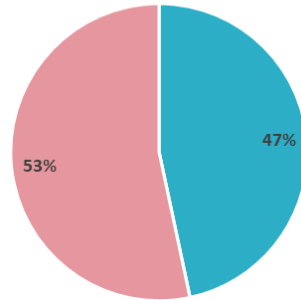
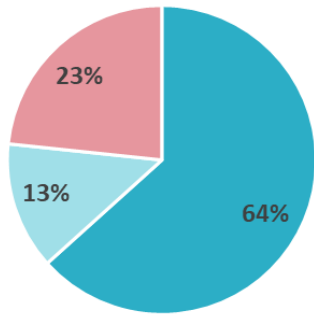
- ✓ The survey continues to observe **strong innovation and creativity in explosive ordnance risk education (EORE)** - such as increased and creative use of social media, television, radio, billboard campaigns or phone apps for EORE. The **data on face-to-face EORE shows a slight recovery** from the hit of COVID-19; almost 2.5 million beneficiaries were reached by UN-funded projects in 2021, compared to almost 2.4 million in 2020.
- ✓ The data also show an overall **positive trends** of recovery and progress with evidence of **improved ability of national institutions** to reduce EO risks through institutionalization of EORE. In 2021, more countries have a national EORE priority-setting mechanism (40% to 44%), more have an EORE focal point (73% to 80%), and more countries integrated EORE in their national school curricula (30% to 36%).

Strategic Outcome 2: Survivors, family members and communities affected by explosive ordnance have equal access to health and education and participate fully in social and economic life



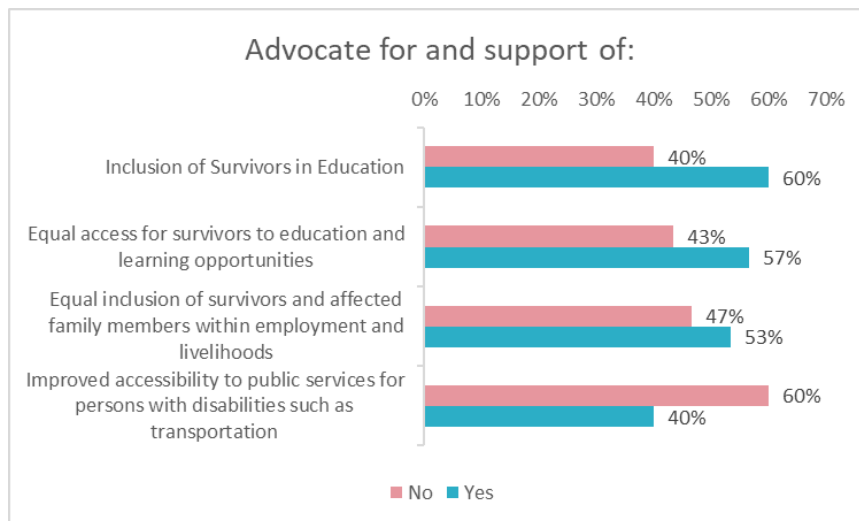
National Disability Policy - 2021

National Representative for Victims/Survivors of EO - 2021



■ Yes ■ In progress ■ No

The data show **positive results of continued improved national commitment to victim assistance**. More countries and territories with a UN mine action presence now have a national disability policy compared to 2020 (60% to 64%). Also, more national authorities in 2021 reported having a national representative for victims of explosive ordnance (40% compared to 47%). 30% of countries reported having national VA standards that are compatible with IMAS, compared with only 20% the year before.



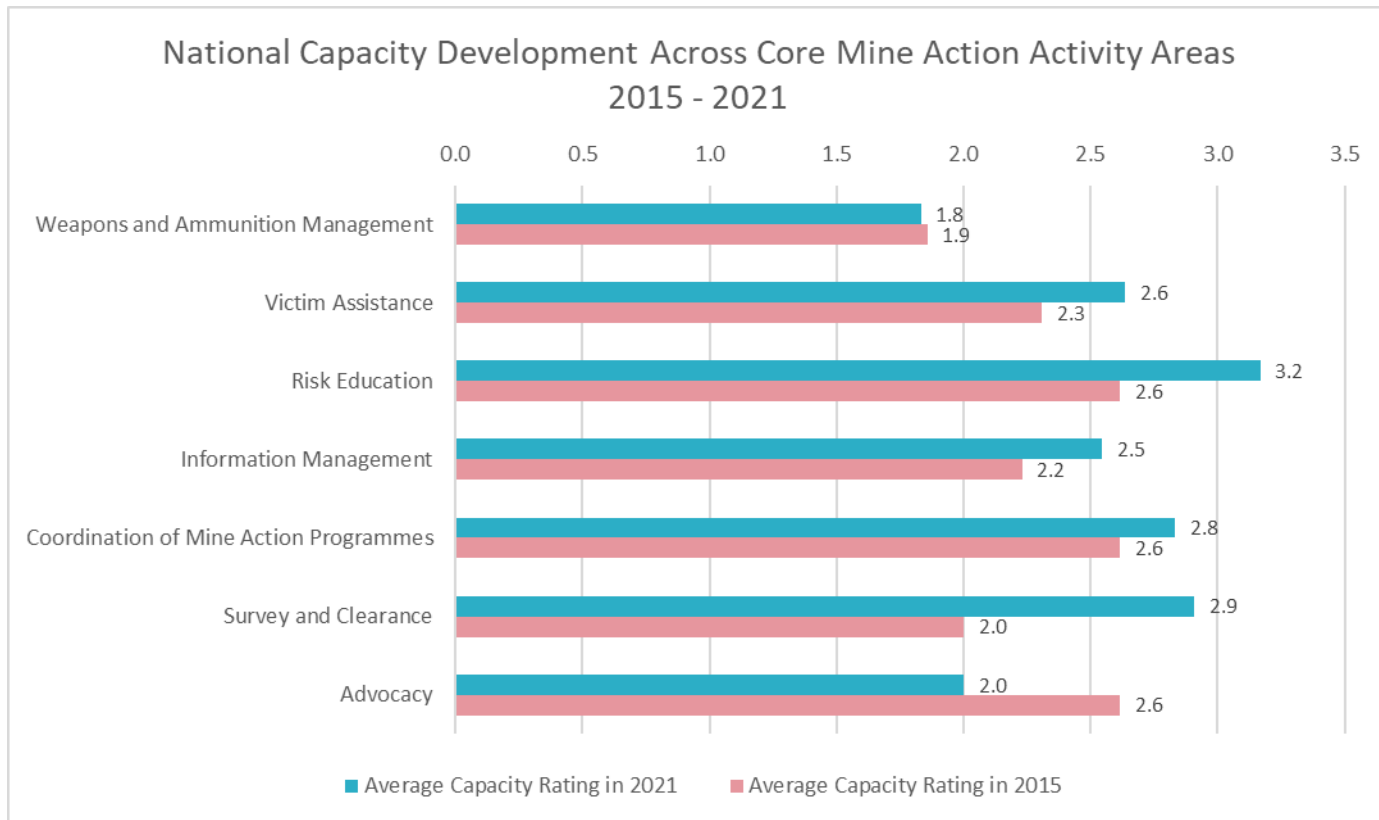
Figures show continued **UN support to victims' participation** in social and economic life with countries/territories consistently reporting advocating for victims' inclusion in education, employment and accessibility to public services. **Further work** needs to take place to facilitate **access of persons with disability** to services intrinsic to their health and wellbeing



Strategic Outcome 3: National institutions effectively lead and manage mine action functions and responsibilities

Key National Capacity Indicators

Investment in national capacity building **continue to deliver returns**. Comparing national capacity figures across mine action core activities shows improved in almost all areas. This trend usually reflect better results with time trends (comparing 2021 to 2015 instead of 2020) since national capacity development requires more time investment to show progress.





Strategic Outcome 3: National institutions effectively lead and manage mine action functions and responsibilities

Key National Capacity Indicators*

Figures show sustained and/or improved signs of enhanced national mine action legislative frameworks, national institutional capacity for mine action management, and national operational capacity.

| Area of Capacity Building | Key Indicator | 2020 | 2021 |
|--|---|------|------|
| National MA Legislative Frameworks | National Mine Action Strategy | 70% | 70% |
| | National Mine Action Law | 50% | 50% |
| | National Mine Action Authority | 77% | 77% |
| National Institutional Capacity for MA Management | National MA priority-setting mechanism (UN-Supported) | 57% | 50% |
| | Data quality assurance system | 80% | 80% |
| | SOPs for MA | 43% | 27% |
| | MA information strategy | 40% | 30% |
| Operational Capacity | National MA Standards (UN-Supported and IMAS Compliant) | 60% | 60% |
| | National accreditation system | 53% | 67% |

* The data needs to be examined with the caveat that only 26 countries reported both years. For the rest, countries either had no mine action operations in 2021, reported 2020 but not 2021, or reported 2021 but not 2020. This variability influences the results of data analysis and may alter the overall trend and conceal both progress and regression. This applies to the overall results of the survey, in 2021 however it particularly affected the indicators of national capacity development. Comparing the same set of countries (26 only) showed more sustained and/or improved results.



Cross-Cutting Strategic Outcome 1: Momentum and profile of mine action efforts, including through mainstreaming in multilateral frameworks for humanitarian assistance, human rights, peacebuilding, stabilization, and sustainable development, maintained and enhanced

1- Key Figures on MA momentum maintenance and enhancement

Ratification/accession/signature of international treaties and conventions in countries with mine action presence.

APMBC: 30%
CCM: 13%
CWW 17% (100% Protocol II, and 60% Protocol V)
CRPD: 47% of countries

47% of UN mine action programmes provided technical support to national authorities/ partners with reporting for relevant treaties on mine action (i.e., APMBC, CCW, CCM and CRPD).

Inclusion of MA in *18 Humanitarian Response Plans (HRPs)* including those of:

Afghanistan, Burkina Faso, CAR, Colombia, DRC, Iraq, Libya, Mali, Myanmar, Niger, Nigeria, Palestine, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Syria, Ukraine, and Yemen.

HRPs responded to *43.4 million people who were deemed in need of mine action assistance (Global Protection Cluster <https://www.globalprotectioncluster.org/2022/02/04/2021-in-review/>)*.

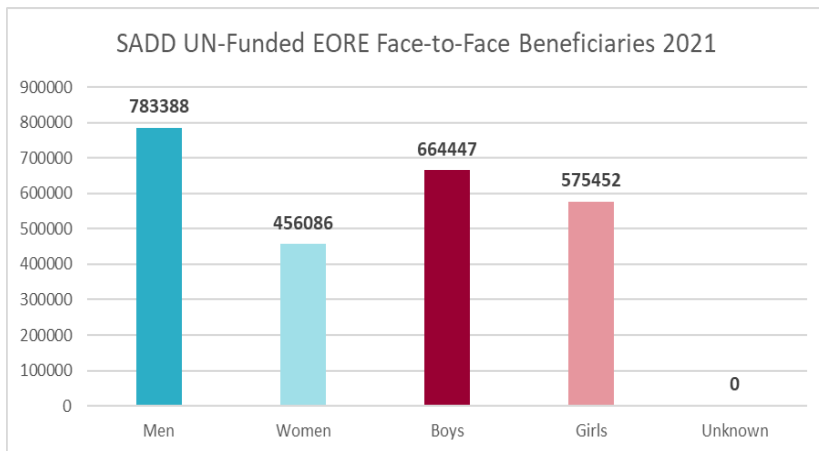
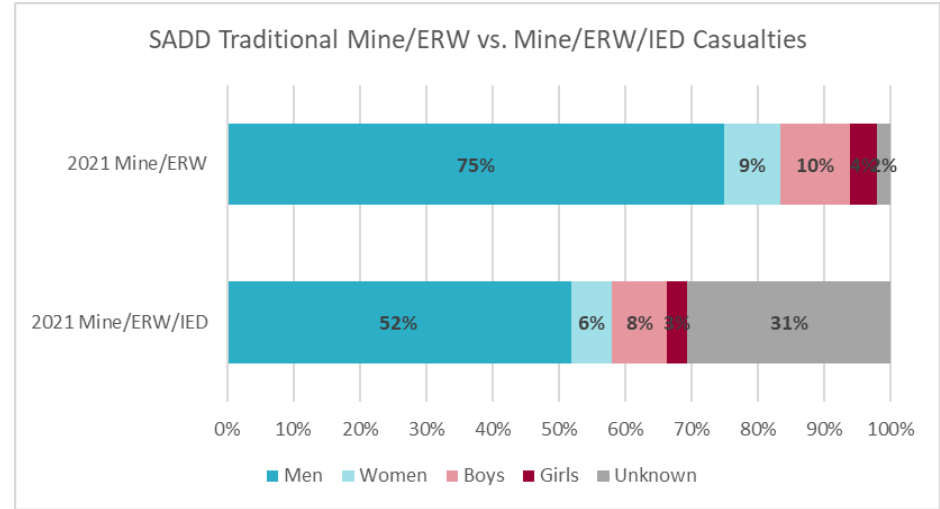
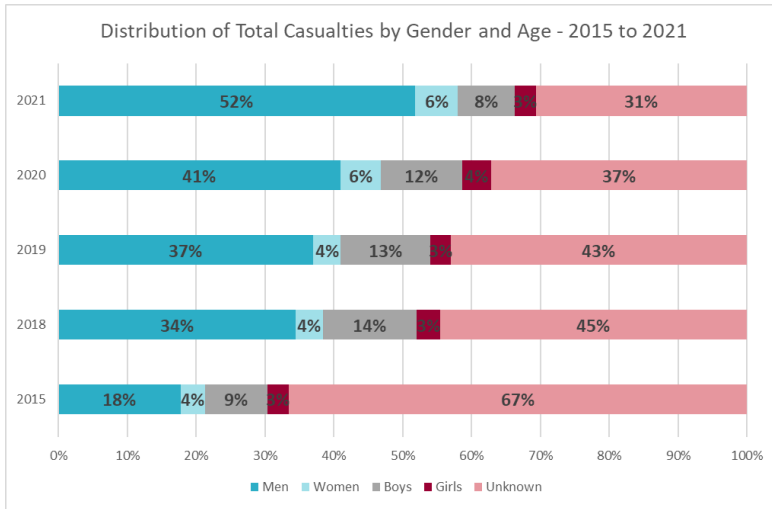
Inclusion of MA in *15 national UN-supported development framework (e.g., UNSDCF)*, including those of:

Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burkina Faso, Colombia, DRC, Iraq, Lao PDR, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan, Syria, Ukraine, and Yemen.



Cross-Cutting Strategic Outcome 2: Mine action programmes address the specific needs of women, girls, men and boys from diverse groups, while facilitating their empowerment and inclusion

1- Sex and Age Data Disaggregation (SADD)



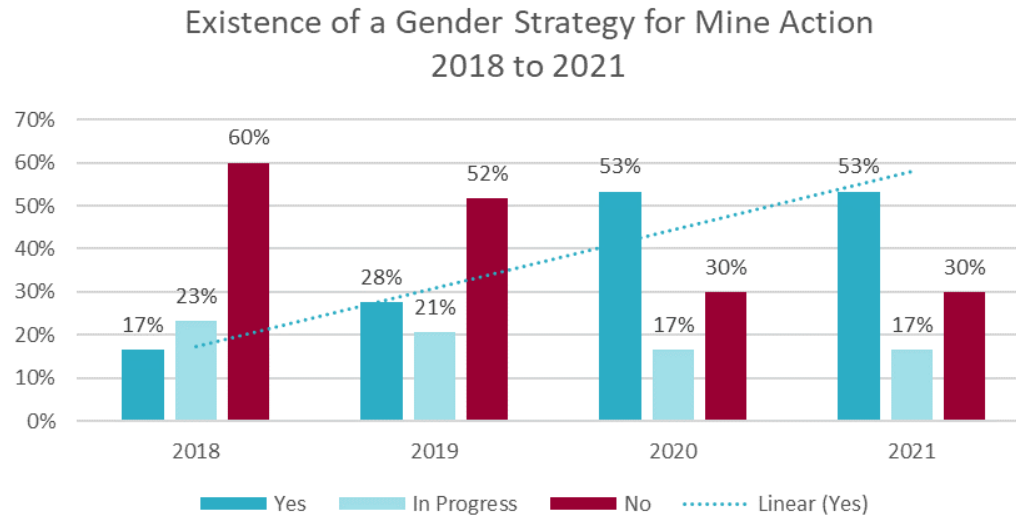
Sex and age data disaggregation (SADD) rates of casualties' data increased from **63% in 2020 to 69% in 2021**. The year saw a drop in the number of casualties caused by IEDs, the reporting on these casualties however largely comes in an aggregate form. The high rate of **unknown IED casualties still affects the overall disaggregation of casualty data**. Excluding unknown IED casualties improves that rate from 69% to 98%

In 2021, all UN-funded EORE beneficiaries' data were reported in a disaggregate manner.



Cross-Cutting Strategic Outcome 2: Mine action programmes address the specific needs of women, girls, men and boys from diverse groups, while facilitating their empowerment and inclusion

2- Gender Mainstreaming



- The survey shows consistency in commitment to mainstreaming gender across mine action at the national level. The same number of countries reported having a gender strategy for mine action in 2021, but more countries with a gender strategy reported establishing a **quality assurance mechanism** to ensure gender-responsive programming and programme cycles (67% in 2021 vs. 53% in 2020).
- Also, more UN programmes support national authorities by providing **technical assistance and training** on how to mainstream gender & diversity aspects in Mine Action with the percentage increasing from 30% in 2020 to 37% in 2021.
- **Gender parity** across all organizational levels saw improvement in 2021, which was reflected in an increased percentage of women staff from 21% in 2020 to 23% in 2021, which reflects commitment of the UN to gradually achieve the needed balance among UN mine action personnel.