



Highlights

An Explosive Ordnance Disposal Response Team (EOD RT) and a Patrol Support Team (PST), implemented activities in the Abyei Area during July.

UNMAS participates in joint integrated mission patrols, which strengthen coordination, enhance data collection, and support effective and coordinated field-level interventions.

National Community Liaison Officers are actively communicating within their communities, providing safety messages and collecting information on any explosive hazards found.



Destruction of confiscated weapons



Safety briefing in Ackeniel

Stats JULY 2026

531 Community members received lifesaving explosive ordnance risk education messages within the Abyei area

230 Newly arrived uniformed and civilian members of UNISFA received safety induction briefing

18 Explosive ordnance risk education sessions conducted in the Abyei area

3,989 Square meters of land cleared and made safe from explosive ordnance

*** HIGHLIGHTS ***

UNMAS DELIVERS EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE INDUCTION TRAINING TO NEWLY DEPLOYED GHANBATT PERSONNEL

As newly deployed peacekeepers begin their mission in Abyei, understanding and mitigating the risks posed by Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) remains a critical component of operational readiness. While sustained mine action efforts have significantly reduced the presence of explosive hazards across the Abyei Area, contamination from past conflict continues to pose a threat to military personnel, civilian personnel and the local communities. Ensuring that peacekeepers can recognize, avoid, and appropriately report explosive hazards is therefore essential to safeguarding personnel, maintaining operational effectiveness, and enabling the successful implementation of the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA) mandate.

To address this risk, the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS), through its implementing partner The Development Initiative (TDI), delivers induction sessions – Landmine/ERW Safety Induction Training for all newly deployed UNISFA personnel, military and civilian as part of the mission orientation programme and humanitarian staff

In July, the UNMAS/TDI team delivered three safety induction sessions to 158 newly deployed Ghanaian Battalion (GHANBATT) personnel. The induction provided peacekeepers with practical, mission critical knowledge on the identification of explosive hazards, recognition of warning indicators, safe behaviour practices, and established reporting procedures. Through interactive discussions and operationally relevant scenarios, participants gained a clear understanding of how to respond safely when encountering suspicious objects during patrols, community engagement activities, and routine movements in the Abyei area.

This training directly supports force protection objectives by reducing the likelihood of explosive ordnance incidents involving UNISFA personnel. By equipping personnel with the knowledge to recognize and avoid hazards before an incident occurs, it contributes to safer movement, informed decision-making, and increased confidence in conducting operations across potentially affected areas.

The impact of the training extends beyond the individual participants. Improved awareness among peacekeepers strengthens overall mission safety, preserves operational capability, and enhances UNISFA's ability to operate effectively while supporting and protecting local communities. By reducing preventable risks, Landmine/ERW Safety Induction Training contributes to uninterrupted mission activities and reinforces the mission's capacity to deliver on its mandate.

This activity demonstrates the continued value of integrating Landmine/ERW Safety Induction Training into troop induction processes. By investing in preventive education at the outset of deployment, UNMAS helps reduce exposure to explosive threats, strengthens force protection measures, and supports mission continuity. The knowledge gained enables peacekeepers to operate more safely in complex environments while contributing to the protection of civilians and the creation of a more secure operating environment.

Reflecting on the training, GHANBATT Platoon Commander, Lieutenant Jawad Abubakar Jajan, said: "This training has given our personnel practical knowledge that they will carry with them throughout their deployment. Understanding how to recognize explosive hazards and respond safely is essential for protecting our troops and enabling us to carry out our responsibilities effectively. The knowledge gained will strengthen our preparedness and help us operate more safely in support of the mission and the communities we serve."



EORE Coordinator during the interview with Captain Issahaku

Commanding Officer at the Agok Company Operating Base (COB), Captain Hardi Mohammed Issahaku, highlighted the effectiveness of the session: "The training is very helpful and insightful to us. The use of practical examples made the whole training comprehensive. The instructors demonstrated very good knowledge of the subject, and this made the lessons more interesting and easier to understand."



Safety induction training delivered to newly deployed GHANBATT personnel

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CONTACT UNMAS UNISFA IMMEDIATELY!
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