



**NEEDS
DRIVEN.
PEOPLE
CENTRED.**

For more information:

Pehr Lodhammar
Senior Programme Manager
UNMAS Iraq
lodhammar@un.org

Paul Heslop
Chief of Programme
UNMAS New York
heslop@un.org

[Website](#) | [YouTube](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Shorthand](#)

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IRAQ

Programme Highlights

Partnering with a Local Radio Station to Broadcast Risk Education Messages



Photo: Noor recording risk education messages to be broadcasted on Radio One FM (© UNMAS)

When Mosul was occupied by Da'esh, radio stations were banned and replaced with broadcasts of propaganda. Since liberation, radio stations have gradually re-established their networks and now provide a platform for communication, entertainment and information. One example is Radio One FM, the first independent radio station in Mosul established only six months after Iraqi forces announced victory.

The radio station hosts a wide variety of talk shows, focusing on the everyday challenges and successes for Iraqis. The collaboration between UNMAS and Radio One began when UNMAS approached Noor, a 15-year-old budding radio presenter, to request guest spots on her weekly show. During the show, Noor interviewed UNMAS Community Liaison Officers, Shahad and Majid on risk education and

highlighted the women's contribution to mine action. Watch the interview [here!](#)

Radio One FM also interviewed UNMAS Risk Education implementing partner, the Iraqi Health and Social Care Organization (IHSCO). The radio station currently delivers messages five times a day to inform and remind the population of the dangers posed by explosive hazards and the behavior to adopt to stay safe. View the video [here!](#)

Clearing the Textile Factory of Mosul to Boost Job Creation

The Textile Factory is a 2,400 m² facility that was one of the main producers of fabrics in Mosul before the Da'esh occupation. About 1,200 persons including 750 women were employed. The factory sustained severe damage during military operations to retake the area from Da'esh and is currently non-operational. The facility was also contaminated with explosive hazards due to its previous use as a manufacturing plant for weapons and ammunition and the military operations to liberate Mosul.

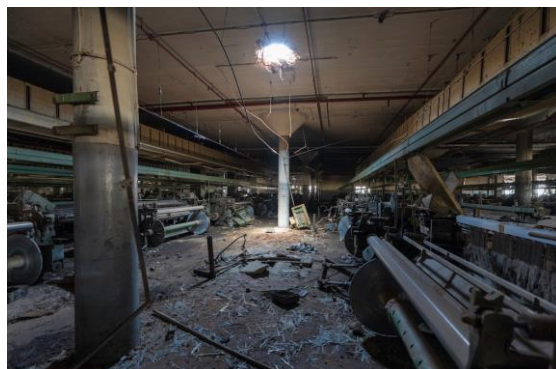


Photo: Entry hole of one of the aerial bombs found in the Textile Factory (© UNMAS)

In May 2018, an UNMAS clearance team conducted additional surveys and discovered two entry holes, assessed to be aerial bombs, that had penetrated deep into the ground and failed to function. UNMAS is currently in the process of planning an appropriate response to remove both buried bombs.

Once cleared by UNMAS and subsequently rehabilitated by UNDP the factory will provide employment opportunities for approximately 2,000 workers. Being a state-owned factory, it will also support potential opportunities for international textile trade.



UNMAS has \$55M in secured and pledged funds in 2018 and **is seeking an additional \$161M** to support survey and clearance, risk education, capacity enhancement of the Government as well as the Recovery and Resilience Programme and Humanitarian Response Plan. UNMAS Iraq mainstreams gender in Mine Action projects.



Thank you to all our donors for their generous support.

Empowering Women in Mine Action: The Role of Community Liaison Officers



Photo: Shahad collecting crucial information in Mosul's Old City (© UNMAS)

Community Liaison Officers play a key role in collecting information: *“At first we were going out to visit infrastructure, asking questions and taking information about people. If we go to a school, we ask if there is an explosive hazard in that place in order to clear it. Then, we ask the number of people who returned in the district where the school is located, the number of students in the school, the number of staff, the number of IDPs students etc. to make an evaluation of how much they can benefit from our clearance.”*

Shahad has been working as a Community Liaison Officer in Mosul for more than a year. Her role in assisting the clearance teams to determine where to go next is instrumental.

“What is added to me as a woman and a Community Liaison Officer is that one day, in the future, I will look at the city and say I was part of this, of a survival journey for this city”. Learn more about Shahad's work and experience [here](#).

Mine Action Achievements



Clearance



Survey



Risk Education

UNMAS and Partner Achievements in August

2,807,497 m² of high priority areas surveyed, 4,680 m² cleared, and 110 explosive hazard items removed.

44 assessments and surveys completed in support of stabilization and humanitarian efforts.

1,368 risk education sessions delivered to 18,537 beneficiaries of which 49% were females and 63% were children.

Overall Mine Action sector since January 2016

365 km² surveyed, 145 km² cleared and 149,933 hazardous items removed.

Risk education sessions delivered to 1,439,870 beneficiaries from at-risk communities.



*Figures for the Mine Action sector are provided by the Directorate for Mine Action (DMA) and the Iraqi Kurdistan Mine Action Agency (IKMAA). Statistics obtained from the Government databases might not fully reflect the up-to-date numbers as reports are submitted on a rolling basis. For these reasons, the figures reported have to be considered as the absolute minimum and only reflect the achievements of humanitarian actors (not the Iraqi Security Forces)



UNMAS

Established in 1997, United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) is the recognized 'coordinator' of mine action within the UN system. UNMAS is an office within the Office of Rule of Law and Security Institutions, within the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO). UNMAS operates under UN legislative mandates of both the General Assembly and the Security Council, or at the request of the UN Secretary-General or his designated official, or an affected country. UN Security Council Resolution 2365 (2017) the first stand-alone text on mine action, *“Expresses grave concern over the threat that landmines, explosive remnants of war and improvised explosive devices pose to civilians, refugees returning to their homes, ...and stresses the need to undertake appropriate measures to mitigate this danger effectively.”*