

ACTIVITIES

UNMAS contributes to the achievement of UNSMIL mandated objectives and those of the UN Country Team through three pillars of activities:



1. Protection of Civilians

ERW contamination is severe in many urban areas, impacting civilians even after violence abates. Additionally, the contamination impacts humanitarian actors working to provide or restore basic services. UNMAS works with partners to mitigate the threat posed by ERW for civilians by liaising with the Libyan authorities to implement Mine Action activities and to facilitate coordination with various stakeholders. In 2019/20 UNMAS is providing NTS, Risk Education and EOD response in various locations across Libya, including in Tawergha, Tripoli and Benghazi, to facilitate humanitarian activities, early recovery, and to prepare for the safe return of displaced people. In addition, UNMAS has conducted workshops and research on Victim Assistance in order to provide strategic guidance for future engagement on the subject.



2. Arms and Ammunition Advisory Role

Unsafe and insecure storage of arms and ammunition, as well as their illicit proliferation, continues to pose a serious challenge to stabilization. As UNSMIL's Arms and Ammunition Advisory Section, UNMAS completed the collection and disposal of approximately 200 tonnes of ERW from ammunition storage areas in Misrata in 2019; and provided technical advice, project management, and construction to prepare a field site in Gharyan for future liquid missile fuel disposal. To help mitigate the threat from improvised explosive devices, UNMAS trained Forensic Police in Device Scene Incident Management. Building on similar previous projects, UNMAS will carry out a series of trainings to empower Libyan women to deliver Small Arms and Light Weapons risk awareness to assist in strengthening community resilience and to help reduce gender-based violence.



3. Capacity enhancement of national mine action actors

UNMAS prioritises capacity enhancement of Libyan mine action actors and supports the Libyan Mine Action Centre (LibMAC) in establishing processes for the accreditation of mine action actors and coordination with Implementing Partners. Since 2015, UNMAS trained over 70 National Safety Authority (NSA) operators and Military Engineers in advanced EOD; 30 officers from eastern Libya in Non-Technical Survey; provided advanced medical first responder training to 72 EOD operators from Benghazi; and trained several operators to address the threat from explosive hazards in Sirte. UNMAS also provided EOD equipment to national actors and assisted the LibMAC in developing the Libyan Mine Action Standards which are now being implemented in Libya.

FUNDING

UNMAS faces a significant funding shortfall for arms and ammunition management activities and humanitarian mine action projects. UNMAS aims to support the implementation of humanitarian mine action interventions, assessments, and capacity enhancement, in close cooperation with local and international implementing partners. Furthermore, UNMAS seeks to re-initiate training and implementation of surveys at ammunition storage area, which were halted due to security conditions.

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Updated August 2019
www.unmas.org

