



MINE ACTION PROGRAMME OF AFGHANISTAN (MAPA) NEWSLETTER: OCTOBER 2012



MACCA AND GICHD WORK TOGETHER TO ENHANCE CAPACITIES OF MINE ACTION FAMILY

Mine Action Coordination Center of Afghanistan (MACCA) jointly with the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) was held an “Evaluating Mine Action” workshop at MDC conference room in Kabul over the period of 20—24 October 2012. This course is also known as Mini – IPDET and is summarized from the main IPDET course which is held at the Carleton University of Ottawa every year since 2001. IPDET stands for

International Programme for Development Evaluation Training. IPDET is a partnership between the Independent Evaluation Group (IEG) of the World Bank and Carleton University in Ottawa.

The subjected workshop was delivered in local languages by a team of three people from MACCA, Mr. Mohammad Shafiq Yusufi Head of Program's Department, Mr. Habib Khan Zazai Capacity Support Project Manager, and Abdul Samy, Area Manager of MACCA



Above: Mohammad Shafiq Head of MACCA program department one of the IPDET workshop trainer during training.

in Kandahar Regional Office for 35 participants from different Mine Action organizations and stakeholders.

Since September 2010 UNMAS has supported three Evaluating Mine Action workshops where the participants were mainly from Afghanistan. The first one, in partnership with IPDET and the Azerbaijan National Mine Action Agency (ANAMA), was held in Baku, Azerbaijan in September 2010. The second one was delivered by two GICHD trainers in Kabul in February 2011 and the third one again by GICHD trainers in Delhi in November 2011. In the Delhi workshop, one of the trainers was from MACCA. In total, 55 national managers and officials from the Mine Action Programme of Afghanistan (MAPA) including 10 people from the Department of Mine Clearance (DMC) were provided training on the results - based monitoring and evaluation approaches. All materials of the “Evaluating Mine Action” workshop have already been translated into Dari by the MACCA Head of Programme Department.

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AFGHAN DELEGATION TAKES PART IN THIRD MEETING OF STATE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON CLUSTER MUNITIONS

A five member delegation from Afghanistan attended the third meeting of state parties on cluster munitions in Oslo in September 2012.

The delegations had four speeches for that meeting, and mainly were focused on four very important points such as victim assistance, clearance and destruction of cluster munitions, national legislation, and cooperation and assistance. They participated in several side events and meetings; they met Ms. Agnes the UNMAS Director and Paul Heslop Chief of Programme, Planning and Management, and with some other key Diplomats from the donor countries.



Above: Afghan Mission during the meeting in Oslo

The Islamic Republic of Afghanistan through decree No 25th ratified the Convention on Cluster Munitions on September 8, 2011, and became the signatory to the convention. Afghanistan signed the convention in Oslo, Norway, on December 2008. The Convention on Cluster Munitions prohibits the use, development, production, acquisition, stockpiling, retention or transfer of cluster munitions. In addition, States possessing or affected by cluster munitions are required to take action to destroy stockpiles, to clear cluster munitions remnants and to provide assistance for victims.

PHYSIOTHERAPY CAN PROVIDE SAFE AND FAST RELIEF

Qambar Ali feels he is different since he started a physiotherapy treatment.

Qambar Ali is working for the government; is a vulnerable person in his community and is a palsy patient. "I have lived in Kabul together with my family. I was always thinking about my life and the difficult situations and weak economy and I was very depressed. In result of all this depression, I got a Cerebrovascular accident and I eventually feel that I cannot walk anymore."

"That was new problem added to my life beside my bad economic situation, I was fully hopeless from my life, but fortunately my hopes for life come again and by the help of physiotherapist by the name of Habiburrahman, I got admission in the Physical Therapy Institute (PTI)." Habibrahman showed him some pictures of people with disabilities that they became healthy by the help of physiotherapy in the Physical therapy Institute (PTI) Qambar Ali said "When I saw all that pictures I gain my lost hopes."

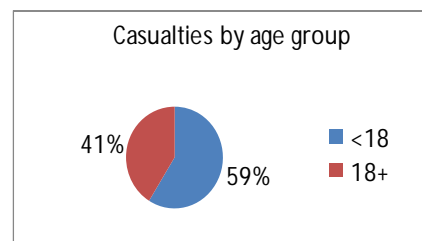
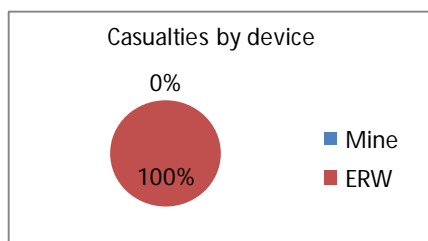
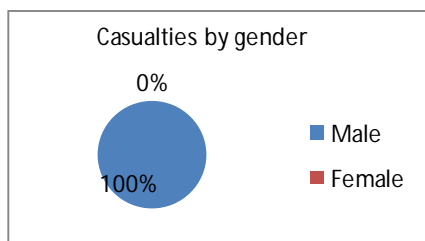


Above: Qambar Ali after his relief

Now he believes that the best way for such patient is just a good physiotherapy. Now he can sit after three weeks treatment and also after six weeks he can use his hand to work, and he is very happy because he got back his job and now he is able to work by himself without the help of others. Even though the process of physiotherapy takes long time, but it is one of the most important treatment for all who have slight palsy. Qambar Ali is now a different man because he begins a new life and he is very thankful from the physiotherapists who were working in the Physical Therapy Institute.

CASUALTIES IN OCTOBER 2012

In **October 2012**, there were 17 casualties due to ERW recorded in Afghanistan (data as of November 2012).



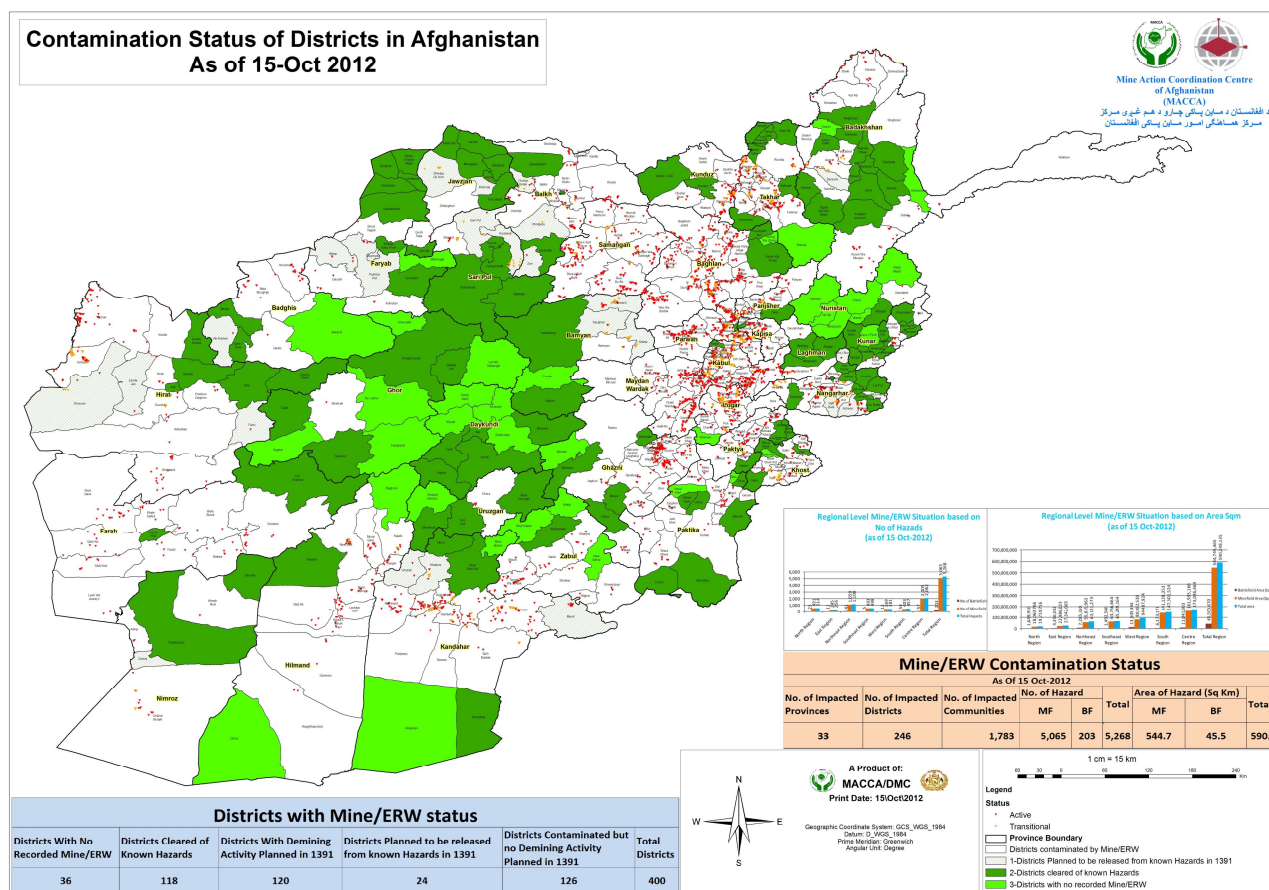
MINE ACTION BENCHMARKS IN AFGHANISTAN

Ottawa Convention:

As part of its obligations under the Ottawa Convention, Afghanistan aimed to clear all emplaced anti-personnel (AP) mines by 2013; destroy all known AP mine stockpiles by 2007; provide mine risk education and assist mine survivors. To note, the Ottawa Convention is about the removal of AP mines, and not of anti-tank (AT) mines or ERW. However it is equally important to ensure that the other hazards are not forgotten whilst the focus is on meeting the Ottawa Convention obligations. In March 2012, the Government of Afghanistan applied for 10-year extension of its deadline to clear all AP mines by 2023. All AP mine stockpiles have already been destroyed.

BENCHMARK TABLE - OCTOBER 2012

	Baseline		New Hazard		Hazard Processed		Progress		Remaining Hazard	
	Hazards	Area	Hazards	Area	Hazards	Area	% of Hazards	% of Area	Hazards	Area
(AP,AT ,ERW mixed)	9,072	720,892,031	23	2,070,419	5,368	436,582,184	59.17	60.56	3,704	284,309,847
AT + ERW	5,005	631,081,859	21	3,714,656	3,655	366,302,171	73.03	58.04	1,350	264,779,688
Total	14,077	1,351,973,890	44	5,785,075	9,023	802,884,355	64.10	59.39	5,054	549,089,535



MINE ACTION ACHIEVEMENTS IN YEAR 1391 SO FAR (October 2012)

- * 18,207 AP mines, 1,586 AT mines, and 496,353 ERW destroyed.
- * 200 communities cleared of mines and ERW.
- * 140,813 women and girls and 156,888 men and boys received MRE throughout the country.

