MAIC Survivor Assistance Projects

Lois Carter Fay  
*Center for International Stabilization and Recovery at JMU (CISR)*

Suzanne Fiederlein  
*Center for International Stabilization and Recovery at JMU (CISR)*

Follow this and additional works at: [https://commons.lib.jmu.edu/cisr-journal](https://commons.lib.jmu.edu/cisr-journal)

Part of the [Defense and Security Studies Commons](https://commons.lib.jmu.edu/cisr-journal), [Emergency and Disaster Management Commons](https://commons.lib.jmu.edu/cisr-journal), [Other Public Affairs, Public Policy and Public Administration Commons](https://commons.lib.jmu.edu/cisr-journal), and the [Peace and Conflict Studies Commons](https://commons.lib.jmu.edu/cisr-journal)

**Recommended Citation**
Available at: [https://commons.lib.jmu.edu/cisr-journal/vol11/iss1/30](https://commons.lib.jmu.edu/cisr-journal/vol11/iss1/30)

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Center for International Stabilization and Recovery at JMU Scholarly Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Journal of Conventional Weapons Destruction by an authorized editor of JMU Scholarly Commons. For more information, please contact dc_admin@jmu.edu.
Photographs which were taken as IKMAA was presented via a number of dogs), cleared minefields in Kurdistan and played, such as explosive ordnance disposal, 2006 at Media Gallery in Erbil, the capital Sulaimaniyah.

Qualified and well-skilled deminers and excavators within the demining process was also given. It highlighted the difficulty of the deminer's job. The organization has handed over 39 cleared minefields (more than one million square meters (0.4 square mile)) to the landowners. There has been significant work toward reducing the impact of ERW in contaminated communities. In 2006 IKMAA held four ceremonies to transfer the 39 cleared minefields. It is worth mentioning that the 39 minefields were cleared by local deminers from mine-afflicted communities. Direct beneficiaries of landmines signed the transfer-of-land documents and accepted the cleared lands during special ceremonies.

The Mine Action Information Center (MAIC) has compiled three summer-school courses on mine/UXO-contaminated villages. The courses aim to: enhance the awareness of children and pupils regarding the danger of mines/UXO, teach children skills such as using a computer, painting, learning music, acting, protecting the environment, administering first aid and understanding children's rights while also using the summer holiday to provide information in the form of special classes, rather than spending time inside dangerous areas around the children's villages.

Conclusion

The Iraqi Kurdistan Mine Action Agency is proud of its accomplishments, clarifying all that it can to make Kurdistan safe from landmines. IKMAA will continue to demine dangerous areas, education people the risks of mines and assist mine victims. Despite many difficulties, IKMAA strives to in the Kurdistan problems of landmines and UXO.

The IKMAA legislation was formally announced and approved by the parliament of the Iraqi Kurdistan Regional Government on 7 May 2007. The legislation's 23 articles are in four sections that cover IKMAA Definitions, Establishment and Objectives, Structure and Responsibilities, Finance and Final Provisions.

MAIC Survivor Assistance Projects

New projects under way at the Mine Action Information Center are described here, including best-practices guidebook on casualty data, survivor-assistance training and a catalog of adaptive technologies.

Published by JMU Scholarly Commons, 2007 1.11 | winter 2007 | journal of mine action | notes from the field | 83

Sample institutional expertise from the Economic Rebuilding: Training Workshop, made courtesy of the Polus Center.

Methods and Approaches

The MAIC staff and JMU's faculty consist of subject-matter experts in survivor assistance, mine action and management; we are also experienced in developing and delivering curricula for a variety of constituencies, including program planners and project implementers, such as those for whom this survivor-assistance training program is designed.

Published by JMU Scholarly Commons, 2007 1.11 | winter 2007 | journal of mine action | notes from the field | 83

Sample institutional expertise from the Economic Rebuilding: Training Workshop, made courtesy of the Polus Center.

Methods and Approaches

The MAIC staff and JMU's faculty consist of subject-matter experts in survivor assistance, mine action and management; we are also experienced in developing and delivering curricula for a variety of constituencies, including program planners and project implementers, such as those for whom this survivor-assistance training program is designed.

Published by JMU Scholarly Commons, 2007 1.11 | winter 2007 | journal of mine action | notes from the field | 83

Sample institutional expertise from the Economic Rebuilding: Training Workshop, made courtesy of the Polus Center.

Methods and Approaches

The MAIC staff and JMU's faculty consist of subject-matter experts in survivor assistance, mine action and management; we are also experienced in developing and delivering curricula for a variety of constituencies, including program planners and project implementers, such as those for whom this survivor-assistance training program is designed.

Published by JMU Scholarly Commons, 2007 1.11 | winter 2007 | journal of mine action | notes from the field | 83

Sample institutional expertise from the Economic Rebuilding: Training Workshop, made courtesy of the Polus Center.

Methods and Approaches

The MAIC staff and JMU's faculty consist of subject-matter experts in survivor assistance, mine action and management; we are also experienced in developing and delivering curricula for a variety of constituencies, including program planners and project implementers, such as those for whom this survivor-assistance training program is designed.

Published by JMU Scholarly Commons, 2007 1.11 | winter 2007 | journal of mine action | notes from the field | 83

Sample institutional expertise from the Economic Rebuilding: Training Workshop, made courtesy of the Polus Center.

Methods and Approaches

The MAIC staff and JMU's faculty consist of subject-matter experts in survivor assistance, mine action and management; we are also experienced in developing and delivering curricula for a variety of constituencies, including program planners and project implementers, such as those for whom this survivor-assistance training program is designed.

Published by JMU Scholarly Commons, 2007 1.11 | winter 2007 | journal of mine action | notes from the field | 83

Sample institutional expertise from the Economic Rebuilding: Training Workshop, made courtesy of the Polus Center.

Methods and Approaches

The MAIC staff and JMU's faculty consist of subject-matter experts in survivor assistance, mine action and management; we are also experienced in developing and delivering curricula for a variety of constituencies, including program planners and project implementers, such as those for whom this survivor-assistance training program is designed.
Adaptive Technology Catalog

The project goals for the Adaptive Technology Catalog are to assist communities and nations recovering from conflicts in providing economical solutions for individuals who have become disabled by landmines and other explosive remnants of war. We will do this by finding and compiling into a catalog a variety of tools to help survivors get back to work and gain independence.

The Catalog was researched with the help of the Canadian firm, Project Assistance, and will be published in September 2007. It will incorporate low-cost, low-technology products that can either be used directly off-the-shelf or can be easily modified by local vendors. It focuses primarily on the agricultural and mechanical sectors, and is designed to help landmine/RW survivors become gainfully employed using simple, inexpensive technology. There are also several products related to kitchen work, computers, personal hygiene or grooming and transportation. Most of the tools are under US$500; a few are about $1,500. With about 800 tools listed, organized by tool function—auto, agriculture, construction, kitchen, mobility, recreation, etc.—there are ideas for overcoming many disabilities. Two of the supplying company owners are active and accomplished upper-extremity amputees themselves.

It is expected that the Adaptive Technology Catalog will be an excellent resource for survivor-assistance personnel, governments and organizations planning rehabilitation projects, donors and physical trauma survivors.

There are many benefits to a catalog of this type, including that it:

• Allows people to get back to work
• Gives donors something specific to fund
• Creates survivor independence

The Mine Action Information Center staff enjoy providing useful, needed products to the mine-action community as well as partnering with like-minded organizations to develop and deliver the projects. For more information about any of these projects, please contact Dr. Suzanne Fiederlein at sfiedersl@jmu.edu or Lois Carter Fay at editormaic@gmail.com.

The Adaptive Technology Catalog project was inspired by Purdue University’s Breaking Ground Resource Center Agricultural Project, which was developed to help farm accident victims from the United States. For more information about this resource, visit: http://snipurl.com/7Hk1Qa

International Symposium Draws 170 Participants

Numerous key figures in mine action recently gathered in Croatia to attend the international symposium, “Humanitarian Demining 2007—Mechanical Demining.” The symposium featured several presentations on demining, including a live field demonstration, discussed in detail here.

The symposium, “Humanitarian Demining 2007—Mechanical Demining,” held in Sibenik, Republic of Croatia, at the end of April 2007, had something for everyone. There were 170 people from 35 countries registered for the week-long conference, and each presentation drew a minimum of 100 participants. The donor, manufacturing, governmental, research and development, testing and evaluation, and user communities were represented at the symposium.

Topics covered used of demining machines in area reduction, cost-effectiveness of using demining machines, risk management, machine methods and use in combination with other demining methods, along with a few miscellaneous subjects. Everything was presented in Croatian and English using live translators and state-of-the-art audio headsets in the Congress Center of the Solaris Holiday Resort. An exhibit hall housed posters and trade booths for various demining machines and the respective manufacturers.

The conference was hosted by the Croatian Mine Action Center and the Center for Testing, Development and Training (HCR-CTRO), with assistance provided by the United Nations Mine Action Service and the Programme Planning Committee. It was the fourth symposium in a series of meetings hosted by Croatia.

This machine and quality-control demonstration took place offsite in a very dry, hard, light-vegetation, dirt terrain that had been specifically readied for the demonstration with demolition materials prepared for remote activation placed to varying depths and three fiberboard boards buried to a depth of at least 20 centimeters (7.87 inches) in each 50-meter (55-yard) lane. The temperature that day was 25°C (77°F).

Seven of the machines demonstrated were remote-controlled; three were manned. The demining machines tested were divided into categories as follows:

• Heavy Machines:
  • MineWolf (tiller, manned)
  • Medium Machines:
    • DOK-INK MV-30 (tiller)
    • Bozera-5 (tiller)
    • RM-KA 62 (tiller)
    • Samson 360 (tiller, manned)
    • Mini MineWolf (tiller)
    • MV-FY 50/80 (tiller, manned)
• Light Machines:
  • MV-4 (tiller)
  • MV-10 (tiller)

Testing proceeded one machine at a time, with each traveling down and back in its 50-meter (55-yard) lane, clearing two rows. The machines’ performances were timed, and when all completed the demonstration, the fiberboards used for testing were dug up and measured. The clearance-depth goal for each machine was 20 centimeters (7.9 inches).

The Results

Preliminary results were presented at the conference; see Table 1 for average ground-penetration depth of the equipment demonstrated. CROMAC plans to publish the final results in its Book of Papers during the summer 2007, which will be sent to participants and posted simultaneously on its Web site, www.ctro.hr.