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Humanitarian Demining as a Precursor to Economic Development

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Conclusion

Many of the key issues of mine action are amenable
and are of particular importance in the light of this paper.
ines, the key issues are:
ferences and Endnotes,” page 105

References

2. Humanitarian Demining as a Precursor to Economic Development
3. Dan Marsh is a senior lecturer in economics at the University of Waikato in New Zealand. He has 20 years’ experience working on mine action projects in Africa, Asia, the Middle East and Australia.
4. See “References and Endnotes,” page 105

Further uptake of CEMOD may be achieved if appro
C. Although the project has so far been positive, and some managers have reported on the first version, there is still scope for improvement.

The humanitarians associated with CEMOD have been able to provide additional information to managers, but the model has not yet been able to provide comprehensive cost-effectiveness analysis. There may also be areas where managers will require input from a trained economist (e.g., in some complex cost-allocation decisions).

There is also scope to further develop the model based on feedback from the first version. This article has demonstrated the importance of econo-

mic analysis if scarce funds are to be used efficiently to assist the development of mine-affected areas. The key questions to be addressed are:

• Should mine-affected areas be cleared?
• What is the appropriate standard of clearance?
• Which areas should be cleared first?

Benjamin O. Gidado

Getz and Bege, and Gibson and Barns, et al.

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Sugar production is a mere 12 percent of its pre-war estimate that, in spite of the province’s increasing growth, it lags far behind pre-civil war levels. Experts since, but despite government efforts to bolster production, Tete’s mining industry has been burgeoning. On the rail lines, or in services supporting the miners. The heart out of the Mozambican economy. Malawi. During the war, the railway was mined and rendered useless, severely curtailing trade with Malawi and the transportation of goods to and from Mozambique’s northern provinces. The railway was little more than a sugar production line from Inhamitanga to Mametome, which brought new investors to area sugar factories. The QRDF also recently completed clearance of the Rosanos Garcia Railroad, which links Maputo to the South African border, and that line is now in service again. Experts agree that Mozambique has only scratched the surface of the rebuilt rail system’s potential economic benefits—the World Bank recently released $110 million in funding for the railroad’s rehabilitation—now employs more than 400 Mozambicans. As one consultant working on developing the Zambezia valley put it, “The railroad has the potential to reinvigorate the heart of central Africa.”

Revitalizing Agricultural Production in Eritrea

In 2001, RONCO began training 50 manual deminers and 10 MDDs to conduct landmine clearance in Eritrea. A main goal of the program was to restore agricultural production in the region by clearing rural villages and the surrounding farmland. RONCO’s newly trained deminers first deployed to the village of Tisha. The 12 MDDs. In July and August 2005 alone, they cleared over 1 million square meters (247 acres) of ground to confirm the area as mine safe. As in Tisha, locals began utilizing the cleared land. It was highly fertile and had the potential to sustain a number of the surrounding villages. RONCO deminers worked for six weeks and verified almost a half-million square meters (about 124 acres) of ground to confirm the area as mine safe. As in Tisha, locals began utilizing the land. The village, now serving the needs of thousands of families living in the surrounding villages, boasts agricultural production in the region significantly.

Conclusion

RONCO’s operations in Mozambique, Eritrea, and Iraq attest to the crucial role humanitarian demining can play in securing natural resources, revitalizing a nation’s economy, and legitimizing a fledgling government. And in all three countries, RONCO is establishing the capacity for the country to further develop demining operations on its own. In both Mozambique and Eritrea, RONCO continues to train deminers to operate independently. In Iraq, RONCO has trained over 500 Iraqi deminers and organized them into national demining and clearance units. The Department of State’s support for the development of a local cadre of deminers and a Mine Action Support contract has resulted in assistance to national mine action centers in at least 12 countries during the past six years. The planning, organizing and management skills provided to the MAG’s help to integrate the role of demining and clearance into national economic planning. The true end and benefit of humanitarian demining and UXO Clearance, therefore, may go far beyond preventing injuries and death. Clearance has the potential to reverse economic decline, the depletion of natural resources, and the displacement of people. Businesses, the economy, and communities can thrive again. See “References and Endnotes,” page 106

It also played a significant role in getting the development process started again, and the success of the principle of non-proliferation to the spread of nuclear weapons.

Unexploded ordnance can be a significant obstacle to the economic restoration and development of Iraq. RONCO trained and is currently advising hundreds of deminers in the Iraq Mine Action Authority and National Mine Action Center. Both of these organizations, along with two regional mine action centers and the Iraq Mine/UXO Clearance Organization represent the future of nationwide Iraqi demining and UXO clearance. RONCO has also trained over 350 bomb disposal personnel for the Multinational Security Transition Command-Iraq. All of these or organizations are currently contributing to the restoration of infrastructure and economic activity in Iraq for years to come.
The Road to Mine Action and Development: The Life-Cycle Perspective of Mine Action, Paterson and Filipino

Endnotes

1. This phrase is from The World Bank, which has been in the forefront of planning, managing and financing post-conflict reconstruction since the wars arising from the break-up of Yugoslavia. The central role played by the Bank may be an important source of financing for demining.

2. Regicide trials will receive a strong similarity to Figure 1 in this article from Issue 9.1 (Chip Brown). “The Mining Link in Strategic Planning: ALAB and the Endstate Strategy Concept for National Mine Action Planning,” which was developed independently in 1998 by Chip Brown to illustrate the “Endstate Strategy” approach to developing a national mine action strategy for Cambodia. GICHD personnel developed the life-cycle perspective to illustrate not only that the size of a programme would eventually diminish, but also that the principal purposes and partnerships for a mine action programme will evolve in a manner that can be understood and planned for.

3. Raw data does not help decision-makers unless it is “analyzed” into information. Information is the right data presented in the right format at the right time to the right people.

Mine Action and the Millennium Development Goals, Van Der Linden

Endnotes

1. United Nations Millennium Development Goals. [from page 60]

2. The Road to Mine Action and Development: The Life-Cycle Perspective of Mine Action, Paterson and Filipino

Environmental Applications in Demining, McLean

Endnotes


4. Editor’s Note: Some countries and mine action organisations are urging the use of the term “mine-free”, while others are promoting the term “mine safe” or “impact free.” “Mine free” connotes a condition where all landmines have been cleared, whereas the terms “mine safe” and “impact free” refer to the condition in which landmines no longer pose a credible threat to a community or country.


6. From Interventions to Integration: Mine Risk Education and Community Liaison, Durham


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