How Students and Educators Can Get Involved in Mine Action

Center for International Stabilization and Recovery
CISR

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Abandoned landmines and explosive remnants of war have left humankind with a deadly legacy. This post-conflict debris affects at least 60 countries, and kills or injures thousands every year. Persistent landmines keep people from leading normal, productive lives. The threat is not gone, but it is diminishing. Landmine action is not just about removing mines and unexploded ordnance (UXO) such as bombs, grenades, etc. Mine action is not just about removing mines and destroying UXO. It is also about people and societies and how landmines affect them. The goal of mine action is to deal with victims' needs and reduce the risk posed by landmines.

People to People International’s Global Landmine Initiative is one of the largest programs of its kind. As there are many challenges facing landmine action, one of the greatest ways to make a difference on this issue is to educate young people. Help them start programs in local schools, churches or neighborhoods. Students can learn about the issue, geography, and the human toll of landmines and UXO while raising funds for this cause.

Matching Grant: CPI currently has a matching grant from the U.S. Department of State to raise civil society support for mine action. It is encouraging people to give what they can, and it is important that all funds that are raised can be matched to assist landmine and UXO victims.

For more information, contact info@cpio.org.

The Roots of Peace Penny Campaign inspires students to raise awareness and funds for mine action. Students collect pennies to change minefields into safe schools and playgrounds for kids in countries where landmines are a threat. The Roots of Peace Penny Campaign is a program of the United Nations. Students have donated over $1.7 billion to the cause of mine action since its inception in 1990. Students can request materials and make a difference by organizing a Penny War in their school and/or community or through a Penny War online. The program is free to use and has been effective in raising awareness and funds for mine action in many countries around the world.

E-MINE
Website for mine action efforts of the different U.N. entities.

International humanitarian news centers

Relief Web: www.reliefweb.int

ARINews: www.arinews.org

IRINnews: http://irinnews.org

www.mineaction.org

Did you know?

The UN General Assembly declared April 4, 2006, the first annual International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine-Affected Countries. The day is commemorated around the world to raise awareness about landmines and progress toward their eradication. Last year, people and organizations in at least 30 countries held events to observe it, according to the United Nations.

This day is a great opportunity for students to host mine action activities in their own lives and communities or even just to take time to learn more about the landmine issue.

If you decide to host an event for International Mine Action Day, please e-mail us the details at maic@jmu.edu.
**Handicap International France**
www.handicap-international.org

HI France helped fund the International Campaign to Ban Landmines. It provides assistance to mine victims and implements mine awareness and mine clearance programs in Southeastern Europe and Africa.

**Health Volunteers Overseas**
www.medicosdelmundo.org

Health Volunteers Overseas is a private non-profit organization dedicated to improving the availability and quality of health care in developing countries through the training and education of local healthcare providers.

**Help Handicapped International**
www.anti-handicap.org

HHI organizes free Jaipur foot and Calipers fitment camps and free distribution of wheelchairs, tricycles and crutches.

**Golden West Humanitarian Foundation**
www.goldenwest.org

Golden West’s mission is to protect the lives and livelihoods of people affected by war and conflict in the United States and around the world. It offers a grassroots outreach campaign to teach people about the global landmine and unsafe water crises.

**Grapes for Humanity**
www.grapesforhumanity.com

Grapes for Humanity raises funds to benefit humanitarian causes.

**Center for International Rehabilitation**
www.ciri.org

The Center for International Rehabilitation is a non-profit organization that develops technologies and programs to help people with disabilities worldwide reach their full potential.

**Children of Armenia Fund**
www.cofar.org

COAF seeks to reverse the impoverished conditions affecting significant numbers of Armenia’s children by revitalizing Armenia’s villages and implementing development programs that provide immediate and sustainable benefits to children and youth.

**Clear Path International**
www.clearpathinternational.org

CPI provides medical and social services to landmine survivors, their families and their communities in Southeast Asia.

**Danish Church Aid**
www.dca.dk

DanChurchAid is involved in mine action programs in several countries, with activities that focus on mine awareness, mine clearance, building and advocacy activities.

**Freedom Fields USA**
www.freedomfieldsusa.org

Freedom Fields USA is a non-profit organization that removes abandoned landmines in war torn countries.

**Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining**
www.gichd.ch

The GICHD works toward a world-free of anti-personnel landmines and the reduction of the impact of remnants of war by providing operational assistance, creating and sharing knowledge, and supporting instruments of international law.

**Global Care Unlimited**
www.globalcareunlimited.org

Global Care is a student-led organization designed to foster community support in the global fight against landmines.

**Golden West Humanitarian Foundation**
http://goldenwestfoundation.com

Golden West’s mission is to provide the lives and livelihoods of people affected by war and conflict in the United States and around the world. It offers a grassroots outreach campaign to teach people about the global landmine and unsafe water crises.

**Landmines Survivors Network**
www.landminesurvivors.org

Landmines Blow! helps in assisting survivors and rebuilding communities, offers a grassroots outreach campaign to teach people about the global landmine and unsafe water crises.

**Lipscomb University**
www.lipscomb.edu

Lipscomb University and its Center for International Peace and Justice promote awareness and understanding of international issues, particularly as they relate to peace, security, justice, and human suffering.

**Marshall Legacy Institute**
www.marshalllegacy.org

MLI applies skills and resources to building indigenous capacity in the developing world to alleviate suffering, restore hope and create conditions that nurture stability.

**Medical Care Development International**
http://mcdi.mcdi.org

The mission of MCDI is to enhance the well-being of peoples and communities in developing nations through innovative and practical programs to help people with disabilities worldwide reach their full potential.

**Miners to Peace**
http://miners-to-peace.org

Miners to Peace strives to rid the world of landmines by transforming miners from victims to teachers who can instill the hope and promise of peace and prosperity to affected communities.

**PeaceTrees Vietnam**
www.peacetreesvietnam.org

PTTV.org is a non-profit organization that transforms landmines into thriving farmland. It offers a grassroots outreach campaign to teach people about the global landmine and unsafe water crises.

**Polus Center for Social and Economic Development**
http://poluscenter.org

The Polus Center creates opportunities for disabled people and others who are displaced or become vulnerable because of socio-economic issues in their communities. Activities include prosthesis outreach, employment opportunities, and disability training, education and advocacy.

**Precious Lives**
www.pofsea.org

POF’s mission is to restore mobility and independence worldwide. POF creates opportunities for disabled people and other disadvantaged persons suffering from orthopedic disabilities.

**ROSE Charities**
www.rosecharities.net/rose-canada.htm

ROSE Charities wholly supports rehabilitative programs in developing countries, with specific historic focus on Cambodia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Montenegro.

**Save the Children**
www.savethechildren.org/emergencies/landmines.asp

Save the Children is a global organization that works with families to define and solve the problems their children and communities face, utilizing a wide array of strategies to ensure self-sufficiency.

**SOS Children’s Villages**
www.soschildrensvillage.org

SOS Children’s Villages gives children who have been landmine victims the opportunity to play, study and grow at a time when they need it most.

**Survey Action Center**
www.sac-na.org

SAC serves as the coordination body for Landmine Impact Surveys. These surveys provide vital information to improve priority setting in the effort to control the threat of mines by the year 2010.

**United Nations Mine Action Service**
www.unmineaction.org

UNMAS is a global body for landmine-related issues and activities. It provides mine action assistance in the context of humanitarian emergencies and peacekeeping operations.

**U.S. Department of State’s Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement**
www.state.gov/t/pm/wra

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**Veterans for America**
http://www.veteransforamerica.org

Veterans for America is a national, non-partisan political action committee that strives to make the 21st century the best one for veterans. The Foundation, is uniting veterans to address the causes, conduct and consequences of war. VFA’s Information Management and Mine Action Program is literally charting a course to safety and peace through former battlefield's and minefields in numerous countries.

**Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund**
www.vvmf.org

Project RENEW is VVMF’s humanitarian program designed to remove contaminated areas of landmines and unexploded ordnance in Vietnam.

**World Health Organization**
www.who.int

The World Health Organization is the directing and coordinating authority for health within the United Nations system.

**World Rehabilitation Fund**
www.wrf.org

The World Rehabilitation Fund is the pioneer organization devoted to the development and implementation of rehabilitation programs for people with disabilities throughout the world.