Ghana Begins Marking SA/LW

News Brief

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destroyed as a result of reports received from community members.

The second phase began in January 2013, and the hotline expanded to other Afghan provinces. Calls were received from Badakhshan, Badghis, Balkh, Bamyan, Faryab, Kabul, Kapisa, Khost, Kunduz, Laghman, Logar, Nangarhar, Paktya, Panjsher, Parwan and Takhar provinces. Data shows that 122 calls were received from January to November 2013 including

- Six calls related to minefields
- Four calls for new minefield surveys
- 47 calls for mine-related problems
- 34 calls for ERW-related problems
- Five calls related to aircraft bombs

The calls led to the discovery of 37 mines, 931 ERW, five aircraft bombs and 1,990 pieces of small-arms ammunition. Assessment showed that the expanded hotline received more calls, resulting in a rapid emergency response for affected communities and those living or working near contaminated areas in Afghanistan. Response times ranged from one day for emergency ERW spot check to two or three days for other tasks.

Conclusion

In its capacity as a coordinating body, MACCA arranged for its implementing partners to train relevant personnel across the government networks of health, education and security in Afghanistan in order to expand mine/ERW RE’s reach, which ensured that a greater number of men and women were aware of the threats posed by landmines and ERW. In the context of transition, the success of this mainstreaming initiative has been to strengthen the capacity of Afghanistan’s national authorities to directly implement future mine and ERW RE.

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