2006 UNMAO Planning Process in Sudan

Hansie Heymans
United Nations Mine Action Office in Sudan

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

Part of the Defense and Security Studies Commons, Emergency and Disaster Management Commons, Other Public Affairs, Public Policy and Public Administration Commons, and the Peace and Conflict Studies Commons

Recommended Citation
Available at: https://commons.lib.jmu.edu/cisr-journal/vol10/iss2/39

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.
The most important factor concerning demining efforts in Sri Lanka, after speed and efficiency, is cost. Table 1 shows the factors that affect the costs of manual demining and mechanical mine clearance. By comparing Table 1 to Table 2, one can see the operating costs of demining machines is lower than that of manual demining. However, the most problematic element in mechanical demining is the initial capital expenditure on the machine itself. Sri Lankan technicians are not familiar with the technology behind the machines mentioned above; therefore, after the warranty period, maintenance costs will be high because the machines will require specialists to fix them and the parts are difficult to find.

Conclusion

When considering the challenges of demining in Sri Lanka, it is vital to understand the importance of developing new technologies or introducing existing current technology to improve the efficiency of the task—but only with proper training. Humanitarian-demining efforts in Sri Lanka are daunting, not only the threat in the ground but due to the tenuous situation between rebel groups and the Sri Lankan government.

Udugama Hemapala is a doctoral student at the University of Southampton, England. He is working in the demining group of the Laboratory of Design and Measurement for Automation and Robotics (LDMAR). He graduated from the University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka, with a degree in electrical engineering.

Table 1: Factors that affect the costs of manual demining.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cost for manual demining</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Average cost per deminer</td>
<td>$US10,000/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daily working hours</td>
<td>8 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speed of a manual deminer</td>
<td>25 m²/h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working days per year</td>
<td>240 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specific cost of manual demining</td>
<td>$US0.2/m²</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2: Costs for mechanical mine clearance in Sri Lanka.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cost for mechanical mine clearance</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Investment cost for MF-X Mini Fluid System</td>
<td>$US33,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fuel consumption</td>
<td>12 liters per hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area demined per year</td>
<td>1,000 m²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost of fuel</td>
<td>$US1 per liter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating cost per year</td>
<td>$US10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specific cost of mechanical demining</td>
<td>$US0.2/m²</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The annual Operational Plan is the final output for the overall mine-action planning process. This process follows directly from the Mine Action Strategic Framework that was developed and signed in 2004. Based on the Framework, the United Nations used the Portfolio of Mine Action Projects’ process to develop a list of proposed projects for various mine-action phases. For the planning process, mine-action stakeholders such as the United Nations, local authorities and nongovernmental organizations (fiscal and internationally) developed and agreed upon the United Nations and Partners 2006 Work Plan for Sudan. Based on this process, stakeholders developed the 2006 Annual Operational Plan using the logical framework analysis. Figure 1 illustrates the overall process followed in Sudan to develop three separate but interconnected documents for mine-action planning. The results of these three processes are:

- Portfolio of Mine Action Projects for Sudan
- United Nations and Partners 2006 Work Plan for Sudan
- Mine Action Annual Operational Plan for Sudan

The processes are listed in the centre blocks of the figure (e.g., input from stakeholders, Portfolio and Work Plan; and regional priority development and priority setting). The final products of the three processes were the 2006 MAP document, the Work Plan for 2006 and the 2006 Annual Operational Plan.

Mine Action Strategic Framework

The Mine Action Strategic Framework was developed in 2004. The United Nations Mine Action Service and the United Nations Development Programme jointly led this process, which involved the authorities from both North and South Sudan. The government of Sudan (GoS) and the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement both agreed upon and approved the MAP. The document was developed before the GoS and the SPLM signed the Comprehensive Peace Agreement and consequently was revised in 2006; therefore, the MAP will be used to guide the planning process. The development of the Portfolio and the 2006 Work Plan should be guided by the overall strategic priorities identified in the document.

The annual Operational Plan is the final output for the overall mine-action planning process. This process follows directly from the Mine Action Strategic Framework that was developed and signed in 2004. Based on the Framework, the United Nations used the Portfolio of Mine Action Projects’ process to develop a list of proposed projects for various mine-action phases. For the planning process, mine-action stakeholders such as the United Nations, local authorities and nongovernmental organizations (fiscal and internationally) developed and agreed upon the United Nations and Partners 2006 Work Plan for Sudan. Based on this process, stakeholders developed the 2006 Annual Operational Plan using the logical framework analysis. Figure 1 illustrates the overall process followed in Sudan to develop three separate but interconnected documents for mine-action planning. The results of these three processes are:

- Portfolio of Mine Action Projects for Sudan
- United Nations and Partners 2006 Work Plan for Sudan
- Mine Action Annual Operational Plan for Sudan

The processes are listed in the centre blocks of the figure (e.g., input from stakeholders, Portfolio and Work Plan; and regional priority development and priority setting). The final products of the three processes were the 2006 MAP document, the Work Plan for 2006 and the 2006 Annual Operational Plan.

Mine Action Strategic Framework

The Mine Action Strategic Framework was developed in 2004. The United Nations Mine Action Service and the United Nations Development Programme jointly led this process, which involved the authorities from both North and South Sudan. The government of Sudan (GoS) and the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement both agreed upon and approved the MAP. The document was developed before the GoS and the SPLM signed the Comprehensive Peace Agreement and consequently was revised in 2006; therefore, the MAP will be used to guide the planning process. The development of the Portfolio and the 2006 Work Plan should be guided by the overall strategic priorities identified in the document.

By Hansie Heymans | United Nations Mine Action Office in Sudan

2006 UNMAO Planning Process in Sudan

A national strategic framework for mine-action efforts in Sudan drives the development of several planning documents that involved several national and international organisations to ensure the successful implementation of a successful framework. The author discusses the development process for the various national mine-action planning documents.

Published by JMU Scholarly Commons, 2006

Mine-action Society Formed in Kurdistan

Although a Mine Action Process began in Iraqi Kurdistan more than a decade ago, a considerable threat from landmines and unexploded ordnance remains in the region. Committed and qualified professionals have been working to reduce the impact of the threat, often at their own peril, but a vacuum remained in terms of formal collaboration among these parties.

To address this need, the Pria Society for Mine Action Professionals was formed with the permission of the Ministry of the Interior. The Society works to improve and enhance the working conditions of demining personnel operating in Kurdistan. All mine-action personnel working in the region are encouraged to join by registering their names with the Society. For more information, contact Jamal Jalal via e-mail at Jamal.Jalal@unikar.com or jamaljalal@lekao.com or by telephone at +964 66 1248 445 8509.

Portfolio of Mine Action Projects

The preparation and development of the Portfolio of Mine Action Projects started in June 2005. Input was requested from U.N. agencies, national authorities and nongovernmental organisations. The MAP strategic priorities were used to develop project sheets supporting the MAP. Project sheets are used to submit and register a project in the MAP. The development of the MAP was facilitated through two review panels—one in the south representing the SPLM and one in the north representing the government of Sudan. The panels consisted of members from nongovernmental organisations, demining authorities and the UNMAO. The panels reviewed all project sheets, ensuring all projects support the MAP strategic priorities and were overseen and approved by both mine-action authorities. Participating U.N. agencies, national and international NGOs and the national mine-action authorities completed the final in-country review of all project sheets in August 2005 and submitted them to UNMAOS–New York for review. Together, they submitted well over 30 projects.

2006 Work Plan

In June 2005, the U.N. Country Team started work on the Work Plan for 2006, developing U.N. Strategic Priorities for Sudan. Mine-action stakeholders developed the mine-action sector priorities using the MAP as a starting point. After these priorities were finalised, mine-action objectives were developed involving all mine-action partners. Both national mine-action authorities approved these objectives before they could be presented to the U.N. Country Team. As with the MAP, this process included other U.N. agencies, demining...
As a starting point, Work Plan assumptions and priorities, and the development of two groups of priorities to the sector leads. The mine-action sector priorities were defined as follows:

- **Humanitarian priorities:**
  - Emergency survey, clearance and marking of dangerous areas
  - Emergency route verification and clearance (primary/secondary roads)
  - Emergency and targeted mine-risk education
  - Collect data on victim assistance to define the extent of the problem
- **Recovery and development priorities:**
  - Coordination and capacity building for mine action
  - Development of national, operational mine-action capacity
  - Integration of MRE into education, health and other basic social services
  - Support to Ottawa Convention implementation (advocacy and stockpile destruction)
- **Mine-action sector objectives:**

The mine-action sector objectives were derived from the defined priorities and related to the strategic framework. They are closely related to the five defining pillars of mine action: mine clearance, mine-risk education, victim assistance, advocacy and stockpile destruction.

The following objectives were derived from a high-level planning process and formed the basis for the development of the Annual Operational Plan:

- **Survey, marking and clearance:** Conduct emergency survey and identify, record and map known dangerous areas; evaluate impact of mine action on proposed activities; and conduct humanitarian clearance of highly impacted mine-affected areas.
- **Emergency-route clearance:** Conduct emergency-route clearance based on humanitarian road priorities.
- **Advocacy and stockpile destruction:** Give support to treaty implementation.
- **Mine-risk education and humanitarian action:** Conduct emergency and targeted mine-risk education.
- **Mine-risk education and recovery and development activities:** Integrate MRE into education, health and other basic social services.
- **National capacity building:** Develop a national capacity in the north and south capable of addressing the long-term socioeconomic consequences of landmine and ERW contamination in Sudan.
- **Victim assistance:** Define the scale of the challenge, identify needs, monitor the responses to needs and evaluate the responses.

While these objectives relate to the pillars of mine action with either a humanitarian or recovery focus, they do not make explicit provision for the definition of the mine-risk education and information management. It was decided that three more "internal objectives" would be added to the mine-action sector priorities and information management can develop internal operational plans to support these.

- **Information management:** Establishing an efficient and effective information management system within UNMAO mine-action operations through:
  - Institutionalizing the Information Management System for Mine Action as the information management system within the Sudan Mine Action Program through the implementation of information management policy and training
  - Developing and maintaining a fully functional IT infrastructure to provide networking and inter-networking capabilities at UNMAO headquarters, regional offices and sub-offices
  - Support services: Providing professional and effective administrative, financial and logistical services in support of UNMAS's operations at the national and regional level

**Coordination and facilitation:** Efficiently and effectively coordinating and facilitating mine-action stakeholders and participants in Sudan.