The result is that many landmine-impacted communities have been unable to expand their land and transportation networks, obstructing reconstruction and tourism.

**Government Mine Action**

In 2008, the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia (UNMECE) and the Eritrean Mine Action Coordination Center were established. These centers, with a budget of $500,000 and a staff of 100, are responsible for policy regulation of the mine-action sector. The centers also provide technical support to provincial authorities to ensure that the national mine-risk education program is implemented. UNMEEC and UNICEF are responsible for policy regulation of the mine-action sector.

The Eritrean government has never produced a national mine-risk education program, which is required by the Ottawa Convention. According to Eritrea, the problem is nationwide, with 1,192 landmine-impacted communities identified, 1,924 landmine-impacted sites, and 1,924 landmine-impacted communities have been unable to expand their land and transportation networks, obstructing reconstruction and tourism.

**Humanitarian Challenge**

Food security is a priority because much of the agricultural land is contaminated with mines. The problem has also affected building-safety structures for the most vulnerable population groups, including workers, refugees, and displaced persons. The goal of the humanitarian challenge is to ensure that communities affected by mines and UXO, with 33 communities considered high risk, 10 medium risk, and 348 low risk. In April 2005, the MACR and UNICEF supported all landmine-impacted communities in Ethiopia and Eritrea to conduct government-sponsored mine-clearance operations.

**Future Challenges:**

1. **Return of displaced persons.** Displaced persons, including those fleeing from violence and economic hardship, need to be quickly and safely relocated to their communities.
2. **High- and medium-impact communities.** Mine-clearance operations are needed to remove mines and UXO from these areas.
3. **Low-impact communities.** Mine-clearance operations are needed to remove mines and UXO from these areas.
4. **Victim support.** A victim support system that will provide effective assistance to victims is needed.

In summary, the mine-clearance and mine-risk education programs in Ethiopia have not been effective in addressing the mine-clearance and mine-risk education needs of the affected communities. The following challenges need to be addressed:

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