

# Journal of Conventional Weapons Destruction

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Volume 20  
Issue 2 *The Journal of Conventional Weapons  
Destruction*

Article 2

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July 2016

## From the Director - Issue 20.2

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### Recommended Citation

Rutherford, Ken (2016) "From the Director - Issue 20.2," *Journal of Conventional Weapons Destruction*: Vol. 20 : Iss. 2 , Article 2.

Available at: <https://commons.lib.jmu.edu/cisr-journal/vol20/iss2/2>

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## FROM THE DIRECTOR

In continued celebration of our 20th anniversary, James Madison University (JMU) honored CISR at a JMU's annual Capitol Hill reception in Washington, D.C. on 10 June 2016. Attended by Director Stan Brown from the Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement in the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Political-Military Affairs (PM/WRA), JMU President Johnathan Alger, nearly 200 JMU area alums, and mine action friends from Legacies of War, Marshal Legacy Institute and the Organization of American States, the event celebrated CISR's legacy in a fantastic evening with friends and colleagues. With a full house of around 200 guests, both Brown and Alger offered warm sentiments and recognized the strong commitment of those in the industry to have a lasting impact on the world. As the field of humanitarian mine action and conventional weapons destruction (CWD) continues to adapt and evolve, we celebrate our past while looking to our future.

In this issue, we're excited to feature mobile technologies, their benefits, challenges and current usage in programs around the world. Camille Wallen and Nick Torbet from The HALO Trust discuss their experience using the Fulcrum mobile application to collect and analyze data in Laos. Elisabeth Vinek, Sulaiman Mukahhal, and Olivier Cottray from the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) look at how the newly adopted IMSMA development strategy will foster better interoperability between the national storage component, IMSMA Core, and other external applications. Torsten Vikström from Spinator AB presents the EU-funded TIRAMISU Information Management System (T-IMS), a mobile field data collection tool for humanitarian demining that was field tested in Croatia by deminers and surveyors from the Croatian Mine Action Centre. And Hayashi Ontoku Akihito, a Japan International Cooperation Agency adviser to the Lao National Unexploded Ordnance Programme, reports on the Easy Sketch Map application, which facilitates more efficient, on-site map making.

Our next (Fall 2016) issue will spotlight the Middle East and North Africa: How are illicit small arms and light weapons (SA/LW) and CWD proliferation currently affecting these regions? What broader issues are connected to illicit SA/LW (public health, gender, youth, crime)? In addition, issue 20.3 will feature articles on weapons marking and tracing, how illicit weapons affect humanitarian deminers' and community safety, as well as creative ways to reduce the negative effect of illicit SA/LW in communities while improving weapons ammunition security.

Moreover, I'm excited to announce that we have released topics for issues 21.1, 21.2, and 21.3, which will encompass improvised explosive devices (IEDs) and pressure plate IEDs—a new focus for *The Journal*—as well as a special report section on Bosnia and Herzegovina twenty years following the end of the Bosnian War in December 1995 and the Balkan floods of May 2014. For more information on upcoming topics, please visit us online at [www.jmu.edu/cisr](http://www.jmu.edu/cisr). ©



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