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In Remembrance: Mehdi Mohammad Haraz

On 26 October 2010, fragments of a cluster bomb killed Mehdi Mohammad Haraz, a Lebanese national working for Peace Generation Organization for Demining, while attempting to clear a cluster bomb-infested tobacco field in Yater, Southern Lebanon. Haraz, 20, was working with PGOD for three months in an area heavily contaminated by unexploded ordnance. The explosion also injured four others: Abdel-Karim Ali, Hussein Hassan Mansour, Nabil Baalbeki and Kamel Ghandour. Funded by the Iranian company Ayman Sazan, the organization was operating 10 kilometers (6 miles) outside of Tyre where the Lebanese Army reports that most of the UXO victims are deminers, farmers or children. The incident contributes to the 50 casualties and 350 injuries that occurred from local UXO in the past three years.

This report was compiled by Blake Williamson, a member of The Journal’s editorial team.