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Playgrounds Without Mines

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The post clearance phase includes handover of safe land and an evaluation of impact. CL may also identify stockpiles of landmines or other explosive devices and identify and negotiate with the appropriate people to facilitate destruction. All phases may include an MRE component and must also include linking individuals and communities with survivor assistance services and relief and development agencies.

Conduct MRE and engage with at-risk populations. Where appropriate, MAG CL teams also seek to engage with high-risk populations that are unlikely to feel able to respond to MRE messages such as “don’t touch” or “step back.” These populations are often motivated to handle or tamper with explosive remnants of war for pragmatic reasons. In this section, we look at a faceted role to enable at-risk populations to identify appropriate levels of standards or risk and/or ways of minimizing risk. They can then interface and use community-based sanctions when community members contravene those standards.

Conclusion

Over the last decade, MAG has moved from MRE interventions that focused on the individual and expert-identified needs to a far broader and more integrated community liaison approach. MAG’s approach now recognizes that individuals alone cannot change behaviour unless the broader socio-economic environment supports change. Community liaison teams are at the heart of MAG’s work and form the basis of its people-centered approach to mine action. This means MAG CL teams not only engage with people directly affected by ERW but also aim to facilitate strategic, cross-sector, multi-level partnerships that enable a free flow of information, understanding and risk behaviour. Therefore, reducing risk is a collaborative undertaking. While explosive ordnance disposal specialists and MRE practitioners have some of the specific expertise required to prevent additional casualties, they are not comprehensive partners if they are to mount a successful risk-reduction programme. This more integrated approach to safety is a central tenet of MRE and mine action strategy, with community liaison playing a key role. See “References and Endnotes,” page 107.
That Landmine Thing: Students Take On the Landmine Crisis, Hudson and Fuentes [from page 77]

Endnote

From Interventions to Integration: Mine Risk Education and Community Liaison, Durham [from page 80]

Endnotes

Playgrounds Without Mines, Roseg [from page 81]

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