Technical Support and National Capacity Building for Humanitarian Mine Action Program

Iraq

iMMAP

Context

Following decades of armed conflicts, the Republic of Iraq is one of the countries most contaminated by Explosive Ordnance (EOs) in the world. The contamination threatens the safety of citizens while hindering the socioeconomic development of the country.

To work toward the complete clearance of EOs from the country, the Iraqi Government, in 2003, created a National Mine Action Authority made of two main bodies: the Department for Mine Action (DMA) at the Federal level and the Iraqi Kurdistan Mine Action Agency (IKMAA) in the areas under the administration of the Iraqi Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG).

As international donor funding to support humanitarian efforts in Iraq continued to decline, effective prioritization, planning and coordination of Mine Action-related activities have never been more critical, considering the extent of the remaining contamination and its impact on affected communities. In that frame, data and information are key components of the national program.

Information is vital for the effective management of a mine action program. Comprehensive and accurate data leads to more effective and efficient operations, saving lives and supporting the country's reconstruction and development.

iMMAP Inc. Iraq

iMMAP Inc. provides IM technical support to DMA and IKMAA to maintain a common operating picture of the Mine Action landscape in Iraq. Beyond the support provided for maintaining the Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA), iMMAP works with the Iraqi National Mine Action Authorities (NMAA) toward the continuous improvement of IM tools and processes to effectively leverage the Mine Action information for improved strategic and operational decision-making.

Donor:
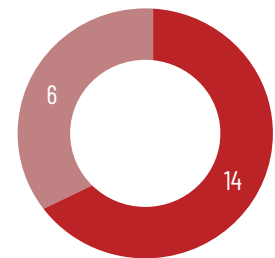US Department of State Office for Weapons Removal and Abatement (PM/WRA)

Current project:
Technical Support and National Capacity Building for Humanitarian Mine Action Program
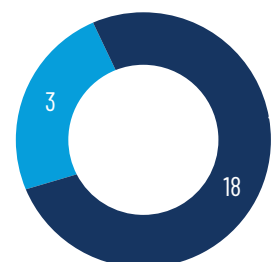
Number of Partners: 7

Project period:
September 2022 –August 2024

Personnel

Number of personnel: 21

6
14

- Women
- Men
- National
- International

3
18

Tools and Achievements

IMSMA: The Information Management System for Mine Action is a globally used database and software system that allows Mine Action programs to efficiently process data and information into actionable information products (statistics, maps). During the previous project phases, iMMAP Inc. supported the implementation of IMSMAng in Iraq and continues to provide technical support to ensure capture of mine action information within the IMSMAng system.

IMSMA NG Add-on Tools: IMSMA Core is an Esri-based product built on the ArcGIS Enterprise solution. iMMAP Inc. has customized the system and developed tools to align with DMA operational procedures. Features developed within the Enterprise solution include data history tracking, automation of data verification processes and approval levels to facilitate report submitted, tracking and rectification of errors between Humanitarian Mine Action (HMA) actors. These features;

- Improve the accuracy of submitted field reports to enhance data integrity

- Omit time-consuming manual data entry requirements

- Enable collaborative data and information sharing

iMMAP Inc. has developed the user interface, including interactive maps and tools to provide mine action stakeholders with real-time access to mine action data to support planning, prioritization and monitoring of mine action operations.

Open-source Database for Mine Action (OSDBMA): his fully customized system was built by iMMAP Inc. based on IKMAA's requirements to enhance the effectiveness of mine action programs by providing a robust, flexible, and cost-effective data management solution to overcome the challenges faced in IMSMAng and facilitate managing mine action data without the need for third-party support or licenses. The system contains dashboards to facilitate operational monitoring and decision-making, a GIS component for geospatial analysis which supports both offline and online maps and enables mine action operates to enter their data online, omitting the requirement for paper-based reporting. All mine action data was migrated from the existing IMSMA database and IKMAA made a full transition to the new system during 2024.

Mine Action Dashboard: iMMAP Inc. has developed several dashboards to extract mine action data from the national mine action database and aid operational monitoring. These include an Ops Dashboard to provide all Mine Action actors operating in Iraq access to the last information on explosive ordnance contamination and progress of operations, as well as a Task Order dashboard for tracking of completed and ongoing mine action tasks across the country.

Activities

Trainings

14

On-the-job trainings

28

Workshops

8

Tools and Achievements

iMAAT: The iMMAP Mine Action Analysis Toolkit (iMAAT) was developed as an IMSMAng add-on tool to ease extraction of data by standardizing and simplifying activity and data reporting, avoiding data discrepancies and facilitating informed decision-making.

Request for Information Tool: The tool omits the need for time-consuming manual processing of geospatial data in response to Requests for Information received by the NMAAs. The tool consists of a series of geoprocessing models in ArcGIS, automating data processing and map production for areas of interest.

Capacity Building: iMMAP Inc. provides technical support to build the capacity of DMA, IKMAA, and HMA actors through ad-hoc formal training, workshops and on-the-job coaching in mine action IM and GIS.

Activities

Data Entry

20,461

HMA partners providing mine action data

65

HMA partners using NMAAs IM tools

58