The Republic of Iraq is one of the countries most contaminated by explosive ordnance (EO) in the world. The combination of historical wars and the recent incursion of ISIS has created a complex situation of EO contamination, impeding on the socio-economic and environmental aspects of the country, posing significant challenges to the government and humanitarian mine action responders. Threats of explosive hazards limit mobility among the civilian population while impeding the daily lives of vulnerable communities.

Source: Landmine and Cluster Munition Monitor

Main objectives of the project

The purpose of the Third Party Monitoring (TPM) project is to regularly monitor and verify activities conducted by implementing partners (IPs) to ensure the accuracy of reports submitted as well as uphold compliance with donor regulations and project deliverables.

The overall goal of the project is to verify the activities and achievements of IPs while increasing the understanding of the social and economic benefits of the program funded by PM/WRA.
Main tools and accomplishments

PM/WRA’s CWD IPs and Third-Party Monitoring: PM/WRA has been one of the most significant contributors in support to the humanitarian mine action programs in Iraq, with currently seven IPs actively conducting Conventional Weapons Destruction (CWD) programs across the country. As a part of the services provided to PM/WRA, iMMAP, since March 1st, 2018, has been conducting monitoring of program activities of IPs to enhance transparency and accountability while ensuring donor compliance.

Approach and Technical Design: The TPM uses a participatory approach in M&E combined with real-time evaluations (RTEs) on IP activities to support timely decision-making and enhance result-based management (RBM). The indicators are formulated using the Theory of Change (ToC) and the TPM framework. These indicators are monitored and evaluated on a quarterly basis while the data gathered from IP activities are collated, analyzed and visualized to produce analytical information.

The TPM program includes quarterly visits to task sites in order to closely monitor, verify and evaluate the processes and products while ensuring the quality, safety and environmental management systems of IPs. The program further ensures adherence to national and international standards of CWD programs.

Data Collection: The TPM collects data through online tools that allow for both online and offline data entry from field locations.

Data Analysis: The program uses interactive dashboards to analyze and visualize data collected by TPM teams based on indicators and requirements. The dashboard provides detailed figures, maps, and graphs to monitor TPM activities that are reported internally and externally to relevant stakeholders.

Assessment: The TPM conducts regular community surveys to assess the immediate outcomes of IP activities which include; mine risk education (MRE), survey and clearance of EOs from agricultural and pasture lands as well as the restoration and development of critical infrastructure. These surveys aim to assess IP activities to measure the relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, safety, quality and sustainability of the programs.

Achievements and Activities: The TPM team, throughout the project period, has strengthened the capacity of national staff to conduct monitoring and evaluation (M&E) activities. Furthermore, the recently revamped TPM dashboard has shown an increase in the efficiency of TPM processes and significantly reduced data entry errors.

Implementing partners

- Humanitarian Disarmament and Peacebuilding (HDP)
- Mine Advisory Group (MAG)
- Norwegian People’s Aid (NPA)
- Spirit of Soccer (SoS)
- Swiss Foundation for Mine Action (FSD)
- Tetra Tech
- Halo Trust

TPM site visits to IPs’ task sites