IMSMA Capacity Building for the National Mine Action Centre in Nigeria

Context

During the past 12 years, civilians across northeast Nigeria have been bearing the brunt of ongoing violence between non-state armed groups (NSAGs). Millions continue to be forcibly displaced leading to alarming rates of protection issues. While 8.4 million people are in need of some form of humanitarian assistance across Borno, Adamawa and Yobe (BAY) states in 2022, approximately 1.2 million are in need of humanitarian mine action (HMA) support.

Nigeria is a signatory to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC). To comply with the articles of the APMBC and for easier coordination of mine action activities, the Nigerian government is being supported by UNMAS to establish its National Mine Action Centre (NMAC). In close collaboration with UNMAS, iMMAP delivered two months of capacity building support to participants from selected national authorities in Borno state to inform a standardized coordination of HMA interventions.

iMMAP Nigeria

Since November 2016, iMMAP has been providing information management (IM) services to most humanitarian actors responding to the crisis in northeast Nigeria. In 2022, iMMAP collaborated with UNMAS to implement a two-month capacity building project in HMA IM for six personnel from national authorities in Borno state.

Outcomes

The training focused on empowering participants with foundational principles of IM, geographic information system (GIS), HMA IM, including the development of mine action surveys and forms, mine action-focused data analysis, reporting cycles and formats, planning and prioritization of mine action activities, and general concepts of mine action. The project employed theoretical and practical approaches to help participants better assimilate and produce quality output of the skills they gained from iMMAP.

The project increased and improved the HMA IM skills of participants, which will help prepare the ground for establishing NMAC to promote a more effective coordination of mine action activities within the country. The training further enlightened participants on IMAS 05.10, IMSMA Core from Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining, the importance of high-quality data collection and analysis, and maximizing the use of the information through inclusive and regular coordination with all stakeholders.