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CONFLICT RECOVERY PROGRAMME FOR LEBANON



Donor Update

August 2007

SUMMARY OF THIS MONTH'S ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS

- **Visual search & clearance of 305,770 m²** of land through hand, electronic, and visual techniques.
- **Removal and destruction of 254 hazardous Remnants of Conflict¹** – 196 sub-munitions and 58 items of unexploded ordnance
- MAG regrets to report that one of its Battle Area Clearance teams suffered an accident during clearance activities on 23rd August, resulting in the death of two team members. We extend our condolences to their families. This resulted in a stand down of activities and refresher training during the week of 27-31 August. Normal operations resumed on 3rd September 2007.

BATTLE AREA CLEARANCE AND EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL

Priority clearance of access routes, homes, and gardens have been completed by operational teams. The continued focus of clearance for this month has moved towards clearance of agricultural and pastoral areas for the recovery of livelihoods.

MAG worked in the following areas and achieved the following outputs during August 2007:

- **Area 6:** 14 BAC teams operating in the villages of Yohmor, Zawtar East, Kfar Sir, Al Jawhariyah, Al Qoseybeh, Aadchit, Zawtar West, Habbouche, Shoukin, and Kfar Roumane. These teams have used visual and electronic methods of clearance, clearing an area of 181,198m². 223 Remnants of Conflict were found and destroyed.
- **Area 7:** 8 BAC teams continue to operate in the villages of Al Hosh, Batoulay, Al Smayieh, Rashadiyeh, Basourieh, and Ain Bialal. These teams have cleared an area of 124,572m². 31 Remnants of Conflict were found and destroyed.

All teams are contributing to the **social and economic recovery and development** of South Lebanon through the safe, efficient, and effective clearance of Remnants of Conflict.

COMMUNITY LIAISON (CL)

All Contact Officers have continued to undertake community liaison activities at the pre-clearance, clearance, and post-clearance stages.

There were 277 activities during the month, including 37 data collection activities², 25 liaison visits, and 9 UXO tasking requests. In addition, the CL team conducted a range of other activities, such as providing control point locations and storage areas, securing land owner's approval for using their house/fields for clearance activities, liaison with local authorities, and solving problems with the community as they arise in timely and effective manner.

EMERGENCY UXO CLEARANCE IN NAHR EL-BARED REFUGEE CAMP, TRIPOLI

MAG has 4 MATs on standby to undertake emergency UXO clearance within 3 hours of the camp being secured. Extensive liaison for planning and coordination with UN and other agencies undertaken this month, including assisting UNICEF and implementing partners in the development of UXO awareness materials for those displaced from the camp.

¹ MAG uses the term *Remnants of Conflict* (RoC) to describe all items recovered and destroyed as part of its humanitarian disarmament activities, which include Anti-Personal and Anti-Vehicle mines, Explosive Remnants of War (ERW), abandoned and unexploded ordnance (UXO) and SA/LW. This term has been developed to reflect more accurately the broad range of clearance activities undertaken by MAG.

² Data collection includes population, socio-economic data, village services and beneficiary details. If the teams discover a minefield/dangerous area then information is collected specific to the dangerous area/minefield in addition to the general information form.

TOTAL OUTPUTS OF THE MAG EMERGENCY RESPONSE IN SOUTH LEBANON

	Aug 06- Mar 07	Apr '07	May '07	June '07	July '07	Aug '07	TOTAL
Area Searched (Visual/Hand/ Electronic Check) (m ²)	3,319,149	397,599	317,779	360,633	494,403	305,770	5,195,333
Mines Removed/Destroyed	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
UXO Removed/Destroyed	420	90	8	25	104	58	705
Bomblets/Sub Munitions destroyed	13,524	377	249	423	455	196	15,224
No. of Dangerous Areas Cleared	165	14	2	12	8	0	201

Area searched 15th-31st August 2006 not recorded due to rapid emergency clearance (cessation of hostilities on 14th August 2006)

MAG's work is SAVING LIVES...

In Lebanon alone:

- Almost 5.2 million m² of land cleared and made safe
- More than 15,000 Remnants of Conflict destroyed
- 201 dangerous areas cleared
- Assisting 450,000 people at risk from death or injury from Remnants of Conflict
- Helping humanitarian agencies to deliver emergency and rehabilitation aid **free from the risk of death and injury**

...AND MAKING A REAL DIFFERENCE

Improved Safety of Communities

By removing the threats of Remnants of Conflict, and increasing vulnerable groups' awareness of these threats, a tangible **improvement of the safety of communities** affected by conflict is being achieved.

Rebuilding Communities

By removing the threat of Remnants of Conflict, communities can return to areas previously vacated or re-establish themselves elsewhere. As such, the quality of life of a population can be increased and a **more stable and productive environment created**.

Supporting the Recovery of Sustainable Livelihoods

The presence of Remnants of Conflict restricts community recovery and development. Once a community has been able to re-establish itself in a physical location, it also must develop a livelihood upon which it can sustain itself. The presence of Remnants of Conflict limits the land available for economic use such as farming and agriculture, business, and tourism, and acts as a barrier to natural resources. **By removing Remnants of Conflict MAG allows vital land to be utilized and for communities to improve their livelihoods.**

Key Contribution to National Recovery Efforts

By creating a safe environment, MAG is supporting the reconstruction of Lebanon's primary infrastructure, including schools and medical facilities, which is **vital for the mid-to-long-term recovery and development of the country.**

DONOR

- DFID
- ECHO
- Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (NMFA)
- Stichting Vluchteling
- US Department of State, Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement
- United Nations Office for Project Services
- Rufford Maurice Laing Foundation
- Kirby Laing Foundation
- Lee and Gund Foundation

For more information on MAG's work in Lebanon, or any of its programmes across the world, please visit www.magclearsmines.org or contact:

David Horrocks, Country Programme Manager,
MAG Lebanon, PO Box 140, Villa Geara, Kfar Joz, Nabatieh 170002020, Lebanon
Tel/ Fax: +961 7530 727 Mobile: +961 70 994 567
Email: david.horrocks@maglebanon.com
Llewelyn Jones, Operations Manager,
MAG, 47 Newton Street, Manchester, M1 1FT, United Kingdom
Tel: +44 161 236 4311 Fax: +44 161 236 6244
E-mail: llewelyn.jones@mag.org.uk