



**Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanism for
the United Nations Strategy for Mine Action 2013-2018:**

**Report from the 4th Round of Data Collection
*August 2016***

**Prepared by
the United Nations Inter-Agency Coordination Group on Mine Action**

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Acronyms

APMBC: Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention	M&E: Monitoring and evaluation
AU: African Union	MoU: Memorandum of understanding
BAC: Battle Area Clearance	MRE: Mine/ERW Risk Education
C-IED: Counter-IED	NGO: Non-governmental organization
CCW: Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons	NTS: Non-technical survey
CCM: Convention on Cluster Munitions	OHCHR: Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
CHA: Confirmed Hazardous Area	SHA: Suspected Hazardous Area
DMAC: Directorate for Mine Action Coordination (Afghanistan)	UN VTF: United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Action
DPKO: Department for Peacekeeping Operations (United Nations)	UN Women: United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
EOD: Explosive ordnance disposal	UNDP: United Nations Development Programme
ERW: Explosive remnants of war	UNHCR: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization	UNICEF: United Nations Children's Fund
GICHD: Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining	UNMAS: United Nations Mine Action Service
GMAP: Gender and Mine Action Programme	UNOAU: United Nations Office to the African Union
IACG-MA: Inter-Agency Coordination Group on Mine Action (United Nations)	UNODA: United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs
IASC: Inter-Agency Standing Committee (United Nations)	UNOPS: United Nations Office for Project Services
IDP: Internally displaced person	UNRWA: United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
IED: Improvised explosive device	WFP: World Food Programme
IMAS: International Mine Action Standards	WHO: World Health Organization
IMIS: Information Management Integrated System	
IMSMA: Information Management System for Mine Action.	

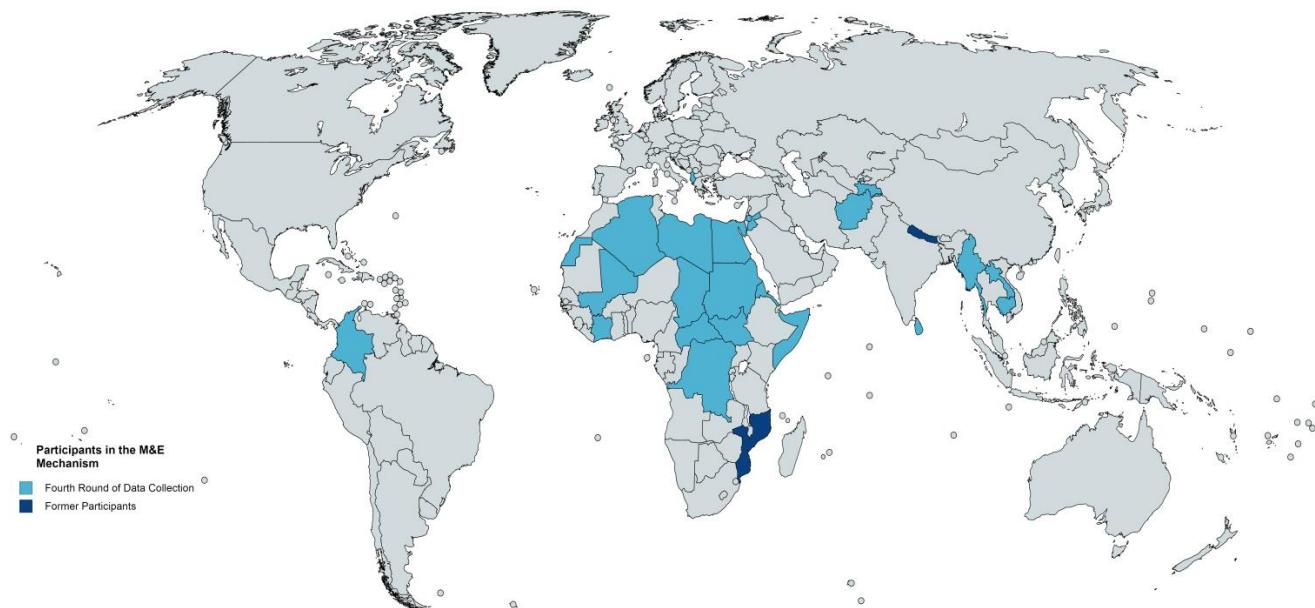
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1. Executive Summary

This report presents the complete results and analysis of data collected through the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Mechanism for the United Nations Mine Action Strategy 2013-2018. The M&E Mechanism is managed by the Inter-Agency Coordination Group on Mine Action (IACG-MA), under the coordination of UNMAS, and supports evidence-based policy-making and results-based management.

Figure 1. Participation in the M&E Mechanism of the UN Strategy for Mine Action 2013-2018¹



Progress described in this report reflects analysis of data as of 31 December of 2015, collected from field-based United Nations Survey Focal Points through four rounds of Survey data collection, and from the Strategic Objective 4 dataset.^{1, 2} The majority of the analyses presented include data from all 25 affected countries and territories with a United Nations mine action presence that participated in the fourth round of data collection or, for trends analysis, from the subset of 23 affected countries and territories that participated in both the third and fourth rounds of data collection.³ A few longer-term analyses draw from other groups of countries/territories; these cases are indicated in footnotes.⁴

¹ Four Survey rounds as follows: Round 1 (with data as of 30 June 2014), Round 2 (with data as of 31 December 2014), Round 3 (with data as of 30 June 2015), and Round 4 (with data as of 31 December 2015).

² The Strategic Objective 4 dataset includes 89 mine-affected countries and territories and examines treaty status, inter-governmental processes/frameworks, and country-level characteristics (GDP, population, regime type, etc.). Data collection for Strategic Objective 4 is undertaken by the IACG-MA M&E Support team based at UN Headquarters in New York, and the data comes from publicly sourced databases maintained by third parties and partner organizations including the World Bank, the Uppsala Conflict Data Program, the Polity Project of the Center for Systemic Peace, the Landmine Monitor, the United Nations Security Council, the United Nations General Assembly, and the United Nations Department of Political Affairs (UN Peacemaker), amongst others.

³ Abyei, Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Cambodia, the Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Darfur, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Eritrea, Jordan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libya, Mali, the State of Palestine, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tajikistan, and Western Sahara.

⁴ A few analyses of trends draw from the 18 countries and territories that participated in the second, third, and fourth rounds (Abyei, Afghanistan, Cambodia, the Central African Republic, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Darfur, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Eritrea, Libya, Mali, the State of Palestine, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tajikistan, and Western Sahara) or from the 12 countries and

The report begins with a discussion of risk and the impact of risk reduction efforts undertaken with the support of the United Nations, including important findings about casualty rates, clearance and land release, and mine/ERW risk education (MRE). Over the previous rounds of data collected, as the casualty rate for mines/ERW has fluctuated, there has been a significant increase in casualties from IEDs. The critical importance of injury surveillance in identifying at-risk communities is discussed, together with the variety of risk factors that programmes consider.

As in previous rounds of data collection, mines/ERW disproportionately impact 1) men and boys, and 2) civilians; this is true both in the aggregate and, with the exception of Myanmar, at the country/territory level as well. UN-supported work in risk reduction employs a variety of strategies including clearance and land release and MRE, and the strategies vary depending on context and needs. Analysis of United Nations support in relation to national capacities for mine action functions demonstrates that the United Nations targets areas of greatest need.

Progress in the clearance and release of contaminated land and infrastructure is very evident. Increasing proportions of contaminated land and infrastructure have been identified, cleared, and returned back to the community. Among countries and territories participating in all four rounds of data collection, the aggregate proportion of identified contaminated land that has been cleared and/or released back to the community has increased by over ten percent, from 61% at the start of 2014 to 72% at the end of 2015. The need for support remains, however, as some countries have not made progress in mine clearance since the start of the M&E Mechanism and in comparison to their baselines. The findings also illustrate particular success in reducing the risk of accessing infrastructure in affected areas: based on the data collected, the rate of clearance of affected infrastructure exceeds the rate at which new contamination is recorded. Mine/ERW risk education continues to have a wide reach in vulnerable communities and amongst the general population, where factors such as population mobility may cause people and communities previously not at-risk to become vulnerable.

Recognizing the importance of national ownership, the M&E Mechanism assesses this issue by examining national legislation and policy, national governance of mine action programmes, and national capacities for mine action functions. Countries continue to improve relevant national policy frameworks: over the four rounds of data collected, there have been increases in the number of programmes with relevant strategies and plans for information management, victim assistance, and the enhancement of national ownership.

National capacity across the different functional areas of mine action operations, as assessed through the Capacity Assessment Tool of the M&E Mechanism, has remained constant over the previous twenty-four months. The M&E Mechanism has recorded successful examples of south-south cooperation to enhance capacity development and information management in mine-affected countries. The areas of strength and need highlighted through the M&E Mechanism reveal additional opportunities for targeted support to capacity enhancement, particularly related to coordination and mine action planning.

In mine action, international normative frameworks shape national policies. This report therefore examines the rate of accession of mine-affected states to international treaties and instruments relevant to mine action, such as the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC), the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM), the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW), and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). The CCM marked its first Review Conference during this reporting period, and motivation

territories that have participated in all four rounds of data collection (Abyei, Afghanistan, Côte d'Ivoire, Darfur, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Mali, the State of Palestine, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, and Western Sahara).

generated by this event led to additional progress in meeting treaty obligations and increasing the number of accessions. The United Nations supports mine action in two of the ten countries that acceded to the CCM in 2015 (being Somalia and the State of Palestine). Nearly 60% (25 countries) of affected countries with a UN mine action presence are now States Parties to the CCM, compared with 49% among all affected countries.

Instruments, initiatives, and documents within the United Nations system present an opportunity to mainstream mine action across the work of the Organization. Efforts by the United Nations, in cooperation with Member States, to increase the profile of mine action issues within key UN documents, such as resolutions by the Security Council and the General Assembly, have been largely successful with the proportion of relevant documents that reference mine action increasing over time, from 32% in 2011 to 58% in 2015. References have ranged from recognizing the humanitarian impact of landmines, explosive remnants of war, and/or improvised explosive devices to calling for Member States and the United Nations to undertake activities to eliminate the threats posed by these explosive hazards. The frequency of mine action references in peace agreements, ceasefire agreements, and related documents has also increased.

The United Nations Strategy for Mine Action 2013-2018 calls for the systematic mainstreaming of gender across all areas of mine action. Accordingly, the M&E Mechanism examines and assesses the implementation of the UN Gender Guidelines for Mine Action Programmes. The data collected presents an encouraging picture while also highlighting areas for improvement. Mine action programmes are found to consistently implement threat assessments in affected communities that take into account and generate comprehensive gender sensitive and representative information; and opportunities to benefit from mine action activities (including through training and employment) are equally available to all people.

The United Nations Strategy for Mine Action 2013-2018 also calls for the development of appropriate targets against which progress towards achieving the Strategic Objectives can be monitored. Accordingly, after the completion of the third round of data collection and analysis in May 2016, the IACG-MA developed and approved a set of targets.⁵ Initial results indicate that the targets are on track to be achieved by the end of the UN Strategy implementation period; indeed, observed change is trending towards positive outcomes.

With the completion of the fourth round of data collection, the inclusion of data from more participating programmes, and improvements in clarity and standardization of reporting approaches, the M&E Mechanism is better able to assess changes over time and generate meaningful insights for practitioners and policy makers in mine action.

⁵ Targets for the UN Mine Action Strategy are discussed in greater detail in Annex 2 (Data and Analysis) Section 7.4.

2. The United Nations in Mine Action: Risk Reduction, National Ownership, and Integrated Policy

Mines and ERW remain a deadly threat in countries and territories in which the UN supports mine action. Globally, more than 89 countries and territories are affected by mines/ERW including cluster munitions;⁶ the UN has a mine action presence in just over half of these. Moreover, the UN operates or supports mine action programmes in 84% of the countries and territories classified as heavily or very heavily contaminated.⁷

Mine/ERW-affected countries and territories face a variety of challenges. Many of these countries are currently experiencing violent conflict⁸ and/or facing significant governance challenges,⁹ and mine-affected countries are predominantly of middle and low-income status.¹⁰ Based on situation and national needs, the United Nations responds with a variety of types and degrees of support.

2.1 UNITED NATIONS SUPPORT TO MINE ACTION

United Nations support to mine action includes deployment of technical advisory staff, and in some cases, assets as well as the provision of financial support including channelling funds and assisting with resource mobilisation. Among programmes participating in the M&E Mechanism, five programmes have more than 26 UN mine action staff, and six programmes have 11-25 UN staff supporting mine action. The remaining 14 participating programs are supported by ten or fewer UN staff each.¹¹ Overall, UN advisors provide technical assistance, on-the-job training to strengthen national capacities, as well as assist with coordination and resource mobilization needs. In national mine action programmes in which there is established national capacity, UN support may be limited to advising the national authority and liaising with the United Nations country office on mine action issues and other responsibilities.

Globally, the bulk of UN-channelled financial support in mine action supports clearance (32%), route clearance, patrol support, and explosive ordnance disposal to facilitate the mobility and operations of deployed United Nations missions (30%), and coordination (11%). Additional areas of United Nations support include programming (6%) and MRE (4%). Technical survey and non-technical survey (combined), weapons and ammunition management (WAM), and explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) spot tasks each receive 3% of UN-channelled financial support.

It should also be noted that among countries participating in the M&E Mechanism, the vast majority of national authorities (90%) invest in their own mine action programmes; the mine action activity areas in which national authorities most frequently invest include advocacy, MRE, and coordination.

⁶ International Campaign to Ban Landmines – Cluster Munitions Coalition (ICBL-CMC), *Interactive Maps*. <http://www.the-monitor.org/en-gb/our-research/interactive-maps.aspx>, (15 June 2016).

⁷ International Campaign to Ban Landmines – Cluster Munitions Coalition (ICBL-CMC), *Landmine Monitor 2013* (Geneva, 2014) pg. 23. Available from: <http://www.the-monitor.org/index.php/publications/display?url=lm/2013/> (accessed 15 December 2014).

⁸ Uppsala Universitet, Department of Peace and Conflict Research, Uppsala Conflict Data Program, UCDP Database. Available from: <http://www.pcr.uu.se/research/UCDP/> (accessed 15 December 2014).

⁹ Center for Systemic Peace, Polity Project, Polity IV Dataset. Available from: <http://www.systemicpeace.org/polityproject.html> (accessed 15 June 2016).

¹⁰ World Bank, GDP statistics. World Development Indicators database. Available from: <http://databank.worldbank.org/data/home.aspx> (accessed 15 June 2016).

¹¹ Six programmes have 1-2 United Nations staff, and eight programmes have 3-10 UN mine action staff.

United Nations financial support for national mine action programmes can vary considerably, illustrating the degree to which such support is tailored to national capacity and to the scale of the problem or need. Most programmes receive a UN-channelled contribution between \$45,000 and \$800,000 USD annually, though some single contributions are as high as \$7,000,000 USD. In countries where the scale of the problem is great and the level of national capacity is high but financial resources are limited, such as in low-income countries, the most pressing mine action needs may be assistance in resource mobilisation. In such circumstances, the United Nations can act as a funding channel for trust fund support to the national mine action programme. In these cases, the United Nations provides donors and national programmes with additional levels of financial oversight of contributions.

2.2 PRIORITYISATION AND THE IDENTIFICATION OF RISK

Prioritisation is the process through which national mine action authorities along with UN and other practitioners determine the sequence by which communities will benefit from mine action interventions. The United Nations often supports prioritisation through instruments including the Humanitarian Response Plan, peacekeeping mandates in relevant contexts, and by coordination with other actors. The United Nations adds value by advising on the development of priority-setting mechanisms and recommendations to support the national authority to reconcile humanitarian and development priorities and improving the mechanisms through which mine action interventions are targeted effectively towards those most in need. The first step in the prioritisation process is the identification of risk factors and of people and communities at risk.

The technical definition of risk as articulated in the International Mine Action Standards is a quantifiable measure of the probability of the occurrence of harm combined with the severity of that harm.¹² In practical terms, programmes consider a variety of specific characteristics and contextual factors when attempting to determine the degree of risk faced by an individual or community and employ a variety of tools and sources to gather information when planning and prioritising mine action interventions, be they clearance and land release activities, MRE programmes, or victim assistance services.

One of the most widely used interpretations of risk is the physical proximity to mine/ERW affected areas. Consequently, the M&E Mechanism tracks the number of people in participating countries and territories who are at risk because of their close proximity to mine/ERW affected areas. The term “in proximity,” for the purpose of the M&E Mechanism, has been defined at the country and territory level based on local context and risk factors. In Afghanistan, for example, the people “in proximity” are defined as those living within 500 meters of a hazardous area, and the team arrived at these estimates using land scan data (Geographic Information Systems (GIS)) and from conducting non-technical survey. In Mali, the team considers all residents of districts that contain contaminated areas to be living in close proximity to affected areas. During the rainy season in Eritrea, nomadic people move from place to place in search of grazing and pasture lands for their animals. This seasonal migration takes them through mine and ERW contaminated areas, thus increasing their level of risk. Nomadic populations in Mali are similarly at risk. The resultant figures from all cases where data could be collected show that at least 15.6 million people live in close proximity to mine/ERW affected areas, and an additional 4.8 million seasonally migrate through mine/ERW affected corridors.¹³ Table 8 on page 27 shows these estimates in greater detail.

¹² Paraphrased from the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS), ISO Guide 51:1999(E).

¹³ Risk data is likely underreported due to challenges of data availability. Ten of 25 participating countries and territories are able to provide data on the number of people who live in close proximity to mine/ERW contaminated areas; of those, three provided data disaggregated by age and gender. Two of 25 countries and territories (Afghanistan and Eritrea) are able to provide data on the number of

Injury surveillance is among the most effective and widely-used approaches used to identify at-risk people and communities. Incident reports that include information such as victim age, gender, occupation, and her/his activity and location at the time s/he was injured provide insight into the specific factors (environmental, social, and economic) and behaviours that increase peoples risk. Mine/ERW injury surveillance data are used to understand the extent of the threat and the impact of mines/ERW on the population, to identify target groups and their risk-taking behaviours, and to support mine action stakeholders in clearance tasks and the delivery of evidence-based MRE programmes. In Sri Lanka, for example, injury surveillance information revealed that approximately 30% of mine/ERW accidents in 2012-2013 occurred as a result of garbage burning in resettlement areas. Subsequently, specific guidelines for garbage burning were developed, and the proportion of mine/ERW accidents resulting from garbage burning was far smaller in 2014. In Afghanistan and Sri Lanka, information from injury surveillance is combined with information from surveys and other sources through a scoring system and used to determine high, medium and low impact areas; services including clearance and MRE are delivered based on these designations. Information collected through the M&E Mechanism also describes of how programmes make use of injury surveillance information in priority setting for clearance and the delivery of MRE in the Central African Republic, Eritrea, Mali, the State of Palestine, and Tajikistan, where the Survey Focal Point notes that “casualty data is essential...[it is] the best guide to understanding risk-taking [behaviour] at the community level.”

National surveys of contamination (i.e. national contamination surveys) are an important tool for prioritisation and risk identification. Fifteen programmes provided information about the most recent national contamination survey undertaken. Eight of these reported that their most recent survey took place between 2006 and 2011. Two were last surveyed prior to 2006. Four programmes completed surveys since 2012, the most recent of which concluded in 2015.

In some contexts, and particularly in situations of active conflict, a flexible and responsive approach to clearance and land release is required. In the Central African Republic and Mali, for example, it has not been possible to complete a comprehensive survey. Instead, teams supported by the United Nations in the Central African Republic employed an “ad-hoc” approach whereby hazards are cleared on an ongoing basis as incidents and the location of explosive devices are identified and reported. Mine action teams in Côte d’Ivoire also operated in this way due to the scale of contamination. Additional strategies of prioritising hazards for clearance, such as using data on UXO and mines reported by local communities, as well as questionnaires and informal interviews with community leaders, can help determine areas of greatest need. As discussed above, programmes also take into account accident and injury reports, prioritising locations where people are frequently hurt.

Resettlement data is also critically important for informing prioritization, as displaced persons, returning to contaminated areas after a conflict or driven to enter contaminated areas because of a conflict, have been found to be especially vulnerable. Programmes in Abyei, Afghanistan, Mali, and Sri Lanka make extensive use of such information. Practitioners also take into account awareness and knowledge about the risks posed by mines/ERW, often assessed through community surveys and key informant interviews (Abyei, the Central African Republic, and Myanmar).

people who seasonally migrate through mine/ERW areas. Estimations on the nomadic population in Afghanistan come from the Afghan Ministry of Borders and Tribes; in Eritrea, the Zobas (Regional Administration) provide these estimates of seasonal migration, though the data are not available with age and gender disaggregation.

2.2.1 At-risk Populations

When the risk factors discussed above are considered as a whole, the number of people determined to be at-risk extends beyond contaminated areas to the wider population of affected areas. In some countries and territories participating in the M&E Mechanism, every person could reasonably be considered to be at risk. As many as 544 million people live in countries and territories that participated in the fourth round of data collection.

As has been the case throughout the four completed rounds of data collection and analysis of the M&E Mechanism, mines and ERW disproportionately impact 1) men and boys, and 2) civilians. This trend is consistent not only in the aggregate but in each specific country and territory as well: with the exception of Myanmar in 2015, men and/or boys constitute the largest proportion of total casualties in every country and territory that was able to report at least some mine/ERW casualty data with age and gender disaggregation. Furthermore, again with the exception of Myanmar, men and boys constitute the largest share of civilian casualties in participating countries and territories. In Myanmar males and females are impacted almost equally. A detailed breakdown of the proportion by age and gender of reported casualties in participating countries and territories is included in Annex 1 Figure 4 (pg. 24).

In the majority of participating countries and territories, adults (men and women) represent the largest proportion of reported victims of mines/ERW. Only in Eritrea, Jordan, Mali, Myanmar, and the State of Palestine do children constitute the greatest share of total casualties. When focusing specifically on civilian casualties, the list is the same with the addition of Afghanistan. Mali and Palestine attribute the disproportionate risk that children – particularly boys – face in their contexts to the activities that children undertake.

Of the countries participating in the M&E Mechanism, Afghanistan, Libya, Mali, and Somalia are significantly impacted by improvised explosive devices (IEDs). Afghanistan, Mali, and Somalia are able to provide data on civilian and non-civilian casualties of IEDs, and the findings from these three countries indicate the greatest number of casualties at the aggregate level is among civilians.¹⁴ Considered separately (i.e. looking separately at each country), civilians also constitute the greatest proportion of IED casualties in Somalia and Afghanistan; in Mali, non-civilians constitute nearly three quarters of IED casualties. Gender disaggregated IED casualty data is unavailable except in Afghanistan, where half of IED casualties are men and an additional quarter are boys.

Casualty rates from mines/ERW, both overall and among civilians, have fluctuated across the data collection rounds in 2014 and 2015, varying between 0.19 and 0.35 casualties due to mines/ERW per million people per month. In contrast, casualty rates from IEDs have consistently increased both overall and among civilians: from 0.2 at the end of 2014 to 0.8 casualties due to IEDs per million people per month at the end of 2015.¹⁵ Casualty rates for mines/ERW and IEDs appear in Annex 1 Tables 1-4 (page 22).

In many countries and territories, injury surveillance information reveals economic motivations for risk-taking behaviour: people are injured by mines/ERW in pursuit of their livelihoods in agriculture, animal husbandry, and collecting firewood or stones for construction (Afghanistan, Eritrea, Mali, the State of Palestine, and Tajikistan). The mine action programme in the State of Palestine has also identified construction workers as being at-risk.

¹⁴ Some organizations distinguish between victim-activated improvised explosive devices (IEDs) and IEDs that are remotely detonated, command detonated, or launched. In this survey, victim-activated IEDs are considered to be mines/ERW, and so deaths and injuries from such devices are counted together with deaths and injuries from mines/ERW. Victims of remotely detonated, command detonated, or launched IEDs are counted separately.

¹⁵ See Annex 2: Data and Analysis for further detail on the treatment of casualty rates in the M&E Mechanism.

2.3 RISK REDUCTION

Identification of risk factors and at-risk populations enables national authorities, with the support of the UN and the engagement of other partners, to pursue risk reduction initiatives such as clearance and land release and MRE. As is true of the risk-identification approaches discussed in the previous section, implementation strategies for risk reduction activities vary based on context and needs, and are implemented in partnership with national authorities wherever possible. In Eritrea, for example, the key approach is community and school-based risk reduction activities in partnership the Ministry of Labour and Human Welfare and the Ministry of Education. These risk reduction strategies, including insights about their impact, efficacy, and reach, are discussed in greater detail in following section.

2.3.1 Clearance and Land Release

It is clear from the data that a great deal of work in survey, clearance, and release of contaminated land and infrastructure has been accomplished in 2014 and 2015. Increasing proportions of contaminated land and infrastructure have been identified, cleared, and returned back to local communities. Among countries and territories participating in all four rounds of data collection, the aggregate proportion of identified contaminated land that has been cleared and/or released back to the community has increased by ten percentage points, from 61% at the start of 2014 to 72% at the end of 2015.¹⁶ Cumulatively, over 8.5 million EOD spot tasks have been completed, with the average number of completed EOD spot tasks per country nearly doubling from the second to the fourth rounds of data collection.¹⁷ The data also demonstrate improvements and progress in the clearance of important infrastructure, such as hospitals, schools, and markets contaminated by mines/ERW. The biannual (six months) rates of clearance of affected infrastructure (see Annex 1 Table 7, page 26) from the fourth round of data collection exceed 100% for most types of infrastructure. This means that mine action programmes are clearing affected infrastructure at a faster rate than the rate at which new contamination is being discovered/recorded.

2.3.2 Impact of Land Release

Once survey, clearance, and land release are complete, it is possible to investigate and consider the effect on the intended outcomes, both humanitarian and developmental.¹⁸ A critical piece of this process is understanding if and how formerly contaminated land is put to productive use.¹⁹ As with the prioritisation process, tools and approaches to monitor the use of cleared land and infrastructure vary by programme and country context. Some programmes conduct specific post-clearance assessment visits six months after clearance activities are completed; others conduct broader assessments. In some contexts, particularly those in which conflict is ongoing, post-clearance assessments are not possible. Efforts to improve such assessments continue in several participating countries. Systematic and comprehensive post-clearance assessment is an area of focus for United Nations capacity enhancement support in the Lao People's Democratic Republic, for example.

Where available, data indicate that the majority of cleared land is put into productive use. In Afghanistan, the mine action authority samples 10-20% of the areas cleared in the past year and conducts an annual Livelihood

¹⁶ Some countries and territories have been able to make more progress than others; the need for support remains, as some countries have not made significant progress towards clearance of identified contaminated land since the start of the M&E Mechanism and in relation to their baselines.

¹⁷ As with all cumulative counts in the survey, completed EOD spot tasks are reported cumulatively to the end of the reporting period as discussed in Annex 2: Data and Analysis.

¹⁸ An investigation of the efficacy of the prioritisation process vis-à-vis humanitarian priorities and outcomes is beyond the scope of the current M&E Mechanism; however it could be explored in future iterations of the M&E Mechanism.

¹⁹ "Productive use," is highly context-specific, but broadly speaking refers to the ability of people to use and derive benefit from cleared land and infrastructure: attending school in cleared schools, travelling on cleared roads, farming on cleared agricultural land, etc.

Survey. The results of Afghanistan's most recent Livelihood Survey show that 100% of cleared areas are in productive use, and another government study found 99% in productive use. While specific figures are unavailable, Tajikistan reports that cleared and released land in the Central region is now in productive use, and Eritrea reports that cleared land is put into productive use primarily for agriculture, grazing, and settlement. Where cleared lands are not in productive use, programmes cited economic, environmental, and political factors in affected communities. Programmes in Algeria and Cambodia, for example, reported that unfavourable economic environments prevented people from making full and productive use of their land. In Western Sahara, water scarcity and inclement weather adversely affect agricultural activities on cleared land, and political factors related to the ongoing conflict there prevent displaced persons from returning to land that has been cleared and/or released.

2.3.3 Mine/ERW Risk Education

Mine/ERW risk education (MRE) programmes in countries with a UN mine action presence continue to educate at-risk populations. Under the leadership of national authorities, where relevant, practitioners work with local volunteers, schools, health facilities, media, and NGOs to maintain community awareness and promote safe behaviour. In 2015 alone, MRE programmes directly reached over 1.2 million people in 23 countries and territories participating in the M&E Mechanism. Cumulatively, 36.6 million people have received direct MRE in countries and territories participating in Round 4 of the M&E Mechanism, representing 10% of the total population of countries in which the United Nations supports mine action (Annex 1 Table 9, page 27).²⁰

In the fourth round of data collection, participating countries and territories were asked for the first time to report on the number of beneficiaries of MRE who were also considered to be at risk. Seven countries and territories were able to do so.²¹ Among these countries and territories, 5% of people receiving MRE are considered to be at risk (1.2 million out of 24.2 million people).²² A related finding shows that, in countries and territories in which data on both the population living in close proximity to contaminated areas and the number of beneficiaries are available, the proportion of people receiving MRE (11% of total population, or 23.4 million people) is nearly double the proportion of the population reported to be in close proximity to contaminated areas (6% of the population, or 13 million people). These proportions have remained consistent throughout 2014 and 2015, barring changes attributable to population growth, among the countries and territories participating in all four rounds of the Survey.

Anecdotal evidence provides solid context with which to interpret these findings. For example, many programmes intentionally repeat risk education sessions and outreach in at-risk communities to sustain the message over time.²³ Such repetition is considered good practice, especially in high-risk situations where population movement and conflict is dynamic, and where complacency appears to be an issue in risk-taking behaviour. Moreover, MRE is often intentionally delivered outside of communities currently at risk in anticipation of future mobility. For example, in Chad and Eritrea, government workers including teachers and health workers are frequently rotating to different regions, including to contaminated areas. Children in Eritrea who commute daily from home to school

²⁰ The M&E Mechanism defines a direct beneficiary as someone who attends an in-person MRE session of any kind (lesson, presentation, briefing, training, receive a door-to-door visit, attend a child friendly space, etc.) provided by an educator of any kind (teacher, member of an NGO, religious leader, community member/leader, police or military officer, etc.).

²¹ Afghanistan, the Central African Republic, Eritrea, Mali, Myanmar, the State of Palestine, and Sri Lanka.

²² The M&E Mechanism defines a direct beneficiary as someone who attends an in-person MRE session of any kind (lesson, presentation, briefing, training, receive a door-to-door visit, attend a child friendly space, etc.) provided by an educator of any kind (teacher, member of an NGO, religious leader, community member/leader, police or military officer, etc.).

²³ This practice could lead to double counting of MRE beneficiaries in some contexts.

typically travel five to fifteen kilometres each way, at times could be through mine/ERW contaminated areas. In addition, students advancing in school may be required to transfer from safe areas to contaminated regions. Humanitarian aid workers, governmental staff and journalists based in areas without contamination are also vulnerable as they occasionally travel to or through contaminated regions in the course of their work.²⁴

Unfortunately, many programmes report challenges in accessing at-risk communities. Ongoing conflict restricts the delivery of MRE in the Central African Republic and in some locations in northern Mali; the programme in Myanmar also faces challenges of access, though the programme is able to deliver MRE to some of the government-controlled and non-government-controlled affected areas.

The preceding discussion refers to direct or in-person delivery of MRE. In many countries and communities, the UN also supports the widespread delivery of MRE beyond the highly contaminated areas and particularly through the integration of MRE into school curricula, public health information, and the use of local radio, or television delivery platforms, text messaging campaigns and internet platforms including social media. For example, the United Nations supported this type of mass-media MRE effort in eight districts in Sri Lanka. This kind of broad approach can enable programmes to access remote communities and communities that are challenging to access (as described above). Though counting such indirect beneficiaries is beyond the scope of current global M&E efforts, such strategies play an important role in disseminating and reinforcing MRE messages and sometimes a lifesaving role in areas not accessible to MRE teams.

2.4 VICTIM ASSISTANCE

United Nations support to victims of mines/ERW is guided by the United Nations Policy on Victim Assistance in Mine Action (Victim Assistance Policy), and updating this policy is a requirement of the Strategy. The United Nations met this commitment, releasing the updated Victim Assistance Policy in May of 2016.

The updated Policy takes into account the enhanced normative framework for persons with disabilities, namely the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.²⁵ Given the increasing IED casualty rates observed, consistent with trends observed in the four IED-affected countries participating in the M&E Mechanism, the Victim Assistance Policy recognizes the varied nature of explosive threats. The updated Policy also defines the principles and elements upon which UN support to victim assistance in mine action should be based, ensures that victim assistance is consistent with the requirements of international humanitarian and human rights law, identifies opportunities to support national authorities in their support to victims and survivors of mines/ERW, describes the roles and responsibilities of United Nations entities in this area, and identifies key components of resource mobilisation.²⁶

In practice, the United Nations engages with victim assistance as needed and requested by national authorities. The engagement tends to focus on support for individual projects, such as the development of surveillance programmes or victim assistance service provision; work remains to be done in fostering the development of

²⁴ The IACG-MA is confident in the interpretation articulated above, however it is important to note other possible explanations for the finding that the proportion of people receiving MRE exceeds the proportion of people identified as at-risk. For example, it is possible that some at-risk beneficiaries are being counted multiple times (double-counting), or that risk estimates at the programme level are low due to issues of seasonal migration (in places where proximity is used as proxy for risk).

²⁵ Further discussion of the Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities is included in section 3.6 (International Policy).

²⁶ The Policy is informed by relevant existing instruments of international humanitarian law and international human rights law, including the Geneva Conventions, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and the Convention on Cluster Munitions.

comprehensive national victim assistance programmes that are integrated into national disability frameworks. Encouragingly, 59% of countries (13 of 22) participating in the M&E Mechanism have a national disability policy framework or strategy that provides for victims & survivors of mines/ERW, and an additional five countries have national disability policies or strategies that do not include an explicit reference to victims & survivors of mines/ERW.²⁷ Some national authorities prefer not to differentiate mine/ERW survivors within their policy framework for persons with disabilities, preferring a wholly integrated approach. This is true also of victim assistance service provision. Comprehensive programmes providing services to all persons with disabilities, including mine/ERW survivors, may be more efficient. Figure and Figure 5 in Annex 1 (Tables and Charts, pg. 28) provide additional detail about the provision of victim assistance services.

In terms of progress against key indicators on victim assistance in the UN Mine Action Strategy, the percentage of participating countries providing a full range of victim assistance services (emergency medical care, continuing medical care, physical rehabilitation, psychosocial support, social inclusion support, and livelihoods support and economic reintegration) has steadily increased over the four data collection rounds in 2014 and 2015. However, information on access to, and utilisation of, in-country victim assistance services amongst participating programmes remains scarce. It will be valuable for programmes to strengthen injury surveillance efforts not only to monitor and improve victim assistance support, but also to guide, prioritize, improve, monitor, and assess components of mine action.

2.5 NATIONAL OWNERSHIP AND NATIONAL POLICY

A fully-functioning national mine action system is comprised of several critical components that are the responsibility of the national governments to develop and maintain, with UN assistance where requested. These elements include a legislative framework, a set of national standards and a system/process of accreditation of mine/ERW clearance operators, a national strategy for mine action, and an empowered national body to manage mine action with personnel, budget, quality assurance and an information management system. The M&E Mechanism looks closely at different aspects of the national management systems in place to monitor progress being made by national authorities towards having an efficient and effective national mine action structure.

Encouragingly, 76% of participating programmes report having a national strategy on information management, and 77% collect and maintain data on civilian and non-civilian casualties from mines/ERW. Nearly 60% of participating countries have a national mine action strategy or have incorporated mine action into existing national strategies. Furthermore, 90% of countries participating in the M&E Mechanism report that national authorities invest in one or more components of their own mine action programmes, and almost as many complement this direct investment through the receipt of bi- or multilateral funding for mine action.

In the Lao People's Democratic Republic, mine action is integrated into the national strategy for unexploded ordnance, "Safe Path Forward II," which will be in effect through 2020. In South Sudan, the Mine Action Strategy is a Ministry of Defence document. Mine action in Sri Lanka is housed in the Ministry of Prison Reforms, Rehabilitation, Resettlement and Hindu Religious Affairs. Sri Lanka's national mine action strategy was developed in 2010 and has recently been revised. Since the third round of data collection of the M&E Mechanism, the Government of Afghanistan has endorsed the National Mine Action Strategic Plan 2016-2020, and mine action priorities have been incorporated into other strategies and programmes.

²⁷ Thus, 82% (18 of 22) of countries have a national disability policy framework.

The M&E Mechanism also assesses the capacity of the national authority across different functional areas through its Capacity Assessment Tool, completed by UN Survey Focal Points. The Capacity Assessment Tool created a platform for constructive discussion and assessment, and national authorities felt that the UN listened to them and paid attention to the areas of capacity need identified.²⁸ Where the partnership between the UN and the national authority is close, the anecdotal feedback from the field has been very positive.

Data from the capacity assessment indicates that the UN continues to work in contexts with significant national capacity challenges. Over the two years that data has been collected for the M&E Mechanism, there have not been significant changes in the capacity levels of the national authorities of participating programmes. This is unsurprising since changes in capacity typically evolve over longer periods of time. As was the case in the third round of data collection, victim assistance, the procurement of mine action services, and resource mobilization are the areas of lowest national capacity and also the areas most frequently identified as in need of improved capacity. Encouragingly, programmes report stronger capacity in advocacy, with 72% (16 countries) reporting basic, moderate, or good capacity in place, and three reporting independent capacity in place.

Findings from the capacity assessment indicate a potential opportunity for south-south cooperation in the areas of coordination, planning, and injury surveillance. All but one or two countries have at least basic capacity in place, and four have independent capacity in place, in both coordination and mine action planning. Injury surveillance is also split, with 14 countries reporting at least basic capacity in place (including four that report independent capacity in place); five indicate a need for increased capacity. This suggests that the countries that have high and independent capacity in these areas could potentially provide assistance to their peers that report basic, moderate, or a need for enhanced capacity in place. Coordination of such collaboration would represent an additional area of support the United Nations could provide.

The M&E Mechanism looks closely at the extent to which national authorities institutionalize mine action through the adoption and implementation of national law and policy frameworks. Policy frameworks for addressing the needs of victims and survivors of mines/ERW are considered, as are national policies and strategies on mine action overall, on information management, and on the transition of mine action programmes from the UN to national authorities, where relevant. The examination of national policies is closely tied to the analysis of capacity discussed above, as the policy and capacity are mutually reinforcing and reciprocal.

National mine action programmes may be considered to be “transitioned” when they are primarily owned and managed by national actors who have leadership and capacity to fulfil mine action obligations.²⁹ Using this definition, 42% (10 out of 24) of countries participating in the Survey have completed the transition process, and a further 19% (4 of 21) are in the process of transitioning.

Of the participating countries and territories for which questions of transition are relevant (those are starting or are partway through the transition process) 53% (8 of 15) have a transition plan in place.³⁰ In 2015, the Somali

²⁸ Specific citation unavailable; feedback recorded during a series of discussions held by the Consultative Working Group with Survey Focal Points in 2014.

²⁹ Definition adapted by the IACG-MA Consultative Working Group on Monitoring and Evaluation of the UN Strategy based on the 2013 Guide from UNMAS-GICHD, “Transitioning Mine Action Programmes to National Ownership.” Pg. 43.

³⁰ A transition plan is developed by the UN in collaboration with national authorities that outlines the process whereby the national authority assumes primary responsibility for mine action within their jurisdiction (and the UN withdraws or scales down operations). The UN Strategy articulates the need for each country to establish a transition plan. A transition plan should also include the specific areas to be ‘transitioned’ and an explanation of the UN’s supporting role. Additional information about Transition planning can be found in the UNMAS/GICHD [A Guide on Transitioning Mine Action Programmes](#).

Explosive Management Authority made significant steps towards establishing itself formally within government institutions (with explosive hazard legislation passed, funding for personnel approved through the government budget, and development of a national plan for clearance), while in Tajikistan five mine action staff transitioned from UN roles to positions in national mine action entities (three to the Tajikistan National Mine Action Centre and two to a Tajik NGO).

In several countries participating in the fourth round of data collection, issues of transition and transition planning are less relevant given the current context. For participating countries such as Albania, Algeria, Cambodia, Colombia, Egypt, Eritrea, Jordan, Sudan, and Tajikistan, the national authority already assumes full responsibility for mine action. However, this does not mean that the national authority and mine action centre no longer need support or technical assistance from the United Nations. Additional support may be required to address a specific identified need, such as additional training on a new methodology or introduction of new clearance tools. In such cases, upon receiving the request of the national government, the UN can provide technical assistance to strengthen existing national capacity or assist in coordination, information management and resource mobilization efforts.

2.6 INTERNATIONAL POLICY

The M&E Mechanism considers international conventions and treaties concerning mine action in relation to national policy frameworks, as the former are intended to influence and shape policy at the national level. Thus, the M&E Mechanism also tracks the extent to which mine/ERW-affected countries accede to international normative frameworks such as the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC), the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM), the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW), and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).

In 2015, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Vietnam acceded to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, thereby raising the percentage of mine/ERW-affected countries that are states parties from 93% to 94%. While there were no changes in the number of accessions to the APMBC in 2015, several mine affected countries ratified or became signatories to other mine action related treaties, including the CCM, the CCW, and the CRPD as previously discussed.

The First Review Conference for the CCM in September 2015 served as a focus for a significant lobbying campaign by civil society, States Parties, and the United Nations for universalisation. The year 2015 saw ten new accessions to the CCM, including the State of Palestine, a state affected by cluster munitions in which the UN supports mine action. The effect of these changes on overall findings from the M&E Mechanism is small, however, as the remaining new accessions are from countries that are not in the dataset of affected countries. As of 2015, 49% of affected countries were States Parties to the CCM; among countries with a UN mine action presence, 58% were States Parties to the CCM. This is a slight improvement over 2014, in which these figures were 48% and 56%, respectively. Algeria and the State of Palestine both ratified the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons in 2015, and these improvements are reflected in Table 13 (see Annex 1).

2.6.1 Policy within the United Nations System

Mine action is multidimensional in nature, facilitating and enabling the achievement of peace and security, human rights, peacebuilding, protection, humanitarian and development outcomes. From a policy perspective, therefore, it is necessary to articulate the links between mine action and a wide range of thematic areas addressed by the UN inter-governmental processes. These thematic areas include, for example, protection of civilians, displaced

persons (refugees, returnees, and internally displaced persons), issues of women, peace, and security and children and armed conflict. Mine action contributes towards stabilization within peacekeeping and peacebuilding, small arms and light weapons programmes (in relation to weapons and ammunition management) and through the assessment of asymmetric threats/warfare. Mine action enables the creation of viable opportunities for recovery from disasters or conflicts by allowing landmine, cluster munition and other ERW-affected communities to take steps towards sustainable development. By surveying and clearing hazardous areas, it allows the release of previously contaminated land for productive use for the benefit of local communities. This enables the construction of infrastructure, schools, dams and roads and market places but also safe access to land for cultivation, gathering of natural resources and water sources. Clearance activities often occur in tandem with other financial and livelihood support, including small business loans, vocational training and technical help with transport, food storage and livestock handling. Employment in mine action projects often helps crisis-affected communities to earn an income and contributes to rebuilding their livelihoods, enhancing social stability and promoting reconciliation and reintegration. Mine action programmes also improve human capital through MRE and vocational training for victims and survivors in what are often marginalized communities. By addressing broader development considerations, mine action also contributes towards sustainable development and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).³¹

To assess progress towards the integration of mine action into multilateral instruments and frameworks, the inclusion of mine action in relevant Security Council and General Assembly reports and resolutions along with peace agreements and ceasefire agreements has been tracked between 2011 and 2015. In addition, analysis has taken place to assess how the discussion of mine action has evolved within these frameworks.

Overall, findings show a definite trend of references to mine action related issues appearing with greater frequency in all types of documents included in the analysis. Between 2011 and 2015, the number of relevant Security Council and General Assembly Reports and Resolutions in which mine action can be included has marginally increased from 162 to 177.³² More importantly, mine action references within these relevant documents has increased from 32% in 2011 to 58% in 2015.

In Security Council and General Assembly Reports and Resolutions pertaining to specific countries (as opposed to those pertaining to a group, region, or topic/theme), the frequency of references to mine action topics changes in response to each country's context or conflict. The majority of mine action references are found in documents relating to countries that are experiencing, or have recently experienced, violent conflict and/or facing significant governance challenges. The countries presenting the biggest increase between the beginning and end of the reporting period were the Central African Republic, Côte d'Ivoire, Darfur, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Somalia and Syria. Other countries, such as Mali, experienced significant increases over shorter time periods: from 2011 to 2014, the percentage of documents related to Mali that referenced mine action increased from 0% to 77%.

These increases are primarily attributable to instances of conflict necessitating a response that incorporates some form of mine action, such as ERW response, IED threat mitigation or weapons and ammunition management. Increases in references can also be due to the establishment of new mine action groups or focal points in certain

³¹ Further discussion of the multidimensional nature of mine action and its implications for M&E is included in Annex 2 (Data and Analysis) section 7.3.

³² Definitions of peace agreements, ceasefire agreements, and relevant related documents are discussed in Annex 2: Data and Analysis.

countries. For example, in Myanmar in 2012, the Mine Risks Working Group was established, prompting more reporting of incidents and the general threat from contamination in the country.³³

There are two main contexts in which mine action is referenced in General Assembly or Security Council resolutions: either to describe a situation along with the entity that is responsible for tackling the threat, or, especially in areas where the UN is not present, to simply describe the situation. The specific topics most frequently mentioned are “Clearance”, “ERW”, “Mine Action”, “Mine”, “UNMAS”, and “WAM”. Two of the largest increases are the references to “ERW” and “WAM”. This change in terminology is indicative of a shift in the perception of mine action: mine action is not only eliminating the threat of mines but also managing the threat posed by explosive hazards more broadly, including ERW, IEDs, and poorly managed stocks of ammunition.

The increase in references to ERW also reflects the rise in the number of conflicts since the mid-2000s.³⁴ There were frequent references to ERWs particularly in UN documents concerned with humanitarian aspects of peacekeeping operations. This can be explained because the majority of recent conflicts have been mostly societal in nature rather than interstate, so ERWs are mostly found in urban or populated areas, rather than isolated battlefields, which is where most combat occurs during interstate wars.

There was also a significant rise in references to IEDs. Between 2011 and 2015, the proportion of relevant documents mentioning IEDs increased from 4.3% to nearly 20% of all UN documents in less than five years. This increase is due not only to the increased use of IEDs and their impact on UN staff and operations, but also the threat posed by IEDs to civilians.

The substance of the discussion of IEDs varies depending on whether the document pertains to a specific country, a region or group of countries, or to a particular theme. Documents that are specific to a country in which the UN has a minimal operational presence tend to mention IEDs only when reporting incidents and attacks. In contrast, documents discussing a theme (“Women, Peace, and Security,” or “Children and Armed Conflict,”), a group of countries or a country in which the UN is mandated to establish or maintain a peacekeeping operation are more likely to discuss IEDs in greater depth. IED threat mitigation tactics are discussed in these documents, as well as clearance and disposal, training, capacity development, and risk education in relation to IEDs.

2.6.2 Mine Action in Peacebuilding Frameworks

Across peace agreements, ceasefire agreements, and related documents, the number of references to mine action issues has increased from 10% in 2011 to 25% in 2015.³⁵ The overall number of relevant documents has decreased however, going from 20 in 2011 to 12 in 2015.³⁶

Among peace agreements, ceasefire agreements, and related documents, Sudan is the country with the most (23 documents), followed by South Sudan (14), Mali (12), the Philippines (10) and the Central African Republic (9). The countries having the greatest proportion of documents referencing mine action are the following: the Central African Republic (2 of 9), Darfur (1 of 3), Libya (1 of 2) Myanmar (1 of 9), the Philippines (1 of 10), South Sudan (1 of 14) and Sudan (2 of 23). Some documents only refer to weapons and ammunition management as opposed to mines and ERW, as is the case for Libya.

³³ Information gathered through the M&E Mechanism Survey.

³⁴ Global Conflict Trends, Center for Systemic Peace: <http://www.systemicpeace.org/conflicttrends.html>

³⁵ Definitions of peace agreements, ceasefire agreements, and relevant related documents are discussed in Annex 2: Data and Analysis.

³⁶ This decrease can be explained by a study by the International Institute for Strategic Studies suggesting that the total number of conflicts had decreased since 2011, although the total number of fatalities had increased. In 2011, 55 conflicts had caused 49,000 fatalities, against 42 armed conflicts having caused around 180,000 fatalities in 2014.

Mine action is discussed differently in ceasefire agreements and peace agreements. In the former, it is discussed in its short-term capacity, with the laying down of weapons and the cessation of mine laying activities; in the latter, the issues revolve around demining, weapons disposal and the clearance of contaminated land, and mine action in the longer term.

Several factors help to explain the rarity with which references to mine action appear in these documents. First, very few of the countries considered to be heavily contaminated by landmines (those with more than 100 square kilometres of contaminated land) figure in this dataset, as most of these countries are still experiencing conflict (Afghanistan, Iraq) or have already had peace treaties in place before the period under review (Angola, Azerbaijan, Bosnia- Herzegovina, Cambodia, Croatia, Thailand, Sri Lanka,).³⁷ Secondly, intra-state conflicts are at greater risk of being reignited as countries experiencing such conflict are vulnerable to what scholars have dubbed the ‘conflict trap’ – a consequence of the destruction of state and society after a conflict.³⁸ Since there were considerably more intra-state conflicts between 2011 and 2015, the proportion of relevant documents per territory is higher.³⁹ Furthermore, as the clearance of mines and ERW is a slow process whose immediate political impact may be considered minimal during negotiations. Therefore, clearance is not necessarily an immediate priority for the parties engaged in ceasefires and peace negotiations.

The cases of Colombia, Myanmar, and Ukraine present an alternate view, though only the documentation for Myanmar was available for inclusion in the quantitative portion of this analysis. Issues of arms and munitions control have played a prominent role in discussions and protocols associated with the work of the Minsk Group, the mechanism through which the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), the Russian Federation and the Ukraine undertake diplomatic efforts to resolve the conflict in the Ukraine. In Colombia, ceasefire negotiations between the national government and the FARC – as well as the ceasefire accord – include a specific commitment to collaborate clearance efforts including the clearance of anti-personnel mines, IEDs, unexploded ordnance, and explosive remnants of war.⁴⁰ In Myanmar, mine action has been at the heart of ceasefire negotiations and peacebuilding processes. A National Ceasefire Agreement was negotiated and signed by eight ethnic armed groups in October of 2015. The document states that the parties to the agreement will end the planting of mines and cooperate with one another on the process of mine clearance. In this context, the strong commitment to mine action by all parties is clear, and the visibility of mine action in peacebuilding documents reflects the centrality of mine action to the peace process.

³⁷ Landmine Monitor interactive world map, <http://www.the-monitor.org/en-gb/our-research/interactive-maps.aspx>

³⁸ Pg. 71, Greene, O and Marsh, N “Small Arms, Crime and Conflict”- Routledge studies in Peace and Conflict Resolution, 2012

³⁹ The case of South Sudan’s seven peace agreements with Sudan between 2011-2013 is ambiguous as the former country gained independence in 2011 and violent conflicts have persisted in both countries, leading it to be seen as the “civil war of interlocking civil wars” - Atta el-Battahani, “A complex web - Politics and conflict in Sudan”; http://www.c-r.org/downloads/Accord%2018_3Acomplexweb_2006_ENG.pdf

⁴⁰ Colombia. Sistema Informativo Del Gobierno (SIG). Presidencia De La República De Colombia. Comunicado Conjunto No. 76. 23 June 2016. Available from: <http://es.presidencia.gov.co/noticia/160623-Comunicado-Conjunto-No-76> (accessed 1 August 2016)

3. Implementation of the United Nations Gender Guidelines for Mine Action Programmes

As part of the Survey, programmes were asked to report on the extent to which the UN Gender Guidelines for Mine Action Programmes⁴¹ (hereafter Gender Guidelines) were applied by indicating the frequency with which each activity-specific guideline is implemented in their mine action programme.⁴² Where possible, the assessment reflects all UN-supported mine action work across a country or territory. The findings emphasize where programmes reported consistent implementation of the Gender Guidelines.⁴³ As a means to gather a greater level of detail, particularly about the implementation of guidelines intended to ensure that interactions between mine action teams and beneficiary communities are positive and culturally sensitive, the Survey instrument was revised for the fourth round of data collection. New and adjusted questions provide more specific and directed information about how programmes implement the Gender Guidelines.

Overall, the data present an encouraging picture of gender sensitivity in mine action programmes, with 86% of programmes consistently implementing (i.e. implementing at least half the time) the guidelines aimed at encouraging women's employment in mine action, such as ensuring the accessibility and relevance of vacancy announcements, monitoring equity of access to job training opportunities, etc. The data also highlight a few opportunities for improvement in this area (see Annex 1 Figure 9), and programmes are encouraged to carefully track the sex of participants in job training sessions to facilitate monitoring. Programmes are also encouraged to continue ongoing efforts in the area of community liaison. As shown in Annex 1 Figure 8, 59% of participating programmes reporting following the community liaison guidelines at least half the time; this is consistent with findings in previous rounds of data collection.

Programmes also consistently follow gender guidelines associated with research and data collection; assembling survey teams, disaggregating survey data based on the gender of both interviewer and respondent, and ensuring gender balance among interviewers and respondents. Seventy-four percent of programmes report implementing guidelines in this domain at least half the time. As in the third round of data collection, programmes are encouraged to ensure that survey/clearance teams receive training in gender-sensitive data collection.

⁴¹ UN Inter-Agency Coordination Group on Mine Action, *Gender Guidelines for Mine Action Programmes*, (New York, New York, United Nations, 2010). Available from: <http://www.mineaction.org/sites/default/files/publications/MA-Guidelines-WEB.pdf> (accessed 15 February 2016).

⁴² The specific guidelines are grouped into four domains, being "Assessment of Threat," "Employment Opportunities in the Mine Action Sector," "Programme Design," and "Community Liaison." For a full discussion of these domains, see Annex 1: Tables and Charts, pg. 35. A scale of "Almost Always" (76-100% of the time), "Often" (51-75% of the time), "Sometimes" (26-50% of the time), or "Rarely" (0-25% of the time) is used to indicate frequency of implementation.

⁴³ "Consistent implementation" means that a programme reported following the guidelines associated with each theme at least half of the time in which it would be relevant to do so.

Annex 1: Tables and Charts

As discussed in the Annex 2 Section 7.2, cumulative totals run from the start date identified by each participating country/territory to the end of the relevant reporting period.⁴⁴

1 VISION OF THE UNITED NATIONS STRATEGY FOR MINE ACTION 2013-2018

“...a world free of the threat of mines and ERW, including cluster munitions, where individuals and communities live in a safe environment conducive to development and where the human rights and the needs of mine and ERW victims are met and survivors are fully integrated and equal members of their societies.”⁴⁵

Table 1 and Table 2: Casualty rates; restricted to the twelve countries/territories participating in all four rounds of data collection: Abyei, Afghanistan, Côte d’Ivoire, Darfur, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Mali, the State of Palestine, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, and Western Sahara.

Table 1. Mine/ERW Casualties Rate (Restricted)	2014 (2 nd half-year)	2015 (1 st half-year)	2015 (2 nd half-year)
Casualties (deaths and injuries) due to mines/ERW per million people per month.	0.31	0.35	0.19
Civilian casualties (deaths & injuries) due to mines/ERW per million people per month.	0.30	1.85 ^{46, 47}	0.12

Table 2. Improvised Explosive Devices Casualties Rate (Restricted)	2014 (2 nd half-year)	2015 (1 st half-year)	2015 (2 nd half-year)
Casualties (deaths & injuries) due to IEDs per million people per month.	0.21	0.66	0.81
Civilian casualties (deaths & injuries) due to IEDs per million people per month.	0.10	0.58	0.58

Table 3 and Table 4: Casualty rates, restricted to the 18 countries /territories participating in rounds two, three, and four of data collection: Abyei, Afghanistan, Cambodia, the Central African Republic, Colombia, Côte d’Ivoire, Darfur, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Eritrea, Libya, Mali, the State of Palestine, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, and Tajikistan, and Western Sahara.

Table 3. Mine/ERW Casualties Rate (Restricted)	2015 (1 st half-year)	2015 (2 nd half-year)
Casualties (deaths and injuries) due to mines/ERW per million people per month.	0.25	0.29
Civilian casualties (deaths & injuries) due to mines/ERW per million people per month.	1.03 ⁴⁸	0.09

Table 4. Improvised Explosive Devices Casualties Rate (Restricted)	2015 (1 st half-year)	2015 (2 nd half-year)
Casualties (deaths & injuries) due to IEDs per million people per month.	0.36	0.87
Civilian casualties (deaths & injuries) due to IEDs per million people per month.	0.32	0.33

⁴⁴ 31 December 2015 for the fourth round of data collection.

⁴⁵ United Nations, *The Strategy of the United Nations on Mine Action 2013-2018*. Available from:

http://www.mineaction.org/sites/default/files/publications/mine_action_strategy_mar15.pdf (accessed 15 February 2016).

⁴⁶ The spike in civilian casualties of mines/ERW is not currently explicable; further investigation will be undertaken in future rounds of data collection. Annex 2 (Data and Analysis) includes additional discussion of the treatment of casualty rates in the M&E Mechanism.

⁴⁷ The civilian casualty rate exceeds the overall casualty rate due to issues of data availability (some programmes are not able to provide civilian/non-civilian disaggregation, therefore cannot be included in the calculation of civilian casualty rates).

Figure 2. Mine/ERW Casualties in 2015 (Age and Gender)
Data from all participants in Round 4

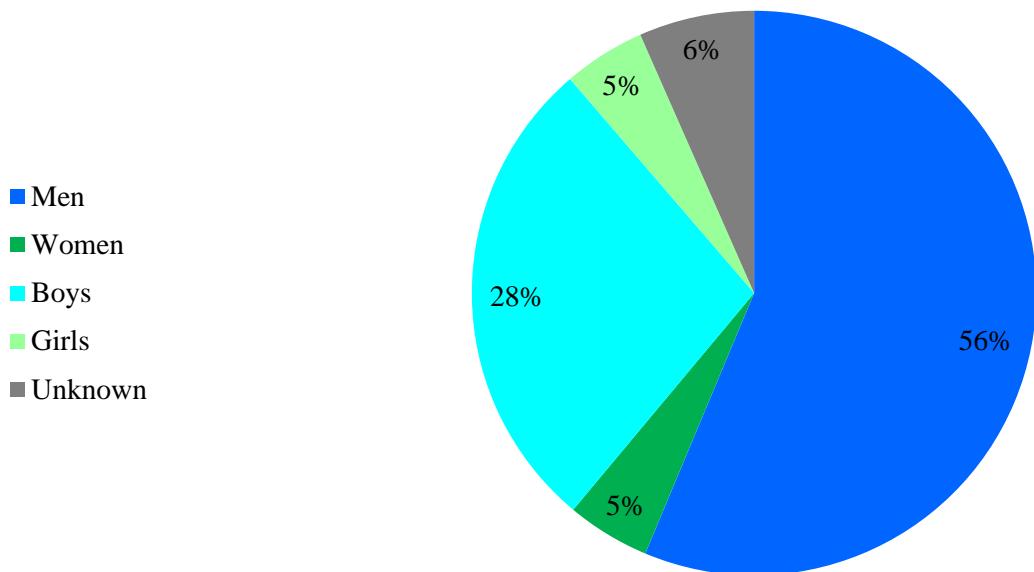
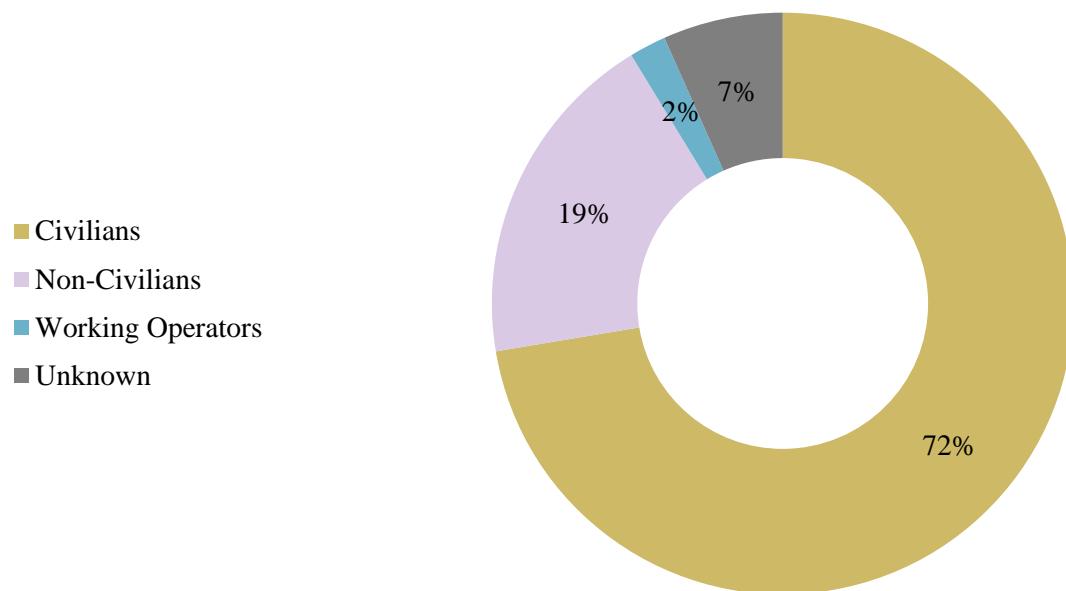


Figure 3. Mine/ERW Casualties in 2015 (Victim Type)
Data from all participants in Round 4



Wherever possible, participating programmes track and provide casualty data disaggregated by age and gender and by civilian and non-civilian status. In certain contexts this data is not available because it does not exist or because it is not accessible. Efforts to increase the availability of disaggregated data are ongoing. Further discussion of data availability is included in Annex 2 (Data and Analysis).

Figure 4. Mine/ERW Casualties in 2015 (Age and Gender) by Country/Territory

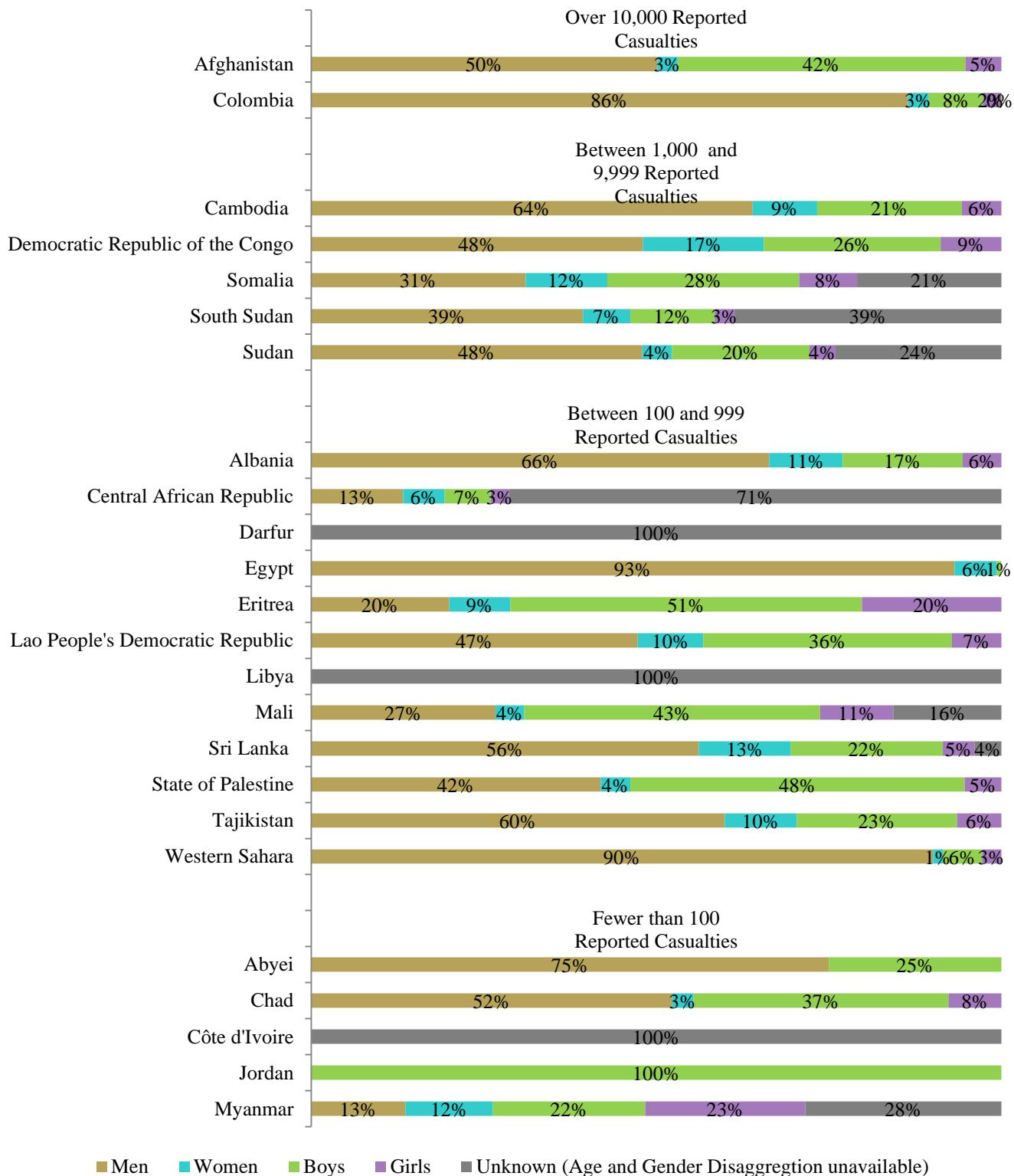


Table 5. Cumulative casualties in countries and territories in which children are proportionally the most impacted.⁴⁸	Men	Women	Boys	Girls	(Age & gender unknown)	Total
Eritrea	178	79	453	180	0	884
Jordan	0	0	5	0	0	5
Mali	58	9	93	23	34	217
Myanmar	13	12	21	22	27	97
The State of Palestine	291	30	336	37	0	694

2 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1 OF THE UNITED NATIONS STRATEGY FOR MINE ACTION 2013-2018

Strategic Objective 1: Risks to individuals and the socio-economic impacts of mines and ERW, including cluster munitions, are reduced.⁴⁹

Table 6. Clearance Indicators	2015⁵⁰ (2nd half-year)	Change in percentage points in 2015⁵¹ (from 1st to 2nd half-year)
Average percent of land that has been surveyed. ⁵²	56%	+0.2%
Percent of suspected and confirmed hazardous areas that have been returned to communities (SHA & CHA released, BAC and Minefields).	89%	-1% ⁵³

⁴⁸ As discussed in the Annex 2 Section 7.2, the timeframe for cumulative totals runs from the start date identified by each participating country/territory to the end of the relevant reporting period.

⁴⁹ United Nations, *The Strategy of the United Nations on Mine Action 2013-2018*. Available from:

http://www.mineaction.org/sites/default/files/publications/mine_action_strategy_mar15.pdf (accessed 15 February 2016).

⁵⁰ Includes all 25 countries and territories participating in Round 4.

⁵¹ Restricted to the 23 countries and territories participating in both Round 3 and Round 4.

⁵² The Survey asks, “what percentage of the country has been surveyed?,” and the reported proportions are averaged.

⁵³ The decrease of one percentage point is not currently explicable; further investigation will be undertaken in future rounds of data collection. The likeliest explanation includes the further discovery and identification of contaminated land.

Table 7 tracks the identification and clearance of affected infrastructure. The two counts (being “known and identified” and “cleared” are cumulative totals from the start date identified by each participating country/territory to the end of the relevant reporting period (see Annex 2 Section 7.2). “Percent cleared of total identified” is calculated using these cumulative totals (73 of 98 hospitals cleared is 74% for the first half-year of 2015). The biannual clearance rate, in contrast, is the ratio of newly identified to newly cleared affected infrastructure, expressed as a percentage $((73 - 8)/(98 - 15) = 0.78$, or 78% for the first half-year of 2015).

Table 7. Affected Infrastructure⁵⁴		2014 (2nd half-year)	2015⁵⁵ (1st half-year)	2015 (2nd half-year)
Hospitals	Known and Identified	15	98	137
	Cleared	8	73	115
	Biannual clearance rate	57%	78%	108%
	Percent cleared of total identified (cumulative)	53%	74%	84%
Educational Facilities	Known and Identified	59	216	235
	Cleared	43	190	211
	Biannual clearance rate	42%	94%	111%
	Percent cleared of total identified (cumulative)	73%	88%	90%
Markets	Known and Identified	43	519	589
	Cleared	36	363	438
	Biannual clearance rate	42%	69%	107%
	Percent cleared of total identified (cumulative)	84%	70%	74%
Religious Facilities⁵⁶	Known and Identified	-	3	4
	Cleared	-	3	3
	Biannual clearance rate	-	100%	0%
	Percent cleared of total identified (cumulative)	-	100%	75%
Government Buildings	Known and Identified	73	260	365
	Cleared	70	215	337
	Biannual clearance rate	40%	78%	116%
	Percent cleared of total identified (cumulative)	96%	83%	92%

⁵⁴ Restricted to the 18 countries and territories participating in Round 2, Round 3 and Round 4 of data collection (which includes all countries and territories able to provide data on affected infrastructure).

⁵⁵ The significant increases in the reported numbers of affected and cleared infrastructure are primarily driven by increases in the data reported by three countries. Based on the detailed notes that each country provided, it is concluded that the increases in aggregate totals are a result of better reporting in these countries as described in Section 2.2, greater availability of data due to the expansion of survey and clearance activities, and (in one case) an increase in hostilities in 2014 that is reflected in the 2015 data.

⁵⁶ Data on the identification and clearance of contaminated religious facilities comes from the Central African Republic and from Mali, both of whom started this reporting in the third round of data collection.

Table 8. People in close proximity to affected areas	Men	Women	Boys	Girls	(Age & gender unknown)	Total
Estimated number of people known to be living in close proximity to mine /ERW affected areas. ⁵⁷	943,746	916,490	716,111	666,163	8,662,344	15,580,023 (7% of population)
Estimated number of people who seasonally migrate to mine/ERW affected corridors (in addition to above). ⁵⁸	30,000	9,000	25,000	15,000	4,711,555	4,790,555 (13% of population)

Table 9. Mine/ERW Risk Education (MRE) Programmes

Number of programmes funded.	111
Number of sessions conducted.	10,179,673
Number of direct beneficiaries. ⁵⁹	36,592,727
Number of direct beneficiaries who are also considered to be at risk. ⁶⁰	1,097,375

In countries/territories providing data on the number of people living in close proximity to affected areas and the number of people receiving MRE, an estimated 7% of the population (i.e. 15.6 million people) live in close proximity to mines/ERW, and 10% of the population (i.e. 24 million people) have received MRE.^{61, 62, 63} Across all participating countries/territories that provided MRE data, 8% of the population (i.e. 36 million people) has received MRE directly.⁶⁴ Among participating countries/territories providing information on both the number of people receiving MRE and the number of those beneficiaries who are also considered to be at risk, 5% of people receiving MRE are considered to be at risk (1.2 million out of 24.2 million people).

⁵⁷ Data from ten countries and territories: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Eritrea, Jordan, Mali, the State of Palestine and Tajikistan.

⁵⁸ Data from two countries and territories: Afghanistan and Eritrea.

⁵⁹ The M&E Mechanism defines a direct beneficiary as someone who attends a MRE session of any kind (lesson, presentation, briefing, training, receive a door-to-door visit, attend a child friendly space, etc.) provided by an educator of any kind (teacher, member of an NGO, religious leader, community member/leader, police or military officer, etc.).

⁶⁰ Data from seven countries and territories: Afghanistan, the Central African Republic, Eritrea, Mali, Myanmar, the State of Palestine, and Sri Lanka.

⁶¹ “Close proximity” has yet to be defined at the global level and has instead been determined at the country and territory level based on local context and risk factors. In Afghanistan, for example, “close proximity” is defined as within living 500 meters of a hazardous area. In Mali, the team considers all residents of districts that contain contaminated areas to be living in close proximity to affected areas.

⁶² The extent to which UN-supported MRE programmes successfully reach people identified as living in close proximity to mines/ERW is not tracked at the international level through the M&E Mechanism; however, such programmes are designed to reach at-risk populations.

⁶³ Data from ten countries and territories: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Eritrea, Jordan, Mali, the State of Palestine, and Tajikistan.

⁶⁴ Data from 22 countries and territories: Abyei, Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, the Central African Republic, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Darfur, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Eritrea, Jordan, Libya, Mali, Myanmar, the State of Palestine, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan and Western Sahara.

3 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2 OF THE UNITED NATIONS STRATEGY FOR MINE ACTION 2013-2018

Strategic Objective 2: Comprehensive support is provided by national and international actors to mine and ERW victims within a broader response to injury and disability.⁶⁵ ⁶⁶

Figure 4. Percent of Countries and Territories in which the UN Supports Service Provision (Percentage and Number)

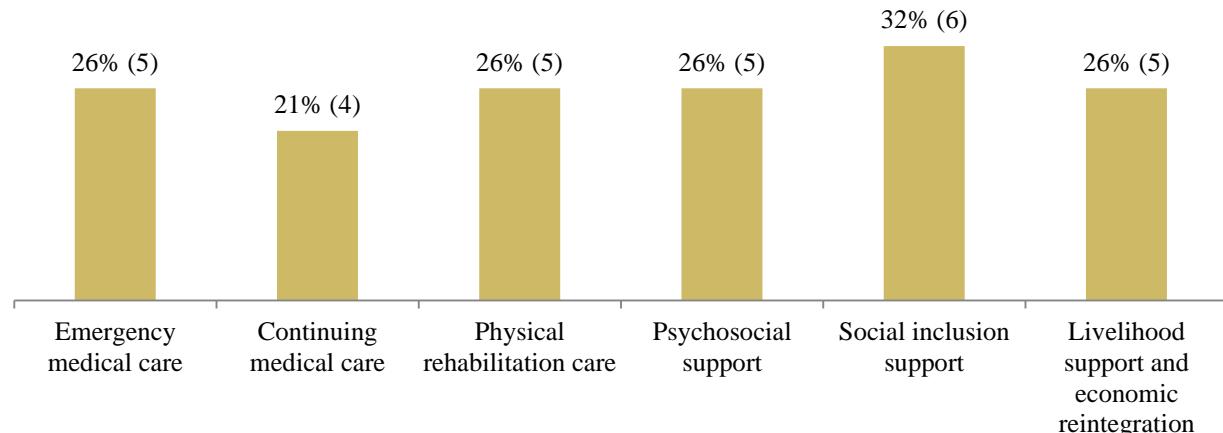
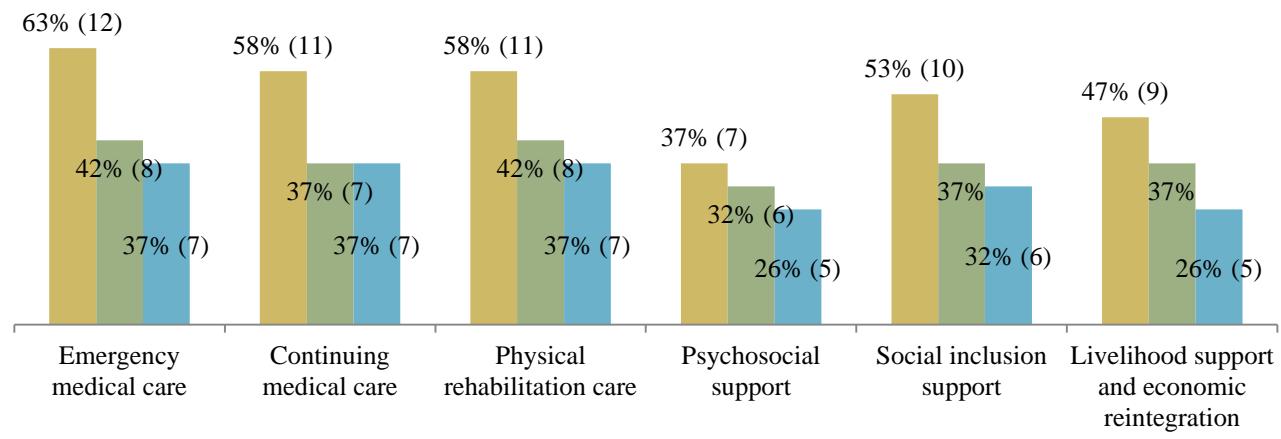


Figure 5. National Authorities that Provide Victim Assistance Services (Percentage and Number)



- Percent of countries/territories in which national authorities provide victim assistance
- Percent of countries/territories in which national authorities provide victim assistance with age sensitivity
- Percent of countries/territories in which national authorities provide victim assistance with gender sensitivity

⁶⁵ United Nations, *The Strategy of the United Nations on Mine Action 2013-2018*. Available from: http://www.mineaction.org/sites/default/files/publications/mine_action_strategy_mar15.pdf (accessed 15 February 2016)

⁶⁶ Twenty-one countries and territories provided data to generate Figures 3 and 4.

4 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3 OF THE UNITED NATIONS STRATEGY FOR MINE ACTION 2013-2018

Strategic Objective 3: The transfer of mine action functions to national actors is accelerated, with national capacity to fulfil mine action responsibilities increased.⁶⁷

Figure 6 and Figure 7 summarize the complete findings from the Capacity Assessment discussed in Section 4.5 (National Ownership and National Policy).

The Capacity Assessment is completed by Survey Focal Points in collaboration with National Authorities where possible. Where such collaboration is not possible, assessments are made by the United Nations on behalf of the National Authority. To complete the Capacity Assessment, programmes consider a series of “core” mine action activity areas (listed below) and assess national capacity in each area:

- Coordination of mine action actors
- Injury surveillance
- Quality assurance (including accreditation)
- Mine action planning
- Marking, fencing, survey and clearance
- Information management
- Explosive ordnance disposal
- Stockpile management
- Mine/ERW risk education (MRE) (including MRE related surveys)
- Victim assistance
- Resource mobilization
- Procurement of mine action services
- Advocacy for mine action in national legislation

The assessment of capacity is based on five dimensions: i) resource allocation, ii) activity management, iii) policies and framework development, iv) knowledge of relevant issues, and v) planning. Capacity is assessed according to the following scale:

- 1. Need for increased capacity:** National authorities do not allocate resources or work on this activity; have not developed frameworks or policies in place for this activity; have little to no institutional knowledge on this issue; do not engage in planning for this activity.
- 2. Basic capacity in place:** National authorities have allocated some resources to this area; manage activities from time to time; have no policies or frameworks in place for this activity; have some knowledge of the relevant issues; engage in little to no planning for this activity.
- 3. Moderate capacity in place:** National authorities are adequately resourced in this area; actively manage activities in this area; have or are in the process of developing relevant policies and frameworks; have sufficient knowledge of this issue; and engage in planning for this activity.
- 4. Good capacity in place:** National authorities have expert knowledge in this activity and are resourced in this area; actively manage activities; have developed relevant policies and frameworks; engage in both short- and long-term planning; adaptively respond to new challenges and issues; effectively mitigate risk in this area.
- 5. Independent capacity in place:** National authorities manage this activity independently from external support.

⁶⁷ United Nations, *The Strategy of the United Nations on Mine Action 2013-2018*. Available from: http://www.mineaction.org/sites/default/files/publications/mine_action_strategy_mar15.pdf (accessed 15 February 2016).

The top line of Figure 6 below is read as follows:

- In the area of victim assistance, eight countries/territories expressed a need for increased capacity.
- Three countries/territories reported basic capacity in place and four reported moderate capacity in place.
- Three countries/territories each reported good and independent capacity in place.
- Three countries/territories reported that victim assistance was inapplicable in their context, and data were unavailable for the remaining country/territory.

Figure 6. Capacity Assessment for 2015

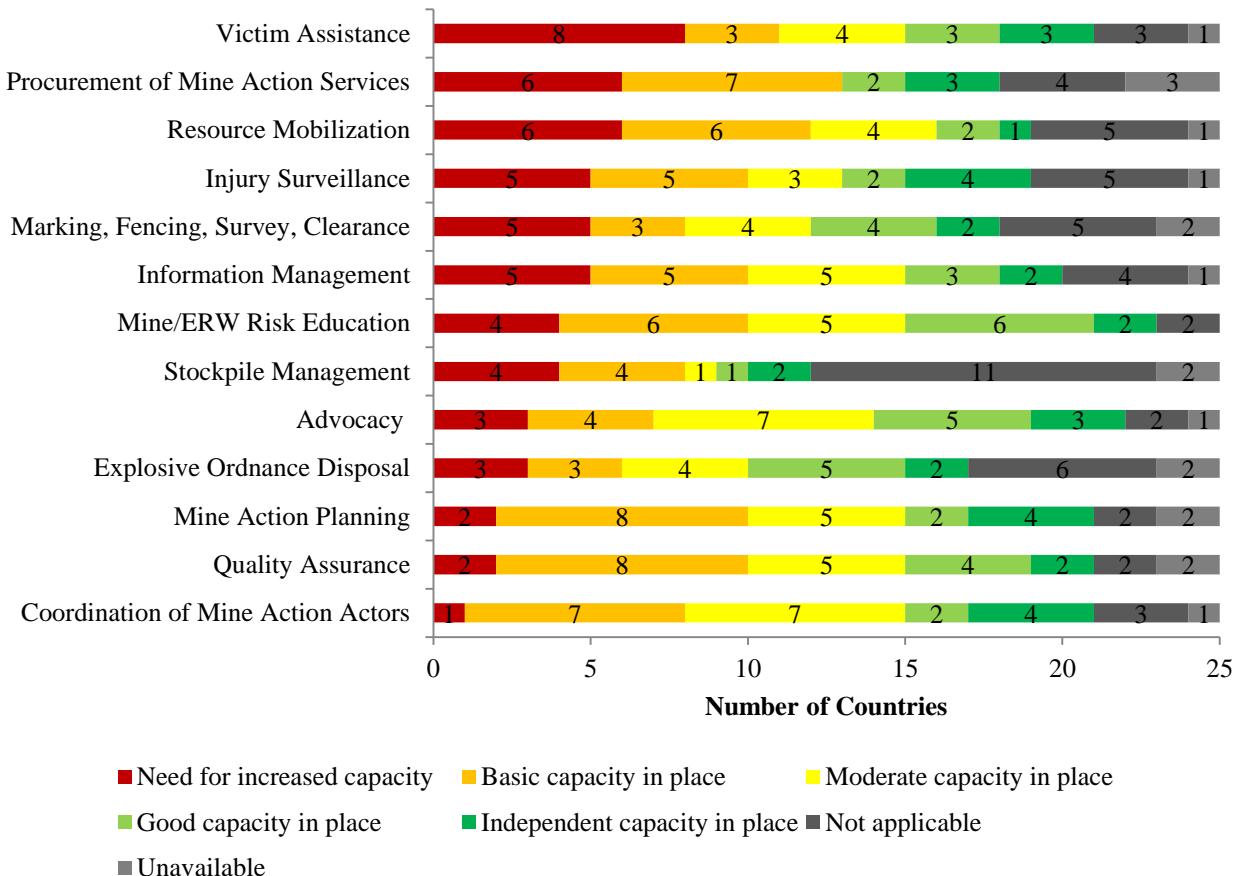


Figure 7 presents the same information in a different and more visual style of chart. The area chart facilitates understanding of overlapping and complementary areas of capacity.

Figure 7. Capacity Assessment Area Chart for 2015

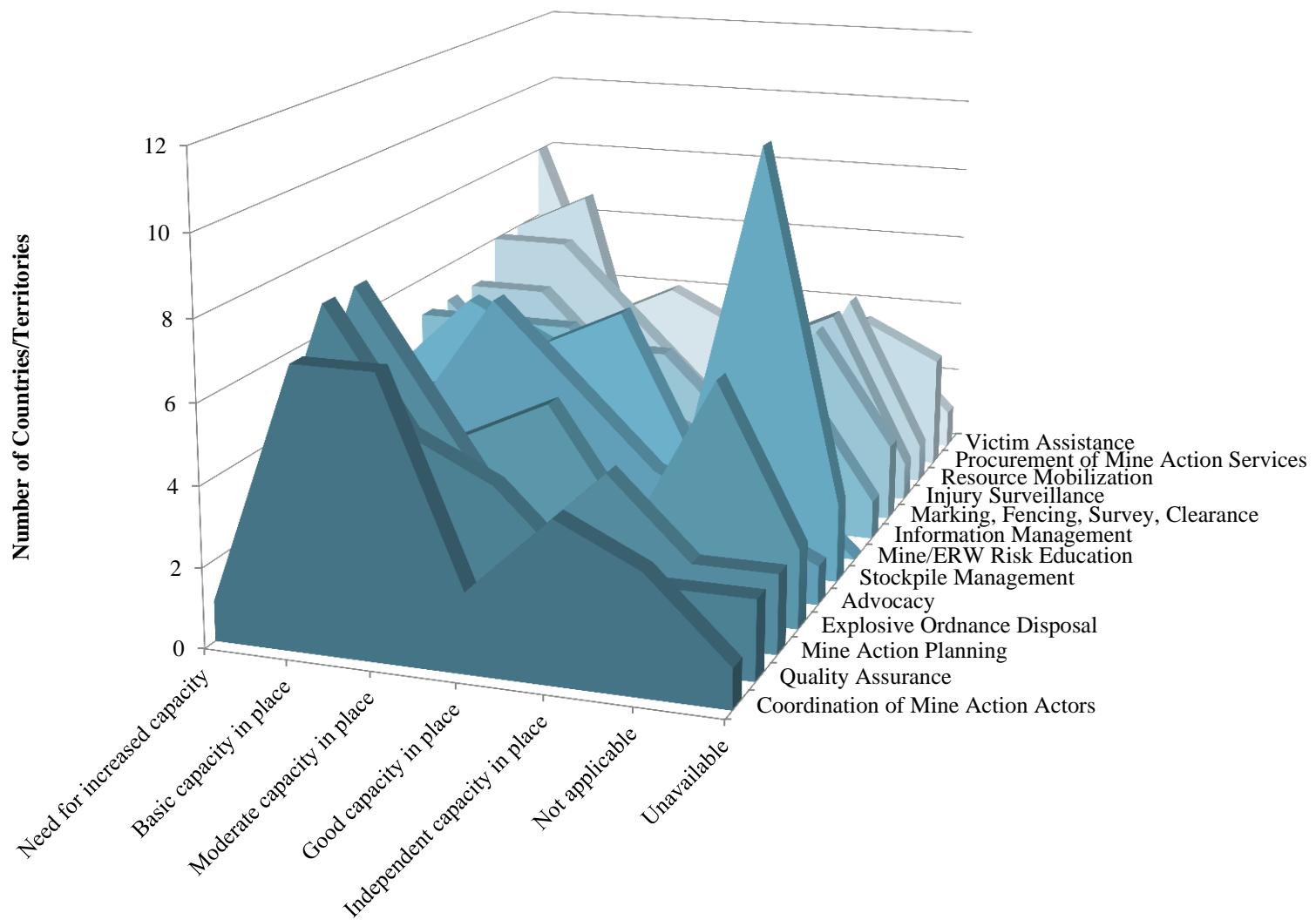


Table 10. Transition Status		2015 (2nd half-year)
Transitioned.		45% (10)
In the process of transitioning.		14% (3)
Not transitioned at all.		32% (7)
Not applicable.		9% (2)

Table 11 and Table 12, on Indicators of National Ownership and Transition, and Information Management.

Indicators are restricted to the 23 countries /territories participating in rounds three and four of data collection (Abyei, Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Cambodia, the Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Darfur, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Eritrea, Jordan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libya, Mali, the State of Palestine, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, and Tajikistan, and Western Sahara).

Table 11. Indicators of National Ownership and Transition	2015 (1st half-year)	2015 (2nd half-year)
Percent of national authorities who have adopted a national strategy for mine action.	50%	50%
Percent of national authorities with plan in place for the transfer of mine action responsibilities to national authorities (i.e. a transition plan).	46%	46%
Percent of transition plans that are regularly monitored.	100%	83%

Table 12. Information Management Indicators	2015 (1st half-year)	2015 (2nd half-year)
Percent of national authorities who have adopted a plan or strategy on information management.	68%	74%
Percent of national authorities who collect and maintain data on civilian and non-civilian deaths and injuries resulting from landmines, ERW including cluster munitions, in a database (IMSMA or other).	80%	80%
Percent of national authorities who collect age and gender disaggregated data.	74%	74%
Percent of national authorities who collect and maintain data on civilian and non-civilian deaths and injuries resulting from IEDs in a database (IMSMA or other).	64%	64%

5 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 4 OF THE UNITED NATIONS STRATEGY FOR MINE ACTION 2013-2018

Strategic Objective 4: Mine action is promoted and integrated in multilateral instruments and frameworks as well as national plans and legislation.⁶⁸

Table 13. International Humanitarian Law (IHL) Instrument	All Mine-Affected Countries		Mine-affected countries with a UN mine action presence	
	2014	2015	2014	2015
Anti-personnel Mine Ban Convention	68%	68%	73%	73%
Convention on Cluster Munitions	48%	49%	56%	58%
Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) ⁶⁹	60%	63%	56%	60%

⁶⁸ United Nations, *The Strategy of the United Nations on Mine Action 2013-2018*. Available from:

http://www.mineaction.org/sites/default/files/publications/mine_action_strategy_mar15.pdf (accessed 15 February 2016).

⁶⁹ Algeria and the State of Palestine both ratified the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons in 2015, as reflected in the increase from 2014 to 2015 in Table 13. As neither acceded to CCW Amended Protocol II or CCW Amended Protocol V, however, the percentages related to these decreased from 2014 to 2015 (i.e. the denominator increased by two while the numerator remained constant).

Table 13. International Humanitarian Law (IHL) Instrument	All Mine-Affected Countries		Mine-affected countries with a UN mine action presence	
CCW Amended Protocol II	78%	75%	72%	67%
CCW Amended Protocol V	61%	58%	56%	52%
Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	93%	94%	89%	91%

Table 14. International Humanitarian Law among Participants of the M&E Mechanism	Anti-personnel Mine Ban Convention	Convention on Cluster Munitions	Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW)	CCW Amended Protocol II	CCW Amended Protocol V	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
Afghanistan	✓	✓	✓			✓
Albania	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Algeria	✓		✓			✓
Cambodia	✓		✓	✓		✓
The Central African Republic	✓	✓				✓
Chad	✓	✓				✓
Colombia	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Côte d'Ivoire	✓	✓				✓
The Democratic Republic of the Congo	✓	✓				✓
Egypt			✓			✓
Eritrea	✓					
Jordan	✓		✓	✓		✓
The Lao People's Democratic Republic		✓	✓		✓	✓
Libya					✓	✓
Mali	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mozambique	✓	✓				✓
Myanmar						✓
Nepal						✓
The State of Palestine		✓	✓			✓
Somalia	✓	✓				
South Sudan	✓					
Sri Lanka			✓	✓		✓
Sudan	✓		✓			✓
Tajikistan	✓		✓	✓	✓	

Table 14. Mine Action references in relevant Security Council and General Assembly Reports and Resolutions	Number of relevant documents⁷⁰	Number of references	Percent
2011	162	52	32.0%
2012	157	59	37.5%
2013	165	91	55.1%
2014	171	94	54.9%
2015	177	102	57.6%

⁷⁰ Full definitions and details of the documents included in this analysis appear in Annex 2 (Data and Analysis).

Table 15. Mine Action references in relevant country-specific Security Council and General Assembly Reports and Resolutions	% of references in relevant documents in 2011	% of references in relevant documents in 2015	Variation
Afghanistan	90%	83%	- 7.8%
The Central African Republic	0%	63%	
Côte d'Ivoire	30%	100%	+ 233.33%
Darfur	60%	80%	+ 33.33%
The Democratic Republic of the Congo	0%	43%	
Somalia	36%	83%	+ 130.56%
Syria	0%	80%	+80%

Table 16. Terms mentioned most frequently in relevant Security Council and General Assembly Reports and Resolutions	Number of Mentions					
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Total 2014-2015
Clearance	27	33	56	45	47	208
Explosive Remnants of War (ERWs)	29	28	52	48	61	248
Mine Action	19	21	33	39	34	146
Mine	31	36	50	34	47	181
Weapons and Ammunition Management (WAM)	20	18	43	43	56	234

Tables 17.1 – 17.4: Use of the terms Explosive Remnants of War (ERWs), Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs), and Mines in relevant Security Council and General Assembly Reports and Resolutions

Country-specific	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Explosive Remnants of War (ERWs)	24%	27%	44%	36%	44%
Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs)	7%	11%	19%	22%	31%
Mines	24%	32%	40%	23%	32%

Multi-country	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Explosive Remnants of War (ERWs)	0%	4%	9%	7%	4%
Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs)	0%	4%	9%	19%	4%
Mines	6%	8%	9%	11%	8%

Thematic	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Explosive Remnants of War (ERWs)	8%	9%	17%	14%	24%
Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs)	6%	3%	17%	14%	21%
Mines	11%	6%	23%	14%	21%

Total	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Explosive Remnants of War (ERWs)	10.6%	13.3%	23.3%	19%	24%
Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs)	4.3%	6%	15%	18.3%	18.6%
Mines	13.6%	15.3%	24%	16%	20.3%

6 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENDER GUIDELINES FOR MINE ACTION PROGRAMMES

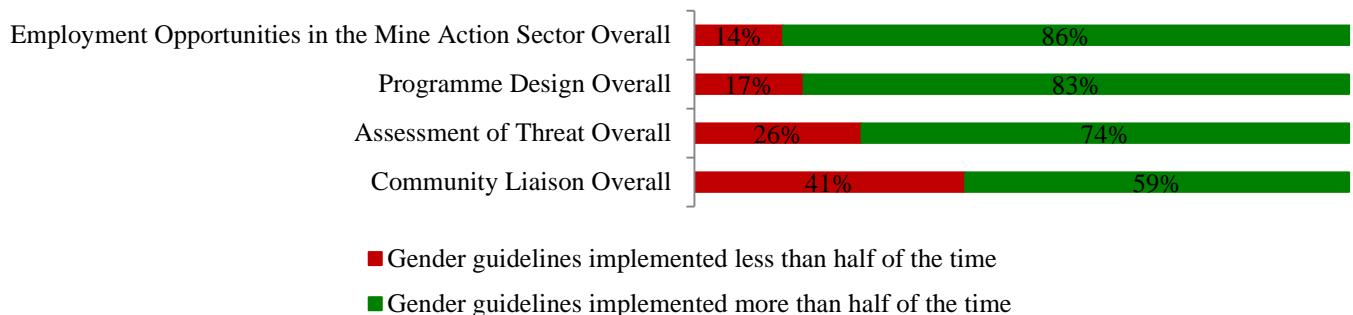
Programmes were asked to report on the extent to which the UN Gender Guidelines for Mine Action Programmes were applied by selecting, within each assessed activity area, if the specific activity area within the Guidelines was implemented ‘Almost Always’, ‘Often’, ‘Sometimes’, or ‘Rarely’.⁷¹ Where possible, the assessment reflects all UN mine action work across a country or territory.

The fourteen activity areas in the Gender Guidelines are grouped according to four key themes:

- **Assessment of Threat:** These guidelines aim to ensure that information on the threat of mines and ERW is comprehensive, gender sensitive, representative, and collected from adults and children of both sexes.
- **Community Liaison:** These guidelines aim to ensure that mine action teams do not adversely affect local populations by ensuring that engagement with community members respects local norms and customs.
- **Employment Opportunities in the Mine Action Sector:** These guidelines aim to ensure that men and women enjoy the same level of access to, and equally benefit from, mine action programmes (including training and employment opportunities).
- **Programme Design:** These guidelines aim to ensure that the rights and needs of adults and children of both sexes are considered, and that gender is overtly considered, especially when prioritizing areas for clearance, MRE, and Victim Assistance.

Figure 8 shows the percent of UN-supported mine action programmes that consistently implement the UN gender guidelines in each of the four thematic areas. “Consistent implementation” means that a programme reported following the guidelines associated with each theme (community liaison, assessment of threat, programme design, and employment opportunities) at least half of the time; many report doing so at least 75% of the time.

Figure 8. Consistent Implementation of the UN Gender Guidelines



Detailed findings are presented by theme. Each chart uses the legend below. The colour blocks represent the frequency (amount of time) that programmes report implementing each activity area in the Gender Guidelines.

Legend: ■ **Rarely** ■ **Sometimes** ■ **Often** ■ **Almost always**

⁷¹ A scale of “Almost Always” (76-100% of the time), “Often” (51-75% of the time), “Sometimes” (26-50% of the time), or “Rarely” (0-25% of the time) is used to indicate frequency of implementation.

Legend: **Rarely** **Sometimes** **Often** **Almost always**

Figure 9. Employment Opportunities in the Mine Action Sector

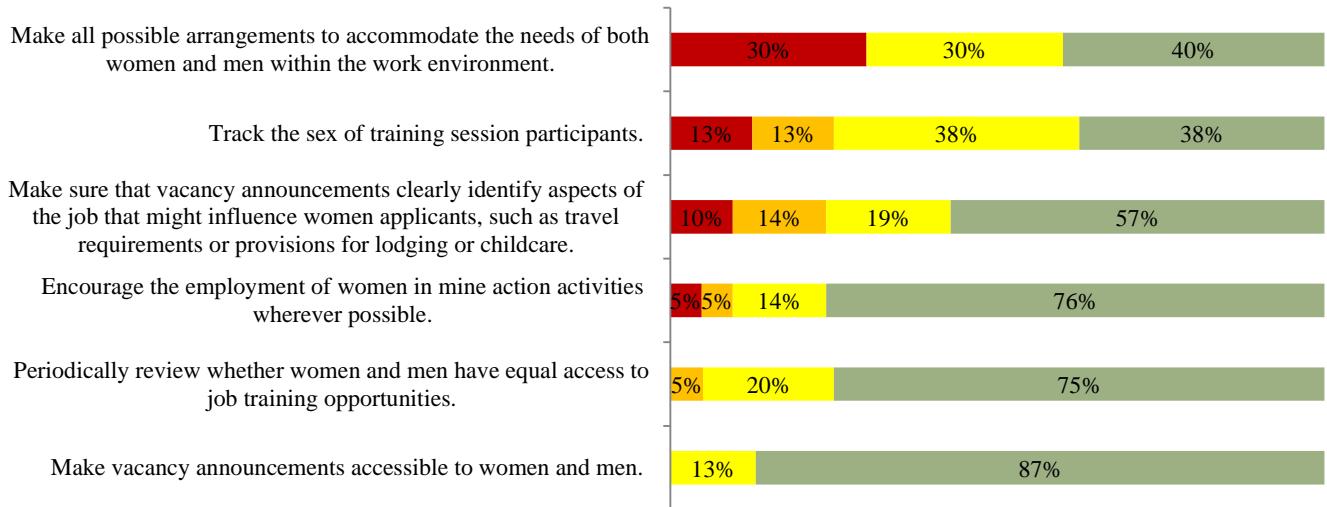
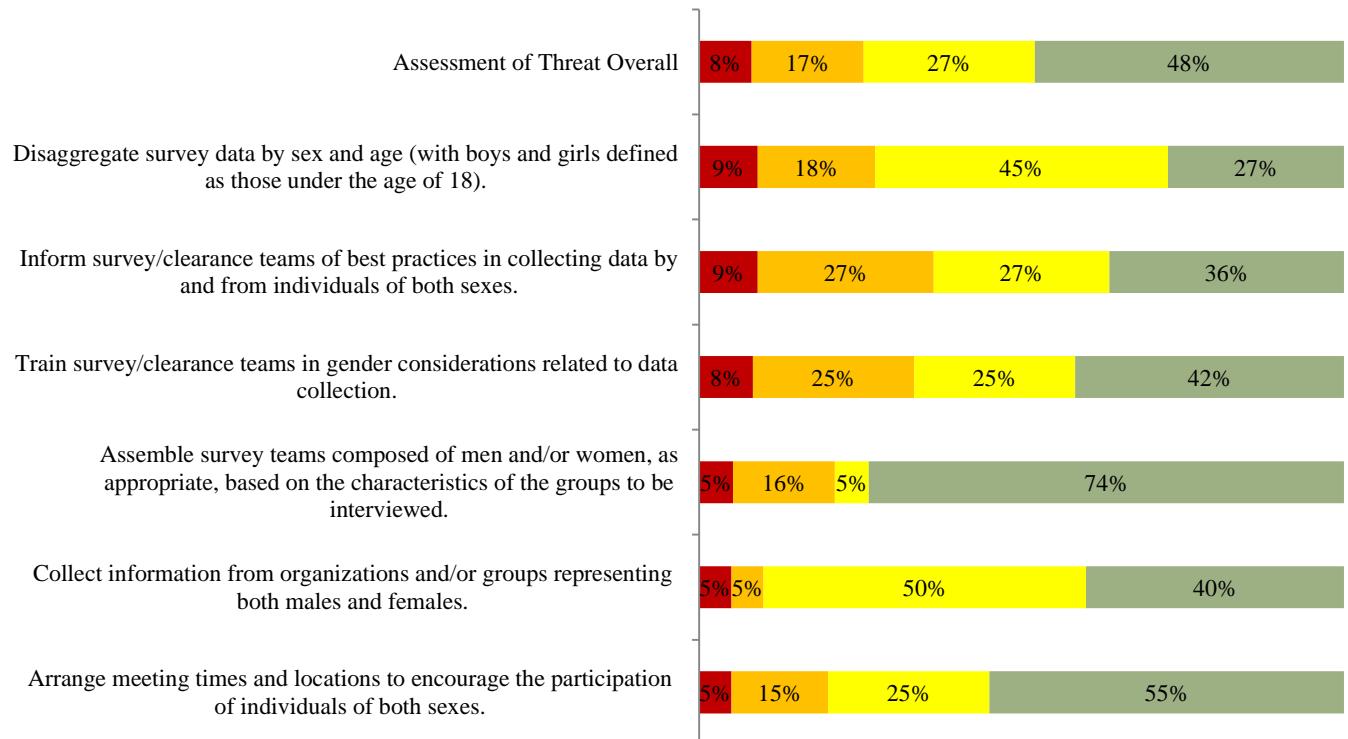


Figure 10. Assessment of Threat



Legend: **Rarely** **Sometimes** **Often** **Almost always**

Figure 11: Programme Design

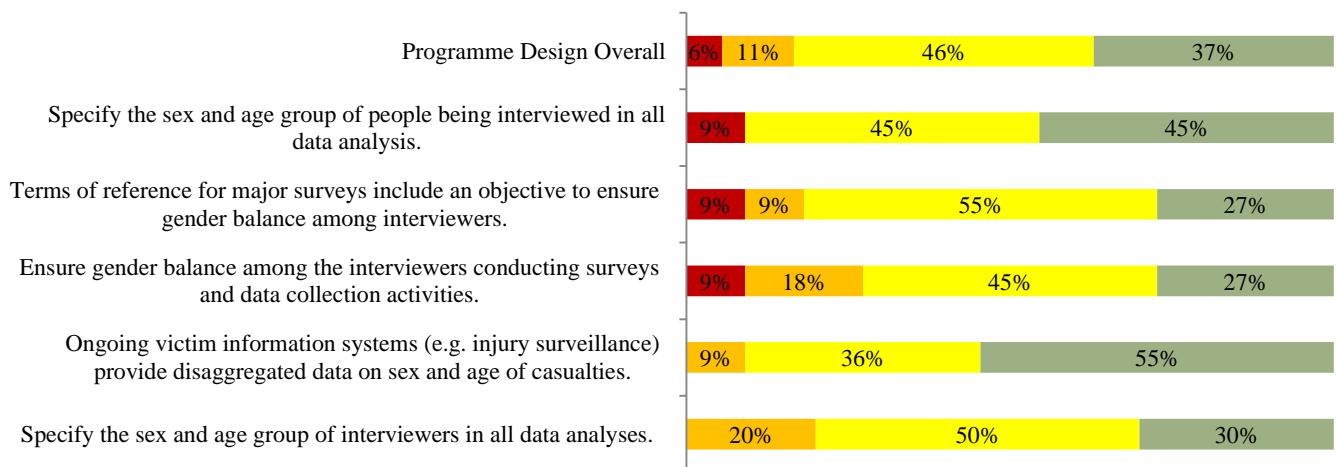
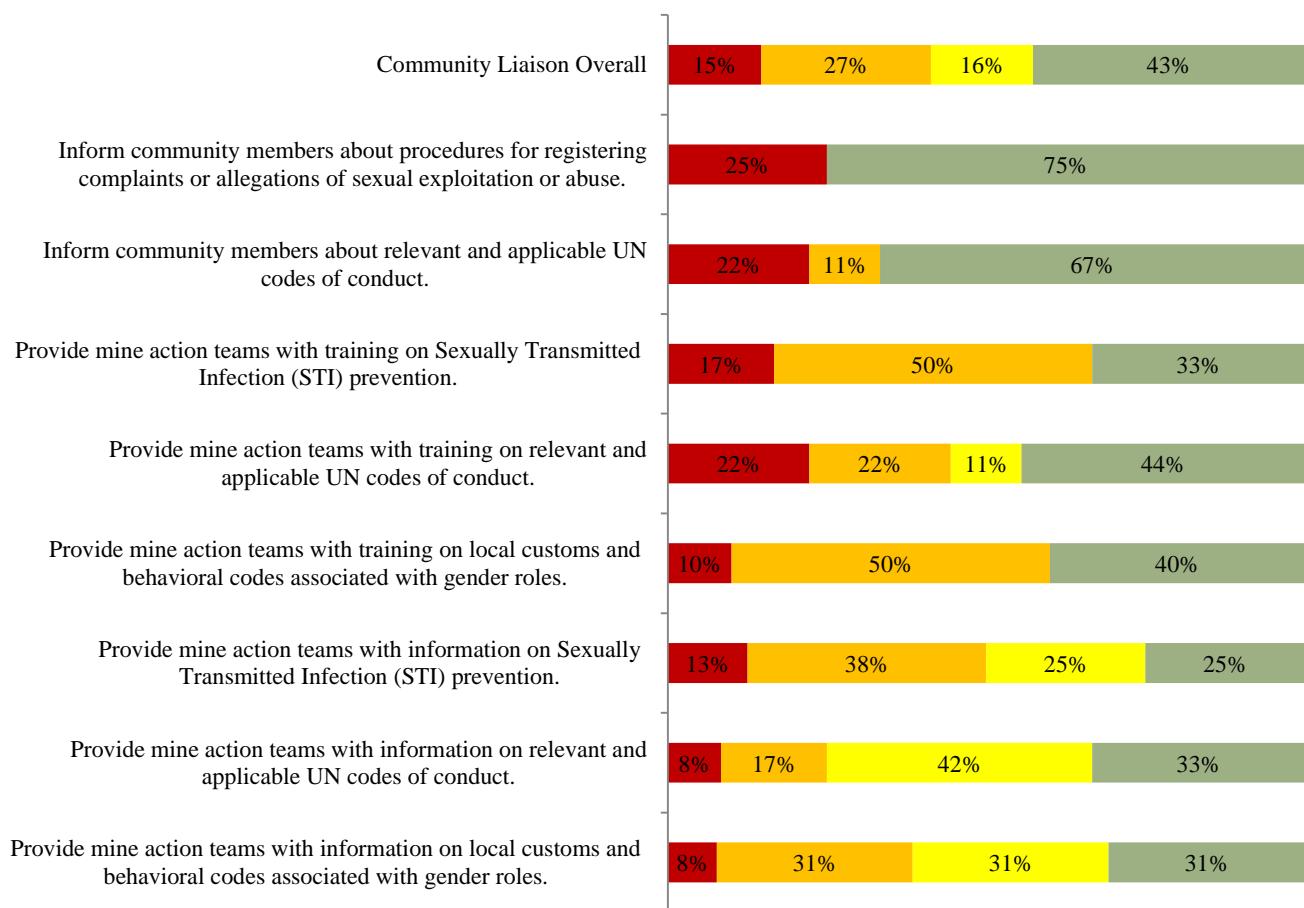


Figure 12: Community Liaison



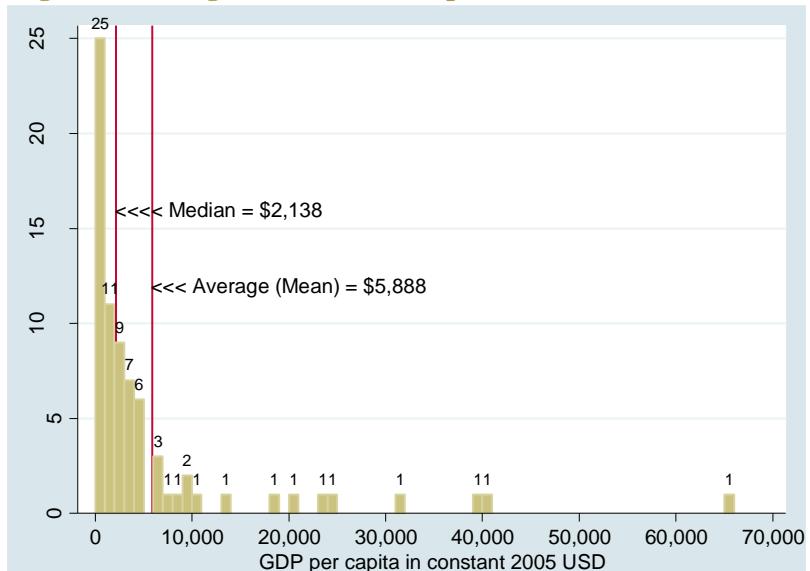
7 OVERVIEW OF MINE-AFFECTED COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES

The M&E Mechanism dataset of mine-affected countries and territories includes 89 countries and territories: those in which UN mine action entities have a programmatic presence and those identified by the Landmine Monitor and the Cluster Munitions Monitor. The UN supports mine action in just over half of these. The Landmine Monitor considers 36% of these to be heavily or very heavily contaminated; the UN supports mine action in 84% of these (27 of 32).⁷² The World Bank has classified 57% of mine-affected countries as middle-income countries and 27% as low-income countries; where the UN supports mine action, these figures are 54% and 38% respectively.⁷³ Globally, 26.2% of people are under the age of 15. In mine-affected countries, an average of 32% (median of 30%) of the population is under the age of 15; these figures rise to an average of 36% (median of 41%) where the UN supports mine action.

Among countries and territories in which the UN supports mine action, 52% are experiencing violent conflict, compared with 39% among all affected countries and territories.⁷⁴ This prevalence is significant because violent conflict has a substantial and long-lasting impact on economic outcomes and poverty. The average cost of a civil war or conflict is equivalent to approximately 30 years of GDP growth for a mid-size developing country and trade levels can take 20 years to recover after a major episode of violence.^{75, 76} Countries that experience major violence have, on average, significantly higher poverty rates relative to countries that have not.⁷⁷

Among the mine-affected countries in the M&E Mechanism dataset, the average GDP per capita is \$5,888; however, this average is skewed by outliers in the dataset (i.e. by mine-affected countries with high GDPs such as Germany and South Korea). Half of mine-affected countries in the dataset have a GDP per capital of \$2,138 or less (i.e. \$2,138 is the median value). These figures are lower among countries with a UN mine action presence: the mean GDP per capita for mine-affected countries with a UN presence is \$2,532, and the median is \$936.

Figure 13 Histogram: GDP Per Capita in Constant 2005 USD



⁷² International Campaign to Ban Landmines – Cluster Munitions Coalition (ICBL-CMC), *Landmine Monitor 2013* (Geneva, 2014) pg. 23. Available from: <http://www.the-monitor.org/index.php/publications/display?url=lm/2013/> (accessed 15 December 2014).

⁷³ World Bank, Country and Lending Groups. Available from: <http://data.worldbank.org/about/country-and-lending-groups> (accessed 15 December 2014).

⁷⁴ Uppsala Universitet, Department of Peace and Conflict Research, Uppsala Conflict Data Program, UCDP Database. Available from: <http://www.pcr.uu.se/research/UCDP/> (accessed 15 December 2014).

⁷⁵ World Bank, *World Development Report 2011: Conflict, Security and Development*. (Washington, D.C., World Bank, 2011) Available from: <http://go.worldbank.org/1BOIJMD8H0> (accessed 15 February 2014).

⁷⁶ Martin, Mayer, and Thoenig 2008 in *World Development Report 2011: Conflict, Security and Development*. (Washington, D.C., World Bank, 2011) Available from: <http://go.worldbank.org/1BOIJMD8H0> (accessed 15 February 2014).

⁷⁷ World Bank, *World Development Report 2011: Conflict, Security and Development*. (Washington, D.C., World Bank, 2011) Available from: <http://go.worldbank.org/1BOIJMD8H0> (accessed 15 February 2014).

Annex 2: Data and Analysis

1 OVERSIGHT AND MANAGEMENT

Members of the IACG-MA are responsible for the M&E Mechanism and have established the inter-agency Consultative Working Group (CWG) to regularly review progress, manage implementation and contribute to the development of the Survey instrument and related guidance documents for the M&E Mechanism. UNDP, UNICEF, UNOPS, and UNMAS are represented at the CWG, as well as a Headquarters M&E Support Team comprised of two staff members dedicated full-time to the M&E Mechanism.

In each country or territory that participates in the M&E Mechanism, UNDP, UNICEF, or UNMAS takes responsibility for coordinating data collection (i.e. Survey Focal Point). The entities not serving as the Survey Focal Point contribute data to the Survey by collaborating in the data collection process.⁷⁸ Survey Focal Points work with national authorities as well as implementing partners to collect data. The most recent round of data collection included 25 countries and territories in which the United Nations has a mine action presence. Many other UN entities and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are also engaged in contributing to the survey through coordination with the designated Survey Focal Point.

2 DATA

Data used to develop these findings comes from completed rounds of data collection for the Survey and from the Strategic Objective 4 dataset.⁷⁹ In total, four rounds of Survey data collection are complete.⁸⁰ The majority of the analyses presented include data from all 25 countries and territories participating in the fourth round of data collection or, for trends analysis, from the subset of 23 countries and territories that participated in both the third and fourth rounds of data collection.⁸¹ A few longer-term analyses draw from other sub-sets; these cases are indicated in footnotes.⁸²

Survey Focal Points consult a variety of data sources when completing the Survey. To facilitate complete documentation for consistency, comparability, and replicability of data, each question in the Survey includes space for programmes to cite and describe data sources as well as document any challenges faced and methodological decisions made in the course of data collection, aggregation, and survey completion. Survey Focal Points indicate that Survey data usually comes from several different organizations (UN entities, national mine

⁷⁸ Across the 25 countries and territories participating in the fourth round of data collection, UN staff from six UNDP country offices, 11 mine action programmes supported by UNICEF, and 14 UNMAS programmes participated in data collection either by serving as Survey Focal Points or by working with the designated Survey Focal Point entity.

⁷⁹ The Strategic Objective 4 dataset includes 89 mine-affected countries and territories and examines treaty status, inter-governmental processes/frameworks, and country-level characteristics (GDP, population, regime type, etc.). Data collection for Strategic Objective 4 is undertaken by the IACG-MA M&E Support team based at UN Headquarters in New York, and the data comes from publicly sourced databases maintained by third parties and partner organizations including the World Bank, the Uppsala Conflict Data Program, the Polity Project of the Center for Systemic Peace, the Landmine Monitor, the United Nations Security Council, the United Nations General Assembly, and the United Nations Department of Political Affairs (UN Peacemaker), amongst others.

⁸⁰ Round 1 (with data as of 30 June 2014), Round 2 (with data as of 31 December 2014), Round 3 (with data as of 30 June 2015), and Round 4 (with data as of 31 December 2015).

⁸¹ Abyei, Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Cambodia, the Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Darfur, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Eritrea, Jordan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libya, Mali, the State of Palestine, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tajikistan, and Western Sahara.

⁸² A few analyses of longer-term trends draw from the 18 countries and territories that participated in the second, third, and fourth rounds (Abyei, Afghanistan, Cambodia, the Central African Republic, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Darfur, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Eritrea, Libya, Mali, the State of Palestine, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tajikistan, and Western Sahara) or from the 12 countries and territories that have participated in all four rounds of data collection (Abyei, Afghanistan, Côte d'Ivoire, Darfur, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Mali, Palestine, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, and Western Sahara).

action authorities, implementing partners, and other stakeholders) and from a variety of documents and types of data sources including IMSMA reports, internal programme implementation data, monthly reports from implementing partners, plans and documents published by the national mine action authority, etc. The Headquarters M&E Support Team and the CWG work closely with Survey Focal Points to support the careful documentation and tracking of data sources and data collection methodologies.

The Survey records a series of totals including number of casualties, number of EOD spot tasks completed, and number of square meters of contaminated land identified. Unless otherwise specified, the timeframe for these totals are the totals-to-date, being the cumulative total from a specified start date to the end of the relevant reporting period.⁸³ Different countries select different start dates according to their context. The first time a country/territory completes the survey, the Survey Focal Point is asked to select and document a practical starting point that makes sense given local context and the availability of data. Most programmes choose to count from the start of UN mine action programming in country or from the start of formal information management (IMSMA or equivalent) in country. Aside from Colombia, which began its cumulative counts in 1990, the starting points that programmes selected are distributed between 2002 and 2014.

3 ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

The variation in start dates for the cumulative counts has important implications for data aggregation and analyses. For example, the cumulative total number of mine/ERW victims in different countries/territories cannot be compared. Instead, analysis must use the raw totals to generate other points that can be compared, such as the casualty rate per million people per month, or the number of new casualties reported from one year to the next. Similar care must be taken when aggregating data from different countries and territories.

Data collected through the Survey is analysed to identify progress made towards achieving the Strategic Objectives articulated in the UN Mine Action Strategy 2013-2018. Progress against the outcome indicators are analysed in relation to concurrent changes in UN inputs and activities in the mine action sector. The approach is intended to provide a thorough analysis of progress, including a final investigation into the UN's contribution towards this progress (where possible). The analysis includes descriptive statistics and cross-sectional analysis to illustrate trends and commonalities. Future analyses will also control for country-level characteristics and, where possible, illustrate trends and underlying relationships between UN inputs and outcomes that may be useful for programming and evaluation.

Mine action programmes – and particularly those including clearance, risk education and land release activities – are typically undertaken in order to enable and support humanitarian and development outcomes. Specific development outcomes in the mine action sector vary by country and context, however, making it essential for evaluators of mine action programmes to understand and articulate the context and prioritisation processes involved in programme implementation. In the language of results-based management, the same outputs of survey and clearance work could have a multiplier effect by supporting outcome and impact objectives in other sectors, such as education, livelihoods, or humanitarian work, depending on whether the activities are targeted at schools, markets and agricultural land, or the communities of displaced people. The United Nations Strategy for Mine Action 2013-2018 covers humanitarian mine action, and the development objectives articulated in the Vision and Strategic Objectives are concerned with reducing physical risk and enhancing socio-economic recovery. Consequently, the key outcomes monitored through the M&E Mechanism include casualties, clearance of

⁸³ 31 December 2015 is the end date for the fourth round of data collection.

contaminated land and infrastructure critical to socio-economic development, and the other indicators discussed in this report.

Data reporting has improved with each round of data collection as programmes become more familiar with the tool and as the M&E Support Team improves both the tool and the support available to complete it. As a consequence of these improvements, the most recent round of data collection is more complete than the preceding rounds. With the fourth round of data collection concluded, the M&E team now has sufficient data to investigate and attempt to explain trends over time. Next steps will focus on addressing data availability, which remains a challenge in some contexts.⁸⁴

Casualty rates represent an important tool for understanding the threat of mines/ERW and IEDs, and thus are tracked carefully in the M&E Mechanism. Because casualty rates fluctuate in response to many factors, however, it is premature to draw conclusions.⁸⁵ With the completion of the fourth round of data collection, the M&E Mechanism can generate three casualty rate estimations over a period of 18 months and thus track initial trends. As regular data collection and analysis continue, it will be possible to clarify the trends, better isolate the influence of external factors on casualty rates and draw more specific conclusions.

4 UNITED NATIONS STRATEGY TARGETS

The United Nations Mine Action Monitoring & Evaluation Framework for the Strategy of the United Nations on Mine Action 2013-2018 specifies that, after one year of data collection and analysis through the M&E Mechanism, the IACG-MA will "revisit the [Strategic] Objectives to define appropriate targets to apply for the remainder of the Strategy."⁸⁶ Accordingly, after the completion of the third round of data collection and analysis in May 2016, the IACG-MA developed and approved a set of indicators associated with UN Strategy Strategic Objectives and proposed targets against which progress can be monitored. The targets are intended for primarily internal use by the IACG-MA to gauge progress and performance supporting the implementation of the UN Strategy and the achievement of the objectives it lays out.

5 DOCUMENTS IN THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM AND IN PEACEBUILDING FRAMEWORKS

United Nations documents:

- Security Council Resolutions
- Security Council Presidential Statements
- Security Council Mission Reports
- Secretary-Generals Reports to the Security Council
- Secretary-Generals Reports to the General Assembly
- General Assembly Resolutions

⁸⁴ Data sensitivity and access has been raised by some national authorities in relation to, for example, data related to Weapons and Ammunition Management, as such data is considered to be a matter of national security. In other contexts, particularly in places affected by conflict, comprehensive data collection may be constrained by the degree of freedom of movement and overall access; it has been noted, for example, that in the cases of the Central African Republic, Libya, and Somalia data collection is constrained by challenges of security and access.

⁸⁵ Casualty rates have been shown to be affected by external factors including season (summer vs. winter, school in or out of session, harvesting, etc.), escalations (and de-escalations) of conflict, population movements, and economic factors including changes in the price of scrap metal, etc.

⁸⁶ The United Nations Inter-Agency Coordination Group for Mine Action, "Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for the Strategy of the United Nations on Mine Action 2013-2018." November 2013.

Categories of United Nations documents:

- **Country-specific:** A report or resolution related to a Peacekeeping Operation or Special Political Mission deployed to an affected state or territory or a country being monitored by the Security Council.
- **Thematic:** A report or resolution that is cross-cutting in nature, with an impact covering one of the thematic areas outlined in the UN Strategy for Mine Action 2013-2018.
- **Multi-country/Regional:** A report or resolution related to 1) a particular region (usually a conflict-affected region) containing affected states and territories, 2) a regional conflict, or 3) a group or pair of affected states or territories (aka “multi-country”). Examples: S/RES/2028 (2011) Middle East; S/RES/2109 (2013) Sudan/South Sudan.

Documents of Peacebuilding Frameworks:

- **Cease-fire Agreements:** A Cease-fire agreement is similar to a peace agreement but more limited in scope. It is a bilateral or multilateral agreement that may refer to and/or initiate an agreed end to hostilities for a specific purpose and/or a temporary stoppage of a war in which each side agrees to suspend aggressive actions. Cease-fire agreements are often undertaken in the framework of a peace process and/or as part of a larger negotiated settlement.^{87, 88, 89}
- **Peace Agreements:** A peace agreement is a bi- or multilateral agreement aiming to end violence and provide a platform to achieve sustainable peace, justice, security and reconciliation. To the extent possible in each situation, they should both address past wrongs and create a common vision for the future of the country, taking into account the differing implications for all segments of society. They should also respect international humanitarian, human rights and refugee laws.⁹⁰
- **Relevant Related Documents:** The cease-fire and peace agreement process generates numerous related documents, some of which are not strictly peace agreements or cease-fire agreements, but are integral to them and are highly relevant to mine action. Typically attached to larger peace agreements or frameworks, these bilateral or multilateral agreements pertain to issues including reconstruction and development (usually post-conflict reconstruction and development), administrative reform, arms management and monitoring, the provision of public services including health care and education, the development of trade and local markets, etc.

Terms and Topics in the Analysis of Documents in the United Nations System and Peacebuilding Frameworks

Topic/Term	Definition/ Description of Text to be Included	Definition Source
Advocacy	Public support, recommendation, or positive publicity with the aim of removing or at least reducing the risk from and the impact of mines and ERW.	IMAS 04.10, Second Edition. Glossary of mine action terms, definitions, and abbreviations, p. 3

⁸⁷ United Nations Department of Political Affairs, “Guidance for Effective Mediation.” Accessed April 2016: <http://peacemaker.un.org/mediationapp#Quality> c 2012, United Nations.

⁸⁸ “Mediation Start-Up Guidelines 2011,” Document 11-40412a-September 2011. Mediation Support Unit, United Nations Department of Political Affairs.” Accessed April 2016:

http://peacemaker.un.org/sites/peacemaker.un.org/files/MediationStartupGuidelines_UNDPA2011.pdf

⁸⁹ “Peace Agreements,” Watch International. Accessed April 2016: <https://watchinternational.wordpress.com/peace-agreements/>

⁹⁰ United Nations Department of Political Affairs, “Guidance for Effective Mediation.” Accessed April 2016: <http://peacemaker.un.org/mediationapp#Quality> c 2012, United Nations.

Topic/Term	Definition/ Description of Text to be Included	Definition Source
Capacity Building	An inclusive term referring to a variety of facilitation, support, training, and technical assistance activities and functions aimed at increasing national ownership of and capacity to manage mine action.	Survey Manual, Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanism of the UN Strategy for Mine Action 2013-2018
Clearance	<p>Tasks or actions to ensure the removal and/or the destruction of all mine and ERW hazards from a specified area to a specified depth.</p> <p>Note that "clearance" in this context includes activities of combined survey/clearance to facilitate mission movements and operations (Abyei, Mali, Somalia)</p>	IMAS 04.10, Second Edition. Glossary of mine action terms, definitions, and abbreviations, p. 6
Coordination	An inclusive term referring to a variety of communication, organization, and support activities and functions aimed at facilitating effective mine action.	Survey Manual, Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanism of the UN Strategy for Mine Action 2013-2018
Improvised Explosive Device (IED)	(2013) A device placed or fabricated in an improvised manner incorporating explosive material, destructive, lethal, noxious, incendiary, pyrotechnic materials or chemicals designed to destroy, disfigure, distract or harass. They may incorporate military stores, but are normally devised from non-military components.	IMAS 04.10, Second Edition. Glossary of mine action terms, definitions, and abbreviations, p.18
Mention of Mine Action	Text containing an explicit reference to mine action.	N/A
Mine/ERW Risk Education (MRE)	Activities that seek to reduce the risk of injury from mines/ERW by raising the awareness of men, women, and children in accordance with their different vulnerabilities, roles, and needs, and promoting behavioural change including public information dissemination, education and training, and community mine action liaison.	IMAS 04.10, Second Edition. Glossary of mine action terms, definitions, and abbreviations, p. 24
Mines	Text containing an explicit reference to mines: anti-personnel, anti-vehicle, etc.	N/A
Stockpile Destruction	The physical destructive procedure towards a continual reduction of the stockpile of explosive ordnance.	IMAS 04.10, Second Edition. Glossary of mine action terms, definitions, and abbreviations, p. 34
Victim Assistance	Refers to all aid, relief, comfort, and support provided to victims (including survivors) with the purpose of reducing the immediate and long-term medical and psychological implications of their trauma.	IMAS 04.10, Second Edition. Glossary of mine action terms, definitions, and abbreviations, p. 38

Topic/Term	Definition/ Description of Text to be Included	Definition Source
Weapons and Ammunition Management	<p>Weapons and Ammunition Management (WAM) includes physical measures taken to protect ammunition and conventional weapons, and prevent unauthorized access to them. It also includes procedures and activities designed to ensure the safe and secure accounting, storage, transportation and handling of small arms and/or light weapons, including their parts, components and ammunition.</p> <p>WAM includes arms proliferation and related issues, as well as small arms and light weapons.</p>	<p>International Small Arms Control Standards (ISACS) Glossary of Terms, Definitions, and Abbreviations. Reference number: ISACS 01.20:2014(E)V1.1 UN Coordinating Action on Small Arms (UN CASA) 2014, p. 19</p>

Annex 3: Glossary of Selected Terms

The following definitions have been taken from the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) 04.10, Glossary of mine action terms, definitions and abbreviations; Second Edition, 1 January 2003, Amendment 7, August 2014. The complete glossary is available [on the IMAS website](#).

3.20. Battle Area Clearance (BAC): (2005) The systematic and controlled clearance of hazardous areas where the hazards are known not to include mines.

3.29. Cancelled area or cancelled land (m2): (2013) A defined area concluded not to contain evidence of mine/ERW contamination following the non-technical survey of a SHA/CHA.

3.35. Clearance: (2013) In the context of mine action, the term refers to tasks or actions to ensure the removal and/or the destruction of all mine and ERW hazards from a specified area to a specified depth.

3.39. Cluster munition:⁹¹ (2009) Cluster munition refers to a conventional munition that is designed to disperse or release explosive sub-munitions each weighing less than 20 kilograms, and includes those explosive submunitions. (Convention on Cluster Munitions)

3.48. Confirmed Hazardous Area (CHA): (2013) Refers to an area where the presence of mine/ERW contamination has been confirmed on the basis of direct evidence of the presence of mines/ERW.

3.61. Demining or humanitarian demining:⁹² Activities which lead to the removal of mine and ERW hazards, including technical survey, mapping, clearance, marking, post-clearance documentation, community mine action liaison and the handover of cleared land. Demining may be carried out by different types of organizations, such as NGOs, commercial companies, national mine action teams or military units. Demining may be emergency-based or developmental.

3.98. Explosive Ordnance (EO): All munitions containing explosives, nuclear fission or fusion materials and biological and chemical agents. This includes bombs and warheads; guided and ballistic missiles; artillery, mortar, rocket and small arms ammunition; all mines, torpedoes and depth charges; pyrotechnics; clusters and dispensers; cartridge and propellant actuated devices; electroexplosive devices; clandestine and improvised explosive devices; and all similar or related items or components explosive in nature. [AAP-6]

3.99. Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD): (2005) The detection, identification, evaluation, render safe, recovery and disposal of explosive ordnance (EO). EOD may be undertaken: a) as a routine part of mine clearance operations, upon discovery of ERW; b) to dispose of ERW discovered outside hazardous areas, (this may be a single item of ERW, or a larger number inside a specific area); or c) to dispose of EO which has become hazardous by deterioration, damage or attempted destruction.

3.100. Explosive Remnants of War (ERW): (2005) Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) and Abandoned Explosive Ordnance (AXO). (Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons Protocol V).

⁹¹ The following definition of cluster munition is for political purposes as defined in the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM). From a technical point of view cluster munitions are included in the overall definition of Explosive Remnants of War.

⁹² In IMAS standards and guides, the terms demining and humanitarian demining are interchangeable.

3.111. **Gender analysis:** (2009) The study of the differences in men's and women's roles as well as their different access to and control over resources. It is a tool for improving the understanding of how the differences between men and women influence their opportunities and problems and can identify the challenges to participation in development.

3.121. **Handover:** (2009) The process by which the beneficiary (for example, the NMAA on behalf of the local community or land user) receives and accepts land which was previously suspected of containing an explosive hazard but which has subsequently had this suspicion removed, or reduced to a tolerable level, either through non-technical survey, technical survey or clearance.

3.137. **Improvised Explosive Device (IED):** (2013) A device placed or fabricated in an improvised manner incorporating explosive material, destructive, lethal, noxious, incendiary, pyrotechnic materials or chemicals designed to destroy, disfigure, distract or harass. They may incorporate military stores, but are normally devised from non-military components (IATG 01.40:2011).

3.142. **IMSMA (Information Management System for Mine Action):** (2007) IMSMA provides users with support for data collection, data storage, reporting, information analysis, and project management activities. Its primary use is by the staffs of MACs at national and regional level, however the system is also deployed in support of the implementers of mine action projects and demining organizations at all levels.

3.153. **International Mine Action Standards (IMAS):** (2009) Documents developed by the UN on behalf of the international community, which aim to improve safety, quality and efficiency in mine action by providing guidance, by establishing principles and, in some cases, by defining international requirements and specifications.

3.159. **Land release:** (2013) In the context of mine action, the term describes the process of applying all reasonable effort to identify, define, and remove all presence and suspicion of mines/ERW through non-technical survey, technical survey and/or clearance. The criteria for "all reasonable effort" shall be defined by the NMAA.

3.168. **Marking:** Emplacement of a measure or combination of measures to identify the position of a hazard or the boundary of a hazardous area. This may include the use of signs, paint marks etc., or the erection of physical barriers.

3.174. **Mine:** Munition designed to be placed under, on or near the ground or other surface area and to be exploded by the presence, proximity or contact of a person or a vehicle. [Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention]

3.176. **Mine action:** (2009) Activities which aim to reduce the social, economic and environmental impact of mines, and ERW including unexploded sub-munitions.

- Note: Mine action is not just about demining; it is also about people and societies, and how they are affected by landmine and ERW contamination. The objective of mine action is to reduce the risk from landmines and ERW to a level where people can live safely; in which economic, social and health development can occur free from the constraints imposed by landmine and ERW contamination, and in which the victims' different needs can be addressed.
- Mine action comprises five complementary groups of activities a) mine risk education; b) humanitarian demining, i.e. mine and ERW survey, mapping, marking and clearance; c) victim assistance, including rehabilitation and reintegration; d) stockpile destruction; and e) advocacy against the use of APM.
- Note: A number of other enabling activities are required to support these five components of mine action, including: assessment and planning, the mobilisation and prioritisation of resources, information

management, human skills development and management training, quality management and the application of effective, appropriate and safe equipment.

3.177. Mine Action Centre (MAC) or Mine Action Coordination Centre (MACC): (2009) An organization that, on behalf of the National Mine Action Authority where it exists, typically is responsible for planning, coordination, overseeing and in some cases implementation of mine action projects. For national mine action programmes, the MAC/MACC usually acts as the operational office of the NMAA.

3.186. Mine/ERW Risk Education (MRE): (2009) Activities which seek to reduce the risk of injury from mines/ERW by raising awareness of men, women, and children in accordance with their different vulnerabilities, roles and needs, and promoting behavioural change including public information dissemination, education and training, and community mine action liaison.

3.197. National Mine Action Authority (NMAA): (2009) The government entity, often an inter-ministerial committee, in a mine-affected country charged with the responsibility for the regulation, management and coordination of mine action.

3.200. Non-Technical Survey: (2013) Refers to the collection and analysis of data, without the use of technical interventions, about the presence, type, distribution and surrounding environment of mine/ERW contamination, in order to define better where mine/ERW contamination is present, and where it is not, and to support land release prioritisation and decision-making processes through the provision of evidence.

3.210. Post clearance assessment: (2009) Surveys to assess the effectiveness and efficiency of mine action planning, priority setting, and implementation processes, aiming to enhance the productivity and effectiveness of mine action, monitor post-clearance land use, ensure priority-setting processes are clear, transparent and carried out correctly, and help identify problems faced by communities in transforming the outputs of mine action (e.g. cleared land) into sustainable developmental outcomes.

3.242. Reduced land (m2): (2013) A defined area concluded not to contain evidence of mine/ERW contamination following the technical survey of a SHA/CHA.

3.250. Risk: Combination of the probability of occurrence of harm and the severity of that harm. [ISO Guide 51:1999(E)]

3.282. Suspected Hazardous Area (SHA): (2013) An area where there is reasonable suspicion of mine/ERW contamination on the basis of indirect evidence of the presence of mines/ERW.

3.287. Technical survey: (2013) Refers to the collection and analysis of data, using appropriate technical interventions, about the presence, type, distribution and surrounding environment of mine/ERW contamination, in order to define better where mine/ERW contamination is present, and where it is not, and to support land release prioritisation and decision making processes through the provision of evidence.

3.299. Unexploded Ordnance (UXO): Explosive Ordnance (EO) that has been primed, fused, armed or otherwise prepared for use or used. It may have been fired, dropped, launched or projected yet remains unexploded either through malfunction or design or for any other reason.