



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

**Report from the 6th Round of Data Collection
*July 2017***

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

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Acronyms

APMBC: Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention
AU: African Union
BAC: Battle Area Clearance
CCW: Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons
CCM: Convention on Cluster Munitions
CHA: Confirmed Hazardous Area
CRPD: Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
CWG: Inter-agency Consultative Working Group on M&E (a committee of the IACG-MA)
DMAC: Directorate for Mine Action Coordination (Afghanistan)
DPKO: Department for Peacekeeping Operations (United Nations)
EOD: Explosive ordnance disposal
ERW: Explosive remnants of war
FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization
GICHD: Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining
GMAP: Gender and Mine Action Programme
IACG-MA: Inter-Agency Coordination Group on Mine Action (United Nations)
IASC: Inter-Agency Standing Committee (United Nations)
IATG: International Ammunition Technical Guidelines
IDP: Internally displaced person
IED: Improvised explosive device
IMAS: International Mine Action Standards
IMIS: Information Management Integrated System
IMSMA: Information Management System for Mine Action.

M&E: Monitoring and evaluation
MoU: Memorandum of understanding
MRE: Mines/ERW Risk Education
NGO: Non-governmental organization
NTS: Non-technical survey
OHCHR: Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
PRSP: Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
SHA: Suspected Hazardous Area
UN VTF: United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Action
UN Women: United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
UNDAF: United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP: United Nations Development Programme
UNHCR: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF: United Nations Children's Fund
UNMAS: United Nations Mine Action Service
UNOAU: United Nations Office to the African Union
UNODA: United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs
UNOPS: United Nations Office for Project Services
UNPAF: United Nations Partnership Framework
UNRWA: United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
WFP: World Food Programme
WHO: World Health Organization

Executive Summary

Thirty countries and territories participated in the sixth round of data collection of the M&E Mechanism for the UN Strategy for Mine Action 2013-2018 (hereafter the UN Strategy M&E Mechanism), providing data up to the end of 2016.¹ Representing a wide range of contexts and communities, the data these programmes provided illuminates changing contexts in mine action, provides insights for future support, and reinforces the UN's engagement in all aspects of mine action to help address the immediate humanitarian challenges posed by the presence of landmines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war, while at the same time laying the foundations for addressing immediate humanitarian needs, improving peace and security, promoting stabilization, and achieving the sustainable development goals. Key findings from the 6th round of data collection point to important mine action results, emerging issues, and future strategic direction in the following thematic areas:

Towards the UN Vision: A world free from the threat of mines and ERW, conducive to development, and supportive to mine and ERW victims and survivors.

- Risk reduction efforts including clearance, risk education, and capacity enhancement continue to implement successfully in a variety of contexts and communities.
- Mine/ERW casualty data indicate an increase in deaths and injuries in 2016, mostly in settings of active and protracted conflict (though increased data availability also plays a role).
- Available casualty data indicate that, in the aggregate and in certain specific contexts, ERW could pose a greater threat than mines.
- Men and boys are at greater risk than women and girls regardless of device type, and civilians are likewise disproportionately impacted.

Strategic Objective 1: Reduction of Risk and Negative Socio-Economic Impact

- Mines/ERW have the greatest direct socio-economic impact on agriculture and food security, access to natural resource, and access to water. Impacts are also felt in local economic recovery and livelihoods necessary for building the foundations for sustainable peace and development.
- Programmes continue to clear and release land – both battle areas and minefields – and critical infrastructure; due to a variety of factors, however, contamination is being created and identified more quickly than land can be made safe. rate
- A far greater proportion of released (e.g. previously-contaminated) minefields are currently in productive use than released battle areas.²
- The delivery of Mines/ERW risk education continues to benefit at-risk communities and the broader population in affected countries/territories.
- Findings indicate that the nature of the mine/ERW threat seems to be changing, raising the question of how mine action interventions and strategies – and UN support – can adapt.

¹ 27 countries and three territories, for a total of 30 programmes: Abyei, Afghanistan, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, the Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Darfur, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Eritrea, Iraq, Jordan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libya, Mali, Myanmar, Pakistan, the State of Palestine, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syria, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Western Sahara, and Yemen.

² See Annex 5 for the IMAS definition of "battle area;" "productive use" is defined by participating programmes according to context.

Strategic Objective 2: Victim Assistance

- National authorities maintained the progress observed over the past 18 months in establishing the policy frameworks and capacities needed to support mine/ERW victims and survivors.
- Nearly half the 27 countries in Round 6 have a policy framework in place (through either specific legislation or a broader framework) to ensure the rights of mine/ERW victims and survivors (often within a broader framework of disability).
- Reported national capacity in victim assistance increased by 5% over the past 18 months.

Strategic Objective 3: National Ownership

- Countries continue to make moderate progress in establishing and maintaining national capacities, standards, and policy frameworks.
- The M&E Mechanism has observed measurable improvements in assessed capacity in MRE and in marking, fencing, survey, and clearance over the past 18 months.
- Ten out of 27 participating countries have established or are in the process of drafting national mine action standards that are in compliance with IMAS.
- Sixty-eight per cent of national authorities (15 of 27 countries) have a national action plan or national strategy for mine action, and strategies are in the drafting stages in a further three countries.

Strategic Objective 4: International Policy

- Mine action is playing a critical role in several key peace processes, with UN support and assistance at the centre.
- Efforts to mainstream mine action into UN policy and documents are having an impact, as such documents increasingly reference key mine action topics.

Enhancing Quality and Evidence-based Approaches in UN Support to Mine Action

- Significant IACG-MA efforts are underway to implement the recommendation adopted in the Report from Round 5 of Data Collection of the UN Strategy M&E Mechanism, demonstrating the commitment of IACG-MA members to evidence-based UN support to mine action.
- Mixed progress is being made towards the UN Strategy targets. Some targets under Strategic Objective 1 and Strategic Objective 3 are close to being achieved, while the targets for Strategic Objective 3 demonstrate mixed results and will be challenging to achieve by the end of current the UN Strategy. However, most indicators are trending positively.
- Over the past 18 months, the proportion of programmes that consistently implement the UN Gender Guidelines for Mine Action has increased.

1. Findings from the Sixth Round of Data Collection

*Vision: "...a world free of the threat of mines and explosive remnants of war (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 as equal members of their societies."*³

The nature of the threat is changing. Evidence from Round 6, with data as of December 2016, indicates that landmines from past conflicts are being cleared and fewer such new landmines laid, and that many mine-affected countries have strong national clearance capacities. Yet, as reported in the Round 5 Report of the M&E Mechanism, the Landmine Monitor 2016, and the 2017 Report of the Secretary-General on UN Assistance in Mine Action, mines/ERW continue to kill and injure people throughout the world – and at an increasingly deadly rate in 2016: nearly 3,400 new mines/ERW casualties were reported through the M&E Mechanism in 2016, compared with just over 2,400 in 2015: an increase in annual casualty rates of nearly forty per cent, from six to nine mine/ERW casualties per million people.

What accounts for this seeming contradiction? In what regions and contexts are these increases most apparent: what specific places and factors are driving the aggregate increase? The Landmine Monitor attributes this increase to the continuation and escalation of armed conflicts in Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya, Syria, Ukraine and Yemen, together with increasing availability of data, which is broadly consistent with the findings of the M&E Mechanism considering the differing country foci of the data monitoring mechanisms.⁴ To further investigate these questions, the Survey of the UN M&E Mechanism was revised in advance of the sixth round of data collection to collect casualties by device type: mines separate from ERW, and greater granularity in the different types of improvised explosive devices causing harm throughout the world.

The findings disaggregated by device type indicate that ERW increasingly represent a greater threat than mines in some contexts and communities. Available data show that in Mali and Somalia ERW cause twice (or more) as many casualties as mines, and ERW are by far the greater threat in the State of Palestine as well; for details of device disaggregated casualty data, see Annex 1 Figure 3.⁵ When also disaggregated by gender and age, data indicates that reported mine casualties are much higher among adults than among children (588 mine casualties reported among men and women compared with 94 among children). Casualties of ERW are reported among adults and children with almost equal frequency: just over 1,000 ERW casualties each as of the end of 2016. Both of these conclusions are tentative. The availability of age and gender disaggregated data continues to need improvement in many contexts, and in many places deaths and injuries among children are less likely to be reported than adult casualties. A complete breakdown of age and gender disaggregated casualty information is available in

³ 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).

⁴ The M&E Mechanism focuses on countries with a UN mine action presence. The Landmine Monitor focuses on all countries and territories affected by mines/ERW.

⁵ Device disaggregation was available for 10% of casualties from mines and ERW; for the remaining 90%, it is impossible to differentiate between casualties of mines and casualties of ERW. This is unsurprising given that challenges with data availability typically arise when implementing new approaches to data collection. It is anticipated that data availability will improve in future rounds of data collection.

Annex 1 Figure 6. However it is important to note that for 90% of reported mines and ERW casualties, it is not possible to identify whether it was mines or ERW that were the cause of the casualties.⁶

Regardless of whether the device type is disaggregated or not, findings consistently show that men and boys are the most frequently killed and injured by mines and ERW. Civilians are likewise disproportionately impacted: 75% of mines and ERW casualties occur among civilians in comparison to non-civilians.⁷

Together with mines and ERW, this report considers the impact of improvised explosive devices (IEDs) that are victim-activated and/or abandoned. The impacts of other types of IEDs – particularly those that are remote-detонated, command-detонated, time-detонated, and/or launched – are outside the scope of the current Strategy of the United Nations on Mine Action. Nonetheless, the use of IEDs can have a similarly catastrophic effect as mines and ERW given the explosive impact of IEDs that kill and maim people, their presence and/or the threat thereof can also render land and infrastructure uninhabitable. Furthermore, mines can be used as source explosive material for the manufacture of IEDs. Going forwards it will be increasingly important to develop tools and methods to quantify the impact of IEDs and to monitor IED casualties on civilians and non-civilians alike in order to understand better the similarities and differences with the current threat posed by mines and ERW. Once enough data has been collected through the Survey, a separate report on IEDs is planned.

In addition to the humanitarian impact of mines/ERW, the UN Strategy envisions safe environments conducive to development, in which mine/ERW survivors and victims realise their human rights and are fully integrated into their communities. These essential aspects of the UN vision are discussed in greater detail in the following sections, particularly Strategic Objective 1.

1.1 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1: REDUCTION OF RISK AND NEGATIVE SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT

Strategic Objective 1: Risks to individuals and the socio-economic impacts of mines and ERW, including cluster munitions, are reduced.⁸

The sixth round of data collection includes more information provided on the socio-economic impacts of mines/ERW. Four countries/territories report that a socio-economic impact survey has been conducted in cleared or released previously contaminated areas, and another two reported that such assessments are currently in progress. Out of a list of ten key aspects of recovery and development, impacts of mines/ERW contamination were most frequently reported in agriculture and food security, access to natural resources, and access to water.⁹ Significant impacts were also noted in local economic recovery

⁶ Device disaggregation was available for 10% of casualties from mines and ERW; for the remaining 90%, it is impossible to differentiate between casualties of mines and casualties of ERW. This is unsurprising given that challenges with data availability typically arise when implementing new approaches to data collection. It is anticipated that data availability will improve in future rounds of data collection.

⁷ Details are available in Annex 1 Figures 1 and 2.

⁸ 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).

⁹ For ten different aspects of reconstruction and development, participants are asked to indicate the extent to which each aspect is impacted by mines/ERW and by IEDs: Not impacted at all, Lightly impacted, Moderately impacted, Heavily impacted, or Impacted so much that progress is impossible. For additional information, see Annex 1 Figure 2.

and livelihoods; indeed, it is likely that the impacts reported in agriculture and food security and in local economic recovery and livelihoods are related.

Data from countries and territories most often cited the risk associated with the pursuit of livelihoods as a result of explosive devices. Six of the eleven countries and territories that explained how risk is defined in their context included economic insecurity and/or risk-taking behaviours undertaken in pursuit of income and sustenance as critical factors putting people at risk from mines/ERW; four mentioned agricultural activities specifically.¹⁰ In other words, mines/ERW have contaminated the land where people live, and make their living. When land for farming, grazing livestock, building, and otherwise live are not available, people are faced with putting themselves at risk by pursuing livelihood activities in contaminated areas.

Mine action programmes continue to make progress in the clearance and release of land and infrastructure that has been contaminated by mines and ERW. By July of 2015, programmes had released 47% of an identified 1,946 square kilometres of battle areas.¹¹ One year later, 44% of 2,131 square kilometres of contaminated land had been released. At the same time, however, new contamination has been identified and/or created at a faster pace. In other words, while 23 square kilometres of contaminated land was released from July of 2015 to July of 2016, 185 square kilometres of land was identified as contaminated over the same period.¹² This 185 square kilometres includes new contamination from active conflicts, lands that have become contaminated due to weather-related changes in typography (e.g. minefields shifting due to flooding and other disruption), lands where contamination is newly discovered due to additional survey activities, as well as lands in which contamination is newly recorded due to improved information management. The same factors that affect the identification of contaminated land – conflict, funding, weather, typography, context, information management – also affect survey and clearance.

As of December 2016 (the current round of data collection), 2,924 square kilometres of minefields and 976 square kilometres of battle areas had been released back to the communities. As confirmed through post-clearance assessment surveys and related mechanisms, 53% of released minefields (or 1,560 square kilometres) are confirmed to be in productive use. A far smaller proportion of released battle areas – less than 1%, in fact – are confirmed to be in productive use; however a scarcity of data concerning post-release use of battle areas skews this figure significantly: when restricted to just those countries and territories with complete data, the percentage rises to 44% (and the proportion of released minefields

¹⁰ Abyei (specific activities not defined), Afghanistan (agriculture, livestock, foraging firewood and construction stones), Eritrea (agriculture and livestock, particularly herding and grazing animals), Mali (herding and grazing livestock), the State of Palestine (farming and construction work), and Tajikistan (farming, foraging, and herding and grazing livestock).

¹¹ [IMAS 09.11, First Edition](#). Pg. 2. “Battle Area Clearance operations involve the location and disposal of ERW, including UXO and AP, but not mines, over specific areas, which may include battlefields, defensive positions and sites where air delivered or artillery munitions, including cluster munitions, have been fired or dropped. Depending on the humanitarian priorities and required land use, BAC may involve surface and sub-surface clearance. The requirement for BAC can be in both urban and rural environments.”

¹² Restricted to the 24 countries and territories that participated in Round 4, Round 5, and Round 6 of data collection: Abyei, Afghanistan, Albania, Cambodia, the Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, Cote d'Ivoire, Darfur, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Eritrea, Jordan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libya, Mali, Myanmar, Palestine, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, and Western Sahara.

that are in productive use rises to 99%).¹³ The difference in the proportion of released minefields in productive use relative to released battle areas warrants further investigation, as it is not possible to explain this trend without further information.¹⁴

Clearance of affected infrastructure is monitored as part of assessing the socio-economic impact on communities of the threat of mines and ERW. Across the data collected from ten countries where mine action programmes are able to collect relevant data, 157 hospitals, 273 educational facilities, 531 markets, 808 water points, 7 religious facilities, and 466 government buildings have been cleared of contamination as of December 2016. The rate of clearance of affected infrastructure consistently exceeds the rate at which new contamination is recorded, at a pace of at least 135 pieces of vital infrastructure cleared per month for the past 12 months.

Mines/ERW risk education delivered with UN-channelled, national and bilateral funds continue 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. In the past 18 months, MRE programmes directly reached 7 million people in 30 countries and territories.¹⁵ The proportion of people considered to be at-risk who have received MRE has increased by five percentage points (from 5% to 10%) in the last 18 months. This indicates that prioritization of MRE recipients according to their need is taking place.

1.2 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2: VICTIM ASSISTANCE

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.⁹

National authorities have maintained the progress observed over the past 18 months in establishing the policy frameworks and national capacities needed to provide support for mines/ERW victims and survivors. All told, nearly half of the 27 countries participating in the sixth round of data collection have a plan or policy in place to support mines/ERW survivors and victims, or have policies and plans in place to provide for victims and survivors within a broader policy framework ensuring the rights of people with disabilities.^{16, 17} Five countries have established injury surveillance systems that collect information on people killed and injured by mines and ERW, and such systems are in development in a further two countries. Fifty-two per cent of participants report that national capacity in victim assistance

¹³ Complete data is available from Afghanistan, Mali, and Sri Lanka.

¹⁴ Possible explanations include 1) data availability and programme assessment practices (perhaps post-clearance assessments are less frequently conducted on released battle areas than on released minefields, or “productive use” may be understood differently in different contexts, or BAC is used to capture information about EOD tasks for which post-clearance data is not collected); 2) that battle areas are associated with settings (active conflict, poor agricultural contexts, etc.) in which explosive devices are just one of several barriers to the productive use of land.

¹⁵ 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.).

¹⁶ 27 countries and three territories participated in Round 6, for a total of 30 programmes.

¹⁷ As of December 2016, 73% of participating countries have a plan or policy in place that ensures the rights of persons with disabilities; 68% of these make specific provisions for mines/ERW survivors and victims.

is moderate or higher.¹⁸ This represents an increase from the last round of data collection, in which only 45% of participating countries reported moderate or higher national capacity in victim assistance.

Challenges remain in ensuring the accessibility and quality of services for mines/ERW victims and survivors. While 85% of participating countries provide some form of victim assistance services, 40% provide a full range of services. The extent to which such services take into account age and gender sensitivity varies as well (see Annex 1 Figure 8). The United Nations supports victim assistance through direct programming and/or funding support in 61% of participating countries/territories.

1.3 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3: NATIONAL OWNERSHIP AND CAPACITY

*Strategic Objective 3: The transfer of mine action functions to national actors is accelerated, with national capacity to fulfil mine action responsibilities increased.*¹⁹

In addition to the policies and capacities in victim assistance discussed in the preceding section, national authorities continue to make progress, with United Nations support where requested, in enhancing and maintaining mine action programmes that are primarily managed by national actors. An effective national mine action capacity is comprised of an operating framework that enables national institutions to take the lead to develop and maintain, with UN assistance where requested, a comprehensive response to the threats posed by mines/ERW. Some of the more critical elements of this framework include legislation, national standards, a process of accreditation of mines/ERW clearance operators, a national strategy, and an empowered national body to coordinate and manage mine action personnel, budget, quality assurance and an information management system.

The M&E Mechanism monitors the presence of the extent to which these different components are in place and, in some cases, relevant within an affected country. Trends show conservative progress towards effective national mine action structures. Sixty-eight per cent of national authorities (15 countries out of 27) have a national action plan or national strategy for mine action, and strategies are in the drafting stages in a further three countries (Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Egypt). Since the fifth round of data collection, the Tajik National Mine Action Strategy 2016 – 2020 has progressed from draft to formal adoption. Sixty-five per cent of national authorities have adopted a plan or strategy on information management, and 73% collect and maintain mines/ERW injury surveillance data.²⁰ Seventy-seven percent of national authorities report financial investment in at least one aspect of their own mine action programmes; coordination, mine action planning, and quality assurance are the areas in which the largest number of national authorities report investing. Information management, advocacy, and MRE are also areas in which several national authorities report investing. These areas of investment have been consistent over multiple rounds of data collection. Seven out of 27 participating countries confirmed that national mine action standards are in place, and that these

¹⁸ Assessed through the Capacity Assessment Tool in the Survey; see Annex 1 Figure 5.

¹⁹ 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).

²⁰ The Survey asks if national authorities collect and maintain age and gender disaggregated data on deaths and injuries from mines and ERW; there is no universal definition of an injury surveillance system.

standards are in compliance with IMAS. IMAS compliant national mine action standards are being drafted in a further three countries.

Countries have continued to make modest gains in developing and improving national capacity, with the greatest gains occurring in MRE and in marking, fencing, survey, and clearance. Average capacity scores in both of these areas (MRE and marking, fencing, survey, and clearance) have shown an improvement in capacity by 10% over the past 18 months.²¹ Over the three years since the first round of data collection in 2014, aggregated capacity in marking, fencing, survey, and clearance increased by 18%.²² Countries identified resource mobilisation as the area in greatest need of enhanced capacity, followed by procurement, victim assistance, and information management.

Where capacity already existed, countries reported these to be in the areas of MRE and in marking, fencing, survey, and clearance; which are also the areas showing the greatest increases in aggregate capacity. When examining where countries identified a need for increased capacity, these matched where capacity has been showing the greatest gains (MRE and marking, fencing, survey, and clearance), which suggests opportunities for south-south cooperation. Such opportunities are also indicated in information management, where seven programmes indicated a need for capacity enhancement and eight countries identified good or independent national capacity in place. Stockpile management is the area most frequently indicated “inapplicable,” but the data show an important need for increased capacity where it is relevant.

1.4 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 4: POLICY

Strategic Objective 4: Mine action is promoted and integrated in multilateral instruments and frameworks as well as national plans and legislation.²³

The M&E Mechanism explores international policy through several approaches, including treaty universalisation, the frequency with which key topics appear in key UN documents, and the presence and discussion of mine action in documents associated with peace and ceasefire processes.

Progress towards the universalisation of the APMBC among affected states has plateaued, remaining at 67% since 2014. Thirty-nine percent of affected countries are States Parties to the CCM; for both of these treaties, the proportion is slightly higher among affected countries in which the UN supports mine action. Lebanon became a State Party to the CCW in April of 2017, including to the CCW Amended Protocol II, slightly increasing the proportion of affected states who are States Parties. Affected states

²¹ Data from: Abyei, Afghanistan, Cambodia, 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.

²² Data from: 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.

²³ 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).

are making good progress towards universalisation of the CRPD, with nine new States Parties since 2013.²⁴

Since the beginning of UN Strategy implementation, the total number of relevant peace process documents has decreased, but the proportion of such documents that reference mine action has increased from 5% in 2013 (one document out of 21) to 23% in both 2015 and 2016 (three documents out of 13).²⁵ In 2016 and 2017, three documents referenced mine action: a ceasefire agreement and a peace agreement from the Colombian peace process, and a joint statement by Libyan community and political leaders appealing for humanitarian assistance in response to the conflict in their home country and particularly in Benghazi.²⁶ Due to the nature and purpose of each document, the mine action language is stronger and more detailed in both the ceasefire and peace agreement, in comparison with the joint statement. Ceasefire and peace agreements are drafted by the parties to the conflict. In these cases, the content can be very specific depending on the parties' will. In the case of Colombia, for example, there is evidence of clear political will from both the Colombian government and FARC-EP rebels to describe in detail the provisions governing the agreements, and the details of mine clearance and reporting obligations and commitments made on both sides. Mine action plays a significant role in the Colombian peace process by creating opportunities for the government and the FARC-EP to collaborate productively.²⁷

The Sudan Agreement on Permanent Ceasefire (2004) and the Colombia Agreement on Bilateral and Final Ceasefire (2016) are the best examples of clear mentions of the United Nations in mine action.^{28, 29} The success of the Sudan agreement in terms of good inclusion of United Nations language may be linked to the fact that, by the time this ceasefire agreement was signed, the United Nations had very good partnerships with both the Government of Sudan (GoS) and with the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM). In September 2002, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was agreed between

²⁴ For a complete breakdown of progress towards treaty universalisation, seen Annex 1 Table 13.

²⁵ In 2013, the Accord de cessez-le-feu entre le Gouvernement de la République Centrafricaine et la Coalition Seleka. In 2015, the Libyan Political Agreement; the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement between the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Ethnic Armed Organizations; and the Agreement between the Transitional Government and the Armed Groups on the Principles of Disarmament, Demobilization, Reintegration and Repatriation and of Integration into the Uniformed State Forces of the Central African Republic. In 2016, the Acuerdo Final para la Terminación del Conflicto y la Construcción de una Paz Estable y Duradera; the Agreement on the Bilateral and Final Ceasefire, End of Hostilities, and Surrender of Weapons between the National Government and the FARC-EP; and the Humanitarian Appeal for Benghazi.

²⁶ "Humanitarian Appeal for Benghazi," 16 March 2016. Available from: <https://www.hdcentre.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/Humanitarian-Appeal-for-Benghazi-English-16-March-2016.pdf> (Accessed June 2017)

²⁷ Other examples of peace and ceasefire agreements that reference mine action activities include: the Democratic Republic of the Congo Peace Agreements (2003), the Great Lakes Agreement (2004), the Senegal Peace Agreement (2004), the Sudan Permanent Ceasefire, part of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (2004), the Afghanistan Political Agreement (2006), the Abyei Agreement (2011), the Darfur Peace Agreement (2011), the Central African Republic Ceasefire Agreement (2013), the Colombian Drug Trade Plan (2014), the Philippines Peace Agreement (2014), the Libyan Political Agreement (2015), the Myanmar Ceasefire (2015) and the Colombian Ceasefire and Peace Agreements (2016).

²⁸ Agreement on permanent Ceasefire and Security Arrangements Implementation Modalities between the Government of the Sudan (GoS) and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/ Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLM/SPA) during the Pre-Interim and Interim Periods, available at: <http://www.un.org/chinese/ha/issue/sudan/docs/cpa-3.pdf> (accessed 22 June 2017).

²⁹ Agreement on the Bilateral and final Ceasefire, end of Hostilities and Surrender of Weapons between the National Government and the FARC-EP.

the GoS, the SPLM and UNMAS regarding UN mine action support to Sudan.³⁰ Also, in September 2002, the GoS, with UNMAS assistance, established a National Mine Action Office (NMAO) in Khartoum. The successful work of the United Nations contributed as a confidence building measure prior to any agreement which may have led the parties to trust the United Nations and ultimately, expressly including its reference in this ceasefire agreement.

One conclusion that may be drawn is that good and extensive partnership of the United Nations with all parties to show capability to support them at different stages. Ultimately, this will pave the way to more solid ceasefire and peace agreements including stronger language on mine action activities.

In analysing the discussion of mine action in United Nations documents, several key trends emerge. While references to mine action and ERW have increased in both number and proportion of relevant documents, distinct peaks are observed in 2014 and 2015. These trends are reflective of shifts and changes in key countries in which the United Nations supports mine action (South Sudan, Syria), and spikes are also observed in the frequency with which documents from specific key countries reference mine action. The M&E Mechanism has also noted shifts in the terminology and rhetoric surrounding these topics in UN documents. Terms such as “explosive weapons,” and “explosive ordnance,” have begun to appear in relevant documents in recent years. For example, in 2013 and, recently, in 2017, concerns related to the protection of civilians from the use of explosive weapons in populated area have appeared in the annual Protection of Civilians reports.^{31,32} The Protection of Civilians report has also noted the increasing use of explosive weapons by non-State armed groups.³³ Another change is an observed shift of focus in the Children in Armed Conflict report. In 2013 and 2014, concerns covered the impact of indiscriminate attacks which resulted in many child casualties in conflict and post-conflict situations by landmines and ERW; and the fact that responsibility for these weapons rests with national armed forces.^{34,35} In 2016, the focus was mainly on the recruitment of child soldiers for use in front-line operations.³⁶ With these shifts, the M&E Mechanism also notes sustained attention and consistent rhetoric relating to topics including clearance, coordination, and the impact of ERW on communities and specifically on children.

1.5 ENHANCING QUALITY AND EVIDENCE-BASED APPROACHES IN UN SUPPORT TO MINE ACTION

A critical purpose of the M&E Mechanism for the UN Strategy is to establish a baseline of evidence of the progress made by the United Nations in mine action, in the form of data and findings that can be used by the United Nations to shape the most effective outcomes possible for partners and beneficiaries. Along with managing the M&E Mechanism, the IACG-MA meets this objective through initiatives such

³⁰ Memorandum of understanding between the Government of Sudan, the Sudan People’s Liberation movement and the United Nations regarding United Nations Mine Action Support to Sudan.

³¹ S/2013/689, para. 35.

³² S/2015/453, para. 14.

³³ S/2013/689, para. B 38.

³⁴ S/2013/245; A/67/845, para. 166.

³⁵ S/RES/2143 (2014), preambular para. 7.

as including developing and implementing recommendations, monitoring implementation of the UN Gender Guidelines for Mine Action, and establishing and tracking progress towards UN Strategy targets.

1.5.1 Implementation of Recommendations from Round 5 of Data Collection

As part of the fifth round of data collection, the IACG-MA agreed to a set of eight recommendations meant to support the United Nations to strengthen its ability to be informed by the monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the Strategy.³⁷ In the six months since the recommendations were adopted, the IACG-MA has been discussing and prioritising the recommendations while taking the first steps towards their implementation.

The second recommendation, regarding establishing common criteria to guide UN engagement with affected states/territories, the IACG-MA agreed that this consolidation process may be premature. Any discussion of a common set of criteria to guide UN engagement including identification of priority countries, is underpinned by the values and the weight given to these values by the members of the IACG-MA (e.g. preventing death/injury, material prosperity, treaty obligations, etc.). The forthcoming inter-agency development in 2018 of a new Strategy for Mine Action (2019-2021) and the evidence produced by the M&E mechanism until then will help clarify those values and their corresponding criteria. This recommendation is considered met, with more detailed discussions to be held in the context of the development of the next multi-year UN Strategy for Mine Action, to begin in 2018.

Recommendation four called for the development of a reporting system for tracking contamination by device, in particular ERW (unexploded and abandoned ordnance including cluster munitions), and to start tracking information on IEDs (including whether they are remote detonated, command detonated, or launched). In response, the Survey instrument was revised in advance of Round 6 to collect casualty data with device-type disaggregation. The data and findings from the revised treatment of casualty information has already enhanced understandings of the nature of the threat, contributing to a clearer evidence base from which to plan future UN initiatives in mine action. This recommendation is considered met.

In accordance with recommendation eight, which is to encourage participation in the M&E Mechanism by all countries/territories in which the UN supports mine action, the inter-agency Consultative Working Group (CWG) undertook further concerted outreach efforts in advance of Round 6. This preparation resulted in participation from a record 30 countries/territories, including first time participants Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iraq, Ukraine, and Yemen. The increasing dataset provides the UN with ever more useful and accurate information, enhancing UN efforts to employ evidence-based management approaches. Meeting this recommendation is an ongoing activity throughout the duration of the current Strategy.

Work towards implementing the remaining recommendations is currently in the discussion stages. For some of the recommendations, implementation can develop out of existing initiatives. The interim goals and milestones described in recommendation one can be built out of the UN Strategy targets, for

³⁷ For a complete list of the Round 5 Recommendations, see Annex 2.

example, and existing tools in place to monitor UN documents for Strategic Objective 4 of the UN Strategy can be expanded to include UNDAFs/UNPAFs per recommendation seven. The IACG-MA will continue to explore these and other implementation approaches in the next 18 months.

1.5.2 Gender Sensitivity in Mine Action Programmes

To ensure the risk reduction strategies implemented by the United Nations and partners proportionally reach all community members in which mine action is being conducted, the M&E Mechanism monitors the implementation of the UN Gender Guidelines for Mine Action Programmes³⁸ (hereafter Gender Guidelines), together with other indicators of gender sensitivity in mine action programming.³⁹ The findings emphasize how programmes endeavour to promote gender equity in mine action, and where programmes reported consistent implementation of the best practices, recommendations, and guidelines outlined in the Gender Guidelines.⁴⁰

The tracking and reporting of age and gender disaggregated data, whether the data concern casualties and injury surveillance, employment and staffing in mine action programmes, community participation in MRE initiatives, beneficiary enumeration, etc., is critically important for ensuring that women, girls, boys, and men can equally access and benefit from mine action programmes. As of December 2016, 67% of participating countries collect data on deaths and injuries from mines/ERW; and 59% collected this data with sex and age disaggregation.⁴¹ Moreover, as shown in Annex 1 Table 14, trends analysis indicates that data quality and availability can both improve and deteriorate. The reliability and completeness of information management systems is affected by changes in context, funding, management, or other factors.⁴² Information management – and particularly a focus on the importance of age and gender disaggregated data – is an area of mine action that can benefit from increased and sustained support. Encouragingly, 95% of mine action programmes report consistent implementation of the best practices in the Gender Guidelines that relate to age and sex disaggregation of data in injury surveillance (Annex 1 Figure 13), and 80% report that they almost always disaggregate survey data by sex and age when conducting threat assessment activities (Annex 1 Figure 14).

Programmes take a variety of approaches to ensure gender sensitivity in their mine action activities. Many programmes note that implementation of the Gender Guidelines is required of UN implementing partners, and that such partners are asked to report on their performance in this area. Looking at the four themes covered in the Gender Guidelines, programmes most consistently implement the guidelines

³⁸ 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).

³⁹ Where possible, the assessment reflects all UN-supported mine action work across a country or territory.

⁴⁰ For the Gender Guidelines assessment in the Survey, a scale of “Almost Always” (76-100% of relevant opportunities), “Often” (51-75% of relevant opportunities), “Sometimes” (26-50% of relevant opportunities), or “Rarely” (0-25% of relevant opportunities) is used to indicate consistency of implementation. “Consistent implementation” means that a programme reported following the guidelines associated with each theme “Often” or “Almost Always.”

⁴¹ Data from: Afghanistan, Albania, Colombia, Côte d’Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Jordan, The Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Libya, Mali, Myanmar, the State of Palestine, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan (including Darfur), Tajikistan, and Yemen.

⁴² In Afghanistan, for example, estimates of people who seasonally migrate to and through mine affected areas have not been available since the end of 2015 due to escalations of conflict prevent government access to the relevant regions.

intended to ensure that 1) men and women are equally able to access and benefit from professional opportunities in the mine action sector (the Employment Opportunities theme), and that 2) mine action programmes are designed to equally benefit women, girls, boys, and men (the Programme Design theme). In both of these areas, 90% of programmes reported consistent implementation of the best practices included in the Gender Guidelines (Annex 1 Figure 11). The data show positive trends in implementation of the Gender Guidelines as well, and not just in employment opportunities and programme design. Over the past 18 months, the proportion of programmes that consistently implement the Gender Guidelines has increased across every category of best practices (Annex 1 Table 15).

1.5.3 UN Strategy Targets

After the completion of the third round of Survey data collection 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.⁴³

Strategic Objective 1: Reduction of Risk and Negative Socio-Economic Impact

The data show encouraging progress towards the targets set for Strategic Objective 1; indeed, the target of 10 million EOD spot tasks completed is very close to being achieved, with 9.9 million completed as of December 2016. Progress toward the infrastructure indicator target is more difficult to judge, as issues of data comparability have arisen in the tracking of water points and refugee/IDP camps. When these types of infrastructure are removed from consideration (and the indicator is generated with hospitals, educational facilities, markets, government buildings, religious facilities, and roads), the trends are positive in the restricted dataset and the target looks closer to being achieved: the target is 90% and the result is 75% as of December 2016.

After dipping unexpectedly in the fifth round of data collection, the indicators concerning MRE are again trending positively; however, the results fall below the target set. With the fourth round of data collection, the CWG was able to begin looking at the proportion of the at-risk population who receive MRE beneficiaries who are considered to be. The results for this indicator has trended steadily upward over three rounds of data collection, and the CWG is ready to set a specific target for this indicator.

Strategic Objective 2: Victim Assistance

The targets for victim assistance indicators are ambitious, and achieving them may prove challenging by the end of the current Strategy. After steady and steep increases in the proportion of countries providing a full range of victim assistance services through five rounds of data collection, the results for this indicator have plateaued in the restricted dataset and dropped back in the full dataset to where they stood at the end of Round 4. Results for the second victim assistance target – the proportion of national authorities that have a policy framework in place to provide for mine/ERW victims and survivors – have plateaued in the restricted dataset and fallen in the full dataset.

Such results are not entirely unexpected, disheartening as they are. As has been previously discussed in this report and others, changes in victim assistance occur slowly, and may be reversed. Investments must

⁴³ See Annex 3 for a full list of indicators.

be made in sustaining national capacity in victim assistance services, and maintain the quality and accessibility of services once they are established. Further research into which strategies and tactics have effectively done so in different contexts is recommended.

Strategic Objective 3: National Ownership

Progress towards the targets associated with Strategic Objective 3 is encouragingly positive. Within the restricted dataset, the results for all three indicators have remained constant over the past 12 months. For the full dataset, the results have plateaued for one of the indicators, but increased for the remaining two. It is unlikely that the ambitious targets set for this strategic objective will be fully met by the end of the current strategy, but the positive progress is cause for encouragement. One of the targets – that 90% of national authorities will collect and maintain mine/ERW casualty data in IMSMA or an equivalent database – stands at 73% as of December 2016, and may yet be met by the end of the current UN Strategy.

Strategic Objective 4: Policy

As discussed in the previous report, the targets set for Strategic Objective 4 concerned treaty universalisation in countries in which the UN supports mine action. Because the United Nations responds to need and to requests from Member States, the results for this target indicator are impacted by changes in where the UN supports mine action more than by changes in treaty status among affected states. Additional consideration into appropriate indicators and targets to capture the UN contribution to universalisation is recommended, as well as efforts to set targets capturing other aspects of Strategic Objective 4, such as the integration of mine action in national policy and legislation.

1.6 CONCLUSION

Mine action interventions continue to make necessary progress and play a vital role in humanitarian and development outcomes; while at the same time the latest M&E data indicates that in certain contexts and communities ERW pose a more urgent threat than legacy minefields. Such conclusions are difficult to draw with certainty, however, given the significant proportion of casualties for whom the device type is unknown. Data availability will improve with future rounds of data collection, however, and provide more concrete information.

In addition to addressing the over-arching needs in reducing violence and casualties and the emergence of IEDs as a major issue, it is critical to recognize the catalytic role that mine action is playing in ensuring opportunities for sustainable development and human security are enlarged, particularly in rural areas. The need to highlight the increasingly unmet demands of survivors and victims requires greater attention as financial contributions remain unacceptably low. As the data demonstrates, building national institutional capacity remains a challenge at the operational level, but progress is being made in land release techniques and procedures. However, at the upstream policy level, alignment with the sustainable development goals and sustaining peace agenda remain nascent and weaken the ability to report broader impacts and societal transformations that have been achieved through the UN's partnership with national stakeholders.

1. Annex 1: Tables and Charts

Table 1. Annual Mine/ERW Casualty Rate	2015	2016	Percentage increase
Casualty rate (restricted to countries and territories participating in rounds 2 – 6 of data collection. ⁴⁴⁾	6 mine/ERW related deaths and injuries per million people per year. 2,461 new casualties reported (cumulative total 52,078)	9 mine/ERW related deaths and injuries per million people per year. 3,389 new casualties reported (cumulative total 55,467)	38%; i.e. Annual mines/ERW casualty rates increased 38% from 2015 to 2016.

Table 2. Biannual (half-year) Mine/ERW Casualty Rate	Jan – June 2015	July – Dec 2015	Jan – June 2016	July – Dec 2016
Restricted to countries and territories participating in rounds 2 – 6 of data collection. ⁴⁵	3 mine/ERW related deaths and injuries per million people per half-year 1,186 new casualties (cumulative total 50,803)	3 mine/ERW related deaths and injuries per million people per half-year 1,275 new casualties (cumulative total 52,078)	7 mine/ERW related deaths and injuries per million people per half-year 2,606 new casualties (cumulative total 54,684)	2 mine/ERW related deaths and injuries per million people per half-year 783 new casualties (cumulative total 55,467)

Figure 1. Mine/ERW Casualties by Victim Type (Cumulative to Dec 2016)

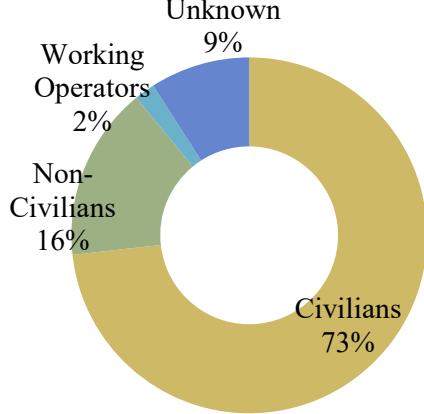
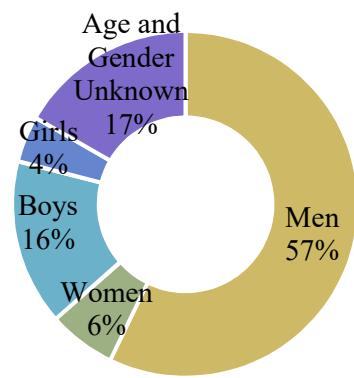


Figure 2. Mine/ERW Casualties by Age and Gender (Cumulative to Dec 2016)

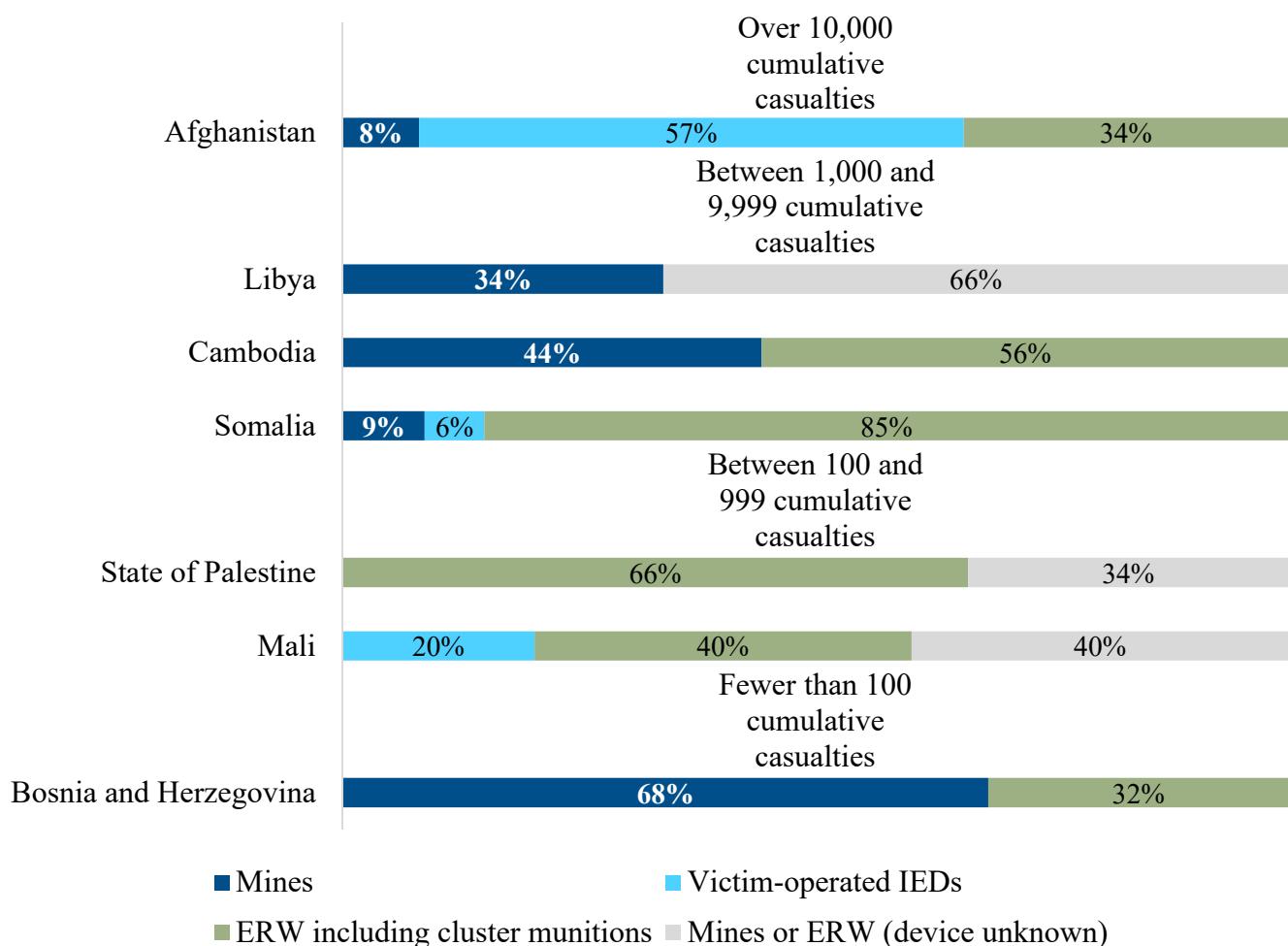


⁴⁴ Abyei, Afghanistan, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Darfur, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Eritrea, Libya, Mali, the State of Palestine, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tajikistan, and Western Sahara.

⁴⁵ Abyei, Afghanistan, Cambodia, 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.

With the sixth round of data collection, the M&E Mechanism Survey was adjusted to collect more detailed and device-disaggregated casualty data. Device disaggregated data (presented in Figure 3, Figure 4, and Figure 5) was available for 10% of casualties from mines and ERW; for the remaining 90%, it is impossible to differentiate between casualties of mines and casualties of ERW. This is unsurprising given that challenges with data availability typically arise when implementing new approaches to data collection. It is anticipated that data availability will improve in future rounds of data collection. Countries/territories that were unable to provide device-disaggregated data in the sixth round have been omitted from the chart below.

Figure 3. Cumulative Mine/ERW Casualties as of Dec 2016 (Device Type) by Country/Territory



Note: Due to the issues discussed above, findings concerning device-disaggregated casualty data should be treated as preliminary estimates. It is expected that data availability will improve in future rounds of data collection.

**Figure 4. Casualties by Device Type and by Age and Gender
(Cumulative to Dec 2016)**



Figure 5. Mine/ERW Casualties (device type unknown) by age and Gender (Cumulative to Dec 2016)

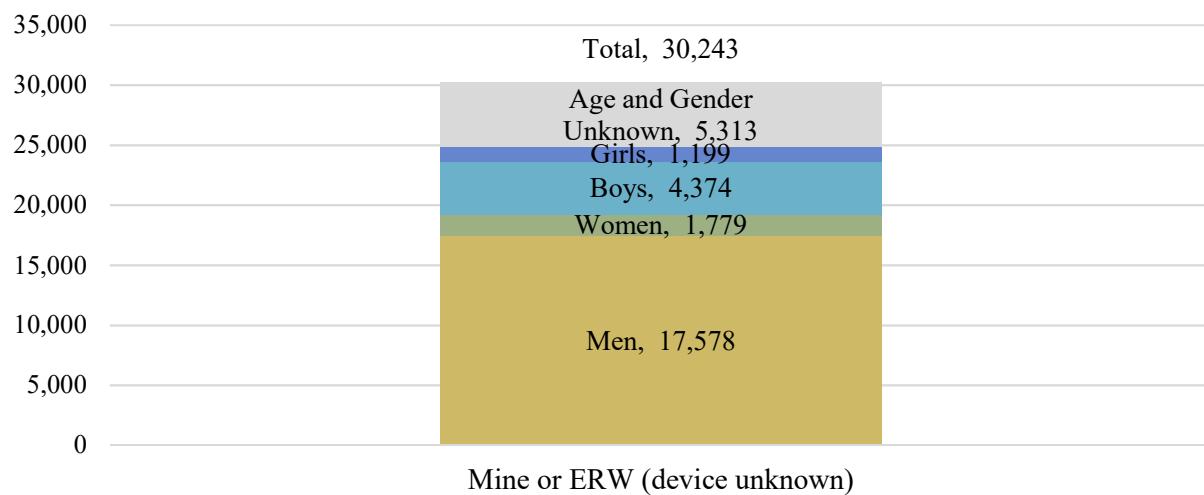


Figure 6: Mine/ERW Casualties as of December 2016 (cumulative, by age and gender and by country/territory)

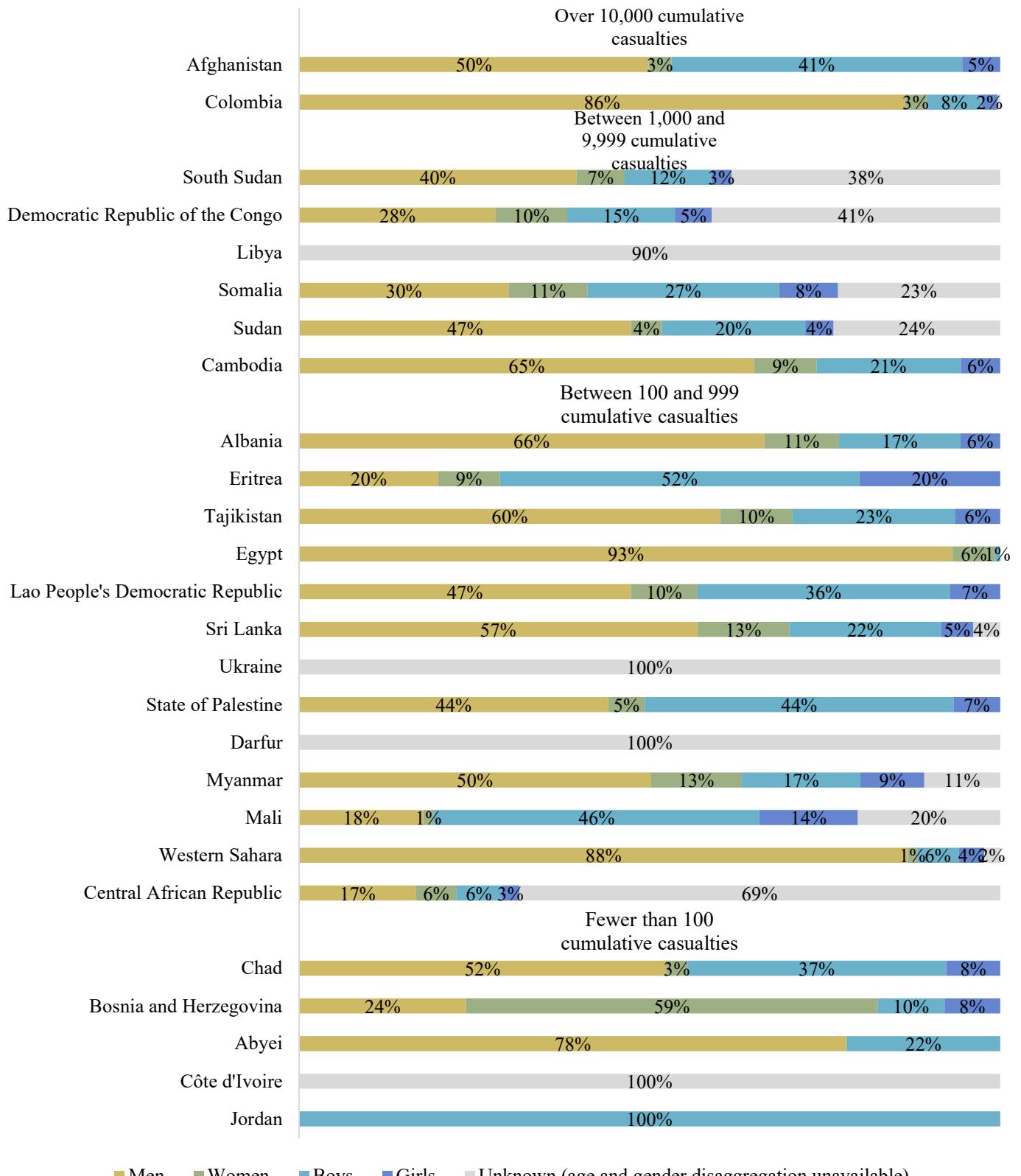


Figure 7. Impact of Mine/ERW Contamination on different aspects of recovery and development.

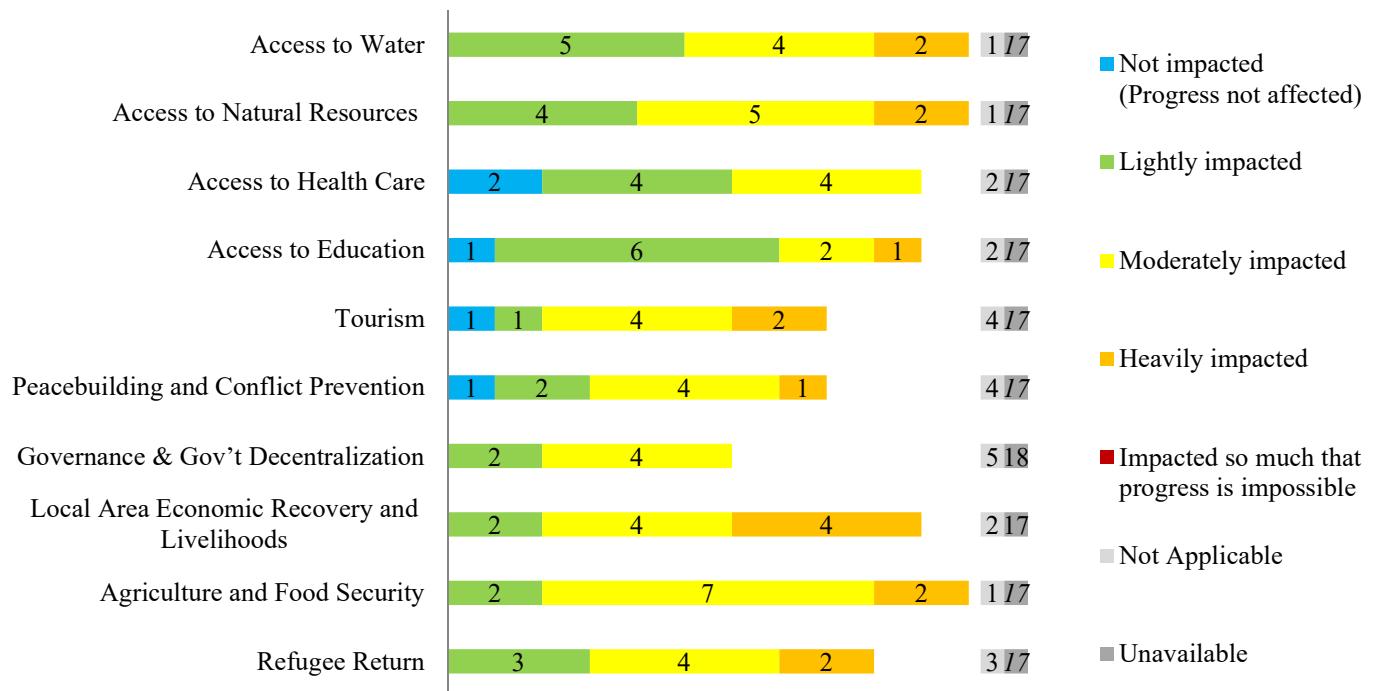


Table 3. Key Land Clearance and Release Indicators ⁴⁶	Battle areas (m2)	Minefields (m2)
Area identified as SHA	1,929,621,323	6,937,054,737
SHA cancelled through NTS	202,547,362	127,761,070
SHA reduced through TS	107,379,137	6,706,998
Area identified as CHA	2,344,323,272	3,178,346,765
CHA reduced through NTS	1,547,186	664,591,406
CHA cleared	729,045,843	1,618,260,666
Total Released Land (Cleared + Cancelled + Reduced Land)	975,772,622	2,924,222,125
Total Released Land confirmed to be in productive use	3,278,486	1,560,222,553
Percent of identified SHA and CHA that has been Released	23%	29%
Percent of Released Land confirmed to be in productive use	0.3% (44% when restricted per data availability)	53% (99% when restricted per data availability)

⁴⁶ All participants in Round 6: Abyei, Afghanistan, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Darfur, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Eritrea, Iraq, Jordan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libya, Mali, Myanmar, Pakistan, the State of Palestine, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syria, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Western Sahara, and Yemen.

Table 4. Trends in Land Clearance since July 2015 ⁴⁷	Battle Area Released (SHA, m2)	Minefields Released (SHA, m2)
2015 (July – Dec)	908,666,111 (47% of an identified 1,946,591,129)	2,004,700,577 (34% of an identified 5,942,582,077)
2016 (Jan – June)	931,330,745 (44% of an identified 2,131,876,736)	2,168,140,678 (35% of an identified 6,130,737,450)

Interpreting infrastructure clearance data. The two in the tables below (“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. “Percent cleared of total identified” is calculated using these cumulative totals (115 of 137 hospitals cleared is 84% for the second half-year of 2015). The biannual clearance rate, is the ratio of newly cleared to newly identified affected infrastructure, expressed as a percentage $((115 - 73)/(137 - 98) = 1.10$, or 110% for the second half of 2015).

Table 5. Clearance of Affected Infrastructure since July 2015 ⁴⁸		2015 (2 nd half)	2016 (1 st half)	2016 (2 nd half)
Hospitals	Known and Identified	137	159	169
	Cleared	115	146	157
	Biannual clearance rate	110%	141%	110%
	Percent cleared of total identified (cumulative)	84%	92%	93%
Educational Facilities	Known and Identified	246	277	306
	Cleared	212	247	273
	Biannual clearance rate	103%	113%	90%
	Percent cleared of total identified (cumulative)	86%	89%	89%
Markets	Known and Identified	589	632	673
	Cleared	438	489	531
	Biannual clearance rate	107%	119%	102%
	Percent cleared of total identified (cumulative)	74%	77%	79%
Water Points	Known and Identified	733	792	892
	Cleared	632	717	808
	Biannual clearance rate	62%	144%	91%
	Percent cleared of total identified (cumulative)	86%	91%	91%
Religious Facilities	Known and Identified	6	6	8
	Cleared	5	5	7
	Biannual clearance rate	0%	(NA)	100%
	Percent cleared of total identified (cumulative)	83%	83%	88%

⁴⁷ Data from: 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 Peoples Democratic Republic, Libya, Mali, Myanmar, the State of Palestine, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, and Western Sahara. Due to changes in the Survey in Round 6, trends in clearance data are available up to Round 5.

⁴⁸ Data from: Abyei, Afghanistan, Albania, 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, Myanmar, the State of Palestine, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, and Western Sahara.

Table 5. Clearance of Affected Infrastructure since July 2015 ⁴⁸			2015 (2 nd half)	2016 (1 st half)	2016 (2 nd half)
Government Buildings	Known and Identified		388	432	486
	Cleared		360	411	466
	Biannual clearance rate		116%	116%	102%
	Percent cleared of total identified (cumulative)		93%	95%	96%

Table 6. People in 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. ⁴⁹	435,157	413,825	719,009	673,861	9,027,000	27,666,306 (12% of population)
Estimated number of people who seasonally migrate to mines/ERW affected corridors (in addition to above). ⁵⁰	35,000	1,000	31,000	17,000	-	173,323 (0% of population) ⁵¹

Table 7. Mines/ERW Risk Education	
Number of programmes funded.	160
Number of sessions conducted.	10,288,785
Cumulative number of direct beneficiaries. ⁵²	45,272,445
Number of individual participations in MRE (direct beneficiaries) since the start of UN Strategy Implementation.	7,980,886
Number of direct beneficiaries who are also considered to be at risk.	2,825,621

⁴⁹ Data from Albania, Algeria, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Eritrea, Jordan, Libya, Mali, the State of Palestine, South Sudan, Syria, and Tajikistan.

⁵⁰ Data from two countries and territories: Afghanistan and Eritrea.

⁵¹ Estimates since the end of 2015 are significantly lower than in earlier reports because the escalation of conflict in the relevant regions of Afghanistan has prevented the government from obtaining updated figures.

⁵² 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.).

Table 8. Trends in Key Mine/ERW Risk Education Indicators since the start of UN Strategy Implementation ⁵³	2014 (1 st half)	2014 (2 nd half)	2015 (1 st half) ⁵⁴	2015 (2 nd half)	2016 (1 st half)	2016 (2 nd half)
Number of programmes funded.	55	50	62	74	83	93
Number of sessions conducted.	10,100,181	10,129,486	10,144,113	10,154,013	10,185,639	10,239,670
Cumulative number of individual participation in MRE sessions (direct beneficiaries).	32,476,367	33,101,736	33,963,432	34,942,135	36,293,413	40,457,253
Number of individual participation in MRE sessions (direct beneficiaries) for at-risk populations. ⁵⁵	N/A – New in Round 4			852,419	1,281,683	1,424,030

Table 9. Trends in Key Mine/ERW Risk Education Indicators since July 2014 ⁵⁶	2015 (2 nd half)	2016 (1 st half)	2016 (2 nd half)
Number of programmes funded.	110	125	134
Number of sessions conducted.	10,179,689	10,216,011	10,282,811
Cumulative number of individual participation in MRE sessions (direct beneficiaries)	36,575,100	37,815,270	42,572,543
Number of individual participation in MRE sessions (direct beneficiaries) for at-risk populations.	1,097,375	2,118,962	2,794,769

⁵³ Data from: 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.

⁵⁴ 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.

⁵⁵ Risk factors are defined and determined participating countries/territories according to context.

⁵⁶ Data from: Abyei, Afghanistan, Cambodia, 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.

Figure 8. National Authorities that Provide Victim Assistance Services.

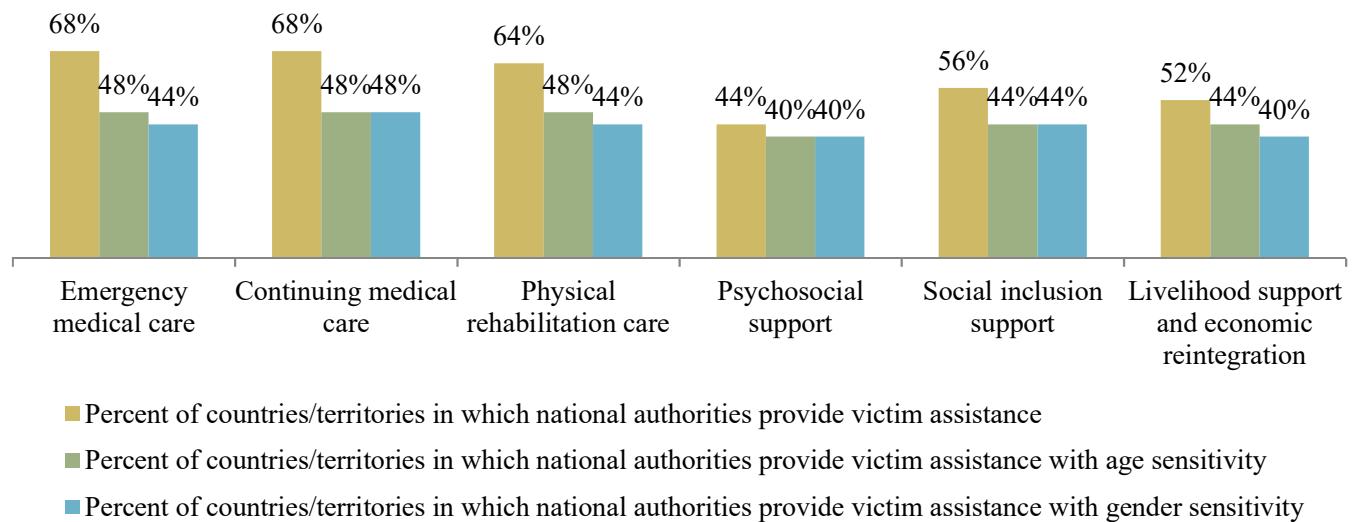


Figure 9. Support for Victim Assistance Services by national authorities and the United Nations

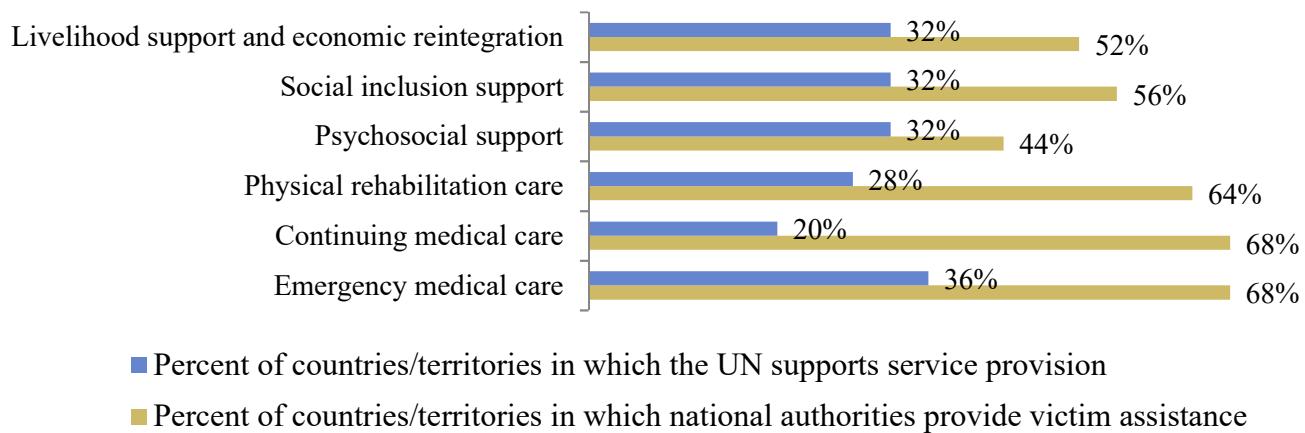


Table 10. Trends in National Policy Frameworks for Victim Assistance ⁵⁷	2015 (2 nd half)	2016 (1 st half)	2016 (2 nd half)
Percentage of national authorities that have a plan or policy in place to ensure the rights of persons with disabilities	81% (17 of 21)	76% (16 of 21)	81% (17 of 21)
Percent of national authorities that have a plan/policy in place for mines/ERW survivors and victims, or that have plans/policies in place that provide for mines/ERW survivors and victims within a broader context of persons with disabilities.	57% (12 of 21)	57% (12 of 21)	57% (12 of 21)

⁵⁷ Data from: Abyei, Afghanistan, Cambodia, 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.

Transition. National mine action programmes may be considered to be “transitioned” when they are predominantly owned and managed by national actors with high level interest and leadership in fulfilling mine clearance obligations. Using this definition, participants in the sixth round of data collection are distributed as follows:

Table 11. Transition Status ⁵⁸	Number and percentage of countries/territories
Transitioned	9 (43%)
Transition in process	4 (19%)
Planning for transition	7 (33%)
<i>Not applicable/ Not available</i>	5 (21%)

Table 12. Trends in Transition Status	2015 (2nd half)	2016 (1st half)	2016 (2nd half)
Transitioned	9 (45%)	8 (40%)	9 (45%)
Transition in process	4 (20%)	5 (25%)	4 (20%)
Planning for transition	7 (35%)	6 (30%)	6 (30%)
<i>Not applicable/Not available</i>	3 (13%)	4 (17%)	4 (17%)

Capacity Assessment. 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
- Mines/ERW risk education (MRE) (including MRE related surveys)
- Victim assistance
- Resource mobilization
- Procurement of mine action services
- Advocacy for mine action in national legislation

⁵⁸ Data from: Afghanistan, Albania, Central African Republic, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, DR Congo, Egypt, Eritrea, Jordan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libya, Mali, Myanmar, Myanmar, the State of Palestine, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Yemen (note: excludes those to whom the question was inapplicable).

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:

- **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.
- **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.
- **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.
- **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.
- **Independent capacity in place:** National authorities manage this activity independently from external support.

Figure 10: National Capacity in 2016

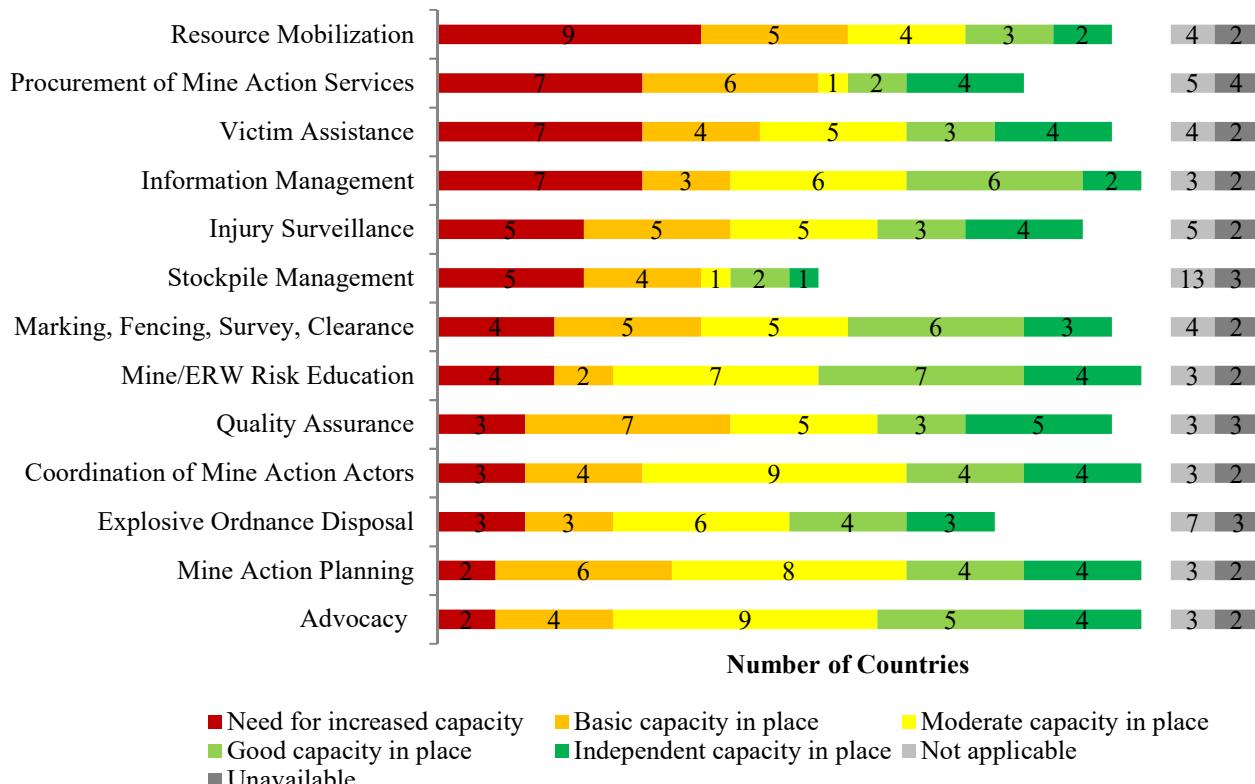


Table 13. International Humanitarian Law (IHL) Instrument	All Mine-Affected Countries				Mine-affected countries with a UN mine action presence			
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2013	2014	2015	2016
Anti-personnel Mine Ban Convention	66%	67%	67%	67%	73%	73%	73%	69% ⁵⁹
Convention on Cluster Munitions	32%	33%	37%	39%	38%	40%	45%	41%
Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) ⁶⁰	53%	54%	57%	58%	42%	44%	50%	53%
CCW Amended Protocol II	45%	46%	46%	46%	89%	90%	82%	82%
CCW Amended Protocol V	34%	36%	36%	38%	68%	70%	64%	65%
Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	71%	79%	82%	86%	62%	73%	77%	75%

Availability of Sex and Age Disaggregated Data: As of December 2016, 67% of participating countries collect data on deaths and injuries from mines/ERW; 59% collect this data with sex and age disaggregation.⁶¹

Table 14. Trends in the Availability of Sex and Age Disaggregated Data ⁶²	2015 (2 nd half)	2016 (1 st half)	2016 (2 nd half)
% of participating countries that collect data on deaths and injuries from mines/ERW.	76% (16 of 21)	67% (14 of 21)	67% (14 of 21)
% of participating countries that collect the data above with sex and age disaggregation.	67% (14 of 21)	62% (13 of 21)	62% (13 of 21)
% of participating countries that collect data on death and injuries from IEDs (where relevant).	57% (8 of 14)	50% (7 of 14)	57% (8 of 14)

UN Gender Guidelines for Mine Action: 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’.⁶³ Where possible, the assessment reflects all UN mine action work across a country or territory.

⁵⁹ Decreases observed in 2016 regarding States Parties to the APMBC and the CCM among countries with a UN mine action presence are due to a change in the denominator.

⁶⁰ 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).

⁶¹ Data from: Afghanistan, Albania, Colombia, Côte d’Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Jordan, The Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Libya, Mali, Myanmar, the State of Palestine, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan (including Darfur), Tajikistan, and Yemen.

⁶² Restricted to countries/territories participating in round 4, round 5, and round 6 of data collection.

⁶³ A scale of “Almost Always” (76-100% of relevant opportunities), “Often” (51-75% of relevant opportunities), “Sometimes” (26-50% of relevant opportunities), or “Rarely” (0-25% of relevant opportunities) is used to indicate consistency of implementation.

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

- **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).
- **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.
- **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.
- **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.

Figure 11. Proportion of programmes implementing the Gender Guidelines Consistently ("Often" or "Almost Always")

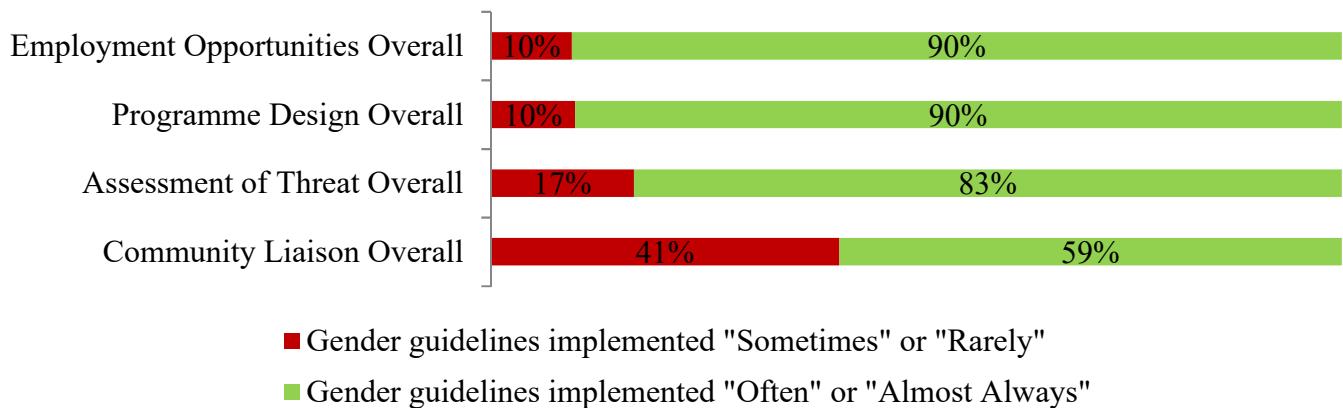


Table 15. Trends by theme in the proportion of programme implementing the gender guidelines “Often,” or “Always or Almost Always,”⁶⁴

	2015 (2 nd half)	2016 (1 st half)	2016 (2 nd half)
Employment Opportunities	86%	89%	92%
Programme Design	83%	79%	86%
Assessment of Threat	74%	79%	86%
Community Liaison	49%	55%	59%

⁶⁴ Restricted to programmes participating in the fourth, fifth, and sixth rounds of data collection.

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

Figure 12: Employment Opportunities

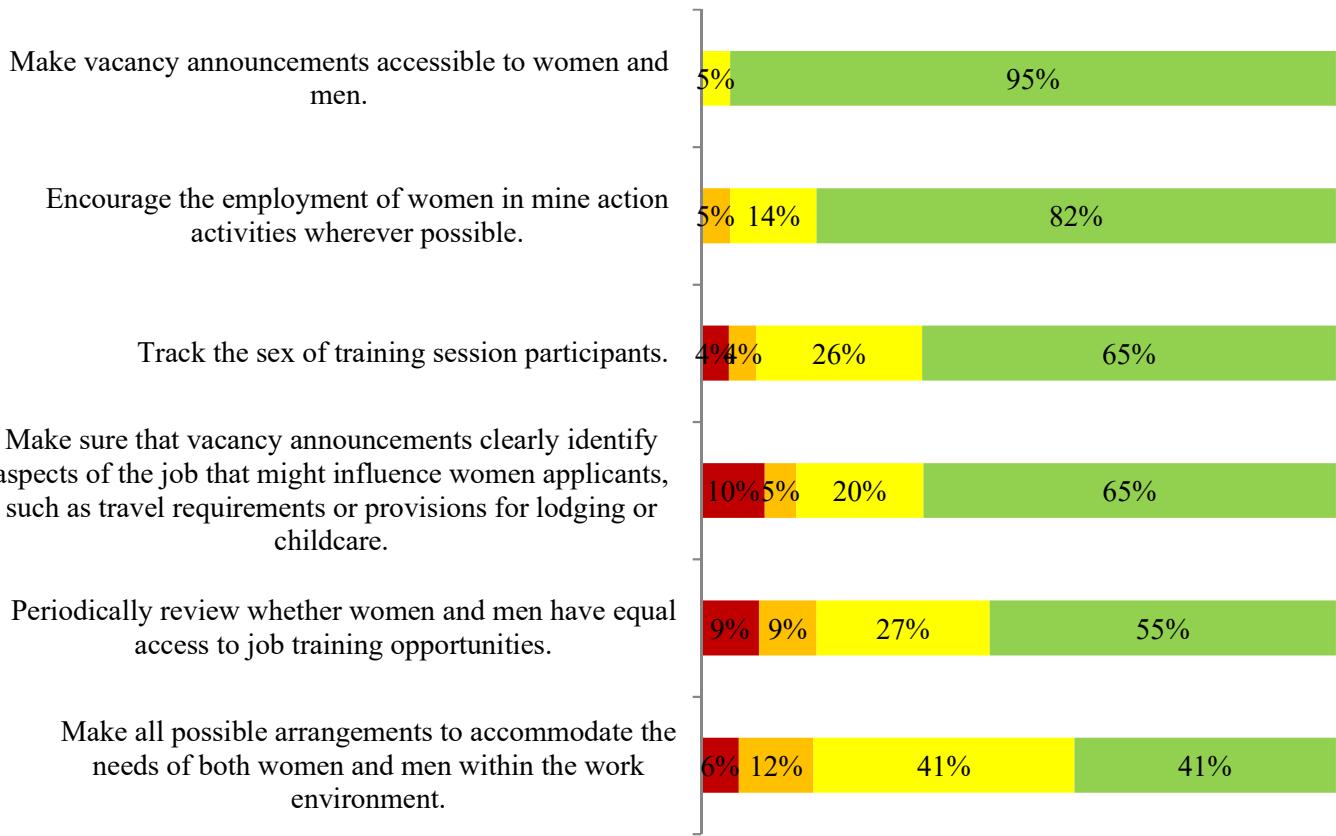
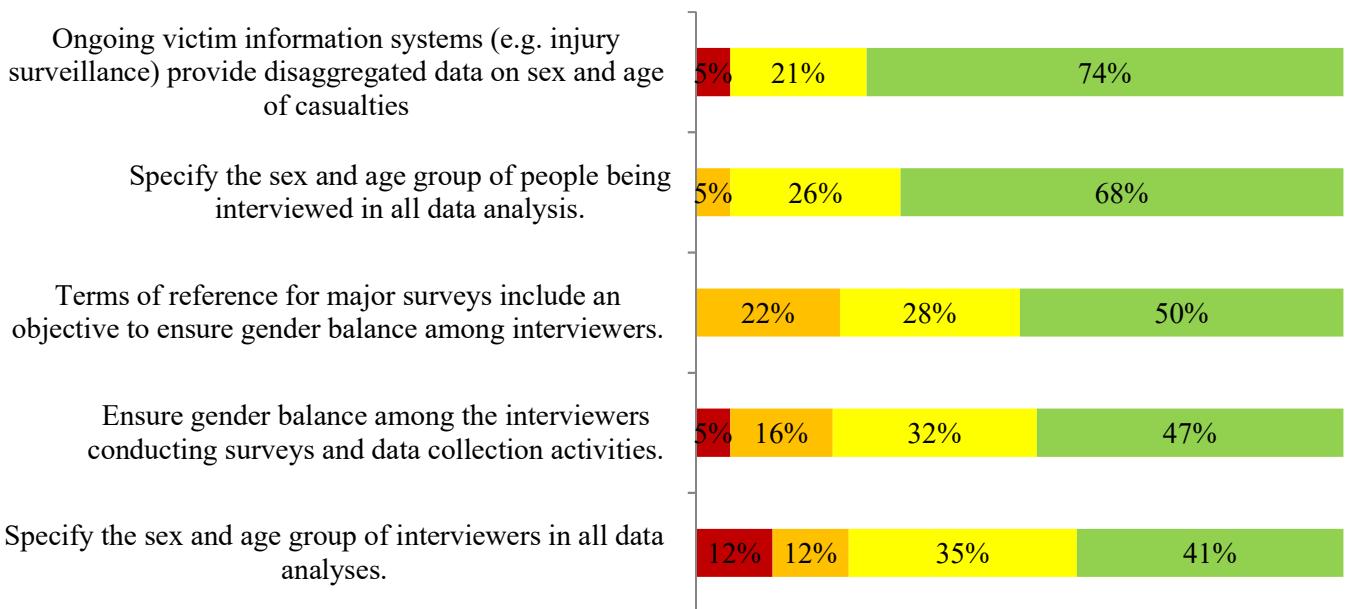


Figure 13: Programme Design



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

Figure 14: Assessment of Threat

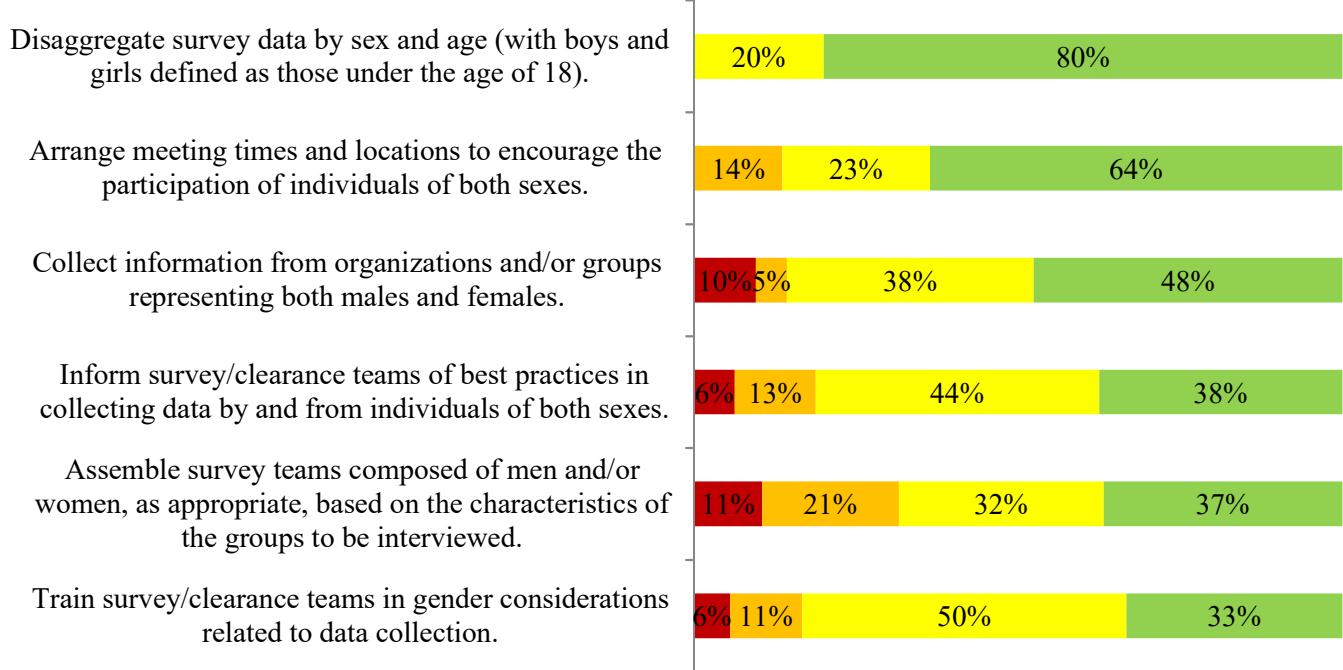
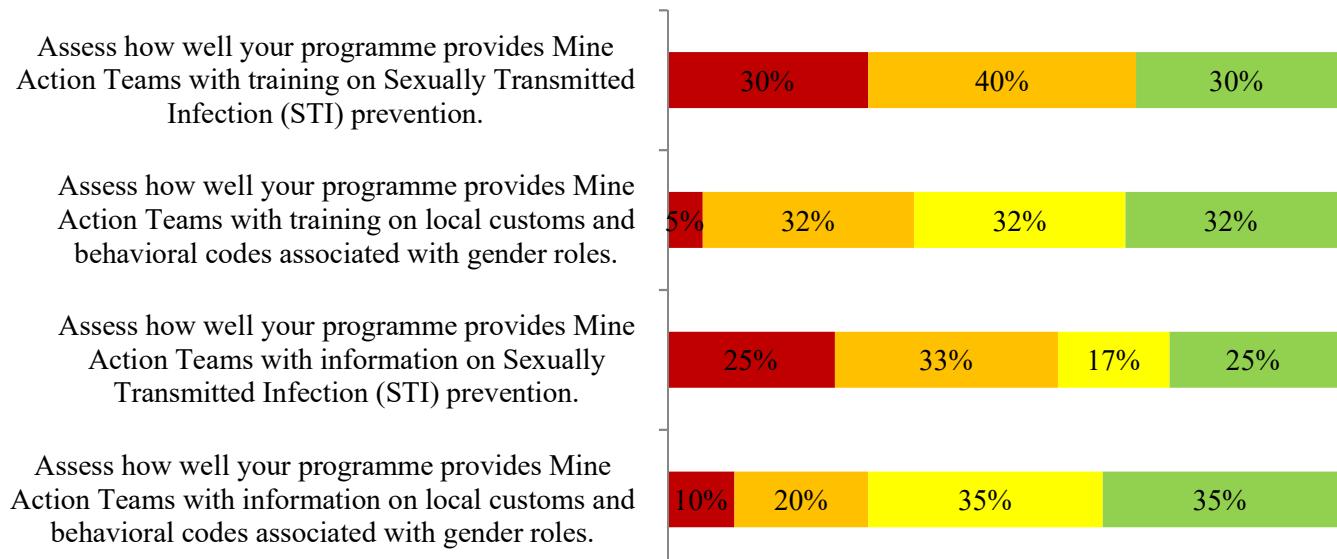


Figure 15: Community Liaison



2. Annex 2: Recommendations from the Fifth Round of Data Collection

In the 5th round of data collection, the IACG-MA agreed to the following recommendations meant to support the United Nations strengthen its ability to be informed by the monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the strategy.

Recommend to agree interim goals and/or milestones as steps towards achieving a world free from the threat of mines and ERW, working with the Mine Action Support Group and the Implementation Support Unit in support of treaty obligation compliance.

Recommend to consolidate common criteria that guide UN engagement with affected states/territories when requested or mandated to provide assistance and support, taking into account the comparative advantage offered by respective UN entities.

Recommend to further engage with Member States, including donors, to understand what support can be provided to enable assessment of the contamination levels in countries and territories in which it is unclear.

Recommend to develop a reporting system for tracking contamination by device, in particular ERW, cluster munitions, unexploded ordnance, and IEDs that are remote detonated, command detonated, or launched.

Recommend to develop enhanced reporting to track progress on UN outputs using UN-channelled funds and achievements using bilateral funding.

Recommend to discuss areas for further evaluations that could be conducted such as the linkage between national capacity and casualty rates, land release rates, and data availability or to assess how injury surveillance impacts the prioritisation of clearance and survey, mine/ERW risk education, and victim assistance activities.

Recommend to include mainstreaming of mine action in humanitarian and development policy frameworks using existing monitoring mechanisms used by UN entities (specifically, UNDAFs and PRSP);

Recommend to continue to encourage participation in the M&E Mechanism by all countries/territories where the UN supports mine action.

3. Annex 3. United Nations Strategy Targets

Table 15 below lists the UN Strategy indicator with which each targeting indicator is associated, and defines the targeting indicators. Additional explanation, definition, and context for selected indicators are provided in notes.

Table 16. UN Strategy Targeting Indicators		
Strategic Objective	Indicator as Specified in the UN Strategy	Targeting Indicator
1) Risks to individuals and the socio-economic impacts of mines and ERW, including cluster munitions, are reduced.	% of previously affected land cleared and being used for socio-economic purposes.	Infrastructure Index Indicator (average of the % cleared of different types of infrastructure including roads, hospitals, educational facilities, markets etc.) ⁶⁵
	# of EOD spot tasks completed. ⁶⁶	
	% of affected individuals and communities with the information needed to reduce personal risks.	% of the total country/territory population that has received Mine/ERW Risk Education (direct beneficiaries only). % of the at-risk population that has received MRE (direct beneficiaries only)
2) Comprehensive support is provided by national and international actors to mine and ERW victims within broader responses to injury and disability.	% of affected states that have adopted and implemented a disability policy and plan of action that incorporate all aspects of victim assistance.	% of states that have a disability policy or plan of action that includes a reference to mines/ERW victims and survivors.
	% of affected states provide age and gender sensitive services to ensure psychosocial support, social inclusion, economic reintegration, care and protection for victims.	% of countries/territories that provide a full range of victim assistance services. ⁶⁷
3) The transfer of mine action functions to	% of affected states with national strategies and completion plans that	% of affected states with a national strategy for mine action (or that incorporate mine action into existing national strategies)

⁶⁵ The M&E Mechanism of the UN Strategy for Mine Action 2013-2018 tracks the extent to which identified contaminated infrastructure has been cleared. Hospitals, educational facilities, markets, water points, religious facilities, refugee/IDP camps, government buildings, and other (bridges, cultural, recreational facilities) are tracked as units (i.e. 7 out of 10 hospitals cleared). Affected roads are tracked in linear square kilometres, and affected agricultural land is tracked in square hectares. The Infrastructure Index Indicator is an average of two of these three percentages (hospitals etc., and roads: agricultural land is currently excluded due to concerns about differences in context and methodology). The CWG is continuing efforts to increase the methodological rigor of this indicator.

⁶⁶ Having a raw number as a target is unusual at this level (strategic objective) in a hierarchy of objectives. The CWG recommends using a count of EOD spot tasks completed as a targeting indicator because of the importance of EOD in the reduction of physical risks to children and civilians.

⁶⁷ Composite indicator. The Survey asks, for each specific type of VA service listed in the UN Strategy (psychosocial, social inclusion, economic reintegration, etc.) whether the national authority provides it. This indicator shows the proportion of countries/territories that respond "yes" to this question for each type of VA service.

Table 16. UN Strategy Targeting Indicators

Strategic Objective	Indicator as Specified in the UN Strategy	Targeting Indicator
national actors is accelerated, with national capacity to fulfil mine action responsibilities increased.	articulate milestones.	
	% of affected states with surveillance and information management systems managed by national authorities.	% of national authorities who collect and maintain data on deaths and injuries resulting from landmines, ERW including cluster munitions, in a database. % of national authorities who report at least moderate capacity in information management through the Capacity Assessment Tool.
4) Mine action is promoted and integrated in multilateral instruments and frameworks as well as national plans and legislation.	% of States Parties to mine action treaties and conventions, including the APMBC, the CCM, the CCW (Amended Protocol II and Protocol V), and the CRPD	% of countries in which the UN supports mine action that are States Parties to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention . % of countries in which the UN supports mine action that are States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions . % of countries in which the UN supports mine action that are States Parties to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons . % of countries in which the UN supports mine action that are States Parties to Amended Protocol II of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons . % of countries in which the UN supports mine action that are States Parties to Amended Protocol V of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons . % of countries in which the UN supports mine action that are States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities .

Participation in the Survey has grown with each round of data collection, from 14 countries and territories in round one to 30 in Round 6. In order for results to be comparable, however, they must be based on the same set of countries. Initial trends analysis used to develop and establish the targeting indicators after Round 3 was therefore limited to the 14 countries and territories that participated in all of the first three rounds of data collection. Looking at the results from the first three rounds of data collection in the restricted dataset gave an indication of the progress the might be expected for each indicator. Targets were then set based on the findings from the full dataset of 25 countries and territories that participated in Round 3 of data collection.

4. Annex 4: Data and Analysis

4.1 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.⁶⁸ Survey Focal Points work with national authorities as well as implementing partners to collect data. The most recent round of data collection included 30 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.

4.2 DATA

Data used to develop these findings comes from completed rounds of data collection for the Survey and from the Strategic Objective 4 dataset.⁶⁹ In total, six rounds of Survey data collection are complete.⁷⁰ The majority of the analyses presented include data from all 30 countries and territories participating in the sixth round of data collection or, for trends analysis, from the subset of 24 countries and territories that participated in the fourth, fifth, and sixth rounds of data collection.^{71⁷²} A few longer-term analyses draw from other sub-sets; these cases are indicated in footnotes.

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

⁶⁸ Across the 30 countries and territories participating in the sixth round of data collection, UN staff from 15 UNDP country offices, 17 mine action programmes supported by UNICEF, and 17 UNMAS programmes participated in data collection either by serving as Survey Focal Points or by working with the designated Survey Focal Point entity.

⁶⁹ The Strategic Objective 4 dataset includes 82 affected countries and territories (adjusted in 2016 to reflect new information) 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.

⁷⁰ 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), Round 4 (with data as of 31 December 2015), Round 5 (with data as of 30 June 2016), and Round 6 (with data as of 31 December 2016).

⁷¹ Round 6: Abyei, Afghanistan, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, the Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Darfur, DRC, Egypt, Eritrea, Iraq, Jordan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libya, Mali, Myanmar, Pakistan, the State of Palestine, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syria, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Western Sahara, and Yemen.

⁷² Round 4, Round 5, and Round 6: Abyei, Afghanistan, Albania, 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, Myanmar, the State of Palestine, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, and Western Sahara.

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 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.⁷³ 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.

4.3 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 mines/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,

⁷³ 31 December 2016 is the end date for the sixth round of data collection.

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

In preparation for the sixth round of data collection, significant changes were made to the treatment of casualty information and the tracking of contaminated land. These changes include casualty disaggregation by device type and greater clarity regarding the methods by which suspected and confirmed hazardous areas are made save (technical and non-technical survey, for example). The cost of this additional clarity and detail is comparability with data collected in previous rounds, and as a result trends analysis (particularly casualty rates) of these data will not be available until future rounds of data collection.

5. Annex 5: Glossary of Selected Mine Action Terms

The following definitions have been copied 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 mines/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:⁷⁴ (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 mines/ERW contamination has been confirmed on the basis of direct evidence of the presence of mines/ERW.

3.61. Demining or humanitarian demining:⁷⁵ 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).

⁷⁴ 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.

⁷⁵ 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 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 mines/ERW contamination, in order to define better where mines/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 mines/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 mines/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 mines/ERW contamination, in order to define better where mines/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.