



**Government of Mozambique
National Demining Institute**



**United Nations Development Programme
Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery**

FIRST PROGRESS REPORT

**Weapons Risk Mitigation and Mainstreaming Mine Action,
Small Arms & Light Weapons Controls
(*Mine Action Component*)**



September 2008 – June 2009

I. PURPOSE

The Project “Weapons Risk Mitigation and Mainstreaming Mine Action, Small Arms & Light Weapons Controls” was developed to addressing threats to civilians posed by landmines and Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) left from the conflict, as well as emerging threats posed by the uncontrolled proliferation of firearms in communities and the constraints faced by the government in managing stockpiles of weapons. The issue of landmines has been a priority for the Government & International community for a number of years as it directly affects the prospects of post-war socio-economic recovery of the country. The proliferation, control & management of illicit firearms has not attracted as much attention though it is an emerging issue linked to increasing levels of armed violence and criminality in Mozambique. Weak institutional capacities for policy-making regulations and implementation constitute an added challenge.

This project represents the UNDP support to the Government of Mozambique to accomplish its Article 5 obligations under the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Treaty as well as to accomplish with the established into the Plan of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects of Plan of Action (PoA). The project also supports the Government of Mozambique to manage the ammunition over-stocked in seventeen locations, exceeding safe explosive limits and present an increasing threat to local communities.

The project is articulated along the following outputs:

1. Enhance government capacity to safely manage stockpiled munitions
2. Enhance government capacity to meet its obligations under the AP Mine Ban Treaty and addresses residual threats posed by other ERW
3. Enhance government capacity to manage and control firearms ownership
4. UNDP delivers a coordinated response to the landmines, small arms and armed violence problems

However, this report refers only to the activities of the Mine Action component (outputs 2 and 4 above) carried out during the period of September 2008 to 30 June 2009, in coordination with the implementing partner the National Demining Institute (IND).

Indeed, the implementation of the Small Arms component is delayed due to the constraints in process of recruitment of the SALW Adviser. This component has only started in July, upon the arrival of the newly recruited Technical Advisor.

II. RESOURCES

TRAC 1	US\$	731,540
TRAC 3	US\$	1,020,000
NORWAY	US\$	604,047
AUSAID	US\$	392,465

III. IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING ARRANGEMENTS

The CTA was already recruited and working based at IND at the start of the project. The Programme Analyst also was recruited to ensure programme coordination at UNDP level. Regular meetings and field visits are organized with the National Demining Institute (IND) to monitor the implementation of the project.

As per output 4 of the project, this project aims to deliver a coordinated response to the landmine, small arms and armed violence problems. During this reporting period, the recruitment of the Technical Advisor SALW was ongoing. It is foreseen that this role will support the integration of MA and SALW programming through ongoing liaison and cooperation with the MA CTA, building and capitalising on the synergies between these two sectors.

In terms of a coordinating role, during this reporting period, as detailed in section IV below, UNDP both supported the government and led on the planning and implementation of Partners and Stakeholders coordination meetings. These meetings are key to the successful implementation of the Mozambique Mine Action Programme as they ensure a coherent dialogue and planning process between governmental and non-governmental agencies. Furthermore, UNDP has provided a focal point for new donor interest in funding Mine Action operations.

IV. RESULTS

a) Support to coordinate efforts, mobilise resources and mainstream mine action in Government's major planning instruments, notably the PARPA and the PES (Plano Economico Social- Annual)

Support to Coordination Efforts and Awareness

1) In July 2008, the Mozambican Government and its cooperation partners met to discuss the new National Mine Action Plan (NMAP) 2008-2012. The objective of the meeting was to discuss more concrete and practical steps to implement the new Action Plan. The meeting was chaired by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation and co-chaired by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Resident Representative. The UN RC also stressed the need to concentrate resources at this very last phase in order to help Mozambique implement its MBT obligations. The presentation was focused on the targeted identified suspected areas that will be eventually cleared.

The innovative element with the presentation of the current plan was the ability to project the remaining suspected mined areas and to propose, through a detailed matrix, an annual action plan per province and districts, including financial implications for both operational and coordination.

In October 2008, IND in coordination with UNDP organised the First Stakeholders Meeting in order to renew the stakeholder forum composed by the main donors, demining operators and the representatives of the Line Ministries.

Following this meeting and in order to demonstrate the demining operations on site and raise awareness among the donor community, a Donor/Stakeholders Mine site visit was organized to visit two mined areas namely the Pequenos Libombos and Matola Rio in Maputo Province, being cleared by The Halo Trust.

Later on in December 2008, a second Stakeholder Meeting was called by UNDP in coordination with IND. The objective was to share the Government National Mine Action Planning Strategy; brief the Stakeholders about the Activities of Mine Action carried out by the Operators; inform on future steps and discuss about Mine Clearance funding constraints.

During February 2009, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation led the annual meeting between the GOM and its mine action partners. The GOM reviewed progress made in 2008 and presented its plans for 2009. A principal element of the meeting was to present Mozambique's newly approved Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Treaty Article 5 Extension Request. The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation (MINEC) outlined plans to ensure Mozambique reaches completion of its obligations by 2014.

The final section of the meeting was an in-depth presentation on its Resource Mobilization road-map, designed to support mine action activities in Mozambique.

2) UNDP has supported financially and technically the participation of the Government of Mozambique to several International meetings and conferences:

- The 9th Meeting of Ottawa Convention in Geneva with objective of requesting the Extension of article 5 up to March 2014. During the meeting, the Mozambique delegation presented its demining plans and resources necessary to meet the objective of Mozambique by 2014. The extension request was not only granted but also praised, by the conference committee, for its precision and realistic plan onward.
- In March 2009, the Government participated in the 12th National Directors and UN Programme Managers Meeting.
- Participation in the AP Mine Ban Convention – Intercessional Meetings of the Standing Committees 2009. Mozambique delegation had presented its progress on the Article 5 as well as the status of the Victim Assistance programme.

In addition, at the Resource Utilisation Contact Group Meeting, UNDP Mozambique presented the experiences on how the land release approaches are being applied now, and challenges ahead. This is in particular for the policy level adopted by the national programme to implement Article 5, while remaining within practices accepted by all States Parties. It was explained to the contact group why it is important to ensure that land release principles are integrated into national policies and frameworks. Furthermore A key message was that application of the land release recommendations adopted by 9MSP remains crucial to ensure speedy and safe implementation of Article 5 obligations, and that all actors need to take their part of the responsibility to make this happen.

On the occasion of the International Day of Mine Awareness - 4th April 2009, the Mozambique Mine Action Authorities have organized a joint celebration with SADC mine affected states (Zimbabwe and Malawi), in Machipanda District of Manica Province near the border with Zimbabwe. The border area between Mozambique and Zimbabwe is heavily affected by the threat of landmines.

The programme was followed by interactive demonstration of Mine Action Operators and concluded with folklore performances by local groups. In accordance with the SADC Mine Action Committee recommendations, the IND intended that this event will promote a regional co-operation initiative to guarantee longer-term commitment for mine clearance along border areas.

Resource Mobilisation

In order to reinforce the resource mobilization efforts, several field visits were carried out as the following:

From 17 to 19 September 2008, UNDP Deputy Resident Representative (Programme) joined the monitoring mission of the Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation to Inhambane Province. The objective was to assess the demining activities being carried out by the operator Handicap International taking into account that the province is the most affected. National and local media outlets covered the story, increasing the profile of the work of IND, UNDP and mine action operators.

Throughout the reported period several visits were carried out at different operation locations, just to name few:

- Early in January 2009, a commercial group Marubeni, on behalf of Hitachi Corp, carried out a fact finding tour on mechanical demining operations in Mozambique. The visit took place in Magude, northern part of Maputo province, where the HALO Trust operator applied mechanical demining in rather complex contaminated area. The visit was accompanied by IND and other two humanitarian demining operators.
- In May 2009, a UNDP Nordic Communication Officer, while visiting Mozambique to gain in-depth understanding of UNDP programme support, visited as well the demining operations in the Maputo-Ressano Garcia electric pylons funded by the BCPR programme.
- In early June, the UNDP Deputy Resident Representative, while visiting the province of Gaza, gave special attention to the progress done by the demining operator, APOPO that uses combined demining rats, manual and mechanical teams. The field assessment was not only at the provincial and district authorities level but also at the demining site located in Guija along the Limpopo railway corridor.
- During June 2009, the UNDP Tokyo, in cooperation with UN agencies, organized a press tour to Mozambique aiming to attract Japanese public attention to the current status of implementation of the Yokohama Action Plan in Africa and facilitate to mobilize additional resources for the UN activities. This mission also covered the demining activities in the province of Manica funded mainly by GoJ.

As a result of the coordination efforts (regular meetings, sharing of relevant documents, field visits, etc.), the confidence of partners and donors was regained. Development Partners were visited and briefed on the current situation and future perspectives, including Ireland, Japan, USA, France, Spain, Canada (CIDA), The Netherlands, Belgium, the European Commission, the Australian International Agency for Development (AusAID) and others. Concept papers were submitted to the Governments of Norway, Australia, UK (DFID), Denmark and Japan.

So far, more than US\$ 990,000.00 has already been mobilized from AusAID and Norway

The 2009 Portfolio for Mine action was reactivated, coordinated and drafted in coordination with all operators and the IND. The Portfolio of Mine Action as a global resource and reference tool for donors, policy-makers and implementing partners, entails the strategic vision and specific activities in response to the problem of landmines and explosive remnants of war (ERW).

Moreover, the UNDP Country Office has allocated additional TRAC 1 and 2 resources on mine action, to support direct demining activities.

Mainstreaming of Mine Action in Development Planning

In the context of the national poverty reduction strategy - PARPA II, a consultant was hired to evaluate the results and impact of 5 years of mine action implementation. This evaluation was of key importance in the process of encouraging the Government of Mozambique to mainstream Mine Action into its poverty reduction activities. At present MA is seen as a cross cutting issue in the PARPA II. The importance applied to MA by presenting it as a cross cutting issue in the PARPA II also needs to be reflected through the inclusion of budgetary allocations for MA activities in development project funding. The Government of Mozambique has demonstrated its commitment shown in the PARPA II, by doubling its own funding to IND in 2009. UNDP has been working with the government on this issue, particularly in the context of the APMBT Article 5 extension request.

Coordination and technical meetings with all stakeholders were carried out more frequently and systematically, such as the Mine Action Working Group. Those meetings enabled better sharing of information and increased transparency among, government donors and operators. Progress reports and future plans were among documents that were shared seeking feed-back from all participants. As a result and in parallel of all these activities UNDP office was repositioned as the Donor focal point.

In order to cement the mine action stakeholders' forum, a TOR for the forum was formulated, which was finalized early year 2009. The document aims to support the development of the stakeholders' forum as a more dynamic mechanism to share information and increase the active role of all parties.

b) Support the establishment of a sustainable national mine clearance capacity to address all residual mine and UXO threats; identify and support survivor assistance activities in appropriate national institution.

The response for residual problems was only initiated by mid 2009, when a delegation of IND conducted an evaluation mission to the province of Zambezia. Subsequently, discussions with provincial authorities resulted in agreement on provisional action, where the Police units will take the responsibility of all registered and new EOD tasks. The provincial authorities together with the IND are developing a proposal for action plan. It is hoped that this first project may be a pilot for other provinces.

c) Strengthen information management

With the support by the UNDP Chief Technical Advisor, a special planning and monitoring tool was developed to facilitate the projection of demining activities for the coming 5 years, entails an annual plan per province and district. Additionally, the planning tool facilitated the redistribution of the demining operators' area of responsibility and helped them with planning and resource mobilization, furthermore, the planning tool enabled the National Demining Institute (IND), to present not only for donors but also to government a detailed activities plan.

The Mine Action Database was upgraded through the installation of IMSMA New Generation (NG) and is now operational. Data from 2009 has been introduced and information is now available to all stakeholders in particular to mine action operators.

The National Mine Action Plan 2008-2014 was amended to include the approved extension period until 2014. The new deadline provides Mozambique with additional time to comply with its obligations under Article 5, paragraph 2, “to make every effort to identify all areas under its jurisdiction or control in which anti-personnel mines are known or are suspected to be emplaced” and under Article 5, paragraph 1, “to destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in (these) mined areas.” Additionally it will facilitate the monitoring and overview of the progress of activities. Supported by UNDP, a retreat of the IND senior staff was organized in order to summarize year 2008 and finalize the national plan as above.

d) Support mine clearance, coordination and quality assurance operations

Demining Operations supported through the operators of HALO Trust, Handicap International and APOPO in the six south central provinces

According to the IND baseline survey assessment, conducted in 2007-2008 to determine the actual situation of landmines, the provinces of Tete, Manica, Sofala, Inhambane, Gaza and Maputo are still affected by landmines in an area of around 12 million sq meters of confirmed mined areas, along 541 localities. Inhambane Province is the most contaminated area where the affected/infected areas are located close to the village communities. Based on the present situation of mines in the country and the distribution of humanitarian operators on the ground, the proposal of funds allocation was based on the level of contamination as well as on government priorities for economic and social development. Thus the Government chose three provinces to be benefited by the UNDP fund taking into consideration the capacity of the humanitarian operators: Inhambane to be cleared by the Handicap International; Maputo by The Halo Trust and Gaza by APOPO.

Contracts for mine action technical operations were approved by the UNDP CAP and ACP meetings in order to grant the three humanitarian MA operators with funds for the demining activities as follows:

- US\$ 500,000 to the Handicap International for mine clearance in Panda district, Inhambane Province affected in 24 communities in an area of 250,000 m²;
- US\$ 300,000 to The Halo Trust to supplement ongoing mine clearance activities in Maputo Province, where more than 50% of tasks have already been completed, it means 31 areas out of the 59 listed in the baseline survey;
- US\$ 100,000 to APOPO to be used in mine clearance in Gaza province where this operator is working and it is expected to clear 170,000 m².

In Maputo Province, **The HALO Trust** is using UNDP funding for the mechanical clearance on the Ressano Garcia to Maputo pylon line. So far eight mines have been cleared and 8,351 cubic meters processed around three pylons in the densely populated Barrio of Sao Damasio. In 2008, The Halo Trust conducted a detailed resurvey of the pylon line, during which 18 human accidents and 46 cattle accidents were recorded. There are 200 pylons running 80km from the border with South Africa at Ressano Garcia (Komatiport), to the substation in Maputo. The pylons were mined by the Government during the civil war to protect them from RENAMO sabotage. The army laid up to 200 anti-personnel blast mines around the base of each pylon. Since the war ended, some mine clearance has been conducted—primarily so that the national electricity company EDM could maintain and repair the pylons. In many cases the clearance was incomplete; in the interest of time, mined land was pushed out of the way with bulldozers leaving large piles of spoil containing landmines. While EDM can now access the pylons, the spoil piles now impact the lives of the population living along the pylon line. Clearance is therefore key to ensure community security

In Manica UNDP funds have been used to purchase vital capital equipment for the six Government of Japan funded sections. This includes replacement detector and Motorola batteries, generators and Codan HF radios. The UNDP funding has been an important aspect in the safe set up, training and deployment of Manual Deminers in Manica Province. Training was completed in May 2009 and the sections are now operational on six minefields in the districts of Manica and Sussundenga.

In the province of Gaza, the **APOPO** mine clearance programme utilizes Mine Detection Rats (MDR) in conjunction with Ground Preparation Vehicles (GPV) and Manual Deminers. The armoured GPVs clear the vegetation from the area, allowing the Manual Deminers to clear safe lanes and prepare boxed areas for the MDRs to search. With the support by UNDP, APOPO continued to deploy the MDRs along the known mined area, whilst conducting Technical Surveys throughout previously un-assessed regions. APOPO cleared all mines from the Pumbe Minefield, using a combination of clearance and extensive survey work for releasing land, in accordance with the IND work plan. The result in this period of reporting was clearance of 64,114 sqm of land; including the completion of the 9 minefields in 2 Districts of Gaza Province. 409,477 sqm of Suspected Hazardous Area was released to the local communities for agriculture and productivity purposes. It has also the destruction of 53 mines and 28 UXOs. This period also saw the start of the Mine Free District Evaluation for Guija District in the Province of Gaza

Handicap International works in the Provinces of Inhambane and Sofala, where about 6,200,000 m² were registered spread in 355 sites. In addition, 11 roads, 3 sites for explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) tasks and 14 sites requiring further survey, are registered. These two Provinces together represent approximately 50% of the remaining problem. In order to progress with the quick clearance of mines and help Mozambique to comply with the national plans, Handicap International with UNDP funds demine of 24 suspected hazardous areas registered in the national database, that correspond to approximately 250.000m², in Panda District, Province of Inhambane. As a result, from the initial approximate 250,000m², only 37,000m² remain to be covered. The speed of the clearance in Panda district mainly result from a high level of "land release without physical clearance" based on local informers of each SHA. About 183,862m² were withdrawn from the database after technical investigation and/or area reductions methods, without necessary applying mine clearance methods.

Workshop on Land Release for IND Quality Assurance staff:

The land release issue was initially given impetus in Mozambique in 2008 when IND management, with the support of the GICHD, decided to introduce the subject within the Institute and with other stakeholders. As a second step IND invited the Survey Action Center (SAC) to help develop policy approach and to facilitate a workshop for its Operations/QA staff. The purpose of the workshop was to develop operational procedures related to land release, particularly through non-technical and technical survey, for quality assurance of the process and for the documentation of the results

e) Provide capacity building and high level technical support

Technical assistance to IND through Chief Technical Advisor Mine Action and Programme Analyst Mine Action / SALW:

Based on the results of the baseline survey, the capacity of central and provincial governments, as well as demining operators and the likelihood of future funding, the IND Planning Department

developed a special planning and monitoring tool to project the demining activities for the coming 5 years. This process was supported by the UNDP CTA. This tool gives an annual plan per province and district. It facilitated the redistribution of the demining operators' area of responsibility and helped them with planning and resource mobilization, furthermore, the planning tool enabled the National Demining Institute (IND), for the first time to present not only to donors but also to government a detailed activities plan.

Training / capacity development of staff

In October 2008, as part of the IND staff capacity development policy, two IND staff attended a Field Epidemiology for Mine Action Course (FEMAC) in CDC Atlanta, USA. The course topics were quite relevant and useful to IND staff especially since the database is going through modification, while data collection and information processing were identified as areas that need further support.

In November 2008, the IND Operations staff benefited, in collaboration with UNDP Angola, an advanced Global Positioning System (GPS) utilities and mapping training was organized to all QA field teams and key staff from Maputo, the objective was to introduce modern technology so to increase the accuracy and quality control credibility. Thanks to this training, teams are now capable in producing more accurate information.

V. IMPLEMENTATION CONSTRAINTS AND LESSONS LEARNED

Enhanced support to the mine action information management component, proved to be extremely valuable to all stakeholders, mainly to the government, when presentations were made on the current situation, progress achieved and precise future plans at national and international fora.

The financial commitment shown during encounters with donors is an encouraging sign regarding their trust and confidence in the capacity of the IND. Donors also openly commended the efforts of UNDP with regard to its support of IND.

UNDP's procurement procedures have created delays in allocating resources to mine operators immediately. It would help if at the corporate level, there exists a roster of operators which UNDP can accredit and immediately support.

Mine action operations have to be more clearly linked with the provincial and district plans and budgeting processes, in order to address mine problem as a development issue.

VI. FUTURE WORK PLAN

- Coordination efforts by the IND will continue to ensure that demining activities are well integrated within key developmental sectors as part of the Provincial Socio-Economic Plans (PES) framework.
- Institutional capacity building, as part of scaling-up coordination, the National Mine Action Standards and Quality/ Information Management will be initially revised and subsequently training sessions will be provided to IND staff Operations and Information management.
- Development of national capacity to deal with residual issues of Mines and UXO through

the establishment of Provincial Mine Action Committees, including the training of residual technical capacity through the Mozambican Police Force and / or the Ministry of Defence.

- Conduct a pilot project in Land release through survey including development of standards and criteria, field trails and evaluation.
- Resource mobilization efforts will continue to ensure workplan for 2010 - 2014 is well covered (Australia, Italy, DFID and Japan).

VII. FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

<p>Enhance government capacity to meet its obligations under the AP Mine Ban Treaty and addresses residual threats posed by other ERW. Project 00062797</p>	<p>Support efforts to coordinate efforts, mobilise resources and mainstream mine action in Government's major planning instruments, notably the PARPA and the PES (Plano Economico Social- Annual).</p>	UNDP (Direct Execution)	TRAC 1	71100 -CTA	76,927.49
		UNDP (Direct Execution)	TRAC 3	71600 - Travel	22,443.63
		UNDP (Direct Execution)	TRAC 3	74200 - Print P Costs	965.79
		UNDP (Direct Execution)	TRAC 3	73100 - Rent Meet Prem	924.81
		UNDP (Direct Execution)	TRAC 3	74500 - Misc	2,656.69
		Sub-total			103,918.41
	<p>Strengthen information management</p>	UNDP (Direct Execution)	Norway	72800 - IT Equip	6,771.29
		Sub-total			6,771.29
	<p>Support mine clearance, coordination and quality assurance operations</p>	UNDP (Direct Execution)	TRAC 1	72100 - Contract	20,000.00
		UNDP (Direct Execution)	Norway	72100 - Contract	45,000.00
		UNDP (Direct Execution)	TRAC 3	72100 - Contract	45,000.00
		NEX	TRAC 3	71300 - Local consul	18,700.00
		NEX	Norway	71300 - Local consul	8,200.00
		NEX	Norway	71300 - Travel	8,335.36
		NEX	Norway	71600 - Travel	300.00
		NEX	TRAC 3	74500 - Misc	50.82

		UNDP (Direct Execution)	TRAC 3	74500 - Misc	10.00
		Sub-total			145,596.18
UNDP delivers a coordinated response to the landmines, small arms and armed violence problems	Provide capacity building and high level technical support	UNDP (Direct Execution)	TRAC 3	61100 - Contract	53,957.03
		UNDP (Direct Execution)	TRAC 3	71600 - Travel	7,020.20
		Sub-total			60,977.23
		TOTAL			317,263.11