Mine Action in the Humanitarian Cluster System

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Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC)

- Created by United Nations General Assembly resolution 46/182 in 1991, the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) is the longest-standing humanitarian coordination forum of the United Nations system. It brings together the executive heads of 18 organizations to formulate policy, set strategic priorities and mobilize resources in response to humanitarian crises.

- The IASC strengthens collective humanitarian action through the implementation of a coherent, unified response. It advocates for common humanitarian principles and makes strategic, policy and operational decisions with a direct bearing on humanitarian operations on the ground.

- The IASC is chaired by the Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) who brings critical issues to the attention of the United Nations Secretary-General and Security Council.

- The IASC established the cluster system where agencies have clear responsibilities for coordination of specific sectors. UNHCR leads the Global Protection Cluster (GPC) and UNMAS leads its Mine Action Area of Responsibility.
Mine Action in Humanitarian Cluster System
IASC Reference Module for Cluster Coordination

- Cluster and Sector Coordination
- Cluster Activation
- Cluster Functions
- The Role of Clusters in Preparedness
- Cluster Management Arrangements
- Sharing Leadership
- Minimum Commitments for Participation in Clusters
- Inter-Cluster Coordination, Sub-National Coordination, Monitoring Cluster Coordination
Cluster/AoR: Six Core Functions

1. Support service delivery
2. Inform the Humanitarian Coordinator/Humanitarian Country team’s strategic decision-making
3. Plan and implement cluster strategies
4. Monitor and evaluate performance
5. Build national capacity in preparedness and contingency planning
6. Support robust advocacy
Governance:
Strategic Advisory Group

Mission: ensure (i) well-coordinated, effective and principled protection preparedness and responses and (ii) protection is at the core of humanitarian action and considered essential for development and peace

Network of NGOs, IOs, and UN agencies engaged in protection work in humanitarian crises, including armed conflict

Work: coordinate the development of policy, standards and operational tools relating to protection in humanitarian action, including practical guidance on how to establish and manage protection coordination mechanisms

Governance:
Strategic Advisory Group
GPC Strategic Framework 2020-24

- Establish basics of protection coordination in all our operations
- Ensure voices of crisis-affected persons are heard, esp. the forgotten ones
- Make protection contextually appropriate and complementary
- Champion durable solutions through a nexus of humanitarian, peace and development action
- Adapt to the shifting operational environment and keep looking forward
MA Area of Responsibility

- **MA AoR:** global coordinator for mine action
- **Lead Agency:** UNMAS (Geneva) and NGO co-lead (Danish Refugee Council)
- **Key functions**
  - Field Support to activated MA AoR
  - Bring together mine action actors
  - Representation in policy development
  - Engaging with humanitarian partners notably OCHA, the Global Protection Cluster (UNHCR), the Child Protection AoR (UNICEF), the Housing, Land and Property AoR (NRC), the Health Cluster, the IOM DTM
  - Provider of Last Resort
"Provider of Last Resort"

**Definition:** where necessary, and depending on access, security and availability of funding, the provider of last resort must be ready to ensure the provision of services required to fulfil crucial gaps identified by the cluster and reflected in the HC-led HCT Humanitarian Response Plan.
Members of the MA AoR
Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO)

- Prepared for protracted or sudden emergencies and provide a shared understanding of the crisis, the most pressing humanitarian needs and the estimated number of people who need assistance (PiN)
- MA AoR contributes to the risk analysis

Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP)

- Articulate a shared vision by all clusters on how to address the needs of affected people and develops a strategic response plan
- MA AoR coordinates the mine action response
THE PRIMACY OF PROTECTION
MINE ACTION AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY
STRATEGY 2022-2024

Protecting People from Explosive Hazards in Humanitarian Emergencies: Promoting Inclusive, Local and Durable Solutions
MA AoR Strategy

- **Vision**: A world in which boys, girls, men and women living in humanitarian emergencies are protected from explosive hazards and where the rights of victims are recognized and respected.
- **Goals:**
  1. Offer reliable coordination for humanitarian mine action in emergencies to accelerate and deliver more impactful interventions.
  2. Build and strengthen strategic partnerships.
  3. Enhance and transfer capacity: strengthen the meaningful participation, representation and leadership of local and national actors in humanitarian coordination structures.
  4. Promote equality, diversity and inclusion in operations and workforce.
  5. Contribute to sustainable solutions in collaboration with peace and development actors.
MINE ACTION & FOOD SECURITY

Two cousins on their wheat fields in Alkhasfa village in the Haditha district of Anbar, Iraq. Up until a few months ago this area was covered by a large improvised minefield. Immediately after NPA cleared the minefield the cousins took their land back in productive use. The photo was taken just a few weeks before their first harvest in June. Photo credit: NPA.