



Press Release

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Humanitarian Impact from Mines other than Anti-Personnel Landmines

The humanitarian impact of mines other than anti-personnel mines (MOTAP Mines) – normally anti-vehicle mines - is not only restricted to the numbers of people they kill or injure in affected countries. The most significant impact of MOTAP Mines comes from their blocking access to populations in need, locking them in poverty and denying them external assistance. While other types of unexploded ordnance and improvised explosive devices present a threat to civilians, the specific types of impact caused by MOTAP Mines is particularly severe.

This new report from the GICHD summarizes the capacity of the landmine clearance sector to respond to MOTAP Mines, specifically anti-vehicle mines. It then looks at the humanitarian impact of MOTAP Mines contamination in a specific environment through a case study of humanitarian organizations efforts to address problems faced by rural communities in Angola. These problems persist and are made worse because MOTAP Mines on roads prevent humanitarian organizations from gaining access to the populations at risk. MOTAP Mines are also seen to increase the cost of humanitarian assistance.

The report on the *Humanitarian Impact from Mines other than Anti-Personnel Mines* is a contribution to the efforts of the international community to address the important issue of explosive remnants of war, including anti-vehicle mines. The GICHD is committed to providing technical expertise to the discussions under the Convention of Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) whenever States Parties require it. States Parties to the CCW are conveying in Geneva from 8 to 19 November 2004.

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