

## GICHD WORKSHOP ON LAND RELEASE WITH NORWEGIAN PEOPLE'S AID ANGOLA



Photo: Workshop in Angola, February 2008

The GICHD participated in a Land Release Workshop with Norwegian Peoples Aid (NPA) Angola from 7 to 21 February 2008.

Upon request of NPA Angola, the GICHD travelled to Angola to assist NPA in developing their Land Release process and procedures. The workshop took place in Malange, approximately 500km to the east of Luanda, where NPA Angola had recently moved their main centre of mine action operations.

The workshop was attended by the NPA Angola Program Manager Becky Thompson, NPA Angola management and operations staff, and all relevant field supervisors and team leaders.

The workshop focused on the following areas:

- a. What is land release?
- b. Identifying the 'need for change' in current land release practices.
- c. The legal framework effecting land release
- d. Non - technical land release by assessment and by non-technical survey
- e. Non-technical survey
- f. Developing specific non-technical survey criteria for Angola
- g. Technical survey
- h. Analysis of the mine action tools available for land release by technical survey

The workshop was very successful with an excellent degree of enthusiasm and dedication to the land release process shown by the NPA management and staff. NPA Angola also

used the knowledge gained during the workshop to initiate discussions with the National Mine Action Authority (CINDAH) on Land Release in Angola.

GICHD will participate in two follow-up workshops on land release in Angola in May and July 2008. The follow-on assistance from the GICHD will endeavour to ensure that the momentum created on land release in Angola during this initial workshop is maintained.

For more information on the NPA Angola Workshop, or on Land Release in general, please contact Michael Creighton (Project Officer, Land Release) at [m.creighton@gichd.org](mailto:m.creighton@gichd.org)