



MORE INTERNATIONAL MINE ACTION STANDARDS IN FRENCH



Photo : GICHD visit at the CPADD, Benin, February 2008

The GICHD, in conjunction with UNMAS, has developed a process of translation and systematic up-dating of IMAS into French in order to increase the number of documents on mine action in French and to make them available to a bigger public. The project is carried out in cooperation with the Francophone Training Centre for Humanitarian Demining (CPADD) in Ouidah, Benin, and the National Centre for Humanitarian Demining Training (CNDH) of the Engineering School (ESAG) in Angers, France.

The CPADD is responsible for the translation of new IMAS and of those IMAS that have not been translated yet. The CNDH will up-date already translated but amended IMAS, and assures the consistency of the technical terminology of all IMAS. The role of the GICHD is to validate, edit, and diffuse the IMAS, in particular on the IMAS website www.mineactionstandards.org

Delegations from the CPADD and CNDH visited the GICHD in 2007 and decided after discussions and briefings to start translations in 2008. They also planned a meeting of all stakeholders to take place in February 2008 at the CPADD in Benin, in order to line up the translation by defining exact work procedures.

The meeting took place at the CPADD from 18 to 20 February, aiming at the establishment of a working schedule and at the effective commencement of activities. Participants at the meeting set the target to complete the translation into French of existing IMAS in 2008 and to finish the translation of up-dated and amended IMAS little by little.

The GICHD and the CPADD further discussed cooperation in other projects aiming at the multiplication and propagation of documents on mine action in French.

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