

METAL DETECTORS TRIALS IN EGYPT



Cairo, Egypt, May 2007

The GICHD assisted the Egyptian Mine Action Programme and UNDP in conducting trials on metal detectors for use in the national mine action project in the development area of the western desert of Egypt. The trials were carried out from 12 to 18 May 2007 in a test field located just outside Cairo. The test field was professionally prepared by the Egyptian Armed Forces, and the Faculty of Engineering of the University of Cairo contributed by providing the necessary controllers and secretariat for the trials.

The five leading manufacturers of metal detectors for mine and UXO clearance were invited to test their detectors against soil types and targets found in Egypt. The trials were based on the standards described in the CEN workshop agreement “Humanitarian Mine Action – Test and evaluation – Metal Detectors CWA 14747” and carried out by the use of operators both from the Egyptian Army and the manufacturers.

The manufacturers invited to participate in Egypt, were short listed based on the results from STEMMD trials on metal detectors in other mine affected countries. Countries looking to purchase metal detectors for humanitarian mine clearance that are facing similar soil types and targets as one will find in Egypt, should have a look at the findings from these trials.

The GICHD assisted the trials by providing a specialist as an international observer to the trials. The German Federal Institute of Material Research and Testing (BAM) also assisted the Egyptian Mine Action Programme and UNDP in managing the trials.

For further information, please contact Mr. Eric Tollefsen, (Mine Action Specialist and Technology Officer) at e.tollefsen@gichd.org