



## GICHD EVALUATION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION-FUNDED MINE ACTION – LAST STAGES

In 2005, the European Commission entered into an agreement with the GICHD to conduct a programme of evaluations to assess and appraise EC-funded mine action. The European Commission (EC) Evaluation Project is part of wider EC policies to respond to the anti-personnel landmine problem. In 2001 the Council of Ministers and the European Parliament adopted two regulations calling for regular evaluations of EC-financed mine action projects<sup>1</sup>. These regulations were followed by an EC Mine Action Strategy and Multi Annual Indicative Program 2005-2007 advocating for “more specific, geographic evaluations of EC-funded mine action, analysing the results and their impact.”<sup>2</sup> To implement these provisions the EC commissioned a global assessment of European Union (EU) mine action policy and actions between 2002-2005 and entered into an agreement with the GICHD to assess and appraise EC-funded mine action in 6 regions: Africa, the Caucasus/Central Asia, Latin America, Asia-Pacific, Europe and the Middle East.



Ted Paterson, Head of Evaluation and Policy Research, talking to members of the Kosovo Protection Corps

The six regional EC evaluations provide systematic assessments of EC-funded mine action and outline lessons for future mine action projects through:

- 1) An assessment of the relevance of EC-funded mine activities
- 2) An analysis of the allocation of funds among the mine affected states of the six regions and across the various areas of mine action
- 3) An assessment of the effectiveness of EU-funded mine action support
- 4) An assessment of EU coordination with other mine action agencies in a country (national; UN; donors; international NGOs, etc.)

<sup>1</sup> Regulation EC 1724/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 July 2001 concerning action against anti-personnel landmines in developing countries (OJ L 234 1.9.2001, p.1) and Regulation ( EC ) 1725/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 July 2001 concerning action against anti-personnel landmines in third countries other than developing countries ( OJ L 234, 1.9.2001, p.6). the two provisions are also known as “ The APL Regulations”.

<sup>2</sup> This strategy follows EC Mine Action Strategy and Multi-annual Indicative Program 2002-2004.

- 5) The assessment of the impact of deconcentration on the planning and delivery of EU support to mine action
- 6) An assessment of the potential impact of the end of the specific budget line for anti-personnel landmines on future mine action support from the EU.
- 7) Recommendations for improving EU-funded mine action projects.
- 8) Global recommendations and lessons learnt.

As of today, five evaluations have been completed (Africa, Europe, Latin America, Asia-Pacific). The Caucasus/Central Asia evaluation is being finalised. The findings of the regional evaluations have contributed to the development of Guidelines on European



Vera Bohle, Evaluation and Disarmament Specialist, discussing with deminers from Mine Detection Dog Center in Afghanistan

Community Mine Action 2008-13. These guidelines provide a “basis for building synergy within the peace/security and development/cooperation nexus” and “integrating the principles of ownership and partnership that guide development cooperation into all interventions.”<sup>3</sup>

The EC agreement with the GICHD involves two other objectives. The first one is the compilation and diffusion of mine action evaluation reports. To this end, the GICHD website hosts hundreds of research and evaluation reports on mine action classified by various categories such as year,

country and subject<sup>4</sup>. The second objective is to strengthen evaluation capacity in mine-affected countries.

As a follow-up to the regional evaluations, the GICHD is organising a workshop this spring in Brussels to review lessons learnt, recommendations and findings of the evaluation. The workshop will result in a Synthesis Report, acknowledging lessons learnt and findings from the evaluations. A series of regional workshops, aimed at developing local evaluation capacity are being organised in collaboration with the International Program for Development Evaluation Training (IPDET). The first will take place in Bangkok in March. This will be followed by a workshop in the Balkans in late summer 2009, in collaboration with the International Trust Fund (ITF).

<sup>3</sup> Commission of the European Communities, Commission Staff Working Document, Guidelines on European Community Mine Action 2008-2013, Brussels, 25 September 2009.

<sup>4</sup> If you want to consult the research and evaluation reports database, click [here](#)

For further information on the EC evaluation programme, please contact Geneva Cucinotta at [g.cucinotta@gichd.org](mailto:g.cucinotta@gichd.org).