



A GUIDE TO CONTRACTING IN MINE ACTION AND GICHD MECHANICAL DEMINING PROJECTS

The GICHD launched the Guide to Contracting in Mine Action in December 2009, during the Cartagena Summit on a Mine-Free World. The Guide is aimed towards Directors of National Mine Action programmes but will benefit other mine action stakeholders as well.



Based on requests already received from countries and mine action programmes for mechanical demining and contracting training in 2010, we anticipate the GICHD will carry out three or four training courses on both topics during the year. Typically, such training lasts three to four days and includes theoretical as well as practical components, tailored to the specific request from the country/programme. The Centre successfully delivered the mechanical demining training in Iraq and Jordan during 2009.

From January until March 2010, the GICHD will carry out a trial with a permanent magnet used in combination with a flail in cooperation with the Azerbaijan National Agency for Mine Action (ANAMA). The aim of the trial is to test how a magnet can be used to collect metal pieces in a hazardous area to reduce the number of metal pieces that delay manual follow-on. The second aim of the trial is to use data gathered in the magnet trials (ie through inspection of the different metal fragments collected) as a part of the information gathering and processing included in the land release process. The trial report is scheduled for April 2010.



In addition, the GICHD will participate in the tests of demining machines to be carried out at the Swedish EOD and Demining Centre (SWEDEC) throughout the year. During 2010, we also plan three new mechanical demining IMAS, which should be ready for review in the first half of 2010.

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