

Arab Regional Cooperation Programme (ARCP)

The GICHD ARCP Gender Focal Point Capacity Development Programme 2020-2022 helped build sustainable capacity for gender and diversity mainstreaming in the mine action sector. Participants acquired the knowledge and skills to become an effective Gender Focal Point within their organisation.



INTERVIEW

What have been your main gender and diversity mainstreaming achievements since participating in the training?

First, we have made it a prerequisite for organisations involved in mine action in Sudan to have a gender and diversity policy. Second, we conducted gender and diversity analyses in Blue Nile State, North and West Darfur. The results showed that women and men do not have equal access to recruitment opportunities in most mine action organisations. As a result, we have now trained 32 women and 21 men from Blue Nile State on Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Level 1. Blue Nile State was the most polluted and inaccessible area in the near past. The fact that we trained 32 women is amazing, considering that the number of women previously trained on EOD was only one. Finally, we have opened the possibility for people with disabilities to participate in mine action activities.

Did you manage to negotiate a clear role and responsibilities as a gender focal point in your organisation?

Yes, I am now the Gender Focal Point of the National Mine Action Center of Sudan.

WHAT IS NEXT?

Our plan last year was so ambitious, as we intended to conduct gender and diversity analysis in seven states. However due to some obstacles led by COVID 19 and lack of reasonable budget we were unable to complete the huge intended work. We are now targeting states with training on Gender and Diversity Inclusion, where we will train a group in each locality from the three localities with hopes to do so before the end of the year. We will also review the NMAC Directives to ensure they take equality into consideration.

GET TO KNOW

IZELDIN HASSAN
Gender Focal Point

Izeldin Hassan works at the National Mine Action Office Khartoum (Sudan) as a Planning Manager and Gender and Diversity Focal Point.



'After attending the training and being appointed gender focal point, it definitely added more profession and power to me than before. I am monitoring the policies to ensure they more effectively meet the different needs of women, men, girls and boys in mine action'