Women & Land Rights in Landmine/ERW Contaminated Communities
Why Focus on Women & Land Rights?

- Gender equality – economic growth
- Women responsible for assets – investments in children and family
- Secure land rights – better protection
- Women disproportionately affected by evictions and land grabbing
- Increased number of female headed households in post-conflict settings
Women & Land Rights
Reflections from Cambodia

• Constitution gives women and men equal rights to own property and land

• Exclusion of females

• Women lack awareness of their rights

• Vulnerability of female headed households
Women & Land Rights
Reflections from Afghanistan

- International treaty obligations
- Exclusionary practices
- Inheritance rights
- Women lack awareness of their rights
- Vulnerable female headed households
Women & Land Rights

Reflections from Southern Sudan

- The 2005 Interim Constitution of Southern Sudan and the Land Act of 2009 provide equal access to land for women and men.
- Customary law is generally discriminatory against women.
- Discriminatory inheritance rights.
- Women lack awareness of their rights.
- Vulnerability of female headed households.
Women & Land Rights – Key Issues

- Challenges of legal pluralism
- Discriminatory marriage practices
- Discriminatory inheritance law
- Low level of education/literacy
- Women lack awareness of their rights
- Vulnerability of female headed households
Women’s Land Rights and Mine Action

- To the extent possible – employ and deploy female balanced MA teams

- Active inclusion of women
  1. Planning and prioritisation
  2. Implementation
  3. Post-clearance monitoring and evaluation
Women & Land Rights: Key sources of information

- USAID: Gender and Property Rights within Postconflict Situations
- FAO: Gender and Land Rights Database
  http://www.fao.org/gender/landrights
- Rural Development Institute (RDI): Women & Land
  http://www.rdiland.org
Thanks!

The Gender and Mine Action Programme of the Swiss Campaign to Ban Landmines

www.scbl-gender.ch

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