INNOVATION SESSION:
MINE ACTION IN URBAN AREAS

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MASTER OF CEREMONIES

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ADMIN AND LOGISTICS

- Logistical note
- Prayer room
- Coffee and lunch break
- Reception

Scan to access the Innovation Session Webpage:

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WELCOME ADDRESS:

Ambassador Tobias Privitelli

GICHD Director

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SETTING THE STAGE:

Armen Harutyunyan

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SESSION A: PART 1

CURRENT PRACTICES AND CHALLENGES FOR SURVEY AND CLEARANCE IN URBAN AREAS

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FRAMING THE SURVEY AND CLEARANCE APPROACH IN URBAN AREAS

Ziaee Abdul Qudos

GICHD Standards and Operations Advisor

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Urban Contamination

Today, the landscape of humanitarian mine action is facing a profound shift.

Conflicts enters densely populated cities, it leaves behind a legacy of explosive ordnance that outlasts after the conflict by decades.

Mortars, rockets, landmines, and unexploded bomblets create an invisible risk for the populations.

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Urban EO contamination require a different approach

Urban EO contamination is often complex, challenging, and difficult to define.

- EO may be:
  - on the surface;
  - beneath rubble;
  - within buildings;
  - inside basements and confined spaces;
  - beneath altered ground levels;
  - associated with damaged infrastructure.

Despite the complexity and challenges, having well defined set of standards ensures safe and efficient mine action operations in urban EO contamination

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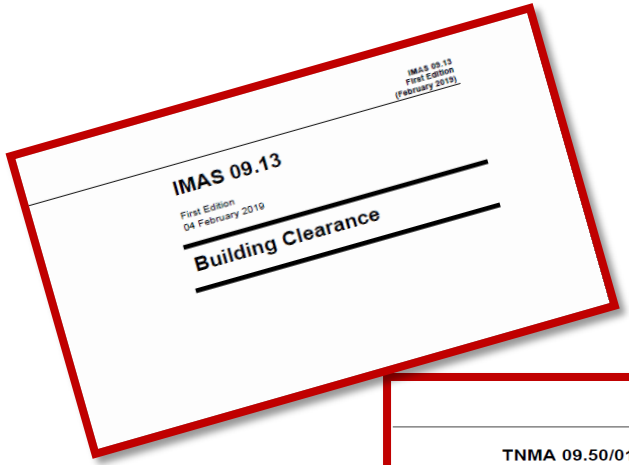
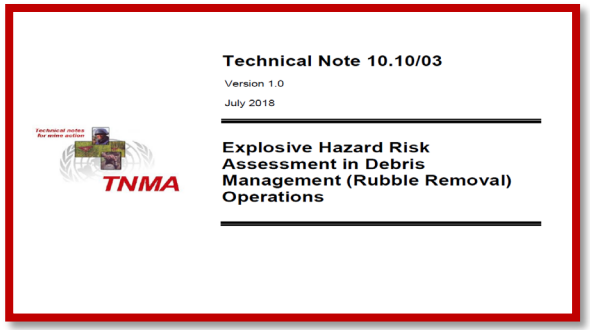
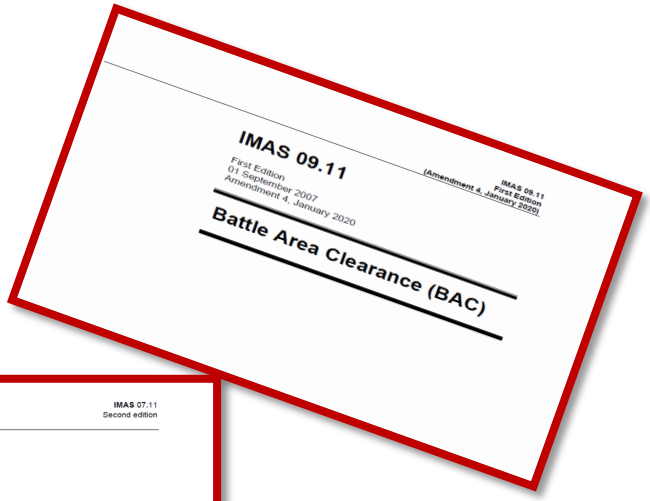
International Mine Action Standards

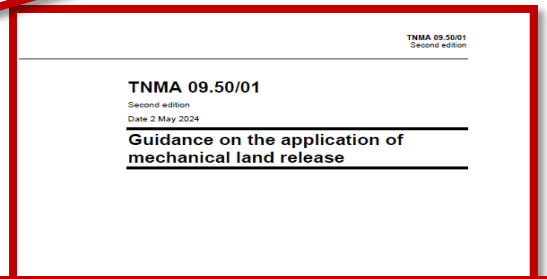
- Global framework
- Covers a wide range of topics
- Although, there is no specific chapter for Urban survey and clearance, however it is covered in different IMAS chapters

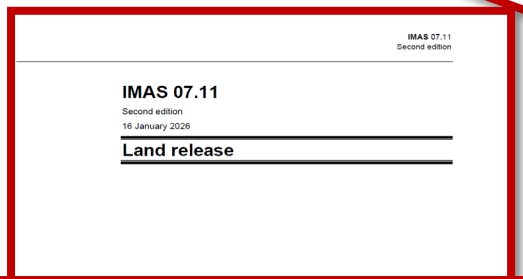
Some IMAS relevant references











These chapters establishe principles, provide guidence & sets requirements

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Survey and threat assessment in Urban contamination

Survey & threat assessment should define the problem before the clearance method is selected.

1. Hazard
- UXO?
- mines?
- abandoned/failed ordnance?
- possible IED contamination?

2. Location
- Building?
- Rubble?
- Surface?
- Sub-surface?
- Infrastructure?

3. Distribution
- isolated?
- concentrated?
- systematic?
- associated with particular structures or locations?

4. Depth / vertical extent
- surface only?
- within rubble?
- below original ground level?
- multiple metres?

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Non-explosive hazards

Non-explosive hazards in urban contamination is another challenge that should be identified before EO clearance intervention.

- Structural integrity;
- Hazardous enclosed spaces;
- Working at heights;
- Toxic Industrial Chemicals; and
- Toxic Industrial Materials.

IMAS recommends providing required training, equipmenet and getting advice from specialists on how to deal with such situations

Examples of IMAS quality requirements for urban EO contamination survey and clearance

Accredited organizations

Appropriate equipment

Well training and competent staff

Quality Assurance

Appropriate management practice

Standard operating procedure

Robust internal & external QM system

Example of IMAS Principles

Building Clearance Principles

- EO threat assessment
- Approved Clearance Plan
- Appropriate Procedure for victim operated IED
- Safe separations space between the personnel
- Appropriate PPE and appropriate light level
- Assessment of structural integrity of the building prior to entry
- Required training and equipment if non-explosive hazards are present

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Mandatory Actions (context specific)

IMAS recommends that mandatory actions should be:

- specific to programme requirements
- developed based on operational factors such as equipment, threat and environment
- outlined in **NMAS**
- refined and specified in Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) that are accredited by the National Mine Action Authority.

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Some Examples of National Mine Action Standards and Techencial Notes

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Example of Lebanon Technical Note for Rubble removal in Urban EO contamination

TNMA 09.10/01
December 2024

LMAC
Lebanon Mine Action Center

Technical Note 09.10/01

Version 1.0

December 2024

Rubble Removal in explosive ordnance contaminated areas

Lebanon Mine Action Center-LMAC

Chekri Ghanem Casern–Fayadieh

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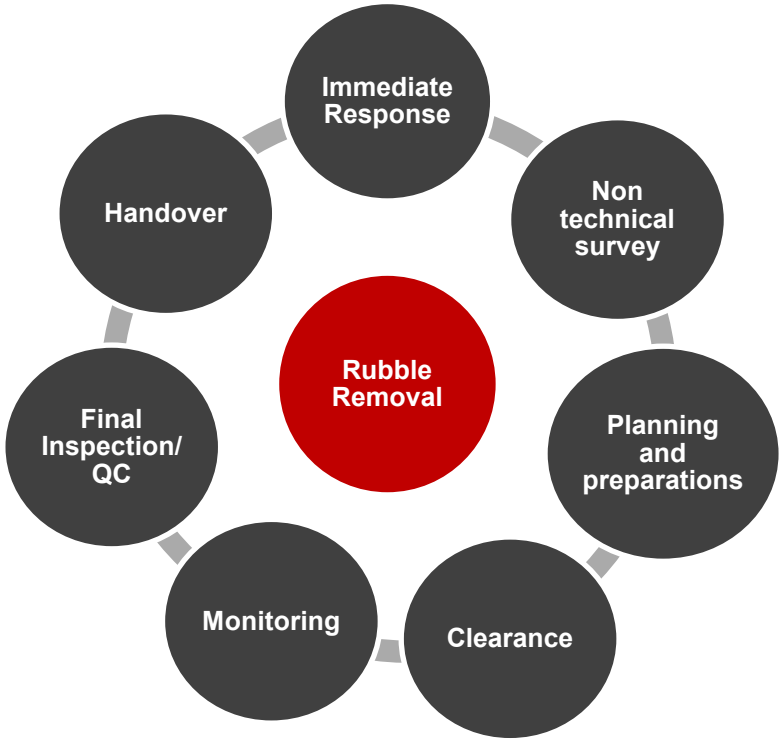
Email: info@lebmac.org

Website: www.lebmac.org



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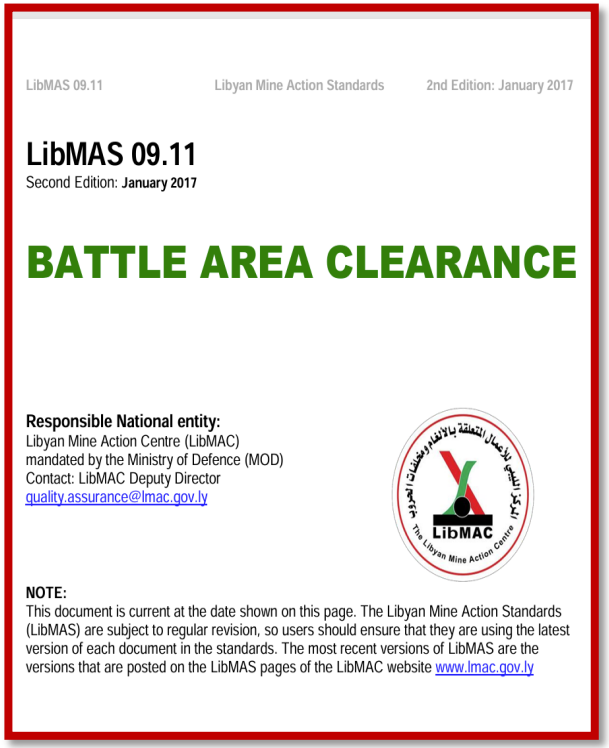
Example of Libya NMAS for Battle Area Clearance

Libya NMAS : Chapter 09.11

Developed to provide guidence and sets specific rquirments for battle area clearance in **urban areas**



LibMAS 09.11 Libyan Mine Action Standards 2nd Edition: January 2017

LibMAS 09.11
Second Edition: **January 2017**

BATTLE AREA CLEARANCE

Responsible National entity:
Libyan Mine Action Centre (LibMAC)
mandated by the Ministry of Defence (MOD)
Contact: LibMAC Deputy Director
quality.assurance@lmac.gov.ly

NOTE:
This document is current at the date shown on this page. The Libyan Mine Action Standards (LibMAS) are subject to regular revision, so users should ensure that they are using the latest version of each document in the standards. The most recent versions of LibMAS are the versions that are posted on the LibMAS pages of the LibMAC website www.lmac.gov.ly

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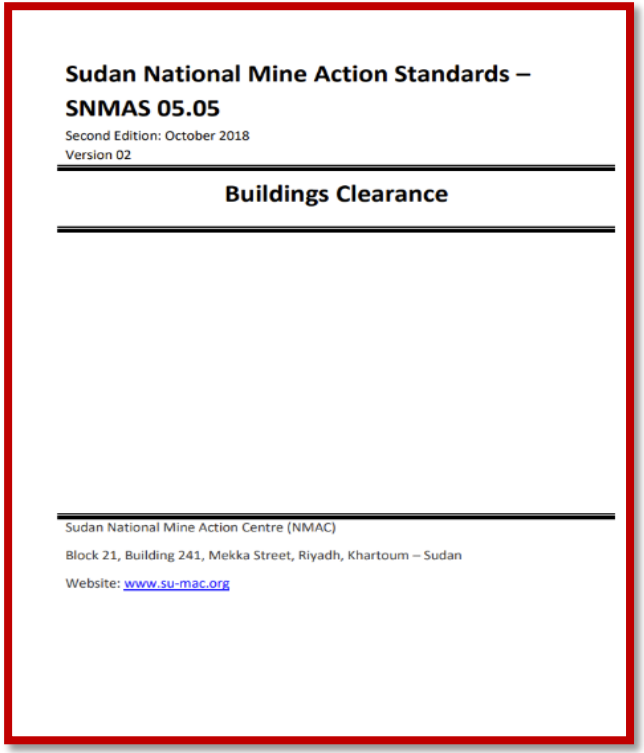
Example of Sudan NMAS for Building Clearance

Sudan NMAS : Chapter 05.05 – Building Clearance

Developed to establish national requirements for survey, assessment and clearance of buildings and damaged urban structures



Sudan National Mine Action Standards – SNMAS 05.05

Second Edition: October 2018

Version 02

Buildings Clearance

Sudan National Mine Action Centre (NMAC)

Block 21, Building 241, Mekka Street, Riyadh, Khartoum – Sudan

Website: www.su-mac.org

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