

Livelihoods Analysis of Landmine/ERW Affected Communities in Herat Province Afghanistan (October 2011)



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Participants in the Herat Landmines and Livelihoods survey

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ACRONYMS

AIRD	Afghanistan Institute for Rural Development	HT (HALO Trust)	Hazardous Areas Life-Support Organisation Trust
ALIS	Afghanistan Landmine Impact Survey	IDPs	Internally Displaced Persons
AMAC	Area Mine Action Centre	IMAS	International Mine Action Standards
AMAS	Afghanistan Mine Action Standards	IMB	Inter-Ministerial Board (for Mine Action)
ANBP	Afghanistan’s New Beginnings Programme	IMSMA	Information Management System for Mine Action
ANDMA	Afghanistan Nation Disaster Management Authority	IOF	Integrated Operational Framework
ANDS	Afghanistan National Development Strategy		
AP	Anti-Personnel (mine)		
ARCS	Afghan Red Crescent Society		
ARTF	Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund		
AT	Anti-tank (mine)		
ATC	Afghan Technical Consultants Demining Training Centre, Kabul		
BAC	Battle Area Clearance		
CBMC	Community-Based Mine Clearance		
CSO	Central Statistics Office		
DDG	Danish Demining Group		
DFID	Department for International Development (UK)		
DMC	Department for Mine Clearance		
DOTS	Directly Observed Treatment Short-course (Tuberculosis)		
EOD	Explosive Ordnance Disposal		
ERW	Explosive Remnants of War		
FGD	Focus Group Discussion		
FSD	Farming System Diagram		
GDP	Gross Domestic Product		
GICHD	Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Deming		
GMAP	Gender and Mine Action Programme		
GoA	Government of Afghanistan		
HIV/AIDS	<i>Human Immunodeficiency Virus</i> /Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome		

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

The Mine Action Coordination Centre for Afghanistan (MACCA) and the Department for Mine Clearance (DMC) are seeking to better understand the development outcomes of demining. They plan to undertake community-level surveys on a periodic basis to document these achievements and identify changes to policy and practice that could further enhance the contribution that the Mine Action Programme of Afghanistan (MAPA) makes towards Afghanistan's development. The Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), working within the framework of the MoU between the GICHD and the UN Mine Action Service (UNMAS), assisted with the design and implementation of a pilot project that surveyed 25 communities in the central and northern areas of Afghanistan in 2010. This report describes a second livelihoods survey conducted in 2011 with four mine/ERW-affected communities in the western area in Herat Province.

OBJECTIVES

The purposes of the study were to gain a better understanding of the development outcomes and impacts accruing from demining and how to enhance these through revisions to the criteria used to select priorities, adaptations to the priority-setting process and enhanced linkages with rural and community development organisations. The study also involved Afghan surveyors from Afghan mine action Implementing Partners and social scientists from the Afghan Institute for Rural Development and the Central Statistics Office to develop in-country capacity to conduct and analyses such surveys on a periodic basis. The report is intended to contribute to more complete reporting to the Government of Afghanistan (GoA) and donors on the contribution made by the MAPA to Afghanistan's development, and to inform the post-clearance survey efforts of demining operators (internal QA) and the MACCA/DMC (external QA plus national standards) on quality at the development outcome level.

METHODS

As preparation for the survey, a 5-day training on livelihoods analysis was attended by the survey teams. Facilitation was provided by international specialists in livelihoods, gender and mine action provided by GICHD and the Gender and Mine Action Programme, and by MACCA HQ staff. The survey used a Sustainable Livelihoods (SL) approach for the community-level survey and analysis work. Within this asset-based approach, a range of Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) tools were applied. The four communities included in this survey were chosen on the basis of security, accessibility, contrast between urban and rural settings, contrast between types of hazard (mines and ERW), and cleared or on-going clearance sites. The communities surveyed were: Qala-i-Shater (Injil District) with 300 families; Jibrael (Centre District) with 800 families; Qalat-i-Ghazi (Kohsan District) with 100 families and Shakeeban (Zendajan District) with 200 families. Each community was visited by a men's and women's team over a two-day

period. The information gathered was neither complete nor fully accurate as it depended on the surveyors asking all the questions in their checklists and following up key questions with supplementary “probing” questions, and villagers being able to recall information accurately, completely and honestly.

MAIN CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ARISING FROM THE SURVEY

Overall the survey was successful in meeting its objectives, and has gathered a wealth of useful information, providing numerous recommendations for the improvement of mine action in Afghanistan. When taken together with other surveys and audits this provides the evidence needed for decision making and change.

CONCLUSIONS (DEVELOPMENT OUTCOMES AND IMPACT)

- Clearance enables a wide range of land and non-land activities/employment, encourages investment, reduces fear and enables the return of refugees/IDPs
- Mine action enables better education (building of schools, safer access to schools for children and teachers)
- Mine action enables better health (reduced death and injury; building of clinics and safe access for staff; rehabilitation of water sources)
- Clearance creates opportunities for large scale enterprises (e.g. sugar beet, dairy, brick-making in Qalat-i-Ghazi)
- Homogeneous communities seem most self-reliant and development oriented (community contributions – e.g. Jibrael). Combined with strong, benign leadership from wealthy landowners this can result in accelerated development following the removal of hazards
- The economic value of assets increases dramatically following clearance. As asset values change, there is a need to re-assess crop/livestock returns as a function of land values to see if they are still the most viable option
- Communities and individuals (including victims) need capital/credit to start or expand their businesses
- They also need vocational and literacy training and training facilities
- Daily and seasonal activities vary hugely by gender, age, occupation and wealth, and there are marked gender roles and responsibilities (but these can be flexible according to circumstance)
- Some aid dependence was noted in one community (Qala-i-Shater)
- Few development agencies (government, NGO or private) are active and effective in rural areas

RECOMMENDATIONS (DEVELOPMENT OUTCOMES AND IMPACT)

- MAPA should consider establishing a research and development unit within MACCA or in partnership with AIRD (using livelihoods and other approaches to sustainable development) to conduct further surveys and to follow up / document development outcomes, to support opportunities and overcome challenges/constraints
- The Unit should also conduct economic analysis of development options so as to be able to give appropriate advice to agencies

- The Unit should consider the considerable diversity within and between communities (gender, age, wealth, ethnicity, environmental, political...), and adapt tools and activities accordingly
- Mine action and development should be linked through the coordination of communication, monitoring, research and development initiatives between focal points in a network of relevant development agencies (government, NGO, private, donor) by the MAPA Liaison Officer
- An initial step in developing this coordinated network could be the training of the 22 existing focal points and other key people in a workshop designed to ensure the focal persons understand the relationships between mine action activities and improved livelihoods for community members
- Information related to development needs and priorities should be shared with development organizations to strengthen the link between mine action and development
- In order to maximize the developmental benefits for women, ensure their development priorities are taken into account in information gathering prioritization processes and in post clearance activities, and that all information is disaggregated by sex and age¹
- The video materials obtained during the survey should be reviewed (perhaps together with still photographs taken during the two L&L surveys) to make a short film that illustrates: a) the tools used in the survey; b) the impact of mine action on rural and urban communities. The film can be used for training and for advocacy.

CONCLUSIONS (ECONOMIC RETURNS)

Although the amount of quantitative data collected by the survey teams was insufficient in most cases, the land value data suggests that demining in these four communities has been, on balance, a sound investment in economic terms.

RECOMMENDATIONS (ECONOMIC RETURNS)

- the MACCA and the GICHD should investigate secondary sources for (i) farming systems studies and (ii) land values
- the MACCA and the GICHD should conduct a second workshop on 'good enough' economic analysis of demining projects² for social scientists from AIRD, and for senior personnel in the MACCA and the MAPA partners who are responsible for socio-economic surveys or heavily involved in planning and prioritisation
- the MACCA and the MAPA partners should re-assess their survey forms for quantitative socio-economic data, modify it if necessary based on the outcomes of the economic analysis workshop, and re-train survey teams to ensure they can bring back adequate quantitative data for analysis.

¹ Cartagena Action Plan Action # 25: *Collect and analyse all necessary data in a sex and age disaggregated manner*

² A preliminary workshop was held in March 2011 following the stakeholders workshop for the initial L&L Survey.

CONCLUSIONS (PRIORITISATION)

Although the results from only four communities out of a total of 2115 impacted communities in Afghanistan could not provide a full understanding of people's perception on priority setting process of MAPA, they indicate that the people have no complaints and are happy with the process. The findings of the survey encourage MACCA and the DMC to retain the criteria used for selection of the areas for clearance; however the recommendations below will further improve the process:

RECOMMENDATIONS (PRIORITISATION)

- MAPA should give similar priority to mental trauma caused by accidents as to physical injury (the bombardment of Qala-i-Shater provides a good example of long-term mental trauma)
- The suggestions made by local people on accelerating the process of clearing the remaining contaminated areas within their communities should be gathered and acted upon where appropriate
- There should be an annual review of local clearance priorities through liaison with the communities; thus, MACCA can ensure community involvement and can have a better understanding of the on-going needs of the communities affected by mines/ERW.
- Demining organizations should consult with communities as part of the process of selection of the next areas for clearance, and should be aware of village development plans (e.g. planned location of new schools etc.)
- Since women, girls, boys and men (and also poorer and better off people) within a community have different exposure to hazards; separate meetings should be conducted with different groups in order to make sure their needs are addressed
- All information should be collected and analysed in a sex and age disaggregated manner, in order to take into account the different priorities of all age and sex groups
- Female MA staff members should be deployed when collecting prioritization-related information from affected communities, facilitating the access to female community members
- Women should be ensured meaningful participation at priority-setting meetings and their views should be taken into account and reflected in the final ranking of priorities
- Considering the daily and seasonal activities of female and male community members will help understand when is a good time to arrange meetings to find out about their clearance priorities
- Analyzing the past recorded civilian accidents will help to find out in which season of the year the people mostly become landmine victims. The findings can be fed into clearance operations and MRE messages.

RECOMMENDATIONS (INFORMATION SHARING)

- Improve access to women through the deployment of female mine action staff members
- Ensure women receive first-hand information, through female mine action staff reaching out to women and sharing information directly
- Ensure women are included in handover procedures, and that they receive first-hand information related to which areas have been cleared, and which are safe to use³
- Monitor information sharing with women and men post clearance through post clearance sex disaggregated community data
- Organize meetings with community women, utilizing local structures like women's Shura. This can be an effective way of reaching out to, and including women, taking into consideration their needs, priorities and capabilities
- Ensure information sharing is age and gender sensitive, taking into consideration the level of education and illiteracy issues

CONCLUSIONS (QUALITY MANAGEMENT)

MACCA has been successful with the QA and QC of the outputs of demining operations. Where there have been quality problems in the de-mining operation, these have been investigated and rectified. However, the lessons learned from these investigations and records of QA and QC have not been properly tracked for avoiding further undesired events.

In Jibrael there were mine accidents following supposed clearance. However, this was due to exceptional circumstances (deeply buried mines [by wind-blown soils and flood sediments] and the construction of buildings requiring deep foundations and heavy machinery). In correct fashion, an enquiry was held and a second clearance is underway which has found only one mine.

RECOMMENDATIONS (QUALITY MANAGEMENT)

- Establish a strong quality management process that focuses not only on the quality of the actual clearance operations, but also ensures that clearance is “fit for purpose” – i.e. it takes into account the intended use of the cleared land.
- Continue strengthening processes (e.g. livelihoods and PDIA surveys and the use of the Balanced Scorecard approach) that assess post-handover outcomes, impacts and opportunities
- Add a strong, clear and routine community liaison process to the QA process of MACCA QM to ensure involvement of female and male community members in mine action planning, implementation and outcome assessment
- Include QA of victim assistance activities in MACCA QM as these are poor at present.

³ Cartagena Action Plan, Action Point # 15: *Involve women and men in handover*

CONCLUSIONS (MRE)

- All villages received some MRE (men, girls and boys more than the women).
- Coverage is not complete. Not all children attend school and many women have restricted mobility
- There is no evidence of female MRE staff interacting with female community members in three of the four communities

RECOMMENDATIONS (MRE)

- Recognise and take into consideration MRE accessibility challenges for women and girls when planning MRE visits
- Ensure MRE activities take into account the particular exposure of boys and men, and that activities at the time of accident are recorded when collecting accident data, in order to enable the tailoring and targeting of MRE to gender related exposure and behavior
- Consider and use the KAPB-related information on women and girls, and make sure MRE activities are tailored and designed on the basis of this information, taking into consideration female-specific roles and responsibilities that result in exposure to landmines/ERW⁴
- Design and implement MRE activities, recognizing the seasonal variations in all community members' gender specific roles and responsibilities
- Conduct MRE follow-up sessions, in particular in Qalat-i-Ghazi and Qala-i-Shater focusing on risky behaviour
- Ministry of Education should take more responsibilities in areas where the MAPA MRE resources are not available.
- Further develop the MRE multi-media campaign to reach more people through different channels
- Deploy all-female MRE teams in order to ensure female community members are directly included in MRE activities
- Identify and train female MRE volunteers wherever possible and teachers in affected communities within government networks (NSP, local network and MoPH health workers)
- Ensure that MRE is communicated through gender and age sensitive channels, and that challenges like illiteracy, which is highly gendered, is taken into consideration when designing MRE materials
- Include more specific questions on MRE when designing future surveys. The survey teams must understand the questions and must provide a full set of data to facilitate the report writing.

⁴ Cartagena Action Plan Action # 52: ... assistance should be based on appropriate surveys, needs analysis, age-appropriate and gender sensitive strategies

CONCLUSIONS (VICTIM ASSISTANCE)

- Most accidents occurred spring and summer; men are at greatest risk. The smaller number of children injured might reflect successful MRE
- Both mental and physical trauma (e.g. Qala-i-Shater)
- Little government support to survivors or indirect victims
- Patchy and inconsistent VA (that relies on broader disability services) is failing both direct and indirect victims

RECOMMENDATIONS (VICTIM ASSISTANCE)

- Apply the official definition of “victim”, ensuring indirect victims are included (recognizing CCM’s broadened definition of “victim” 5) in any VA related activities, and that all victims’ needs and priorities are taken into consideration in an age and gender sensitive way
- Collect victim data, disaggregated by sex and age
- Develop a register of all direct and indirect landmine/ERW victims
- Link victims to support organisations, including MoLSAMD, MoE, MoPH
- Support these organisations through advocacy, training and technical assistance
- Recognise and take into consideration accessibility issues of female survivors and victims when designing and implementing VA activities
- Deploy female VA staff members to ensure affected women and girls can be reached (for example through house to house visits), and that their needs and priorities are taken into consideration
- Advocate the Afghanistan government, and remind it of its treaty obligations under the APMBC and the CCM, to ensure that all mine/ERW victims and persons with disabilities have equal and full access to adequate, affordable, gender and age sensitive emergency and continued medical care, physical rehabilitation, psychosocial support, social and economic inclusion services and legal assistance⁶
- Sensitize affected women about their rights, and ensure any sensitization campaigns are carried out in an age and gender sensitive manner, taking into consideration illiteracy and access issues.

CONCLUSIONS (CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT)

A combination of MACCA, DMC and AIRD support would still be needed to design, implement, analyse and report similar L&L surveys in the future. However, it is felt that this could now be achieved without the need for involvement of international scientists.

⁵ Victim means: “all persons who have been killed or suffered physical or psychological injury, economic loss, social marginalisation or substantial impairment of the realisation of their rights caused by the use of cluster munitions. They include those persons directly impacted by cluster munitions as well as their affected families and communities.” *Convention on Cluster Munitions, Article 2, May 2008*, <http://www.clusterconvention.org/files/2011/01/Convention-ENG.pdf>

⁶ Cartagena Action Plan, Action # 31: *Ensure appropriate services are available and accessible to female and male victim*

RECOMMENDATIONS (CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT)

- Conduct a further small pilot L&L survey using Afghan personnel for all aspects.
- As recommended in the section on Development Outcomes, MAPA should consider establishing a research and development unit within MACCA or in partnership with AIRD (using livelihoods and other approaches to sustainable development) to conduct further surveys and to follow up / document development outcomes, to support opportunities and overcome challenges/constraints
- Continue, and build on, the partnership with AIRD
- Training in L&L should be provided to the 22 existing focal points and other key people to widen the understanding of livelihoods and development across relevant Afghan organisations.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY (DARI)

خلاصه اجرایی

مقدمه:

مرکز هماهنگی امور ماین پاک افغانستان (MACCA) و ریاست انسجام تطهیر ماین (DMC) در تلاش اند تا درک خوب از دستاورد های ماین پاک داشته باشند. آنها پلان دارند که سروی های بامقطع زمانی را در سطح جوامع انجام دهند و این دستاوردها را مستند نموده و تغییرات در پالیسی و عمل را شناسایی نموده و سهم گیری پروگرام ماین پاک افغانستان (MAPA) را در انکشاف افغانستان بیشتر تقویه نمایند. مرکز بین المللی جینوا برای ماین پاک بشري (GICHD) در چوکات یک تفاهنامه بین این مرکز و خدمات ماین پاک ملل متحد (UNMAS) کار نموده و در طرح و عملی نمودن یک پروژه آزمایشی که طی آن 25 جامعه در مرکز و شمال افغانستان در سال 2010 سروی شد کمک نموده است. این راپور سروی دومی معیشت را که در سال 2011 در چهار جامعه متاثر شده از ماین و مهمات منفلق ناشده جنگ در غرب کشور (هرات) انجام یافت تشریح میکند.

اهداف

اهداف این سروی این بود تا درک بهتر از دستاوردها و تاثیرات انکشاف که در نتیجه ماین پاک واقع شده بدست آید و اینکه چطور آنها را در تعدیلات معیار های که برای انتخاب اولویت ها بکار برده می شود تطابق و به پروسه اولویت بندی و تقویه ارتباطات با موسسات انکشافی افزوده شود. در این سروی سروریران افغان از همکاران عملیاتی موسسات ماین پاک افغانی، متخصصین علوم اجتماعی از انستیتوت انکشاف دهات افغانستان و اداره مرکزی احصائیه جهت رشد ظرفیت داخلی برای اجرا و تحلیل چنین سروی ها که بامقطع زمانی عملی میشود، دخیل بودند. این راپور جهت سهمگیری در گزارش دهی مکمل به حکومت افغانستان و تمویل کنندگان در مورد سهمگیری پروگرام ماین پاک افغانستان به انکشاف افغانستان و جهت معلومات دادن از سروی بعد از پاک کاری در مورد تلاش ها در ارتباط به اطمینان از کنترل کیفیت داخلی توسط موسسات تطبیق کننده و اطمینان از کنترل کیفیت خارجی جمع معیار های ملی توسط مرکز هماهنگی امور ماین پاک و ریاست انسجام تطهیر ماین در ارتباط به نتایج و پیامد های کار ماین پاک تهیه گردیده است.

روشهای کاری

جهت آماده گی سروی یک کورس آموزشی پنج روزه در مورد معیشت برای تیم های سروی براه انداخته شد. تسهیلات در جریان کورس آموزشی در مورد معیشت، جنسیت و فعالیت های ماین پاک را متخصصین بین المللی و کارمندان دفتر مرکزی مرکز هماهنگی امور ماین پاک (MACCA) عهده دار بودند.

این سروی روش معیشت پایدار را برای سروی و کار تحلیل به سویه جامعه بکار برد. در ضمن آن روش متکی بر دارایی یک سلسله طروق (وسایل) ارزیابی اشتراکی دهات عملی گردید. چهار جامعه که در این سروی شامل بود بر اساس امنیت، دسترسی، تفاوت بین شهر و دهات، نوعیت ساحات خطری که جوامع با آن مواجه اند (ماین و مواد منفلقه باقیمانده از جنگ) و ساحات پاک شده و ساحات که فعلاً پاک کاری در آن جریان دارد انتخاب گردیده بود.

جوامع که سروی گردید عبارت اند از: قلائی شاتر (ولسوالی انجیل) با 300 خانواده، جبرائیل (ولسوالی مرکز) با 800 خانواده، قلائی غازی (ولسوالی کوهسان) با صد خانواده و شکیبان (ولسوالی زنده جان) با 200 خانواده. هر جامعه توسط یک تیم مردانه و زنانه در طی دو روز باز دید گردید. معلومات جمع آوری شده مکمل و کاملاً دقیق نبود، زیرا که سروی کننده گان متکی بر پرسش های بودند که در چک لست داشتند و این سوالات عمده (اصلی) توسط سوالات اضافی (امتحانی) تعقیب می شد تا دهاتیان بتوانند معلومات را بصورت دقیق، مکمل و صادقانه بیاد آورند.

سروی نتایج و سفارشات عمده:

بطور کلی سروی در قسمت بر آورده شدن اهداف خود موفق بود، یک ذخیره معلومات مفید را جمع آوری نمود، سفارشات زیاد را در قسمت بهتر شدن ماین پاک در افغانستان تهیه نمود. اگر با سروی ها و بررسی های دیگر یکجا در نظر گرفته شود این شواهدی را بر ملا میسازد که برای تصمیم گیری و تغییر ضرورت دیده می شود.

نتایج (دستاوردها و تاثیر انکشافی)

- عملیات ماین پاکي فعالیت ها/کارگماری ها را بالای زمین های پاک شده و دیگر ساحات زیاد ساخته، سرمایه گذاری را تشویق نموده، ترس را کاهش داده و بازگشت مهاجرین و بیجاشده گان داخلی را باعث شده است
- فعالیت های ماین پاکي باعث بهتر شدن معارف (ساختن مکاتب و دسترسی مصون به مکاتب)، صحت (کاهش مرگ و میر و زخمی شدن، ساختن کلینیک ها و دسترسی مصون کارمندان، احیای مجدد منابع آبی) شده است.
- ماین پاکي برای سرمایه گذاری های بزرگ (مانند کشت و تولید لبلبو، تولید شیر، داش های خشت پزی در قلعه غازي) امکانات را مهیا ساخته است.
- جوامع متجانس بسیار به خود متکی و آماده انکشاف و انمود می شوند (مثلا سهم گیری مردم درقریه جبرائیل) توام با رهبری قوی و دلسوزانه زمین داران بزرگ می تواند بعداز ماین پاکي انکشاف سریع را در پی داشته باشد.
- بعداز ماین پاکي ارزش اقتصادی دارایی ها بطور سرسام آور بلند می رود. چون ارزش دارایی تغییر میکند، پس باید عواید نباتات زراعتی و حیوانات منحصی یکی از عوامل ارزش زمین دوباره تخمین شود تادیده شود که آنها هنوز هم یک گزینه بسیار پایدار اند.
- جوامع و افراد (به شمول قربانیان ماین) به سرمایه/قرضه ضرورت دارند تا تجارت و دیگر فعالیت های خود را شروع وسعت بخشند، همچنان آنها به آموزش حرفوی، سواد آموزی و امکانات آموزشی ضرورت دارند.
- فعالیت های روزانه و موسمی بر اساس جنسیت، سن، شغل و ثروت بسیار متفاوت اند و همچنان نقش ها ومسئولیت های مشخص جنسیتی وجود دارد (آنها می توانند نظر به شرایط متفاوت باشند)
- در یکی از جوامع (قلای شاتر) یک اندازه وابستگی به مساعدت و انمود میگردید.
- چند موسسه انکشافی (حکومت، موسسات غیردولتی یا خصوصی) در ساحات فعال وموثر اند.

سفارشات (دستاوردها و تاثیر انکشافی)

- پروگرام ماین پاکي افغانستان (MAPA) باید تاسیس یک یونت تحقیق و انکشاف را در مرکز هماهنگی امور ماین پاکي (MACCA) در نظر بگیرد و با همکاری انستیتوت انکشاف دهات افغانستان (با کار برد معیشت و دیگر طروق به انکشاف پایدار) سروی های دیگر را انجام داده تادستاوردهای انکشاف پی گیری و مستند گردد و همچنان جوامع حمایت گردد تا بالای مشکلات و چالش ها فایق آیند.
- یونت مذکور باید تحلیل اقتصادی گزینه های انکشافی را انجام داده تا مشوره مناسب را به موسسات ارایه کرده بتواند.
- یونت مذکور باید تنوع بین جوامع مختلف و در داخل هر جامعه را از نگاه (جنسیت، سن، دارایی، ملیت، محیطی و اقتصادی و غیره) مد نظر گرفته مطابق آن فعالیت و روش های تحقیق خود را عیار نماید.
- پروگرام ماین پاکي و انکشاف باید از طریق هماهنگی ارتباطات، بررسی، تحقیق و ابتکارات انکشافی بین نمایندگان ارتباطی در یک شبکه مربوط موسسات انکشافی (حکومت، موسسات غیر حکومتی، خصوصی و تمویل کنندگان) توسط کارمند ارتباطی پروگرام ماین پاکي افغانستان ارتباط داشته باشند.
- یک قدم اولی در انکشاف شبکه هماهنگی می تواند آموزش 22 نماینده از یازده وزارت عمده حکومت افغانستان (و دیگر مردم کلیدی از موسسات غیر دولتی، تمویل کنندگان و موسسات خصوصی) در ورکشاپ جهت متیقن شدن به اینکه آنها ارتباط بین فعالیت های ماین پاکي و معیشت بهتر برای اعضای جوامع را فهمیده اند، می باشد.
- معلومات مرتبط به ضروریات و اولویت های انکشاف باید باموسسات انکشافی شریک ساخته شود تا ارتباط بین پروگرام ماین پاکي و انکشاف تقویه گردد.
- برای اینکه خانم ها از انکشاف بهره اعظمی ببرند باید اولویت های انکشافی آنها در اثنا جمع آوری معلومات، پروسه اولویت بندی و بعد از ماین پاکي مطمیناً در نظر گرفته شود و هم این معلومات باید بر اساس جنس و سن مجزا گردد⁷.

⁷ پلان عملیاتی کار تاجینا، فعالیت نمبر 25: " همه معلومات ضروری بر اساس جنسیت و سن بطور مجزا جمع آوری شود".

- مواد ویدیویی که در اثباتی سروی گرفته شده باید بازبینی شود (البته باتمام عکس های که در اثباتی دو سروی ماین و معیشت گرفته شده اند) تا از آن یک فلم کوچک ساخته شود که بیانگر:
الف) طروق که در سروی بکار گرفته است
ب) تاثیر فعالیت های ماین پاکی بالای جوامع روستایی و شهری .
فلم مذکور می تواند برای آموزش و دفاع از پروگرام ماین پاکی استعمال گردد.

نتایج (عایدات اقتصادی)

- با وجود که در بسیاری از موارد مقدار معلومات کمیتی جمع آوری شده توسط تیم سروی ناکافی بود اما ارقام ارزش زمین این را وانمود میسازد که عملیات ماین پاکی در چهار جوامع مذکور از نگاه اقتصادی یک سرمایه گذاری درست و بجا بوده است.

سفارشات (عواید اقتصادی)

- دفتر هماهنگی امور ماین پاکی (MACCA) و مرکز بین المللی جینوا برای ماین پاکی بشری (GICHD) باید جهت مطالعه بهتر : (الف) سیستم های فارم داری (ب) ارزش زمین ، روش های عملی دیگری را جستجو و تطبیق نمایند.
- مرکز هماهنگی امور ماین پاکی و مرکز بین المللی جینوا برای ماین پاکی بشری باید یک ورکشاپ را در مورد تحلیل اقتصادی "کافی خوب" پروژه های ماین پاکی برای متخصصین علوم اجتماعی انستیتوت انکشاف دهات و برای اعضای ارشد مرکز هماهنگی و همکاران پروگرام ماین پاکی افغانستان و کسانیکه مسئولیت سروی های اجتماعی و اقتصادی را دارند و یا در عملیه اولویت بندی و پلانگذاری عمیقاً دخیل اند، دایر نمایند.
- مرکز هماهنگی امور ماین پاکی و همکاران تطبیق کننده باید فورم های سروی خود را جهت ارقام کمی اجتماعی - اقتصادی دوباره مرور نموده و در صورت ضرورت، بر اساس دستاوردهای ورکشاپ تحلیل اقتصادی آنها را تغییر داده و تیم های سروی را آموزش دوباره دهند، تا مطمئن شوند که آنها معلومات کافی کمی را جهت تحلیل ارقام آورده می توانند.

نتایج (اولویت بندی)

- با وجود که نتایج فقط چهار اجتماع از جمله 2115 اجتماع متاثر شده نمی تواند یک تصویر کلی را در مورد درک نظریات مردم درباره عملیه اولویت بندی پروگرام ماین پاکی افغانستان تهیه نماید، اما با وجود این نتایج مذکور نشان میدهد که مردم در مورد عملیه مذکور اعتراضات نداشته و به آن خوش هستند. دریافت های سروی مرکز هماهنگی امور ماین پاکی و ریاست انسجام تطهیر ماین را تشویق میکند که معیارهای راکه برای انتخاب ساحات جهت ماین پاکی بکار برده دوام دهند (حفظ کنند)، اما سفارشات ذیل پروسه مذکور را بیشتر بهبود خواهد بخشید.

سفارشات (اولویت بندی)

- پروگرام ماین پاکی افغانستان باید اولویت مشابه را بر ضربه روانی که توسط حادثات واقع می شود هم مانند زخم های فزیک (جسمانی) قایل شود (بمباری قلائی شاتر یک مثال خوب ضربه روانی طویل المدت است)
- پیشنهاد های مردم محل در مورد تسریع عملیه ماین پاکی ساحات که در جوامع شان تا هنوز ماین پاک نشده اند باید جمع آوری گردیده و اجراء مقتضی بطور مناسب عملی گردد.
- یک بررسی سالانه اولویت های پاکسازی در هماهنگی با جوامع باید صورت گیرد، بنابراین، مرکز هماهنگی امور ماین پاکی می تواند دخیل بودن جوامع را در این عملیه یقینی سازد و می تواند درباره ضروریات موجوده (فعلی) جوامع که توسط ماین متاثر گردیده اند معلومات بهتر داشته باشد.
- موسسات ماین پاکی باید مشوره جوامع را منحیث بخش از پروسه انتخاب ساحات آینده برای پاک کاری در نظر داشته باشد و باید از پلانهای انکشافی قریه (بطور مثال موقعیت پلان شده مکتب جدید و غیره) باخبر باشد.
- چون خانم ها، دختران، پسران و مردان (و همچنان مردم فقیر و ثروتمند) در یک قریه بطور مختلف در معرض خطرات قرار میگیرند، باید باگروپ های مختلف مجالس جداگانه دایر شود تا یقینی گردد که ضروریات همه آنها مدنظر گرفته شده است.

- تمام معلومات باید بطور مجزا با در نظر داشت جنسیت و سن تحلیل گردد تا در نظر داشت اولویت های گروپ های مختلف جنسی و سنی یقینی گردد.
- در وقت جمع آوری معلومات مرتبط به اولویت بندی جوامع متاثر شده باید کارمندان مونث مابین پاکي توظيف گردند تا به اعضای مونث جوامع دسترسی (تماس) داشته باشند.
- سهمگیری فعالانه خانم ها در مجالس اولویت بندی باید یقینی گردد، نظریات آن ها مدنظر گرفته شده و در درجه بندی نهایی اولویت بندیها باید منعکس گردد.
- در نظر گرفتن فعالیت های روزانه و موسمی اعضای مردانه و زنانه یک جامعه کمک خواهد کرد تا دریابیم که وقت مناسب ملاقات با آنها در مورد اولویتهای مابین پاکي آنها چه وقت است.
- تحلیل حادثات ثبت شده قبلی مردمان ملکی کمک می کند تا دریابیم که در کدام موسم سال مردم محل زیادتیر قربانی ماینهای زمینی می شوند. این دریافت ها می تواند در پیغام های عملیات مابین پاکي و تعلیمات خطر مابین (MRE) شامل ساخته شوند.

نتایج (شریک سازی و گرفتن معلومات مابین پاکي باخانم ها)

- طوری وانمود میگردد که در مورد شریک سازی و گرفتن معلومات باخانم های جوامع یک مشکل خاص موجود است و علت آن کمی گشت و گذار خانم ها و کثرت کارمندان مردانه مابین پاکي میباشد. خانم ها اکثراً معلومات دست دوم را از طرق مختلف بدست میاورند، این معلومات شاید دقیق و یاهم خوب و واضح نباشد و می تواند خارج از واقعیت باشد. خانم ها معلومات را از منابع دومی میگیرند و در این مورد هیچ مثالی وجود ندارد که موسسات مابین پاکي معلومات مابین پاکي را مستقیماً باخانم ها شریک ساخته باشند. در بخش ذیل نکته اخری خطر عدم ارتباط مستقیم باخانم ها را نشان میدهد.

سفارشات (شریک ساختن و گرفتن معلومات مابین پاکي باخانم ها)

- زمینه سازی دسترسی خانم ها به معلومات باید توسط استخدام کارمندان مونث مابین پاکي بهتر ساخته شود
- حصول اطمینان از این که خانم ها معلومات دست اول را می توانند از طریق کارمندان مونث مابین پاکي بدست آورند.
- مطمئن بودن از اینکه خانم ها در عملیه تسلیم دهی پروژه ها دخیل باشند و آنان معلومات دست اول را در مورد جاهای که پاک کاری شده و برای استعمال مصنون است، بدست آرند.
- تشریح معلومات بعد از پاک سازی را بامردان و زنان از طریق ارقام جوامع که بعد از پاک سازی بر اساس جنسیت مجزا گردیده بررسی نمایند.
- باخانم های جامعه مجالس را ترتیب نموده و برای این هدف از بنیادهای محلی مانند شورای زنان استفاده شود. این یک طریقه موثر است که میتوان با استفاده آن به خانم ها دسترسی پیدا نموده و ضروریات، اولویت ها و قابلیت آنها را مدنظر گرفت.
- مطمئن بودن از اینکه تشریح معلومات از نگاه جنسیت و سن یک مسئله حساس است و در این مورد سوئیة تعلیمی و موضوعات بی سوادی مدنظر گرفته شود.

نتایج (اداره کیفیت)

- مرکز هماهنگی امور مابین پاکي افغانستان در ارتباط به اطمینان کیفیت (QA) و کنترل کیفیت (QC) دستاوردهای عملیات مابین پاکي موفق بوده است. در جاهای که در مورد عملیات مابین پاکي مشکلات کیفی موجود بوده آنها بازرسی و اصلاح شده اند. اما تجاری که از این بازرسی ها و ریکاردهای اطمینان/ تضمین کیفیت و کنترل کیفیت یاد گرفته شده بطور مناسب پی نشده تا از وقوع حادثات ناخواسته جلوگیری شود.

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- ⁸ پلان عملیاتی کار تاجینا، فعالیت نمبر 15: خانم ها و مردها را در تسلیم گیری و تسلیم دهی شامل سازید.

- در قریه جبرائیل بعد از عملیات ماین پاکی حادثات رخ داده است . اما این حادثات نظریه شرایط استثنایی بوده (ماین ها توسط خاک بادها و رسوبات سیلاب بطور عمیق گور شده بودند. برای اصلاح آن جستجو صورت گرفت و ساحه دوباره پاک کاری شد که در نتیجه آن فقط یک ماین دریافت گردید.

سفارشات (اداره کیفیت)

- تاسیس یک پروسه قوی اداره کیفیت نه تنها کیفیت عملیات حقیقی پاک سازی را در نظر گیرد بلکه این راهم تضمین نماید که ماین پاکی به "هدف سازگار است" به این معنی که استعمال مورد نظر زمین پاک شده در نظر گرفته شود.
- تداوم تقویه نمودن پروسه ها بطور مثال سروی های معیشت و ارزیابی بعد از پاکسازی ساحات پاک شده -PDIA- و استعمال ورقه تعادل امتیازات (Balance Scorecard) که تاثیرات، دستاوردها و امکانات بعد از تسلیم دهی و تسلیم گیری را ارزیابی می کند.
- علاوه نمودن یک پروسه قوی، شفاف و ارتباط روزمره جامعه به پروسه اطمینان/تضمین کیفیت (QA) بررسی کیفیت (QM) تا دخیل بودن مردان و زنان جامعه را در پلان گذاری، اجرا و ارزیابی دستاوردهای ماین پاکی تضمین نماید.
- شامل نمودن اطمینان کیفیت (QA) فعالیت های کمک به قربانیان در بررسی کیفیت پروگرام مای پاکی.

نتایج (تعلیمات خطر ماین)

- تمام قریه جات تعلیمات خطر ماین را فرا گرفته بودند (مردان، دختران و بچه ها بیشتر از خانم ها)
- پوشش تعلیمات خطر ماین مکمل نیست. مخصوصا اطفالی که مکتب نمیروند و خانم های که گشت و گذار شان محدود است تعلیمات را فرا نگرفته اند.
- از جمله چهار جوامع در سه جامعه آن کدام شواهد تعلیمات خطر ماین توسط خانم ها به اعضای زنانه جامعه دیده نه شد.

سفارشات (تعلیمات خطر ماین)

- در اثنا ی پلانگذاری ملاقات های تعلیمات خطر ماین چالش های دسترسی خانم ها و دختران به تعلیمات خطر ماین شناسایی شده و مدنظر گرفته شود.
- اطمینان از اینکه فعالیت های تعلیمات خطر ماین باید در معرض قرار گرفتن مردان و پسران و همچنان فعالیت ها در اثنا ی رخ دادن حادثات در جمع آوری ارقام مدنظر گرفته شود، تا با در نظر داشت آن تعلیمات خطر ماین نظریه معرض قرار گرفتن و سلوک جنسیت طرح و هدفگیری شده بتواند.
- استفاده معلومات های بدست آمده از سروی Knowledge, Attitude, Practice & Behavior (KAPB) در مورد زنان و دختران، و اطمینان از اینکه فعالیت های تعلیمات خطر ماین نظر به معلومات مذکور طرح و دیزاین گردد و همچنان نقش و فعالیت های مختص به زنان و در معرض قرار گرفتن آن ها به ماین ها و مواد منفلقه باقی مانده جنگ در نظر گرفته شود.9
- طرح و اجرای فعالیت های تعلیمات خطر ماین، شناسایی تفاوت های موسمی در همه جوامع نظریه نقش و فعالیت های مختص به جنسیت اعضای آن.
- اجرای نشست های تعقیبی تعلیمات خطر ماین، بخصوص در قلا ی غازی و قلا ی شاتر و در آن سلوک و رفتار پر مخاطره مدنظر گرفته شود (تمرکز یابد).
- در جاهای که تعلیمات خطر ماین پروگرام ماین پاکی افغانستان موجود نیست وزارت معارف باید مسئولیت زیاد را به عهده گیرد.
- کمپاین تعلیمات خطر ماین از طریق مطبوعات بیشتر انکشاف داده شود تا از طریق چینل های مختلف به مردم بیشتر رسیده گی صورت گیرد

3. پلان عملیاتی کار تاجینا، فعالیت نمبر 52: کمک ها باید متکی بر سروی های مناسب، تحلیل نیاز مندی ها، ستراتیژی های مبنی به سن و مناسب به جنسیت باشد.

- تمام تیم های زنانه تعلیمات خطر ماین بکار انداخته شود تا از شمولیت اعضای زنانه جوامع در تعلیمات خطر ماین اطمینان حاصل گردد.
- در جاهای که امکان دارد داوطلبان زنانه تعلیمات خطر ماین و معلمین در جوامع متأثر شده در شبکه های حکومتی مانند (برنامه همبستگی ملی، شبکه محلی و کارکنان صحتی وزارت صحت عامه) شناسایی شده آموزش داده شوند
- یقینی شود که تعلیمات خطرات ماین از طریق چینل های مناسب جنسیتی و سنی در میان گذاشته شود و چالش های مانند بیسوادی که بسیار متکی بر جنسیت است در اثنای طرح مواد تعلیمات ماین در نظر گرفته شود
- در اثنای طرح سروی های آینده در مورد تعلیمات خطر ماین سوالات بسیار مشخص گنجانیده شود. تیم های سروی باید سوالات را بفهمند و باید ارقام مکمل را تهیه نموده تا نوشتن گزارش به سهولت انجام شود

نتایج (کمک به قربانیان)

- بسیاری از حادثات در بهار و تابستان واقع میشود، مردان بیشتر در معرض خطر قرار دارند. موجودیت تعداد کم اطفال زخمی شاید انعکاس کننده موفقیت تعلیمات خطر ماین باشد
- هردو ضربه روانی و جسمی (بطور مثال قلای شاتر)
- حمایت اندک حکومت به زنده مانده گان و قربانیان غیر مستقیم
- کمک اندک و متناقض به قربانیان (که متکی بر خدمات وسیع معیوبیت است) برای قربانیان مستقیم و غیر مستقیم خیلی ضعیف بوده است.

سفارشات (کمک به قربانیان)

- تعریف رسمی "قربانی" را بکار برده شده و اطمینان حاصل شود که قربانیان غیر مستقیم در آن دخیل باشند (شناسایی تعریفی که در پیمان منع مهمات خوشه یی (CCM) برای "قربانی" 10 به کار برده شده است) در هر فعالیت کمک به قربانیان و در تمام ضروریات و اولویت های قربانیان باید روش متناسب به جنسیت و سن در نظر گرفته شود.
- جمع آوری ارقام قربانیان بطور مجزا بر اساس جنسیت و سن
- یک راجستر تمام قربانیان ماین و مواد منفلقه باقیمانده جنگ بر اساس جنسیت و سن تهیه گردد
- قربانیان باموسسات مانند وزارت کار، امور اجتماعی، شهدا و معلولین، وزارت معارف، وزارت صحت عامه ارتباط داده شوند (معرفی گردند)
- موسسات مذکور از طریق وکالت، آموزش و کمک های تکنیکی حمایت گردند.
- در اثنای طرح و اجرای فعالیت های کمک به قربانیان باید موضوع دسترسی قربانیان و زنده مانده گان زنانه شناسایی شده و در نظر گرفته شود.
- استخدام کارکنان زنانه کمک به قربانیان تا به زنان و دختران متأثر شده رسیده گی شده بتواند (بطور مثال از طریق ملاقات های خانه به خانه)، و اینکه نیازمندی ها و الویت های آن ها باید مدنظره گرفته شود.
- حمایت دولت افغانستان از قربانیان و یاد آوری از مسوولیت دولت در قبال معاهده مبارزه علیه ماین های ضد پرسونل APMBC و پیمان منع مهمات خوشه یی (CCM) و دسترسی مساویانه و کامل تمام قربانیان ماین و مواد منفلقه باقیمانده جنگ و اشخاص معیوب باید مطابق جنسیت و سن به کمک های عاجل، مواظبت متداوم صحتی، احیای مجدد فزیک، حمایت روانی، خدمات اعم از اجتماعی و اقتصادی و حمایت حقوقی تضمین گردد.11.

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4. کلمه " به تمام کسانی اطلاق میگردد که کشته شده و یا از ضربه فزیک و روانی رنج میبرد، ضربه اقتصادی دیده، بطور اجتماعی در حاشیه قرار داده شده و یا به شناسایی حق شان به سبب دفاع گروپی لطمه اساسی وارد شده. آنها تمامی کسانی را دربر میگیرد که خود شان، خانواده های شان و جوامع شان توسط مهمات خوشه یی مستقیماً متأثر شده اند". پیمان منع مهمات خوشه یی، ماده 2، می 2008
 5. پلان عملیاتی کار تاجینا، ماده 31: مطمئن بودن/ تضمین از موجودیت و دسترسی خدمات مناسب به قربانیان مرد و زن.

- آگاهی دادن زنان متأثر شده از حقوق شان و تضمین اینکه هر کمپاین آگاهی با در نظر داشت مسایل بیسواد و دسترسی مطابق جنسیت و سن تطبیق میگردد.

نتایج (رشد ظرفیت)

- تشریک مساعي و حمایت مرکز هماهنگی امور ماین پاکی (MACCA)، ریاست انسجام تطهیر ماین (DMC) و انستیتوت انکشاف دهات افغانستان (AIRD) ضرورت خواهد بود تا سروی ها به ارتباط ماین و معیشت را بدون دخیل بوده متخصصین بین المللی طرح، تطبیق، تحلیل و راپور دهند.

سفارشات (رشد ظرفیت)

- انجام دادن يك سروی دیگر کوچک از مایشی ماین و معیشت و بکار بردن پرسونل افغانی در تمام امور آن
- ادامه دادن و تقویه همکاری با انستیتوت انکشاف دهات افغانستان
- طوریکه در بخش دستاورد های انکشافی سفارش شده پروگرام ماین پاکی افغانستان باید تاسیس یک یونت تحقیق و انکشاف را در مرکز هماهنگی امور ماین پاکی در نظر بگیرد و یا با همکاری انستیتوت انکشاف دهات افغانستان (با کاربرد معیشت و دیگر طروق به انکشاف پایدار) سروی های دیگر را انجام داده تا دستاوردهای انکشاف پی گیری / مستند گردد و همچنان جوامع حمایت گردد تا بالای مشکلات و چالش ها فایق آیند.
- آموزش در بخش ماین و معیشت برای 22 نماینده موجود و دیگر مردم کلیدی جهت توسعه دانش (رشد ظرفیت) شان در مورد ماین پاکی و معیشت در سراسر موسسات مربوطه (حکومت، تمویل کننده گان، موسسات غیر دولتی و خصوصی).

INTRODUCTION

BACKGROUND TO THE SURVEY

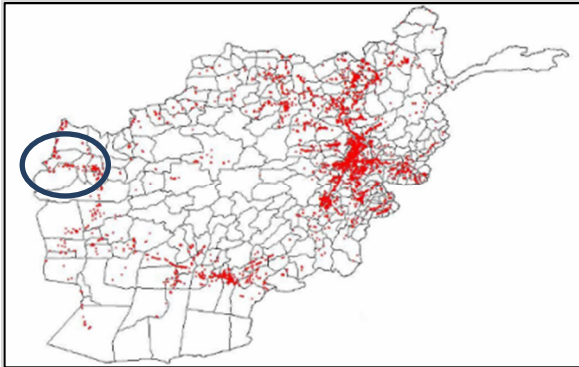
The Mine Action Coordination Centre for Afghanistan (MACCA) and the Department for Mine Clearance (DMC) are seeking to better understand the development outcomes of demining. They plan to undertake community-level surveys on a periodic basis to document these achievements and identify changes to policy and practice that could further enhance the contribution that the Mine Action Programme of Afghanistan (MAPA) makes towards Afghanistan's development.

Recently, MACCA and DMC have initiated the following:

- Post-Demining Impact Assessments (PDIA) – task-level assessments of demined mine fields (MF) and battle fields (BF), planned by MACCA and implemented by Landmine Impact Assessment Teams (LIAT) from MCPA
- Post-Demining Audits (PDA) – task-level audits of demined hazards undertaken by DMC to assess safety, the use of the land, and the satisfaction of the community and local government officials with the demining process
- Landmines and Livelihoods (L&L) Surveys – community-level assessments of mine-affected communities to assess the (i) impact of contamination, (ii) impact of demining, (iii) use of the unblocked land, (iv) community satisfaction, and (v) community development priorities.

The first two collect mainly quantitative data on tasks, while the third (this survey) has been designed to collect mainly qualitative data on communities.

The Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), working within the framework of the MoU between the GICHD and the UN Mine Action Service (UNMAS), assisted with the design and implementation of a pilot project that surveyed 25 communities in the central and northern areas of Afghanistan in 2010. The survey findings were presented to a range of government, donor and NGO stakeholders in February 2011. It was decided at that time to incorporate feedback and experience from the first survey into a second survey. Accordingly, the MACCA requested GICHD to organise a second L&L survey, with an emphasis on further developing local capacities to plan, implement, analyse and report further surveys in Afghanistan. The survey was subsequently conducted by teams of male and female surveyors in four communities of Herat Province in October 2011.



Map 1 : Location of Survey

OBJECTIVES OF THE SURVEY

The **overarching objective** - is to enhance the socio-economic benefits accruing from mine action, particularly in rural Afghanistan.

Goal – To enhance the prioritisation and Quality Management (QM) systems of the Mine Action Programme of Afghanistan (MAPA)

Purposes:

1. *Learning* – to gain a better understanding of the development outcomes and impacts accruing from demining and how to enhance these through:
 - a. revisions to the criteria used to select priorities
 - b. adaptations to the priority-setting process
 - c. enhanced linkages with rural and community development organisations
2. *Capacity development* – ensure the MAPA, in partnership with Afghan social scientists, can conduct such surveys on a periodic basis and analyse the data using the SL model and, specifically, to:
 - a. provide further training for surveyors from the MAPA in data collection using the Landmine and Livelihoods (L&L) approach
 - b. introduce additional Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) tools to allow MACCA, DMC and IPs to use L&L surveys in support of a variety of objectives (e.g. community needs assessments as well as post-demining assessments)
 - c. conduct a small (e.g. seven communities) L&L survey for practical training of the surveyors and social scientists, test new PRA tools, and obtain L&L data
 - d. train and mentor Afghan social scientists in the analysis and reporting of L&L data using the Sustainable Livelihoods (SL) model
 - e. obtain farming systems data from secondary sources for use in Cost-Benefit Analysis (CBA) of demining.

3. *Enhanced accountability* – more complete reporting to the Government of Afghanistan (GoA) and donors on the contribution made by the MAPA to Afghanistan's development.
4. *Quality Management* – inform the post-clearance survey efforts of demining operators (internal QA) and the MACCA/DMC (external QA plus national standards) on quality at the development outcome level.

TRAINING OF SURVEY PARTICIPANTS

As preparation for the survey, a 5-day training of the survey teams was held in the premises of the Western Area Mine Action Centre (AMAC) in Herat from October 2011. The training was attended by Afghan mine action Implementing Partners (selected from the HALO Trust, DDG, OMAR, ARCS), MCPA, the DMC, the Afghanistan Institute for Rural Development (AIRD) and the Central Statistics Organisation (CSO). Facilitation was provided by international specialists in livelihoods, gender and mine action provided by GICHD and the Gender and Mine Action Programme (GMAP), and by MACCA HQ staff. Annex One provides a list of the participants and facilitators. The main objectives of the training were to:

- Gain a common understanding of the task
- Understand the principles, approaches and tools to be used in the survey
- Practice the tools and skills that will be used in the survey
- Agree on teams, roles, equipment, timetable and logistics for the survey.

The training covered the following topics:

- The SL approach¹²
- Gender and mine action
- SL analysis tools
- Quantitative data for the economic analysis of mine action
- Land allocation and land use questions
- Logistics of the survey

The training course content can be found in a separate document (*Report on Training on the use of Livelihood Survey Tool, October 2011*).

¹² The SL approach fits well with mine action because it is an asset-based approach (and landmines/ ERW block safe access to assets) and it is effective at the community level (thus meshing with Community Impact scoring used in mine action).



Mixed group work during the training in Herat

CONTEXT OF MINE ACTION IN AFGHANISTAN

As of 31st March 2011 (the end of 1389), Afghanistan's 6,545 known minefields covered 627sq km of land throughout the country. Although the casualty rate has reduced dramatically to 550 victims of landmines and ERW in 1389 from a high of 2,116 nine years ago, Afghanistan is still one of the most heavily impacted countries in the world. Consistently, children bear the heaviest burden in terms of casualties (*MACCA Annual Report, 1389*).

The most recent government endorsed strategy document for mine action was issued in May 2006. It was based on the Government of Afghanistan's vision of

"a country free from landmines and explosive remnants of war (ERW), where people and communities live in a safe environment conducive to national development, and where landmine and ERW survivors are fully integrated in the society and thus have their rights and needs recognised and fulfilled."

The obligations of the international donor community and the Government of Afghanistan¹³ in terms of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC) and the Afghan Compact stipulate that:

- By March 2011 area contaminated by mines/ERW will be reduced by 70%
- All stockpiled AP mines will be located and destroyed by end 2007 (achieved)
- By end 2010, all unsafe/unserviceable/ surplus ammunition will be destroyed
- By March 2013 all known mined areas will be cleared

¹³ Afghanistan acceded to the CCM on 8 September 2011. CCM obligation entered into force on 1 March 2012.

Graph 1 shows the casualties according to device type in 1388. It is important to note the large number of accidents caused by ERW (which often result from poverty-driven, high-risk behaviour such as scrap metal collection), showed a 17.6% drop from the previous year. In total, 417 people were injured and 145 killed due to mines and ERW in 1388 (not including IEDs). A quarter of these accidents resulted in death and 54% involved children.

Graph 1: % breakdown of casualties against device for 1388 (2010)

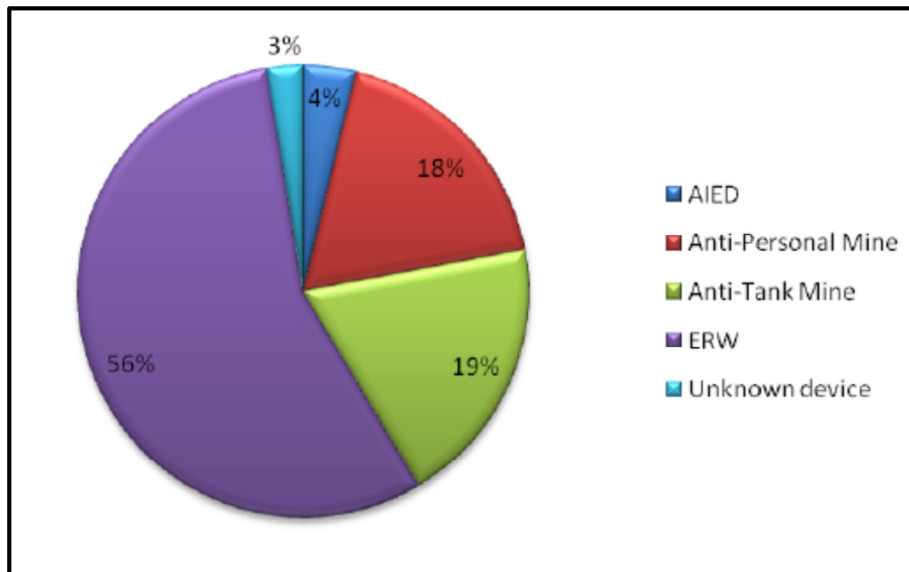


Table 1 presents an overview of civilian victims of mines and ERW in Afghanistan since 2000, and clearly shows a dramatic fall in the number of victims, which has decreased by more than half in the last decade. It also shows the much higher number of men and boy casualties compared to women and girls.

Table 1: Landmine and ERW civilian victims by sex, age, device and year (MACCA IMSMA database)

Year	Device	Boys	Girls	Men	Women
2000	AP	110	14	301	6
	AT	11	-	24	-
	ERW	519	68	274	27
2001	AP	187	19	492	15
	AT	13	11	39	-
	ERW	730	97	380	44
2002	AP	93	11	232	5
	AT	6	5	57	4
	ERW	505	45	367	46
2003	AP	98	13	82	2
	AT	19	1	65	6

	ERW	375	40	197	23
2004	AP	73	3	113	2
	AT	7	-	45	3
	ERW	336	53	226	23
2005	AP	72	10	130	3
	AT	29	3	66	2
	ERW	369	46	319	24
2006	AP	60	12	74	1
	AT	19	2	65	2
	ERW	356	56	193	14
2007	AP	63	2	95	1
	AT	29	15	95	14
	ERW	235	35	154	13
2008	AP	70	14	67	4
	AT	25	2	90	8
	ERW	285	40	161	15
2009	AP	33	7	41	3
	AT	36	4	84	10
	ERW	160	30	75	23
2010	AIED	20	2	20	2
	AP	42	2	55	-
	AT	36	15	60	8
	ERW	236	53	104	16
2011	AP	7	6	21	5
	AT	2	-	9	1
	ERW	234	42	72	10
2012	AP	3	-	2	1
	AT	-	-	5	-
	ERW	71	15	25	5

The focus of this survey was the Western Region of Afghanistan, comprising the 4 Provinces of Herat, Fara, Badghis and Ghor. As at 1389 (2010/11), the number of communities in this Region affected by minefields was 133 and battlefields 14. There were 416 minefield hazards and 28 battlefield hazards, covering areas of 86 and 116 sq km respectively.

A GENDER PERSPECTIVE IN MINE ACTION

Women, girls, boys and men are affected differently by landmines/ERW and therefore need to be assisted in different ways. Gender influences the exposure to landmines/ERW, the risk of becoming a victim, and the ability to access medical and

psychological services, long term reintegration, MRE and employment.

Due to their gender-specific mobility patterns, roles and responsibilities, women, girls, boys and men often hold different information on areas that are contaminated, or suspected of being contaminated in their communities. If not all groups are consulted in information gathering activities, vital and life-saving information may be lost. In other areas of mine action, such as victim assistance and MRE, gender determines the access to and impact of activities and services, where females often face more restrictions compared to males. Gender specific roles and responsibilities can also mean that women, girls, boys and men have distinct clearance priorities.

A number of guidelines, UN documents and resolutions stress the importance of including gender perspectives and considerations in mine action programmes:

- The UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) on “Women, Peace and Security” specifically emphasises *“the need for all parties to ensure that mine clearance and mine awareness programmes take into account the special needs of women and girls”*
- The United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) published a revised version of the Gender Guidelines for Mine Action Programmes in March 2010.
- Both the Beijing Platform for Action in 1995 and the 1998 Commission on the Status of Women highlighted the special concerns of women in mine affected areas.

GENDER EQUALITY AS AN END IN ITSELF AND A MEANS TO AN END

Mine action is an integral part of the wider development/humanitarian sector and therefore contributes to the achievement of United Nations’ Millennium Development Goal 3: “Promote gender equality and empower women”. Mine action organisations are obliged to ensure gender equality and to actively empower women in their activities. Examples of how they can do this are:

- To offer non-traditional employment opportunities for women
- To include female survivors and heads of households affected by landmines/ERW in socio-economic reintegration and inclusion programmes
- To include females in consultations with the communities about mine/ERW contamination and priority-setting for clearance and other mine action activities.

A number of examples from mine affected countries illustrate that mine action activities that do not take gender issues into consideration can exacerbate gender inequalities. For example, if mine action organisations do not consult with women during community meetings, nor include them in surveys, this risks resulting in further marginalisation of these women, as their voices are not heard, and their priorities and needs are not taken into consideration. Likewise, there are examples of gender sensitive mine action that have resulted in the empowerment of women and greater gender equality. Women’s employment opportunities and subsequent empowerment are an end in itself, but also

a means to an end, as female mine action staff members enable organisations to reach out to, and include women in consultations and surveys. The inclusion of representatives of both gender groups in surveys and consultations lead to more complete information on the nature and extent of the problem and a more accurate understanding of all the different priorities and needs in the affected communities. This in turn influences prioritisation processes and the design and implementation of mine action operations, resulting in more sustainable results.

The benefits of gender sensitive mine action are therefore two-fold; it enhances gender equality and the empowerment of women while resulting in more effective and sustainable outcomes and results, which in turn contribute to enhanced security and sustainable and inclusive development for affected women, girls, boys and men.

GENDER SENSITIVE SURVEYS

A gender perspective has been mainstreamed throughout the process of this survey. An international gender and mine action specialist was involved in all the phases of the survey - planning, training, implementation and report writing. In order to access both females and males in the affected communities two female survey teams participated in the survey. This enabled the survey to reach out to both female and male community members, and to acknowledge, identify and understand the differences, distinct capabilities, responsibilities, needs and priorities of women, girls, boys and men. All data was collected and analysed in a sex and age disaggregated manner, enabling a thorough gender analysis, identifying gender specific issues and patterns. Key gender considerations during the course of the survey included the following:

- Male surveyors cannot generally access female community members due to cultural restrictions

Solution: Experienced and qualified women were trained to work in all-female survey teams

- Some survey tools were deemed not to be appropriate for women and girls in the affected communities

Solution: Female surveyors played an active role in adapting the tools to the local context

- Cultural restrictions and norms prevent some women from travelling and working away from their family and home area

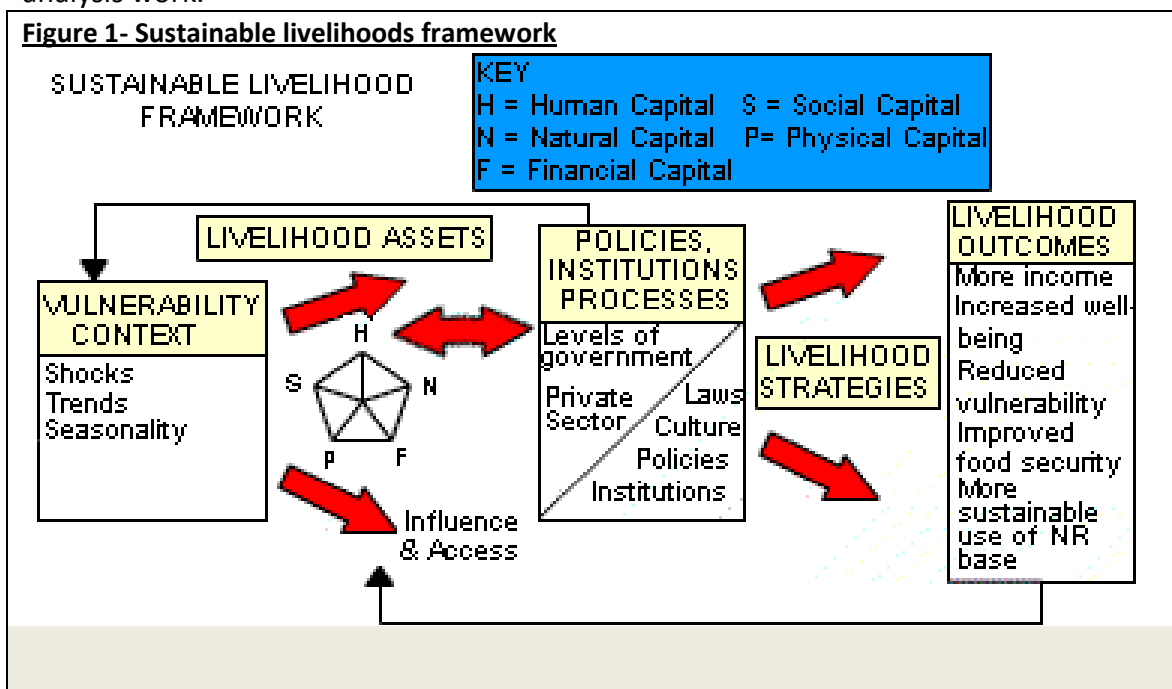
Solutions:

1. Women were recruited locally to the extent possible
2. Women from outside of Herat were accompanied by a Mahram (male family member)

METHODOLOGY AND RESOURCES FOR THE SURVEY

SURVEY APPROACH

The survey used the SL approach¹⁴ (Figure 1) for the community-level survey and analysis work.



Within this asset-based approach, a number of PRA tools were applied, as follows:

SURVEY TOOLS

- Secondary data analysis, particularly the MACCA IMSMA database (Annex Two) and other recent surveys
- A comprehensive introduction to provide information on the team, the objectives of the mission, the potential (realistic) benefits that might come to the community, the methods to be used, people to be involved and time table for the visit
- A “Time-Line” to understand the community’s experiences from the time the area was contaminated with mines/ERW up to the present. Once the time-line has been drawn a number of questions were asked about survivors/victims, MRE and the use and economic value of assets cleared
- “Community Maps” drawn-up with the villagers. Note that these are not classical PRA social maps, but a rapid mapping exercise to show the relationship between the

¹⁴ The SL approach fits well with mine action because it is an asset-based approach (and landmines/ ERW block safe access to assets) and it is effective at the community level (thus meshing with Community Impact scoring used in mine action).

village and the contaminated/cleared areas. Once the map was drawn further questions were asked the use and economic value of assets cleared

- Identification of groups of better-off and poor community households for interview using separate focus group discussions, daily clocks and seasonal calendars
- A series of focus group discussions with community leaders, and community members from different age, sex and socio-economic groups
- Daily clocks and seasonal calendars
- Case studies of landmine/ERW survivors and indirect victims
- A photographic and video record of the present situation
- A review by all surveyors to share impressions and conclusions from the visit

Further details of the tools can be found in the training report document (*Report on Training on the use of Livelihood Survey Tool, October 2011*).

SELECTION OF COMMUNITIES

The four communities included in this survey were all in Herat Province. The western AMAC staff shortlisted 11 communities on the basis of security, accessibility, contrast between urban and rural settings, contrast between types of hazard (mines and ERW), and cleared or on-going clearance sites. At the end of the training, these 11 communities were further reduced to four on the basis of current security reports. A clear urban/rural contrast was retained. In addition the three main areas of hazard (around Herat city, along the Herat-Iran road and on the border with Iran) were represented in the sample.

The communities surveyed were: Qala-i-Shater (Injil District) with 300 families (c. 1,800 persons); Jibrael (Centre District) with 800 families (4,800 persons); Qalat-i-Ghazi (Kohsan District) with 100 families (600 persons) and Shakeeban (Zendajan District) with 200 families (1,200 persons). The MACCA database provided details for the 4 chosen communities (Annex 2).

HUMAN AND MATERIAL RESOURCES

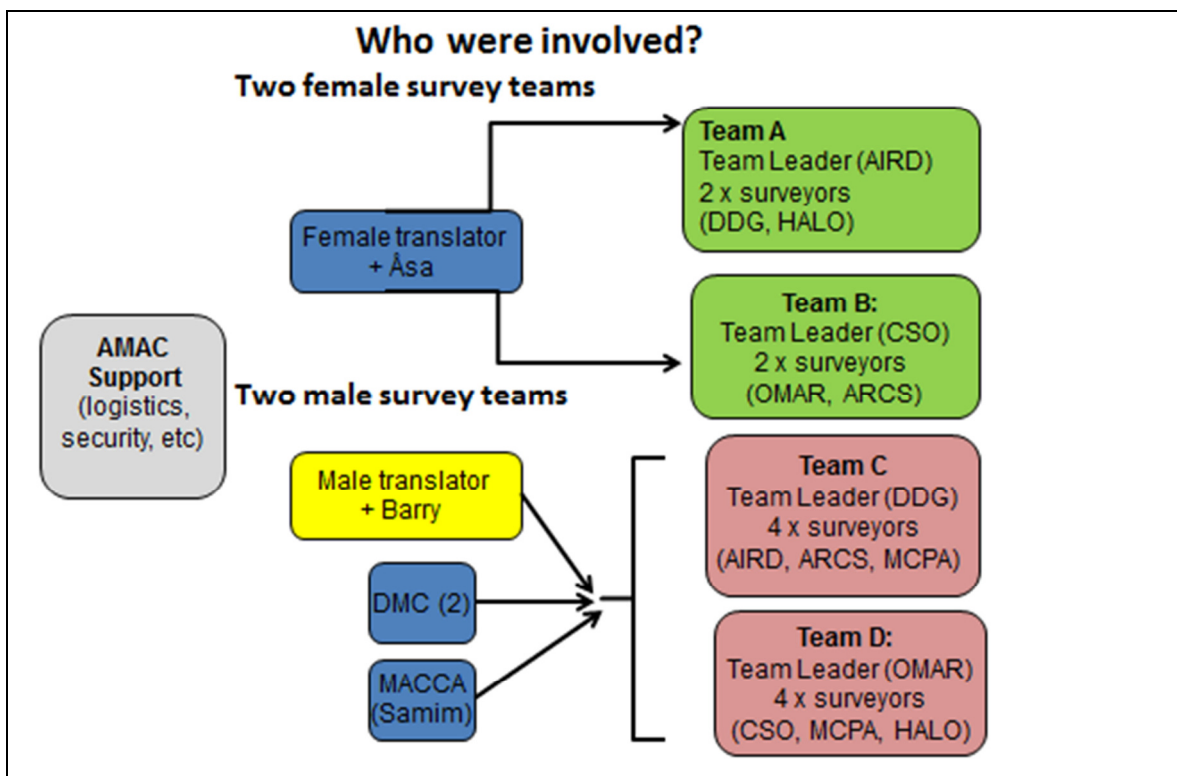
Figure 2 below shows the organisations involved in the survey. The two international livelihoods and gender specialists were supported by MACCA and DMC in the field. In addition each of the four survey teams included an Afghan social scientist from AIRD (or CSO).

The two women's teams consisted of an Afghan social scientist and two IP surveyors. The two men's teams consisted of an Afghan social scientist and four IP/MCPA surveyors including an MCPA staff working in Herat Province.

No specialised equipment was required, each team taking the following to the field: Flip charts, marker pens, notebooks, biro pens, steel ruler, compass, digital camera, video camera with operator (men's teams), voice recorder (women's teams). Six vehicles, with

drivers, were required for the field work. *Mahrams* (chaperones) were required for the female staff operating outside their home Province, but these did not travel to the field.

Figure 2: Participating organisations in the field work



THE TEAMS

Team A (women): Koochai, Anahita and Shakeeba Rahimi (team leader)

Team B (women): Mahbooba, Najeeba and Gulalai Habib (team leader)

Teams A and B were accompanied by Åsa Massleberg (GICHD/GMAP gender specialist) and Malika (translator) on alternate days

Team C (men): Niamat Gul, Abdul Qadir, Moh Kabir, Khalil and Moh Rafiq (team leader)

Team D (men): Hamid Haidari, Moh Ayaz, Shapur Qayyumi, Ibrahim and Abdul Hadi (team leader)

Teams C and D were accompanied by Barry Pound (GICHD livelihoods specialist) and Aram (translator) on alternate days

In addition DMC staff (Gul Agha Mirzai and Abdul Habib Rahimi) and MACCA staff (Samim Hashimi) accompanied teams in the field.

SURVEY PROCESS

As shown in the visit schedule below, each community was visited by a men’s and women’s team over a two-day period. The community was contacted prior to the team’s arrival, and the visit started with a formal introduction of the team and its objectives, taking care not to raise expectations among community members. The introductions were followed by the Time Line and Community Maps. During these processes, community members identified landmine/ERW survivors and indirect victims who were subsequently interviewed. In addition, the communities identified six poor and six better-off households, and the teams interacted with these socio-economic groups separately using focus group discussion, daily clock and seasonal calendar tools. A photographic record was taken of the village and the survey process. In the men’s teams a commercial video company recorded the survey process, while the women’s discussions were captured on voice recorders.

A review of the survey findings, processes and tools was carried out on the last day of the survey. All materials, carefully labelled, were collected by AITD for translation.

Table 2: Community visit schedule

Community (km from Herat)	District	Women’s team/days	Men’s team/days
Qala-i-Shater (8km)	Injil	A (Sunday/Monday)	C (Sunday/Monday)
Jibrael (10km)	Centre	B (Tuesday/Wednesday)	D (Tuesday/Wednesday)
Qalat-i-Ghazi (140km)	Kohsan	B (Sunday/Monday)	D (Sunday /Monday)
Shakeeban (60km)	Zendajan	A (Tuesday/Wednesday)	C (Tuesday/Wednesday)
Herat	AMAC	Review of findings, processes and tools	



Handover of survey materials to AIRD for translation

REPORT WRITING

The flip charts and notebook materials were translated by AIRD staff and the soft copy translations and hard copy original field materials were used by the report writing team (Shapur Qayyumi, Qudous Ziaee, Samim Hashimi, Åsa Massleberg and Barry Pound) in Dubai in January 2012 to develop a draft report. A number of discrepancies in the translations meant that there had to be frequent reference to the original field notes so that accuracy was maintained. A stakeholder feedback meeting was held in Kabul in May 2012, during which the recommendations were discussed and some changes suggested. These have been incorporated into the present version of the report.

LIMITATIONS OF THE METHODOLOGY

The information gathered was neither complete nor fully accurate. It depended on: a) the surveyors asking all the questions in their checklists and following up key questions with supplementary “probing” questions (who, what, why, where, when, how?); b) villagers being able to recall information accurately, completely and honestly. A survey of this type is a compromise between speed and accuracy. It provides a reasonably accurate snapshot of reality, but at a fairly coarse resolution. In future surveys with the same calibre of surveyors it would be better to unbundle questions so that they are more distinct and stand less chance of being skimmed over. More specific questions need to be asked of MRE (e.g. did female MRE staff come to your village – when, to whom, how did they interact etc.)

In many cases the responses were not precise or full enough to be able to conduct a

meaningful economic analysis.

It was the intention to use wealth ranking in this survey (it has been used successfully in Bamyan Province), but the Afghan staff with experience in Herat Province felt that its use would be too sensitive (nobody wants to be singled out as rich). Instead we tried to identify a group of better-off people for Focus Group Discussion, as well as a group of less well-off people. This worked to a certain extent, but was not followed through carefully enough.

Video (television quality) was used to record meetings with men, and voice recorders were used for recording the meetings with women. Some good video footage was obtained and the picture quality was excellent. However, the noise interference (many voices at the same time, plus ambient racket) was such that it is difficult to follow the conversations. In future external microphones would improve this situation greatly. The voice recorders did not function adequately.

SURVEY FINDINGS

The findings from the survey are presented below. They represent what communities told us as accurately as possible. The findings are presented under the following section headings:

- Development outcomes and impacts from mine action
- Economic impacts of mine action
- Prioritisation of mine action and the clearance process
- Quality Management
- Mine Risk Education
- Victim assistance
- Capacity Development

Gender and diversity (age, wealth and occupations) are cross cutting issues that have been integrated into the above sections.

Conclusions and recommendations are drawn for each section from what community members told us, and from observation, secondary data and the experience of the team members.



Surveyors and social scientist interviewing women in the communities

DEVELOPMENT OUTCOMES AND IMPACTS FROM MINE ACTION

DEVELOPMENT SITUATION OF THE FOUR COMMUNITIES SURVEYED

The four communities were deliberately chosen to represent contrasting urban and rural mine action situations. Two of the communities are close to Herat and can be classified as urban (Qala-i-Shater and Jibrael), while two are rural (Shakeeban and Qalat-i-Ghazi). Each of the communities had its own very distinct character, which is described in the Community Profiles (Annex Three). Some of the key aspects of the four villages are compared in the table below:

Table 3: Characteristics of the four communities

	Shakeeban	Qalat-i-Ghazi	Jibrael	Qala-i-Shater
Rural or urban	Rural	Rural	Urban (but 5ha have been walled off and reserved for farming, and 15,000 trees planted)	Urban
Main occupation	Farming	Farming and trading	Trade and salaried employment	Salaried employment, commerce and farming
Hazards remaining	MF and BF	MF	MF	BF
Cohesive or less cohesive	Cohesive and self-reliant	Fairly cohesive	Cohesive and self-reliant	Less cohesive
Private or government land	Some government	Some government	All private	All private
Land disputes	No disputes	No disputes (but Kuchi nomads visit seasonally)	Disputes over ownership of plots	No disputes
Influence of powerful landowners	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Accessibility	Good	Good	Good	Good
Electricity	Yes	Insufficient	Yes	Yes
Schools	Yes	Yes	Insufficient	Insufficient
Water	Need irrigation water	Need irrigation water	Need drinking water	Need drinking water
Clinic	Yes	Yes	Yes	Not easily accessible

The daily clock studies showed strong differences between women's and men's daily activities (and roles), big differences in the activities of farmers, CDC officials, teachers, artisans, students and shopkeepers among men - and between housewives and women with other jobs like teaching. Information obtained through the daily clock tool reveals that women's occupations and socio-economic status impact on their workload, movements outside of their houses, and therefore on their exposure to landmines/ERW. Wealthier women sometimes have the chance of hiring poorer women to assist them with certain chores, while poorer women do not have this option. Seasonal calendars showed that there were marked seasonal differences in activities, mainly related to the farming calendar. Winter is a quiet time with women and men mostly at home, so less exposed to landmine/ERW risk. However some labourers are still expected to work hard in the winter collecting fuel and feeding livestock. Men are more engaged in farming activities than women from spring through to autumn, and also in marketing and purchasing outside the village, involving travel and possible risk from landmines/ERW. Interestingly, respondents in Shakeeban said that if the man is sick or working away from home, the women take on the farm work, demonstrating that there can be some flexibility in gender roles. Risk of injury or death from landmines/ERW is present throughout the year, but greatest in spring and summer.

All land in Qala-i-Shater and Jibrael is privately owned, whereas in the other two communities there is both government and private land (in Shakeeban only where the CDC office is situated). A surprisingly high level of certified land ownership was reported. Only in Jibrael, where many "outsiders" had come to the area subsequent to the start of clearance, were there disputes over land ownership (see the Community profile in Annex Three). This high rate of certification of ownership may contrast with some other parts of Afghanistan (i.e. this aspect of the survey cannot be extrapolated to all parts of the country).

A mixture of crops (wheat, maize, sunflower, saffron, vegetables, sugar beet, beans, chickpea, lentils...), and livestock (cows, sheep, goats, chicken, donkeys, silkworms) are farmed according to prevailing local soil, water, weather, market conditions. Crop yield is very weather dependent, but can be good with the right conditions and inputs. Crops and livestock are interdependent (livestock as a source of fertiliser and draft, crops and crop by-products as a source of livestock feed) and provide food, fibre, animal feed, fertiliser, traction, cash and collateral when needed.

DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES ARISING FROM MINE ACTION

Community members told us that landmine/ERW clearance was a pre-requisite for the development of contaminated land. Assets blocked included crop land, grazing land, forest, waterways (including cluster bombs in Qala-i-Shater) and building land. Clearance also provides peace of mind, especially for women (although incomplete clearance such as occurred in Jibrael has prolonged the period of fear that community members, particularly women, feel).

Mine action has also enabled the safe return of refugees and IDPs (through clearance and MRE). For instance, some 80% of the population of Shakeeban fled during the time that the village was on the front line of the civil war. They started to return only after clearance started. Special MRE sessions were held at the Iran/Afghanistan border for returnees.

Land value has increased dramatically after clearance in all communities (see section on Economic returns to demining). Clearance has made many types of development possible as well as providing peace of mind. The value of the land has been further enhanced by the building of houses, mosques, clinics, community centres, shops, schools, business, by the establishment of productive agriculture, and by the installation of facilities such as electricity, water, telephone and roads. Given the very considerable value of land, it is interesting to compare the marginal financial return to capital from traditional food crops and livestock products with other potential land uses (housing, cash crops etc.).

Some locations (Shakeeban and Jibrael) have strong cohesion and a spirit of self-determination and self-reliance due to a fairly homogenous ethnicity. It is suspected that this has led to harmonious development of facilities and activities, in most part financed by the community, in those two communities, whereas we had evidence that other communities (e.g. Qala-i-Shater) had a much greater dependency on outside organisations (e.g. government and agencies such as the World Food Programme) to assist them. In contrast, in Jibrael every family contributed at least USD 30 towards the electricity supply - and the main landowning family of 9 brothers contributed USD 117,000.

Another important development influence is that of large landowners. These were present in all four communities. For example the landowning family of four brothers in Qalat-i-Ghazi owns 900jirib (190ha) of land in Qalat-i-Ghazi and wants to build a sugar beet factory and a dairy in the vicinity (creating >1000 jobs). Already they own a brick factory employing some 150 labourers.

The four communities each have different assets (physical, natural, human, social and economic) that provide opportunities/resources for land and non-land based development - or challenges to such development; e.g. both Shakeeban and Qalat-i-Ghazi have main road access, enabling marketing of produce and access to employment opportunities outside the community; both also have land and river access for productive farming, and electricity that might assist the development of small businesses.

The good schooling facilities (separate boys and girls High Schools on cleared land), the 200 shops and the Disability Centre in Shakeeban point to a bright future for the village

when combined with its cohesive social network.

With over 600 substantial houses built on cleared land in Jibrael, the sometimes difficult task of clearing mines in a way suitable for infrastructural development has been very worthwhile.

In Qalat-i-Ghazi there are possibilities of major employment opportunities in land-based enterprises enabled due to clearance (dairy and sugar-beet factory).

The future of Qala-i-Shater is less optimistic. The community was severely traumatised by bombardment by Coalition forces in 2002, and has many physical and mental victims from that period (in contrast to the MACCA database which records no fatalities or injuries). Services are poor, especially for a peri-urban situation, and the population seems to have adopted a dependency on external assistance. The present (contaminated) army camp might be converted to an ecological park, but the community might be better off with employment and local schooling and health facilities.

Box 1: Mine action benefits to women and girls in the four communities

- Female respondents in one community pointed out that they “feel safe and secure” – the psychological impact of not worrying as much about accidents was highlighted by most women
- Interviewed women in Qalat-i-Ghazi pointed out that clearance has meant that they can carry out traditional female tasks and responsibilities such as water and firewood collection easily and safely
- A group of interviewed women in Qala-i-Shater highlighted moving around freely and safely, sending their children safely to school, and fetching water safely from the canal as key benefits resulting from clearance. An interviewed mother whose son was killed in a cluster bomb strike in 2001 pointed out that: *“now I am very happy and satisfied, because MA teams solved our problems and now we can go everywhere and the children are busy in school. The men go to work.”*
- Free movement – *“we can go everywhere”* - was highlighted by most women as a key benefit stemming from clearance
- Many women pointed out that one key benefit stemming from clearance is that they no longer worry about their children having accidents: *“We can move and walk easily and our children can play without fear”*
- The safe conduct of agricultural activities was underlined as a key benefit. Corn, lentils, watermelon, wheat are common crops
- A group of girls in Qala-i-Shater pointed out: *“we are thanking mine action teams who helped us a lot”*

- A group of interviewed girls in Jibrael pointed out that they: *“can go to school, play and go to other villages”*
- Girls in one community said: *“we now feel safe”*. They also highlighted that when there had been landmines, they did not feel safe when playing, collecting firewood and fetching water

DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES AND CONSTRAINTS

Once the threat of mines/ERW is removed, community members are theoretically able to use the assets cleared for productive purposes. However, they are often constrained by lack of cash¹⁵ (to start, maintain or expand their businesses), poor availability of, or access to, inputs for agriculture or construction, or lack of training in the enterprises that are best suited to the prevailing social and economic conditions. Lack of literacy can be a constraint, as can the lack of linkages to support organisations or lack of political support. In Jibrael, the pace of development is partially determined by the strength of political support for the minority Shia population.

Water for irrigation is a constraint to most rural communities, even when they are close to a major river (which may still run dry in the autumn months), limiting the crops that can be grown and their yield.

Women are severely constrained in their movements and in what they can attend and control. This leads to their having much less (reliable) information than men on which to develop strategies and make decisions. For instance, the interviewed women of Qalat-i-Ghazi were not aware of any development plans for the community. On the other hand they said that they have informed the village leader about their priorities and needs, and that they expect the leader to share their priorities with relevant individuals at the provincial level.

While the provision of schooling for both girls and boys is improving, some cannot attend due to the distance or because they are needed for their labour. Child labour (for shepherding, brick making etc.) is still common, and provides income to poor families but denies the children an education that could have provided a better long-term future for the family.

DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES OF COMMUNITIES

The table below lists the priorities identified by community women and men during our

¹⁵ Formal credit facilities are lacking in most areas, and are only available to those with collateral. Informal loans from shopkeepers or landowners come with a very high interest rate. One possibility is savings and credit groups as promoted by the Aga Khan Foundation and some other NGOs in Afghanistan. These can be non-threatening sources of small loans that are controlled by the savings group members themselves.

discussions with them. In addition, all expressed the wish that clearance should be completed in their communities.

Table 4: Development priorities as expressed by community women and men

	Women	Men
Qalat-i-Ghazi	Wells and piped water, improved roads, tailoring course, electricity, schools	Safe and sustainable water resources for irrigation Sugar beet plantation (landowner)
Qala-i-Shater	School, public bath, vocational training courses (tailoring and literacy – including for accident victims), clinic, bridge over the canal	Clinic, school, cultural centre
Shakeeban	Water for irrigation and drinking (sub-surface water is contaminated); flood protection. Survey and clearance of Qroug woodland area	Water for drinking and irrigation
Jibrael	-	Teachers, school, drinking water system, vocational training and bridge to connect two villages

DEVELOPMENT LINKAGES THAT EXIST OR CAN BE SUPPORTED

Few development organisations, whether government, NGO or private, were operating in the four communities. The demining NGOs were therefore held in great esteem by the communities for being some of the few formal organisations that were making a tangible contribution to their long-term community wellbeing. Some organisations come to the communities and talk to them, but few return and actually do anything useful for the communities.

Women in most communities pointed out that there have been very limited, and in some communities, no external development assistance. Many highlighted the lack of training courses, schools and health care facilities. It is clear that women and girls can easily comprehend the developmental outcomes and impacts stemming from clearance activities. Some interviewed women said that mine action has been the only assistance in their communities, illustrating the concrete and tangible outputs of clearance activities.

The few instances of external assistance that we came across were:

- National Solidarity Programme (NSP). Formation of Community Development Councils and community grants administration in all four communities

- Vaccination campaigns (we saw polio vaccination staff in Jibrael)
- In Qalat-i-Ghazi MRRD built a training hall, and village women received a 3-month tailoring course in 2010
- UN Habitat provided micro-finance and a community fund in Shakeeban
- Disability Centre in Shakeeban, open to all (women, girls and boys and men) with any type of disability (including mental). It opened 16 years ago, funded by UNDP/UNOPS and OCHA. It is now supported by Handicap International (HI). It has its own committee made up of the disabled, the community and the government. It has 4 activities:
 - a) Awareness raising of disability and how to minimize it through MRE
 - b) Physiotherapy
 - c) Inclusion of persons with disabilities into community affairs
 - d) Capacity/confidence building for the disabledThe Centre has a 6-month project coordinated by MACCA/DMC, implemented by OMAR and paid for by the Italian government. This mainly centres around vocational training and the provision of materials in: tailoring, carpet making, carpentry and plumbing. The community is very happy with this project which provides skills and income to support the family.

While the above are welcome, a wide range of further development linkages for infrastructural improvement, capacity building and the provision of credit could make a big difference to the communities. As reported under the section on Victim Assistance, there is little formal assistance to victims, apart from the Disability Centre in Shakeeban.

CONCLUSIONS (DEVELOPMENT OUTCOMES AND IMPACT)

- Clearance enables a wide range of land and non-land activities/employment, encourages investment, reduces fear and enables the return of refugees/IDPs
- Mine action enables better education (building of schools, safer access to schools for children and teachers)
- Mine action enables better health (reduced death and injury; building of clinics and safe access for staff; rehabilitation of water sources)
- Clearance creates opportunities for large scale enterprises (e.g. sugar beet, dairy, brick-making in Qalat-i-Ghazi)
- Homogeneous communities seem most self-reliant and development oriented (community contributions – e.g. Jibrael). Combined with strong, benign leadership from wealthy landowners this can result in accelerated development following the removal of hazards
- The economic value of assets increases dramatically following clearance. As asset values change, there is a need to re-assess crop/livestock returns as a function of land values to see if they are still the most viable option
- Communities and individuals (including victims) need capital/credit to start or expand their businesses
- They also need vocational and literacy training and training facilities

- Daily and seasonal activities vary hugely by gender, age, occupation and wealth, and there are marked gender roles and responsibilities (but these can be flexible according to circumstance)
- Some aid dependence was noted in one community (Qala-i-Shater)
- Few development agencies (government, NGO or private) are active and effective in rural areas

RECOMMENDATIONS (DEVELOPMENT OUTCOMES AND IMPACT)

- MAPA should consider establishing a research and development unit within MACCA or in partnership with AIRD (using livelihoods and other approaches to sustainable development) to conduct further surveys and to follow up / document development outcomes, to support opportunities and overcome challenges/constraints
- The Unit should also conduct economic analysis of development options so as to be able to give appropriate advice to agencies
- The Unit should consider the considerable diversity within and between communities (gender, age, wealth, ethnicity, environmental, political...), and adapt tools and activities accordingly
- Mine action and development should be linked through the coordination of communication, monitoring, research and development initiatives between focal points in a network of relevant development agencies (government, NGO, private, donor) by the MAPA Liaison Officer
- An initial step in developing this coordinated network could be the training of the 22 existing focal points and other key people in a workshop designed to ensure the focal persons understand the relationships between mine action activities and improved livelihoods for community members
- Information related to development needs and priorities should be shared with development organizations to strengthen the link between mine action and development
- In order to maximize the developmental benefits for women, ensure their development priorities are taken into account in information gathering prioritization processes and in post clearance activities, and that all information is disaggregated by sex and age¹⁶
- The video materials obtained during the survey should be reviewed (perhaps together with still photographs taken during the two L&L surveys) to make a short film that illustrates: a) the tools used in the survey; b) the impact of mine action on rural and urban communities. The film can be used for training and for advocacy.

¹⁶ Cartagena Action Plan Action # 25: *Collect and analyse all necessary data in a sex and age disaggregated manner*



Video footage of interview with village leader in Qala-i-Shater

ECONOMIC RETURNS TO INVESTMENT IN MINE ACTION

As was the case with the initial L&L survey in Afghanistan, the survey teams collected insufficient quantitative data to allow a proper economic analysis of the mine action activities in these four communities. What raw data were collected are summarised in Annex Four. Still, some partial analysis can be done, which provides some insight into the magnitude of benefits and complements the qualitative data obtained through the other survey tools.

The first point to make is that the scale of contamination and demining differed markedly across the communities.

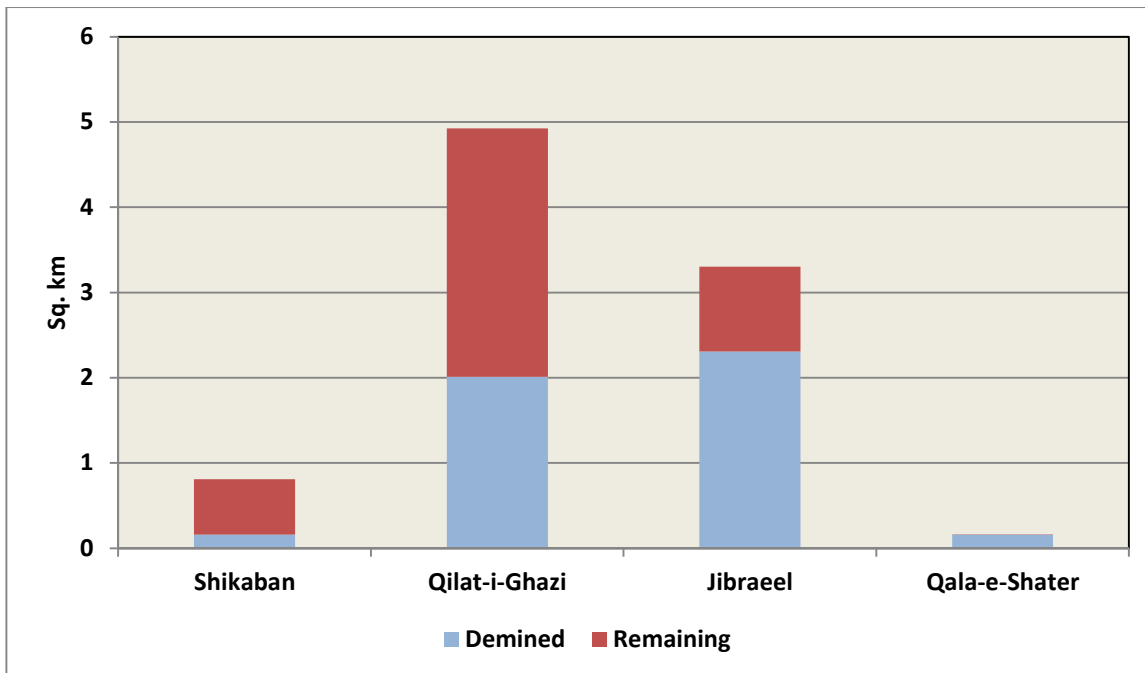


Figure 3 – Areas contaminated and demined

According to MACCA’s standard cost estimates for demining,¹⁷ almost USD 5.8 million has been invested in demining of these four communities to date, and another USD 4.6 million will be required to remove the contamination entirely. However, the size of the hazard in two of the villages is huge, and atypical for contaminated villages in Afghanistan. The cost of clearance of an “average community” is of the order of USD150-200,000.

LAND VALUES

The simplest way to assess the purely economic benefits is by collecting data on land values. The market value of a piece of land should approximate the expected value of discounted economic benefits flowing from that land in the future.¹⁸ People in all the communities mentioned – unsurprisingly – that land values increased substantially after demining, but the survey teams collected clear figures from men in only two communities, and from women in a third.

¹⁷ MACCA estimates minefield clearance costs USD1.25/sq. m., while sub-surface battle area clearance (BAC) costs USD0.41/sq. m.

¹⁸ ‘Discounted’ means converting future economic benefits into ‘present value’ terms to reflect people’s time preference for money (i.e. most people would choose to take USD100 today rather than USD100 a year from now). Land values may, however, be higher when there are few safe alternative investments (land as a ‘store of value’) and be lower when, for example, land rights are not deemed to be secure because of conflict or corruption. All these factors are at play in Afghanistan.

Table 5: Demining costs and the value of land

Community	Demining cost (USD 000s)	Sale value of land (USD 000s)		Value as % cost	
		Low	High	Low	High
Shakeeban (M)	USD202	USD165		82%	
Qalat-i-Ghazi (M)	USD2,514	USD6,157	USD7,183	245%	286%
Qala-i-Shater (W)	USD188	USD3,926		2086%	

(M) = men (W) = women

The land value figures obtained from women in Qala-i-Shater appear to be extraordinarily high (equivalent to USD 25/sq.m.) and seven times higher than those provided by men in Qalat-i-Ghazi. However, Qala-i-Shater is peri-urban and both Shakeeban and Qalat-i-Ghazi are rural. As well, the value of houses given by the men in Qala-i-Shater were four to five times higher than quoted by men in Qalat-i-Ghazi, so one would expect land to be worth substantially more as well.

Regardless, focusing only on the two rural communities, and assuming that contaminated land is worth little or nothing, demining appears to have been a very good investment. The increase in land value alone is equivalent to 82% of demining costs in Shakeeban, and between 245% and 286% in Qalat-i-Ghazi. Indeed, with these assumptions, the economic benefits accruing from demining in Qalat-i-Ghazi exceed the cost of demining done to date in all four communities.

OTHER ECONOMIC BENEFITS

Community residents provided a good deal of additional evidence on economic benefits, but these are either extremely modest (crop agriculture and livestock)¹⁹ or the data do not allow an estimate of how much of the benefit could be attributed to demining.

For example, residents of all four communities said the significant numbers of houses had been constructed, but it is unclear whether all of these were constructed on the land that had been demined. For example, the men in Qalat-i-Ghazi said 30 houses had been constructed in the village and 600 more in the wider area affected by the hazard. It is very possible that some of those would have been constructed regardless of the demining (i.e. they are outside the contaminated areas).

As well, it would be necessary to understand whether viable alternatives existed for

¹⁹ For example, from the sparse data collected, net income from crops and livestock appear to be from USD26-USD200/jirib in rural Qalat-i-Ghazi and USD310-USD1,065/jirib in peri-urban Qala-i-Shater. Only the highest of these (USD1,065/jirib) would yield an internal rate of return (IRR) approaching 10% -- the typical cut-off used to assess whether an investment is worthwhile in economic terms.

economic activities (i.e. could residents have built their houses on uncontaminated land?) to quantify the benefits stemming from demining. If good alternatives existed, benefits would be limited to the incremental convenience of building on demined land.

Still, the general descriptions suggest the demining contributed to some very significant benefits and enabled follow-on investments. For example:

- in Jibrael, a school, clinic, mosque, electricity supply and water channel, as well as about 600 residences, have already been built on the cleared land
- in Qalat-i-Ghazi, a prosperous family has constructed a brick factory (employing 150 people) and has plans to invest in a sugar beet plantation and factory (which could employ 1,000) and a dairy
- in Shakeeban, a school and a clinic have been built on demined land

VALUING SECURITY

It seems clear from the respondents (particularly the women) that a sense of security is a highly –and perhaps the highest – valued benefit. This is reflected both in the responses themselves and in the fact that demining was followed by inflows of people. For example, respondents in Shakeeban said 80 per cent of the population fled during the conflicts close to their community, but returned when demining started. Thousands of *Hazara* settled the former minefields in Jibrael, in which 600 homes have been built.

COST OF SURVEY

This survey cost approximately USD 85,000 plus the time of MACCA personnel and the survey teams, giving a total cost of perhaps USD 100,000. While not insignificant, the estimated cost of demining in the four communities is about USD 5.8 million, and another USD 4.5 million of demining will need to be done before all the contamination has been cleared. Thus, the survey represents approximately 1.7 per cent of the demining costs to date, and less than 1 per cent of the ultimate demining costs. This is an acceptable expenditure, in particular because:

- the survey informs the entire MAPA – a programme with a budget in the range of USD 100 million per year
- about one-third of the project cost was for capacity development rather than the survey itself
- about 50 per cent of the total project cost was for fees and airfares for international personnel, who would not be required to plan and implement a future survey following the same design.

CONCLUSIONS (ECONOMIC RETURNS)

Although the amount of quantitative data collected by the survey teams was insufficient in most cases, the land value data suggests that demining in these four communities has been, on balance, a sound investment in economic terms.

RECOMMENDATIONS (ECONOMIC RETURNS)

- the MACCA and the GICHD should investigate secondary sources for (i) farming systems studies and (ii) land values
- the MACCA and the GICHD should conduct a second workshop on ‘good enough’ economic analysis of demining projects²⁰ for social scientists from AIRD, and for senior personnel in the MACCA and the MAPA partners who are responsible for socio-economic surveys or heavily involved in planning and prioritisation
- the MACCA and the MAPA partners should re-assess their survey forms for quantitative socio-economic data, modify it if necessary based on the outcomes of the economic analysis workshop, and re-train survey teams to ensure they can bring back adequate quantitative data for analysis.

PRIORITISATION OF MINE ACTION

Two of the four main objectives of the mine action and livelihoods survey were: 1) to find out whether the prioritization process of MAPA is working well, and how it can be further improved, and 2) directing the focus of QM to the outcome level of the cleared areas.

The focus group discussion tool provided the most useful information from different groups of women, girls, boys and men on the mine action processes, the inclusion of communities in priority setting and the satisfaction of community members with the conduct and outcome of hazard clearance.

PRESENT PRIORITY SETTING PROCESSES IN MAPA

The nature and extent of the landmine/ERW problem in Afghanistan results in many assistance requests being received from individuals, communities and organizations (government, UN and NGOs), but since the resources are limited, a process of prioritization is applied. Socio-economic impact and community benefit are the primary principles upon which the priority system is based. These could be where several civilian landmine/ERW casualties are occurring for the population in a specific village, supporting rehabilitation or repatriation of refugees or IDP. In general, the number of people to benefit from the mine action work and the immediacy of that benefit are guiding factors when determining mine action priorities.

The MACCA process of priority setting is based on the available information recorded in IMSMA data base. The information from the data base is used to compile a ranking of communities according to the severity of mine impact. The criteria for assessing impact are chosen to reflect the risks and the extent and value of blocked assets, the types of areas to which landmines/ERW are blocking access, including services and livelihoods, the number of recent victims and the nature of the contamination and the terrain. High-

²⁰ A preliminary workshop was held in March 2011 following the stakeholders workshop for the initial L&L Survey.

impact communities are given priority attention for clearance and MRE.

Since 2009 the following criteria have been used for grading the contaminated areas as low, medium and high impacted areas:

1. Known victims linked to hazards
2. Local authority/villagers requests
3. Resettlement/Development areas
4. Blockages, such as (1) Agriculture fields (2) Non-agriculture fields (3) Water access (4) Other Infrastructure (5) Critical Infrastructure –this relates to infrastructure such as schools, health clinics and mosques
5. No. of affected families as a result of contamination
6. Small Hazardous areas
7. Hazardous areas located close to centre of the community which cause psychological stress to people
8. Anti-personnel minefields on flat land affecting high number of people
9. Device type: Mine/ERW

In addition, taking into consideration the Victim Prediction Model (VPM) developed by the Survey Action Centre²¹, two additional factors were considered:

- Size of the community
- Size of the hazardous area

PERCEPTION OF PRIORITY SETTING BY SURVEYED COMMUNITIES

The survey indicates that the communities are satisfied with the priority setting process used by MAPA for planning the clearance of hazardous areas.

- Separate focus group discussion with women, girls, boys and men were conducted, and during each focus group discussion it was found that the people were directly or indirectly involved on providing recommendation to the demining team about which areas need urgent clearance
- It was interesting that in one community the women stated that they provided their recommendation about which areas have to be cleared first to the MRE teams working with women. It is not known whether these recommendations reached the de-mining team
- Women generally expressed that clearance had been done in the “right areas” - *“every time we request something, clearance has happened”*
- When asked about prioritization in Shakeeban community, the female respondents pointed out that the clearance of a road resulted in a previously non-accessible area becoming accessible

²¹ The rationale for considering these additional factors is discussed in detail in the VPM document, available via the Survey Action Centre’s website: www.sac-na.org

- Female respondents in Jibrael highlighted that men in their communities had requested MA organisations to come to their areas to carry out clearance, and that MA staff listened to the advice and opinions from (male) villagers. Likewise, interviewed women in Qalat-i-Ghazi pointed out that elders in their community had visited MA organizations and asked them to come to their community and clear the landmines
- Female respondents in Qala-i-Shater pointed out that MA organisations interacted with men in their community before clearance started, and that residential areas and the canal were prioritized for clearance
- Interviewed women in Shakeeban pointed out that the following areas had been prioritized for clearance: Agricultural land, pasture land, residential areas, roads and land surrounding electrical infrastructure. They also pointed out that clearance of the above areas has brought benefits for the people and resulted in *“very good facilities for poor people.”*
- When a group of boys were asked about their clearance priorities, they indicated: *“since those who are collecting fire wood or tending animal are mostly at risk of mines and ERW; therefore, the grazing areas should have priority for clearance”*. These boys participated in the survey in Qala-i-Shater village where five mine victims were involved in collecting fire wood and grazing the animals at the time of their accidents.
- According to the people of Qala-i-Shater, the dropping of cluster bombs by US forces during 2002 resulted in 12 deaths (including one woman) and 18 serious injuries in one month. The area was prioritized as high priority for clearance. After it was cleared the people feel safe and are no longer concerned about cluster munitions in their village.
- The poor group of men in Qala-i-Shater village expressed their satisfaction of the demining process, saying: *“We are happy with mine action organisations, they do not discriminate between the poor and the rich and are consulting poor people for planning the clearance of contaminated areas”*.
- In another example in Qalat-i-Ghazi village in Kohsan district the local men are expecting mine action organisations to finish all the remaining contaminated areas located in their community. *“We were consulted about which areas should be cleared first, and the demining teams carried out their work according to our advice; we also ask mine action organisations to give priority to the rest of the contaminated area in our community, because we are afraid of the lands around the village which are still contaminated by mine and ERW”*.
- In the same village, the women said: *“We are afraid of lands around the village which are still contaminated by mine and ERW. Livestock, men and boys are at risk of mines, so the area where they need to go has to be cleared”*.

CONCLUSIONS (PRIORITISATION)

Although the results from only four communities out of a total of 2115 impacted communities in Afghanistan could not provide a full understanding of people’s

perception on priority setting process of MAPA, they indicate that the people have no complaints and are happy with the process. The findings of the survey encourage MACCA and the DMC to retain the criteria used for selection of the areas for clearance; however the recommendations below will further improve the process:

RECOMMENDATIONS (PRIORITISATION)

- MAPA should give similar priority to mental trauma caused by accidents as to physical injury (the bombardment of Qala-i-Shater provides a good example of long-term mental trauma)
- The suggestions made by local people on accelerating the process of clearing the remaining contaminated areas within their communities should be gathered and acted upon where appropriate
- There should be an annual review of local clearance priorities through liaison with the communities; thus, MACCA can ensure community involvement and can have a better understanding of the on-going needs of the communities affected by mines/ERW.
- Demining organizations should consult with communities as part of the process of selection of the next areas for clearance, and should be aware of village development plans (e.g. planned location of new schools etc.)
- Since women, girls, boys and men (and also poorer and better off people) within a community have different exposure to hazards; separate meetings should be conducted with different groups in order to make sure their needs are addressed
- All information should be collected and analysed in a sex and age disaggregated manner, in order to take into account the different priorities of all age and sex groups
- Female MA staff members should be deployed when collecting prioritization-related information from affected communities, facilitating the access to female community members
- Women should be ensured meaningful participation at priority-setting meetings and their views should be taken into account and reflected in the final ranking of priorities
- Considering the daily and seasonal activities of female and male community members will help understand when is a good time to arrange meetings to find out about their clearance priorities
- Analyzing the past recorded civilian accidents will help to find out in which season of the year the people mostly become landmine victims. The findings can be fed into clearance operations and MRE messages.

SHARING AND RECEIVING MINE ACTION INFORMATION WITH WOMEN

There appears to be a specific problem in sharing and receiving of information with community women because of their lack of mobility and the mostly male make-up of mine action staff. Women often receive information second-hand by various routes. This information may not be accurate or well explained, and can be taken out of

context. Women obtain information through secondary sources; there were no instances of mine action organizations sharing clearance related information directly with women. The last bullet point in the Box below shows the dangers of not communicating directly with women.

Box 2: Mine action information pathways for community women

- A group of interviewed women in Shakeeban pointed out that they received information about landmines from “NGOs” (not clear if these are MA organizations, or other NGOs)
- Post-clearance information was shared by elders, who informed women they could use schools and clinics
- Interviewed women in Shakeeban informed us that they received information from elders after clearance had been completed. They further pointed out that the elders in their community informed them that they should not go to one area (Quroq) since this particular area was still contaminated by landmines
- Interviewed women in Qala-i-Shater informed us that “their men” received post-clearance information from council members, and that men were informed at the Mosque through the Mullah
- Teachers, parents and government people shared information to girls about clearance and risks
- Girls in Qala-i-Shater informed us that brothers and fathers had informed them that there used to be many landmines, but that mine action teams came and cleared them
- Many women pointed out that they received information related to MA (such as the start and completion of clearance activities) from their husbands. This was the case in Qalat-i-Ghazi for example, where the female respondents said their husbands told them about clearance activities
- A group of eight female teachers in Jibrael community informed us that about 15-20 persons had been killed or injured in landmine accidents after the completion of the first clearance. The women pointed out that these accidents happened in cleared land that had been thought to be safe, and resulted in them questioning how safe cleared land really was, and they started worrying more about accidents. These accidents also resulted in these women losing confidence and trust in MA organisations: *“We don’t trust the MA organizations.”* The women were under the impression that AMAC had not carried out any post-accident investigations. Male respondents from the same community however, informed us that investigations had been carried out, and that a second additional clearance had been carried out in the area where the accidents had taken place. For some reason this important information had not been shared with the female respondents
- The level of awareness of mine action related issues amongst female respondents varied between the four surveyed communities. The eight female teachers of Jibrael

community displayed a high level of awareness in some areas, informing the survey team of the type of contamination, which organizations had been involved in clearance, etc. In contrast, one group of female respondents in Shakeeban community had quite limited knowledge of some issues, and referred to their husbands on many occasions. This variation in the level of awareness could be explained by their level of education, and their occupation.



Sharing information with village women through mapping during the survey

RECOMMENDATIONS (INFORMATION SHARING)

- Improve access to women through the deployment of female mine action staff members
- Ensure women receive first-hand information, through female mine action staff reaching out to women and sharing information directly
- Ensure women are included in handover procedures, and that they receive first-hand information related to which areas have been cleared, and which are safe to use²²
- Monitor information sharing with women and men post clearance through post clearance sex disaggregated community data

²² Cartagena Action Plan, Action Point # 15: *Involve women and men in handover*

- Organize meetings with community women, utilizing local structures like women's Shura. This can be an effective way of reaching out to, and including women, taking into consideration their needs, priorities and capabilities
- Ensure information sharing is age and gender sensitive, taking into consideration the level of education and illiteracy issues

QUALITY MANAGEMENT

Conducting safe and well-managed demining operations is essential to making sure that the quality of demining operations is good, and that the contaminated areas are cleared to the approved standard.

The MACCA QM system starts with the accreditation process and ends after post-clearance inspection. It provides MACCA with confidence that the land which was cleared is safe for its intended use.

The MACCA QA process focuses on the capability of mine action organizations; i.e. their human resources, equipment and procedures, and considers how this capability is being applied in the field. External monitoring complements an internal monitoring system and verifies that the QA procedures and QC inspections of all mine action organizations working in Afghanistan are appropriate and being applied effectively.

Well managed demining operations involve proper assessment of the area in order to find all the necessary information related to the type of mine/ERW, type of land, methodology and assets to be used for clearance. If the quality of the initial assessment and survey is not good, it will lead to serious negative consequences.

SURVEY FINDINGS ON QUALITY MANAGEMENT

Out of the four communities visited during the survey, in three communities no one talked of any accidents within the cleared area after it was handed over for community use, and also no one indicated that they found any mine or ERW after the clearance was completed. Generally in all four visited communities it was found that the community members are confident that the area is safe after it was cleared by demining teams.

However, in one community the people were justifiably dis-satisfied with the quality of demining operations previously conducted by mine action organisations for clearance of contaminated areas within their community. This was in the Jibrael community where a vast anti-tank mine contaminated area was cleared during 1996 -2006 by one of the demining organizations using dogs. After it was handed over to the community, the people decided to make it a residential area. Around ten accidents happened, which caused people to stop working and resulted in death and injuries to 24 persons, and the destruction of eight vehicles. The investigation of the accidents after the clearance revealed that the main cause of the accidents was that flooding and wind had resulted in earth covering the mines to a depth that was undetectable by the dogs, especially in the prevailing high winds. When digging foundations or using heavy vehicles, the mines

were triggered. The weak assessment and management of the clearance operations caused people to be suspicious of the entire area that had been previously cleared, causing it to be completely re-cleared, which was costly and time-consuming. According to the focus group discussion, men stated that: *“After the accidents happened in cleared areas, we lost our trust in mine action; however, we requested the mine action to re-survey and clear the whole area”*. Consequently, re-clearance was approved in 2009 after a proper survey was conducted. The re-clearance (by HALO Trust) is still on-going. However, the survey indicated that in most parts of the area modern houses have been built and it is not possible to conduct full clearance operations unless the houses are destroyed. In those areas where demining is possible, the survey recommended use of mechanical equipment in combination with manual methods.

The women in Qala-i-Shater were still unsure about clearance of a canal where there is the possibility of air-dropped cluster-bomb contamination remaining. Women in Shakeeban also told the survey team that they are very suspicious of an area called Qroug outside the village where they go to collect firewood. They would be much happier if that area could be surveyed and cleared if necessary.

As in the landmines & livelihoods survey of 2010 in the central and northern regions of Afghanistan, this survey also indicates that there is no quality management focus on the outcomes or impact of mine action activities. For instance, in all of the communities it was found through focus group discussions and case studies that the mine/ERW victims did not receive sufficient victim assistance; different groups of mine victims (women, girls, boys and men) stated that no one is following-up on this issue.

Although some post-demining impact assessment (PDIA) had been conducted by MACCA in the past for some of the cleared mined areas, none of the communities stated that during or after clearance anyone came to ask them how confident they are in the safety of the cleared area and whether they are using the cleared assets safely and productively without interference from powerful influences.

Interviewed women in two surveyed communities pointed out that *the “MA process was good, clear, transparent”*, and that it was *“equal for all.”* In three out of four communities, the general feedback on the MA process and MA personnel’s interaction with the affected community members was very positive.



The HALO Trust camp at Jibrael

CONCLUSIONS (QUALITY MANAGEMENT)

MACCA has been successful with the QA and QC of the outputs of demining operations. Where there have been quality problems in the de-mining operation, these have been investigated and rectified. However, the lessons learned from these investigations and records of QA and QC have not been properly tracked for avoiding further undesired events.

In Jibrael there were mine accidents following supposed clearance. However, this was due to exceptional circumstances (deeply buried mines [by wind-blown soils and flood sediments] and the construction of buildings requiring deep foundations and heavy machinery). In correct fashion, an enquiry was held and a second clearance is underway which has found only one mine.

RECOMMENDATIONS (QUALITY MANAGEMENT)

- Establish a strong quality management process that focuses not only on the quality of the actual clearance operations, but also ensures that clearance is “fit for purpose” – i.e. it takes into account the intended use of the cleared land.
- Continue strengthening processes (e.g. livelihoods and PDIA surveys and the use of the Balanced Scorecard approach) that assess post-handover outcomes, impacts and opportunities
- Add a strong, clear and routine community liaison process to the QA process of MACCA QM to ensure involvement of female and male community members in mine action planning, implementation and outcome assessment
- Include QA of victim assistance activities in MACCA QM as these are poor at present.

MINE RISK EDUCATION

INTRODUCTION

The End Goal of the Government of Afghanistan for MRE will be achieved when a comprehensive and sustainable system is in place to educate and raise awareness to people and communities nationwide regarding the residual mine/ERW threats, including sufficient information to recognise and report these items to the appropriate authorities.

MRE refers to the educational activities which seek to reduce the risk of injury from mines and ERW by raising awareness and promoting behavioural changes amongst 'at risk' groups. MRE should ensure that women, girls, boys and men in the affected communities are aware of the risks from mines and ERW and are encouraged to behave in a way which reduces the risk to people, property, and the environment. The objective is to reduce the risk to a level where people can live safely, and to re-create an environment where economic and social development can occur free from the constraints imposed by contamination.

The MACCA/MAPA MRE operations within Afghanistan are based on:

- An operational principle of understanding the landmine/ERW threats to communities and individuals
- Identifying vulnerable or target groups
- Providing appropriate and targeted messages, and
- Confirming new knowledge used in MACCA/MAPA annual planning and priority settings.

The MRE programme is currently comprised of the following MAPA MRE implementing partners:

- OMAR
- HI
- ARCS
- Association for Aid and Relief (AAR Japan)
- Mobile Mini Circus for Children (MMCC)
- DDG

SURVEY FINDINGS ON MRE

The survey included questions about when MRE was carried out, by who, where and what should be done if any suspicious device of any kind is found. The knowledge of mines and ERW and their location, the significance of different colours and the status of the demining activities varied between villages, but also between women, girls, boys and men. The findings are first presented by community.

Shakeeban community, Zendajan District, Herat Province

MRE activities started in this community during 1992 according to the elders' group,

while the women's group mentioned that the MRE programme was started in 2005. This indicates that women in this community might have less information about MRE activities than men.

Shakila, a 16 years old girl victim mentioned that she didn't receive any MRE before her accident took place. She was injured in 2001 while she was playing with her sister and found an ERW. The ERW exploded and her shoulder was injured. She is currently in class 7 in a private school in Shakeeban. In contrast Wakil, another of the mine victims, mentioned that he was conducting MRE for school children and he was trained by OMAR as a community volunteer for MRE.

The majority of girls and boys in Shakeeban have received MRE, and they mentioned that mines and ERW are dangerous and can be found in un-cleared areas. They say they will report to the demining teams if they come across mines or ERW. They also stated that they will not touch any suspicious objects, and they mentioned that they can move to their school and around the village without fear. Some boys mentioned that Quroq area is still contaminated according to advice from adults, and they avoid going there.

Women were aware of mine and ERW threats, and mentioned that they have received MRE through NGOs and have shared their messages with their children. They highlighted that they have participated in mine action activities and they helped the MRE teams in terms of gathering the children and providing a place for MRE sessions. The women also mentioned that Quroq is an area that is still contaminated and suggested that mine action teams should check the area. They said that all mine action activities, including MRE, have been coordinated with community people from start to finish.

Qala-i-Shater community, Injil District, Herat Province

MRE activities were started in this community in 2001 by OMAR.

A group of girls mentioned that they know mines and ERW are dangerous items and they will not touch them as advised by their parents and brothers. Even a pen, eraser or pot could be dangerous according to this group. They mentioned that they have received MRE through school teachers, their parents and some NGOs/government people in the mosques in their village.

The women said that they received MRE through their elders when they returned to their village from Iran, but they couldn't attend the MRE sessions directly. Women's challenges to access and attend MRE sessions are mainly due to cultural norms and values that restrict women's movements and participation in activities outside of their households.

The boys said that they received MRE several times from their parents, NGOs and school teachers. They added that mines are dangerous, and can kill them if they touch them. They said that if they saw a mine they would report it to the police. They also mentioned that they will avoid going to places contaminated by mines and ERW.

Jibrael community, Centre District, Herat Province

The MRE activities started in Jibrael in 2003 according to the women's group, while the group of men mentioned that MRE was conducted in 2009/2010.

Interviewed girls in Jibrael pointed out that they: *"got information through school and posters. Were told that if we see mines, we should not touch and quickly inform elders"*

Many women pointed out they received MRE-related information from village elders and also at the Iranian border when returning to Afghanistan after the war. These women further pointed out that male and female MRE trainers had visited Jibrael, delivering MRE.

During a focus group discussion boys mentioned that they have received information through MRE and that they will not touch mines and ERW for any reason as it will kill them. They mentioned that they saw a person killed by a mine, but now they are feeling safe as there are no more mines in their village.

Qalat-i-Ghazi community, Kohsan District, Herat Province

According to the timelines, the MRE programme was started in this community during 2003. The community elders mentioned that there have been huge numbers of people killed and injured in their community by mines and ERW. They have also lost much of their livestock because of mines and ERW in the past. Sultan, a mine survivor, said that he attended MRE sessions and found them useful.

A group of women mentioned that the MRE teams came to their village several times. *"We didn't know even about MRE and mine action before 2002"*. They said that they attended MRE workshops 3 – 4 times in their village. The last time was in 2010. The women had taken part directly, and they found them very good. They mentioned when they received MRE they shared the information with their children which was helpful. They said that they are satisfied with the MRE activities in their village.

A second group of women mentioned that they received MRE through teachers and that the teachers also trained children. They were asked if they know where the mines are. They said that they know mines might be around the community, but they don't know the exact place.

A group of children in this community mentioned that they attended MRE courses conducted in the village. The course used pictures, which they put in their houses for

the benefit of other family members. They said that they will not touch mines and ERW and will not enter ruined houses. *“If we see white signs in the agricultural lands then we know it means that there no mines and it is safe”.*

SUMMARY OF THE FINDINGS ON MRE FROM WOMEN

The information collected by women surveyors was compromised by the lack of knowledge amongst community women about events outside their immediate homestead and family, and the difficulties they face in getting information directly and not just through their male relatives or children. This varies from one community to another.

There are also differences between the information collected from men and from women as well as from boys and girls, even for factual information (e.g. dates of MRE activities, MRE implementers, recent victims and numbers of victim etc.). Some of this is due to inaccuracy of recall, and some due to a lack of knowledge or reference leading to guesstimates being provided to the survey teams.

The level of MRE coverage for women appears to vary between villages and between age groups, with younger women more likely to have received MRE. The need for MRE remains acute and the general ability of women to recall MRE messages was mixed. Some women were adequately informed about mine risks and were able to provide details on the location of mines and knew of the warning signs, whereas others were unsure of the location of minefields.

In Shakeeban and Jibrael villages, there was evidence of successful MRE aimed at school children, covering younger girls and boys (between 8 – 13 years old) and teenagers. Several girls in these communities were able to give examples of protective behavior such as avoiding contaminated sites and knowing who to inform when ERW or mines are discovered.

As well as information being received directly from agencies visiting villages, women in one community also mentioned that they receive information from other women (teachers) and from male members of the household. In the community of Shakeeban most of the women were returnees, mainly from Iran. Some of them recalled being provided with MRE by UNHCR when they crossed the border into Afghanistan.

While it is clear that MRE teams have visited all surveyed communities, it appears that only in one community (Jibrael) have female MRE teams reached out to women.

MRE PATHWAYS

The messages promoted by MRE teams reach community members by different routes. Those found in the communities include:

- Teachers received MRE, then taught the children in schools

- Many women pointed out they received information from village elders
- Women also learned from other women who were teachers
- In one community, women highlighted they received information from elders when returning to the area
- Boys said: *“We got information through school and posters. Were told that if we see mines, we should not touch and quickly inform elders”*
- MRE volunteers were trained by OMAR
- Children received warnings from parents about what to do and about locations that are still dangerous
- Returnees from Iran were given MRE classes by UNHCR at the border



Girls receive MRE from school teachers, parents and elders

Table 6: MRE situation in the surveyed communities

Village	Women	Girls	Men	Boys
Shakeeban	Women know about mines and ERW threats, but access to women in this community still seems to be difficult compared to boys and girls.	Girls know about the danger of mines and ERW, but still there were some girls that didn't receive any MRE as they were refugees in Iran.	Men were mostly aware of the threats posed by landmines and ERW in this village.	More boys aware of the risks and risky behaviour in this village; in particular boys aged 8 – 15 years old mostly received MRE through school teachers.
Qala-i-Shater	Women in this community mostly received MRE through community elders (men). Women couldn't attend MRE sessions and access to women needs to be improved.	More girls were informed of safe behaviour and who to report the dangerous items.	Men have been informed who to report and where the dangerous objects can be found	Boys (mostly teenagers) have been aware of risky behaviours and have mostly received MRE through their parents, NGOs and school teachers.
Jibrael	Close to city. Women know about MRE	Most of the village people have been aware of mine/ERW threats, in particular school girls.	No data available for men.....	Boys in this village seemed to be more aware of risky behaviours
Qalat-i-Ghazi	More women aware of threats of mines and ERW. They also shared MRE messages with their children based on their statements	Girls have been informed of dangerous areas and risky behaviours	Older men shared information with the women.	MRE was more useful for boys in this village based on their knowledge. Boys shared MRE messages and leaflets with their family members and know about danger signs and avoiding entering destroyed and abandoned houses.

The table below shows the number of people who have received MRE through MAPA assets in the surveyed communities according to the MACCA database – Ministry of Education data is not included here:

Table 7: Number of people who have received MRE according to the MACCA database from the beginning of mine action activities in these communities

Location			Number of people who have received MRE			
Province	District	Village	Men	Women	Boys	Girls
Herat	Injil	Qala-i-Shater	69	130	4,180	4,591
Herat	Center	Jibrael	4,038	6,307	5,243	5,881
Herat	Kohsan	Qalat-i-Ghazi	109	98	197	130
Herat	Zendajan	Shakeeban	132	143	652	285

CONCLUSIONS (MRE)

- All villages received some MRE (men, girls and boys more than the women).
- Coverage is not complete. Not all children attend school and many women have restricted mobility
- There is no evidence of female MRE staff interacting with female community members in three of the four communities

RECOMMENDATIONS (MRE)

- Recognise and take into consideration MRE accessibility challenges for women and girls when planning MRE visits
- Ensure MRE activities take into account the particular exposure of boys and men, and that activities at the time of accident are recorded when collecting accident data, in order to enable the tailoring and targeting of MRE to gender related exposure and behavior
- Consider and use the KAPB-related information on women and girls, and make sure MRE activities are tailored and designed on the basis of this information, taking into consideration female-specific roles and responsibilities that result in exposure to landmines/ERW²³
- Design and implement MRE activities, recognizing the seasonal variations in all community members' gender specific roles and responsibilities
- Conduct MRE follow-up sessions, in particular in Qalat-i-Ghazi and Qala-i-Shater focusing on risky behaviour
- Ministry of Education should take more responsibilities in areas where the MAPA MRE resources are not available.

²³ Cartagena Action Plan Action # 52: ... assistance should be based on appropriate surveys, needs analysis, age-appropriate and gender sensitive strategies

- Further develop the MRE multi-media campaign to reach more people through different channels
- Deploy all-female MRE teams in order to ensure female community members are directly included in MRE activities
- Identify and train female MRE volunteers wherever possible and teachers in affected communities within government networks (NSP, local network and MoPH health workers)
- Ensure that MRE is communicated through gender and age sensitive channels, and that challenges like illiteracy, which is highly gendered, is taken into consideration when designing MRE materials
- Include more specific questions on MRE when designing future surveys. The survey teams must understand the questions and must provide a full set of data to facilitate the report writing.



This canal in Qala-i-Shater may still contain cluster bombs. Children are taught to report anything suspicious to mine action staff, police or elders

VICTIM ASSISTANCE (“DISABLED IS NOT UNABLE”)

INTRODUCTION

Three decades of war in Afghanistan destroyed the economic and social basis of the Afghan society. The mines and ERW left by the war have killed and injured many people. The victims are not only those who died or suffered physical injury, but also those who have suffered loss of a family member or of livestock, equipment or property. The victims also include those who have dedicated all or part of their lives to caring for an injured relative. A further category of victim that is given very little attention is the mentally traumatised.

All categories need moral, medical and financial support to enable them to live dignified, fulfilling and productive lives with equal rights to others in society.

In each of the four communities surveyed, female and male victims of mine/ERW accidents (direct and indirect victims) were identified, and where possible interviewed. The following are some extracts from the interviews:

CASE STUDIES OF WOMEN

1. Bebi Gul is 50 years old. She has two sons. She was at home with her cousin (Anar Gul) when she was injured by a cluster bomb. She said that Anar Gul was pregnant and she lost the baby as a result of the bombing. Bebi Gul received emergency medical assistance from people in her community after the accident. She did not visit the clinic, since she “*knew they would not help*” her. She received assistance from the MoLSAMD in the form of notebooks and 9 kg of margarine. She eventually went to the Red Crescent hospital for help and treatment of her hand, but when hospital staff said that amputation of her hand was necessary, she refused and left. The survivor further informed that her husband remarried shortly after her accident, and that she believed he did so because of her paralyzed hand and leg. She pointed out that her son and his family is helping her “to be alive.”

2. 45 year-old Habiba narrated: “*I will never forget the day that I lost my young son, who was killed in the cluster bomb attack 10 years ago. All our village area was contaminated by mines, so we migrated to a more peaceful district because here was dangerous. After the end of war the demining team came and cleaned the village. After the cleaning of mines we returned back home and we are satisfied with their work in our village*”.

3. The husband of Mrs Abeda was killed in a mine accident while he wanted to complete the harvesting of the agricultural land in the summer. She has four children (two sons and two daughters). The elder son is 15 years old and he is now the main breadwinner of the family. He is earning just 300Afs/day and running the family economy. This money is not enough. The victim’s family members did not receive any assistance from

the government or from NGOs. She told that she is very worried about the future of her children, because they cannot go to school and have to work. Another son has a nervous disorder, so she is requesting a treatment and cure to help him, and she needs to be provided with educational opportunities for her children.

4. Amena is the mother of a son who died in a landmine accident in 1372 (1993) while he was grazing sheep in Qala-e-Wardak area. She did not receive any assistance from any agencies or NGOs.

5. Mrs. Khorshaid from Qalat-i-Ghazi lost her husband because of a mine accident in 2002. The husband of Khorshaid was killed returning home with his sheep. Because of no assistance to her family, Khorshaid had to marry for a second time with the brother of her ex-husband. She is busy now with carpet making.

6. Atefa is a 45-year old woman, who became disabled in 1365 (1986) in Shakeeban village. Her husband is a farmer and they have five children, a cow and a few sheep. Their life is running with difficulties. They received MRE (after the accident). She said: *“While my husband is working on the agricultural land I am scared and very worried about him”*.

7. Mrs. Razeqa lost her husband, who was a teacher, in a mine accident in Shakeeban village in 1369 (1990), while he was travelling to school. She has five sons and one daughter. After her husband’s mine accident, she was faced with problems in bringing up the children. The villagers helped her family during these difficult years. Two years ago the Centre for the Disabled helped her through vocational courses. She said: *“While my children are going to work on the land, I am very worried about them, because still we have mines in some places”*.

CASE STUDIES OF MEN

1. Mr. Qadeer A. was injured during the Taliban regime in 1998. He worked as a farmer before the incident. The mine accident happened on a public path while he was transporting the wheat harvest home. He was not aware of MRE training. The Red Crescent assisted him with medical treatment. He did not receive any further assistance, but hopes to get vocational training to obtain a good job.

2. Mr. Najmoddin from Qala-i-Shater is married and has 10 family members. He worked as farm labourer before the mine incident, during which he lost the left leg. He did not receive any assistance from any agencies. He hopes to have a shop if someone will help him. His daily income at the moment is 300Afs. He said that he does not participate in wedding and religious programmes, because people don’t respect him and are looking at him as an abnormal and disabled person.

3. Mr. Wakeel A. is married and has four family members. He is 41-year old, who was a

farmer before the mine accident. Because of a delay in treatment, he was affected by Tetanus, which caused the doctors to amputate the leg. He got some assistance from MoLSAMD. Moreover the UNAMA gave him USD 2500. He would like to have a shop, but needs assistance to be able to do this.

4. Mr. Gul A. was injured, when he touched an ISAF cluster bomb. Unfortunately he did not know that it was dangerous and was curious about it. He lost his right leg. The expenditure of the treatment was borne by him. Nowadays a rich person helps him to run his life. A few times he went to MoLSAMD to get some assistance but it was in vain. Just four years ago the WFP give him 88kg wheat. He wishes to have a shop to support his 10 family members. At the moment his income is only 200 Afs/day.

5. Haji Faizolla told how he went to his agricultural land for work and that his own tractor was destroyed by a mine and that his friend, who was sitting with him on the tractor, had his leg broken. Another stranger was also killed. He did not receive any assistance. His younger son is working to feed them. He is nervous now and mentally ill, because of the mine incident.

6. Mr Sargen was killed in a mine incident in 1984. His family members did not receive any assistance. Now the victim's two sons are working in the custom area and the wife of Sargen takes care of her sons. Haji Nezamoddin said: *while we are talking about the mines and its incidents, so my daughter and grandchild are shouting and weeping, as they remember the incident with their father.*

7. Mr. Wakeel Ahmad is 37-years old. He was injured in his village in 1372 (1993), while he went to visit his relatives. The mine accident happened on the bank of river and he lost his leg. He is a farmer and also received the vocational skill of carpenter. He worked as director of the Disability Centre for seven years, from 2003 to 2011.

8. Mr. Najeebulla is 40-years old. He has nine family members. He was injured in the spring of 1370 (1991) while he wanted to irrigate his land. The WFP is helping him, and he receives 50 Kg wheat each month. He has a small shop, but he has no private home. He wants to get vocational skills.

CASE STUDY OF GIRLS

1. Miss Shakeela is 16 years old and studying in seventh class of a private school. She was injured, while she played with her sister in the playground. She touched an explosive device and badly injured her spine. She was attended by the Red Crescent hospital, but still she remains paralyzed. Besides going to school she is embroidering. She said that her life is very difficult.

CASE STUDY OF BOYS

1. Mohammad is now a man, but was a young boy of five years old when he lost his left

leg in spring of 1375 (1996) while he was busy shepherding sheep. He got vocational education which was conducted by OMAR. He is studying in Abu Mansur high school, and has learned tailoring and embroidery skills. He needs financial investment in order to live his life productively.

BROADENED DEFINITION OF "VICTIM"

Afghanistan acceded to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) on 8 August 2011. The CCM officially broadens the definition of victims (Article 2), including not only the persons who have directly experienced an accident, (mainly men and boys) but also their affected families and communities, which include those (mainly women and girls) living with, depending on and becoming caregivers of survivors. It is generally accepted that gender influences the risk of becoming a victim of landmines/ERW, of accessing medical and psychological care, rehabilitation, long term socio-economic reintegration, and risk education. While men and boys represent the majority of direct victims and survivors in Afghanistan, it is important to recognise that women and girls make up the largest group of indirect victims, being the spouses, mothers, sisters and daughters of the men that are injured/disabled/killed by landmines and ERW.

SUPPORT FOR THE VICTIMS

The Table below shows (as in the survey of communities in the Central and Northern regions of Afghanistan) that few of the victims received compensation for their loss. Women in many communities pointed out that here has: *"been no assistance for victims"*

This exposes a patchy and inconsistent support system that is failing both direct and indirect victims.

The largest category of direct victims is men, who are at greatest risk while conducting farm work or travelling. The smaller number of children injured might reflect success by families and MRE teams in educating them about the dangers of mines. This evidence is in contrast to the general victim data in Afghanistan that states that children represent the majority of victims (included in the introduction).



Meeting to develop a time line for landmine/ERW accidents

Table 8: Victim support provided in the four surveyed communities

Name of survivor or indirect victim	Sex of victim	Village	Organisat-ion	Kind of assistance			
				Training	Money	Medical treatment	Food products
Bebi Gul	Woman	Qala-i-Shater	MoLSAMD		1000 Afs	Nil	9Kg Oil
Habiba	Woman	Qala-i-Shater			Nil	Nil	Nil
Abeda	Woman	Jibrael			Nil	Nil	Nil
Amena	Woman	Jibrael			Nil	Nil	Nil
Qadeer A.	Man	J-iebrael	OMAR/Red Cross	MRE	Nil	Yes	Nil
Gul A.	Man	Qala-i-Shater	WFP				2 bags of wheat
Najmoddin	Man	Qala-i-Shater	Red Cross		Nil	Artificial foot	Nil
Wakeel A	Man	Qala-i-Shater	UNAMA/ MoISAMD		USD2500		
Shakeela	Girl	Shakeeban	Red Cross		Nil;	yes	Nil
Atefa	Woman	Shakeeban			Nil	Nil	Nil
Razeqa	Woman	Shakeeban	MoLASMD For 2 years		1000Af	Nil	Nil
Mohammad	Boy	Shakeeban	OMAR/ Red Cross	Vocational training	Nil	Artificial foot	Nil

Najeebulla	Man	Shakeeban	Red Cross/ WFP, OMAR Handicap Int	Literacy course, Vocational Training	Nil	Nil	One bag wheat per month
Wakeel A.	Man	Shakeeban	OMAR	MRE, Voc Tr	Nil	Nil	Nil
Haji Faizulla	Man	Qalate Ghazi			Nil	Nil	Nil
Haji Nezamoddin	Man	Qalate Ghazi			Nil	Nil	Nil
Khorshaid	Woman	Qalate Ghazi			Nil	Nil	Nil

CHALLENGES RELATED TO VICTIM ASSISTANCE

- Continuing insecurity and tribal conflicts
- Continued presence of hazards in communities
- High poverty and illiteracy (which can reduce their ability to seek appropriate help and also to find suitable employment)
- Lack of awareness about the mines/ERW
- Lack of awareness about victim’s rights and programmes to support them
- Shortage of funds to provide victim assistance and MRE in all parts of Afghanistan
- Inconsistent support to victims
- Patchy coverage and capacity of disability organisations

In Shakeeban, the women provided accident and victim data (below) that was in sharp contrast (much higher) to that provided by the men (and to that in the MACCA IMSMA database):

- About 200-300 persons killed in mine explosions – mainly boys and men
- About 100 animals killed in mine accidents
- About 500 persons with disabilities
- About 8 people were killed by landmines after demining

A possible explanation for this discrepancy is that women are less aware of the reality in the community, due to the fact that they are confined to household activities.

CONCLUSIONS (VICTIM ASSISTANCE)

- Most accidents occurred spring and summer; men are at greatest risk. The smaller number of children injured might reflect successful MRE
- Both mental and physical trauma (e.g. Qala-i-Shater)
- Little government support to survivors or indirect victims
- Patchy and inconsistent VA (that relies on broader disability services) is failing both direct and indirect victims

RECOMMENDATIONS (VICTIM ASSISTANCE)

- Apply the official definition of “victim”, ensuring indirect victims are included (recognizing CCM’s broadened definition of “victim” 24) in any VA related activities, and that all victims’ needs and priorities are taken into consideration in an age and gender sensitive way
- Collect victim data, disaggregated by sex and age
- Develop a register of all direct and indirect landmine/ERW victims
- Link victims to support organisations, including MoLSAMD, MoE, MoPH
- Support these organisations through advocacy, training and technical assistance
- Recognise and take into consideration accessibility issues of female survivors and victims when designing and implementing VA activities
- Deploy female VA staff members to ensure affected women and girls can be reached (for example through house to house visits), and that their needs and priorities are taken into consideration
- Advocate the Afghanistan government, and remind it of its treaty obligations under the APMBC and the CCM, to ensure that all mine/ERW victims and persons with disabilities have equal and full access to adequate, affordable, gender and age sensitive emergency and continued medical care, physical rehabilitation, psychosocial support, social and economic inclusion services and legal assistance²⁵
- Sensitize affected women about their rights, and ensure any sensitization campaigns are carried out in an age and gender sensitive manner, taking into consideration illiteracy and access issues.

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

INTRODUCTION

The Terms of Reference for this survey include a capacity development objective, which was to:

Ensure the MAPA, in partnership with Afghan social scientists, can conduct such surveys on a periodic basis and analyse the data using the SL model and, specifically, to:

- provide further training for surveyors from the MAPA in data collection using the Landmine and Livelihoods (L&L) approach*
- introduce additional Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) tools to allow MACCA, DMC and IPs to use L&L surveys in support of a variety of objectives (e.g. community needs assessments as well as post-demining assessments)*

²⁴ Victim means: “all persons who have been killed or suffered physical or psychological injury, economic loss, social marginalisation or substantial impairment of the realisation of their rights caused by the use of cluster munitions. They include those persons directly impacted by cluster munitions as well as their affected families and communities.” *Convention on Cluster Munitions, Article 2, May 2008*, <http://www.clusterconvention.org/files/2011/01/Convention-ENG.pdf>

²⁵ Cartagena Action Plan, Action # 31: *Ensure appropriate services are available and accessible to female and male victim*

- c. *conduct a small (up to seven communities) L&L survey for practical training of the surveyors and social scientists, test new PRA tools, and obtain L&L data*
- d. *train and mentor Afghan social scientists in the analysis and reporting of L&L data using the Sustainable Livelihoods (SL) model*
- e. *obtain farming systems data from secondary sources for use in Cost-Benefit Analysis (CBA) of demining*

MEETING THE SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

This objective has been mostly met. Further training was provided to MACCA, DMC, IP, AIRD and CSO staff in data collection using the L&L approach. The training course content can be found in a separate document (*Report on Training on the use of Livelihood Survey Tool, October 2011*).

The tools used in the first L&L survey (Central and Northern Regions) were modified to make them more effective. The use of wealth ranking was suggested but rejected by experienced surveyors as being too sensitive for the Herat area.

The survey was conducted in four contrasting communities with teams of female and male surveyors supported by local and international social scientists.

A 3-day report writing “write-shop” was held in Dubai with the international livelihoods expert, the international gender and mine action expert, MACCA and AIRD staff during which the field data were analysed and written up in draft form. This forms the basis of the core section of this report on the findings, conclusions and recommendations from the survey.

Patchy and incomplete farming systems data was obtained from the field. Secondary sources have not been consulted.

OVERALL IMPRESSION OF LIVELIHOOD CAPACITY

This has to be broken down into several components: a) the capacity of survey staff to implement the fieldwork competently; b) the academic and practical capacity of social scientists to design, monitor, analyse and report the surveys, and c) the capacity of MAPA to commission and coordinate Livelihood surveys.

The capacity of survey staff

Two L&L surveys have now been successfully completed with the participation of male and female IP staff and LIAT surveyors. However, neither survey was able to gather a comprehensive and complete set of data. Despite an improvement in the second survey, there is a continuing problem of rushing the interviews and not following up checklist questions with secondary enquiry (probing).

The capacity of social scientists

Two Afghan social scientists from AIRD were involved in the first L&L survey. They were

very competent, but have unfortunately since left AIRD. Four Afghan social scientists were contracted for the second L&L survey, two from AIRD and two from CSO (a man and a woman from each organisation). These took part in the training and implementation of the survey, and one was fully involved in the analysis and report writing exercise in Dubai. This has considerably enhanced the competence within Afghanistan to support future surveys. However, the main competence and appreciation of the Livelihoods approach still resides with the two MACCA staff (Samim Hashimi and Qudous Ziaee).

The capacity of MAPA

As mentioned above, there is a good level of understanding of the whole L&L survey process and academic rationale within MACCA. In addition two DMC staff have been closely and enthusiastically involved in both L&L surveys.

CONCLUSIONS (CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT)

A combination of MACCA, DMC and AIRD support would still be needed to design, implement, analyse and report similar L&L surveys in the future. However, it is felt that this could now be achieved without the need for involvement of international scientists.

RECOMMENDATIONS (CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT)

- Conduct a further small pilot L&L survey using Afghan personnel for all aspects.
- As recommended in the section on Development Outcomes, MAPA should consider establishing a research and development unit within MACCA or in partnership with AIRD (using livelihoods and other approaches to sustainable development) to conduct further surveys and to follow up / document development outcomes, to support opportunities and overcome challenges/constraints
- Continue, and build on, the partnership with AIRD
- Training in L&L should be provided to the 22 existing focal points and other key people to widen the understanding of livelihoods and development across relevant Afghan organisations.



Training of survey staff in the use of livelihood analysis tools

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MAPA

The following section brings together all the conclusion and recommendations from the individual components of the report. Overall the survey was successful in meeting its objectives, and has gathered a wealth of useful information, providing numerous recommendations for the improvement of mine action in Afghanistan. When taken together with other surveys and audits this provides the evidence needed for decision making and change.

CONCLUSIONS (DEVELOPMENT OUTCOMES AND IMPACT)

- Clearance enables a wide range of land and non-land activities/employment, encourages investment, reduces fear and enables the return of refugees/IDPs
- Mine action enables better education (building of schools, safer access to schools for children and teachers)
- Mine action enables better health (reduced death and injury; building of clinics and safe access for staff; rehabilitation of water sources)
- Clearance creates opportunities for large scale enterprises (e.g. sugar beet, dairy, brick-making in Qalat-i-Ghazi)
- Homogeneous communities seem most self-reliant and development oriented (community contributions – e.g. Jibrael). Combined with strong, benign leadership from wealthy landowners this can result in accelerated development following the removal of hazards
- The economic value of assets increases dramatically following clearance. As asset values change, there is a need to re-assess crop/livestock returns as a function of land values to see if they are still the most viable option
- Communities and individuals (including victims) need capital/credit to start or expand their businesses
- They also need vocational and literacy training and training facilities
- Daily and seasonal activities vary hugely by gender, age, occupation and wealth, and there are marked gender roles and responsibilities (but these can be flexible according to circumstance)
- Some aid dependence was noted in one community (Qala-i-Shater)
- Few development agencies (government, NGO or private) are active and effective in rural areas

RECOMMENDATIONS (DEVELOPMENT OUTCOMES AND IMPACT)

- MAPA should consider establishing a research and development unit within MACCA or in partnership with AIRD (using livelihoods and other approaches to sustainable development) to conduct further surveys and to follow up / document development outcomes, to support opportunities and overcome challenges/constraints
- The Unit should also conduct economic analysis of development options so as to be able to give appropriate advice to agencies

- The Unit should consider the considerable diversity within and between communities (gender, age, wealth, ethnicity, environmental, political...), and adapt tools and activities accordingly
- Mine action and development should be linked through the coordination of communication, monitoring, research and development initiatives between focal points in a network of relevant development agencies (government, NGO, private, donor) by the MAPA Liaison Officer
- An initial step in developing this coordinated network could be the training of the 22 existing focal points and other key people in a workshop designed to ensure the focal persons understand the relationships between mine action activities and improved livelihoods for community members
- Information related to development needs and priorities should be shared with development organizations to strengthen the link between mine action and development
- In order to maximize the developmental benefits for women, ensure their development priorities are taken into account in information gathering prioritization processes and in post clearance activities, and that all information is disaggregated by sex and age²⁶
- The video materials obtained during the survey should be reviewed (perhaps together with still photographs taken during the two L&L surveys) to make a short film that illustrates: a) the tools used in the survey; b) the impact of mine action on rural and urban communities. The film can be used for training and for advocacy.

CONCLUSIONS (ECONOMIC RETURNS)

Although the amount of quantitative data collected by the survey teams was insufficient in most cases, the land value data suggests that demining in these four communities has been, on balance, a sound investment in economic terms.

RECOMMENDATIONS (ECONOMIC RETURNS)

- the MACCA and the GICHD should investigate secondary sources for (i) farming systems studies and (ii) land values
- the MACCA and the GICHD should conduct a second workshop on 'good enough' economic analysis of demining projects²⁷ for social scientists from AIRD, and for senior personnel in the MACCA and the MAPA partners who are responsible for socio-economic surveys or heavily involved in planning and prioritisation
- the MACCA and the MAPA partners should re-assess their survey forms for quantitative socio-economic data, modify it if necessary based on the outcomes of

²⁶ Cartagena Action Plan Action # 25: *Collect and analyse all necessary data in a sex and age disaggregated manner*

²⁷ A preliminary workshop was held in March 2011 following the stakeholders workshop for the initial L&L Survey.

the economic analysis workshop, and re-train survey teams to ensure they can bring back adequate quantitative data for analysis.

CONCLUSIONS (PRIORITISATION)

Although the results from only four communities out of a total of 2115 impacted communities in Afghanistan could not provide a full understanding of people's perception on priority setting process of MAPA, they indicate that the people have no complaints and are happy with the process. The findings of the survey encourage MACCA and the DMC to retain the criteria used for selection of the areas for clearance; however the recommendations below will further improve the process:

RECOMMENDATIONS (PRIORITISATION)

- MAPA should give similar priority to mental trauma caused by accidents as to physical injury (the bombardment of Qala-i-Shater provides a good example of long-term mental trauma)
- The suggestions made by local people on accelerating the process of clearing the remaining contaminated areas within their communities should be gathered and acted upon where appropriate
- There should be an annual review of local clearance priorities through liaison with the communities; thus, MACCA can ensure community involvement and can have a better understanding of the on-going needs of the communities affected by mines/ERW.
- Demining organizations should consult with communities as part of the process of selection of the next areas for clearance, and should be aware of village development plans (e.g. planned location of new schools etc.)
- Since women, girls, boys and men (and also poorer and better off people) within a community have different exposure to hazards; separate meetings should be conducted with different groups in order to make sure their needs are addressed
- All information should be collected and analysed in a sex and age disaggregated manner, in order to take into account the different priorities of all age and sex groups
- Female MA staff members should be deployed when collecting prioritization-related information from affected communities, facilitating the access to female community members
- Women should be ensured meaningful participation at priority-setting meetings and their views should be taken into account and reflected in the final ranking of priorities
- Considering the daily and seasonal activities of female and male community members will help understand when is a good time to arrange meetings to find out about their clearance priorities
- Analyzing the past recorded civilian accidents will help to find out in which season of the year the people mostly become landmine victims. The findings can be fed into clearance operations and MRE messages.

RECOMMENDATIONS (INFORMATION SHARING)

- Improve access to women through the deployment of female mine action staff members
- Ensure women receive first-hand information, through female mine action staff reaching out to women and sharing information directly
- Ensure women are included in handover procedures, and that they receive first-hand information related to which areas have been cleared, and which are safe to use²⁸
- Monitor information sharing with women and men post clearance through post clearance sex disaggregated community data
- Organize meetings with community women, utilizing local structures like women's Shura. This can be an effective way of reaching out to, and including women, taking into consideration their needs, priorities and capabilities
- Ensure information sharing is age and gender sensitive, taking into consideration the level of education and illiteracy issues

CONCLUSIONS (QUALITY MANAGEMENT)

MACCA has been successful with the QA and QC of the outputs of demining operations. Where there have been quality problems in the de-mining operation, these have been investigated and rectified. However, the lessons learned from these investigations and records of QA and QC have not been properly tracked for avoiding further undesired events.

In Jibrael there were mine accidents following supposed clearance. However, this was due to exceptional circumstances (deeply buried mines [by wind-blown soils and flood sediments] and the construction of buildings requiring deep foundations and heavy machinery). In correct fashion, an enquiry was held and a second clearance is underway which has found only one mine.

RECOMMENDATIONS (QUALITY MANAGEMENT)

- Establish a strong quality management process that focuses not only on the quality of the actual clearance operations, but also ensures that clearance is “fit for purpose” – i.e. it takes into account the intended use of the cleared land.
- Continue strengthening processes (e.g. livelihoods and PDIA surveys and the use of the Balanced Scorecard approach) that assess post-handover outcomes, impacts and opportunities
- Add a strong, clear and routine community liaison process to the QA process of MACCA QM to ensure involvement of female and male community members in mine action planning, implementation and outcome assessment
- Include QA of victim assistance activities in MACCA QM as these are poor at present.

²⁸ Cartagena Action Plan, Action Point # 15: *Involve women and men in handover*

CONCLUSIONS (MRE)

- All villages received some MRE (men, girls and boys more than the women).
- Coverage is not complete. Not all children attend school and many women have restricted mobility
- There is no evidence of female MRE staff interacting with female community members in three of the four communities

RECOMMENDATIONS (MRE)

- Recognise and take into consideration MRE accessibility challenges for women and girls when planning MRE visits
- Ensure MRE activities take into account the particular exposure of boys and men, and that activities at the time of accident are recorded when collecting accident data, in order to enable the tailoring and targeting of MRE to gender related exposure and behavior
- Consider and use the KAPB-related information on women and girls, and make sure MRE activities are tailored and designed on the basis of this information, taking into consideration female-specific roles and responsibilities that result in exposure to landmines/ERW²⁹
- Design and implement MRE activities, recognizing the seasonal variations in all community members' gender specific roles and responsibilities
- Conduct MRE follow-up sessions, in particular in Qalat-i-Ghazi and Qala-i-Shater focusing on risky behaviour
- Ministry of Education should take more responsibilities in areas where the MAPA MRE resources are not available.
- Further develop the MRE multi-media campaign to reach more people through different channels
- Deploy all-female MRE teams in order to ensure female community members are directly included in MRE activities
- Identify and train female MRE volunteers wherever possible and teachers in affected communities within government networks (NSP, local network and MoPH health workers)
- Ensure that MRE is communicated through gender and age sensitive channels, and that challenges like illiteracy, which is highly gendered, is taken into consideration when designing MRE materials
- Include more specific questions on MRE when designing future surveys. The survey teams must understand the questions and must provide a full set of data to facilitate the report writing.

²⁹ Cartagena Action Plan Action # 52: ... assistance should be based on appropriate surveys, needs analysis, age-appropriate and gender sensitive strategies

CONCLUSIONS (VICTIM ASSISTANCE)

- Most accidents occurred spring and summer; men are at greatest risk. The smaller number of children injured might reflect successful MRE
- Both mental and physical trauma (e.g. Qala-i-Shater)
- Little government support to survivors or indirect victims
- Patchy and inconsistent VA (that relies on broader disability services) is failing both direct and indirect victims

RECOMMENDATIONS (VICTIM ASSISTANCE)

- Apply the official definition of “victim”, ensuring indirect victims are included (recognizing CCM’s broadened definition of “victim” 30) in any VA related activities, and that all victims’ needs and priorities are taken into consideration in an age and gender sensitive way
- Collect victim data, disaggregated by sex and age
- Develop a register of all direct and indirect landmine/ERW victims
- Link victims to support organisations, including MoLSAMD, MoE, MoPH
- Support these organisations through advocacy, training and technical assistance
- Recognise and take into consideration accessibility issues of female survivors and victims when designing and implementing VA activities
- Deploy female VA staff members to ensure affected women and girls can be reached (for example through house to house visits), and that their needs and priorities are taken into consideration
- Advocate the Afghanistan government, and remind it of its treaty obligations under the APMBC and the CCM, to ensure that all mine/ERW victims and persons with disabilities have equal and full access to adequate, affordable, gender and age sensitive emergency and continued medical care, physical rehabilitation, psychosocial support, social and economic inclusion services and legal assistance³¹
- Sensitize affected women about their rights, and ensure any sensitization campaigns are carried out in an age and gender sensitive manner, taking into consideration illiteracy and access issues.

CONCLUSIONS (CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT)

A combination of MACCA, DMC and AIRD support would still be needed to design, implement, analyse and report similar L&L surveys in the future. However, it is felt that this could now be achieved without the need for involvement of international scientists.

³⁰ Victim means: “all persons who have been killed or suffered physical or psychological injury, economic loss, social marginalisation or substantial impairment of the realisation of their rights caused by the use of cluster munitions. They include those persons directly impacted by cluster munitions as well as their affected families and communities.” *Convention on Cluster Munitions, Article 2, May 2008*, <http://www.clusterconvention.org/files/2011/01/Convention-ENG.pdf>

³¹ Cartagena Action Plan, Action # 31: *Ensure appropriate services are available and accessible to female and male victim*

RECOMMENDATIONS (CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT)

- Conduct a further small pilot L&L survey using Afghan personnel for all aspects.
- As recommended in the section on Development Outcomes, MAPA should consider establishing a research and development unit within MACCA or in partnership with AIRD (using livelihoods and other approaches to sustainable development) to conduct further surveys and to follow up / document development outcomes, to support opportunities and overcome challenges/constraints
- Continue, and build on, the partnership with AIRD
- Training in L&L should be provided to the 22 existing focal points and other key people to widen the understanding of livelihoods and development across relevant Afghan organisations.

ANNEXES

ANNEX 1

Participants in the Herat Landmines and Livelihoods Training and Survey

	Name	Position	Organisation	Duty station
1	Samim Hashimi	Sr. MRE Projects Manager	MACCA	Kabul
2	Abdul Qudos Ziaee	Operations Projects Manager	MACCA	Kabul
3	Gul Agha Mirzai	Sr. SOP Manager	DMC	Kabul
4	Abdul Habib Rahimi	Sr. Manual Manager	DMC	Kabul
5	Shapur Qayyumi	Research Officer	AIRD	Kabul
6	Gulalai Habib	Data Analysis Manager	AIRD	Kabul
7	Ahmad Maseeh	Mahram	AIRD	Kabul
8	Abdul Kabir	Head of Department	CSO	Kabul
9	Shakeeba	GIS Director	CSO	Kabul
10	Mohammad Azam	Mahram	CSO	Kabul
11	Mohammad Rafiq	MRE supervisor	OMAR	Kabul
12	Kochai	MRE Instructor	OMAR	Kabul
13	Gholam Mustafa	Mahram	OMAR	Kabul
14	Abdul Hadi	MRE Instructor	DDG	Mazar
15	Mahbooba	MRE Instructor	DDG	Mazar
16	Hamid Haidari	MRE instructor	ARCS	Kabul
17	Anahita	MRE Instructor	ARCS	Herat
18	Abdul Qader	MRE Instructor	HT	Herat
19	Najiba	MRE Instructor	HT	Herat
20	Kalilurahman	LIAT team Leader	MCPA	Herat
21	Mohammad Ibrahim	LIAT Surveyor	MCPA	Herat
22	Mohammad Ayaz	LIAT team Leader	MCPA	Kabul
23	Naimatullah	LIAT Surveyor	MCPA	Kabul
24	Barry Pound	International Scientist	GICHD	UK
25	Åsa Massleberg	International Scientist	GICHD/GMAP	Switzerland
26	Malika	Translator	AMAC	Herat
27	Aram	Translator	Freelance	Herat

ANNEX 2

MACCA database information on the 4 selected villages

S # .	Location				Device Destroyed				Number of Hazard Cleared		Total of Hazard Area Cleared	
	Province	District	Village	Distance from centre	AP	AT	UXO	SAA	MF	BF	MF	BF
1	Herat	Injil	Qala-i-Shater	from Pro 8 km	443	-	128,786	44,497	2	5	145,816	14,535
2	Herat	Center	Jibrael	From Pro 10km	6	74	1,546	2,099	25	-	2,307,126	-
3	Herat	Kohsan	Qalat-i-Ghazi	From Pro 140	-	1	237	-	23	-	2,011,295	-
4	Herat	Zendajan	Shakeeban	From Pro 60Km	118	0	123	0	1	0	161517	0

S # .	Location				Number of Hazard Remained		Total Hazard Area remained		Type of the Device contamination In Number			
	Province	District	Village	Distance from centre	MF	BF	MF	BF	AP	AP/AT	AT	UXO
1	Herat	Injil	Qala-i-	from	-	1	-	4,430	-	-	-	1

			Shater	Pro 8 km									
2	Herat	Center	Jibrael	From Pro 10km	15	-		994,070	-	-	-	15	-
3	Herat	Kohsan	Qalat-i-Ghazi	From Pro 140	29	-		2,911,700	-	1	-	28	-
4	Herat	Zendajan	Shakeeban	From Pro 60Km	1	2		7,000	640000	1	0	0	2

S #	Location				Number of People Received MRE				Clearance Organizations Involved	Beneficiary	No of Victims	
	Province	District	Village	Distance from centre	Men	Women	Boys	Girls			Killed	Injured
1	Herat	Injil	Qala-i-Shater	from Pro 8 km	69	130	4,180	4,591	HT,DAFA,MCPA,MDC,DDG,OMAR,ATC	1,014	-	-
2	Herat	Center	Jibrael	From Pro 10km	4,038	6,307	5,243	5,881	HT,DAFA,MCPA,MDC,DDG,OMAR,ATC	5,231	3	18
3	Herat	Kohsan	Qalat-i-Ghazi	From Pro 140	109	98	197	130	HT,DAFA,DDG	415	-	-
4	Herat	Zendajan	Shakeeban	From Pro 60Km	132	143	652	285	DDG,MCPA,HT,OMAR		6	10

ANNEX 3

Community Profiles

Jibrael, Centre District, Herat Province

Visited 25-26 October 2011 by Teams B and D.

Jibrael is a suburb of Herat, located about 10 km from the centre of Herat just south of the Herat-Meshed road. It occupies a flat area and is characterised by a large amount of construction, mostly of good-sized, detached multi-storey buildings for residence and business. In the construction area all walls are marked with a tick, signifying they are clear of hazards. About two-thirds of the 300ha contaminated area has been cleared. Most of the residents are Shia *Hazaras*, with a great sense of unity and cohesion. The population of Jibrael is said to be around 10,000. Before clearance there was only one house on the site. There are now some 600.

The survey here took a while to start as the leader of the Shura did not want to have a long meeting that day. Phone calls to and from the AMAC convinced him to cooperate (and all was friendly in the end). As in other villages, the team was very well prepared with equipment, assigned roles, appropriate clothing and good written reference material. Team members knew their assignments and started them without discussion. They had prepared written lists of questions for each tool. Their body language and manner was excellent during questioning, and they enabled good participation in the making of maps.



Community members assisting in making the map

The men's team met the Shura and other senior members of the community (including the cultural leader, the Islamic leader and the main land owner) at the Shura meeting room (which has a good map of the minefields prominently on its wall).

Task	Time started	Time finished	Minutes for the tool
Arrival and starting up	0830	0920	50
Introductions	0920	0950	30
Time line + questions	0950	1025	35
Map + questions	1050	1200	70

Although a vast anti-tank mine contaminated area was cleared during 1996 -2006 by one of the demining organizations using dogs, however, it was not fully successful, as after it was handed over to the community, the people decided to make it a residential area; around ten accidents happened, which resulted in death and injuries to 24 persons, and the destruction of eight vehicles. This caused people to

stop working. The investigation of the accidents after the clearance revealed that the main cause of the accidents was that flooding and wind had resulted in earth covering the mines to a depth that was undetectable by the dogs, especially in the prevailing high winds. When digging foundations or using heavy vehicles, the mines were triggered. According to the focus group discussion, men stated that: *“After the accidents happened in cleared areas, we lost our trust in mine action; however, we requested the mine action to re-survey and clear the whole area”*. Consequently, re-clearance was approved in 2009 after a proper survey was conducted. The re-clearance (by HALO Trust) is still on-going. However, the survey indicated that in most parts of the area modern houses have been built and it is not possible to conduct full clearance operations unless the houses are destroyed.



HALO Trust compound

A school, clinic, mosque, electricity supply and water channel, as well as many residential buildings have already been built on the cleared land. 15,000 trees have been planted so far. 5ha of land has been walled off and preserved for farming. The electricity and water channel for washing and livestock were put in with the resources of the residents (resident families contributed 1500 Afghanis = USD 30 each for the electricity supply) and the main landowner family of 9 brothers (they contributed USD117,000 towards the electricity supply and USD 95,000 for the water supply).



Mosque and residential houses built on cleared land

There remain various major development problems, the main ones being a clean, drinking water system, and the expansion of educational facilities for the children. The government was criticized for not supporting the community enough. They feel they are paying taxes and not getting much in return. They also want vocational training to enable them to get employment.



The Arub describes the rehabilitation of the water channel to the men's team

In later discussion with the female survey team it appears that there have been several land disputes over plots sold to residents (returnees).

Female survey team impressions

The meeting with female community members was held at a private boys' and girls' school located in the centre of the community. The survey team first met with the male principle of the school, who helped in organizing a group of eight female teachers. The survey team used the introduction, time line and map tools during this first meeting.

Time line

All the women grew up in Iran, so therefore had little information about the war in this particular area. They all belong to the Shia Hazara tribe. According to the women, all people who live in the community are refugee returnees from either Iran or Pakistan. The women left for Iran when the Russian invasion started in the 1980s. The women returned to the area at different times, and received MRE at the Iran – Afghan border. They have also received MRE in the community, delivered by female and male teams.

According to the women, between 15 – 20 persons have been killed / injured in cleared areas. Also, the women claimed that no investigations took place in the area after the accidents happened with the missed landmines.

Among other things, a mosque, schools and a clinic have been constructed in the cleared area. There is not so much agricultural land in the area. The main impact from clearance has been construction. There are remaining minefields in the area that need to be cleared. After clearance of the land, many more people were interested in buying land in the area.

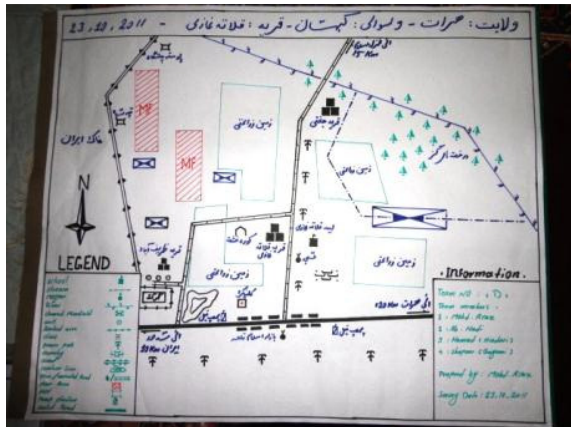
Land disputes

According to the women, there are many land-disputes in the area. When asked about the reasons for these disputes, the women said that clearance resulted in many people being interested in buying the cleared, safe land. This same group also informed that there have been numerous incidents of land disputes following clearance. The land disputes were believed to have been caused by the landowners selling the same plot of land to as many as four buyers. It also appears that there is a Shia/Sunni struggle going on (the minority Shia Hazaras are supported by Iran, while most other Afghans are Sunni). According to the women, there are about 100 cases of one piece of land being sold to more than one person. The Shura leader was involved in solving such land disputes in the community. These land disputes were not highlighted by the interviewed men in the same community.

Qalat-i-Ghazi, Kohsan District, Herat Province

Visited 23-24 October 2011 by Teams B and D.

Qalat-i-Ghazi is a medium-sized village very close (c.10km) to the Iran border, and close to the main Herat-Meshed road, said to be used for smuggling opium on its way to Europe. There were several minefields totalling nearly 500 hectares (5km²). These are situated fairly close to the village on agricultural and grazing land. About half the mined area has been cleared and villagers are very happy about that and the performance of the de-miners.



Map showing the relationship between cleared and un-cleared minefields and the community

There are several very large, opulent houses in the village with at least 4 of these owned by one family (the family of Arbab Zarif) in whose houses the men's and the women's teams met. The family own 900 jirib (around 180ha) of land, part of which has been cleared and part of which is still mined. The Arbab expects to use almost all the land for agricultural purposes. He would like to establish a sugar beet plantation with a sugar factory on the site. He reckons this could employ up to 1000 people, which would be of benefit to the local (and national) economy. However, he needs investment capital to make this happen. The FAO representative in Herat was made aware of this opportunity. He would also like to establish a dairy for sale of milk locally and in Herat. There is also brick works at present employing 150 people.



Interview with better-off members of the community

Water for irrigation is a major problem for the community as a whole. Deep boreholes are needed to provide the water (the river runs close to the village, but is not flowing at this season).

A second cleared area (on the east side of the road) is owned by many small landowners. Mines were also laid on the Iran side of the border to stop trafficking and the incursion of mujahedeen fighters during the war. Apparently Kuchi nomads (we saw a caravan on the road) are not affected by the minefields on the Afghan side as they don't approach the border for fear of getting shot by border guards.

The CDC and the District Development Authority (representatives of which were at our meeting) are active in the village and the CDC erected water tanks for drinking water. The high school (see interview with boys and photo) was established by UNICEF.



Interview with boys at the High School

Female survey team

The meetings were held in the village leader's house. His two wives and other female family members cooked the lunch for the female and the male survey teams.

Focus Group Discussions

A group of five poorer women who had been identified during the previous day's wealth ranking exercise came to the house. A group of wealthier women had been interviewed the previous day. The women were aware that clearance activities had been ongoing in the community. Information had been shared to them by their husbands. Likewise, when clearance was completed, the women were informed accordingly by their husbands. The women are very happy about the mine action activities. *"All areas were so dangerous, we were worried when our men and children were going outside."*

The women are not aware of any landmines being discovered in the area after it had been cleared. Main land uses in cleared areas have been related to cultivation activities, but women are only involved in cultivation activities to a limited extent. In terms of land ownership, the women believe that once the land has been cleared, it is owned by the community. People who own the land had their land certificates before the clearance.

No land disputes are known to the women. "Sometimes the village leader decides who can use the land." The value of the land before clearance was very low, and now the land prices have increased. Women are not aware of any future development plans for the area. The women have informed the village leader about their problems and needs. The village leader is supposed to take these to the province level. Women's development priorities include:

- Electricity
- Schools

- Better roads
- Water

Before clearance, some of the women had no land to use for cultivation. After clearance, they can use cleared land for cultivation. Some women grow water melons in the area. Only one out of the six ladies owns land, the others are paid to work on other households' land. Women who are alone are not allowed to own land. Single women can own houses. When asked about the price of the land, the women informed that the value of the land varies. They also informed that "there is a lot of land available." However, it's hard to cultivate the land, because it is so dry. Watermelon and wheat can produce under these conditions. Women feel safe when they walk around the area, they don't worry about landmines any longer.

"Thanks to the mine action organizations we now feel safe. We don't worry about the mines and accidents."

Qala-i-Shater, Injil District, Herat Province

Visited 25-26 October 2011 by Teams A and C.

Qala-i-Shater is an established village on the outskirts of Herat about 8km east from the centre of the city. It has a canal going through it with a plentiful supply of flowing water. Two minefields have been cleared on hills outside the residential area. There is also an army camp that still has contamination of weapons caches, which are being cleared by WRA (an international organisation specialised in that work). The irrigated agricultural land cleared around the camp is being used by the army personnel for alfalfa and grazing. The government has decided that the army camp should be fully cleared and then converted into an eco-park (ecological green space for villagers). The decision had been made in a meeting between the government and the EU in 2006, but the villagers had little idea about it.



Canal passing through the community

The interviews with men were held at the mosque. We arrived around 9am and immediately community members started arriving, including quite a few disabled people with missing limbs/eyes. One was disabled from birth, not by mine accident. It seemed that they were under the impression that we would give them assistance of some sort.

After Moh Rafiq explained our visit, we divided into two groups – one interviewing survivors and the other doing daily clocks and seasonal calendars. At the same time a group of boys waited patiently to be

interviewed. We also interviewed the head of the Shura separately on video. He told the story of mine action in the village.



Interview (with video) of the head of the shura

The group for the daily clock/seasonal calendar was very mixed (driver, disabled ex-de-miner for HALO Trust, market stall holder who sells mobile phone credit and is also the father of a mine accident survivor, student, farmer, old man). Most people (apart from Shura head) appeared poor, and were more difficult to interview than richer people who are more articulate and seem to understand the questions easier. Of the survivors, one impressed us with his good attitude to life, never giving up hope and actively looking for work. The Coalition forces bombing of the village towards the end of the war was very intense here and this event severely traumatised some residents as well as leaving unexploded cluster bombs in the water channel. The number of survivors is at odds with the number in the MACCA database (zero!).

Female team

The community knew that the team would visit. Women were waiting for them in a meeting point in the community center. The team was welcomed by the women, and they said they would give them their time. Mainly ERW (a lot of cluster munitions) contamination, and not so many landmines. Most ERW had been left behind around water points, in 2001. Bombing raids were also carried out by coalition forces in 2001. The main impacts of clearance have been construction of houses, and other buildings. There is a concern among the women in the community, and they are still worried that the area around the military area is still contaminated. There is a lack of schools in and close to the community, so the children have to go quite a long way. This has resulted in fewer children having the possibility to go to school.

The team experienced difficulties on the second day of visiting this village. Women in the community had heard that an organisation would distribute food and medicine, so many women showed up in the room where the meeting was arranged to take place. The expectations of the community women were very high – they expected the survey team to provide them with food and medicine. Despite these difficult circumstances, the survey team managed the situation well, and explained to the women they were not in a position to help them out with food and medicine.

Shakeeban, Zendajan District, Herat Province

Visited on 23-24 October 2011 by Teams A and C.

Shakeeban is a small town on the south side of the main Herat-Meshed road (about 2km down a dirt road). It is about 40 minutes drive from Herat. The town has shops, a Community Development Council building, a Disability Centre, high schools (separate schools for girls and boys), electricity, mobile phone coverage and other amenities. 21 hand pumps were supplied by UNAMA/DACCAR, but most of these are useless because they were wrongly located (little consultation). Houses are mainly traditional - mud, straw and brick-built. The town is about 2 km north of the main river (dry at the time of the visit). The inhabitants are pretty homogeneous ethnically, with most coming from the Mowdi? tribe (Turkmens). This has resulted in good community cohesion. There are no Taliban fighters.



Main street, Shakeeban

The men's survey team met the head of the shura and 14 other senior community members at the disability rehabilitation centre. The community is managed, and its development activities co-ordinated, by the shura.

Activities timetable for the men's survey team (first day only):

Left Herat	0840
Arrived Shakeeban	0900
Met with village leaders	0930
Time line	0940
Map / FGD poorer men	1000
FGD richer men	1035
FGD boys	1100
Visits to disability victim	1130
Visit to High School	1200
Left village for Herat	1230

Arrangements were made to interview survivors, conduct farmer interviews and do daily clocks and seasonal calendars on Day 2.

Shakeeban was in the front line of the civil war, and so heavily mined. Two minefields have been cleared and one is under clearance. We were told that >1000 livestock were killed by mines in addition to cars, machinery, tractors. Water tunnels and agricultural land was also affected. There has been no compensation for loss of livelihoods in this way.

There were 9 survivors (4 adults and 5 children). Arrangements were made to interview 2 survivors the next day.

There were no land disputes as most people have a land title certificate (land has been handed down from father to sons). There is no government land apart from where the CDC office is located.

80% of the population left the town during the troubles and returned from 1371 (1992) when land mine clearance started.

Development issues, Shakeeban

UN Habitat provides micro-finance to those who meet its criteria, as well as a community fund for those in need (this is small and doesn't rectify all the community problems).

The most serious problem in the community is the lack of water, both drinking and for irrigation. The river is 2 kms away, and dry at present due to the season and the drought. Diarrhoea is frequent and the amount of vegetables and crops has decreased due to the drought. They believe that shallow sub-surface water (that they are using for washing, drinking etc.) is contaminated by faecal matter. The few water wells are also open, leading to contamination. Deep boreholes would probably solve this problem, but they are looking to government to provide this. They would like to be self-sufficient with sustainable solutions. In addition to drought, flooding has been a problem in the past. About 10 years ago it flooded right up to the main road; crops and 70 houses were destroyed.

The area where a school is located used to be a minefield. A second cleared MF now includes a clinic. The third is still being cleared.



Boys high school built on cleared land

Disability Centre

The Centre is open to all (men, women, girls and boys) with any type of disability (including mental). It opened 16 years ago, funded by UNDP/UNOPS and OCHA. It is now supported by Handicap International. It has its own committee made up of the disabled, the community and the government. It has 4 activities:

- e) Awareness raising of disability and how to minimize it through MRE
- f) Physiotherapy
- g) Inclusion of those with disability into community affairs
- h) Capacity/confidence building for the disabled

The Centre has a 6-month project coordinated by MACCA/DMC, implemented by OMAR and paid for by the Italian government. This mainly centres around vocational training and the provision of materials in: tailoring, carpet making, carpentry and plumbing. The community is very happy with this project which provides skills and income to support the family.



Poster at the disability centre

We visited a lady who was disabled by polio. She is a widow, and tailors to provide money for her grandchildren.



Polio victim with sewing machine provided through the disability centre

Female team

The female survey team made up of three female surveyors met with a total of 12 ladies and four boys and three girls. The meeting was held in a “community meeting” room. One of the ladies who attended the meeting is the leader of the women’s Shura.

Time-line

At the beginning of the meeting many of the women said that they don’t know if there are any mined areas “*maybe the men know.*” The women said that 200 – 300 people were killed by landmines in this village (over the past 17 – 18 years), and that most of the victims were boys and men. 100 animals have

been killed. The women estimate that there is a total of 500 persons with disabilities in the village. Most of the women lived in Iran as refugees during the war. Many of them returned to the village about 17 – 18 years ago. When they returned to the village, a team of women delivered MRE to them. Most clearance activities were completed around 2006. *“Most areas have now been cleared.”* Amongst the buildings constructed on the cleared land are a school and a clinic.

Land ownership related issues

“Most have certificate of the land they own.” No land-disputes are known to the women. The women don't know how many landmines are left to be cleared. One area (Qroug) is believed to be mined. No people live in this area, it is used for wood collection from the nearby forest.

Main benefits of clearance activities

A considerable amount of construction has taken place in cleared areas. The community women informed us that 200 shops have been built in the cleared area, along with a school and other facilities such as cultural associations. The main land-uses in the cleared areas are cultivation activities. Clearance has freed up large areas of grazing land, and has unblocked access to safe firewood collection and collection of water. Corn, lentils and wheat are common crops that grow in the areas that have been cleared. Saffron is also grown. When asked about the income from these crops, the women said that this depends on the weather conditions, and how good the season was. It is common that men take the surplus crops to the market in Heart to be sold. One key impact of clearance is that women are no longer worried about their children having accidents. Before, the women used to worry a lot about their children.

Problems in the village

Qroug area of the community is a good source for firewood collection. The women would like this place to be surveyed and cleared, so they can have safe access to firewood collection. Women still use this area, but don't feel safe there when they collect firewood. The women didn't have very much information about landmine relates issues in the village, due to their limited movements outside the home.

ANNEX 4

Summary of economic impacts of mine action

Summary of economic data from the 4 villages

Parameter	By sex of respondents	Shikaban	Qalat-i-Ghazi	Jibraeel	Qala-e-Shater
Land price before clearance	Men	Low	Low	-	-
	Women	-	Low	Low	Afs20,000/jirib
Land price after clearance	Men	Afs100,000/jirib	Afs300-350,000/jirib	-	-
	Women	-	High	High	Afs2,400,00/jirib
Number of houses built	Men	75	30 in local village; 600 in wider area affected by hazards	450 in village; 10,000 in wider area	-
	Women	-	-	-	60
Value per house	Men	Afs 200-350,000	Afs 500,000-1million	-	Afs 3-4million
	Women	-	-	-	Afs 3.5-4million
Other infrastructure in hazard-affected area	From both	Clinic, schools, mosque, electricity, CDC office, shops built at cost of Afs500 each	Brick factory	Shops, embroidery factory (not functioning yet), schools, mosque, electricity supply (cost USD100k), water supply, telephone, roads, bridge, play areas.	Shops (cost Afs200 each), electricity
Crop yields	Men	Wheat: 630kg/jirib	Wheat: 630-11120 kg/jirib Sunflower: 350kg/jirib Maize: 1120kg/jirib	Wheat: 1260kg/jirib	Wheat: 560-2240kg/jirib (weather dependent)
	Women	-	Wheat: 140-1400kg/jirib	-	Wheat: 1680kg/jirib

Crop sale price in market	Men	Income from wheat per farm = Afs 160,000 per year	Wheat: Afs 17/kg Sunflower: Afs 43 /kg Maize: Afs17/kg NB: Production cost of wheat is USD195/jirib	Income from wheat per farm = Afs 160,000 per year	Wheat: Afs22/Kg
	Women	-	-	-	-
Numbers and grazing of livestock	Men	500 animals total (cows, sheep and donkeys)	Livestock graze arable land in spring and after harvest. Every household has 1-2 livestock	Livestock graze cropped land-	-
	Women	-	Livestock graze arable land for 3 months of the year	-	-
Income from livestock (per cow)	Men	USD200-300/year	USD200-250/year	-	Afs50,000/year (meat and milk)
	Women	-	-	-	Afs50,000/year (meat and milk)