

## GENDER EQUALITY AND INCLUSION

### The Ammunition Management Advisory Team

#### INTERVIEW

##### How does promoting diversity, equality and inclusion in your work help lead to better results?

The consequences of poorly managed stockpiles and the accidental explosions of ammunition depots impact everyone. However, the geographic location of the stockpile, as well as the social and economic position of the local population can influence who is killed, injured, displaced, or how livelihoods are disrupted. Furthermore, gender, age, disability and other context specific diversity factors are key determinants in how easy it is to recover livelihoods in the aftermath.

At AMAT we develop tools, concepts, policies and practices for states to better manage their national stockpiles and mitigate such risks. We always strive for diverse representation during discussions and activities to ensure these policies and practices represent the differentiated needs and priorities of all. We believe that this guarantees a wider engagement in the topic of ammunition management from all members of society.

##### Why is it important to mainstream gender and diversity in ammunition management?

The effects of the illegal diversion of ammunition are also highly gendered. Diversion of ammunition often contributes to the illicit trafficking of weapons and ammunition, which fuels armed conflict. Whilst the vast majority of direct victims of armed violence are men, gendered differences in the impact of conflict are well documented. Acknowledging the disproportionate ammunition risks and impact on people because of their gender is important to note as well as the gender imbalance in the field of ammunition management. Mainstreaming gender and diversity in our activities is one way of ensuring that AMAT's work responds to the needs of everyone.

##### Can you explain the importance of involving a gender advisor in your project and how it benefitted from it ?

AMAT recognises that there are obstacles to gender and diversity mainstreaming, in part due to underrepresentation of women and a lack of diversity. Recognising that gender mainstreaming remains a challenge in conventional ammunition, AMAT finds it important to continue using gender expert services expert in support of our work plans throughout the projects' implementation.



#### GET TO KNOW

##### The AMAT Team

In January 2019, the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) and the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) established a technical assistance mechanism entitled Ammunition Management Advisory Team (AMAT) to support States in ammunition management in accordance with the International Ammunition Technical Guidelines (IATG).

AMAT works with its partners to fulfill three objectives, namely: increased awareness of good practice, strengthened national capacities and more effective and sustainable international cooperation and assistance.

AMAT includes staff members from diverse backgrounds. The expertise of the team covers the technical, policy and programmatic areas pertaining to Conventional Ammunition Management and Arms Control.