



GICHD

REDUCING RISKS FROM EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE  
MAKING COMMUNITIES SAFE



# ANNUAL REPORT 2022



# CONTENTS

# LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS



NPA clearance site, Bosnia and Herzegovina, 2018 ©Johannes Müller

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**AAMVS** Arms and Ammunition Management Validation System  
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**A-MAP** Ammunition Management Activity Platform  
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**AMAT** Ammunition Management Advisory Team  
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**ARCP** Arab Regional Cooperation Programme  
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**EO** Explosive ordnance  
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**EORE** Explosive ordnance risk education  
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**EU** European Union  
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**GICHD** Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining  
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**GIS** Geographic information system  
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**IED** Improvised explosive device  
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**IM** Information management  
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**IMAS** International Mine Action Standards  
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**IMSMA** Information Management System for Mine Action  
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**NMAA** National Mine Action Authority  
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**QMS** Quality management system  
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**SDG** Sustainable Development Goal  
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# FOREWORD

For the past 25 years, the GICHD has worked towards reducing risks to communities caused by explosive ordnance. We are helping to develop and professionalise mine action and ammunition management for the benefit of our partners at global, regional, and national levels. Armed conflicts are surging globally and civilian populations represent 90% of the victims. Thus, the core mandate of the GICHD is more important than ever: saving lives and restoring safety to communities affected by explosive ordnance.

In 2022, the GICHD supported 54 countries and territories; contributions from 25 donors supported our commitment. The Centre adapted to the post-pandemic reality and increased the provision of remote support to complement its more traditional modes of intervention. While at times challenging, these adaptations further solidify the Centre's impact in allowing work in areas difficult to assess and thus strengthening our overall outreach.

Strengthening our partners' knowledge and skills is one of our fundamental commitments. Our objective is to empower countries and territories to address both new and legacy contamination efficiently and effectively, thus creating safety for affected communities. Supporting national partners towards the fulfilment of convention obligations and completion targets remains the priority for the Centre. Thereby, the Centre constantly deepens collaboration with different humanitarian, development, and peace actors to support sustainable livelihoods.

Our approach is needs-driven and our support builds on detailed assessments, ensuring high quality responses to specific challenges. Moreover, the GICHD invests significant resources in research and development, generating knowledge, good practice guidelines and tools for effective and efficient actions on the ground.

At the global level, the GICHD continues to support the implementation of international humanitarian law conventions through expert input and by helping to develop globally accepted standards in both mine action and ammunition management. Furthermore, the GICHD promotes dialogue and cooperation at the regional level through its cooperation programmes, which allow a dissemination of good practice, key tools and resources and their adaptation to specific regional realities.

Mine action is a collective effort; our achievements depend on the support of our donors and the expertise and commitment of our co-workers and partners, whom we thank wholeheartedly. A world in which societies can thrive free from explosive ordnance is possible and remains our goal.



**Dr Barbara Haering**  
GICHD President



**Ambassador Stefano Toscano**  
GICHD Director

# THE GICHD

Joint Quality Management in Mine Action course with The HALO Trust in Ukraine, 2022 ©GICHD



# WHO WE ARE

The GICHD works towards reducing risks to communities caused by explosive ordnance, with a focus on landmines, cluster munitions, explosive remnants of war and unsafely and insecurely managed conventional ammunition. As an internationally recognised centre of expertise and knowledge, the GICHD helps national authorities, international and regional organisations, NGOs and commercial operators in several affected countries and territories, to develop and professionalise mine action and ammunition management.

Through its work, the GICHD strives for the implementation of conventions, for completion targets to be reached, communities protected from explosive harm, and land restored to communities. This work saves lives, facilitates the safe return of displaced populations, supports gender equality and inclusion, and promotes peace, and sustainable development.



**89**

STAFF MEMBERS



**53**   **36**

WOMEN   MEN



**31**

NATIONALITIES



**24**

WORKING LANGUAGES

## HOW THE GICHD WORKS



**Norms and Standards**

Support for the development and implementation of standardisation processes and of instruments of international humanitarian law



**Dialogue and Cooperation**

Facilitating the exchange of good practice and regional cooperation between affected countries



**Advice and Training**

Field support to develop national capacities and national ownership of programmes



**Knowledge and Research**

Technical and policy research to develop or adapt concepts, methods and tools for mine action and ammunition management operations

# THE IMPACT OF EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE

Long after conflicts have ended, explosive ordnance continues to kill, injure and impact the daily lives of affected communities. The vast majority of people killed or injured by landmines, cluster munitions, and other explosive ordnance are civilians, and half of them are children. In 67 countries and territories, these weapons are found along roads and borders, near homes and schools, and in other places where daily life continues. This forces an estimated 60 million people to live in fear and at risk, especially when there is no alternative road to school, no access to medical care nearby, no safe land to farm. Many countries and territories also face the risk of unplanned explosions from poorly managed ammunition stockpiles.

Explosive ordnance continues to cause a high number of casualties during and after armed conflict, despite significant efforts over the past two decades to limit their impact. In Ukraine, one year after the escalation of the conflict, the magnitude of the contamination has increased dramatically and is now massive, threatening the lives of civilians and disrupting food production, transportation, and access to humanitarian aid, often where it is most needed. Several years of humanitarian demining efforts will be required after such devastating hostilities, illustrating the need to intensify support for mine action work and encourage collaboration across the humanitarian, peace, and development sectors.

## EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE HARMS PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES DURING AND AFTER CONFLICT



### People and families suffer

- ▼ Injury, death, life-long disability, trauma including for family members of the person affected by explosive ordnance
- ▼ Unable to access basic services such as water, education, health
- ▼ Forced to leave homes and communities in dangerous situations



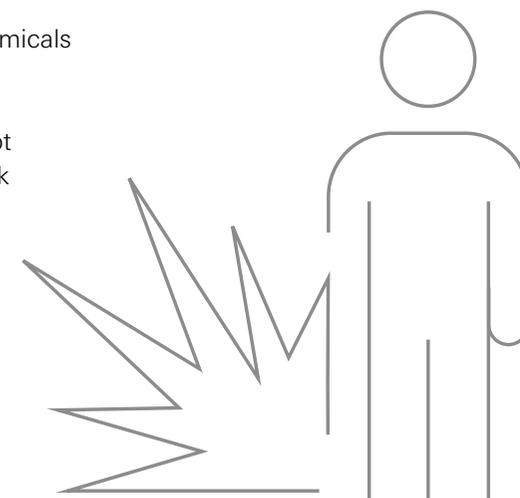
### Humanitarian aid blocked

- ▼ Aid supplies and services cannot be safely delivered
- ▼ Roads, medical institutions and other facilities damaged or destroyed
- ▼ Displaced persons and refugees must be provided for



### Future development impeded

- ▼ Explosives leave harmful chemicals and accelerate soil erosion
- ▼ Reconstruction delayed or not completed because of EO risk
- ▼ Access to livelihoods and services unsafe until EO is cleared



# COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES SUPPORTED IN 2022



## EUROPE

- |                        |         |                 |
|------------------------|---------|-----------------|
| Albania                | Cyprus  | Moldova         |
| Armenia                | Georgia | North Macedonia |
| Azerbaijan             | Germany | Serbia          |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | Italy   | Turkey          |
| Croatia                | Kosovo  | Ukraine         |

## AMERICA

- Chile
- Colombia
- Ecuador
- El Salvador
- Guatemala
- Peru

## AFRICA

- |                          |                        |            |                |
|--------------------------|------------------------|------------|----------------|
| Angola                   | Dem. Republic of Congo | Mauritania | South Sudan    |
| Benin                    | Egypt                  | Niger      | Sudan          |
| Burkina Faso             | Guinea Bissau          | Nigeria    | Western Sahara |
| Central African Republic | Libya                  | Senegal    | Zambia         |
| Chad                     | Mali                   | Somalia    | Zimbabwe       |

## ASIA

- |             |                      |            |
|-------------|----------------------|------------|
| Afghanistan | Palestine            | Tajikistan |
| Cambodia    | Solomon Islands      | Thailand   |
| Iraq        | Sri Lanka            | Vietnam    |
| Jordan      | Syrian Arab Republic | Yemen      |
| Lebanon     |                      |            |

In 2022, the GICHD supported national authorities, international and regional organisations, and operators in 54 countries and territories.

The GICHD adapted to the post-pandemic reality by reinforcing its remote support, reaching isolated or otherwise inaccessible areas, and strengthening overall outreach. However, when in-person contact was deemed essential and destinations were accessible, GICHD staff travelled to provide on-site support, liaise with partners and donors, and organise workshops and training courses.



**54**  
countries and territories supported



**28**  
workshops and training courses provided

# OUR PARTNERS

## **NATIONAL AUTHORITIES**

The GICHD provides expert support to national authorities to develop national plans, manage mine action programmes, and fulfil their treaty obligations. National capacity and local ownership are key to building successful and sustainable programmes.

## **MINE ACTION OPERATORS**

The GICHD cooperates closely with local, national, and international operators through advisory services, training courses, policy advice and outreach activities.

## **AMMUNITION MANAGEMENT ACTORS**

The GICHD cooperates with national government departments and armed forces, agencies of the United Nations, and other international and regional organisations, to enhance the safety and security of stockpiled ammunition.

## **INTERNATIONAL TREATY BODIES**

The GICHD hosts and provides support to the Implementation Support Units of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention and the Convention on Cluster Munitions, as per agreements with the States Parties.

## **INTERNATIONAL GENEVA**

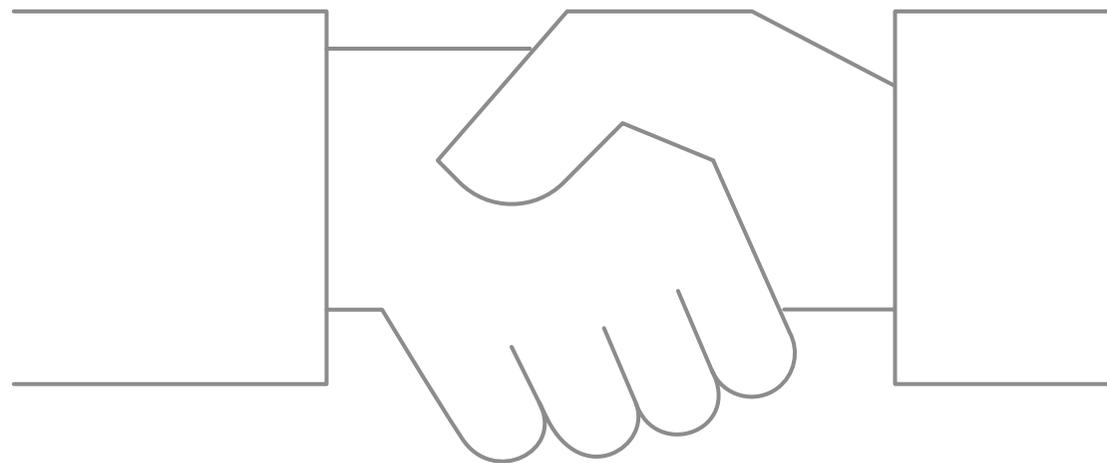
The GICHD nurtures partnerships with other actors in the humanitarian, peace and disarmament spheres, including within the Maison de la paix campus in Geneva where the Centre is located.

## **PRIVATE SECTOR**

The GICHD and its partners benefit from relationships with the private sector, service providers and vendors, including with privately-owned geographic information systems technology leader Esri. Through its biennial Technology Workshop, the GICHD also offers a venue for many commercial organisations to showcase their capabilities and create synergies within the sector.

## **INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL ORGANISATIONS**

The GICHD works with international and regional organisations, including the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, as well as regional bodies involved in explosive ordnance risk reduction.



# 2022 RESULTS

# 2022 RESULTS AT A GLANCE

## 1

National strategies are developed, adopted and implemented by states, according to good practice

### PROJECTS

- ▼ Strategic Planning in Mine Action

### RESULTS

**2 strategy assessments completed**

Kosovo, Sri Lanka

**2 national strategies developed in line with good practice**

Italy, Sri Lanka

**2 strategies revised**

Kosovo, Zimbabwe

**4 strategies implemented with the support of the GICHD**

Germany, Iraq, Kosovo, Zimbabwe

**2 national strategies integrated GD considerations**

Italy, Sri Lanka

## 2

National standards are developed, adopted and implemented by states, according to international standards

- ▼ National Mine Action Standards (NMAS) Development Assistance
- ▼ Risk Management in Mine Action

**3 NMAS needs assessments completed**

Armenia, Guinea-Bissau, Mauritania

**3 NMAS reviewed and updated**

Angola, Cambodia, Vietnam

**3 workshops conducted, attended by 125 people (107 men and 18 women)**

- ▼ Angola (NMAS review)
- ▼ Cambodia (NMAS review)
- ▼ South-East Asia region (RCM)



A suspected hazardous area in Bosnia and Herzegovina where operations cannot occur owing to the site's distance from the nearest hospital. ©GICHD

# 3



States and other partners use quality information to support their programming and operational management

## PROJECTS

- ▼ Information Management Support
- ▼ Information Management Training
- ▼ Global Geoservices
- ▼ IMSMA Core
- ▼ IMSMA Open Knowledge Base
- ▼ UNMAS IMSMA Core Implementation
- ▼ IMSMA New Generation (NG) Maintenance
- ▼ Remote Sensing Development
- ▼ IMSMA Core Infrastructure

## RESULTS

**7 IM assessments conducted**  
Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Lebanon, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Yemen

**2 States improved their IM capacity score**  
Bosnia and Herzegovina, Lebanon

**26 States/partners adopted IMSMA Core**

▼ **11 national mine action centres adopting IMSMA Core**

Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Cambodia, Colombia, Lebanon, Libya, Solomon Islands, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Yemen

▼ **15 UNMAS programmes using IMSMA tools**

Abyei, Afghanistan, Central African Republic, Colombia, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Iraq, Mali, Nigeria, Palestine, Somalia, South Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Western Sahara and UNMAS headquarters

▼ **1 partner adopted IMSMA Core**

Mayday Rescue Foundation for the Syrian Arab Republic

**3 States/partners incorporated humanitarian datasets into their IM systems**

Ukraine, UNMAS, Yemen



# 4



Land release is implemented by states and other partners, according to good practice

- ▼ Quality Management System and Operational Efficiency
- ▼ Land Release Outreach
- ▼ Land Release Research
- ▼ Explosive Ordnance

**1 baseline assessment completed**  
Yemen

**1 scoping mission completed**  
Ukraine

**3 tools developed and implemented**  
MACRA, CORD, Equipment e-Catalogue

**2 publications/studies published**

Editions 1 and 2 of the Explosive Ordnance Guide for Ukraine

**3 publications/studies developed**

- ▼ Operational Efficiency in Mine Action
- ▼ Guide to Ageing of Explosive Ordnance in the Environment
- ▼ Difficult Terrain in Mine Action

**9 training courses delivered, attended by 194 people (154 men and 40 women)**

- ▼ **1 global course for operations managers** in Switzerland
- ▼ **3 QM courses**, in the Balkans, Turkey and Ukraine
- ▼ **3 courses on NTS**, in Ukraine, Yemen and a global course in Switzerland
- ▼ **2 courses on TS**, in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Turkey

# 5

Regional cooperation furthers the exchange, dissemination and adoption of good practice

## PROJECTS

- ▼ Arab Regional Cooperation Programme (ARCP)
- ▼ Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia Regional Cooperation Programme (EECCA-RCP)
- ▼ Francophone Regional Cooperation Programme (FRCP)

# 6

Risks from explosive ordnance are reduced in a gender and diversity sensitive and responsive manner

- ▼ Gender and Diversity Training and Online Learning
- ▼ Gender and Diversity Research
- ▼ Gender and Diversity Assessments and Technical Assistance
- ▼ Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE)\*
- ▼ Explosive Ordnance Risk Education Essentials E-Learning Course

## RESULTS

### 20 NMAAs/mine action programmes exchanged good practice

Benin (CPADD), Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Palestine, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Yemen

### 4 NMAAs/mine action programmes adopted good practice

Iraq, Lebanon, Somalia, Yemen

### 17 mine action resources/chapters of the IMAS translated into local languages

5 into Arabic, 12 into French

### 3 countries' GD assessments completed

Armenia, Cambodia, Yemen

### 4 countries/partners equipped with GD capacity

Halo Trust Iraq, International Demining and Explosive Ordnance Disposal Company Jordan, MAG Lebanon, NPA Vietnam

### 22 countries/partners adopted methods, tools or approaches developed, promoted or shared by the EORE Advisory Group and the GICHD

ARMAC, Burundi Civil Defense and Disaster Management, DCA, DRC/DDG, Executive Secretariat for the Demining and Development of the Northwest Coast in Egypt, Free Fields Foundation (3F), HALO Trust, Haut Commissariat National de Déminage (HCND), HI, ICRC, LMAC, MAG, National Humanitarian Mine Action Committee Nigeria, Palestinian Mine Action Center (PMAC), Senegalese National Mine Action Centre / Centre National d'Action Antimines au Sénégal (CNAMS), SPADO, Sudan National Mine Action Center, UNHCR, University of Balamand, UNMAS and YEMAC

### 2 policy documents/ strategies/plans/agendas promoting EORE produced

DCA global results framework, mine action/EORE module for the UNHCR Humanitarian Protection in Armed Conflict toolkit

### 3 publications on GD produced

### 8 training courses and workshops conducted, attended by 1,213 people

- ▼ **5 GDEI events:** workshop to share the ARMAC study, Arab RCP GFP community of practice workshop, online GFP course, inclusive leadership course in Iraq, workshop for HI
- ▼ **3 EORE workshops:** ARCP, FRCP, PfP digital workshop

\*The data was collected through the EORE AG stakeholder survey filled by responders either in organisational and/or individual capacity.

# 7



Ammunition is managed by states according to good practice

## PROJECTS

- ▼ Ammunition Management Advisory Team (AMAT)
- ▼ Standardised Assessment Methodology for Ammunition Through-Life Management
- ▼ Support to United Nations SaferGuard Programme
- ▼ Feasibility Study and Development of Arms and Ammunition Management Validation System (AAMVs)
- ▼ Comprehensive Training Programme on the International Ammunition Technical Guidelines (IATG)
- ▼ Digitalised IATG for International Use
- ▼ NATO Handbook on Building Integrity in LCM of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) and Ammunition

## RESULTS

### 6 baseline assessments on SSMA completed

Albania, El Salvador, Guatemala, North Macedonia, Peru

### 20 States/territories/ partners assisted in improving their SSMA in line with good practice

- ▼ **10 States/territories:** Albania, El Salvador, Georgia, Guatemala, Kosovo, Moldova, North Macedonia, Peru, United States of America, Zambia
- ▼ **10 partners:** EU, Golden West Humanitarian Foundation, HALO Trust, ITF, RECSA, SEESAC, Swiss Federal Department of Defence, Civil Protection and Sport, UNIDIR, UN SaferGuard programme, United States European Command

### 4 States made ammunition stocks safer and more secure in line with good practice in the IATG

El Salvador, Guatemala, Moldova, Peru

### 6 candidates added to the roster of ammunition management experts following the 2022 UN SaferGuard expert validation exercise for the Middle East and North Africa region

### 5 tools developed

A-MAP, AAMVS (self-assessment tool), digitalisation of the IATG using a beta version, IATG training package, standardised assessment methodology

### 9 publications/working papers developed

- ▼ 2 informal dialogue working papers
- ▼ Contributed to Explosive Ordnance Guide for Ukraine
- ▼ Framing document for the NATO Building Integrity handbook
- ▼ 'The Bata Explosions: Lessons Learned' in Counter-IED Report, Winter 2021/22
- ▼ AAMVS Phase II final report (to be published in 2023)



© AMAT/GICHD

# 8

Implementation of Conventions is fostered through the provision of expertise and logistical support

## PROJECTS

- ▼ Substantive Support to International Humanitarian Law (IHL)
- ▼ Logistical Support to International Humanitarian Law (IHL)
- ▼ Gender and Diversity Support to Conventions

# 9

Relevant concepts, methods and tools are captured in international standards

- ▼ International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) Secretariat
- ▼ IMAS Development and Outreach

## RESULTS

**7** extension requests reflecting GICHD input submitted under the APMBC (Serbia, Sudan, Thailand, Yemen) and the CCM (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Chad, Chile)

**3** States supported in APMBC implementation using a country-focused and individualised approach Chad, Cambodia, South Sudan

**60** references to GICHD substantive (44) and logistical (16) support in statements or other types of intervention by

**35** States/partners

Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Ethiopia, Germany, Guinea Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Lebanon, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), Norway, Serbia, Sri Lanka, Spain, Somalia, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Yemen, Zimbabwe, APMBC ISU

**3** new IMAS standards and T&EPs submitted for consideration and approved by the IMAS Review Board

- ▼ IMAS 07.50 on the Management of Human Remains in Mine Action
- ▼ T&EP 07.31/01/2022 on the Setting of Animal Detection Systems Testing Sites
- ▼ T&EP 07.31/02/2022 on the Competencies Required for Animal Detection System Handlers, Team Leaders and Instructors

**12** IMAS standards/ TNMAs/ T&EPs revised

- ▼ IMAS 05.10; IMAS 06.10; IMAS 07.50; IMAS 08.40; IMAS 9.30; IMAS 10.30; IMAS 13.10
- ▼ TNMA 12.10/01
- ▼ T&EP 07.31/01/2022; T&EP 07.31.02.2022; T&EP 09.30/01/2022; T&EP 09.31/01/2019

**3** IMAS training courses and outreach workshops conducted attended by

**53** people (44 men and 9 women)

- ▼ 1 Global workshop on ARE in Switzerland
- ▼ 1 PfP IMAS and conformance course
- ▼ 1 Workshop in Mauritania

**890** people (657 men and 233 women) completed the introductory online IMAS e-learning course

# 10



International normative and policy processes are informed by evidence

## PROJECTS

- ▼ Multilateral Discussions on Conventional Weapons and Ammunition

# 11



The reduction of risks from explosive ordnance contributes to humanitarian action and sustainable development

- ▼ Mine action and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- ▼ Gender and Diversity Global Policy

## RESULTS

### 7 statements/ presentations delivered in contribution to international normative and policy processes

- ▼ 2 statements and 1 presentation at the second substantive session of the OEWG on Conventional Ammunition
- ▼ 2 presentations at Wilton Park meetings
- ▼ 2 presentations in plenaries of the 25<sup>th</sup> NDM-UN

### 5 plenary sessions/ side events organized in contribution to international normative and policy processes

- ▼ 1 at the Eighth Biennial Meeting of States of the UN Programme of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons
- ▼ 1 at the Eighth Conference of States Parties to the ATT
- ▼ 1 plenary session on IM at the 25<sup>th</sup> NDM-UN
- ▼ 2 side events on MACRA and IMAS at the 25<sup>th</sup> NDM-UN

### 3 SDG-aligned national strategies/ standards/ policies developed

Iraq, Italy, Sri Lanka

### 3 publications linking mine action and broader agendas produced

Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Colombia

### 16 events/presentations attended/given linking EORE with gender equality, humanitarian action, peace, security and development

- ▼ **9 presentations** (Cambodia High-level Dialogue on Mine Action, GCSP Trainee Diplomats course, GICHD global workshop on all reasonable effort, Northeastern University, 88<sup>th</sup> PfP course for mine action operations managers, Sciences Po, University of Geneva, UNMAS Mine Action Symposium, WIT Virtual Voices)
- ▼ **1 event** (including presentation) contributing to the National Stakeholder Dialogue on mine action (Colombia)
- ▼ **1 training course** in Bosnia and Herzegovina
- ▼ **1 workshop** presenting preliminary findings in Somalia
- ▼ **1 panel discussion** (side event at the 25<sup>th</sup> NDM-UN meeting)
- ▼ **3 case study** launch events
  - Bosnia and Herzegovina** (44 participants; 24 men and 20 women)/
  - Cambodia** (66 participants; 51 men and 15 women)/
  - Colombia** (87 participants; 41 men and 46 women).



Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons, November 2022 ©GICHD

# 2022 RESULTS

## GENDER AND DIVERSITY

At the GICHD we believe that all people should enjoy the same rights, opportunities, and protections. However, in every country around the world, people's lives are shaped by their identity, relationships, and by social factors. When these combine with discrimination — based on age, gender, ethnic or racial group, disability status, sexual orientation, migratory status, or other factors — they create situations in which some people

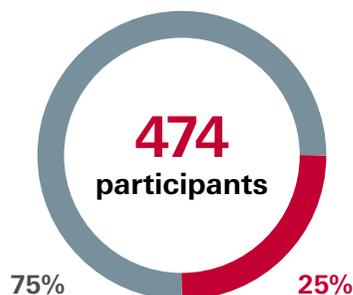
face fewer challenges exercising their rights or have better opportunities than others.

The GICHD strives to promote gender equality, diversity, and inclusion in its work. One way in which we do this is by including people from a diverse range of backgrounds and identities in GICHD-organised events. This helps to ensure that people with a diverse range

of backgrounds and identities are actively involved in identifying solutions to the problems caused by explosive ordnance. Promoting diverse representation in GICHD-organised events also supports global frameworks such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular SDG 5 Gender Equality and SDG 10 Reduced Inequalities, and also UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security.



### TRAINING COURSES



**354**  
men

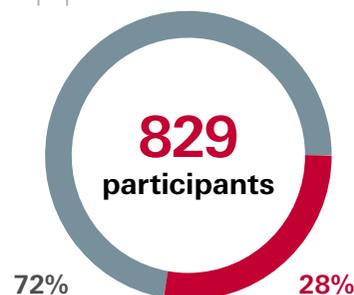
**120**  
women

**59%**  
from an  
EO-affected  
country or  
territory\*

**55%**  
from an  
EO-affected  
country or  
territory\*



### WORKSHOPS



**598**  
men

**231**  
women

**69%**  
from an  
EO-affected  
country or  
territory\*

**60%**  
from an  
EO-affected  
country or  
territory\*



### PANELS

**100%**  
of GICHD-organised  
panels were  
gender-diverse

**75%**  
included representatives  
from EO-affected  
countries or territories



### DELEGATIONS

**100%**  
of the Centre's delegations to  
international conferences were  
gender-diverse

**40%**  
of statements were delivered in  
Arabic, French or Spanish

**22%**  
were delivered by GICHD staff  
from EO-affected countries

\* Where the origin and/or nationality was recorded

## INTERNATIONAL GENDER CHAMPIONS

Showing the GICHD's commitment at the highest level, our Director Ambassador Stefano Toscano is part of the International Gender Champions network, bringing together decision makers to break down gender barriers. Building on work initiated in 2021 towards the entry into force of the GICHD's safeguarding accountability framework, highlights from 2022 include:



**90%** of staff participated in 'safeguarding awareness' training and **86%** of staff participated in 'upstander intervention' training;



**17 out of 27** GICHD line managers and heads of division attended a session on how to receive and respond to sensitive complaints;



A **Safeguarding and Legal Compliance Manager** was recruited.

The Centre continues to promote and uphold the Panel Parity Pledge and to strengthen internal policies, frameworks and practices for gender equality, diversity, and inclusion.



GICHD's visit to Kosovo, 2021 ©GICHD/Giovanni Diffidenti

# A FOCUS ON UKRAINE

Ukraine was one of the countries most affected by explosive ordnance (EO) in the world even prior to the current conflict, with the highest casualty rate in Europe in 2021. Pre-2022 casualties stemmed from legacy contamination and contamination caused by the conflict in Donbas in 2014–15. One year after the escalation of the conflict, ongoing hostilities have resulted in further heavy contamination in many parts of the country.

The GICHD has been working with the authorities in Ukraine to increase national-level capacity since 2012, making it well placed to intensify support after the escalation of the conflict.

Soon after the escalation of the conflict, and following a rapid assessment, the GICHD engaged in a series of initiatives: in the field of information management, the GICHD focused its efforts on enhancing and maintaining the Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA), which continued with almost no interruption due to the conflict. IMSMA, the GICHD's flagship platform, is a technical solution to aggregate, interpret, and share data across partners and sources, mapping areas where explosive ordnance is identified, which builds the foundation for effective and efficient demining operations. The GICHD also developed an Explosive Ordnance Guide for Ukraine with two editions produced in 2022, which outlines more than 170 types of mines and explosive ordnance found in Ukraine, serving as a practical reference for humanitarian teams working on the ground to identify items they find, especially when online sources are difficult to access. Both editions are available in Ukrainian and English.

With the ongoing hostilities, increased explosive ordnance contamination is posing a threat to civilians' lives and livelihoods, highlighting the critical importance of explosive ordnance risk education (EORE). Working via the EORE Advisory Group including experts from the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), UN agencies, international organisations and NGOs, the GICHD helped develop and translate a Ukraine-focused EORE Q&A Fact Sheet. The factsheet, published in March 2022, provides guidance on EORE for organisations responding to the crisis in Ukraine.

In consultation with national authorities, the GICHD amended its approach to technical training, ensuring that all thematic courses were delivered on-site in Ukraine, tailored to the context. Towards the end of the year, the GICHD conducted bespoke training courses in quality management and non-technical survey.

In November 2022, the GICHD facilitated a Ukraine mine action donor coordination workshop in Geneva. The event, opened by the Ukrainian Minister of Defence and

Chair of the National Mine Action Authority (NMAA), was attended by 76 representatives from the Ukrainian authorities, and donor and partner organisations. The Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs was in attendance, as well as high-level representatives from the Ministry of Defence, State Emergency Services and Ministry for Reintegration. The workshop was an incubator for practical solutions, action points and next steps towards addressing key operational challenges in a cooperative manner and based on local needs. It explored new avenues to implement mine action coordination efforts to, eventually, serve as a catalyst to positively impact the lives of Ukrainian communities. The results included an agreed series of operational actions which are being monitored by the GICHD.

The GICHD reaffirms its commitment to working alongside national authorities and the international mine action community in Ukraine — taking urgent action to save lives today and setting the stage for reconstruction and sustainable development in the longer term.



Joint Quality Management in Mine Action course with The HALO Trust in Ukraine, 2022 ©GICHD

# 2022 HIGHLIGHTS

GICHD's Visit to Laos, 2022 © GICHD

# MINE ACTION STRATEGIES

Developing and implementing national mine action strategies to strengthen national authorities' ownership over their mine action programme



GICHD's visit to Sri Lanka, 2022 ©GICHD

**“The GICHD has provided invaluable support to Sri Lanka’s mine action programme on strategy development and survey. My experience working with the GICHD is that it is very results oriented and collaborative, involving all relevant stakeholders in a friendly manner until the final goal is reached. The GICHD is supporting us in so many areas to achieve our strategic goals and I value the organisation as a very important partner.”**

**V. Premachanthiran,**

Deputy Director, NMAC, Sri Lanka / Director, Housing & Construction  
Ministry of Urban Development & Housing

For the past 12 years, the GICHD has acted as an external, neutral partner, facilitating the assessment, development, review, and implementation of national and donor mine action strategies, always promoting national ownership, reflected in its close and multi-year partnerships with affected and donor countries. Strategic planning processes further provide stakeholders with important platforms to discuss challenges and problems in the mine action programme and to identify solutions together.

In 2022, the GICHD supported five affected countries and territories — Armenia, Iraq, Kosovo, Sri Lanka, and Zimbabwe — to develop, implement and review mine action strategies in accordance with good practice. The GICHD also successfully provided support to Italy, a donor country, with the development of its first ever humanitarian mine action strategy.

In 2022, Sri Lanka continued to face political instability and a severe economic crisis, with high levels of inflation and food insecurity. Despite these challenges, the mine action programme continued to implement survey, clearance and explosive ordnance risk education (EORE) activities, a testament to its dedication and resilience. The GICHD worked closely with all

stakeholders throughout 2022, supporting Sri Lanka’s completion process, including the development of completion survey forms and Sri Lanka’s National Mine Action Completion Strategy 2023–2027.

To ensure the new strategy was developed in an inclusive manner, the GICHD worked closely with the government of Sri Lanka and helped facilitate two stakeholder workshops. A 3-day strategy stakeholder workshop resulted in a theory of change that provided the basis for Sri Lanka’s completion strategy. This new strategy will guide the implementation of Sri Lanka’s completion process and the completion of its proactive survey and clearance activities by the end of 2027. The strategy also includes a strategic objective on staff transition, focusing on the phased redundancy and transition of thousands of deminers to alternative, sustainable economic activities as the programme gradually reduces in size leading up to 2027. Ministry representatives from the government of Sri Lanka and international donors have been engaged throughout the strategic planning process, ensuring they are firmly onboard. The government of Sri Lanka approved its completion strategy in March 2023, launched with a high-level event in Colombo. This was a key milestone towards reaching its mine-free status.

## RESOURCE

→ [Sri Lanka National Mine Action Completion Strategy 2023–2027](#)

# POLICY

## Strengthening the connections between explosive ordnance risk reduction and broader agendas

In countries and territories affected by explosive ordnance contamination, mine action is well-positioned to foster cooperation with different humanitarian, development and peace actors, in an effort to maximise the impact of responses in line with the triple nexus approach. Relying on strong partnerships with a variety of actors, the GICHD continues to support the mine action sector to enhance links between mine action and sustainable development outcomes and to increase coordination across the triple nexus.

To demonstrate these connections, the GICHD collected and shared evidence on how mine action interventions in different contexts contributed to sustainable development outcomes in the medium and long term. Collaborating with Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, and Colombia, the GICHD published three case studies in 2022 that comprehensively mapped the sustainable development outcomes of mine action activities in each of these countries.

The GICHD's support to Bosnia and Herzegovina resulted in the inclusion of the achievements of mine action in the country's national reports on implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, illustrating the direct contribution of mine action in attaining sustainable development.

In Colombia, findings from the study underlined the importance of mine action for economic growth, social cohesion, environmental protection, confidence-building, and peace efforts. The study provided evidence of the transformative and multidimensional role of comprehensive mine action in Colombia, identifying direct contributions to 16 Sustainable Development Goals and at least 83 of their associated targets.

The Cambodia case study provided evidence on how the design and implementation of integrated mine action and development programmes have the potential to achieve better humanitarian and development outcomes, ensuring the relevance of mine action interventions, in the medium and long term.

In 2022, the GICHD also enhanced collaboration across the triple nexus at a local level through its partnership with the University of Geneva, with the Geneva-Tsinghua Initiative. Through this partnership, the GICHD provides mentorship to students working on innovation, human development and sustainability. This collaboration not only creates a more enabling learning environment for aspirational young professionals, but also helps bridge the efforts of academia and the humanitarian and development sectors in linking mine action and sustainable development.



GICHD's visit to Bosnia and Herzegovina © UNDP-GICHD

**“We are happy to know that contaminated land that is released [...] is in use by the local population, [...] creating conditions for sustainable development programmes in the country.”**

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A representative from Norwegian People's Aid, at the study launch event for “The Sustainable Development Outcomes of Mine Action in Bosnia and Herzegovina”

### RESOURCES

- [The Sustainable Development Outcomes of Mine Action in Bosnia and Herzegovina](#)
- [The Sustainable Development Outcomes of Mine Action in Cambodia](#)
- [Contribuciones de la acción integral contra minas al desarrollo sostenible en Colombia](#)

# INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

## Promoting the exchange of innovative knowledge and practice in the field of information management

Through the GICHD's information management (IM) work, the Centre is continuously finding new ways to promote information sharing between peers and allowing them to stay updated on the latest trends and innovations.

In 2022, the GICHD initiated a series of information management webinars, providing IM practitioners with a platform to share their experiences, learn from good practices, introduce new ideas and practical solutions as well as highlight their accomplishments. In 2022, the webinars managed to elevate the voices of 118 IM professionals (including 25% women) from 35 organisations, and to encourage dialogue between them.

To strengthen information management qualifications within the field of mine action, the GICHD developed and launched two e-learning modules: 'Introduction to GIS (geographic information systems) for Mine Action' and 'Introduction to ArcGIS Enterprise'. Through this initiative, the GICHD trained more than 210 participants in 2022.

The first module 'Introduction to GIS for Mine Action' provides a solid basis for understanding concepts fundamental to GIS, how to use and identify the GIS capabilities in mine action as well as describe the system and its core features. This module allows

participants to understand how GIS enables mine action programmes to improve their quality of information. The second module 'Introduction to ArcGIS Enterprise' is a resource for understanding key concepts of the system architecture and equips participants on the use of Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) Core including the purpose of web applications and dashboards. By making these courses accessible online, the GICHD reached a more diverse pool of participants; a positive step towards promoting inclusive and accessible information management courses.



Launch event webinar in May 2022 ©GICHD

**“All topics included in the modules are inherently connected and mutually complementary, so [I] consider this as a sophisticated package where I can alternately focus on the topic most relevant at a particular point in time and on the workflows within a certain mine action project.”**

Feedback from a participant of the e-learning modules

## RESOURCE

→ [Information management e-learning modules trailer](#)

# AMMUNITION MANAGEMENT

Fostering coordination and innovation in the field of conventional ammunition management



**“The AAMVS is a process that helps build confidence between export and import countries on weapons and ammunition management practices and export controls.”**

AAMVS Phase II Expert Working Group member

The Ammunition Management Advisory Team (AMAT) was established in 2019 as a division of the GICHD and in partnership with UN SaferGuard to support states in ammunition management, thereby contributing to reducing the risk of unplanned explosions and the illicit diversion of ammunition worldwide, thus making communities safer. With increased requests for assistance from states and partners and recognising a need for a shared understanding of the global picture of the work in the field of conventional ammunition management, AMAT created the Ammunition Management Activity Platform (A-MAP). This platform offers a comprehensive overview of past and current ammunition management projects that have been undertaken by diverse countries and organisations across the globe.

By providing easily accessible, accurate, and regularly updated information about who is doing what and where in the field, the aim of this unique platform is to support its diverse stakeholders in being increasingly coordinated, thus fostering maximal and sustainable results.

As such, the A-MAP has the potential to become a reference tool for all those who are active in the field of conventional ammunition management — to foster coordination and, ultimately, to enhance effective risk

mitigation towards more stable states and societies. Since its launch in September 2022 and by the end of the year, the A-MAP website had already received over 2400 visitors from 134 different countries, highlighting its global reach and impact within just a few months.

In 2022, the GICHD successfully completed the implementation of European Union (EU) Council Decisions (CFSP) 2020/979 and (CFSP) 2021/2075, to explore the feasibility and subsequent development of an Arms and Ammunition Management Validation System (AAMVS), a tool aimed at promoting and recognising good practices in stockpile management. Working closely with EU agencies, EU member states, think tanks and partner organisations, the GICHD produced a draft version of a self-assessment tool designed to enable states to exchange information about their ability to manage small arms and light weapons and ammunition, safely and securely. The Centre also conducted an analysis to identify the necessary features and variables for a reliable validation system for arms and ammunition management. In November 2022, EU Council Decision (CFSP) 2022/2275 was adopted and mandates the GICHD to develop the AAMVS over the next 3 years, aiming to ultimately inform decision-making processes around stockpile management within the EU, and globally.

## RESOURCES

- ➔ [Arms and Ammunition Management Validation System](#)
- ➔ [Ammunition Management Activity Platform \(A-MAP\)](#)

# MULTILATERAL WORK

## Supporting the development of normative frameworks on conventional arms and ammunition

Most conventional arms and ammunition can be legally produced, transferred, and used, provided this is done in compliance with international humanitarian law rules and principles. However, several international processes have emerged over time to limit their negative impacts, particularly on civilian populations. The GICHD supports these processes, which are fundamental for the development of international normative frameworks, by bringing experience and good practice from the field, as well as expert input and advice that help to inform discussions and support evidence-based decision-making at the multilateral level.

In 2022, the GICHD supported the work of the Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG) on Conventional Ammunition, established with UN General Assembly resolution 76/233 (24 December 2021) to develop a set of political commitments as a new global framework to address existing gaps in through-life ammunition management. During its first two substantive sessions held in the United States and in Switzerland, the GICHD supported the Group's work in both formal and informal meetings, through the provision of policy and legal advice to the Chair including the delivery of an expert briefing on existing global, regional and subregional processes. The GICHD also delivered statements during plenary sessions and organised a side event on through-life ammunition management.

The GICHD also contributed to the annual meeting of Mine Action National Directors and United Nations Advisers (NDM-UN25), leading a plenary session entitled 'Maximising Information Management', and side events on the mine action central repository of accident data and the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS). The Centre also delivered presentations during side events and plenary sessions organised by partners, including on EORE and measuring the long-term impacts of mine action.



Ambassador Stefano Toscano on a panel at the annual meeting of National Mine Action Directors and UN Advisers in 2022 © GICHD

## RESOURCES

➔ [OEWG on Ammunition](#)

➔ [NDM-UN25](#)

# GENDER AND DIVERSITY

Documenting the impact of the employment of women in operational roles



GICHD's visit to Kosovo, 2021 ©GICHD/Giovanni Diffidenti

Over the course of 2022, the GICHD continued to strive towards greater gender, diversity, equality, and inclusion in mine action, through research, training courses, and technical assistance to ensure that risks from explosive ordnance are reduced in a gender and diversity sensitive and responsive manner.

In 2022, the GICHD and Fenix Insight Ltd jointly published a study entitled 'Gender and Operational Efficiency' in *The Journal of Conventional Weapons Destruction*, addressing unproven assumptions that may still exist in the mine action sector regarding women's performance and availability to work in certain field-based roles. Despite increasing global recognition of the instrumental importance of mainstreaming gender and diversity in mine action activities, there is a lack of adequate data analysis to verify the effect of women's employment in field-based roles on operational efficiency and effectiveness.

This study presents evidence that challenges those assumptions using data from clearance teams from four operators in more than 14 countries, showing that there is little to no difference in average clearance rates between women and men in these roles across several working contexts. Through the study, it is hoped that challenging these remaining stereotypes will lead to increased confidence in recruiting women in operational roles and greater gender balance in the sector, contributing to the Women, Peace, and Security Agenda, and Sustainable Development Goal 5 on gender equality.

**"We hope that this study will support the employment of more women in operational mine action roles by demonstrating that the stereotype that "women are inefficient in clearance roles compared with men" is not valid."**

**Dominic Wolsey,**  
Advisor, Gender, Diversity, Equality and Inclusion (GDEI), GICHD

*This study required significant data sharing and cooperation from the operators involved and the authors (Fenix Insight and the GICHD) would like to thank them for their support.*

## RESOURCE

→ [Gender and Operational Efficiency](#)

# STANDARDS

Mine action standards establish a framework to ensure safety, efficiency, and effectiveness in the conduct of mine action operations

In 2022, the GICHD continued to support the development of mine action standards, by facilitating technical discussions, conducting training courses, and developing new content both at the national and international levels. Through the development of country-specific standards, National Mine Action Authorities (NMAAs) can establish their own legal and regulatory frameworks to conduct safe, efficient, and effective mine action operations. In 2022, the GICHD continued its direct support to countries and assessed national standards in Armenia, Guinea-Bissau, and Mauritania. In Angola, the development of three national standards has been finalised. Furthermore, the GICHD assisted the Angola national mine action agency with an assessment of the current legislative, normative, procedural, and structural framework in place to manage its land release activities.

In 2022, the GICHD continued to support the development and review of the IMAS, which play a crucial role in ensuring safety, efficiency, and effectiveness in mine action activities. As a member of the IMAS Review Board and the IMAS Steering Group and as Secretary of both bodies, the GICHD coordinated the activities of eight technical working groups, which revised seven IMAS documents. They also developed a new IMAS, providing guidance on the management of human remains in mine action activities; this is an important responsibility for the sector to help ensure that the dignity of the dead is preserved, and that remains can be safely recovered and identified by the relevant authorities and agencies.

**“I believe I now have a better understanding of the Standards and Technical Notes; how they work and how they will be used and applied to establish national standards and SOPs. The knowledge I gained through these intense sessions will provide benefits and guidelines and be an important key to enable the revision, amendment, and updating of the existing national standards related to my current job.”**

Feedback from a participant of the IMAS training course

To facilitate national ownership of standards, the GICHD conducted a training course on IMAS in Switzerland in 2022, attended by 24 participants (8 women and 16 men) from 17 countries, representing NMAAs, mine action organisations and international organisations. For the first time in 2022, the training course included a blended approach: participants completed an introductory e-learning

module on understanding IMAS as a prerequisite to joining the course and focused on practical exercises during the training course itself, which empowered them to put in practice their knowledge on the role of the IMAS. In 2022, the IMAS e-learning module was completed by 890 people, allowing for a wider dissemination of knowledge around international mine action standards globally.



## RESOURCES

- [E-learning: Understanding the International Mine Action Standards \(IMAS\)](#)
- [IMAS 07.50 Management of human remains in mine action](#)

# EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE RISK EDUCATION (EORE)

Risk education activities seek to reduce the risk of injury or death of civilians by raising awareness and promoting behavioural change in relation to the threat of explosive ordnance



Digital EORE Workshop, 2022 ©GICHD

Risk education is a life-saving activity that contributes to reducing the risk of severe injury or death due to explosive ordnance. The increase in the number of civilian casualties caused by explosive ordnance in recent years, compounded by access limitations due to the COVID-19 pandemic has driven the demand for new and innovative ways to provide communities with risk education. In this context, EORE operators have had to adapt their approaches, focusing on a combination of interpersonal and digital means to reach affected communities.

The GICHD's 'Review of New Technologies and Methodologies for Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) in Challenging Contexts,' published in 2020, captured the growing number of digital approaches emerging in the sector. The pandemic accelerated that trend, resulting in the creation of a dedicated digital task team co-led by the GICHD and Mines Advisory Group as a formal sub-group of the EORE Advisory Group.

Given the increased interest in and growing number of organisations developing digital EORE tools, the GICHD and UNICEF hosted in Switzerland, the first ever digital EORE workshop, in May 2022. The workshop brought together around 20 EORE practitioners (42% of participants were women) from

across regions and organisations to take stock of tools, trends, successes, and gaps in digital programming both in EORE and other sectors (i.e. protection, public health). By understanding the digital divide and other risk factors and by finding ways to mitigate those when using digital means, participants are better equipped to strategically promote effective and ethical digital EORE in mine action. The workshop resulted in the drafting of a digital EORE action plan with short-, medium-, and long-term actions, which was disseminated widely within the EORE sector and further operationalised by the digital EORE task team.

By taking advantage of the opportunities that technologies offer, the EORE sector is finding new ways to reach at-risk communities in challenging environments. The integration of digital EORE interventions in numerous country programmes and strategies, alongside more traditional means of delivery, allows an increase in the impact of this life-saving work.

**“The workshop is exactly what was needed for the sector in general and for my organisation and myself individually. It’s so great to learn from others and being able to contribute to future changes.”**

Feedback from a participant of the first-ever digital EORE workshop

## RESOURCES

➔ [Review of New Technologies and Methodologies for EORE in Challenging Contexts](#)

➔ [EORE Advisory Group](#)

# REGIONAL COOPERATION

## Regional cooperation furthers the exchange and dissemination of good practice between national authorities

The GICHD regularly organises workshops and trainings to facilitate exchange and dialogue at a regional level, ultimately building stronger cooperation in the field of mine action and ammunition management.

In 2022, to continue promoting regional cooperation and to mitigate the growing threat of improvised explosive devices (IEDs) in the Sahel and West Africa regions, the GICHD conducted a regional workshop at the *Centre de Perfectionnement aux Actions de Déminage et de Dépollution* (CPADD) in Benin, as part of its Francophone Regional Cooperation Programme. Supported by

Switzerland's Sub-Saharan Africa and Francophonie Division of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, the workshop was attended by 24 participants (3 women and 21 men) representing national authorities, mine action programmes, commissions for national arms control and operators active in the region. The aim of the workshop was to support and equip participating countries in their national efforts in dealing with the problem of explosive ordnance contamination, including IEDs, through a better humanitarian response, with a focus on International Mine Action Standards, and on obligations set out in the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban

Convention and the Convention on Cluster Munitions. The workshop also focused on primary EORE responses to address contamination from explosive ordnance occurring on the ground. It also paid particular attention to information management tools available to national authorities, allowing them to determine the extent of new explosive ordnance contamination, and to foster information sharing in the region.

Earlier in the year, the GICHD also supported the implementation of the plans of the Arab Regional Cooperation Programme (ARCP) which aim to foster regional cooperation on mine action issues among affected countries in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. The GICHD organised an IMSMA Core implementation workshop that brought together 20 information management staff from nine countries in the MENA region, and an IMSMA Core training course, which welcomed 16 participants from the region. Both the workshop and the training allowed for better information sharing in Arabic on IMSMA, the GICHD's flagship platform, which provides real time maps and reports on the extent of contamination in a specific location, with the goal of improving demining operations and ultimately, facilitating the safe return of populations to their land.

**“The exchange of experiences was effective in learning about the challenges our colleagues in participating countries face. This is beneficial for us to prevent these challenges from happening in our national programmes.”**

Feedback from a participant as part of the ARCP IMSMA Core training course



The GICHD Francophone Regional Cooperation Programme (FRCP) workshop at CPADD – in Ouidah, Benin, December 2022 © GICHD

## RESOURCE

→ [The IED Clearance Good Practice Guide \(French\)](#)

# OPERATIONS

## Strengthening national capacities to enable greater ownership in mine action operations in line with national and global strategic priorities

Over the last four years, the GICHD has received an increasing number of requests to develop and deliver training and learning programmes in the field of mine action management systems. Over 10 different training packages have been developed and delivered regionally, globally, or locally. Throughout 2021–2022, the GICHD consolidated several of its existing learning courses, responding to current operational trends to increase effectiveness and efficiency. The GICHD decided to shift its focus towards developing training programmes aimed at targeting decision makers within NMAAs and organisations that are further upstream in the explosive ordnance risk mitigation or governance systems. By focusing on decision makers, the GICHD hopes to support the sector by building a safer and more secure environment for those affected by explosive hazards.

During 2021–2022, the GICHD developed and piloted a blended learning programme (including self-paced and in-person components): the training course for mine action managers, aimed at middle and senior management levels, which was well received and generated a significant increase in interest from the mine action sector. Additionally, 2022 saw the start of the development of a second blended learning programme: the land release course for operational level managers.

In 2022, the GICHD successfully completed a comprehensive assessment of Colombia’s mine action quality management system (QMS). The assessment was conducted in two phases, with the first focusing on quality management procedures and regulations through a remote study, and the second involving a field visit to observe the practices of the Organization of American States (OAS) who support the QMS system in Colombia.

The assessment found that the QMS is valued by the national mine action authority, the Office of the High Commissioner for Peace (*Oficina del Alto Comisionado para la Paz*) and national operators in Colombia. The assessment also showed that there has been an improvement in the application of land release principles and provided further recommendations to address areas of improvement, aiming to improve the QMS in Colombia. Since the presentation of the report findings to national and international stakeholders, the GICHD has been requested to support OAS in addressing some of the recommendations, in their role as the main partner in the Colombian QMS. An outline plan has subsequently been agreed upon, to facilitate a continual improvement of the quality management system in Colombia.



**“The recommendations made by the GICHD following the assessment of the MA QM systems are building a foundation for ongoing and future improvements of QM systems in Colombia and many changes are already underway.”**

Statement from the OACP during the presentation of results of the QMS assessment

## RESOURCE

→ [Land release](#)



# COMMUNICATIONS, PUBLICATIONS, DIGITAL PLATFORMS & TOOLS

# COMMUNICATIONS

**The GICHD continues to find innovative ways to disseminate information about its work and to amplify the voices of people on the ground who live in a constant state of fear due to the risk of explosive ordnance.**



©GICHD/Antoine Tardy 2022

The year 2022 marked 20 years of the International Mine Action Standards – the global framework that guides mine action operations to be safe, efficient, and effective both for the people doing the work and the communities they serve. For two decades, the IMAS have impacted the work of thousands of mine action experts around the globe.

To celebrate this milestone, the GICHD launched the [#20YearsIMAS](#) campaign on 4 April 2022, showcasing how these standards have shaped and added value to mine action through the stories of the people working with these standards every day. By collecting photos and videos from around the world, the GICHD was able to bring together a large community digitally by reaching 43,000 people and collecting more than 80 contributions from 17 countries in just one week, illustrating the importance of cooperation and unity in the mine action community.



**Join today!**



Collage IMAS campaign © GICHD, 2022

# PUBLICATIONS

**The research, publications and online resources produced and maintained by the GICHD each year in multiple languages are a key component of the Centre's support for explosive ordnance risk reduction. These resources compile examples of good practice, support advisory missions and training courses, and give national authorities and operators the tools they need to reduce the risk posed by explosive ordnance.**

## 2022 PUBLICATIONS

- ▼ Explosive Ordnance Guide for Ukraine — Second Edition (English, Ukrainian)
- ▼ Explosive Ordnance Guide for Ukraine — First Edition (English, Ukrainian)
- ▼ Gender and Diversity in the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM)
- ▼ The Sustainable Development Outcomes of Mine Action in Bosnia and Herzegovina (English, Bosnian)
- ▼ Guide to Systems Engineering for Humanitarian Information Management
- ▼ The Sustainable Development Outcomes of Mine Action in Cambodia (English, Khmer)
- ▼ Review of New Technologies and Methodologies for EORE in Challenging Contexts (Russian, Arabic)
- ▼ Chapter 5 of the IED Clearance Good Practice Guide: Basic Chemistry of Explosives and Hazards of Home-Made Explosives and Chemical Precursors (Arabic, French)
- ▼ Chapter 4 of the IED Clearance Good Practice Guide: IED Indicators and Ground Sign Awareness Handbook (Arabic)
- ▼ Contribuciones de la acción integral contra minas al desarrollo sostenible en Colombia

# DIGITAL PLATFORMS AND TOOLS

## GICHD WEBSITES

- [GICHD main website](#)
- [GICHD online training platform](#)
- [Ammunition Management Advisory Team of the GICHD](#)
- [Ammunition Management Activity Platform \(A-MAP\)](#)
- [Ammunition Safety Management Guide](#)
- [Arms and Ammunition Management Validation System \(AAMVS\)](#)
- [Bâtisseurs de Paix competition](#)
- [Bibliomines](#)
- [Characterisation of explosive weapons research project](#)
- [Explosive ordnance risk education project](#)
- [Gender and Mine Action Programme](#)
- [The GICHD Arab Regional Cooperation Programme \(ARCP\) Gender Focal Point Capacity Development Programme 2020–2022](#)

- [GICHD podcasts](#)
- [Lasting Footprints](#)
- [Life of Mine](#)
- [Risk management publication](#)
- [Together Against Mines campaign](#)
- [A VR experience \(Home after War\)](#)
- [Women in Kosovo webpage](#)

## OTHER PLATFORMS HOSTED/MANAGED

- [Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention \(APMBC\)](#)
- [Convention on Cluster Munitions \(CCM\)](#)
- [International Mine Action Standards \(IMAS\)](#)
- [Maison de la paix Gender and Diversity Hub](#)

## SOCIAL MEDIA

**Facebook**  
[@gichd](#)  
25,161 followers

**Twitter**  
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**Instagram**  
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1,375 followers

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726 followers



# GOVERNANCE

# GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

The GICHD is subject to the laws of Switzerland. It is directly supervised by the federal supervisory board for foundations (*Autorité fédérale de surveillance des fondations*), which is a section of the Swiss Federal Department of Home Affairs. The GICHD Foundation's powers are exercised by, or are under the authority of, the Council of Foundation and the Director of the GICHD.

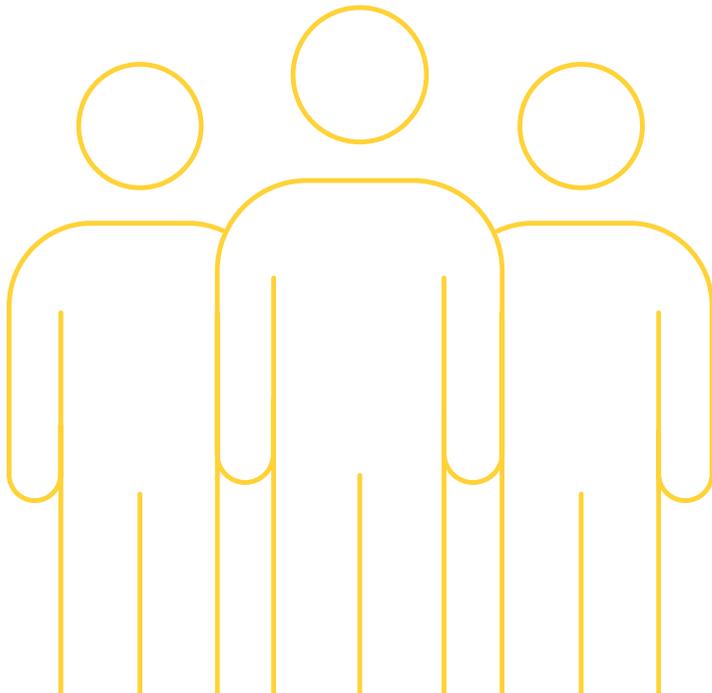
The Council of Foundation is the GICHD's governing body. It defines the Centre's general direction, supervises its activities and decides how to allocate its resources. Serving alongside the President, Dr Barbara Haering, who was re-elected for another 4-year mandate in 2020, there are 24 Council of Foundation members and the Honorary President, Dr Cornelio Sommaruga. The Bureau of the Council of Foundation, composed of the President, the Secretary,

the Treasurer and three delegates from the Council of Foundation, manages the Foundation's current affairs, unless otherwise delegated to the Director.

In addition to the governance bodies, the Advisory Board and the Advisory Council of the Ammunition Management Advisory Team provide advice to the Director on the strategy and programmes of the GICHD. Both advisory entities consist of groups of practitioners, states and organisations involved in mine action, human security and ammunition management.

The Director is responsible for the Centre's operational, financial and administrative management under the strategic guidance of the Council of Foundation. The Director is appointed by the Council of Foundation and has the right to act on behalf of the Foundation.

An external auditor reviews the Centre's financial reports and ensures their compliance with Swiss law. Mazars SA was appointed by the Council of Foundation as the external auditor for the 2022 fiscal year. The GICHD's annual financial statements are subject to a voluntary ordinary statutory audit as per a decision by the GICHD's Council of Foundation. The audit is carried out in accordance with the requirements of Swiss law and Swiss auditing standards.



# COUNCIL OF FOUNDATION

## PRESIDENT

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## HONORARY PRESIDENT

**Dr Cornelio Sommaruga**, Honorary President of the Council of Foundation

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Vacant

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**Dr Robert Diethelm**, Deputy Director International Relations Defence, Swiss Federal Department for Defence, Civil Protection and Sport

## UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

**Ambassador Aidan Liddle**, Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the Conference on Disarmament

## UNITED NATIONS MINE ACTION SERVICE

**Ms Ilene Cohn**, Director of UNMAS

## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

**Ambassador Bruce Turner**, Permanent Representative of the United States to the Conference on Disarmament

## VIETNAM

**Ambassador Thi Tuyet Mai LE**, Permanent Representative of Vietnam to the United Nations Office and other international organisations in Geneva



# FINANCE

# CONTRIBUTIONS

The GICHD is thankful to all contributors who make its work possible. In 2022, the Centre benefitted from core contributions, project funding and in-kind support from 25 governments and organisations.

## In-kind contributions from governments and organisations

In-kind contributions from Esri, and Information and Communication Technology (ICT) hosted by the GCSP

### GOVERNMENTS



AUSTRALIA



AUSTRIA



CANADA



FINLAND



FRANCE



GERMANY



IRELAND



ITALY



MEXICO



NORWAY



SPAIN



SWEDEN



SWITZERLAND



THE NETHERLANDS



UNITED KINGDOM



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

### ORGANISATIONS AND OTHERS



ARAB FUND FOR ECONOMIC & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

ARAB FUND FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT



ASEAN REGIONAL MINE ACTION CENTER (ARMAC)



EUROPEAN UNION (EU)



HUMANITY & INCLUSION



SHOULDER2SHOULDER, INC (S2S)



THE HALO TRUST



UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)



UNITED NATIONS MINE ACTION SERVICE (UNMAS)



United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs

UNITED NATIONS OFFICE FOR DISARMAMENT AFFAIRS (UNODA)

# EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES STATEMENT

2022

## OPERATIONS

Publications and outreach	274'335
Travel costs	811'490
Professional fees (events & consultants)	3'483'866
Travel costs for third parties	316'800

## STAFF

Personnel expenses	12'021'164
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## GENERAL SERVICES

ICT and furniture maintenance	
ICT and furniture acquisitions	252'001
ICT running costs	252'498
Office supplies	23'571

## MISCELLANEOUS

Miscellaneous expenses	891'849
In-kind expenditures	540'170

**TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES** 18'867'744

Financial results (272'855)

**TOTAL EXPENDITURES** 18'594'889

## CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions received	17'813'351
Activities/contributions deferred to next year	(997'809)
Activities/contributions deferred from previous year	1'239'177

**TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE YEAR** 18'054'719

## OTHER INCOME

Miscellaneous income	
In-kind contributions	540'170

**TOTAL REVENUES** 18'594'889

# AUDIT REPORT

**mazars**

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## Report of the statutory auditor to the Council of Foundation of Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining, Geneva

### Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (the Foundation) which comprise the balance sheet as at December 31, 2022, the statement of income and expenditures, the statement of changes in capital, the statement of cash flow for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. In accordance with Swiss GAAP FER (core FER), in particular FER 21, the information in the performance report is not subject to the obligation of examination of auditors.

In our opinion, the financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2022 give a true and fair view of the financial position, the results of operations and the cash flows in accordance with Swiss GAAP FER and comply with Swiss law and the foundation statutes.

#### Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Swiss law and Swiss Standards on Auditing (SA-CH). Our responsibilities under those provisions and standards are further described in the "Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements" section of our report. We are independent of the Foundation in accordance with the provisions of Swiss law and the requirements of the Swiss audit profession, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Other Information

The Council of the Foundation is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, but does not include the financial statements, and our auditor's reports thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

#### Council of the Foundation's Responsibilities for the Financial Statements

The Council of Foundation is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements, which give a true and fair view in accordance with Swiss GAAP FER (core FER), in particular FER 21 and the provisions of Swiss law, and for such internal control as the Council of the Foundation determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

**mazars**

In preparing the financial statements, the Council of Foundation is responsible for assessing the Foundation's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern, and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Council of Foundation either intends to liquidate the Foundation or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

#### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Swiss law and SA-CH will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on EXPERTSuisse's website at: <https://www.expertsuisse.ch/en/audit-report>. This description forms an integral part of our report.

#### Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

In accordance with Art. 728a para. 1 item 3 CO and PS-CH 890, we confirm that an internal control system exists, which has been designed for the preparation of the financial statements according to the instructions of the Council of Foundation.

We recommend that the financial statements submitted to you be approved.

#### MAZARS Ltd

**Jean-Marc Jenny**

May 8, 2023

Qualified Electronic Signature by  SwissID

Jean-Marc Jenny  
Licensed audit expert  
(Auditor in charge)

**Karim Chaouki**

May 8, 2023

Qualified Electronic Signature by  SwissID

Karim Chaouki  
Manager

Geneva, May 8, 2023

#### Attachments

- Financial statements (Balance sheet, statement of income and expenditures, statement of changes in capital, statement of cash flow and notes)



**GICHD ANNUAL REPORT 2022**

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The content of this publication, its presentation and the designations employed do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) regarding the legal status of any country, territory or armed groups, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. All content remains the sole responsibility of the GICHD.

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