

**COUNTRY
PEACEBUILDING FUND
PROJECT STATUS REPORT**

31 JULY 2011

Project No & Title:	PBF/IRF-14 (MDTF Programme: 00073919)			
Recipient UN Organization :	UNICEF	Priority Sector:	Mine Action	
National Authority:	Ministry of Economic Development (formerly Ministry of Nation Building and Estate Infrastructure Development), Handicap International, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Social Services			
Location:	Colombo, Northern Province and Eastern Province of Sri Lanka			
Project Cost:	\$3,000,000 (UNICEF: \$2,000,000 & UNDP: \$1,000,000)			
SC Approval Date:	Starting Date:	21.01.2010	Completion Date:	24.07.2011
PBF Outcome and Priority area	<p>Priority 1: Peace dividends generate general confidence in the peace building process</p> <p>Indicator (2): % of IDPs and refugees returned and resettled in the North and East</p> <p>Immediate Objective: Key actors involved in the peace building process at national and local level are politically and institutionally able to mitigate risks of lapse or relapse into conflict</p> <p>Indicator (1): Evidence of positive change of public confidence and trust in state authorities in their commitments to reinforce security</p> <p>Programme Result 1 (PMP): Security sector reforms and judiciary systems put in place and providing services and goods at national and local level that reinforce the Rule of Law</p> <p>Indicator 1.1 (SSR): National armed forces perform their duties in conflict affected areas addressing security concerns of the target populations</p>			
Project Description:	<p>The key objectives of the project are to provide affected communities in landmine/Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) risk areas with the appropriate knowledge to protect themselves from the dangers of these devices, and to support quality rehabilitative services for survivors and other persons with disabilities. The project also aims to advocate with the Government of Sri Lanka to accede to the Anti-Personnel Landmine Convention and related legal instruments, and with Non-State Armed Groups to stop using victim-activated devices.</p> <p>The UNICEF-assisted mine action programme was implemented through government entities including the Ministry of Education (MoE), local and international NGOs, and in close collaboration with other key stakeholders not directly funded under this programme, such as UNDP and all demining operators. In 2010/11, UNICEF expanded the Mine Risk Education (MRE) campaign by more than doubling the number of NGO MRE facilitators and training 108 army staff of the Humanitarian Demining Unit (HDU), under the line Ministry of</p>			

	Economic Development, competent for mine action. New NGO partners were also identified and trained, and media-based MRE campaigns were conducted from July to September 2010. In addition, during this period, new MRE posters were developed and broadly disseminated.
Immediate Objectives:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children and adults in conflict affected areas show improved mine-safe behavior to protect themselves from the risks of landmines and ERW. • War-injured and war-disabled persons are identified, their needs assessed and referred to available services if needed. • Peace dividends generate general confidence in the peace building process.
Project Status as at July, 2011	
Funds disbursed:	US \$ 1,862,391.11¹
Delivery rate:	99.6 % of programmable amount
Outputs delivered:	<p>As of end July 2011 the following outputs were achieved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16,127 MRE activities were carried out in eight districts namely Jaffna, Batticaloa, Ampara, Vavuniya, Mannar, Kilinochchi, Mullaitivu, and Trincomalee. • 126,836 Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials have been distributed so far; this does not include materials developed for the emergency mass media campaign held in January 2010 and from July to September 2010. • 412 locations (villages/IDP locations) have been reached since the beginning of the Mine Action programme. • 91 schools in the eastern province and 198 schools in the northern province reported school based MRE. Approximately 83,200 children benefitted from MRE corners established to increase the knowledge and skills of students on mine risk behavior. • 39 Landmine & ERW safety briefings were conducted for humanitarian workers, Government officials, and (I) NGOs involving 1,279 participants. • To date the following trainings and key workshops have been conducted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - two national Technical Working Groups on MRE, Victim Assistance and Advocacy have been held in March and August 2010. - 33 police officers received a Training of Trainers (ToTs) in MRE in August 2010. - six ToTs have been conducted on MRE in the Education Sector. - one advance training on MRE Standard Operational Procedures was conducted for 15 senior managers from MRE agencies in December 2010. - 23 ToTs and refresher trainings on MRE were conducted for 783 staff

¹ This is an interim figure. It is slightly less than the previously reported amount due to final adjustment of all expenditures at the end of the project period. The final financial figures will be shared by the UNICEF comptroller after closure of the 2011 accounts.

	<p>/MRE volunteers and teachers from Mannar Mullaitivu, Kilinochchi and Mullaitivu districts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 54 HDU members of the Sri Lanka Army (SLA) participated in a MRE ToT in January 2011. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 334 monitoring visits were conducted by UNICEF and partners including review meetings with partners.
<p>Achievements and challenges</p>	<p><u>Output delivery:</u></p> <p>1. Provision of mine risk education for conflict affected communities</p> <p>A total of 701,954 people were reached by MRE and community liaison: Men- 167,177 Women – 179,944 Boys – 175,509 Girls – 179,324</p> <p>2. Provision of access to services for war-injured and war-disabled children and women</p> <p>Since July 2010, around 3,112 people with disabilities, including 1,403 women and children, benefitted from physical rehabilitation services such as mobility and assistive devices and Prosthetic and Orthotic devices.</p> <p><u>Outcome achievements</u> (with reference to programme results and indicator of PMP):</p> <p>1. Communities affected by conflict are protected including internally displaced persons and refugees</p> <p>As of end July 2011, 372,138 IDPs (98% of the total) have returned and resettled in the North and East either to their places of origin, with host families or in transit situations. 9,371 people are remaining in the IDP camps in Vavuniya and Jaffna. (Update by UNOCHA)</p> <p>27 incidents with 47 civilian victims from victim-activated landmines and explosive remnants of war were recorded during 2010 compared to 19 incidents with 29 casualties in 2009, representing a 47% increase. However, this total is fairly low taking into account that exposure to the threat had increased with people resettling into areas affected by mines/ERW.</p> <p>This low mine/ERW incident rate can be attributed to extensive MRE conducted benefitting 701,954 community members including internally displaced persons and refugees since January 2010.</p> <p>12 incidents with 16 casualties from victim-activated landmines and explosive remnants of war were recorded from 1 January to 31 July 2011.</p> <p>2. Children and adults in conflict affected areas show improved mine safe behaviour to protect themselves from the risk of land mines and Explosive Remnants of War (ERW)</p>

1,928 explosive devices and suspected dangerous areas were reported by communities and the NGO network as of 31 July 2011. This increase in reporting from previous years is evidence that children and adults show improved mine safe behavior.

3. War injured and war disabled persons are identified, their needs assessed, and referred to available services

All 848 war-injured and disabled persons identified by MRE NGO partners were referred to available physical rehabilitation services and support mechanisms.

4. Peace dividends generate general confidence in the peace building process.

MRE supports social peace, which essentially includes trust building, increased community participation, and building of cross community networks and civil military relations. Since the beginning of the return and resettlement process in Sri Lanka, the safety of the displaced population returning home has been on top of the agenda. In addition to security, the government of Sri Lanka has shown real interest in engaging communities in MRE as a way to build trust between them and government services. This opportunity provided a unique chance to create a feeling of confidence and security; it constitutes a single but important starting point for reconciliation among communities in a country deeply affected by the long-standing conflict. Towards the end of 2009, when the resettlement process to the North was initiated and accelerated, UNICEF supported additional community based MRE teams by partnering with national NGOs, HDU/SLA and by supporting the MoE, and in particular the Provincial Director of Education – Northern Province, in conducting school based MRE. This remains essential as the return pattern shows that people are being resettled in areas surrounded by heavily contaminated land.

The involvement of HDU/SLA in Community Mine Risk Education together with MRE NGO partners provided an opportunity to build confidence and trust with community members. 463 explosive devices were reported by the community during July 2011 and majority of the devices were disposed of by the SLA/HDU.

Challenges

As a result of continuous Mine Risk Education, the general level of understanding on the threat of mine/explosive remnants of war is high. However, as many communities live close to infested or not yet fully surveyed areas Mine Risk Education continues to be critical in reducing the threat. In addition, people from the Southern Province have started visiting the North and East and need to learn how to adopt mine safe behavior.

UNICEF expanded the MRE capacity in 2011, especially in Mullaitivu district, to accommodate the safe resettlement in Puthukudiyirupu Division.

Authorization procedures for NGOs operating in the Northern Province have caused disruptions and delays. As of end October 2010 this problem was resolved. But still authorization for MRE agencies is given only for 1 to 2 months after which these agencies need to reapply. This has caused some delays in program implementation.

UNDP SUPPORT TO MINE ACTION

30 SEPTEMBER 2011

Project No & Title:	PBF/IRF-14 (MDTF Programme: 00073919)			
Recipient UN Organization :	UNDP	Priority Sector:	Mine Action	
National Authority:	Ministry of Economic Development (formerly Ministry of Nation Building and Estate Infrastructure Development) and National Mine Action Centre (NMAC)			
Location:	Colombo, Northern Province and Eastern Province of Sri Lanka			
Project Cost:	\$3,000,000 (UNICEF: \$2,000,000 & UNDP: \$1,000,000)			
SC Approval Date:	Starting Date:	21.01.2010	Completion Date:	24.07.2011
PBF Outcome and Priority area	<p>PBF Priority 1: Peace dividends generate general confidence in the peace building process</p> <p>Indicator (2): % of IDPs and refugees returned and resettled in the North and East</p> <p>PBF Outcome: Mine action facilitated the safe and socio economic recovery of IDPs, thereby strengthening the peace dividends in the community</p> <p>Immediate Objective: Key actors involved in the peace building process at national and local level are politically and institutionally able to mitigate risks of lapse or relapse into conflict</p> <p>Indicator (1): Evidence of positive change of public confidence and trust in state authorities in their commitments to reinforce security</p> <p>Programme Result 1 (PMP): Security sector reforms and judiciary systems put in place and providing services and goods at national and local level that reinforce the Rule of Law</p> <p>Indicator 1.1 (SSR): National armed forces perform their duties in conflict affected areas addressing security concerns of the target populations</p>			
Project Description:	<p>The aim main of the umbrella UNDP support to Mine Action Project has been to support the Government of Sri Lanka (GoSL) to coordinate and manage mine action, including mine and Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) clearance. On behalf of the Government Agents (GAs), the Regional Mine Action Offices (RMAOs- previously known as the District Mine Action Offices-DMAOs) located in Jaffna and Vavuniya districts and sub-offices in Killinochchi, Mullaithivu and Mannar districts assist in preparing clearance and survey task dossiers, liaise with the Sri Lanka Army (SLA) regional command to obtain security authorization for the proposed tasks and carry out Quality Management (QM) of humanitarian demining. The RMAOs manage and update the Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) databases for their respective Areas of Responsibility. The RMAOs also collaborate with the administrative structures at local levels conducting Post Clearance Impact Assessments (PCIA).</p>			

	<p>In order to meet the accelerated demands for demining in the North, the UNDP Support to Mine Action Project has focused upon significantly strengthening its human resource, operational and technical capacities to meet immediate, rapidly expanding and time sensitive mine action demands, particularly with respect to providing the necessary coordination and quality management support for mine clearance activities in the North. The Project has aimed to strengthen its staffing and operational capacities in the RMAOs and sub-offices. The Projects has increased its technical capacities by recruiting International Technical Advisors (ITA) to provide assistance and guidance to the National Steering Committee on Mine Action (NSCMA), the RMAOs and the demining organizations, and contribute to ensuring that humanitarian mine action in Sri Lanka is implemented in conformity with Sri Lanka's National Mine Action Standards (SLNMAS). Where possible, the UNDP Support Project has sought to strengthen the capacities of its staff to be sensitive to the differential impacts of landmines on men, women, girls and boys and ensure a strong gender sensitive orientation to its support to mine action activities, particularly with respect to the prioritization of clearance of tasks and release of land.</p>
Immediate Objectives:	UNDP: Support the Government of Sri Lanka to create a mine-free Sri Lanka through capacity development and support to coordination and field operations.
Project Status as at September, 2011	
Funds disbursed:	USD 999,377.04 ² (as at 24 July 2011)
Delivery rate:	99.94 % of programmable amount
Outputs delivered:	<p>As of end September 2011 the following outputs were achieved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Sinhala language translation of the Sri Lanka National Mine Action Strategy and Sri Lanka National Mine Action Standard 1 has been reviewed by Sinhala speaking mine action experts and endorsed by the NMAC. • Review of the management of mine action sector completed to inform the Project structure in 2012. • The six Mine Action plans for the districts of Vavuniya, Mannar, Mullaitivu, Batticaloa, Jaffna and Killinochchi have been amalgamated into the National Annual Work Plan. This has been accepted by the Ministry of Economic Development and is being implemented. • National Mine Action Information Management Policy submitted to, and approved by the Ministry of Economic Development. • 117 Joint Assessments were carried out in the reporting quarter. As such, the cumulative Joint Assessments as at the end of the reporting quarter stands at 357. • The Senior IMSMA Officer of the NMAC participated at the Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) Administrator Level 1 and Administrator Level 2 training conducted by the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD in Geneva, Switzerland). • The 2 vehicles procured with PBF funds delivered.

² This is a preliminary figure as at the end of the Project. Final figure will be provided following finalization of the Combined Delivery Report for 2011.

Achievements and challenges

Outcome achievements (with reference to programme results and indicator of PMP):

1. Mine action facilitated the safe and socio economic recovery of IDPs, thereby strengthening the peace dividends in the community

By end September 2011, 384,401 people (112,592 families) returned or resettled in the North either to their places of origin, with host families or in transit situations (this figure includes 214,199 displaced after April 2008 and 170,202 persons displaced before April 2008) (UNOCHA).

During the reporting quarter a total of 3.9 km² of Confirmed Hazardous Area (CHA) was cleared through mine field clearance. Of the 300 km² of CHA recorded as of January 1, 2010, a cumulative total of 32.6 km², accounting for 10.86% of the total CHA, has been cleared through minefield clearance as at the end of the reporting period.

a) Government institutions are better able to manage, coordinate and quality assure mine action in Sri Lanka

A new staffing structure for management of the mine action sector at the Regional Mine Action Offices (RMAOs) and NMAC that is in line with the needs of the mine action sector in Sri Lanka and the funding capabilities has been developed following a review of the mine action sector management needs. Accordingly consultations were conducted with stakeholders at the national and district levels, including the two RMAOs in Jaffna and Vavuniya districts. .

As part of support to strengthening the capacity of the NMAC, the Senior IMSMA Officer of the NMAC participated at the Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) Administrator Level 1 and Administrator Level 2 training conducted by the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) from 19th to 30th September 2011 in Geneva, Switzerland. The A1 level course provides the foundation on how to set up and administer the information management aspect of a mine action organization using IMSMA^{NG}. The A2 level course provided more detailed instruction on how to develop definitions of an information architectureⁱⁱ including Standard Operating Procedures for information management and strategy. It also provided training in the use of IMSMA^{NG} for impact scoring, advanced report generation, bulk data imports, and advanced map generation using external software. More specifically the course contained the following:

- Mine action Information Management principles and concepts
- Support technology
- Answering information needs for a conflict phase
- Structuring the information architecture
- Answering information needs for a land release phase
- Incorporating operational processes to the information architecture
- Answering information needs for a development phase
- Incorporating socio-economic data to the information architecture
- Beyond data collection
- Tools and techniques for data quality checks and analysis

- From data to information sharing
- Tools and techniques for information presentation
- Using geographic information
- Tools and techniques for presenting geographic information
- System maintenance
- Future developments

The skills gained through participation at this training will enable the Senior IMSMA Officer to lead the information management in the National Mine Action Programme, and to better manage decentralized information management structures and installations in networked environments, which is essential for the management of mine action.

Challenges

- Limited commitment on the part of the Government of Sri Lanka to take more responsibility for the management of mine action in Sri Lanka at this stage, through commitment of national resources to maintain the NMAC and RMAOs human resource capacities and operations.
- Time constraints and competing priorities in the field (conducting quality control and quality assurance of still high number of demining tasks) posed a challenge for the RMAOs to carry out Post Clearance Impact Assessments (PCIA) in the reporting quarter. Furthermore there is a need to review the suitability of conducting PCIA in Sri Lanka and accordingly determine the most suited post clearance land usage assessment that should be conducted.