

Minefield in Ukraine, 2024 © GICHD

COLLABORATION TIP SHEET

HOW TO MAINSTREAM MINE ACTION (MA) AND INTEGRATE EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE RISK EDUCATION (EORE) IN CAMP COORDINATION & CAMP MANAGEMENT (CCCM)

This tip sheet is a joint product of the Global CCCM Cluster, the Mine Action Area of Responsibility (AoR), and the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD). It aims to support CCCM Cluster Coordinators and practitioners by offering key information, guidance, and practical examples on how to engage with Mine Action actors and integrate Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) into CCCM operations. The goal is to strengthen cross-sectoral collaboration and contribute to safer environments for displaced communities.

The protection and safety of displaced populations lies at the heart of CCCM's mandate. With over 120 armed conflicts currently active worldwide (ICRC), many displacement contexts are contaminated by explosive ordnance (EO), including post-conflict settings and disaster-affected regions. CCCM actors must be better equipped to recognize and respond to EO risks both to fulfill their coordination role and to help reduce the threats that displaced people face daily.

As part of their responsibilities, CCCM actors must:

- Identify risks to site residents;
- Assess the likelihood and impact of these risks;
- Implement appropriate mitigation and preparedness measures.

When EO contamination is suspected or confirmed in or around planned or existing displacement sites, CCCM actors should coordinate closely with Mine Action (MA) actors in their context. This includes the Mine Action AoR, national mine action authorities, EORE teams, and clearance operators where present. Effective collaboration ensures safer displacement sites, host communities, and return or relocation pathways.

Objective of a successful MA-EORE-CCCM cooperation:

A safer site environment for IDPs, host communities and humanitarian practitioners – before, during and after displacement.

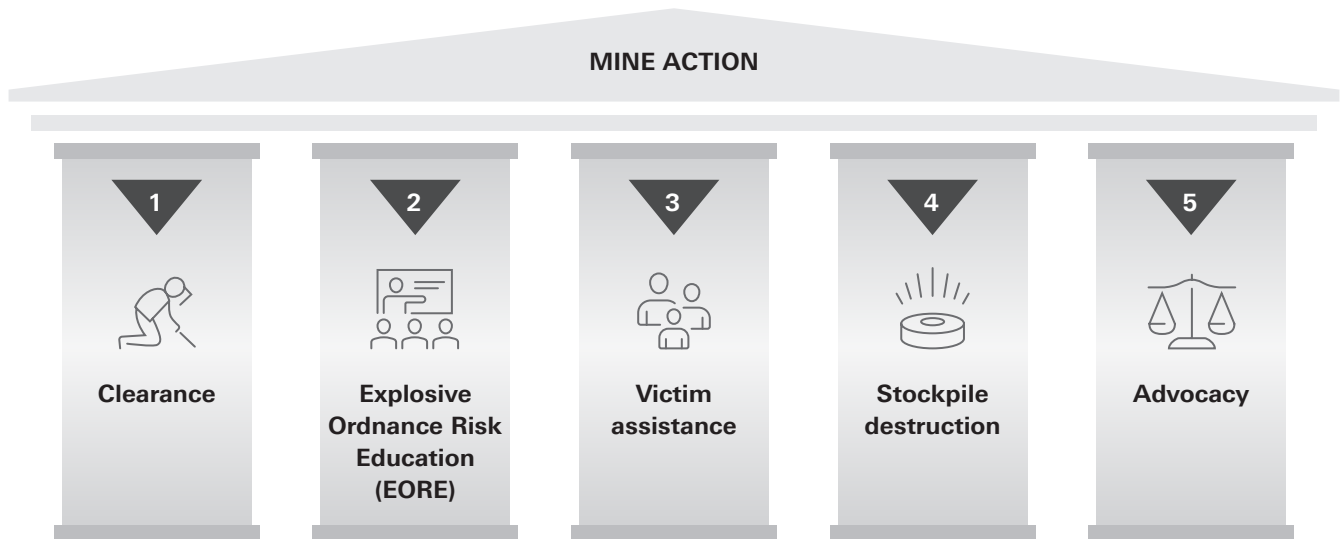
Key outcomes:

- ▶ Prevention of EO risks from onset, during planning and preparedness
- ▶ Promotion of risk awareness and safer behavior among staff, partners, IDPs, and host communities
- ▶ Empowerment of displaced/host communities on EO risk prevention and mitigation
- ▶ Strengthened CCCM teams' capacity
- ▶ Strengthened cooperation and advocacy across sectors, including data sharing for informed planning

I. MINE ACTION AND EORE BASICS: WHAT CCCM ACTORS SHOULD KNOW

Mine action encompasses more than removing landmines from the ground. It includes a range of high impact efforts aimed at protecting people from danger, supporting victims and creating conditions for safe and sustainable development and recovery. The objective of mine action is to identify and reduce the risk and impact of explosive ordnance to a level where people are safe (i.e. where people know how to behave in a safer way or the EO threat is removed).

Mine Action comprises 5 pillars:



EORE refers to activities that seek to reduce the risk of injury from EO by raising awareness of women, girls, boys, and men in accordance with their different vulnerabilities, roles, and needs and promoting behavioural change. Core activities include public information dissemination, education, and training, through interpersonal and digital means (*IMAS 12.10*).

What do we call Explosive Ordnance (EO)?

EO includes: mines, cluster munitions, unexploded ordnance (UXO), abandoned ordnance (AXO) and other Explosive Remnants of War (ERW), booby traps, Improvised Explosive Devices (IED) for humanitarian clearance and other devices (*IMAS 04.10*).



EO recognition training, Lebanon, 2018 © Johannes Müller/GICHD

Who are the Mine Action and EORE actors?

The mine action ecosystem consists of multiple actors working for the protection of communities worldwide:

- National Mine Action Authorities or Centers (NMAAs or NMAs): Governmental entity, often an inter-ministerial committee, in an EO-affected country, charged with the responsibility for broad strategic, policy and regulatory decisions related to mine action.
- International Organizations and NGOs, including ICRC and the Red Cross Movement: International and national entities that provide strategic guidance, technical support, and implement programs related to mine action and EORE.
- United Nations Agencies: Such as UNICEF, UNDP, UNMAS and UNOPS play pivotal roles in supporting and coordinating MA and EORE efforts globally.
- EORE operators refer to any organisation, including governmental, non-governmental, civil society organisations, commercial entities, and military personnel (including peace-keeping forces), responsible for implementing EORE projects or tasks.

In addition, victim assistance services can be encountered within national health systems, protection case management organizations, local NGOs and more and it requires multi-sectoral engagement to people (as defined by *IMAS 13.10*) who have been injured, survivors, their relatives, and people otherwise impacted by EO accidents.



Deminer in Bosnia, 2018 © Johannes Müller/GICHD

II. COLLABORATION: ENTRY POINTS

Mine Action/EORE contributions to CCCM:

- **Humanitarian access:** Share information on contamination for site selection, movement, and access planning. Share safety advice, survey and clear access and evacuation routes.
- **Clearance:** Conduct site and surroundings' survey and clearance, facilitate EO hazard and accident reporting for clearance response.
- **EORE:** Train CCCM staff on risk recognition and safe behaviour, and share tailored messaging for at-risk communities.
- **Victim Assistance:** Provide timely response and services for EO victims, facilitate referrals to and from CCCM services.
- **Advocacy:** Prioritize clearance and integrate EORE into CCCM work, advocate for the presence of victim assistance service providers.

CCCM contributions to Mine Action/EORE:

- **Community engagement:** Build on outreach capacities, mobilisation, and participation to support EO assessments and EORE delivery.
- **Assessments & audits:** Include EO risks and feedback information to MA/EORE.
- **Site and Service monitoring:** Track operator presence, gaps, and referral pathways availability.
- **Complaints and Feedback Mechanisms:** Refer EO-related feedback to relevant actors.
- **Population data:** Share displacement trends, population movements, return intentions.

Tips for cluster-level collaboration:

- **Humanitarian response plans (HNO/HRP/HNRP):** Include EO risks and mitigation measures in overall response plans and facilitate resource mobilization.
- **Guidance & SOPs:** Develop joint tools for operations e.g. for explosive hazard assessment, victim referral or community engagement for EORE.
- **Capacity building:** Train staff, partners, and communities.
- **Advocacy:** Develop joint advocacy, promote MA/EORE integration into CCCM responses.



EORE Session, Senegal, 2023 © MAG

COLLABORATION IN PRACTICE: SELECTED EXAMPLES

Mine Action contributions:

Clearance and site planning: In Gaza, an UNMAS online Explosive Hazard Assessment (EHA) request form was included in guidance for site planning, including ground assessments for explosive threats. Response actors may request an EHA for road obstructions, in considering EO affected buildings/sites/areas for occupation by humanitarian actors or beneficiaries, etc. If EO is found, an EO demining task is referred to mine clearance professionals.

Victim assistance/referrals: In Nigeria and Ukraine, EORE activities integrated victim data collection and referrals in displacement settings. EORE teams and protection partners received specialized training to refer victims identified during EORE sessions in the displacement sites.

CCCM contributions:

Community engagement, service monitoring: in Ukraine, CCCM Cluster partners engaged in EORE in partnership with the national police to deliver risk education sessions for children hosted in collective centers across the country. The access of IDPs to EORE is monitored by CCCM partners through regular collective site monitoring exercises.

Information Management: In Nigeria, the CCCM & Shelter and Non-Food Items (SNFI) Sector supported the Mine Action AoR with key datasets, such as site tracker, in addition to updates on camps closure, relocations and areas of return, helping the Mine Action AoR to plan and prioritize their interventions.

Cluster collaboration:

Capacity-building: In Nigeria, the Mine Action AoR provides support to the CCCM & SNFI Sector by training its partners on EORE and with the provision of EORE materials, to deliver key messages to IDPs across sites through various communication channels.

Advocacy: In Yemen, the CCCM, Shelter and Settlements and Protection Clusters developed joint advocacy messages, including recommendations for land release through mine clearance to facilitate returns and relocations. Similar joint advocacy was done in Afghanistan to support the access of mine action teams to restricted areas to facilitate safe return of IDPs.

Coordination: In Yemen, Mine Action professionals attend CCCM Cluster meetings on a regular basis. This information exchange takes place to better understand IDP needs related to explosive ordnance and strengthen collaboration between Mine Action and CCCM actors.

CHECKLIST: KEY ACTIONS TO MAINSTREAM MINE ACTION AND EORE IN THE CCCM SECTOR

Planning and Preparedness

- ✓ When planning for suitable site location, CCCM actors should prioritize EO risks as early as possible, and include impact and probability of threats in its assessment scope.
- ✓ A site should be located at a sufficient safe distance from any front line, border, mined area or other hazards (e.g. at least 50 kilometers or one day's travel on foot).
- ✓ In potentially EO contaminated areas, advice should be sought from mine action actors as soon as possible to identify and address risks - ask for support in area verification prior to CCCM planning or intervention.
- ✓ When evaluating the suitability of potential sites/locations, consider the foreseen site location, its surroundings, areas likely to be used by IDPs for livelihood/access to resources, any future expansion plan, access and evacuation routes and access to main services.
- ✓ If EO contamination has been identified, advocate for safe alternative locations.
- ✓ If/when no alternative exists, or in the event of spontaneous sites, potential EO contamination should be included in the site management action plan, in contingency planning and evacuation procedures – after verification of the space by and in coordination with mine action actors.

How?

- ✓ Engage with MA organizations, authorities and army to identify and address risks of contamination as early as possible within a response. MA actors should form part of any team working on site selection.
- ✓ Collect information about the locations where fighting took place – including for spontaneous sites. MA organizations can have maps and satellite images of potentially contaminated areas.

Verification and clearance of specific locations by specialized actors is an important step in conflict-affected areas. This is true in the event of an ongoing conflict, though also applies to former fighting areas. Unless cleared by specialists, lands and buildings can remain contaminated for decades and EO a risk for the population. Disasters such as flooding, landslides, can also lead to new EO risks – with the re-appearance of buried ERW for instance.



Training to identify EO contaminated areas on maps, Ukraine, 2024 © GICHD

RESPONSE

Coordination

- ✓ Maintain open communication and coordination channels with MA actors. Regularly bring MA organizations to share information and updates.
- ✓ Provide feedback to mine action organizations on progress regarding site planning, expansion or closure, or relocation interventions, to facilitate assessments and planning of clearance interventions.
- ✓ Inform MA/EORE actors of any EO incidents encountered (items or accidents observed) to facilitate interventions



Example of an explosive ordnance, Lebanon, 2018 © Johannes Müller/ GICHD



EORE session, Senegal, 2023 © MAG

EORE

- ☒ Coordinate with relevant MA actors to confirm need for clearance and to conduct EORE in potentially contaminated areas.
- ☒ Work with communities to ensure messages are tailored to the specific context and accessible to all.
- ☒ Ensure information material/channels reach the most at-risk, including children. Most at-risk profiles can be identified through a strong, contextualized analysis – liaise with specialized Protection actors.

Site safety

- ☒ Include EO in safety plans. Conduct regular audits to monitor both physical spaces and community behaviours.
- ☒ Implement mitigation measures in coordination with relevant actors.
- ☒ Communicate and maintain referral pathways for victims.
- ☒ Include key EO risks and EORE questions in site and service monitoring forms, refer community complaints or requests to MA actors.
- ☒ Maintain information channels to communicate risks to the populations. Ensure access to information for communities, including regarding areas of returns or relocations.

SITE CLOSURE, REHABILITATION AND DECOMMISSIONING

- ☒ Coordinate go-and-see visits with MA actors to ensure the areas visited are clear.
- ☒ Ensure vulnerable groups, including victims of EO, are supported during the closure.
- ☒ Advocate for land assessment, clearance and EORE in return or relocation areas as relevant.
- ☒ Work with authorities on accommodation and site decommissioning plans.
- ☒ Coordinate rehabilitation plans with MA organizations; indicate EO risk areas.

Post-disaster contexts: In the event of changed topography, flooding, landslides or collapsed routes/infrastructures, coordinate with MA organizations for EO verification of routes and locations.



EORE materials for children, Jordan, 2022 © GICHD

III. Mine Action, EORE and the safety of CCCM staff, partners and service providers

The EO risks threaten humanitarian actors and stakeholders engaged in humanitarian responses.

- ☒ Communicate any known risks to the CCCM stakeholders, service providers and mobilizers.
- ☒ Ensure site management teams receive training in EORE, safety procedures and referral pathways.
- ☒ Ensure as much as possible all front-line and field staff are trained in first aid and have opportunity to attend refresher training on regular basis.
- ☒ Ensure humanitarian actors and stakeholders are briefed on security, evacuation, and incident reporting plans.



Information management tool © Antoine Tardy/GICHD



IV. If you want to go further

The Geneva International Center for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) offers several self-paced EORE e-learning courses available on its [training portal](#):

- Introduction to EORE essentials e-learning course: available in [English](#), [French](#), [Arabic](#), and [Ukrainian](#) (1 hour).
- Advanced EORE e-learning course: available in [English](#) and [French](#) (8 hours).

A resource library with case studies and other publications is also available on the [GICHD website](#). One suggested publication is the [Explosive Ordnance Risk Education \(EORE\) | Sector mapping and needs analysis](#): available in English, French, and Arabic.

The [EORE Advisory Group webpage](#), is a coalition of more than 18 organizations that provides overall guidance to the sector and identifies ways to improve the integration, effectiveness, efficiency and relevance of EORE. Among the key resources to explore on the page: EORE publications, studies, and reports; EORE digital tools and platforms; recordings of EORE Hour monthly webinars.