**SPOTLIGHT:**
**Disaster Response Planning in Eastern Europe and the Caucasus**

*The Journal* is looking for articles on disaster or emergency response planning in the mine action and CWD environments in Eastern Europe and the Caucasus, including Albania, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Serbia, and Ukraine.

What are the disaster response planning best practices and lessons learned in the CWD context? When a disaster occurs how can governments work together to fund and implement a response? What lessons have been learned? What are the responsibilities, challenges and risks to QRF contractors and international NGOs that respond to these crises? Discuss best practices for rapid assessments, post-blast clean-up and stockpile security. How do emergency risk education and clearance efforts best support refugee populations? How are these efforts timed in relation to ceasefires or ongoing conflicts? Case-studies on disaster response planning in Eastern Europe and the Caucasus are especially encouraged.

**FEATURE:**
**Best Practices in CWD**

*The Journal* seeks articles and case studies on best practices in conventional weapons destruction (CWD). How do the proliferation of conventional weapons and advanced conventional weapons (ACW) affect regional stability? What are current successful strategies and programs and how can they be replicated in different countries? How can evaluations be compared across implementers in a national and regional program? What training on export controls and practices are in place? What practical, effective measures can be implemented in post-conflict environments? What training is currently being implemented to enhance stockpile security and control the proliferation of CWD? Articles that provide specific case studies are encouraged.

A farmer in Bosnia and Herzegovina grazes cattle near a marked suspected hazardous area. Photo courtesy of Handicap International.

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**Field Notes:** This section of *The Journal* features articles, case studies, and experiences by practitioners and subject-matter experts. Field Notes accepts articles on a variety of subjects on a rolling basis.

**Research and Development:** This is a peer-reviewed technical section of *The Journal*. Scientific and technical articles on current trends and developments in the field of mine action and conventional weapons destruction will be considered on a rolling basis.

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