Humanitarian Mine Action in a Counterinsurgency/Insecure Environment:
Special Considerations

Murf McCloy
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Presentation Outline

• Overview of development of HMA in a Counterinsurgency/Insecure Environment
  • Working definition
  • Major obstacles
  • Key stakeholder decisions
  • Mine clearance prioritization considerations
  • Q&A session
Working Definition of HMA in an Insecure Environment

Mine action conducted in a situation where armed conflict between opposing parties is on-going and HMA operations are likely to be targeted by violent actions/armed force.
Obstacles to HMA in a Counterinsurgency/Insecure Environment

- Hostile opposition to HMA;
- Loss of “neutrality” by HMA demining organizations;
- Greatly reduced field of HMA tasks;
- Security limitations;
- Increased security demands;
- Post-clearance security requirements;
- Security/operational demining trade-offs
Key Stakeholder Actions/Decision Points

• Accept the reality of the security situation;
• Establish close collaboration between donors/HNG demining officials;
• Closely coordinate demining and security force operations;
• Shift focus of HMA to HN “must have” strategic value projects;
• “Tailor” HMA projects to HN security umbrella;
• Inform population of the HNG/donors’ demining efforts.
Prioritization of Mine Clearance in a Counterinsurgency/Insecure Environment

• Projects of “strategic value” infrastructure needed for economic recovery/development of the HN
• Projects designed to foster increased employment and income generation opportunities
• Projects that enhance freedom of movement of people, goods and services
• Projects that clear explosive threats to selected communities
Q&A Session