

THE

JOURNAL

of Conventional Weapons Destruction

ISSUE 26.2 CALL FOR PAPERS | ARTICLES DUE 1 JULY 2022

The Journal invites government/nongovernment organizations, field/research practitioners, policy advisors, and technical experts working in humanitarian mine action/conventional weapons destruction to contribute their challenges, experiences, and lessons learned in the form of practice-based article submissions.



Photo courtesy of the U.S. Department of State.

The Journal will be accepting articles about Ukraine, and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Initiatives (DEI) in HMA on a rolling basis for Issues 26.1, 26.2, and 26.3

UKRAINE

HMA organizations and personnel are shifting priorities and redesigning their on-the-ground operations to accommodate the situation in Ukraine. The Journal is actively seeking articles on how organizations are currently operating and planning for future operations in Ukraine. Amidst an evolving and complicated situation, with no national HMA program, a compromised healthcare system, and lack of surveyed contaminated

land, how are organizations conducting operations in Ukraine? What are the unique operating requirements and challenges of working in Ukraine? How do organizations quickly adapt their operations when conflict erupts? And how is the community targeting specific at-risk groups such as children or those disabled by explosive ordnance? How is the sector pivoting and adapting their work in response to the current conflict?

DEI INITIATIVES IN HMA

DEI encapsulates race, disability, gender and gender identity, nationality, ethnicity, socio-economic status, religion, caste, age, etc. What do DEI initiatives look like in HMA? What does it mean for HMA donors and organizations to act equitably? What does this sound like (language used), look like (social media posts, videos, articles), and act like (organizations' operations in the office and "in the field"; and at trainings, meetings, and conferences)? For the 26th edition, The Journal is accepting articles on how organizations are approaching and encapsulating DEI initiatives within the sector. How are we countering bias within our organizations—through hiring, training, working groups? Are our services inclusive of the input, opinions, knowledge, and experiences of those individuals and communities we're aiding?

How often do we ask aid recipients about their needs, and how open are we to receiving their suggestions, advice, and complaints? How do these in turn affect or change the way we conduct operations? How accessible and inclusive are our communications and operations?

Accessibility and Inclusion. How accessible and inclusive are our communications, trainings, and on-the-ground operations? The Journal seeks articles on how the sector is working to ensure that their daily operations and output—from EORE and survivor assistance programs and trainings, to hiring and visibility of all stakeholders are accessible to and representative and inclusive of our global community and beneficiaries.

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Information Management in CWD: How are organizations working to streamline information management for conventional weapons destruction? How can the sector work together to simplify terminology and counting mechanisms for small arms/light weapons? And as the small arms agenda has converged over the years with broader international policy on gender equality, how can we strengthen integration and analysis of gender-desegregated data on SA/LW?

Emergency Response Teams: When newly discovered explosive ordnance (EO) poses risks to civilians and infrastructure, and when munitions sites are at risk of explosion, how do quick reaction teams provide efficient, timely responses to those who need it? What kind of planning is necessary and what services are teams capable of providing?

Digital EORE: How are digital tools complementing evolving EORE activities? How are organizations utilizing digital tools to reach those most at risk of EO while ensuring the safety of their teams on the ground? What new and emerging ways are organizations distributing accessible and inclusive, culturally-appropriate EORE in challenging situations?

Clearing Rough Terrain: Overcoming Challenges (or Best Practices): Suspected and confirmed hazardous areas are often remote and require survey and clearance teams to travel long distances and navigate difficult terrain before beginning their life-saving work. How have organizations sought to address this and how are teams supplied and supported to accomplish remote work in tough environments?

Doing More with Less: Funding shortfalls are an unfortunate reality of mine action; however, the community continues to innovate and meet these challenges through human ingenuity. How are organizations leveraging information technology to ensure assets are deployed where needed and used efficiently?

Iraq/Syria: Recent conflicts in Iraq and Syria have caused widespread explosive contamination. How is geospatial technology and data collection techniques enabling organizations to combat security concerns and offset reporting challenges? What work is being currently done and how have teams on the ground navigated the unique operating parameters of each country?

IED Clearance: Revising Practices and Lessons Learned: How are MA organizations adapting their procedures to account for IEDs? How has the scope of your organization's work changed to account for IEDs in your areas of operation? What are your specific technical challenges and how have you overcome them? What can the broader community learn from your solutions?

Evolution of Sensor Technology: With the evolving nature of technology and multi-sector collaboration to advance the use of AI in various areas of expertise, what has mine action learned and what lies ahead? How is the community leveraging partnerships to ensure those with the appropriate skills offer the latest expertise where needed?

Deminer Training Programs: As standards and guidance continue to evolve, so too are the methods being taught by seasoned mine action instructors and technical experts from around the world. How is the community of practice ensuring the latest trends and most critical lessons are taught to the next generation of demining operators?

Munitions Destruction: Techniques and Equipment: When dealing with surplus or obsolete stockpiles of ammunition or SA/LW, how can countries efficiently dispose of munitions? What techniques or equipment are programs using to ensure these weapons are destroyed at minimal cost while maximizing safety?

Booby Traps in Urban Settings (relating to either clearance or risk education): With the rise in use of booby traps in conflicts around the world, what are mine action groups encountering in their areas of operation? How well prepared are deminers to neutralize and dispose of booby traps? And, due to the improvisation of certain variations, how are organizations modernizing EORE materials to better protect civilians?

The Blurred Line of Humanitarian Aid in Conflict Settings: Mine action is grounded in humanitarian principles and maintains strict policies of neutrality and impartiality. When MA organizations find themselves in areas with immediate security concerns, does the scope of their activities change? How do priorities shift to the protection of staff, and how can organizations ensure the safety of their personnel while mobilizing critical resources to still pursue humanitarian objectives?

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