



SUDAN REPORTING TO THE SECOND SESSION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES TO THE ANTI- PERSONNEL MINE BAN CONVENTION GENEVA 21-25 JUNE 2004

UPDATE ON MINE CLEARANCE, MINE RISK
EDUCATION AND MINE ACTION
TECHNOLOGIES



DEMOGRAPHICS OF SUDAN

- Sudan is the largest country in Africa
- Surface area 2,505,810 sq km
- Approximately as large as Europe and more than one quarter the size of the USA
- It shares borders with 9 countries and the Red Sea (a total of 8540km)
- Sudan has a population of 38,114,160 (2003 estimate)

HISTORY OF THE CONFLICT



- The mines problem emanates primarily from 20 years of civil conflict from 1983 with the SPLM and mostly affects Southern Sudan
- Most of the border areas of Sudan are also affected due to other conflicts dating as far back as the Second World War
- Since the signing of the Nuba Mountains Peace Agreement during 2001, the GoS and the SPLM started cooperating on mine action, which established a unique precedent for cooperation and peace-building even during ongoing conflict
- The signing of the first protocol at Machakos in July 2002 preceded the signing of the final of 6 peace protocols between the GoS and the SPLM at the end of May. The signing of the comprehensive peace agreement is expected by August 2004
- A 6-month pre-interim and 6-year interim period will follow

ADVOCACY

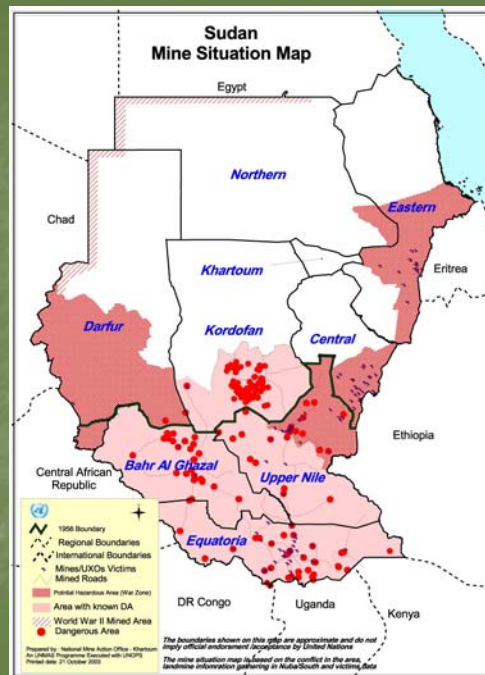


- Sudan signed the Ottawa Convention in 1997, ratified it in October 2003 and it came into effect on April 1st 2004
- Since the signing of the Convention by Sudan, the Sudan Campaign to Ban Landmines (SCBL) has always been active in mine action and in particular with regards to advocacy
- In May this year the GoS convened work shops to inform and educate officials, the military and civil society on the Treaty obligations
- The Treaty now commits Sudan to destroying its stocks by April 2008, demining all affected areas by April 2014, and to reporting to the UN Secretary-General on measures taken to implement the treaty (Initial Report) by 1 September 2004.
- Southern Sudan, which already subscribed to the spirit of the Geneva Call as the SPLM, will be party to the obligations of Sudan on the signing of the comprehensive peace agreement

MINE AND UXO PROBLEM



- An estimated 1 million mines are suspected to contaminate over 800,000 km² in 21 of 26 states
- It might cover as much as 32% of Sudan, mostly in Southern Sudan
- Information is very restricted and is currently available for only 11 of the 21 states suspected to be contaminated
- The conflict in the South was a classic guerrilla war where routes, villages, services and arable land were mined
- Most of Sudan's borders are also suspected to being mined as far back as the Second World War



MINE ACTION STRUCTURES



- In September 2002, a MoU was agreed to in Geneva between the GoS, the SPLM and the UN regarding UN mine action support to Sudan
- Under the terms of the MoU, the UN will seek to help both parties to jointly develop a national mine action strategy that meets the immediate needs of the emergency humanitarian situation and plans ahead to post conflict Sudan. Such strategy will eventually lead to a mutually agreed National Mine Action Plan
- Also in September 2002, the GoS, assisted by UNMAS, established a National Mine Action Office in Khartoum. The SCBL has been an active partner of the NMAO from its inception
- The Humanitarian Aid Commission, of the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, is the government focal point for coordination of mine action and is represented in the Mine Action Office, while the SPLM representative is the Executive Director of the Southern Sudan Mine Action Directorate
- Subsequently UNMAS, together with the SPLM, established a Southern Sudan Mine Action Coordination Office in Rumbek and, with the GoS, a Regional Mine Action Office at Kadugli in the Nuba Mountains
- Agreement between the UN, GoS and the SPLM on a policy framework for MA in January 2004. Central to this policy is a "one-country" approach, with the NMAA as the policy-making body and the NMAO coordinating all MA in Sudan, including Southern Sudan
- On May 9th 2004, the SPLM passed a decree legislating the Mine Action Authority and Mine Action Directorate for Southern Sudan. Similar legislation is currently being processed by the GoS

IMPACT OF MINES/UXO



- Mines on key routes restrict the distribution of humanitarian aid, return of IDP's/refugees, internal mobility and trading
- Mines affect livelihoods in desperately poor communities
- Mines and UXO contaminate identified settlements of returnees and thus delay return of IDP's and refugees
- Essential services such as water, fuel and health services are blocked
- Mines/UXO exacerbate the traumatic effect of the recent conflict
- Mines caused large numbers of casualties, yet to be accurately determined (due to lack of access to many areas and the subsequent lack of information)
- Most affected areas are medium or low impact, but have to be confirmed by a LIS and will have to be readjusted once IDP's/refugees have returned
- Emergency clearance is preceded by rapid assessments but Sudan urgently needs the implementation of an LIS to obtain more accurate impact data

MINE ACTION PLANNING



- **VISION:**
 - A Sudan free from the effects of landmines and Explosive Remnants of War
 - A Sudan where mine action is a humanitarian imperative
- **MISSION:**
 - A Sudan free from the threat of landmines and ERW, where Sudanese communities live in a safe environment conducive to national confidence building, a peaceful culture, and socio-economic development; where mine survivors are fully integrated; and where Sudan has committed itself to stigmatise the use of landmines and to implement international, regional and national agreements

STRATEGY



- Preliminary Phase: The goal of the preliminary phase is to confirm requirements and establish the framework for subsequent, effective, mine action in Sudan; including, to the maximum extent possible, proactive measures to address immediate requirements
- Consolidation Phase: The goal of the consolidation phase is to ensure that effective and sustainable structures are developed that are capable of responding to all mine action needs appropriately and in accordance with international standards, whilst maintaining international donor interest and confidence. The mine action programme in Sudan is currently in this phase
- Implementation Phase: The goal of the implementation phase is to address immediate to medium term mine action requirements and to ensure that maximum preparatory measures are conducted to prepare for a post conflict, long term, National Mine Action Plan

PRINCIPLES



- Sudanese ownership and leadership through the NMAA
- National capacity building with international assistance
- Transfer of technology and capacity to Sudanese structures
- 'One country' approach
- Confidence/peace building through mine action
- Regulation of mine action
- Internationally accepted standards and quality assurance
- Accreditation of national and international organizations
- Developmental links of mine action
- Cost effectiveness and use of appropriate and suitable technology in mine action
- Prioritisation of mine action to be based upon an agreed needs-based assessment process, including national, regional and local levels
- Where appropriate, demining is to start before the signing of a comprehensive peace agreement

ADDRESSING THE NEEDS



- The current programme focuses on emergency mine action activities
- Due to limited resources, interventions have to be prioritised
- Because of the fact that large numbers of IDP's/refugees still have to return, the pressure on land is not that high yet and, thus, casualties are low
- The first priority is the survey and clearance of routes to facilitate the flow of humanitarian aid and the return of IDP's/refugees, primarily in South Sudan
- Requests are received from humanitarian agencies, authorities and communities and addressed according to priorities
- Community liaison is maintained to confirm priorities during the demining process
- Priorities will have to be adjusted as impact data becomes available and IDP's/refugees return

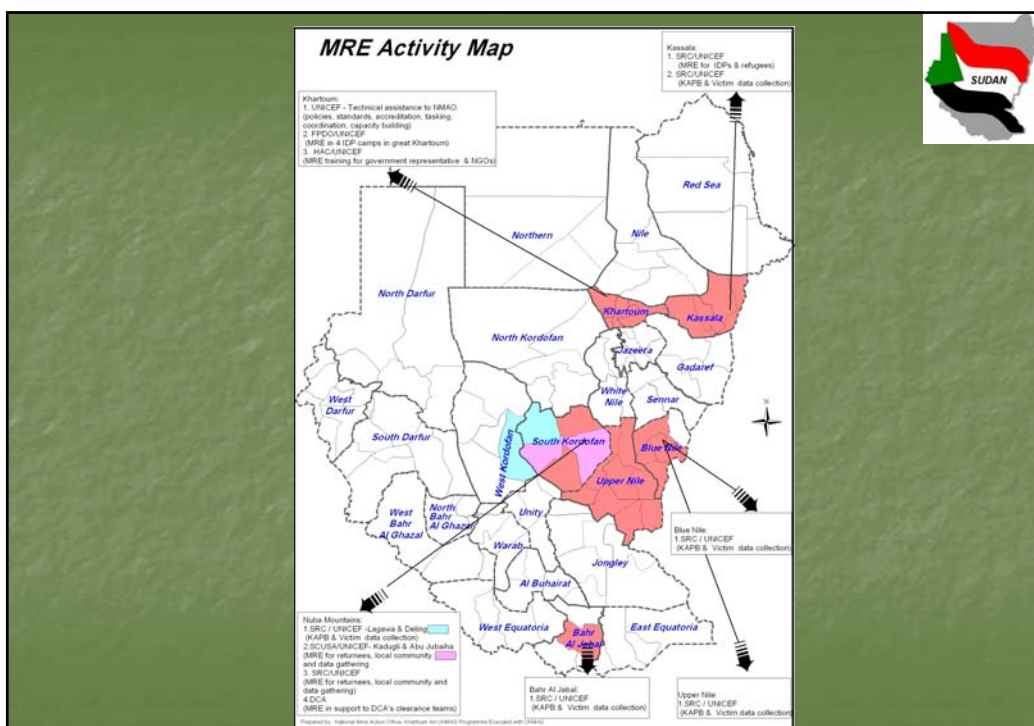
MA ORGANISATIONS CURRENTLY DEPLOYED IN SUDAN



Ser no	Name	Status	Activity	Remarks
1	DCA	Commercially contracted	Deminer training	UNOPS contracted
2	DCA	International NGO	Deminer training	Own funding
3	RONCO	International commercial contractor	Demining and UXO clearance	Bilateral funding
4	LMA	International NGO	Mine and UXO clearance	Bilateral funding
5	NPA	International NGO	Deminer training	Bilateral funding
6	MECHEM	International commercial contractor	Road clearance and verification	UNOPS contracted
7	OSIL	National NGO	Mine and UXO clearance	Contracted to Mechem
8	SLIRI	National NGO	Community liaison	LMA as international partner
9	FSD	International NGO	Road survey	Contracted to WFP
10	FSD	International NGO	Rapid assessment	UNOPS contracted
11	SPLA	Armed Force	MRE	Own funding
12	OSIL	Local NGO	MRE	DCA
13	SIMAS	Local NGO	MRE	Supported by FSD
14	SC US	International NGO	MRE	UNICEF contracted

Agencies and Organizations Operating in Mine Action

Government	International	International NGOs	Local NGOs	Demining
National Mine Action Authority (NMAA)	United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS)	International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Sudanese Red Crescent (SRC)	Swiss Federation for Demining (FSD)
National Mine Action Office (NMAO)	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	Save the Children (Sweden)	Organization for Care of War Disableds and Protection Against Land Mines (ABRAR)	Danish Church Aid (DCA)
Southern Sudan Mine Action Directorate (SSMAD)	United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)	Health Net International	Peace and Tolerance International Organization (PTIO)	Save the Children (USA)
Southern Sudan Mine Action Office (SSMAO)	European Union (EU)	Medical Care Doctors International (MCDI)	Sudan Landmine Information and Response Initiative (SLIRI)	Norwegian People's Aid
Sudan Campaign to Ban Landmines (SCBL)		OXFAM	Roots Organization for Development (ROD)	RONCO International
National Authority for Prosthetics and Orthotics (NAPO)			Friends of Peace and Development Organization (FPDO)	Landmine Action UK
			Operation Save Innocent Lives (OSIL)	MECHEM
			Nile Community Development Organization	SPLA
			Sudan Association for Combating Landmines (JASMAR)	Sudan Integrated Mine Action Service (SIMAS)
			Action on Disability and Development	
			Disabled People Organization	
			Rehabilitation Programme for Disabled Persons (RPDP)	



PROGRESS IN DEMINING 2003/4

- Staff deployed in MA:
 - Clearance: 111
 - Survey: 24
 - MRE: 251
 - Coordination: 14
 - Support: 22
- Specialised assets:
 - 10 Explosive Detection Dog Teams
 - 1 Mechem Explosive and Drug Detection System
 - 2 Mechem Vehicle Mounted Mine Detection Systems
- Land released:
 - Reduced 17,355,425
 - Cleared 3,720,853
- Mines/UXO destroyed
 - AP 167
 - ATK 12
 - UXO 9818

BENEFITS OF THE PROGRAMME



- Since 2003, casualties have decreased by an estimated 80% per annum
- MRE:
 - Male (men and boys) beneficiaries reached so far are 82,758 and female (women and girls) 48,623
 - Since the beginning of this year the ratio has improved to 31.5% men, 26.3% women, 23.2% boys and 19% girls
- Reduction in the cost of humanitarian aid due to routes cleared
- More rapid return of IDP's/refugees
- Increase in trade and utilisation of agricultural land
- Crossline cooperation between the GoS and the SPLM contributed to peace-building, even before the signing of a comprehensive peace agreement

PRIORITIES FOR OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE



- National capacity building and Sudanese ownership of the mine action programme
- Assistance to the National Mine Action Authority and national coordination mechanisms
- Direct emergency intervention to meet immediate needs and to support humanitarian interventions
- Determining the extent and impact of mines/UXO contamination by way of a LIS
- Supporting peace building, DDR, poverty reduction, return of IDP's/refugees and rehabilitation of land through mine action
- Development of an appropriate national mine-risk education capacity that complements other humanitarian mine-action operations
- Determine the full scope and nature of the mine/UXO victim problem and implement a sustainable national victim assistance programme