Land Release

GICHD

4th June 2008

What is the Problem?

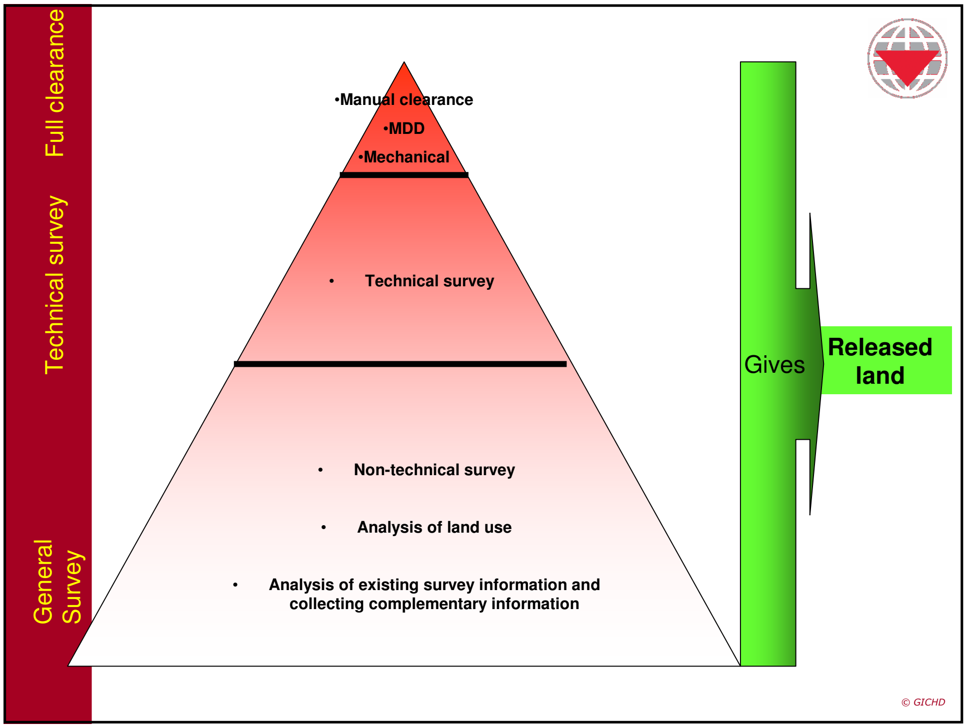
- **Mine problem inflated by magnitudes**
  - < 3% of cleared land contains mines/UXO
- **Few resources – vast areas to release**
- **Time pressure**
  - AP Mine Ban Treaty requirements
  - Rapid road clearance requirement
- **Conservatism**
  - Limited understanding about scope of problem
  - Poorly developed survey concepts favouring conservative output
  - Poorly developed decision-making tools
  - Limited knowledge about output from tools (survey/clearance)
  - Fear of violating APMBC and IMAS
  - No incentive for increasing efficiency and improving concepts

Research objectives

- Understand how mines and UXO affect society
- Identify key principles of national policy
- Develop a methodology that promotes increased land release from general approaches and technical surveys
- Streamline non-technical and technical survey
- Develop appropriate management and decision-making instruments

Potential outputs

- Land release rates significantly improved
- Significant increase in removed mines
- Enable countries to resolve mine problem within reasonable timeframes
- Ensure effective use of resources
- Define a framework for States to deliver compliance with APMBC


Full clearance
Technical survey
General Survey
•Manual clearance
•MDD
•Mechanical
• Technical survey
• Non-technical survey
• Analysis of land use
• Analysis of existing survey information and collecting complementary information
Gives
Released land


Land Release:
A guide for mine and ERW
affected countries
GICHD | CIDHG

Land Release (non-technical) publication - Nov 2007

- **Significant areas still being cleared without finding hazards**
- **Analysis of 6 countries undertaking land release.**
- **Development of common threads and comparative analysis**
- **Terminology raised as an issue**

Broad principles

- 1. A formal, well-documented and recorded process of investigation into the mine/ERW problem;
- 2. **Well-defined and objective criteria for the reclassification of land**;
- 3. A high degree of community involvement and acceptance of the decision making;
- 4. A formal process of handover of land prior to the release of land;
- 5. An ongoing monitoring mechanism after the handover has taken place;
- 6. A formal national policy addressing liability issues; and
- 7. A common set of terminology to be used when describing the process.

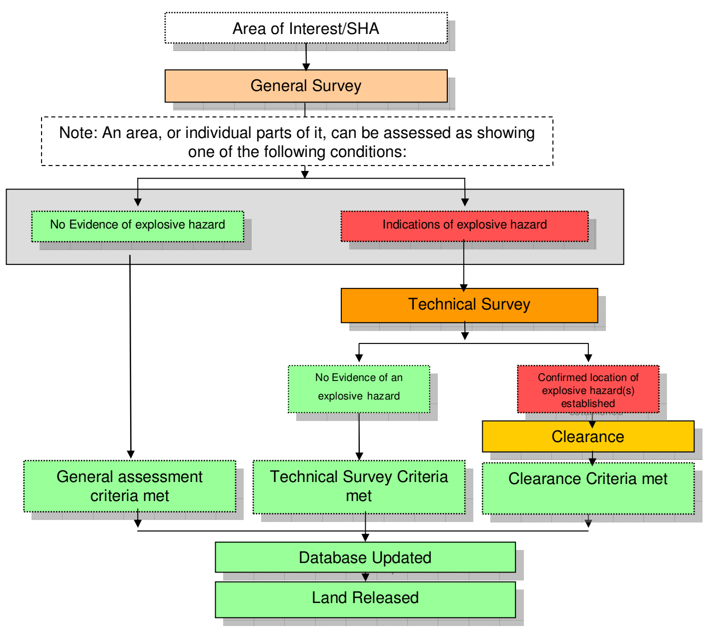
Well-defined and objective criteria

- No original data on mine laying exists.
- No previous accidents.
- No previous fortification facilities/barriers showing mine/ERW existence.
- The area has not been used for fighting or military purposes.
- No detonation in areas exposed to fire.
- No indicators of mines (marking, casing material etc).
- The above criteria are confirmed by survey teams and through conversations with contact persons.
- If area is in use, analyse and document the use of the area. Confirm that there have been no detonations by people, animals or fire and no evidence of mines/ERW has been seen by the users.

Use of land

Use of land

- NOT a criteria for land release in itself
- People using land – does not imply a tolerable risk level
  - may not have a choice
  - may have wrong perception of threat
- By using land, locals collect information about the mine situation (survey)
- However, a very dangerous survey method
- Nevertheless, a useful instrument to gather data on land
- Degree of use needs to be quantified



Stages of the process - Land release

Land Release 08.20
(new)

General Survey 08.21 (reworking of extant GMAA)	Technical survey 08.22 (reworking of extant technical survey)	Clearance 08.23 (extant 09.10)	BAC 08.24 (extant 09.11)

Information Management
(rework of extant 08.10 & draft 05.10)

Questions?