



Development of the United Nations Mine Action Strategy 2019 - 2023

Briefing to the Mine Action Support Group (MASG)
New York

16 October 2018



Methodology

- United Nations Mine Action Strategy 2019-2023 is being developed by the UN Inter-Agency Coordination Group on Mine Action (IACG-MA).
- Extensive consultations were coordinated and held at UN headquarters, regional and country levels, as well as with Member States, donors, research institutes, civil society, and implementing operators with the aim of ensuring a transparent and comprehensive approach.
- Four retreats of the IACG-MA from May to October 2018 as well as a series of bilateral consultations with UN and external stakeholders from June to September, both in person and through webex.
- As of October, IACG-MA is finalizing draft UN Mine Action Strategy 2019- 2023
- Strategy is expected to be endorsed by UN IACG-MA Principals in December 2018.



Focus and Scope of the UN Mine Action Strategy 2019-2023

The Strategy expands focus from an aspirational vision to a UN-focused results and accountability framework

- Orients UN engagement in mine action on the basis of a *theory of change* that defines core priorities for achieving global impact in reducing the threat of explosive devices, and against which the role and contribution of the UN are defined.
- Serves as an accountability mechanism for the UN system, by defining outputs for which it is responsible, and which will be monitored and reported on regularly.
- Reaffirms the UN people-centered approach to mine action: protection of and assistance to affected individuals and communities, as well as their participation and empowerment, remain a core focus.
- Embodies the UN principled approach: mine action undertaken in strict respect of core humanitarian principles (humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence) and peacekeeping principles.
- Commits the UN to a closer integration of mine action in humanitarian assistance, peace and security, human rights and development responses and associated frameworks.



The UN's Strategic Approach

Mission Statement

It is the primary responsibility of states to protect their peoples and communities from the threat of explosive devices. The United Nations works with States and affected communities to reduce the threat and impact of explosive devices on peace and security, humanitarian action, human rights, and socio-economic development. United Nations activities are undertaken with strict respect of the principles which guide humanitarian assistance, engagement in peace and security settings, and achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Through its partnership with States, international and regional organizations and civil society, the United Nations assists and protects those impacted by conflict, empowers affected individuals and communities, and strengthens national capacities to manage the risks of explosive devices, until such time as the assistance of the UN is no longer requested.

Overarching Goal

To contribute to a world free from the threat of mines, ERW, and IEDs (explosive devices) by protecting and assisting individuals and communities and contributing to the establishment of safe environments conducive to sustainable peace and development.



Strengthening UN Effectiveness and Accountability

- **Inclusion in broader responses:** 2019-2023 Strategy more clearly articulates the enabling role of UN mine action in relation to humanitarian, peace and development responses and aligns closely with UN reform processes, the UN fundamental imperative to protect people and help survivors and the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development.
- **Responsiveness to context.** Strategy is responsive to emerging trends and challenges in mine, ERW, and IED threat mitigation. This includes increased contamination in urban areas and the use of IEDs, while ensuring continued engagement to address existing contamination.
- **Monitoring and Evaluation.** United Nations will follow a rigorous monitoring and evaluation approach to review and report on progress at regular intervals based on a results framework, the underlying theory of change and the outputs for which the UN is mandated and accountable.



Strategic Priorities

- **Reducing mine/ERW/IED related risks.** Address contamination from new and protracted conflicts and increased use of IEDs, while not losing focus on pre-existing contamination. Also address risks posed by unsecured weapons and ammunition stockpiles.
- **Assisting victims.** Focus on advocating for and supporting referral pathways so that survivors (victims and their families) benefit not only from emergency health care, but also from other assistance including psycho-social treatment and rehabilitation.
- **Strengthening national ownership.** More systematic approach to strengthening capacities and managing transitions with a view to integrate, in line with SDG framework, sustainability and linkages to longer-term development goals as part of all mine action responses.
- **Maintaining momentum on Mine Action (cross-cutting strategic objective).** Building on progress achieved, strengthened UN role in multilateral efforts, including at global, regional and local levels.
- **Mainstreaming gender, age and diversity (cross-cutting strategic objective).** Explicit focus to mainstreaming gender, age, and diversity considerations across all mine action activities to better respond to needs and priorities.



Enabling Factors for UN Engagement

- Continued engagement and leadership by Member States
- Enhanced political support from States and regional organisations
- Sustained and predictable international and national funding support
- Effective integration of mine action in country-level UN strategic and coordination frameworks
- Improved integrated management of data, information and analyses among UN entities
- Continued coordination / collaboration with regional organisations and other stakeholders
- Strengthened skills of UN staff
- Existence of permissive environment for mine action



Monitoring and Evaluation

- To strengthen its current Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) approach, the United Nations will build a body of evidence from across a variety of sources:
 - **Quantitative data** on UN outputs and mine action outcomes from a field survey and desk research on mine action and mine action impact areas (humanitarian action, peace and security, SDGs)
 - **Qualitative data** from targeted studies and case studies to explore how United Nations engagement adapts to various operating contexts through a range of UN mine action responses
- M&E approach will rely on the commitment of UN entities, including through mine action country and field programmes as well as humanitarian and UN country teams, to report regularly with good quality data
- M&E will deliver regular progress reporting, contribute to biennial reports of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly on Assistance in Mine Action, and inform mid- and final-term reviews
- M&E will evolve through the course of the Strategy to respond to operating context and stakeholder needs
- Effective and meaningful M&E will require increased and sustained investment and funding support for its management and operation



Thank you





Additional Slides

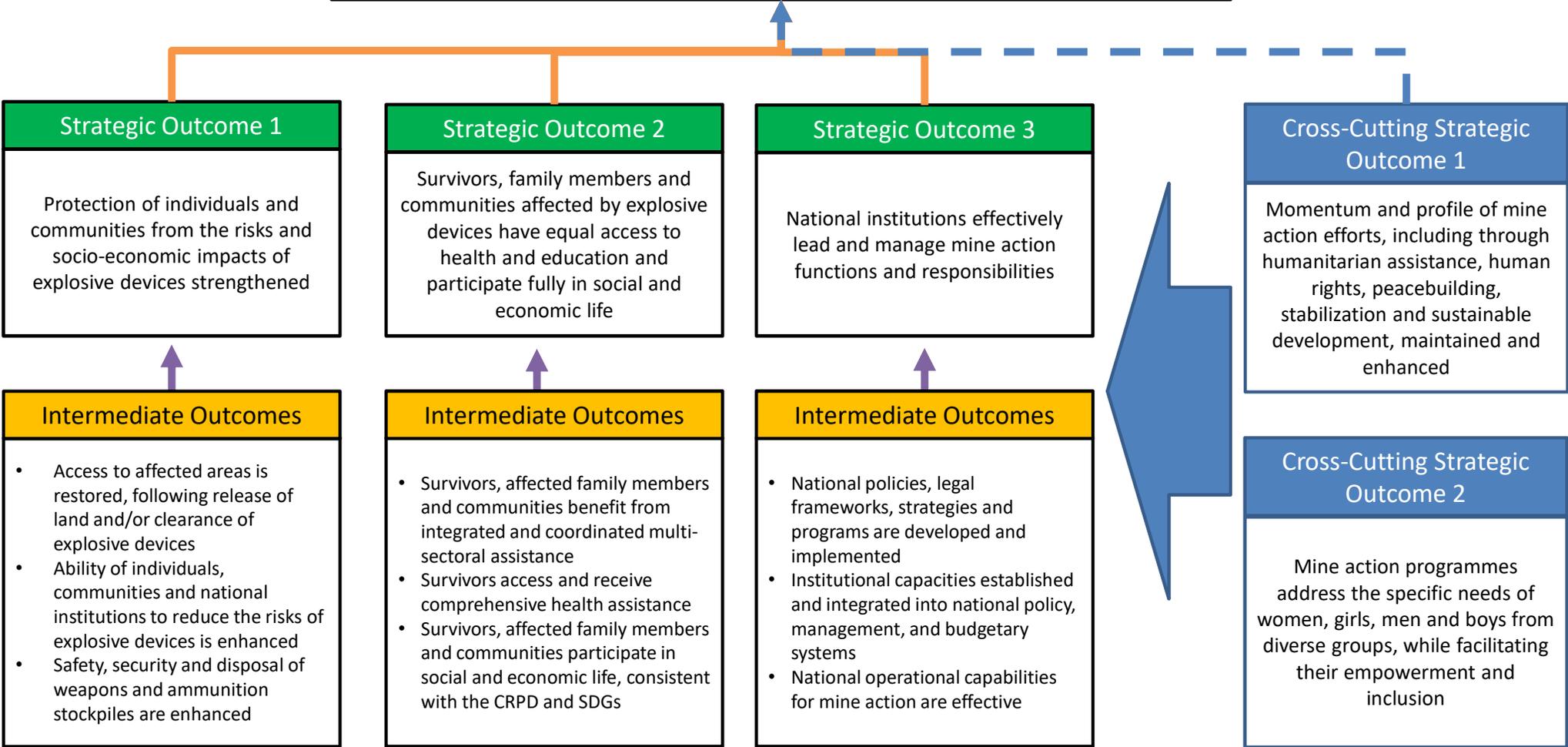


Theory of Change and Results Approach

Overview of the three components of the ToC / Results approach:

1. A **theory of change** which articulates a vision of how progress towards the desired global impact of a world free of mines, ERW and IEDs can be achieved. It consists of two levels of causality: 1) at the most general level, it posits that change at global level requires results across five areas of action; 2) within each of the five areas of action, change is attributed to a number of specific results.
2. Based on the theory of change, a **hierarchy of strategic-level results** is identified as necessary to achieve change at both the level of the global impact and the five priority areas of action. At the level of areas of action results are articulated as 'strategic outcomes', and within each area of action 'intermediate outcomes' denote specific results which together contribute to the strategic outcome.
3. A third component is the identification of the **specific contributions of the UN** within this framework. These are articulated in terms of outputs of UN activities corresponding to individual intermediate outcomes, but also a description of implementation approaches (how the UN will tailor efforts in different contexts) and underlying assumptions.

Vision
A world free of the threat of explosive devices





Vision

The vision of the United Nations is a world free from the threat of mines, explosive remnants of war (ERW), including cluster munitions, and improvised explosive devices (IEDs), where individuals and communities live in a safe environment conducive to sustainable peace and development and no one is left behind, and where the human rights and the needs of victims are met and they are fully integrated as equal members of their societies.



Mission Statement

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Strategic Outcome 1

STRATEGIC OUTCOME

INTERMEDIATE OUTCOMES

UNITED NATIONS OUTPUTS

Protection of individuals and communities from the risks and socio-economic impacts of explosive devices strengthened

(1) Access to affected areas is restored, following release of land and/or clearance of explosive devices

(2) Ability of individuals, communities and national institutions to reduce the risks of explosive devices is enhanced

(3) Safety, security and disposal of weapons and ammunition stockpiles are enhanced

- 1.1 Non-technical surveys, technical surveys and clearance of Confirmed Hazardous Areas (CHA) undertaken, with an emphasis on direct UN support in contexts where other actors are unable to operate
- 1.2 Survey and clearance activities facilitated, coordinated and prioritized based on humanitarian and development criteria
- 1.3 Application of standardized technical approaches (such as land release) and quality control measures advocated for, including those referenced in relevant national and international standards such as the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS), among UN, national, international and other actors

- 2.1 Risk education prioritizing most affected populations and vulnerable groups, as well as UN staff and other personnel operating in affected areas, provided and supported, in a gender and age responsive manner
- 2.2 Local and national capacities to facilitate greater awareness of the risks of explosive devices among individuals and communities, including marking, information and communication, outreach and other risk reduction campaigns, supported

- 3.1 Measures to safeguard, secure and safely manage weapons and ammunition stockpiles enhanced, consistent with the International Ammunition Technical Guidelines (IATG);
- 3.2 Unserviceable and unstable weapons and ammunition stockpiles are destroyed and disposed of.

Strategic Outcome 2

STRATEGIC OUTCOME

INTERMEDIATE OUTCOMES

UNITED NATIONS OUTPUTS

Survivors, family members and communities affected by explosive devices have equal access to health and education and participate fully in social and economic life

(1) Survivors, affected family members and communities benefit from integrated and coordinated multi-sectoral assistance

(2) Survivors access and receive comprehensive health assistance

(3) Survivors, affected family members and communities participate in social and economic life, consistent with the CRPD and SDGs

- 1.1 Dissemination and implementation of global standards on assistance for survivors within national policies and other frameworks supported;
 - 1.2 Technical assistance and guidance on assistance for survivors, including development of referral pathways for multi-sectoral assistance, provided;
 - 1.3 Awareness raising and communication on assistance priorities, service accessibility and referrals data undertaken with national and international stakeholders;
 - 1.4 Coordination and planning of national and international efforts to integrate assistance to survivors, affected family members and communities within broader programs facilitated and supported;
 - 1.5 Reporting by governments on progress with respect to victim assistance as part of relevant international humanitarian law instruments supported;
 - 1.6 Equal participation of all survivors in assessments, decision-making, planning and implementation of multi-sectoral assistance advocated for and facilitated;
- 2.1 Collection, analysis and dissemination of age and gender disaggregated data on survivors facilitated through relevant coordination mechanisms
 - 2.2 Development of integrated health service and assistance pathways for survivors supported and facilitated
 - 2.3 Inclusion of critical life-saving health services, integrated and continued access to rehabilitation, within ongoing health programs and initiatives advocated for and facilitated, to address gaps in coverage of survivors
- 3.1 Equal access to quality gender and age-inclusive education and learning opportunities for survivors, affected family members and communities, including through upgraded education facilities, advocated for, supported and monitored;
 - 3.2 Equal inclusion of female and male survivors, affected family members and communities within gender and age-inclusive employment and livelihood programs, as well as national social protection and development strategies, advocated for and supported;
 - 3.3 Equal accessibility for all persons with disabilities, including survivors, to public services advocated for and supported through technical assistance;

Strategic Outcome 3

STRATEGIC OUTCOME

INTERMEDIATE OUTCOMES

UNITED NATIONS OUTPUTS

National institutions effectively lead and manage mine action functions and responsibilities

(1) National policies, legal frameworks, strategies and programs are developed and implemented

(2) Institutional capacities established and integrated into national policy, management, and budgetary systems

(3) National operational capabilities for mine action are effective

1.1 Development of comprehensive and coordinated national mine action legislative frameworks, policies, strategies and programs, including alignment with national development frameworks and the SDGs, enabled through provision of training, capacity development assistance, advice on legislative processes and advocacy efforts;

1.2 Collaboration between national actors, donors and UN entities promoted and facilitated to mobilize financing for implementation of national plans that support compliance with international treaty obligations, as relevant;

1.3 National compliance with relevant treaties and international humanitarian law facilitated through advocacy and technical assistance.

2.1 Mine action management functions, including operational planning, prioritization, coordination and quality control, strengthened;

2.2 Development and use of national mine action information management and analysis capacities enabled and supported;

2.3 Opportunities for global and regional exchanges and learning facilitated through regional, inter-country and UN networks;

2.4 National budget integration, resource mobilization and financial management functions strengthened.

3.1 National operational capacities and resources to manage the threat of explosive devices strengthened within key government and national non-government institutions;

3.2 National operational technical experts for critical threat mitigation functions trained to national standards and deployed.

Cross-Cutting Strategic Outcome 1

STRATEGIC OUTCOME

INTERMEDIATE OUTCOMES

UNITED NATIONS OUTPUTS

Momentum and profile of mine action efforts, including through humanitarian assistance, human rights, peacebuilding, stabilization and sustainable development, maintained and enhanced

(1) Progress towards the universalization and implementation of international normative frameworks is advanced

(2) Mine action effectively mainstreamed within humanitarian assistance, peacebuilding, stabilization, and sustainable development strategies and plans

- 1.1 Continued advocacy and provision of technical assistance for the ratification of and adherence to international legal instruments (namely the APMBT, CCW, CCM and CRPD) as well as international standards, such as the IMAS and IATGs (SO1), where applicable;
- 1.2 Responsive and timely UN mine action interventions to support countries in implementing international legal instruments, including risk reduction and assistance to survivors (as reflected in the outputs of SO 1 and 2);
- 1.3 Strengthening national capacities to enhance compliance and implementation of international humanitarian legal instruments, where applicable (SO2 and SO3);

- 2.1 Ensuring mine action is effectively integrated into peacemaking, peacebuilding and stabilization strategies and programmes, in accordance with relevant UN Security Council and General Assembly mandates (SO1);
- 2.2 Facilitating and supporting the development and maintenance of injury surveillance systems as a prerequisite for prioritization of mine risk reduction efforts (SO1, SO2, SO3);
- 2.3 Supporting the protection of and assistance to individuals and population groups at risk within humanitarian and development programming (SO1);
- 2.4 Enhancing coordination of mine action activities within the UN system, including through the humanitarian cluster system and UN Country Teams (UNCTs) and related planning frameworks to strengthen the impact and efficiency of UN system-wide efforts (SO1, SO2, SO3);
- 2.5 Ensuring that national development strategies and plans integrate a focus on mine action priorities aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SO1, SO2, SO3).

Cross-Cutting Strategic Outcome 2

STRATEGIC OUTCOME

Mine action programmes address the specific needs of women, girls, men and boys from diverse groups, while facilitating their empowerment and inclusion

CONTRIBUTING OUTCOME AREAS

(1) Protecting individuals and communities from explosive devices

(2) Assistance to victims of explosive devices

(3) Strengthening national capacities for mine action

UNITED NATIONS OUTPUTS

- 1.1 Ensuring gender and age sensitive approaches to the surveying, prioritization and procedures for handover of cleared land;
- 1.2 Ensuring that risk education programs target the specific behaviors of at-risk women, girls, boys and men;
- 1.3 Facilitating incorporation of gender, age and other social, economic, cultural and religious considerations in risk education programs.
- 1.4 Ensuring that institutional risk mitigation capacities cater to the specific needs of women, girls, men and boys, while specifically recognizing the role and capacity of women as agents of change in households and within affected communities.

- 2.1 Ensuring that assistance is gender responsive, addresses specific gender and age needs and requirements, and is inclusive of all members of the affected population.
- 2.2 Supporting participatory, consultative and age and gender disaggregated approaches to data collection, analysis and monitoring in support of multi-sector assistance strategies.
- 2.3 Advocating for and supporting gender parity among health, rehabilitation and social-support workers to ensure that the specific needs of women, girls, boys and men are addressed.
- 2.4 Taking into consideration the principle of 'do no harm' so that inclusive and empowering assistance does not exacerbate the exposure of risks to Gender Based Violence (GBV).

- 3.1 Promoting a gender and diversity focus in development of national mine action capacities, including NGOs and civil society, in order to ensure that the different needs and priorities of women, girls, boys and men from diverse groups are effectively addressed;
- 3.2 Advocating for a gender and socially inclusive approach in the development of national policies, legal frameworks and plans for mine action.
- 3.3 Advocating for gender equality and non-discrimination in employment and decision making opportunities in mine action programming.



Mine Action as a Strategic Enabler

Humanitarian Action: Mine action is a key to ensuring the centrality of protection in humanitarian action, including social protection and child protection, and is integrated within humanitarian response as an Area of Responsibility (AoR) under the Protection Cluster. Mine Action also contributes to the Agenda for Humanity, including the core commitments to respect the rules of war and to leave no one behind.

Peace and Security : Within UN initiatives to prevent conflict and sustain peace, mine action contributes to building confidence, facilitating local peacebuilding, and supporting people-centered stabilization efforts. The UN will continue to advocate for the inclusion of mine action in peace processes and as a core component of peacekeeping functions, with a focus on the protection and safety of civilians, generating peace dividends, and enabling humanitarian access and socio-economic recovery.

Sustainable Development: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) provide a globally adopted framework for integrating mine action in national development plans. Through reducing risk of explosive devices and assisting those affected by them, the UN will contribute to efforts to enable recovery and development processes; support national capacity development; and access for survivors to basic services and social and economic opportunities..