Somalia

IMPACT

- With UNMAS support, **7,476** Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) and **83** Improvised Explosive Devices (IED) have been destroyed by the Somali Police, AMISOM and NGO's
- Over **8,500** weapons marked and registered in Mogadishu while **221** unserviceable weapons have been destroyed
- **40** villages surveyed and **41.7** square kilometres of land released
- Over **19,539** people received risk education about explosive hazards
- A total of **1,488** AMISOM troops received various tailored trainings in line with their functions
- **602** Somali Police recruits received IED awareness training
- **87** specialized personnel from the Somali Police Forces received training in Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) and IED-Disposal
- **172** Somalis trained in manual demining along the Somali border with Ethiopia

ABOUT

Decades of armed conflict in Somalia has given rise to the use of IEDs, the widespread proliferation of small arms and light weapons, and resulted in ERW and landmine contamination.

Mandated by UNSCR 2275 (2016) and 2317 (2016), UNMAS is a component of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM) and its Rule of Law and Security Institutions Group (ROLSIG), which is mandated to provide strategic policy and technical advice to the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) and its national security institutions.

Further mandated by UNSCR 2297 (2016), UNMAS is also a component of the United Nations Support Office in Somalia (UNSOS), which provides non-lethal logistical support to the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM). Moreover, UNMAS has special status in the United Nations Country Team for coordinating humanitarian mine action activities under the umbrella of the Protection Cluster.
ACTIVITIES

1. Support to AMISOM
As a component of UNSOS, UNMAS provides explosive threat mitigation support to AMISOM troops from Burundi, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, and Uganda. UNMAS delivers EOD and IED-disposal training and mentoring, advice into operational planning processes, provision of specialized equipment and explosive detection dogs to enhance force protection, support force mobility and mitigate the threat of IEDs against AMISOM personnel and assets.

2. Support to National Security Institutions
As a component of UNSOM, UNMAS provides advice, training and equipment to the Somali Police Forces to develop their bomb disposal capabilities across Somalia. Enhancing such capabilities remains crucial, especially with regards to the critical lead-up to the presidential election in 2020 and to the foreseeable drawdown of AMISOM troops. UNMAS is also supporting the FGS in weapons and ammunition management in line with sanctions obligations under the partial lifting of the arms embargo.

3. Humanitarian Mine Action
UNMAS supports the protection of civilians in contaminated areas by coordinating humanitarian mine action activities, such as survey, clearance and risk education. Since 2015, UNMAS has supported the development of civilian-led clearance efforts along the Somali border with Ethiopia, which has a positive impact with regards to human security, employment opportunities and countering violent extremism, particularly youth, who could otherwise be exploited by armed groups.

FUNDING
UNMAS is currently supported by the United Kingdom and Japan, as well as by assessed contributions under UNSOM and UNSOS. UNMAS is seeking additional resources to further develop the capabilities of the Somali Police Forces, Weapons and Ammunition Management, as well as Humanitarian Mine Action.

For more information:

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