



World Federation of United Nations Associations

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GLOBAL MODEL UN **SINGAPORE** 2026

ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY

MINE ACTION ASSISTANCE

Simulation: Fourth Committee of the General Assembly

Welcome to Global Model UN Singapore 2026,

We are very pleased to introduce you to the most authentic simulation of the Fourth Committee of the General Assembly in the world; and hope to contribute to your understanding of the organisation, its mandate, and its critical role in global affairs.

Through a series of pre-conference webinars that will be offered and documents – like this resource guide – we aim to educate you not only about the global issues on the UN agenda, but also about the ways and means through which those topics are discussed, debated and negotiated by real UN diplomats.

This resource guide will provide you with a head start in doing research to gain a deeper understanding of the global issue that you will be discussing and the actions that the government you have been assigned recommends that the international community should take to address this issue. To make the research process a bit easier, the resource guide has been divided into sections and sub-sections to assist you in researching these two components. We strongly recommend you to give a careful look through the sources listed below so that the interaction with your peers is as exciting as possible.

We wish you all the very best in this journey of learning!

TOPIC DESCRIPTION

Even after wars end, landmines, cluster munitions, and improvised explosive devices (IEDs) remain buried in the ground, continuing to kill and injure civilians. These explosive remnants of war (ERW) make farmland unsafe, block access to schools and hospitals, and prevent displaced families from returning home. In short, they keep communities trapped in the shadow of war long after the fighting has stopped.

To respond, the international community amended Protocol II to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) that entered into force in 1998 to protect civilians and combatants from harm caused by mines and other devices, established landmark treaties such as the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (Ottawa Treaty) that entered into force in 1999 and the Convention on Cluster Munitions that entered into force in 2010.

Yet challenges remain. The problem today is widespread. At least 58 States and territories remain contaminated with anti-personnel mines, 29 are affected by cluster munition remnants, and more than 60 face IED contamination. This is placing mine action efforts under great strain. Some States are withdrawing from or suspending their participation in these treaties, raising concerns about backsliding on humanitarian norms. Meanwhile, non-State armed groups are increasingly using sophisticated IEDs in places such as the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mali, Nigeria, and Somalia. And the expanded use and subsequent contamination across conflict zones continues to grow in the fields of Ukraine, urban centres in Gaza and the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic and rural communities in Myanmar.

Mine action is about more than removing explosives. It is also about supporting peace, development, and human security. Clearing contaminated land enables farmers in Afghanistan and Iraq to plant crops again, displaced families in South Sudan to return home, and peacekeepers in Somalia and the Central African Republic to move safely on key supply routes. Risk education programs—from theatre performances for children in Abyei to television campaigns in Afghanistan and school-based programs in Yemen—help people avoid danger in their daily lives. Survivors receive assistance ranging from prosthetic limbs in the Syrian Arab Republic to psychosocial support and livelihood training in Nigeria and Viet Nam, helping them reintegrate into society.

The UN General Assembly's Fourth Committee plays an important role by keeping global attention on this issue, reviewing reports, and ensuring accurate information is shared. The UN Mine Action Service (UNMAS), together with other UN bodies, integrates mine action into broader humanitarian and development efforts—from rebuilding schools and clinics in Viet Nam on cleared land to ensuring safe agricultural recovery in Ukraine.

TOPIC DESCRIPTION

Yet funding for mine action has fallen sharply in recent years, even as global military expenditures have reached record highs. Many NGOs have been forced to scale back programmes, threatening progress. Climate change further complicates clearance, with floods in Afghanistan and heavy rains in Abyei shifting explosive ordnance into new areas and reducing safe operating windows.

In the end, mine action is both a humanitarian and a development priority. It saves lives, restores land to productive use, and builds safer, more resilient societies. By upholding international humanitarian disarmament treaties, investing in clearance, victim assistance, and risk education, and ensuring predictable funding, the international community can make progress toward the goal of a world free from the deadly legacy of mines and explosive remnants of war.

Key Points and Main Issues

5 Pillars of Mine Action

- **Mine Clearance**

- Core component of mine action, including:
 - Surveys
 - Mapping and minefield marking
 - Actual clearance of mines ("demining")
- Two types:
 - **Military mine clearance:** conducted by soldiers during conflict to clear strategic paths.
 - **Humanitarian mine clearance:** aims to clear land so civilians can safely return and resume normal life, restoring community peace and security.

- **Mine Risk Education (MRE)**

- Educational activities to reduce injury risk from mines and unexploded ordnance.
- Methods include:
 - Public-information campaigns
 - Education and training
 - Community liaison
- Objectives:
 - Raise awareness to encourage safe behaviors
 - Reduce risk to allow safe living and economic/social development without explosive hazards

- **Victim Assistance**

- Core obligation under the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (Article Six).
- Provides care for mine victims, their families, and affected communities.
- Includes:
 - Emergency and ongoing medical care
 - Physical rehabilitation
 - Psychosocial support and social inclusion
 - Legal and policy frameworks to protect and support persons with disabilities

Key Points and Main Issues (cont.)

- **Advocacy**

- Promotes universal participation in treaties banning or limiting landmines.
- Supports:
 - Monitoring and meetings of treaty member states ("state parties")
 - Key treaties include:
 - Anti-personnel mine-ban treaty (since 1997)
 - Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (addressing booby-traps and anti-vehicle mines)
- Provides technical advice and capacity building for treaty implementation.

- **Stockpile Destruction**

- Stockpiled mines exceed those laid in the ground.
 - Under Article 4 of the Anti-personnel Mine Ban Convention:
 - States must destroy stockpiles within 4 years of accession.
 - 65 countries have destroyed over 37 million mines.
 - 51 countries declare no stockpiles.
 - Some countries are scheduled to destroy stockpiles soon.
 - UNMAS role:
 - Provides technical support for safe destruction of stockpiles.
 - Assists with proper storage and inspection of ammunition.
 - Part of Weapons and Ammunition Management (WAM) programs.
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Peacekeeping - Mine Action

2026

Summary: This United Nations Peacekeeping resource explains how mine action helps protect civilians and support peacebuilding in countries affected by conflict. Led by the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS), mine-action activities reduce the threat posed by landmines, explosive remnants of war, and improvised explosive devices through clearance operations, risk education, victim assistance, advocacy, and stockpile destruction. By removing explosive hazards and strengthening national capacities, mine action enables humanitarian access, facilitates the safe return of displaced populations, supports reconstruction efforts, and creates the conditions necessary for long-term peace, security, and sustainable development in affected communities.

Why Mine Action Matters

2026

Summary: This webpage explains that mine action is about much more than removing landmines. It is an essential part of protecting civilians, supporting humanitarian relief, enabling sustainable development, and building lasting peace in countries affected by conflict.

Statement by the Secretary-General on the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention

2025

Summary: In response to rising global conflicts and plans by some states to leave the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, the UN Secretary-General voiced concern that key humanitarian norms are at risk. He urged all states to respect disarmament treaties, stop withdrawals, and called on non-members to join the Convention. To support this, he launched a global campaign to strengthen mine action, promote humanitarian disarmament, and move toward a mine-free world. The six-month campaign will focus on building public support and encouraging states to take concrete steps.

Draft Resolution A/C.4/80/L.7 – Assistance in Mine Action

2025

Summary: This draft resolution reaffirms the international community's commitment to addressing the humanitarian, developmental, and security impacts of landmines, explosive remnants of war (ERW), and improvised explosive devices (IEDs). It calls on Member States to strengthen mine action efforts through clearance operations, risk education, victim assistance, capacity-building, and sustainable funding. The resolution emphasizes the protection of civilians, support for refugees and internally displaced persons, disability inclusion, gender-sensitive approaches, and the integration of mine action into peacebuilding, humanitarian response, and sustainable development initiatives. It also recognizes the coordinating role of UNMAS and encourages greater international cooperation, technological innovation, and national ownership of mine action programs.

UN General Assembly Resolution 78/70

2023

Summary: UN General Assembly Resolution 78/70 reaffirms global commitment to mine action, emphasizing the urgent need to address the humanitarian, developmental, and security threats posed by landmines and explosive remnants of war (ERW), particularly to civilians, children, displaced persons, and peacekeepers. It calls on Member States and the UN to uphold international obligations, support affected countries through financial, technical, and capacity-building assistance, and integrate mine action into humanitarian, development, and peacebuilding efforts. The resolution stresses the importance of victim assistance, including medical care, rehabilitation, and livelihood support, and promotes inclusive, gender- and disability-sensitive approaches. It highlights the role of the UN Mine Action Service and coordination mechanisms, encourages continued strategy development and evaluation, and requests a progress report for the General Assembly's 80th session.

[United Nations Inter-Agency Coordination Group on Mine Action](#)

2023

Summary: The UN Inter-Agency Coordination Group on Mine Action praised Cambodia's leadership ahead of the 2024 Review Conference and highlighted the importance of international cooperation to combat landmines and improvised explosive devices (IEDs). It emphasized capacity-building efforts, such as training personnel in Iraq, but noted ongoing funding challenges in countries like Afghanistan and Yemen. The statement called for enhanced regional cooperation, commitment to disarmament norms, and greater support to achieve a mine-free world.

[Safe Ground - Turning Minefield into Playing Fields](#)

2022

Summary: The Safe Ground, Safe Steps, Safe Home exhibit highlights the global impact of landmines, explosive remnants of war, and other explosive hazards on communities affected by conflict. Organized as part of the UN-led Safe Ground campaign, the exhibit raises awareness of the importance of mine action in protecting civilians, supporting victims and survivors, and restoring safe access to land and infrastructure. Through personal stories, photographs, and examples from affected countries, it demonstrates how mine clearance, risk education, victim assistance, and international cooperation help transform dangerous areas into safe and productive spaces, contributing to community recovery, social inclusion, and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

[The Korea-Viet Nam Mine Action Project](#) 2022

Summary: The Korea-Viet Nam Mine Action Project supports the Government of Viet Nam in addressing the long-term threat posed by landmines, cluster munitions, and other explosive remnants of war. Implemented by UNDP in partnership with the Viet Nam National Mine Action Centre (VNMAC) and supported by the Republic of Korea, the project strengthens national mine-action governance, improves information management systems, enhances survey and clearance operations, and builds institutional capacity. By reducing explosive hazards in contaminated areas, the project helps protect communities, restore safe access to land, support victims, and promote sustainable economic development and human security in affected provinces.

[UN General Assembly Resolution 76/74](#)

2021

Summary: The UN General Assembly Resolution 76/74 reaffirms international commitment to mine action, highlighting the humanitarian, developmental, and peacebuilding challenges posed by landmines and explosive remnants of war. It encourages member states, the UN, and other stakeholders to strengthen efforts in clearance, victim assistance, risk education, and capacity-building, with special attention to vulnerable populations including women, children, and persons with disabilities. The resolution underscores the importance of coordination, innovation, sustainable funding, and localization, and urges integration of mine action into broader humanitarian and development frameworks. It also calls for improved reporting, rapid response, and ongoing UN support through the 2019–2023 Strategy on Mine Action.

[Security Council Resolution 2365](#)

2017

Summary: Resolution 2365 expresses grave concern over the humanitarian, social, and economic impact of landmines, ERW, and IEDs. It urges parties in armed conflicts to cease indiscriminate use of explosive devices and calls for enhanced support in clearance, victim assistance, and risk education. The resolution emphasizes integrating mine action early in peacekeeping and humanitarian responses and supports the coordination role of UNMAS and cooperation with regional organizations. It also requests regular updates from the Secretary-General and encourages further capacity-building and adherence to international mine action standards. Unlike the broader mandates and strategic frameworks found in the earlier two documents, this Security Council resolution is more focused on operational and security-related aspects of mine action within the context of armed conflict and peacekeeping. It places stronger emphasis on threats posed by IEDs used by terrorists, the protection of peacekeepers, and the need to integrate mine action into UN missions. This resolution also includes more direct calls to action for Member States and UN entities, including formal requests for reports from the Secretary-General.

UNMAS efforts in Ethiopia

2026

Summary: This resource details how UNMAS Ethiopia supports humanitarian mine-action efforts in conflict-affected regions of Tigray, Afar, and Amhara, where landmines and explosive ordnance continue to pose a threat. Through explosive ordnance risk education, technical assessments, hazard identification and removal, humanitarian coordination, and capacity-building for the Ethiopian Mine Action Office (EMAO), UNMAS helps create safer conditions for affected communities, aid workers, internally displaced persons, and returnees. Despite significant progress, continued funding and institutional support remain critical to addressing widespread contamination and sustaining nationally led mine-action efforts.

UNMAS efforts in Yemen

2026

Summary: This resource details UNMAS's strategic and technical support to the United Nations Mission to support the Hudaydah Agreement (UNMHA) in Yemen, focusing on mine action to enable safe operations amid widespread contamination by landmines, IEDs, and explosive remnants of war. It highlights ongoing risks to civilians—especially women and children—and emphasizes UNMAS's role in risk education, incident monitoring, and advocacy to enhance mine action interventions and promote safety in conflict-affected areas of Hudaydah and beyond.

UNMAS efforts in Iraq

2026

Summary: UNMAS Iraq supports the Government of Iraq in developing a sustainable and nationally led mine-action sector while reducing the threat posed by landmines, improvised explosive devices (IEDs), and other explosive ordnance. Iraq remains one of the world's most contaminated countries, with thousands of square kilometers of hazardous land affecting communities, infrastructure, agriculture, and economic recovery. UNMAS provides technical and advisory support to Iraqi authorities, strengthens the capacity of national mine-action organizations, conducts survey and clearance operations, delivers explosive ordnance risk education, and promotes safe returns, reconstruction, and long-term development. Its work focuses on three core areas: government capacity-building, support for national mine-action operators, and explosive hazard management to protect civilians and enable humanitarian and development activities.

Japan Contributes USD 4.5 Million to Strengthen Comprehensive Mine Action in Colombia through UNMAS

2026

Summary: This resource highlights Japan's contribution of USD 4.5 million to support comprehensive mine action efforts in Colombia through UNMAS. The project aims to reduce the humanitarian impact of landmines and explosive ordnance by strengthening clearance operations, risk education, victim assistance, and institutional capacity. The initiative supports communities affected by conflict, improves civilian safety, facilitates socio-economic development, and contributes to Colombia's peacebuilding and stabilization efforts. The partnership demonstrates the importance of international cooperation in addressing explosive hazards and promoting sustainable recovery in mine-affected regions.

UNMAS efforts in Ukraine

2026

Summary: This resource highlights how Ukraine is facing one of the world's most severe landmine and explosive ordnance contamination challenges as a result of ongoing conflict. Large areas of agricultural land, infrastructure, and communities have been affected by landmines, unexploded ordnance, and other explosive hazards, posing significant risks to civilians and hindering economic recovery. UNMAS supports Ukraine's mine-action efforts by strengthening national coordination, enhancing technical capacity, improving information management, and promoting risk education. These activities help protect civilians, enable safer access to contaminated areas, support the return of displaced populations, and contribute to Ukraine's long-term recovery and reconstruction.

UNMAS efforts in Colombia

2026

Summary: This resource highlights UNMAS's critical support to Colombia's mine action sector, which has played a key role in implementing the 2016 Peace Accord by enabling land clearance, risk education, victim assistance, and the reintegration of ex-combatants. Through technical assistance, capacity building, and coordination with national authorities, UNMAS has helped expand mine action operations across affected regions, contributing to safer communities and sustainable development. The program also supports peace efforts and encourages countries to include mine action in their national plans.

UXO/Mine Action Sector Working Group Meeting in Lao PDR

2025

Summary: This UNDP resource highlights the 2025 UXO/Mine Action Sector Working Group Meeting in Lao PDR, which brought together government officials, development partners, and mine-action operators to review progress and strengthen coordination. The meeting reported significant achievements in land survey and clearance, the destruction of thousands of unexploded ordnance (UXO), and ongoing efforts in risk education and victim assistance. Participants emphasized the importance of international partnerships, sustainable funding, national ownership, and the integration of mine action into broader development goals. The initiative supports Lao PDR's efforts to reduce the long-term humanitarian and socio-economic impacts of UXO contamination while advancing Sustainable Development Goal 18, "Lives Safe from UXO."

UNMAS efforts in Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)

2025

Summary: This resource outlines the work of UNMAS in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) in support of MONUSCO and national authorities. Its efforts focus on reducing the threat posed by landmines, explosive remnants of war (ERW), and other explosive hazards, particularly in conflict-affected eastern regions. Through explosive ordnance disposal, risk education, capacity-building, weapons and ammunition management, and support for national mine action institutions, UNMAS helps protect civilians, improve humanitarian access, strengthen security, and support peacekeeping and stabilization efforts.

UNMAS efforts in Sudan

2025

Summary: This resource details UNMAS Sudan's emergency mine action response amid the ongoing conflict, which has displaced over 11 million people and worsened explosive ordnance contamination. UNMAS provides risk education, technical advice, mapping, and coordination to protect civilians, aid workers, and displaced populations, while preparing for survey and clearance operations. Working with national and international partners, UNMAS supports humanitarian access, community safety, and recovery efforts, with a 2025 funding need of \$10.8 million to assist 2.9 million people in need.

UNMAS efforts in Nigeria

2023

Summary: This resource outlines UNMAS Nigeria's efforts since 2018 to protect civilians in the conflict-affected northeast through explosive ordnance risk education, non-technical surveys, victim assistance, and capacity development. By training national authorities, civil society, and security forces, as well as delivering life-saving awareness and response programs, UNMAS supports safe movement, humanitarian aid delivery, and long-term resilience. Despite significant achievements, continued funding and capacity-building are critical to addressing widespread contamination and supporting displaced and vulnerable populations.

Statement by Mr. ONO Sho, Minister, Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations, at the General Debate of the Fourth Committee, Agenda Item 46: Assistance in Mine Action

2023

Summary: Japan reaffirms its commitment to a mine-free world, noting that while the Ottawa Convention has achieved progress since 1999, landmines and improvised explosive devices continue to endanger civilians, worsened by challenges such as extreme weather. Supporting the draft resolution on Assistance in Mine Action, Japan emphasizes sustained clearance, regional cooperation, and victim assistance as its three main priorities. In 2022, it provided over \$52 million in aid across 22 countries, highlighting successful triangular cooperation such as joint efforts with Cambodia to train Ukrainian deminers. Looking ahead to 2025, Japan will seek the Presidency of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, pledging continued collaboration with the UN, Member States, and civil society.

**ASEAN–China Foreign Ministers’ Joint
Statement on Strengthening
Humanitarian Mine Action Cooperation**

2024

Summary: The ASEAN Member States and China issued a joint statement reaffirming their commitment to strengthening humanitarian mine action cooperation. They condemned the human and developmental toll of landmines and explosive remnants of war (ERW), praised past demining efforts, and highlighted ongoing challenges. The statement emphasized integrating mine action into regional development plans, enhancing training and technology use, and supporting the ASEAN Regional Mine Action Center (ARMAC). It also called for stronger cooperation with UN agencies and increased international support, aiming to promote peace, security, and prosperity across the region.

**Statement on behalf of the European
Union and its Member States**

2023

Summary: The European Union and its Member States reaffirm their strong commitment to a mine-free world by 2025 and emphasize the critical role of mine action in peacebuilding, humanitarian aid, and sustainable development. They express concern over the ongoing threats posed by anti-personnel mines, explosive remnants of war, and improvised explosive devices (IEDs), especially to civilians and children. The EU urges all states to join and implement international treaties like the Ottawa Convention and calls for enhanced cooperation, funding, and national ownership in mine action. They also stress the importance of integrating gender, age, and disability perspectives and upholding international humanitarian and human rights law.

Small arms and light weapons (SALW)
and mine action (MA)

2023

Summary: The spread of small arms and light weapons (SALW) and the presence of landmines and leftover explosives from wars continue to put civilians at risk, fuel violence, and block countries from recovering after conflict. These weapons don't just harm people – they also weaken economies, healthcare systems, and social stability. To tackle these problems, NATO works with its Allies, partners, and international organizations like the UN and EU through two main tools: the Ad Hoc Working Group on SALW and Mine Action and the NATO Partnership Trust Fund. The Working Group creates a space for countries and organizations to share information, coordinate projects, and run training programs, while also supporting global agreements like the Ottawa Convention (landmine ban) and the Arms Trade Treaty. The Trust Fund projects have had major results: destroying millions of weapons, landmines, and explosives; clearing thousands of hectares of dangerous land; and helping retrain former soldiers for civilian jobs. Overall, NATO's efforts aim to make communities safer, prevent weapons from fueling crime and terrorism, and support long-term peace and recovery.

[International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action](#) **2025**

Summary: The African Union (AU) Peace and Security Council (PSC) will hold its 1271st session on April 1 to mark the International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action. The session will feature remarks from AU and UN officials, and discussions will focus on the ongoing threat of landmines, explosive remnants of war, and improvised explosive devices (IEDs) across Africa, especially as 2025 marks the deadline for many countries to clear mines under the Ottawa Convention. While 93% of AU Member States are parties to the Convention, many have yet to meet clearance obligations, and some countries face renewed mine threats. The PSC is expected to address challenges including funding gaps, increased use of mines by terrorist groups, and the need for greater technical and political commitment from Member States. The Council may also call for enhanced cooperation, support for mine clearance, victim inclusion, and progress on the AU's Counter-IED Strategy. The session aims to reinforce Africa's role in global mine action efforts and urge stronger implementation of international mine treaties.

[Landmine Monitor 2025](#)

2025

Summary: Landmine Monitor 2025 provides a comprehensive global assessment of mine action, including treaty implementation, mine contamination, clearance efforts, victim assistance, casualties, and international funding. The report found that at least 6,279 people were killed or injured by landmines and explosive remnants of war (ERW) in 2024, the highest annual total since 2020. Civilians accounted for the vast majority of casualties, with children representing a significant proportion of victims. The report also evaluates progress under the Mine Ban Treaty, identifies countries most affected by contamination, and highlights the importance of international cooperation, sustainable funding, and effective national implementation measures

[Cluster Munition Monitor 2025](#)

2025

Summary: Cluster munitions pose serious, long-term risks to civilians due to their wide-area effects and unexploded submunitions, which have caused harm in many countries. Existing international laws have not sufficiently addressed these dangers, and technical fixes like self-destruct mechanisms are unreliable. The Cluster Munition Monitor 2025 report documents a critical year in which 100% of recorded casualties from cluster munition attacks were civilians, with 42% of victims being children. Despite new use in active conflicts, the report highlights record-breaking land clearance and the elimination of 100% of stockpiles by treaty members.

[International Campaign to Ban Landmines 2025 Condemns Reported U.S. Policy Shift on Antipersonnel Landmines](#)

Summary: The International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL) has raised alarm over a reported Pentagon memo signed by U.S. Secretary of Defense Pete Hegseth that authorizes global, non-restricted use of antipersonnel landmines, reversing the previous Biden administration's policies. This move, which ignores evidence of limited military utility and high civilian casualties, is expected to terminate the U.S. Humanitarian Mine Action Program

[International Campaign to Ban Landmines 2025 Condemns Reported U.S. Policy Shift on Antipersonnel Landmines](#)

Summary: The article reports that the International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL) strongly condemned reports that the United States was considering reversing its policy restricting the use of antipersonnel landmines. The ICBL argues that any move toward expanding the use of these weapons would undermine decades of global progress achieved through the 1997 Mine Ban Treaty, weaken the international norm against antipersonnel landmines, and place more civilians at risk. The organization emphasizes that landmines continue to kill and injure civilians long after conflicts end and urges the United States to reject the reported policy change, reaffirm its commitment to limiting landmine use, and ultimately join the Mine Ban Treaty.

Clearing the Mines 2025

2025

Summary: : This report assesses the extent of antipersonnel mine contamination globally, including in heavily affected countries like Angola, Türkiye, and Yemen, and massively contaminated states like Ukraine, Iraq, and Cambodia.

Localization in Mine Action

2024

Summary: This paper argues that Humanitarian Mine Action must accelerate its shift toward "localization" by empowering national NGOs, which offers superior regional knowledge, increased efficiency, and reduced costs. Despite challenges regarding high technical costs, risk aversion, and donor trust, the paper proposes strategic capacity building to transition from international dependency to sustainable, locally led demining operations.

Addressing mine ban treaty challenges: new contamination and compliance

2023

Summary: The 2023 Intersessional Meetings of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention highlighted growing challenges from new mine contamination, particularly in countries like Nigeria, Yemen, and Ukraine. Many of the world's poorest countries reported dangerously low international funding for mine survivor assistance and clearance programs. Ukraine reaffirmed its commitment to the Convention amid allegations of mine use, while Greece announced plans to destroy remaining stockpiles. The meetings also addressed Eritrea's non-compliance and emphasized the importance of international cooperation and transparency. Over 450 delegates from 91 states and 60 organizations participated, reaffirming global dedication to mine clearance and victim support.

[ACAPS: Iraq Mine Action](#)

2021

Summary: Iraq remains one of the world's most heavily contaminated countries due to decades of conflict, including the Iran–Iraq War, the Gulf Wars, and the conflict with ISIL. Landmines, improvised explosive devices (IEDs), and other explosive remnants of war continue to threaten civilians, hinder humanitarian access, and slow economic recovery. The ACAPS briefing highlights the scale of contamination, the challenges facing mine-clearance operations, and the need for sustained international funding and technical support. It emphasizes that effective mine action is essential for protecting communities, enabling the safe return of displaced persons, restoring livelihoods, and supporting Iraq's long-term stabilization and reconstruction.

[How giant African rats are helping uncover deadly land mines in Cambodia](#)

2021

Summary: From Angola to the former Yugoslavia, land mines are a lethal legacy of wars over long ago. Cambodia is among the most affected countries, with millions of buried explosives that kill and maim people each year. Now, a giant pouch rat, whose sharp sense of smell can detect explosives, is being used to detect landmines.

Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction

1997

Summary: The 1997 Ottawa Convention, formally known as the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, is a landmark international treaty that bans the use, development, production, acquisition, stockpiling, retention, and transfer of anti-personnel landmines. Adopted on September 18, 1997 and entering into force on March 1, 1999, the Convention requires States Parties to destroy all stockpiled anti-personnel mines within four years, clear all mined areas under their control within ten years, and assist landmine victims through medical care, rehabilitation, and social inclusion. It also mandates annual reporting and encourages international cooperation. With over 160 countries now party to it, the treaty has significantly advanced humanitarian disarmament, though key powers like the United States, Russia, and China remain non-signatories.