



2017

STRATEGIC WORKPLAN

Mine Risks Working Group Myanmar



OVERVIEW

With 9 out of 14 States and Regions contaminated by landmines/ Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) and Improvised Explosive Devices (IED), Mine Action should be a priority in Myanmar. High mine accident rates are recorded, and in 2015 and 2016, an additional 244 civilian new casualties were documented by the MRWG.

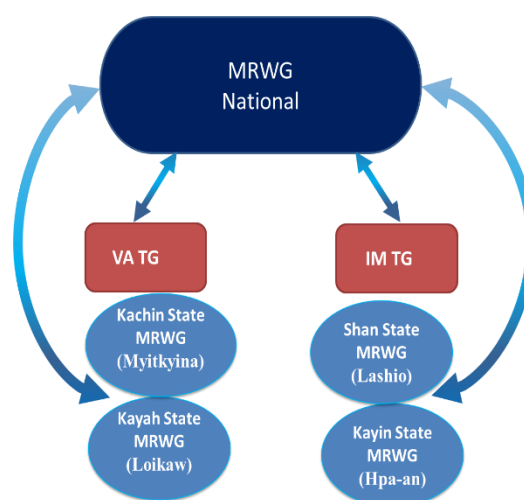
Despite the high threat of landmines/ERW, communities continue to have very little information on safe behaviours, and those who are aware of the risks are often compelled to ignore those risks for survival strategies and access to livelihoods.

In 2014, the MRWG completed an extensive Knowledge, Attitude and Practice (KAP) Survey. It provided strong evidence that:

- 3 out of 4 children never received information on the dangers of landmines/ERW and IED;
- Many myths and wrong beliefs lead to un-safe behaviour towards landmines/ERW and IED (e.g. prodding, following animals or burning);
- Access to livelihoods remains a concern overriding mine risks, with broader conflict drivers and poverty reinforce risk taking behaviour.

Coordination structures

In 2012, a national Mine Risks Working Group was established under the leadership of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement with co-chair support from UNICEF. This inter-ministerial and inter-agency working group now comprised 10 ministries and 41 international and Myanmar organizations and meets on a quarterly basis. The MRWG aims at ensuring that interventions addressing mine risks are aligned with minimum standards and in accordance with lessons learned in Myanmar. Efforts on decentralization led to the establishment of 4 State-level MRWGs, in Kachin and Kaya in 2014, and in Shan and Kayin in 2016. Technical Groups dedicated to Victim Assistance Technical Group and Information Management Technical Group were also formed as part of the national MRWG.



MRWG Members have designed [a 2017 strategic work plan](#) articulated around 6 thematic areas with short-term and longer term objectives. This includes:

- **Inter-agency & inter-ministerial coordination** – Coordination is critical to foster the cross-ministerial collaboration and Union-State connectivity to address mine risks, as well as enhance the linkages between International organizations and Myanmar CSOs. It is also important to ensure that mine risks are known and taken into account across the different humanitarian and development sectors and that the capacity of frontline workers from CBOs

and NGOs as well as decision-makers in various ministries at Union, State and Townships levels is strengthened through a shared understanding of common standards.

- **Mine Risk Education (MRE), Risk Mitigation & and Survey** save lives and limbs – A common Mine Risk Education toolkit was designed based on 2014 KAP finding, field tested in 2015 and approved by the Government in 2016. 2017 efforts will focus on its wide dissemination. An interactive app' and video will also be developed and complement the existing tools. Targeting roll-out of the common MRE toolkit in schools and ongoing advocacy to include a MRE module in school-have been highlighted as a priority. In addition, the development of a common training curriculum to expand the pool of trained community facilitators will enhance the capacity of MRWG members to deliver emergency MRE in conflict affected areas and in return locations. MRE activities should be completed by community-risk mitigation strategies, including those related to access to livelihoods. Community liaison and survey activity to collect new and/or existing information about hazardous locations also play an important role in better defining the contaminated areas.
- **Victim Assistance** - While mapping of services at local and States level should be made available and disseminated to communities, it is also critical to expand access to immediate life-saving services such as health and psych-social support as well as to longer-term social-economic reintegration options for both victims and survivors.
- **Information Management** – Based on the Information Management System on Mine Action (IMSMA) data collection tools are now used by members to report on victim/incident and MRE activities. UNICEF is the consolidating agency and shares back a quarterly analysis with MRWG members at national and state level. Real time data collection is also being reinforced with enhanced interaction and training with local media and linkages with the Protection information Management System (PIMS) and the Monitoring and Reporting on Grave Violations against Children (MRM). A mid-term and more ambitious objective is to establish a mine-injury surveillance system. A feasibility study is planned for 2017.
- **Land Release Activity** – Land release activities are included for the first time in the MRWG strategic work plan in 2017. The main objective is to build a common understanding between MRWG members and the security sector on land release and its benefits. Increased dialogue on demining shall help to take positive steps towards securing permission for Non-Technical Survey (NTS) and Technical Survey (TS), and conducting land release activities (pilot demining project, NTS operations, fencing/markings). The priority regions for land release activities are the South-East states, with Kayin State a particular focus in 2017.
- **Advocacy** - Members of the MRWG continue to shape common and evidence-based messages to influence Government Officials including the Security Sector, Parliamentarian and other key decision makers at Union and State level. This shall ensure that Mine Action is part of ministerial and State work plans, and that Myanmar is well represented into regional and international Mine Action platforms (e.g. ASEAN Mine Action Centre). MRWG members also intend to accelerate efforts - with support from Embassies and from the National Reconciliation and Peace Centre (NRPC) - to put Mine Action at the centre of peace process

discussions in Myanmar. Strategy to design Mine Action as a confidence-building measure in reconciliation and Peace process will be further promoted, including through learning from similar situations (e.g. Sri Lanka, Colombia). Encouraging linkage between Mine Action and the 2030 Agenda, including through the promotion of the catalytic potential of mine action for progress across relevant SDGs, will also be pursued.

Engagement with donors remains critical so that the situation of mine contamination in Myanmar is understood and presented in national and global events in order to mobilize and sustain adequate resources and attention.

1. INTER-AGENCY & INTER-MINISTERIAL COORDINATION							
Objectives	Expected Results	Activities	Timeline				Contributing Agencies/ Ministries
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
1.1 Strengthen and maintain Union and State level coordination mechanisms to prioritize mine action activities according to regional environment and gap analysis	1.1.1 Gaps and coverage of coordination at Union and State/Region levels are better mapped	Quarterly meeting at Union / State Region Levels with minutes circulated 2 weeks after	X	X	X	X	DSW – UNICEF
		Standing agenda item on mine action is integrated into State/ Ministry general meeting	X	X	X	X	DSW State Ministers
		Keep up-to date National and State MRWGs contact list and 4 Ws	X	X	X	X	DSW - UNICEF
		In contaminated States/region (Bago, Mon, Tanintharyi) with no formal MRWG, assigned a focal point agency to convene Mine Action ‘light’ coordination as part of existing platform and to liaise with national MRWG	X	X			DSW-UNICEF (with NPA, MAG)
	1.1.2 Regional analysis is strengthened	TORs of State-level MRWG reflect regional opportunities including on inclusion of ceasefire groups where possible and promote integrated programming (MRE/VA)	X	X	X	X	DSW – UNICEF State Chief Minister
		State-level MRWGs prepare gap analysis for national MRWG on a quarterly basis to inform decision on priority setting, new programming and advocacy	X	X	X	X	DSW – UNICEF
1.2 Foster inclusive and conflict sensitive leadership and coordination capacities	1.2.1. Enhances cross-ministerial collaboration at State and Union level,	Engage Government counterparts from State and Union level with a focus on Education, Health and Home Affairs.	X	X	X	X	DSW-UNICEF

	and strengthen Union-States/Region connectivity	Focal Points from National MRWG to brief State ministerial level prior each State MRWG, and attend State MRWG	X	X	X	X	DSW NPT
	1.2.2. Increased offer on HMA training and exposure to regional and global events for Government counterparts	Facilitate participation of Government officials to global and regional events (e.g. : ASEAN Mine Action, Geneva National Directors and UN Advisor meeting)	X		X		UNICEF
		Identify and train ‘ champions and supporters’ in State Governments, Ministries and Parliament to raise profile on Mine Action		X	X		UNICEF, DCA, DRC/DDG
		Promote learning missions (from one State to other and also study tour in another country (e.g. Colombia/ Sri Lanka)		X	X	X	DSW, UNICEF
2. MINE RISK EDUCATION/RISK MITIGATION							
Objectives	Expected Results	Activities	Timeline				Contributing Agencies/ Ministries
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
2.1 Provision of emergency MRE to high-risk communities in conflict affected areas and in return locations	2.1.1. Emergency MRE stand-by teams are available for immediate deployment enhancing predictability of response per State/Regions	Expand and keep up to date Emergency MRE rosters of certified/trained Government staff and CBOs at township level	X	X	X	X	MRWG members (Roster maintained by State MRWG)
		Ongoing and refresher training for emergency MRE Focal points (as part of individual agency programming)	X	X	X	X	MRWG members
	2.1.2 Effective and contextualized emergency MRE is delivered	Deliver MRE to at-risk communities using common MRE tool kit	X	X	X	X	MRWG Members
		Approved radio messages in different ethnic languages are disseminated on FM radio	X				Mol, DSW, UNICEF

2.2 Standardize MRE in Myanmar as per minimum standards	2.2.1 The Govt approved common MRE tool kit is rolled out by MRWG members and enriched with new communication support material	Production/printing of common MRE tool kits to disseminate in the affected areas	X	X			MRWG members
		Develop interactive video/app based on field-tested and approved messages	X				DCA/UNICEF
		Feedback from MRE common toolkit are consolidated and inform continuous refining of messages, methodology and users guide	X	X			DCA/UNICEF
		Integrate MRE within broader Child Protection and Non-Formal Education activities through the implementation of Adolescent life-skills module implemented	X	X	X		DRC- UNICEF/MOE
		Expand the pool of MRWG certified MRE trainers through the delivery of standardised MRE curriculum			X		UNICEF, DRC/DDG, DCA, ICRC, NPA, HALO
	2.2.2 Provision of MRE for at risk schools	Identify at risk schools with the Ministry of Education and Ethnic Education counterparts in each contaminated States/Regions	X	X	X	X	MOE and other Education Authorities through State MRWG members
		Organize MRE training for teachers	X	X	X		MOE with support from DRC/DDG, DCA
		Advance discussion with Union Education Ministry on integration of MRE into all schools in conflict-affected areas of Myanmar	X	X	X	X	UNICEF, MOE
2.3.Mitigate risks through ongoing community mobilization and alternative livelihood	2.3.1 Explore alternative livelihood options	Brief Food Security Sector and other livelihoods organizations including UNDP, WFP, FAO		X			MRWG members Ministry of Agriculture
		Draft a paper on livelihoods as a tool to mitigate risks of landmines in Myanmar			X	X	MRWG members

	2.3.2 Community-based MRE	Facilitate community mapping and survey	X	X			DSW, MAG, DRC/DDG. NPA, HALO Trust
		Organize training for MRE focal points/ community liaison to enhance knowledge on survey methodology	X	X	X	X	MAG, DRC/DDG. NPA, HALO Trust

3. VICTIM ASSISTANCE							
Objectives	Expected Results	Activities	Timeline				Contributing Agencies/ Ministries
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
3.1. Strengthen information collection on survivors and victims and refine analysis on their needs	3.1.1 Pilot coordination mechanism on VA and disability, connected with the MRWG, is established at state level	Revise and endorse VATG TORs for use in all the State Level groups	X	X			HI and VATG members
		Creating at least two pilot VATGs at state level, reporting to, and joining, the State level MRWG.		X	X		VATG members
	3.1.2 Needs of survivors and victims are documented and available	Collecting relevant reports and study conducted in Myanmar and made those available online	X	X	X		VATG members
		Organize workshops to share findings and compare data and information			X	X	VATG members
3.2. Increase access to and availability of services (emergency continuing health care/rehabilitation/psychosocial support/livelihood and economic inclusion)	3.2.1. Survivors and victim know better where to go and how to access services and their entitlements	Agreeing on a harmonized approach to service providers' directory production	X	X			VATG members
		Finalizing four pilots of extended service mapping at state level (Kachin, Kayah, Shan and Kayin)	X	X	X	X	Handicap International
	3.2.2 Child sensitive approach of Victim Assistance is applied	Enhance child focused VA in existing programme	X	X	X	X	Handicap International, UNICEF, MPHA

		Insert child -oriented indicators in activities monitoring					VATG members
	3.2.3. Case management and referral system is tested in pilot areas	Expand offer on psychosocial support services	X	X	X	X	DSW, HI
		Training for NGO and DSW case managers, and health personnel on psycho-social support for mine/ERW survivors/victims		X	X	X	Handicap International and VATG members
		Develop peer support network standardized strategy based on existing models of victims groups	X	X	X	X	VATG members
	3.2.4 Increased access to quality and sustainable functional rehabilitation	Pilot and develop Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) activity including provision of basic physiotherapy care	X	X	X	X	VATG members
		Provide Prosthesis & Orthosis delivery	X	X	X	X	ICRC, MRCS, Handicap International, MHPA
	3.3.5. Increased livelihoods opportunities are available for survivors/victims of mines/ERW	Map alternative livelihoods in affected communities and include in service repertories	X	X			VATG members
		Increase the referral of victim and survivors to economic inclusion service providers	X	X	X	X	VATG members
	3.3. Advocate for the recognition of VA related issues at National and Regional level.	3.3.1. Myanmar Federation of Person with Disability is engaged on VA related issue	Create a permanent bridge with Myanmar Federation of Person with Disability (MFPD) through identification of focal point	X			
Support the capacity development of MFPD in monitoring the VA related issues of the Convention on the Rights of Person with Disability (CRPD).				X	X	X	VATG members
3.3.2 Local authorities are engaged in VA		Run awareness raising sessions on Disability and Victim Assistance for local authorities		X	X	X	VATG
		Promote joint initiatives between DSW and Ministry of Health	X	X	X	X	VATG, DSW

	3.3. Victims/Survivors are provided with opportunities to promote their interest	Promote the participation of survivors / victims in key activities organized by MRWG members and others	X	X	X	X	VATG members
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4. DATA COLLECTION & INFORMATION MANAGEMENT							
Objectives	Expected Results	Activities	Timeline				Contributing Agencies/ Ministries
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
4.1 Maintain the use of a common information management system for better trend analysis on accident and victims data	4.1.1. Programming and advocacy is informed by trend analysis	Update Information sharing protocol ensuring confidentiality and safety		X			UNICEF-DSW
		MRWG members report to UNICEF information on mine/ERW incidents as per agreed incident intake form	X	X	X	X	MRWG members
		MRWG members report MRE and Victim Assistance programming activities as per agreed format on a quarterly basis	X	X	X	X	MRWG members
		Quarterly report and trend analysis is shared back with MRWG members	X	X	X	X	UNICEF
		Train DSW staff on data management including data analysis and sharing with MRWG members		X	X	X	UNICEF-DSW
		Train MRWG members and relevant CBOs on incident intake form and on safe and ethical information management sharing principles and VA/MRE programme report format	X	X	X	X	UNICEF and VATG
4.2 Establish long-term information management system including injury surveillance	4.2.1. Pilot mine injury surveillance system	Design feasibility study on injury surveillance system (prepare ToR, submit it to donor)	X				VATG, HI, UNICEF, DRC/DDG
		Creating a steering committee to support the study	X				VATG
		Hiring a consultant for synchronization of available data and choice of a tool to use.		X			VATG
		Design surveillance system and identify pilot areas		X	X	X	VATG and MRWG

	4.2.2 New IMSMA is introduced to MRWG members and adaptation to evolving Myanmar context is explored and used by increased number of MRWG members	Presentation of revised global IMSMA			X		NPA, GICHD
		Revision of ToR on IMSMA				X	

5. LAND RELEASE ACTIVITIES							
Objectives	Expected Results	Activities	Timeline				Contributing Agencies/ Ministries
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
5.1 Increased understanding of land release activities and its benefits	5.1.1. In country expertise on demining is known	Organize regular briefing and information exchange at Union and State level between international organizations having expertise on demining and Directorate of Military Engineers, Office of the Commander in Chief and State Government.	X	X	X	X	Demining Organizations, UNICEF, DSW, MOD
		Identify and support existing national capacity/expertise		X	X	X	Demining Organizations, UNICEF, DSW, MOD
		Include all actors in the dialogue from both sides of the conflict, in particular signatories to the NCA	X	X	X	X	State MRWG, MOD and MRWG members
	5.1.2. Foster common standards and quality insurance	Discussion on Information Mine Action Standard on demining and update the draft standards produced in 2012			X	X	MRWG members. GICHD
5.2 Take positive steps towards conducting land release activities	5.2.1 Hazard areas are better known by community of Non-	Secure MOU to conduct Non-Technical Survey and Technical Survey by demining organizations member of the MRWG	X	X	X	X	MRWG members specialized in land release activities

	Technical Survey and Technical Survey	Initiate discussion with JMC and their role in mine action					UNICEF, MRWG members specialized in land release activities
5.3 Conduct land release activities (pilot demining project, NTS operations, fencing/markings)	5.3.1 Land release activities are prioritized and piloted	Secure agreement on marking, fencing as a first step towards clearance in specific areas through State MRWG.	X	X	X	X	MRWG members specialized in land release activities,
		Pilot/continue NTS activities in the South-East to commence gathering of baseline data and identifying confirmed hazardous areas	X	X	X	X	MRWG members specialized in land release activities

4. ADVOCACY							
Objectives	Expected Results	Activities	Timeline				Contributing Agencies/ Ministries
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
6.1. Mine Action is perceived as a confidence building measures and the catalytic potential of mine action for progress across SDGs is promoted	6.1.1 Mine action is included and discussed as part of peace process	Cease fire monitoring teams are briefed on Mine Action and know how to report to MRWG	X	X	X	X	MRWG members, NRPC, NPA
		Language on Mine Action put into relevant briefing note for donors and diplomatic community	X	X	X	X	MRWG members
		Support MRWG Champions in their advocacy activities (e.g. Parliamentarian)	X	X	X	X	UNICEF
		Establish MRWG Champions from EAG that are NCA signatories at Union and State levels	X	X	X	X	State MRWG
	6.1.2 Government of Myanmar acknowledges the added value of accession to treaties	MRWG orientation around mine action and weapons treaties	X	X	X	X	ICRC
		Briefings on treaties for relevant government individuals			X	X	MRWG Members, DSW
		Translate treaties into Burmese (MBT, CCW and CCM)		X			ICBL / Mine Action Initiative Myanmar

	6.1.3. All parties to the conflict are aware of the impact and effects of landmines / ERW contamination	Keep updated and provide information on mine risk to actors involved in the peace process.	X	X	X	X	UNICEF, DSW
		Specific briefing is provided to signatory of NCA and NCA monitoring entity	X	X	X	X	UNICEF
	6.1.4 Government of Myanmar acknowledges the need to set up inclusive state / national mine action coordination structures	Government representatives and/or MRWG delegations visit other mine/ERW affected countries to observe other national mine action centres / programmes	X	X	X	X	DSW, MRWG members
	6.1.5. Mine Action is linked to the 2030 Agenda	National SDGs framework and indicators include Mine Action (through mainstreaming across the 17 SDGs with dedicated indicators or with a stand-alone SDG 18 on Mine Action).		X			DSW, UNICEF (UNDP), GICHD
6.2 Adequate resources for the mine action sector in Myanmar are made available	6.2.1 Funding needs are consolidated and shared with key donors	Myanmar Mine action portfolio for 2017 is available and launched	X	X			UNICEF
		Ensure overall funding needs of Myanmar Mine Action are reflected during Global events and within appeal process (including HRP)	X	X	X	X	MRWG members
		Specific briefing event with donor community in Myanmar to raise funding for mine action	X	X	X	X	MRWG Members
6.3 General Myanmar public is better informed on the benefits of mine action	6.3.1. Dissemination of key messages on the occasion of 4 th April	Key Messages developed, approved and endorsed by Government / Advocacy note		X			MRWG members
		Event organized to mark the international day of mine awareness and assistance in mine action		X			DSW, MRWG members including at State level
	6.3.2 Working relation with media accelerates outreach	Identify most appropriate media outlet 2017 and promote mine action using media		X			MRWG

MRWG MEMBERSHIP

Co-Chairs

Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement & UNICEF

Government

Ministry of Home Affairs (Police, Fire Service Department, Immigration); Ministry of Health; Ministry of Education; Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation; Ministry of Defense (Army, Directorate of Engineering); Ministry of Border Affairs; Ministry of Information; Ministry of Transport and Communications; Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population;

Civil society and International organizations

Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA); Association for Aid & Relief (AAR-Japan); Catholic Relief Services (CRS); DanChurchAid (DCA); Danish Refugee Council/Danish Demining Group (DRC/DDG); Development Alternatives Inc. (DAI); Handicap International (HI); Hpa-an Orthopaedic Rehabilitation Centre (HORC); Hsar Mu Htaw (HMH); Humanitarian Mine Action Initiative Myanmar (HMAI); Independent Youth For Change (IYFC); International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC); Kachin Baptist Convention (KBC); Kachin Youth Organization (KYO); Kann Let; Karen Human Rights Group (KHRG) Karenni Social Welfare and Development Center (KSWDC); Karuna Mission Social Solidarity (KMSS); Kham Ku Center for Social Development (KKCSD); Latter-Day Saint Charities Myanmar (LDSC); Local Development Network (LDN); Mercy Corps ; Metta Development Foundation; Mines Advisory Group (MAG); Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association; Myanmar Physically Handicapped Association (MPHA); Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS); Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation; Myanmar's Heart Development Organization (MHDO); Norwegian People's Aid (NPA); Peace Myanmar Aid; Plan International; Panglong Youth Network (PYN); Ratana Metta Organization (RMO); Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC); Shalom Foundation; Shan State CSO; Shan State Youth Network Committee (SSYNC); Social Development Initiative (SDi); T'ang Student Youth Union (TSYU); The Halo Trust (HALO); The Leprosy Mission Myanmar (TLMM); UNHCR; UNICEF; World Education; Wunpawng Ninghtoi (WPN); Yangon Kayin Baptist Women's Association (YKBWA)

For more information on the National Mine Risks Working Group, please contact Danee Luhar (ldanee@unicef.org) or Kyaw Win Oo (kwoo@unicef.org)



Landmines/ ERW Data (Jan-Dec 2016)

Overview of incidents/casualties nation-wide in 2016

Total incidents	91		
	Dead	Injured	Total
Total Victims	41	120	161
Adult	33	95	128
Child	8	25	33

Focus on Top States affected by landmines/ ERW

Shan State (50% of total casualties)

Total incidents	35		
	Dead	Injured	Total
Total Victims	20	59	79
Adult	13	39	52
Child	7	20	27

Kachin State (35% of total casualties)

Total incidents	38		
	Dead	Injured	Total
Total Victims	18	37	55
Adult	17	33	50
Child	1	4	5

Kayin State (9% of total casualties)

Total incidents	10		
	Dead	Injured	Total
Total Victims	0	14	14
Adult	0	14	14
Child	0	0	0

8 other incidents resulting in 11 casualties were also documented in **Sagaing, Bago, Sittwe, Yangon** and **Thanintharyi** during the same period.



For more information on Mine Action, contact UNICEF (Emmanuelle Compingt, ecompingt@unicef.org or Luhar Danee, ldanee@unicef.org)

Mine Risk Education Outreach (Jan-Dec 2016)

