

Humanitarian Mine Action Response in Northeast Syria

Syria

3iSolution

Services

Coordination, Data Systems, GIS, Data Visualization

Background



In the wake of the Arab spring protests that precipitated Syria into a civil war, Northeast Syria (NES) gained its de facto autonomy in 2012. Since, the region has been crippled by a multi sided conflicts involving various actors (the ISIS, Turkish Army, Syrian Democratic forces, International Coalition) that resulted in the extensive use of Explosive weapons.



To mitigate the impact of EO contamination in the area, HMA organizations started operating in NES in 2017. Four international organizations and one national organization currently provide clearance (respecting the land release process), EO Risk Education and victim assistance services in the area.

Objectives



The Humanitarian Mine Action (HMA) response and Explosive Ordnance (EO) contamination knowledge is strengthened, coordinated, and the implementation of operations facilitated.



Clearance efforts in NES are prioritized on evidence-based information collected by 3iS and its partners.

Donor:

European Commission (FPI - Foreign Policy Instrument)

Title:

Humanitarian Mine Action Response in Northeast Svria

Focus:

Syria, Northeast Syria, Al Hassakeh, Ar-Raqqa, Aleppo and Deir Ez-Zor Governorates

Project Duration:

- October 2022 March 2024

Number of Partners: 3

Key Facts



22 million square meters of contaminated areas (suspected or confirmed) by Explosive Ordnances are awaiting to be released Equivalent to 3081 soccer ields in size.



An estimated total of 3046 recoded victims of Explosive Ordnance Explosions in NES.

3iS Services



In the absence of a UN-led coordination mechanism and strong local mine action authorities, 3iS has been leading the coordination for HMA activities since 2017, under the umbrella of the local NGO-Forum. As part of its action, 3iS has ensured coordination and communication between HMA actors, set up a centralized information management system supporting the assessment of gaps, ensuring a coordinated response and integration of mine action in other key humanitarian sectors.



3iS provided various in-depth analysis of the HMA response in NES and continues to issue on a monthly basis, analysis of activities carried out by the HMA partners. As of the 23rd of August 2022, reports show that 21 152 997 m²13 of lands are either confirmed or suspected to be contaminated in NES. Given the extend of the above-mentioned military operations, this figure is believed to be well underestimated, as only limited proportion of the NES region has so far been surveyed. As a result, it remains difficult to have a comprehensive understanding about the scale and the impact of the contamination making any current prioritization and response strategy incomplete or inaccurate. The proposed action aims at resolving this issue.

Expected Outputs



HMA activities are coordinated and prioritized within Mine Action actors.



The Mine Action information management system is accurate, standardized, updated and interactive.



The level of EO contamination, ongoing HMA activities, and gaps are shared with:

- Humanitarian
- Development
- Peacebuilding organizations



EO contamination in the whole NES region is known, reported and prioritized for further clearance efforts.



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Since January 2017, a total of 1,810,050 direct

beneficiaries received Risk Education sessions from HMA organizations in NES.

(Source: IMSMA database, Feb 2023)

Key Deliverables



In-depth Analysis of HMA response in NES



General Non-technical Survey (NTS) Report



HMA regularly updated Dashboard



18

Mine Action Sub-working Group Coordination Meetings



972

Communities
Surveyed in NES



Persons trained on IM and GIS for HMA Response



HMA Organizations within the Sub-working Group