Celebrating 25 years THE JOURNAL of Conventional Weapons Destruction

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The Journal invites government/nongovernment organizations, field/research practitioners, policy advisors, and technical experts working in humanitarian mine action/conventional weapons destruction to contribute their challenges, experiences, and lessons learned in the form of practice-based article submissions.



Clearance on the Falkland Islands. Photo courtesy of Fenix Insight Ltd.

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Center for International Stabilization and Recovery James Madison University, MSC 4902

Harrisonburg, VA 22807 / USA

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CALL FOR PAPERS

Twenty-Five Years of Mine Action: Mine Action in Motion

In light of *The Journal's* 25th year, we are seeking articles that highlight the accomplishments and advances in HMA over the past two decades. What innovations have had the largest impact on today's programs? Looking back, how did the circumstances of the past inspire the field to adapt? Are there present challenges that, once overcome, will generate a new era of humanitarian work focused on eliminating the threat of ERW?

Opportunities for Synergy in HMA: Conflict Pollution

In 2017, the United Nations Environment Assembly adopted the resolution, *Pollution Mitigation and Control in Areas Affected by Armed Conflict or Terrorism*. In an era of increasingly complex armed conflicts and synergy across the humanitarian and development spheres, how can HMA better address the different faucets of conflict pollution, from the environmental damage caused by explosive hazards and aging of explosives; the effects of climate patterns on deminers and demining programs; to the various impacts of conflict pollution on gender as well as vulnerable populations and survivors living in contaminated areas?

Mental Health and HMA: Personnel

Focusing on mental health and psychosocial support of HMA personnel, specifically deminers, how are organizations addressing the mental health needs of those working in dangerous and stressful environments? What support is provided to address trauma experienced by staff, both at the international and local levels? What tools is the HMA community using and what standards need to be developed? What must be considered when addressing the needs of personnel working with legacy contamination in post-conflict environments versus those working in more urban areas where security threats remain? What can the HMA community learn from mental health experts familiar with trauma, PTSD, etc?

Falkland Islands

Fulfilling its obligations under the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, the UK has removed the last ERW from the Falkland Islands, nearly forty years after the end of the Falklands War. What were the challenges involved and, as clearance was safely conducted ahead of schedule, what lessons learned can be shared with the HMA community?

Middle East: Iraq, Lebanon, Syria, Yemen

The Middle East suffers from extensive explosive contamination from legacy minefields from past wars, as well as new contamination from more recent conflicts. Landmines, cluster munition remnants, artillery and air-dropped ordnance, IEDs, suicide vests, and other explosive hazards contaminate infrastructure, pose risks to returning IDPs, prevent socioeconomic development, and obstruct access to natural resources. What are the strategic plans for clearance in these countries? What are some of the biggest challenges involved in removing these explosive hazards?

Working Near Conflict Zones: Humanitarian Access, Clearance, and Stability

How do organizations working near conflict zones assess risks on a daily basis and ensure the safety of their clearance teams? When working near dangerous areas, what methods do leaders employ to safeguard their team's neutrality while also ensuring operational efficiency?

Physical Security and Stockpile Management of Munitions

Topics of discussion may focus on conducting risk assessments, maintenance of storage sites, modernizing management processes, conducting ammunition surveillance, and the development of effective inventory systems to deter the illicit transfer of weapons to corrupt actors. Other areas of interest involve holistic approaches to stockpile management.

Research and Development

All technical articles on new equipment, technology, trends, and developments in the field of mine action and CWD will be considered. R&D articles are submitted to three experts for anonymous peer review, two of whom must approve the article for publication. Peer reviewers approve articles for publication, suggest revisions, or reject articles for publication.