



Republic of Cyprus

IMPACT



29,857 m² of land released in northern Cyprus to remove the threat of mines and facilitate confidence building measures, safe agricultural activities, and livelihood activities.



7 anti-tank mines recovered and destroyed.

20,000 m² of land released to allow safe access for the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) operations in Sector 4.



2,500m² of battle area clearance and removal of unexploded ordnance (UXO) to facilitate safe access to sites for the Committee on Missing Persons (CMP).

EOD spot task to remove UXO in farmland (UNFICYP Sector 4) of the buffer zone to facilitate safe agricultural activities.



UNFICYP mine action technical standards and guidelines were fully updated to conform to International Mine Action Standards. The standards ensure safe UN mine clearance operations.



Data analysis completed on available information of 'suspect hazardous areas' to prepare for future survey and clearance.

ABOUT

UNMAS Cyprus: "Removing threats, building confidence, and facilitating lasting peace"

In July 2016, UNMAS became an integral component of UNFICYP, providing dedicated expertise in mine action planning and coordination, demining capacity, quality assurance oversight, and data management for mine action information. The objectives of UNMAS operations are: to reduce the threat of landmines and explosive remnants of war (ERW), to contribute to confidence building measures; to facilitate a return to normal living conditions; and to ensure safer freedom of movement for communities, UNFICYP and UN partners. UNMAS also provides assistance to the Committee on Missing Persons (CMP) to ensure safe access to areas it conducts activities and to UNFICYP for explosive ordnance disposal call out tasks.



ACTIVITIES

UNMAS activities facilitate the achievement of **UNFICYP** mandated objectives, as described in UN Security Council Resolution 2338 (January 2017), and support progress towards a mine-free Cyprus:



1.

Confidence

building measures

UNMAS operations are focused on clearance of five minefields in northern Cyprus that are part of a package of confidence building measures agreed between the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot leaders. Removal of the legacy threats helps promote peace and facilitates implementation of a final settlement agreement.



2. Return to normal conditions

UNFICYP data indicates there are 67 suspected hazardous areas that may be contaminated with mines and/or ERW. Each area requires survey to determine the need for clearance. UNMAS conducted data analysis to prepare for future activities, when access is possible, to begin operations to release safe land to communities. UNMAS is providing assistance to the CMP to remove contamination and ensure safe access to sites it is conducting activities and investigations.



3. Safer Freedom of Movement

UNMAS is committed to implementing activities to reach the shared goal of a mine-free Cyprus, where communities are free from the threat of mines and ERW. To achieve this goal, UNMAS provides support in the following areas: planning and coordination of UN demining activities; operational implementation of mine/ERW clearance; quality assurance of UN-supported activities; and data management of mine action information.

FUNDING

UNMAS Cyprus is funded entirely by the United Nations peacekeeping assessed budget for UNFICYP for the 2016/17 fiscal year ending 30 June 2017. The resources ensure UNMAS is fully funded and can continue to carry out activities without delay or disruption.

For more information:

Henri Morand, Programme Manager, henrim@unops.org

Paul Heslop, Chief of Programme, UNMAS New York, heslop@un.org

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www.unmas.org

