



Needs driven. People centred.



Republic of Cyprus

IMPACT



197,401m² of land released in northern Cyprus since August 2016 to remove the threat of mines and facilitate confidence building measures, safe agricultural activities, and livelihood activities.



7 anti-tank mines recovered and destroyed; and six mortars removed.

20,000m² of land released and unexploded ordnance (UXO) removed for the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) to conduct safe operations and facilitate agricultural activities in Sector 4.



Release of 100,225m² of land in the buffer zone through battle area clearance to facilitate safe air operations for UNFICYP.

Removal of UXO, field support, and technical advice for the Committee on Missing Persons to safely conduct field operations and promote reconciliation between the communities.



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 of information on “suspect hazardous areas” to prepare for future survey and clearance when access to the sites becomes available.

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; facilitate a return to normal living conditions; and to ensure safer freedom of movement for UNFICYP, UN partners, and communities. UNMAS also provides assistance to the Committee on Missing Persons 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 2369 (July 2017), and support progress towards a mine-free Cyprus:

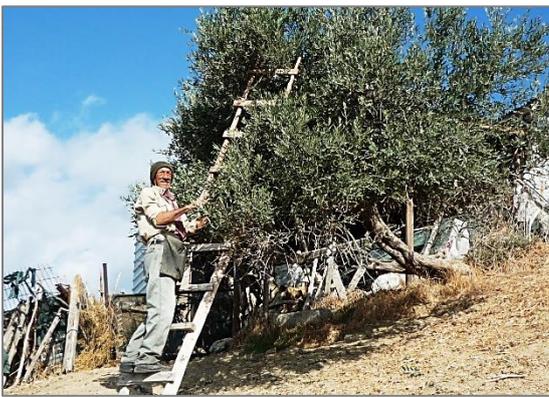


1.

Confidence

building measures

UNMAS operations are focused on the removal of mines and ERW that create barriers between communities and threaten peace. UNMAS operations promote confidence between the communities and facilitate steps towards the implementation of a final settlement agreement. UNMAS also provides assistance to the Committee on Missing Persons to remove contamination and ensure safe access to sites where it conducts activities and investigations.



2. Return to normal conditions

UNFICYP data indicates there are 54 suspected hazardous areas that may be contaminated with mines and/or ERW. Each area requires survey to determine the need for clearance. UNMAS conducts data analysis to prepare for surveys and operations that will enable the release of safe land to communities when access is permitted.



3. Safer Freedom of Movement

UNMAS is committed to implementing activities to help 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 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 by the United Nations peacekeeping assessed budget for UNFICYP for the 2017/18 fiscal year ending 30 June 2018. The resources cover technical capacity for planning and coordination; demining operations in 2017; quality assurance of UN activities; and data management of mine action information. Operational activities will include non-technical surveys in 2017-18; and technical surveys, explosive ordnance disposal, and mine/ERW clearance and destruction in 2017.

For more information:

Henri Morand, Programme Manager, henrim@unops.org

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



