

# **OVER VIEW OF MINE ACTION ACTIVITY IN ETHIOPIA**

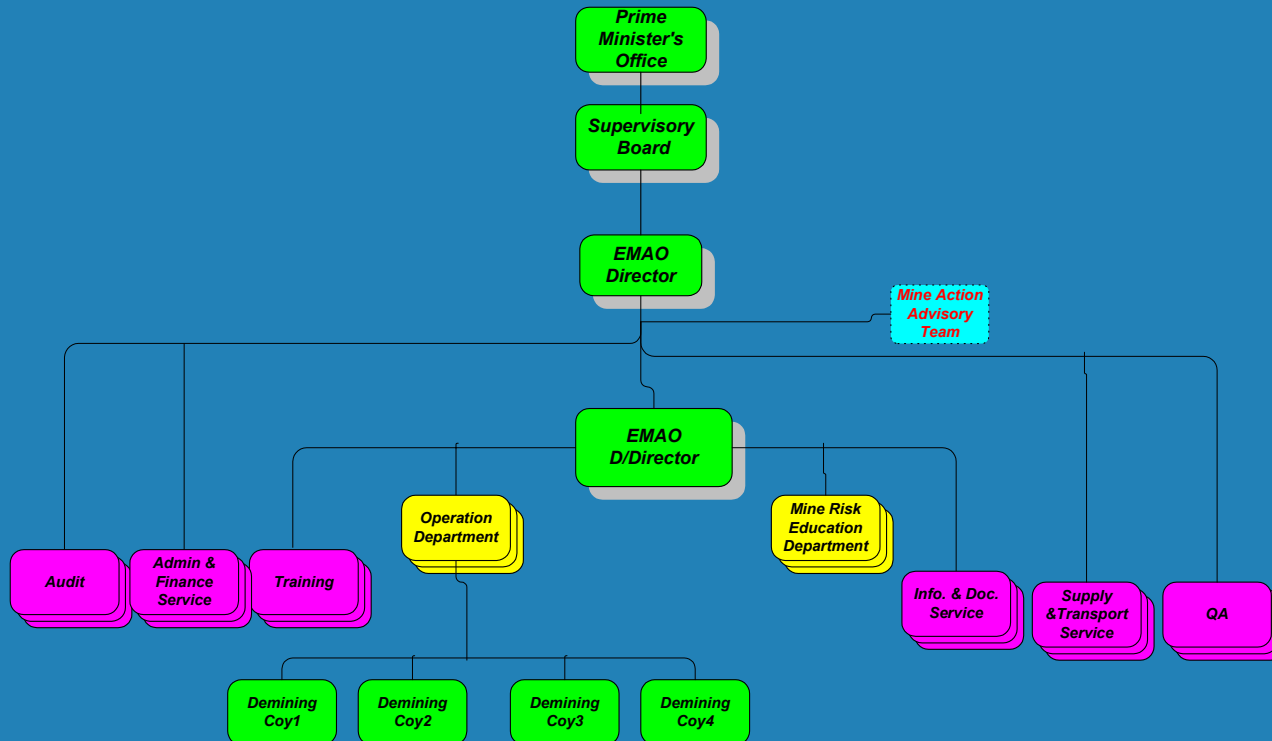
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# Ethiopian Mine Action Office EMAO



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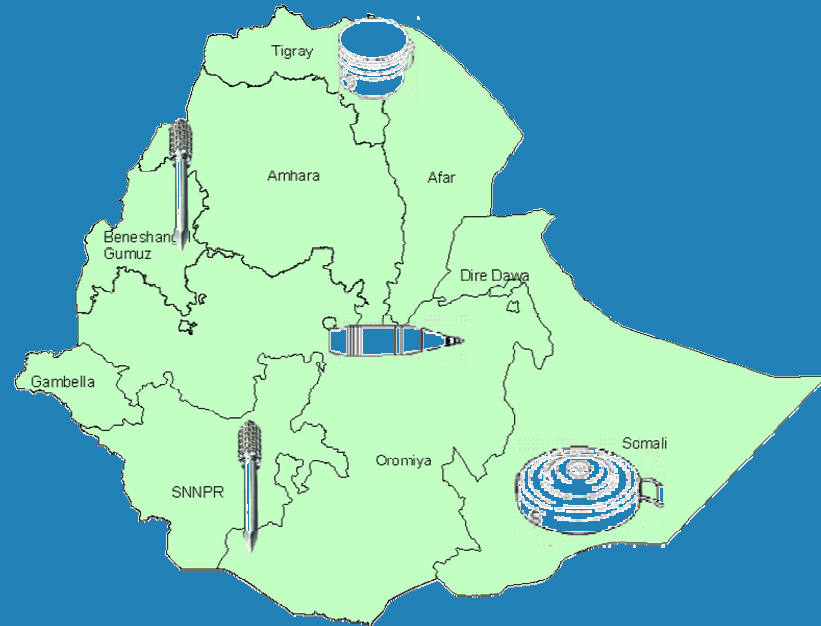
# EMAO ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



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# INTRODUCTION

- Ethiopia has been involved in war for 60 years
- Too many mines and UXOs scattered all over the country.
- East, West, North, South and central



# Background

## Landmine situation in Ethiopia

- mines and UXOs are the result of
  - War during Italian Invasion (1935-1978)
  - The Ogaden war between Ethiopia & Somalia (1977-1978)
  - The boarder war with Sudan (1980)
  - The Long Civil War (1975-1991)
  - The current conflict with Eritrea (1998-2000)
- About 33 different kinds of mines have been found So far

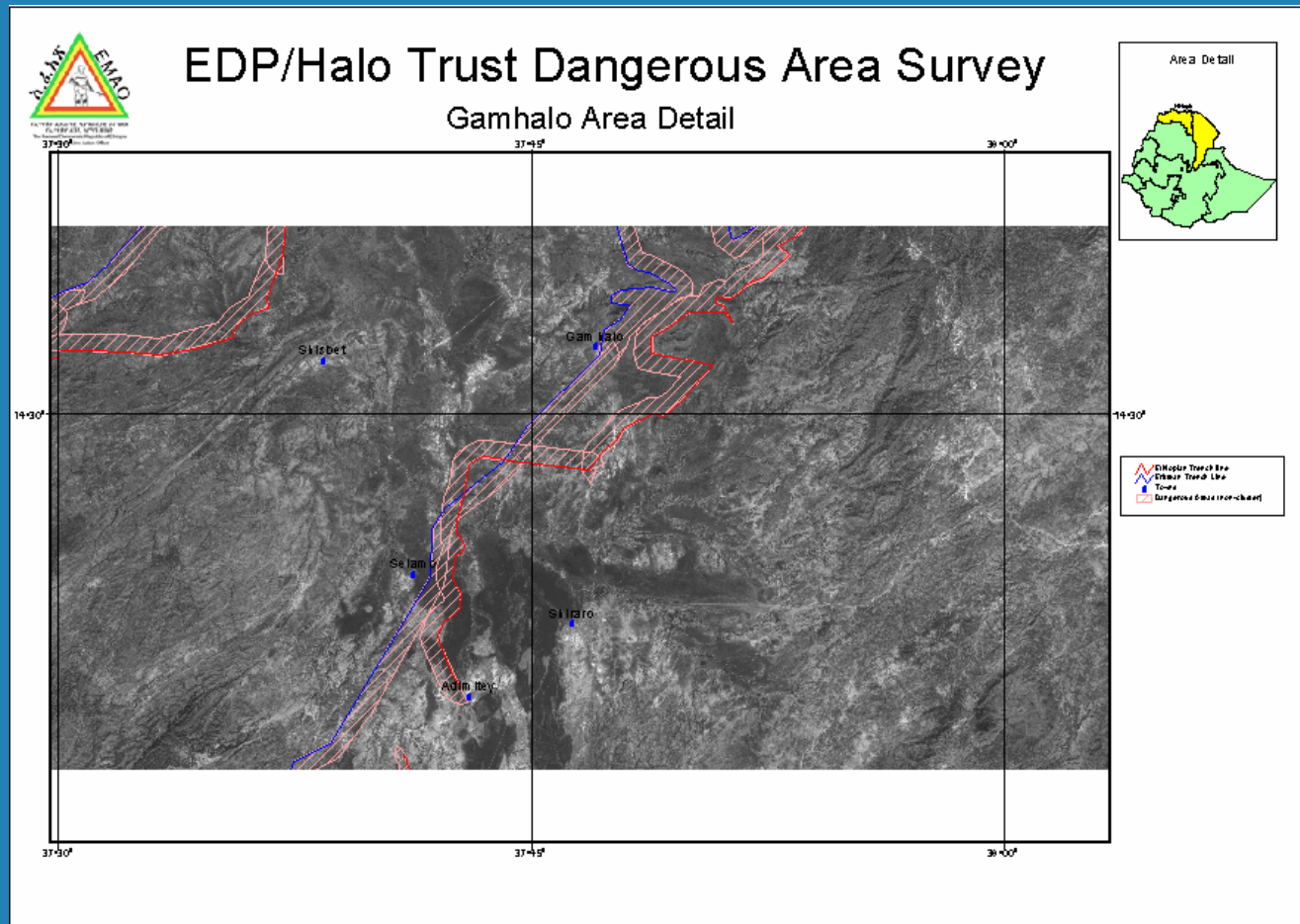
# Background

## Minefields

- Mostly found in areas where military conflicts have taken place
- Most minefields consist all kinds of mines. APs, ATs, UXOs and a combination of all
- Mostly located closer to towns :
- Found in all kinds of terrain and soil including high mineralized soil
- Found in most kinds of weather conditions.  
Hot, cold, average  
but not in snow.



# Ethio-Eritrea Conflict 1998-2000



# **Ethio-Eritrea Conflict 1998-2000**



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# IMPACT OF THE LAND MINES ON CIVILIANS

- High risk on life and threat on life
- At present Civilians are killed and maimed
- Their movements are denied their Access are hampered
- Negative impact in building and construction of projects and infra-structures
- The over all exact nature is yet to be defined.Facts and figures are required.



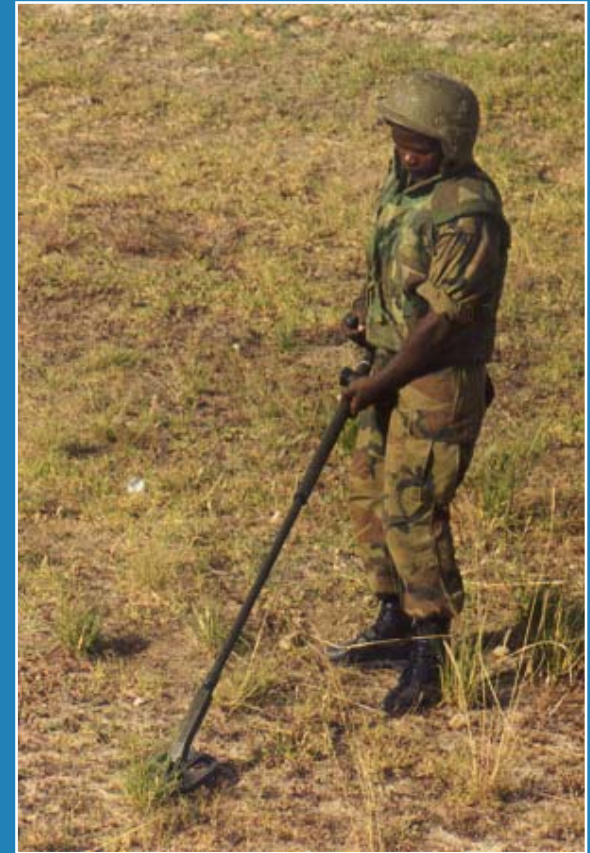
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# Important Measures Taken to the Treat of Land Mines Before EMAO's Establishment

- The military has taken Action to clear UXOs prior to 1995. Big explosion during 1991
- EDP has been established in 1995
  - had three companies
  - were deployed in East, West & North of the country.
  - Managed to clear 26,846<sub>APs</sub> 8,440<sub>ATs</sub> 364,395<sub>UXOS</sub> from 8,403 hectares of land.
  - conformed 97 minefield Areas.
- positive impact on local populace



## Among the most important accomplishments Since EMAO's Establishment

- Development of a management focal point, based primarily on the establishment and staffing of EMAO, training its national staff, and the engagement of international advisors (through UNDP and UNICEF) to provide technical advice when required;
- Equipping and training of four companies of civilian deminers;
- The development of our field capacity and the commencement of demining operations with two of the manual demining companies in May 2002. (Since then, our two deployed companies cleared 330,189.5 square meters of land and, destroyed in-situ some 145 anti-personnel mines, 18 anti-tank mines and 253 UXO till the end of november The other two companies have just finished training and deploy this month, one to TIGRAY and the other to AFAR);
- The conduct of mine risk education activities at the community level by MRE Department of EMAO, the national NGO RaDO, in the TIGRAY and AFAR regions; and, last but not least, The commencement of the Landmine Impact Survey (LIS)

**With the current humanitarian mine action capacity in the country, still at its initial stage of development and deployment, substantial assistance from the international community for our mine action programs can be enhanced, particularly in the following areas:**

- Equipping, training and deployment of additional companies of deminers,
- Establishment of Rapid Response Teams,
- To establish Mine Detection Dogs (MDD) Programme,
- To establish Mechanical capacity programme,
- Assistance in the timely completion of the Landmine Impact Survey and for its implementation requirements,
- Mine awareness and victim assistance programs, and
- Providing technical training and financial assistance to enhance organizational capacity of EMAO.

**THANK YOU!**

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