



Jordan's Mine Clearance Statement

May 2009

Intersessional Meeting of the Standing Committee

Geneva, 25 - 29 May 2009

Standing Committee on Mine Clearance, Mine Risk Education and Mine Action Technologies

Agenda Item: Mine Risk Education

COMMENTS BY

Jordan Delegation



Dear Co-Chairs,

Excellencies

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to take this opportunity to briefly update you on Jordan's Mine Risk Education efforts since the 9MSP in November 2008.

Jordan has been working hard to reduce the risk of mines and Explosive Remnants of War on communities and individuals in Jordan by continuing to develop national capacities to undertake MRE through Public education, training and Community Liaison.

In addition Jordan has been working hard on developing and implementing an MRE program that responds to communities' and 'at risk' groups' specific characteristics for a more targeted project and more sustainable results.

A number of entities in Jordan are involved in the delivery of mine risk education, including the National Committee for Demining and Rehabilitation (NCDR), the Royal Engineering Corps, Civil Defence, the Ministry of Education, Jordan Red Crescent Society with the assistance of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), and Life Line for

Consultancy and Rehabilitation. Jordan's Mine Clearance organizations also have 4 designated and trained community liaison officers.

Currently, most MRE activities are being provided by NCDR through its MRE department, which has built a joint team consisting of members from the most active stakeholders.

A MRE steering committee and working group were established in November, among local MRE partners in the Kingdom which meet quarterly or more frequently as required.

A revised MRE structure has since been developed to address new MRE issues and the needs of local MRE programs. NCDR's MRE department is currently looking to expand its capacities in order to be able to effectively conduct MRE activities in tandem with the ongoing mine clearance and ERW assessment projects underway, in addition to increasing its monitoring capabilities.

At the end of 2008, NCDR's Mine Risk Education program developed an action plan for 2009 and 2010, which targets mine-affected communities in the north of Jordan and the Jordan Valley, working alongside two ongoing mine clearance projects, the North Border Mine Clearance Project and the Jordan Valley Sampling and Verification Project. Since the beginning of the year, 10 communities have been reached, with approximately 14,000 individuals benefiting from direct MRE activities.

The MRE program targets a broad section of each community, including community leaders, men, women, children of all ages, farmers, herders, archaeology workers, construction workers and border security guards, to name a few.

Furthermore, a new child-to-child training approach has been developed and executed in selected schools. The approach trains school students how to effectively share knowledge gained through MRE to children who are the same age or younger, as well as to family members in general.

A local Jordanian MRE partner, Life Line for Consultancy and Rehabilitation, has been conducting, in partnership with James Madison University Mine Action Information Center and NCDR, a theatre production entitled "We love life". The play is performed for students and community members in landmine and ERW affected communities, presenting a series of mine risk education messages. Four of the actors are mine or ERW survivors.

Eight shows of "We love life" have been performed in affected communities in the north of Jordan. The interactive, open-air performances have attracted large audiences, with almost 9,000 children and community members in total having watched the show so far. LLCR plans to expand the program in order to reach more mine and ERW affected communities, both in Jordan and the region.

NCDR's MRE department has also started to work in collaboration with NCDR's ERW Assessment Survey. The MRE department is undertaking a further national ERW needs assessment to identify the needs of ERW affected communities.

The assessment will help to develop a targeted action plan by prioritizing communities most affected by ERW – of course as well as mines in case they have been missed by earlier surveys – gathering data on risk taking behavior, initial data on victims and creating community profiles are some of the key objectives.

The program targets scrap metal collectors and dealers, as the scrap metal trade is a major cause of ERW contamination in the Kingdom, causing many accidents each year who on a daily basis are at greatest risk.

Thank you for your attention.



الهيئة الوطنية لإزالة الألغام وإعادة التأهيل
THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR DEMINING AND REHABILITATION



Jordan Article 5 Update

Meeting of the Standing Committees

Geneva

27 May 2009

Question #1: Progress Since 9MSP

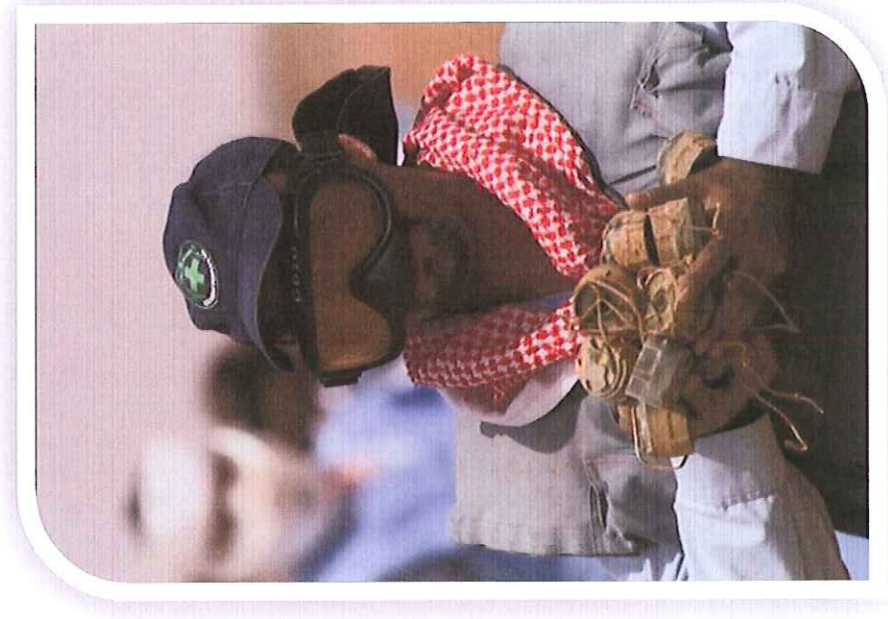
- **North Border Mine Clearance Project:**

✓ 6,997 AP mines cleared

✓ 3,006 AT mines cleared

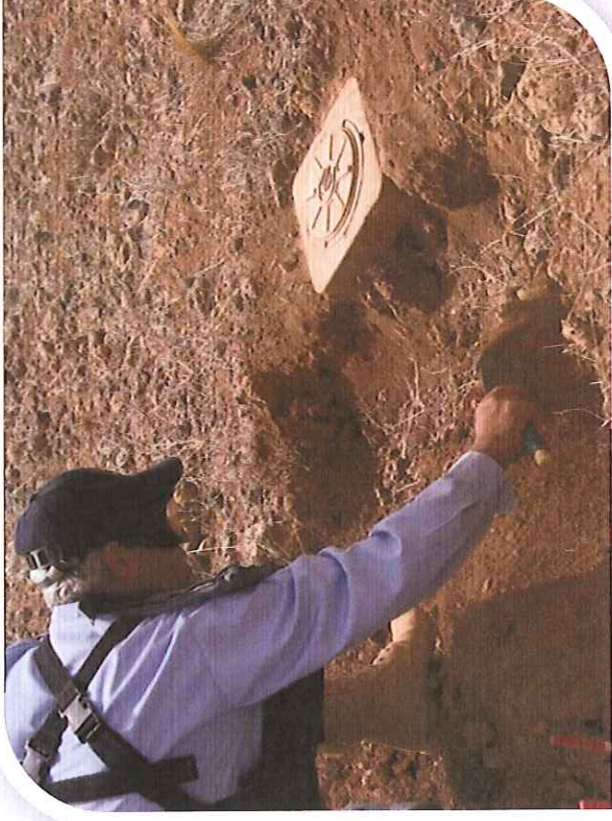
✓ Area cleared: 70,797m²

✓ Area verified: 738,839m²

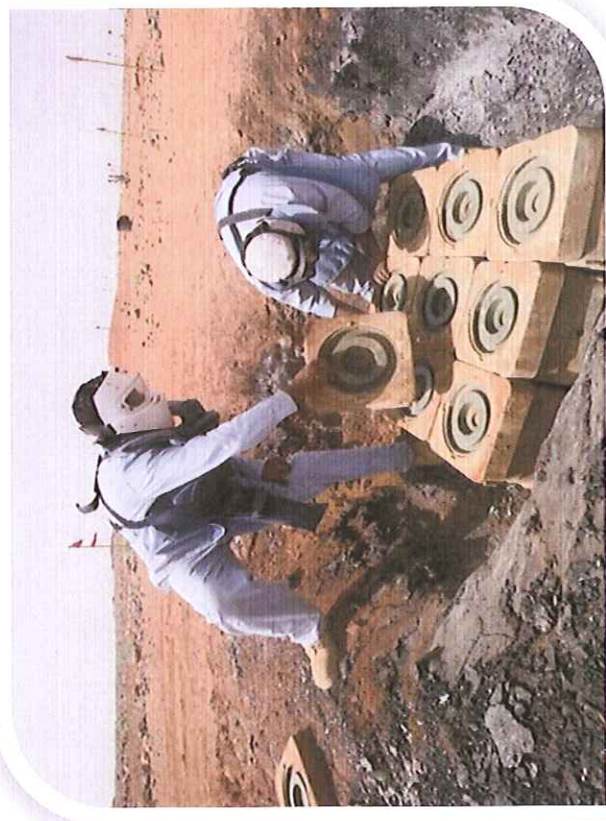


- **Challenges resolved**

- ✓ Increased human resources:
126 deminers
- ✓ **Double shift** for deminers
and QC members



- ✓ **Project on track for 2009**
- ✓ **Initial clearance by 2010**





Verification: North Border Mine Clearance Project

Question #2: Border Demarcation

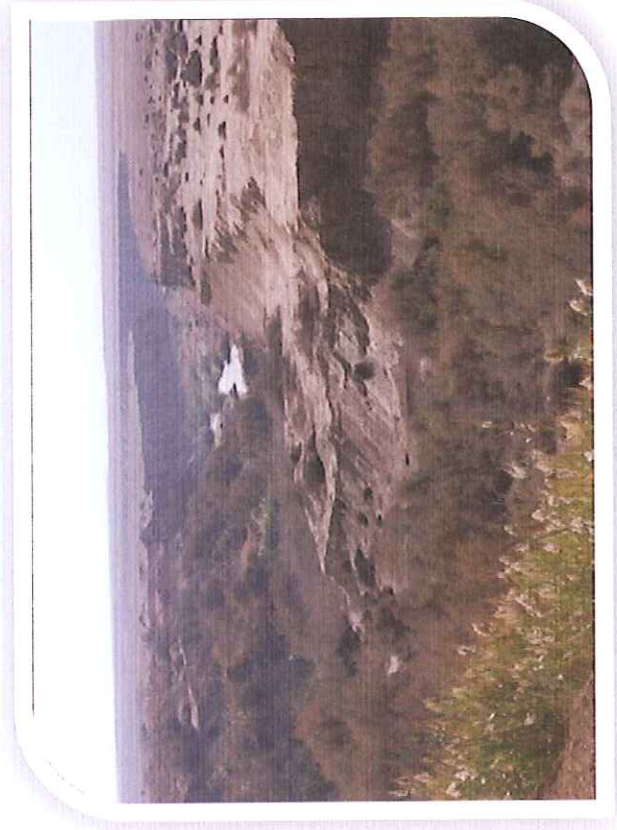
Issue

- ✓ **Approval granted for clearance of disputed area (45km)**
- ✓ **Total 104km length of North Border Project open for demining**
- ✓ **Border Demarcation Issue almost resolved by Joint-Committee**

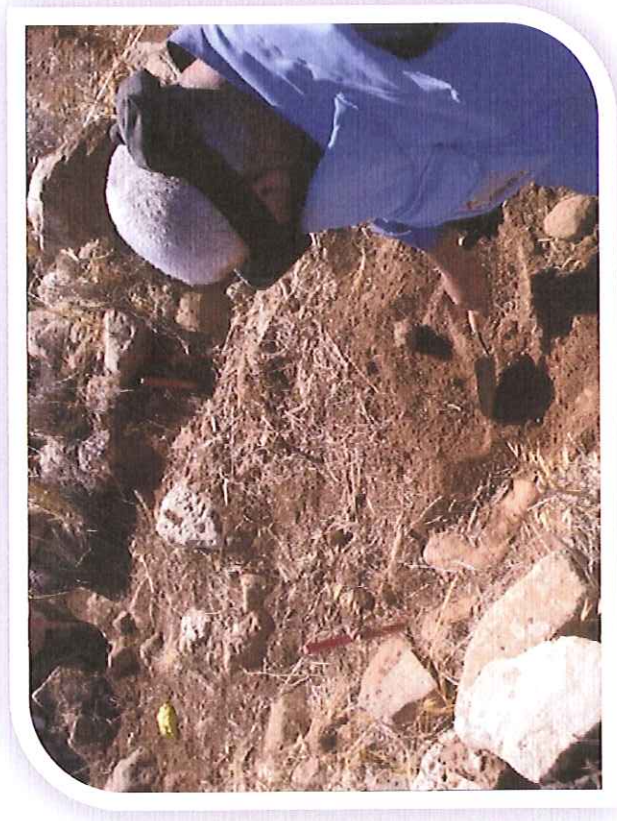


Question #3: Jordan Valley Sampling & Verification

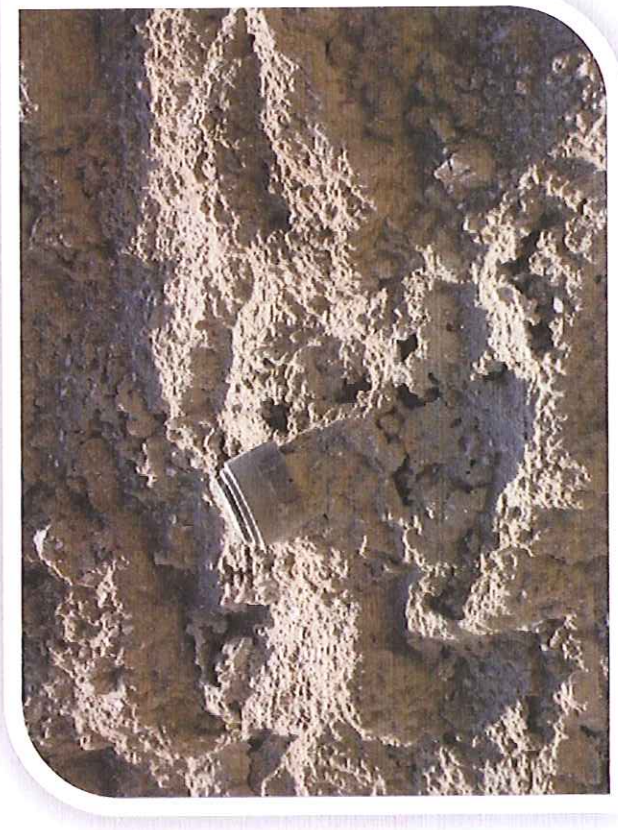
- **Ongoing Process:**
 - ✓ **PHASE 1 Complete:** Desk Study / Review of 267 cleared REC minefields
 - ✓ Roaming teams conducting spot demining:
51 items found (AP, AT, fuses)
 - ✓ **PHASE 2 Complete:** Community questionnaires
 - ✓ **108 SHA Identified**
 - ✓ **PHASE 3 Ongoing:** Technical assessment



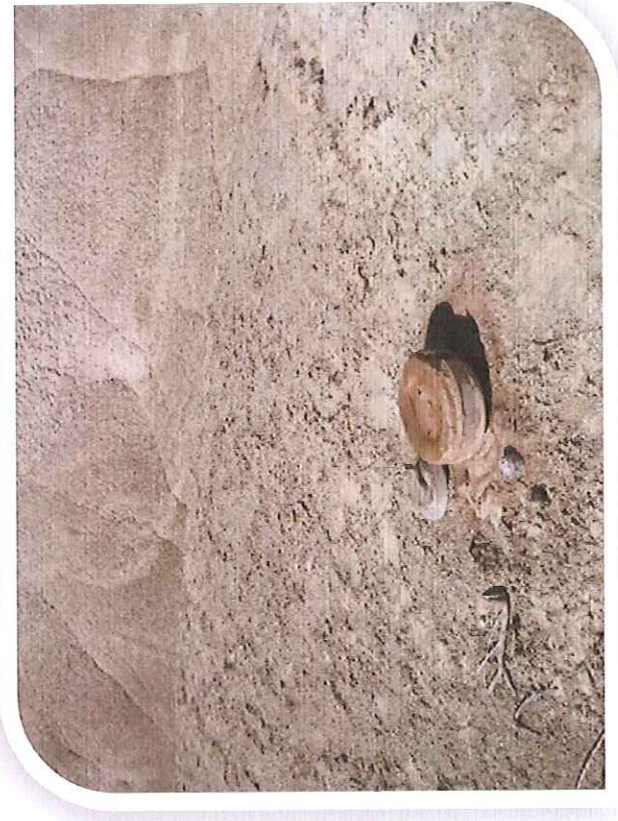
Jordan Valley Erosion



Sampling & Verification: Jordan Valley



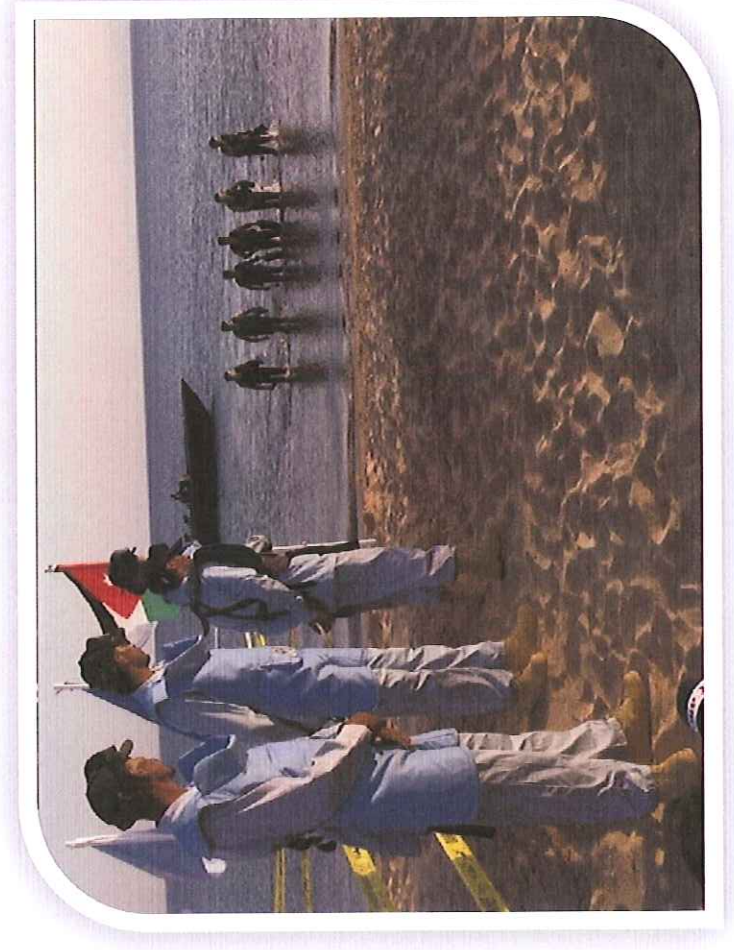
AP migration due to flood



AT and AP mines found in gully

Areas pending QC and Verification

- ✓ **Wadi Araba free of landmines (2008)**
- ✓ **Mount Nebo: 7 MFs pending QC by MDD**
- ✓ **Mount Nebo to be completed by end of 2009**



**Wadi Araba
Handover Ceremony**



Thank you