Presentation to State Parties on the UK’s Phase 2 Falkland Islands Land Release Pilot Programme  
1 Jan – 31 Mar 12

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DPO provided by Fenix Insight Ltd
Falkland Islands
Phase 2 Pilot Programme

- Land Release Programme; not mine clearance.
- Objectives
  - To release land currently restricted from community use.
  - To gain further data & information to build on phase 1 knowledge.
  - To provide community confidence on the land release process.
  - To pilot methodologies for releasing suspect land in a cost efficient & environmentally acceptable way.
Key Phase 1 Data

• Gained confidence in Argentine Minefield (MF) Records/Plans & laying characteristics.
• Gained information on likely mine movements due to environmental factors.
• Established that modern detectors could not detect MMMs to contract depth (20 cm).
• Effects on the environment.
Community Involvement and Confidence

• Involved FIG in area to be released decision.
• Close cooperation with FIG on contract issues (BACTEC International selected as LRC).
• Formation of SHA Land Release Committee (SHALARC). Members:
  – DPO Programme Manager (Chair)
  – BACTEC PM
  – Key FIG officials, Military and Govt House
Land Release Approach

• Feasibility Study identified low risk suspect areas for land release as a priority.
• Adopted most up to date approach to land release using a Site Implementation Plan (SIP).
• SIP fully documented decisions made by BACTEC:
  – Comprehensive non-technical review of all available evidence including reports & Minefield Records/Plans.
  – Review of information/data from phase 1 pilot.
  – Analysis of mine types, detectability, laying profiles, resources available + Risk Assessment.
  – Initial Review Process by DPO, then SHALARC.
  – SIP updated if new information came to light.
  – Final Management Review after ops complete by SHALARC.
The Land Release Programme
1 Jan – 31 Mar 12
BACTEC’s Methodology

- Flail 5m around 4 MFs
- Fence around MFs
BACTEC’s Methodology Cont’d

- Instrument aided visual search of LTAs.
- Deep AGS digital survey over 6 – 12.5% LTAs
Quality Management

• DPO conducted accreditation checks on BACTEC systems and procedures prior to deployment. Final accreditation awarded after practical testing on island.

• Quality monitoring conducted on daily basis. Regular formal QA audits against SOPs, Quality and S&OH Plans.

• Quality Control random sampling of land using IMAS 09.20 (LU 1, Tightened regime reduced to normal after 2 successful lots). No NCs.
Project Extension

- Reviewed and updated the SIP.
- Involved fencing SHA through a pond.
- Consulted SHALARC.
Results

• Minimum expected by the client was 174 Ha. Actually achieved 371 Ha in 66 working days.
• Located and destroyed 79 items of UXO.
• 17% of the restricted land released.
• Iconic listed landmark returned to community
Operational Lessons Learned

• Even though summer had been dry, heavy machinery requires wide/swamp tracks.
• Because of 11,000 Km logistic chain, need redundancy in key mechanical items.
• Weather better than phase 1; led to greater output. However, remains unpredictable.
Key Issues established from Phase 2 Pilot Programme 2012

• FIG have confidence in the process.
• FIG and community involvement through SHALARC essential.
• Getting common land back to the community is a priority for the islanders.
• Possibility of “hybrid” approach in future.
• Trialling mechanical processes to see the effects on environment fundamental.