

Mobilizing Resources to Achieve the Convention Humanitarian Aims
Standing Committee Meeting – 3 February 2003

What I would like to do this afternoon is briefly update you on some of the tools we have developed with various partners to mobilize resources in support of the achievement of the Convention's humanitarian aims.

To mobilize resources effectively, you need to know two things:

- First, you need to know what the requirements are, what mine action programmes need to operate;
- Second, you need to know what potential resources exist to meet these requirements.

The tools I am going to talk about are designed to provide information on these two issues, needs and resources.

Regarding mine action requirements, the UN is preparing every year what is called the "Portfolio of mine-related projects." The latest portfolio, available outside this room, was launched last November. What it does is present all the mine action projects and programmes in which the United Nations system is involved, with a brief description of each of them and of the corresponding financial requirements.

[It includes in particular the mine risk education projects of UNICEF, the capacity building projects of UNDP, and the humanitarian projects of UNMAS. A few victim assistance projects are also included, for Afghanistan and Lebanon for instance.]

The 2003 portfolio covers 34 countries and includes 90 individual projects for a total of approximately USD200 million.

[For reference, the first Portfolio prepared in 1998 covered 15 countries only. The growing scope of it is of course an indicator of the success of the Ottawa Convention, with more and more countries affected by landmines joining the treaty and asking assistance under its article 6 to meet their international obligations.]

[The interest of the Portfolio does not lie simply in the end product, that is to say the Portfolio document, it lies also, and perhaps primarily, in the process leading to its formulation. This process, which is field-based, is designed to support mine action coordination in country, as well as the integration of mine-action programmes into broader humanitarian and development strategies. This is why for the countries where a consolidated appeal exists, all mine action projects in the 2003 Portfolio have been developed as part of the Consolidated Appeal Process.]

Of course, UN assistance projects represent only one part of the global mine action requirements that need to be identified. To help identify other requirements, the OAS has prepared a similar Portfolio for its projects, and the ICBL Working Group on Victim Assistance prepares every year also a portfolio for victim assistance projects.

In order to bring all these elements of information together, we have developed as part of E-MINE a database where all these projects can be found.

- The projects from the UN portfolio
- The projects from the OAS portfolio
- The projects from the ICBL VA portfolio, and
- The NGO mine action projects which have been developed in the context of the CAP for Angola and Somalia.

This year, we will try to be even more comprehensive and to encourage the systematic inclusion of NGO mine action projects in the submissions coming from the mine action centers for the portfolio.

There are several ways you can access and look for projects on E-MINE.

- You can look at all projects at once through the “Projects” section on E-MINE. – e.g. OAS Peru
- You can look for country-specific projects through the country pages – e.g. Angola.
- You can also look for projects related to a specific sector of activity – e.g. victim assistance.

We have recently developed a new functionality which allows the project managers to update their funding shortfalls at any time during the year. By selecting the option “Funding shortfalls of mine-related projects” donors can have a snapshot of the funding shortfalls of all projects included in the database, with, for each of them, the date of the latest update.

This is for the “requirements” side of resource mobilization. The other tool I would like to highlight today is to identify the resources that have been invested into mine action and to help identify further available resources.

The “Database of mine action investments” was developed several years ago by Canada and is managed by UNMAS as part of E-MINE. It provides you with information on three things:

First, it provides information on the resources which have already been invested into mine action by donor countries

This includes financial contributions as well as in-kind donation of personal and equipment, whether provided bilaterally from country to country, or through NGOs, or through international organizations. Example: USD 9.8 million of international assistance provided by Italy in 2002

[The information available indicates that investments amounted to US\$203 million for 1999 based on 19 donors, US\$239 million for 2000 based on 16 donors, and US\$206 million for 2001 based on 15 donors. 1999/2000: +21% (data provided by 16 donors) - 2000/2001: -10% (data provided by 15 donors)]

Second, it provides information on the resources which a donor country is planning to make available in the future

Donor countries can enter into the database information about their planned investments for the year 2003, or even beyond. Example: here you can see the breakdown of what Finland is planning to invest into mine action assistance in 2003/2004.

Lastly, the mine action investment database also provides information about donors’ funding policies, guidelines and priorities. Example: guidelines from the Government of Canada.

While the database is an important tool in support of resource mobilization, it clearly has some limits. First, and perhaps most importantly, it depends on the readiness of donor governments to provide up-to-date information about their past and future mine action investments.

[As of today, 13 donor countries have provided information about their 2001 investments, but only 3 have provided information about their 2002 investments, and 2 about their planned investments for 2003.]

I would like therefore to take this opportunity to call on all donor governments to provide up-to-date information into the system, and to contact UNMAS if they need support or guidance to do so.

In addition, it should be pointed out that the database as it currently exists only track international assistance. In other words, it does not capture what the affected countries themselves invest in mine action within their own territories. The initiative taken by Norway in this area is therefore particularly useful.

I will stop there and conclude by saying that we very much look forward to working with all parties to further improve these tools, and to support Norway in its capacity as Coordinator of the Resource Mobilization contact group the same way we support Germany in its capacity as chair of the Mine Action Support Group.