International mine action standards
What is an International Standard?

A document, established by consensus and approved by UNMAS, that provides for common and repeated use, guidelines or characteristics for mine action activities or their results.
Purpose of standards

- Provide common, agreed levels of performance in mine action.
- Demonstrate agreement and consensus in mine action community
- Facilitate the exchange of information.
- Enhance cost effectiveness and safety.
Brief History

- No standards until 1997
- Jul 1996  Copenhagen conference
- Mar 1997  First Standards issued
- Sep 1999  Start of UN-led review and revision of standards
- Mar 2001  Draft Version 6.0 of IMAS Issued
- Sept 2001  23 IMAS approved by UN
New IMAS in the pipeline

- Mine detection dog standards (approval)
- Management of mine action programmes
- Information systems and communications
- Guide for drafting contracts
- Mechanically assisted clearance
..... and more

- Guidelines for mine risk education
- Guidelines for victim assistance
- Training needs of mine action managers
- Evaluation of programmes
Aim of “OUTREACH” programme

- Discuss and explore the practical application of the proposed IMAS.
- Identify further changes that may be needed.
- Assist national mine action authorities to develop or amend their own national standards and SOPs to reflect the requirements of IMAS.
- Develop a broad consensus for IMAS - at a political as well as a technical level.
OUTREACH Statistics

- 14 formal briefings
- 29 mine affected countries
- 6+ NGOs
- 3+ commercial companies
- 4 regional organisations
- 337 individuals
Any Questions ?
Contact details

Paddy Blagden
Technical Director
GICHD
7bis Avenue de la Paix
1211 Geneva 1
Switzerland

Tel: +41 (22) 906 1674
Mob: +44 (7710) 484492
E Mail: p.blagden@gichd.ch
Web: www.gichd.ch