

United Nations Development Programme



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Project Document

Project Title: Support to the North West Coast Development Plan and Relevant Mine Action:
Phase II

Expected UNDAF/CP Outcome:

Outcome 3.1: National and local capacities and systems are enhanced for decentralized, inclusive and gender sensitive planning, budgeting, monitoring & evaluation.

Expected Output(s):

- Strengthened national capacities of relevant stakeholders to manage Mine Action in Egypt, for mine clearance operations in the North West Coast region and for accelerated mine clearance operations
- Reintegration of Mine Victims, with special emphasis on women, into society and enabling them to contribute to the development of the North West Coast region.
- Developed and expanded Mine Risk Education Programme, and advocacy activities.

Executing Entity: Ministry of International Cooperation

Implementing Agencies: Executive Secretariat for Mine Clearance and the Development of the North West Coast

Brief Description

Explosive remnants of war land contamination affects an estimated 2,395 square kilometers of land in the North West Coast and has claimed 8,313 casualties (697 killed and 7,616 injured), of which 5,015 were civilians. Due to this contamination, the North West Coast and its inland desert suffer from a fragile socio-economic structure, with a modest contribution to the country's GDP not exceeding 0.7%, although covering over 16% of Egypt's geographic area. In an effort to support Matrouh Governorate overcome this major developmental challenge, especially since it is disadvantaged with being one of the poorest 10 governorates in Egypt, this project aims to strengthen the national capacities of stakeholders to address Mine Action in Egypt through the provision of relevant tools and mechanisms; reintegrate mine victims into the economy as productive community members; and support the continuation of mine clearance operations in line with the national Development Plan of the North West Coast .



Programme Period:	2013 - 2017
Key Result Area (Strategic Plan)	Crisis Prevention and Recovery
Atlas Award ID:	00085436
Start date:	23/10/2014
End Date	22/10/2017
PAC Meeting Date	12/11/2014
Management Arrangements	NIM

Total resources required	USD 6,681,818.12
Total allocated resources:	USD 6,681,818.12
• Regular	_____
• Other:	
• EU	USD 6,392,663.04
• UNDP	USD 289,155.08
• Government	_____
Unfunded budget:	_____

Agreed by (Executing Entity): Naglaa El Ehwany 14.1.2015

Agreed by (Government): [Signature] 19/1/2015

Agreed by (UNDP): [Signature] 20/01/2015



COMMON ACRONYMS USED IN THE TEXT

APR	Annual Project Report
ARR	Annual Review Report
AWP	Annual Work Plan
CTA	Chief Technical Advisor
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
EOD	Explosive Ordinance Disposal
ERW	Explosive Remnants of War
GICHD	Geneva International Center for Humanitarian Development
GIS	Geographic Information System
GMS	General Management Support
IMAS	International Mine Action Standards
IMSMA	International Management System for Mine Action
ISS	Implementation Support Services
KAP	Knowledge, Attitude and Practices
MAT	Mine Action Team
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
MoD	Ministry of Defence
MoIC	Ministry of International Cooperation
MoSS	Ministry of Social Solidarity
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MRE	Mine Risk Education
MVA	Mine Victims Assistance
NWC	North West Coast
PAC	Programme Advisory Committee
PMU	Project Management Unit
PPP	Public Private Partnership
QA	Quality Assurance
QC	Quality Control
QM	Quality Management
QPR	Quarterly Progress Report
SBAA	Standard Basic Assistance Agreement
UN	United Nations
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNMAS	United Nations Mine Action Service
UNMAT	United Nations Mine Action Team
UXO	Unexploded Ordinances
VIS	Victim Information System

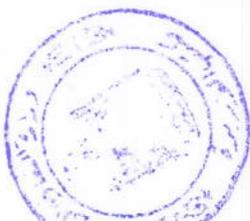


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I. SITUATION ANALYSIS

UN Development goals in Egypt

The theme for the Egypt United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2013-2017, "Achieving MDGs+ with Inclusive Growth, Freedom, Social Justice and Dignity," conveys the over-arching aim of this UNDAF, which is to support Egypt's accelerated progress on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and go beyond the MDGs. It also aims to advance on other important objectives consistent with the United Nations Millennium Declaration signed by over 150 countries, including Egypt at the UN Summit in 2000. Furthermore, it reflects the emphasis that will be placed on reducing gender, socio-economic and geographical disparities, and on addressing the special needs of vulnerable groups. Lastly, it aims to put the emphasis on the restoration of a new social contract between the State and the citizens, building confidence in sound and transparent law enforcement institutions. In this way, the development programmes carried out under this UNDAF will contribute to inclusive development and a more equitable society that translates into positive impacts on people's lives.

The United Nations Country Team (UNCT) and Government have agreed on the following UNDAF priority areas:

- 1. Poverty Alleviation through Pro-Poor Growth and Equity;
- 2. Quality Basic Services;
- 3. Democratic Governance;
- 4. Food Security and Nutrition; and
- 5. Environmental Sustainability and Natural Resource Management.

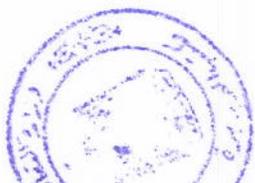
A total of 23 UNDAF outcomes indicate the specific results expected in terms of institutional performance or human behaviour for individual and social change. Gender mainstreaming, as a cross sectoral responsibility, is the overarching strategy of the UNCT for making women's and men's concerns an integral dimension of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all UNDAF priority areas so that women and men benefit equally and inequality is not perpetuated. Each outcome is accompanied by a limited number of performance indicators to guide programme design and facilitate monitoring and evaluation after implementation.

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Country programme contributes to 12 of the 23 outcomes articulated in the 2013-2017 UNDAF and responds to key development challenges facing Egypt as identified by an independently conducted Situation Analysis which was prepared with extensive consultations with national and international partners including UN agencies, and that was approved by the Cabinet of Ministers in early 2013.

Referring to UNDAF Outcome 3.1: "strengthening national and local capacities for decentralized, inclusive and gender sensitive planning, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation" the UNDP Country Program Document includes the result:

"Support the development and strengthening of national DRR and management capacities and provide support to the Ministry of International Cooperation to coordinate and manage mine action."

Also in line with the overarching aim of the UNDAF, mine action can directly assist with the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, (MDG). A table highlighting this possible connection is set out in Table 1 below.



MDG	Goal	Remarks
1	Eradicating extreme poverty and hunger	Mine clearance targeted at clearing agricultural and grazing land and other economic targets such as feeder roads and water sources. Mine Victims, considered among the poorest groups in Matrouh, will be economically empowered.
3	Promoting gender equality and empowering women	Ensuring mine action programs adopt suitable gender policies in recruiting, plus making sure that female beneficiaries are heard during community mine action data gathering and planning processes
4	Reducing child mortality rates	Child-based mine risk education (MRE) training; Clearance of UXO by EOD teams before they can be detonated by curious children; improved access to first aid and medical care
7	Ensuring environmental sustainability	Removal of landmine and UXO contamination to prevent 'overload' on other, uncontaminated agricultural and grazing areas

Scope of the problem

The major source of contamination from explosive remnants of war in Egypt can be traced back more than 70 years to World War II, as well as to the Egypt-Israel wars of 1956, 1967 and 1973. Prior to launching the first phase of this project, contamination affected an estimated 2,395 square kilometers of land in the North West Coast.

Technical/Non-Technical surveys were conducted by the Egyptian armed forces. Yet, in the light of the field visit that was conducted by GIHCD's specialist, GIHCD believes that there's still a need for technical surveys according to the international standards. Such technical surveys, in collaboration with armed forces, will be one of the outputs of this phase.

Impact of Mine and other Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) contamination

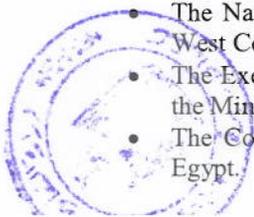
Landmines and ERW are believed to have a significant negative impact on Egypt, particular as a constriction to socio-economic development, especially in the North West Coast. The survey described above will help quantify the impact as precisely as possible.

Egyptian civilians continue to use mine- and unexploded ordnance (UXO)-contaminated areas for cultivation, grazing, infrastructure projects and housing. Between 1999 and 2002, at least 70 new mine or UXO casualties were reported and another 65 were reported during the period 2008-2013. The total number of casualties is not known, although according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (as reported in the 2012 Landmine Monitor) landmines and other UXO have claimed 8,313 casualties between 1982 and 2011. These figures are believed to apply only to casualties occurring in the Western Desert since 1982.

Institutional arrangement for Mine Action in Egypt

Egypt's mine action programme has been developing since 2007 and includes the basic structure and institutions to control, coordinate and implement mine action activities. The programme has currently a three-tier structure that includes:

- The National committee for the Supervision of Mines' Clearance and the Development of the North West Coast.
- The Executive Secretariat for Mine Clearance and the Development of the North West Coast (NWC) at the Ministry of International Cooperation ("Executive Secretariat")
- The Corps of Military Engineers has the overall responsibility to undertake demining operations in Egypt.



A number of individual strategic plans for mine action program components: advocacy and communication, resource mobilization, victims' assistance and mine risk education have already been issued by the project. A draft national strategic plan for mine action in Egypt, pulling together these individual components and adding a clearance plan, has been discussed in 2012, and is to be an enabling activity for Phase II.

United Nations Assistance to Mine Action in Egypt

The UN involvement in assisting mine action in Egypt dates back to 9 November 2006, when an agreement was signed by Her Excellency Minister Fayza Abounaga, Minister of International Cooperation and the UNDP Resident Representative to launch in the NWC of Egypt, an Egypt / UNDP Mine Action project to last 18 months, as a first pilot phase, to be followed by a second phase that may last for 5-6 years. On January 6th, 2009, the management board of the project approved the extension of the project with no extra cost until the end of 2009.

The United Nations Mine Action Team (UNMAT) conducted an inter-agency assessment in 2009 which made recommendations to continue with a second phase of the project. The first phase of the project was continued on an *ad hoc* basis until the present day. A consultancy mission sponsored by the UNDP in early 2012 made a further series of recommendations for the continuation of the project.

Challenges to be addressed

As identified by the UNDP Mine Action mission in 2009, there are a number of challenges related to the ongoing Mine Action programme in Egypt that should be addressed in order to enable Mine Action activities to be carried out according to International Standards, as well as to modernize and develop the overall national programme capacity. These challenges can be broken down into two groups: the ones mentioned in the recommendations made as a result of the 2009 UNMAT assessment and the recommendations included in the 2012 consultancy report. Of the recommendations in these two documents (which can be seen in full in the reports), the following are identified as key issues to be addressed in the second phase of the project:

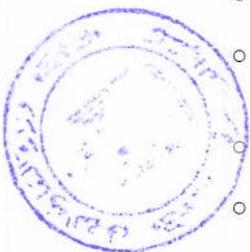
Key recommendations from the 2009 UNMAT report:

- Revitalize the inter-ministerial coordination committee at highest level; meet regularly
- Review the development plan for the North West Coast, ensure that clearly defined and prioritized development and reconstruction activities help set the clearance priorities and are linked to a policy with regards to the overall development strategy of the region.
- Define priority beneficiary groups and how the mine action priorities will address their needs.
- Recruit replacement of UNDP provided CTA as a matter of urgency to support the negotiation and design of phase II of the project
- Ensure all relevant stakeholders are involved in the negotiation and further definition of Phase II
- Discuss overall mine action capacity within the framework of cost efficient and effective mine clearance in Egypt.

Key recommendations from the 2012 consultancy report (including but not limited to):

Institutional Framework

- Take steps to re-energize the National Committee, including providing training for points of contact amongst stakeholder organizations
- Develop, agree and obtain approval of a comprehensive mine action strategy, including scoping of the problem and an estimate of the resources to make Egypt firstly in the North West Coast: (a) impact free and (b) mine free.
- Conduct scoping study to inform the mine action strategy and allow detailed development of Phase II tasks
- Formulate the roles and responsibilities of the Executive Secretariat in a set of statutes/mission statement; clarify the role of the Project as a coordinator of mine action in support of development.
- Develop a set of Mine Action Standards
- Investigate whether there is support for the Project to be expanded to have full national coverage



Capacity Development

- Expand the organizational structure of the Executive Secretariat to fulfill its responsibilities under Phase II, including the division of MRE and MVA tasks, the division of operations and planning, and the establishment of a specialized GIS capacity within the new operations section.
- Codify procedures already undertaken by the Project, such as the formalization of task prioritization procedures.
- Conduct a “mine action management” course for all stakeholders so that different stakeholder roles in mine action can be developed, points of contact established and networking possibilities developed.
- Develop resource mobilization activities so that it is clear what is needed, why it is needed and what has already been provided. This should be part of a new planning section in the Executive Secretariat

Mine Clearance

- Review possible role for support in explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) such as capacity development of the existing civil defense role in the reporting of unexploded ordnance (UXO)

Mine Risk Education (MRE) and Mine Victim Assistance (MVA)

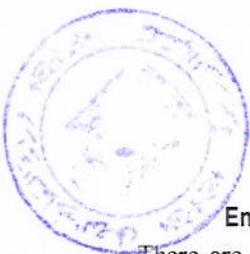
- Divide responsibilities of the existing MVA and MRE Officer in the Executive Secretariat between two persons
- Conduct an independent evaluation of the rehabilitation process
- Adopt the outline strategies set out in Annex B and C as chapters/annexes within the new National Strategy being developed.

A compliance matrix is included at Annex III to this Project Document, showing how all of these key recommendations will be addressed in Phase II.

Lessons Learnt

The Executive Secretariat performed in December 2009 / January 2010 an exercise to analyse the lessons learnt during Phase-I. The results of this exercise were as follows:

- The administrative and financial rules, regulations and forms were found adequately effective and firmly in place.
- The archiving system established was found suitably comprehensive, well-structured and flexible enough to accommodate all potential subjects to arise during Phase-II.
- The manpower needed further reinforcement, namely in areas relating to: data entry and administration support, accounting, plus a “clearance quality management unit”.
- Methodology to identify areas for clearance followed during Phase-I was found adequate, namely: the Minister of International Cooperation to address other Ministers asking them to indicate their suggestions for clearing areas needed for the implementation of development projects in their field of specialization. Review to be done in collaboration with the “Centre for Planning the Usage of Lands Owned by the State” to make sure land suggested for clearance is actually assigned to the requesting entity. All requests for clearance are to be pooled together and submitted to the Ministry of Defence with comments and views on prioritization of the Executive-Secretariat in order to obtain the approval of the military prior to composing the plans of clearance operations with the full involvement and participation of the Executive Secretariat-.



Enabling activities

There are a number of enabling activities that will help adequately develop national capacity to address issues relating to mine action capacity. These are discussed below.

- 1) Implementing the requested updating of the National Plan for the Development of the NWC, and upon the suggestion of Executive Secretariat: in 2010/2011 a thorough revision and updating process was conducted by the Ministry of Planning on the development plan of the North West Coast. Consequently, natural resources were identified, i.e.: 500,000 acres ready for agriculture, 3.5 million acres good for grazing, 70 million cubic meter of mineral resources, 1.8 billion barrel of oil and 8.5 trillion Cubic meter of natural gas.

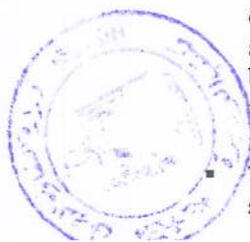
Executive Secretariat uses two approaches to plan mine clearance operations:

- i) Demining for development: this involves the clearance of land based on requests from relevant ministries, in accordance with the North West Coast development plan
 - ii) Demining for exclusively humanitarian purposes: this involves the clearance of land based on non-technical surveys conducted with the community.
- 2) National Mine Action Strategy. One of the earliest activities under this phase of the project will be to draft an integrated national mine action strategy, bringing together the various strategies for the individual program components.

Main Project Achievements

Considerable progress has been made since the beginning of the project. The key results of the project so far are summarized in the following:

- The establishment of the Executive Secretariat for Demining and Development of the North West Coast as a coordination mechanism between civilian Egyptian Government departments, the Military and the civil society in addition to the UN and donors' community.
- The procurement, through international tenders, of equipment mentioned in the Phase I Pro-Doc, i.e.: 250 detectors, 250 protective suits and visors and 5 ambulances in addition to an anti-mine armoured vehicle "Casspir" equipped with a mine detecting supplement "Mine Lab" and two mechanical demining machines "Arm Track 400".
- Discussions during two meetings of coordination between Executive Secretariat and the Engineering Department of the Ministry of Defense, resulted in two memos recommending the procurement of further equipment upon the request of the Military as well as the launching of mine clearance operations by the Corps of Military Engineers in February 2009 until November of the same year and again in April 2012. A third memo has been signed in May 2013 for the clearance of a total area of 190,000 acres for the benefit of both the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Housing. The actual clearance operations have started in mid-April 2014.
- The reports received from the Corps of Military Engineers about demining operations conducted until the end of July 2014 brings the total acreage of cleared area to 67,895 acres.
- A QA/QC team has been formed within the Executive Secretariat, and the Ministry of Defence (MOD) has given formal approval for UNDP personnel to visit demining activities.
- On Mine Risk Education: MRE material was designed, a number of multi-stakeholder workshops were organized including a "training of trainers" in collaboration with GICHD, and two MRE campaigns in cooperation with other concerned authorities such as the Ministry of Education and Culture and State Information Service were conducted through the project.
- On Victim Assistance: a database of 758 mine victims, continuously updated, was created including details on mine victims and relevant incidents. The database was used by Executive Secretariat in its contacts with concerned authorities to enable mine victims to be recognized as handicapped and receive financial support from the Ministry of Social Solidarity. Artificial limbs for 254 amputees were provided. In addition, a capacity building training for 4 local NGOs was initiated in February 2012 to equip them with the necessary technical and managerial skills required to identify, help create and manage income generating small projects for the benefit of survivors of mine incidents and ensure the project's sustainability beyond project closure. A revolving micro-credit scheme run by the NGOs has been started to contribute to the economic empowerment and self-reliance of mine victims and their dependents, where 51 female survivors were provided with starter kits for income generation
- The first phase also resulted in the drafting of a resource mobilization strategy, a communication strategy, a victim's assistance strategy and a mine risk education strategy.



II. STRATEGY

UNDP Support to Mine Action in Egypt

Notwithstanding the humanitarian imperative, the rationale behind UNDP's support to Mine Action globally lies in the challenge it poses to the development of resilient communities. Development and economic growth often increases the demand for land, so that communities can plant more crops and improve food security, or build new housing, roads and infrastructure. Mines and explosive remnants of war not only pose a health and safety risk - in many post conflict countries, they impede economic growth by preventing people from using land. The very fear of mines and ERW can depopulate wide areas and halt the use of roads and tracks. They also deprive people of basic services; hinder the use of natural resources; and severely undermine the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

UNDP's mine action efforts center on clearing mines and explosive remnants of war; mine risk education; stockpile destruction; advocacy; and victim assistance.

In recent years UNDP has accumulated significant experience in mine action, and now supports programmes in varying stages of maturity in sixteen countries. Its mandate in mine action derives from the recently disseminated UN policy, "Mine Action and Effective Co-ordination; UN Policy", which states the UNDP role as follows:

"Within the UN system, the UNDP will be responsible for addressing the socio-economic consequences of landmine contamination and for supporting national/local capacity building to ensure the elimination of the obstacle they pose to the resumption of normal economic activity, reconstruction and development."

To help fulfill this mandate, UNDP has established a Mine Action Team (MAT) at its headquarters to assist Country Offices when governments' request assistance in this sector. The Team provides technical expertise and advisory services to the programme, in conjunction with other UN agencies, bilateral, and NGOs as relevant.

UNDP's support to Egypt's Mine Action programme began in 2006 and succeeded in bringing about the project's main achievements, detailed above.

Given UNDP's continued commitment to the programme in Egypt, it will provide funding to this project to cover part of the project's expenses, etc. UNDP Egypt will also continue to mobilize resources to the project in order to expand activities in the action plan and thus augment project impact.

Project objective

This project will address the negative humanitarian and socio-economic impact of widespread contamination – actual and perceived – caused by land mines and UXO. With this project, the Government, UNDP, the European Union, and other donors aim to develop and modernize national structures to better address the impediments to development and the security risk posed by landmines and ERW. A particular focus of the project will be on providing support to enhance the coordination and management of mine action activities in Egypt. An added value of a successful joint programme is foreseen to be enhanced and strengthened international cooperation between not only Egypt, the UN and the European Union, but also Egypt, neighboring countries and the wider International Community.

At the end of the project, it is envisaged that the European Union and UNDP's support will have succeeded in strengthening the institutional management, financial and administrative mechanisms which will allow the Government of Egypt to effectively manage, co-ordinate, oversee all components of the mine action programme in a transparent and responsive manner. This will be further strengthened, also for sustainability purposes, by UNDP's support to improved processes for the production of a National Mine Action Strategy and Annual Work Plan, using lessons learned from the first phase of the project as well as GICHD's assessment report for priority setting. Activities of the project, which will bring about an expanded national mine clearance capacity that is sustainable, competent in technical, administrative and policy matters, a national Mine Risk Education policy and expanded Mine Risk Education activities, a national victim assistance policy and expanded community based rehabilitation programs will essentially lead to improved efficiency and effectiveness of the overall mine action programme in Egypt, a stronger level of donor confidence and ultimately reduced requirement for international technical assistance.



Description of the project

Phase II (covered by this project document) has been prepared based on an analysis of the results so far achieved and within the context of the latest Country Programme Document.

Clearing the actual and perceived threat of land mines will require a coordinated programme of mine action. It will be necessary to ensure that all national recruits trained in the mine clearance programme meet the internationally accepted standards for clearing mines in the humanitarian context. This integrated technical assistance programme will address the following:

Within the project, UNDP will provide technical expertise and support through a combination of in-country technical assistance, visiting consultations, support to capacity development (including south-south study tours, participation in international conferences and workshops, and placements at relevant international training facilities) and assistance with resource mobilization and fund management. In addition, the establishment of the mine-victims database has identified the number of mine victims and their location, which will enable the expanded project to continue to develop a victim assistance strategy tailored to the needs of these mine victims, i.e. improved prosthetic and medical care, community based rehabilitation and vocational training. Moreover, now that the number and location of mine-affected communities is known, a comprehensive Mine Risk Education campaign can be implemented under the project.

Guiding Principles

The project will be implemented based on the principles of 1) National ownership, 2) Sustainability and 3) Partnership among the government of Egypt, the UN, civil society, private sector and the donor community. For national ownership and sustainability purposes, the programme will include as a key component the development of a national/local capacity throughout the development of integrated programmes. A national/local capacity (formed most often under the auspices of a government or local authorities) is characterized by its ability to develop and articulate overall policy and direction, as well as to plan, coordinate, manage, and sustain a programme that is accountable, cost-effective, and able to address the humanitarian and socio-economic implications of landmine contamination. In dealing with the landmine problem, the United Nations will respect the fundamental humanitarian principles of neutrality, impartiality and humanity so that priority is given to those who are most vulnerable.

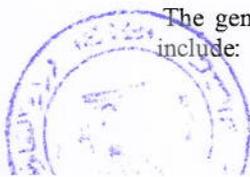
The United Nations will take every opportunity to stigmatize the continuing use of landmines and to support a total ban on antipersonnel landmines. In order to receive assistance, relevant parties should be committed to supporting mine action actively, and to desisting from producing, stockpiling, using, and transferring antipersonnel landmines. When applicable, this commitment should form an integral part of peace treaties, cease-fire agreements and peace-building arrangements.

Exceptions to the above principle should be based only on humanitarian considerations: humanitarian mine action activities focused on reducing immediate threats to the well-being of affected communities and to the activities of humanitarian workers should not be subjected to conditionality related to the continuing use of landmines.

Within the UN system and within the framework of the UN mine action policy (Mine Action and Effective Coordination: the United National Inter-Agency Policy), UNDP provides institutional and technical support to mine affected countries to develop a sustainable and comprehensive national mine action program. UNDP has therefore agreed to intensify and scale up its support to national mine action efforts in the country.

The general technical support by UNDP to the Government of Egypt via the Executive Secretariat will include:

1.1. Engagement with other UN Partners. UNDP will engage other UN partners based on the UN Mine Action Policy. For instance, coordination of MRE and VA activities will be explored with



maintained with the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) through the UNDP Mine Action Team in New York and within the framework of the UN Inter-Agency Coordination Group for Mine Action.

1.2. Partnering with relevant International Organizations. UNDP has a global MoU with the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) and will investigate where GICHD could provide practical assistance to Egypt. For example, in the area of Information management, the most commonly used system is the Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA). IMSMA has been installed at the project. Adequate training has been secured to the Head of Information Management Unit at the project. Executive Secretariat will investigate whether further training for army personnel would be needed, especially in the light of an agreement reached during the visit conducted to the command of the Egyptian Corps of Military Engineers by the Director of Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining in October 2012 that IMSMA would be installed at the headquarters of both the Command of the corps and its field battalion at El Alamein.

1.3. South-South Cooperation. In line with UNDP advocacy for seeking South-South solutions, UNDP will help facilitate exchange between Egypt and other mine affected countries. UNDP has a global Mine Action Exchange project that can be utilized for such an exchange. It should be mentioned that Egypt is already engaged in UN peacekeeping missions and that similar mine action projects are established throughout Africa and the Middle East. This provides excellent possibilities of cooperation and exchange of information etc. As a very promising step in this context; from October/November 2012 a contract was implemented between Executive Secretariat and the Jordanian National Committee for Demining and Rehabilitation, by virtue of that contract a training course was conducted in Egypt on QA/QC of clearance operations primarily for the benefit of the personnel of the quality management unit of Executive Secretariat. 12 officers of the Corps of Military Engineers also attended the course.

1.4. Partnership with external stakeholders. UNDP will facilitate for the government of Egypt the establishment of cooperation with external stakeholders. Possibilities of in-kind contribution and military-to-military support will be explored further with relevant partners. UNDP undertakes resource mobilisation from a humanitarian and development perspective.

1.5. Public-Private partnership. Given the high interest of the private sector and especially energy and property development companies, there seems to be a clear potential for partnering with the private sector. UNDP, as part of its technical assistance, will assist the Executive Secretariat to explore opportunities for establishing public-private partnerships as well as enhance the overall coordination on mine related issues.

Project Objective

The overall objective of the project is to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the overall mine action programme in Egypt.

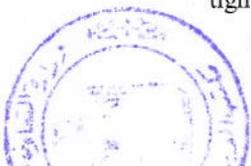
Project Outputs and activities

The following three outputs will be produced during phase II of the project:

- 1) Strengthened national capacities of relevant stakeholders to manage Mine Action in Egypt, for mine clearance operations in the North West Coast region and for accelerated mine clearance operations

This will help relevant decision-makers make better informed decisions, thus optimizing the use of tight budgets. This will be done through:

- a. Strengthening of strong information base to support decision making and development of strategies to address challenge of mine action. One of the challenges faced in the implementation of mine action activities is the lack of information in general, or the availability of data scattered amongst various resources. To mitigate this, the project will



- Continue to conduct non-technical/technical surveys prior to the clearance of requested land. This will assess the general extent and impact of the landmine/ERW contamination through a combination of secondary data analysis, preliminary opinion collection and participatory rural appraisal techniques in order to define priorities and areas needed for clearance
 - Strengthen geographic information system to analyse and present the findings of the above activities, and collate existing records and historical data
 - Develop formal clearance prioritization system and annual works plans
- b. Development of national capacities in the field of Mine Action
- Finalization of national mine action strategy
 - Conduct a gender analysis in order to map the different roles and responsibilities of men and women within the community.
 - Develop a gender sensitive strategy/action plan for women's participation in mine action related activities in Matrouh Governorate.
 - Engage in relevant south-south study tours
 - Establish a mine action exchange programme/participate in the Mine Action Exchange programme to at least one other country
 - Organize a technical workshop with international participation / and participate in relevant technical workshops and conduct a minimum of one exchange workshops on risk education
 - Explore possibilities for military – to – military technical exchange programme in ordnance disposal and mine clearance
 - Participate in annual UN Program Manager's meeting held in Geneva, hosted by GICHD
- c. Strengthened national capacities in mine clearance operations in particular
- Development of Egyptian Mine Clearance Standard Operating Procedures
 - A training and equipment needs assessment for possible future contribution to the Egyptian landmine clearance and explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) capacity
 - Develop and conduct technical training for demining team leaders on International Mine Action Standards and clearance
 - Provision of First aid training for deminers and Executive Secretariat field personnel.
 - Ensure Executive Secretariat Clearance QM Unit is performing in line with international best practices and EMAS.
- d. Deminers better equipped to conduct mine clearance operations through first, the conduct of a demining equipment needs assessment and then, accordingly, the procurement of necessary demining equipment.
- e. Enhancement of the Executive Secretariat which is to perform as the strong institutional structure addressing the challenge of mine action through activating and optimizing use of high level committee on Mine Action. This will be done through the regulated convening of meetings between the Executive Secretariat and the high level committee on Mine Action to discuss work plans and development project locations in order to improve coordination, engagement and national ownership of activities.

2) Reintegration of Mine Victims, with special emphasis on women, into society and enabling them to contribute to the development of the North West Coast Area.

The first phase of the project succeeded in the acknowledgement of the Ministry of Social Solidarity of victims of mine incidents as disable citizens entitled to a pension or grant. Alone, this did not suffice. The project sought to reintegrate the victims into the economy through victims assistance activities. This activity will continue these efforts through:

- a. Creation of a medical facility that will:
- Provide access to treatment to minimise physical impairment resulting from injury.
 - Restore maximum physical functional ability for landmine survivors, including the provision of appropriate assistive devices.
 - Assist landmine survivors cope with psychosocial adjustment issues through the provision of access to psychologist, preferably specialised in Post-Traumatic Stress

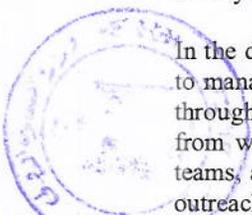


- b. Strengthening and empowering NGO and Mine Action Victims capacities to address issue of Mine Action through
- Income generation activities –
 1. The recruitment of a national short-term consultant to design an innovative income generation project that would integrate renewable energy with a local economic development activity and then the implementation of this integrated income generation project
 2. Being an arid zone causes problems of water scarcity to the community, thus affecting its food production capacity. In the first phase of the project, a watershed management project was implemented. This will be expanded and it will be enhanced through the introduction of rigorous strategies for following up on the application of new technologies launched with the purpose of increasing production. The concept of value chain support in partnership with the private sector will also be strengthened through first the design of private sector partnership strategy.
 - Awareness raising on the role, and its importance, played by NGOs in the field of Mine Action
 - Regular convening of meetings between NGOs and stakeholders
 - Implement a capacity development program enabling NGOs to manage revolving funds for micro loans.
 - Establish a network for NGOs targeting land mine victims to improve coordination, participation and national ownership in the implementation of development projects addressing mine action
 - Improve access to skills and training through the implementation of vocational program for survivors of mine incidents and their families. This will lead to increased equity in socio-economic opportunities and will serve as a launching pad for the beneficiaries to be able to access services external to the project.
- 3) Development and expansion of the Mine Risk Education Programme, and advocacy activities
- a. Conduct of a needs assessment for mine risk education, which will provide a baseline for MRE intervention design and subsequent Knowledge, Attitude and Practices (KAP) evaluations of MRE effectiveness.
 - b. Train opinion leaders on MRE
 - c. Advocacy initiatives are intended at creating greater public awareness on the landmine situation, mine action activities, direct and indirect impact of antipersonnel landmine contamination, create a general dialog about the indiscriminate effects of landmines and how the rest of the world tackles similar situations elsewhere. The main aim of advocacy is to create public awareness through all available mediums thereby preventing new casualties and reducing the causality rate, strengthening victim assistance services and sensitising all stakeholders on the issue, while supporting the call on the universal ban of antipersonnel landmines and joining the global mine ban community.

Gender Strategy

As has taken place during the design of this project, throughout its implementation, particular attention will be given to mainstreaming gender considerations into activities, referring to the Gender Guidelines for Mine Action Programmes, developed by the UNMAS. The Executive Secretariat will seek input from individuals representing all gender and age groups in Matrouh to obtain comprehensive and accurate information for surveying, mapping and prioritizing clearance. This can be done in several manners:

In the demining component of the project, which focuses on the national capacities of relevant stakeholders to manage Mine Action in Egypt as well as actual clearing of land from mines and UXOs, this can be done through gathering information at times and locations convenient for all individuals, gathering information from women and men about the location and impact of the threat, seeking to reach a balance in survey teams, and exploring how women can have access to and benefit from the use of released land, with female outreach being carried out by women.



In the design of Mine Risk Education activities, data and information that reveal the distinct at-risk behavior of women, girls, boys and men will be collected and analyzed, as well as that which reveals the distinct attitudes held by women, girls, boys and men with regard to mine/ERW risks and threats. Heavy consideration must be given to the availability of women and girls when planning the venue for and the timing and composition of MRE meetings. Through evaluations and other tools and mechanisms, verification that women and girls, fully understand the MRE messages presented must be conducted. As is to be done in the demining component, female outreach is to be done by women when possible.

Advocacy also plays a large role in the mainstreaming of gender considerations into this project and this will be done through employing appropriate means of communication to ensure that awareness raising efforts reach women, girls, boys and men, encourage all individuals in mine-affected and other areas to engage in advocacy to reduce the threat of mines/ERW and to promote respect for the rights of affected persons and ensuring gender balance is considered in all public outreach and public relations events.

With reference to Victims Assistance, Female and male survivors often face different economic, psychological and social repercussions within their communities. Male survivors who head households frequently experience the devastation of losing their status as the principal income generator. In Matrouh, a number of women are heads of household. The obstacles confronted by these women in obtaining employment are enormous and are compounded if a mine/ERW injury leaves them disabled. As was the focus in Phase I of the project, women shall continue to be the primary target in the design and implementation of victims' assistance activities, not only in their economic reintegration to society but also their access to medical care. A detailed gender analysis will be conducted shortly after the beginning of the project.

Output Number	Gender Marker
Output 1	1
Output 2	2
Output 3	2

In addition to this general support, the second phase of the project will undertake a series of enabling activities, which are set out in page 7.

