

Enhancing the IED threat mitigation capacity of Troop and Police Contributing Countries through systematic and comprehensive implementation of standards for the safe disposal of IEDs.

(a) Brief description of the project.

As the United Nations coordinator for mine action, UNMAS is increasingly called upon to assist peace operations and national authorities to mitigate the threat posed by IEDs. Based on its technical, operational and policy expertise, UNMAS is uniquely positioned to support the elaboration of necessary policies, standards and training benchmarks, as well as programmatic, operational and technical guidance.

In addition to the IEDD standards, UNMAS, together with OMA, has developed other strategic tools required to mitigate the threat posed by IEDs. These tools, such as OMA's IED Threat Mitigation Handbook and the EOD Unit Manual, specifically support DPKO's IED Survivability Project. However, in order to be effective, these tools will necessarily need to be sensitized among all stakeholders and comprehensively implemented at all levels. This project therefore focuses on comprehensively adopting and integrating the tools into UNMAS operations and training plans for TCCs in MINUSMA and AMISOM, and elsewhere as appropriate. Not only will this build the capacity of TCCs, it will also enhance the safety and security of peacekeepers by mitigating the threat from explosive hazards and facilitating mandate delivery and freedom of movement.

- Objective of the project:

Through this project, UNMAS, as the global coordinator for mine action and mitigation, seeks to enhance the improvised explosive device (IED) threat mitigation capacity of troop and police contributing countries (TCCs and PCCs) through a project which focuses on the systematic, comprehensive and coordinated implementation of the IED disposal (IEDD) standards. The standards were developed by the IED Disposal Standards working group, co-chaired by China and coordinated by UNMAS, and to ensure maximum effect of the IEDD standards, a coordinated approach to their implementation at the strategic, operational and tactical levels will be necessary.

- Why the project is necessary and how it relates to the Department's mandate and its high-level priorities?

As stated in Secretary-General of his Disarmament Agenda: "The United Nations entities, under the leadership of the United Nations Mine Action Service, in cooperation with the Office for Disarmament Affairs and other relevant United Nations entities, will promote a strengthened and coherent United Nations inter-agency coordination on improvised explosive devices to ensure a whole-of-system approach".

The project is a key component of a comprehensive approach to enhancing the safety and security of peacekeeping personnel, in line with the main findings and recommendations of the Cruz report on the necessity of improving IED threat mitigation capabilities of UN Missions.

- What is the expected impact of the project and what are their success factors?

1. Additional resources with which to respond to the threats posed by IEDs and addresses these threats in a comprehensive manner are available to UN Missions and interested Member States.
2. Improved integration of UN IED Disposal Standards into all UNMAS IED-related training initiatives for TCCs and PCCs is conducted at HQ and field level.
3. Improved IED threat mitigation capacity within the mission contributes to increased survivability and enhanced mission mobility.

(b) Expected Outcomes, Outputs and Proposed Activities

Outcomes	Outputs	Proposed Activities
Integrated IEDD tools into UNMAS operations and training plans and thereby building the IEDD capacity of T/PCCs. It will enhance the safety and security of peacekeepers by mitigating the threat from explosive hazards and facilitating mandate delivery and freedom of movement.	Comprehensive standard training courses for each level of operator competency identified in the UN IEDD Standards A repository of standard training courses for the development of IED disposal capabilities is maintained.	Conduct comprehensive review of the existing IED disposal training courses provided by UNMAS based on an evaluation of the requirements set forth in the UN IEDD Standards. Recruit a consultant to draft training course syllabi for standardized training courses to be published in accordance with ITS and UN policy.

(c) Implementation Timeline

	Year one			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Outcome 1			X	X

(d) How does this project relate to internal (DPKO and DFS) and external United Nations partners?

As part of its responsibility as system-wide coordinator on mine action, UNMAS has been liaising closely with numerous partners to ensure coherence in the UN's IED threat mitigation strategy. These partnerships include close coordination with the Office of Military Affairs (OMA) within the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) to ensure that all policy developed on IEDs is coordinated, mutually reinforcing and complementary in nature. The proposed project fosters a continuation of this close cooperation. In addition to bilateral engagement with relevant TCCs, UNMAS will utilize its strong relationships with NATO and the African Union to engage on training integration and policy coherence on IED threat mitigation in line with the objectives of the United Nations. Additional Member States may be interested in contributing to this project.

(e) How gender aspects been included in the design and implementation of the project?

As a fundamental human right, gender equality is a necessary foundation for a peaceful, prosperous and sustainable world. This proposal takes into account providing women with equal access to IEDDS education and a supports a balanced gender representation in the working and decision-making IEDD programs.

(f) Brief explanation of any risks that the implementation of the project may face and how to mitigate them.

There is a risk that bilateral Member State training efforts to generate TCC capacity for IEDD will be duplicative or contradictory without a single UN repository of course material. A common training curricula, housed at the UN would allow Member States to voluntarily utilize a common training approach to synchronize training content in IEDD.

(g) Proposed Budget

Item	Brief Description	Total Amount
Staff and Other Personnel Costs:	Are required for international consultants to perform the tasks of IED threat mitigation advisory, development of training courses, in support of all activities.	\$ 162,500
Consultant Travel	Approximately four travels to relevant missions (e.g. MINUSMA, UNSOS) for above mentioned consultant in support of activities	\$ 20,000
PSC (13%)		\$ 23,725
Total:		\$ 206,225