



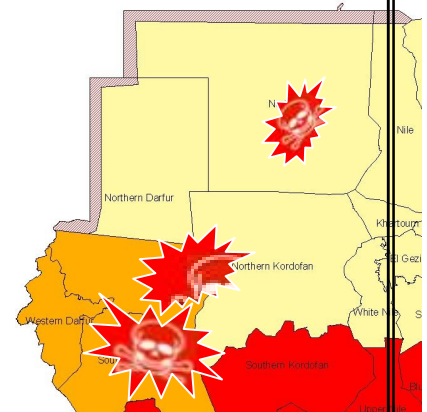
**Republic
of the Sudan**

**National
Mine Action
Authority
(N.M.A.A)**

The Sudan National Mine Action Strategic Framework

June 2006

Contamination after second civil war



Sudan National Mine Action Strategic Framework: 2006-211

Vision:	The vision of for Mine Action in the Sudan is “Sudan free from the threat of landmines and explosive remnants of war (ERW), where individuals and communities live in a safe environment conducive to recovery and development and where the needs of landmine and ERW victims are met and they are fully integrated into their societies.
Mission:	To develop and implement a sustainable national mine action programme able to plan, coordinate, implement and monitor all aspects of Mine Action in the Sudan and mobilize the required resources to make Sudan free from the threat of landmines/ERW Plus mine risk education, threat prevention and threat elimination.
Strategic Goals	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue to undertake emergency mine/ERW clearance and survey operations in high priority areas jointly determined by the national authorities and the UN 2. Continue to provide Mine Risk education to communities at risk on priority basis 3. Identify, register and prepare maps for areas suspected with landmines in order to determine the effect of landmines / ERW on communities affected by landmines, through the survey of the effects of landmines. 4. Strengthen and expand the existing national capacities to ensure physical, psycho-social and economic rehabilitation and reintegration of mine/ERW victims and survivors. 5. Strengthen and expand the existing national mine action institutional framework to be able to plan, implement, coordinate and monitor all aspects of mine action 6. Develop and implement a transitional plan to facilitate the transition of mine action management from the UN to the national mine action authorities 7. Strengthen and expand the existing national operations capacities in mine action surveys, mine/ERW clearance, MRE and victim assistance 8. Mainstream mine action into national recovery and development plans 9. Development and implement short, medium and long term national mine action plans and national budget 10. Mobilise the necessary funds from the national and international sources to achieve the mine action strategic goals 11. Ensure that the Sudan honours its obligations under the Mine Ban Convention and other relevant treaties

AIM OF THIS DOCUMENT:

1. The aim of this document titled “Mine Action Strategic Framework: 2006-2011” is to provide operating guidelines and to streamline the efforts of all the mine action operators in the Sudan for achieving the corporate goals of mine action contained in this document including demining, MRE, victims assistance, anti personal mines stockpile destruction, advocacy and capacity building. This document has to be read in conjunction with the “Sudan Mine Action Policy Framework-May 2006”.

BACKGROUND:

2. This document is prepared in light of the provisions of the Mine Ban Convention, the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, the Presidential Decree on the Establishment of the National Mine Action Authority (NMAA), and the UN Mine Action Strategy for 2006-2010.

3. As a result of more than two decades of conflict between the Government of Sudan (GoS) and the Sudan People’s Liberation Army/Movement (SPLA/M), the majority of Sudan’s 25 states have been affected by war of some kind including the use of landmines. However, the extent of the landmine/ Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) contamination problem in Sudan largely remains unknown as no comprehensive national assessment has been undertaken so far.

4. Landmines and ERW contaminated areas include agriculture land, livestock grazing land, areas utilized for collecting firewood and producing charcoal, access routes and connection roads. Landmines and ERW contamination threaten civilians and impede economic recovery and development and recovery. In addition, the landmine/ERW contamination prevents and delays IDPs and refugee populations from returning to their hometowns, and as a result, constrain re-construction and development efforts in mine/ERW and war-affected areas.

5. Realising the serious impact of the landmines/ERW contamination, the Government of Sudan (GOS) and the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement (SPLM) started to cooperate in the area of mine action, as early as 2001, after the signing of the Nuba Mountains Ceasefire Agreement. This initiative established a unique precedent for cooperation and peace-building even during ongoing conflict.

6. As a practical step in addressing the landmine/ERW issue, a tri-partite Memorandum of Understanding was signed among the GoS, the SPLM and the United Nations on 19 September 2002, which provided the framework for mine action activities to be undertaken throughout Sudan. Based on the MOU, UNMAS commenced mine action operations in priority areas in 2003 and continued to focus on the verification/clearance of supply routes/roads and high priority areas.

7. After the CPA was signed in Jan 2005, UNMIS also got involved in mine action in support of the deployment of the UN Peace Support Mission and other humanitarian priorities. Other key UN players in mine action in the Sudan include UNDP, UNHCR, WFP and UNICEF. All the UN mine action activities are managed by the Deputy Representative of the Secretary General of the United Nations (DRSG). In addition, several national and international NGOs/firms are also engaged in undertaking various mine action activities.

8. With support from the UN and national and international NGOs, of the 1,000 suspected mined areas identified so far, 270 have already been verified to be safe or cleared. More than 3,200 Kilometres of key supply and access roads and routes have been verified as safe; 617 Kilometres of roads have been cleared; and more than 571,000 Sudanese citizens have received mine-risk education. Consequently, landmine/ERW casualty rate has dropped by 50% since 2002.

9. The Republic of the Sudan signed the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction” on 4 December 1997, and following its ratification on 23 October 2003, the Convention entered into force for the Sudan on 1 April 2004 and the SPLM reaffirmed its commitment to the Deed of Commitment of the Geneva call in August 2003.

10. Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) was signed on 09 Jan 2005 which stipulates the role of the UN and parties to the CPA in the field of mine action, explained in the “Sudan Mine Action Policy Framework”. Based on the provisions of the CPA, Government of National Unity (GoNU) and Government of Southern Sudan (GOSS) were formed in September 2005.

11. National Mine Action Authority (NMAA) was established on 24 Dec. 2005 through Presidential Decree No. 299 and officially launched on 07 March 2006.

STRATEGIC ASSUMPTIONS

12. The provisions of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) signed on 09 Jan 2005 will continue to be implemented by the parties.

13. The security situation improves at all mine/ ERW affected areas and they are well accessible.

14. There is no more laying of landmines by any party in the Sudan in any part of the Sudan

15. Necessary resources are mobilized from national and international sources to achieve the goals of the strategic framework.

16. BREAKDOWN OF THE STRATEGIC GOALS:

(1) Continue to undertake mine/ERW clearance and survey operations in high priority areas jointly determined by national authorities and the UN

- a. Complete emergency route survey and route verification/clearance of all secondary suspected/mined roads within Sudan by 2008 to facilitate free and safe movement of the UN Peace Support Mission personnel, returnees, reconstruction and development projects.
- b. Utilizing the currently available resources of manual clearance, mechanical and Battle Area Clearance, continue to clear high priority suspected/mined areas with an annual rate of about 3.5 Million sqm to release land and facilities for productive use.
- c. Conduct Technical Survey of all high priority reported dangerous areas in order to clearly define the boundaries of minefields and to reduce the suspected areas by about 40% by the end of 2008.

(2) Continue to provide Mine Risk education to communities at risk on priority basis:

- a. Utilizing the available MRE resources, continue to provide mine risk education to communities at risk.
- b. Formulate and implement a mine risk education strategy in support of the national strategic framework and as part of the national mine action strategic plan for mine action.
- c. Ensure that MRE is integrated into the education and health systems (schools, hospitals and health facilities) within all mine affected states by December 2010.
- d. Ensure that there is a greater integration of mine risk education and community liaison activities into other mine action operations/activities.

(3) Identify and prioritise communities suffering socio-economic impact and restriction of movement due to landmine/ERW contamination

- a. Complete phase one of the Landmine Impact Survey (LIS) by March 2007 in the two states as planned.
- b. Plan and execute LIS for the whole of the Sudan by December 2008 to determine the socio-economic impact of landmine/ERW contamination at national level and to provide reliable base line data for long term national mine action planning, prioritization and resource allocation.

(4) Strengthen and expand the existing national capacities to ensure physical, psycho-social and economic rehabilitation and reintegration of mine/ERW victims and survivors:

- a. With support of UNICEF, the NMACs (with National Authority on Prosthetics and Orthotics-NAPO as the focal point) shall establish and maintain a comprehensive nation-wide surveillance system for landmine/ERW victims by April 2007 to establish base line data and measure the progress in reducing casualty rates and to identify survivors.
- b. The NMACs shall establish an effective national coordination mechanism for victim assistance by involving all victims assistance institutions by January 2007.
- c. The NMACs, victim assistance organisations and donors, shall establish, populate and maintain a comprehensive mine/ERW victim database by June 2007.
- d. The NMACs shall enhance the integration of landmine/ERW victim assistance programme into the national health and social welfare system.
- e. With support of UNMAO, victim assistance organisations and donors, the NMAA shall complete a needs assessment for the physical, social and economic rehabilitation and reintegration of mine/ERW victims by June 2007.
- f. With the assistance of the UNMAO, victim assistance organizations, the NMAA shall formulate and endorse a national victim assistance strategy in support of the National Mine Action Strategic Framework by December 2006.
- g. All mine action stakeholders shall advocate continuously for honouring the rights of landmine/ERW victims within the broader framework of the people with disabilities.
- h. The NAPO with support of all other institutions, shall seek ways of providing vocational training to landmine/WER victims and assist them to find appropriate jobs.

(5) Strengthen and expand the existing national mine action institutional framework to be able to plan, implement, coordinate and monitor all aspects of mine action:

- a. With support of UNDP, the NMAOs shall recruit additional staff for the proposed key positions within the two mine action centres in Khartoum and Juba, including Operations, Quality Assurance, Information Management, MRE/Victim Assistance and Programme by December 2006.
- b. With support of UNDP, the NMAOs, shall establish (fully equipped, staffed and operational) six field level offices of the national authorities in the high priority locations including Yei, Wau, Malakal, Kadugly, Damazine, and Kassala, by March 2007.
- c. With support of concerned staff of NMAOs, co-locate the staff of the national authorities with the staff of UNMAO, where possible and appropriate, for training and learning purpose.
- d. With support of UNDP, identify training needs of the national staff of NMAOs in various fields, and conduct the necessary training inside and outside the country by April 2007.
- e. With the support of UNDP, the NMAOs, shall gradually expand their structures in Khartoum and Juba and field level based on requirements and subject to availability of resources.
- f. The NMAA , shall establish an effective national mine action coordination mechanism by:
 - Educating concerned staff of all relevant ministries within the GONU and GOSS and concerned authorities at state level and getting them involved in the planning, prioritization and coordination of mine action operations.
 - Holding monthly coordination meetings among the concerned staff of the NMAOs in Khartoum and Juba, with involvement and support of the concerned staff of UNMAO.
 - Developing a reporting and feedback mechanism for the all mine action operators in the country.
 - Encouraging all mine action players to participate and provide inputs to the Sudan Portfolio of Mine Action Projects and the UN Work Plan for Sudan.
 - Co-locating the NMAOs with the offices of UNMAO in Juba, Khartoum and all field level.

- g. With assistance from UNMAO, the NMAOs shall establish and maintain an effective decentralised mine action information management system, starting with the following milestones:
- NMAOs to recruit the necessary staff for the Information Management Section in Khartoum, Juba by September 2006.
 - With support of UNMAO, train the information management staff of NMAOs inside and outside the county by March 2007.
 - With support of Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), the NMAOs shall obtain license from the concerned US authorities for Geographical Information System (GIS) component of the Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) by September 2006
 - With support of UNDP, the NMAOs shall obtain Information Technology equipment required for the Information Sections by December 2006.
- h. The UNMAO, shall actively engage concerned staff of the national authorities in the planning, prioritization, implementation, information management and monitoring aspects of mine action by mid 2007 as part of the enhancement of the Sudanese ownership and leadership.
- i. With the assistance of UNMAO, the NMAOs shall reconfirm or revise, if necessary, National Technical Standards and Guidelines by December 2006.
- j. With the assistance of UNMAO, the NAMOs shall accredit all mine action organizations by December 2006 and conduct quality assurance visits to all mine action operations to ensure adherence to NTSG and IMAS .

(6) Develop and implement a transitional plan to facilitate the transition of mine action management from the UN to national authorities:

- a. The UNMAO and the NMAA shall jointly develop and endorse a transitional plan with clear milestones by December 2006 based on which the NMAA shall gradually assume more and more responsibilities for all aspects of mine action in the Sudan.
- b. The UNMAO and NMAA shall jointly implement the endorsed transitional plan to transition all mine action responsibilities and programme components (planning, prioritization, coordination, accreditation, implementation, QA/monitoring, MRE, victim assistance etc.) from the UNMAO to the NMAA .

(7) Strengthen and expand the existing national operations capacities in mine action surveys, mine/ERW clearance, MRE and victim assistance

- a. With support of UNDP, the NMACs shall recruit, train and equip about 160 military personnel in mine/ERW clearance, Battle Area Clearance (BAC) and Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) by December 2006.
- b. With support of UNDP and UNMAO, the NMACs shall deploy these assets to field operations by April 2007, to undertake mine/ERW clearance operations in support of the government priorities for reconstruction and development, particularly in transitional areas.
- c. With support of UNDP, the NMACs shall select appropriate number of candidates and train them as trainers, quality assurance monitors and surveyors by June 2007.
- d. The UNMAO and NMAA shall support the civil society organizations to expand their MRE and victims assistance, mine/ERW clearance activities.
- e. The NMACs, shall gradually expand the operations capacities based on requirement and subject to the availability of funds.

(8) Establish committees from senior staff of relevant ministries to perform the process of coordination and planning to integrate mine action plans in development plans.

With assistance from UNMAO, with UNDP as the focal point, the NMAA shall:

- Establish inter-ministerial regulatory and oversight bodies comprised of senior representatives of relevant ministries charged with management and delivery of mine action programmes.
- Establish formal and informal coordination bodies at state and district level including representatives from government institutions, mine/ERW affected communities and civil society organizations involved in mine action, reconstruction and development projects
- Allocate to the greatest extent possible, domestic human, financial and technical resources to support all elements of mine action.
- Shall devise and implement a campaign to educate all relevant government bodies on the landmine/ERW contamination situation in the country and work with them to consider and include mine action in recovery, movement/resettlement of returnees, reconstruction and development plans.
- Shall educate concerned government institutions to include the costs of mine/ERW clearance into budgets of recovery, reconstruction and development projects.

(9) Development and implement short, medium and long term national mine action plans

- a. All the UN agencies within the framework of the UNMAO, the NMACs, and all other mine action operators shall develop and implement annual work plans (with all necessary details) in support of achieving the goals of the national mine action strategic framework by November of each year for the subsequent calendar year.
- b. All the annual work-plans have to be properly coordinated with and endorsed by the NMACs for implementation.

(10) Mobilise the necessary funds from the national and international sources to achieve the mine action strategic goals:

- a. With support from UNMAO, the NMACs shall develop a resource mobilization strategy to ensure that necessary funds are mobilized for achieving the goals of the National Mine Strategic Framework. ,
- b. The NMACs shall ensure that mine action continues to be in the national budget and shall seek increase in the allocation of national resources where possible.
- c. All mine action operators in the Sudan shall provide inputs to the Mine Action Portfolio, UN Work Plan and other resource mobilisation mechanisms when required.
- d. All mine action operators in the Sudan shall provide estimates of their annual budgets and estimated resources by November of each year for the following calendar year.
- e. All mine action stakeholders shall continue to promote awareness at national and international level about the Sudan mine/ERW problem to assist in the resource mobilization process.

(11) Ensure that the Sudan honours its obligations under the Mine Ban Convention and other relevant treaties:

- a. The Government of National Unity Government shall formulate, approve and implement domestic mine action legislation by June 2007 to enforce the implementation of the Mine Ban Convention, in compliance of its Article 9.
- b. The Sudan Campaign to Ban Landmines shall continue to work with local, regional and national authorities and the Sudanese civil society in general to promote understanding of, and adherence to the obligations of the Mine Ban Convention treaty.

- c. The NMACs and UNMAO, shall assist the Government of National Unity to prepare and submit the necessary reports on time to the UN Secretary General as required by the Article 7 of the Mine Ban Convention.
- d. With support of the NMAO and the NMACs, the GONU shall develop a plan for the destruction of the stockpiled Anti Personnel Mines (APMs) by March 2007 and destroy all the stockpiled APMs by June 2007.
- e. The Government of National Unity shall demonstrate more concrete support to mine action by fully implementing Articles 4, 5 and 9 of the Mine Ban Convention and providing more material support to the mine action programme from the national resources.

KEY MINE ACTION PRIORITIES:

(12) Following are the key priorities for mine action:

- a. All mine action efforts shall focus on the reduction of injuries and deaths caused by mine/ERW incidents.
- b. Clear/verify key access/supply routes/roads to facilitate the deployment of the UN peace support personnel, movement of returnees, and reconstruction and development of the routes/roads.
- c. Release land and facilities required for resettlement of returnees, reconstruction and development projects.
- d. Provide MRE to communities at risk including returnees,,,,,
- e. Provide capacity development support to enable national mine action institutions to plan, manage, coordinate and implement necessary response to the landmine/ERW problem
- f. Determine the actual magnitude and impact of the mines and ERW contamination by undertaking a country wide Landmine impact survey (LIS)
- g. Educate and support national institutions to honour the obligations of the Mine Ban Convention and other relevant treaties.
- h. Promote the rights of the landmine/ERW victims within the broader framework of the people with disabilities
- i. Support/advise all the concerned institutions to link mine action to other peace building activities such as DDR, IDP and refugee return/settlement and humanitarian relief.
- j. The geographical priorities for mine action activities, in order of importance, are Equatoria, South Kordofan, Upper Nile, Kassala, Bhar El Ghazal, Blue Nile, Abiyei and Red Sea..

RISKS AND CONSTRAINTS:

17. There are high risks to the achievement of the goals of this Strategic Framework.

18. Any increase in the level of armed conflict in part of the country and insecurity in mine affected states/regions can limit access to mine affected communities or restrict mine action operations.

19. Failure to comply with the obligations and commitments of the Mine Ban Conventions, CPA could pose threats to the implementation of this Strategic Framework.

20. Insufficient funds support or lack of willingness on the part of the mine action stakeholders to work together are also potential obstacles in the accomplishment of the goals of this Strategic Framework.

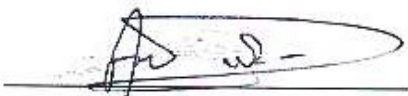

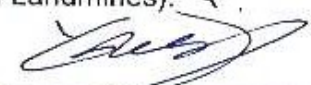
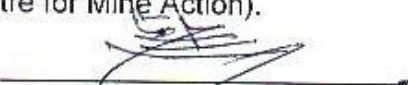

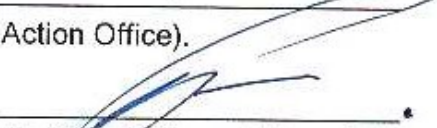
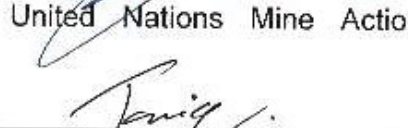
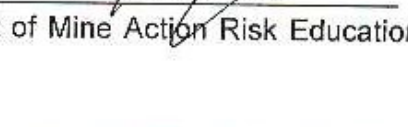
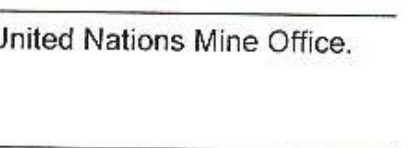
21. Failure to achieve the objective of the development of the national mine action capacity, which is mainly dependent on the national authorities, can seriously affect or delay the implementation of this Strategic Framework.

ENDORSEMENT AND EFFECTIVE DATE:

22. This document titled “The Sudan National Mine Action Strategic Framework” updates and supersedes all previous documents in this regard.

23. This document has been prepared by a joint action team from the government of the Sudan and the United Nations Mission in the Sudan (UNMIS).

The team is composed of:

- a) Sayed Awad Elbashir (General Manager for the National Centre for Mine Action)

- b) Sayed Bab Allah Bireima Bab Allah (Deputy - Director General for the National Centre for Mine Action)

- c) Sayed Yousif Mohamed Osman (Director of the Directorate of Mine Action victim Assistance in the National Centre of Landmines).

- d) Sayed Hamdan Wadi (director of the Directorate of Coordination and resources Mobilization in the National Centre for Mine Action).

- e) Sayed Abdel Ati Abdel Khair (Chairman of the Sudanese Campaign for Mine Action)

- f) Mr. Jim Pansigrouw (Manager of UN Mine Action Office).

- g) Mr. Qadeem Tariq (Chief expert in United Nations Mine Action Programme)

- h) Mr. Sharief Balsair: Official of Department of Mine Action Risk Education (UNCIEF).

- i) Mr. Paul Hilsabe (Deputy Manager of the United Nations Mine Office).


24. This Strategy has been endorsed by the higher Committee of National Mine Action Authority – Sudan, in its meeting No (2) on 18/7/ 2006.

25. This Strategic has been discussed and approved by the Services sector in its un.normal Session No (7) on 24/7/2006 .

26. This Strategy had been approved by Federal Council of Ministers during Session No () on ----/----/2006.