



UNMAS

Occupied Palestinian Territory

June Newsletter: Contextual Mine Action Response



In Focus:

In the past two years, the explosive threat in the occupied West Bank has become more widespread and diverse, including in densely populated areas, as fighting between Palestinian groups and Israeli Force operations have expanded. The escalation between Israel and Iran on 13 June led to further reports of explosive threats in the West Bank. The Palestinian Authority (PA) Explosive Ordnance Disposal Police reportedly handled over 220 explosive remnants in the first half of 2025, including 113 missile remnants. The risk of civilians finding dangerous items increased, and the need for people to understand how to respond safely to these threats rapidly become acute.

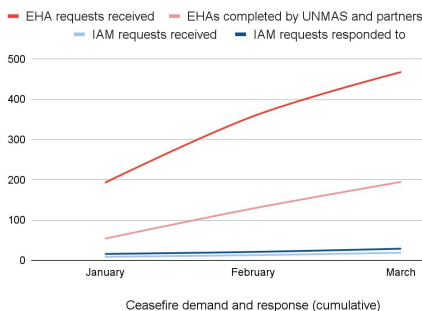
In response, UNMAS conducted an online session on 17 June to share lifesaving Explosive Ordnance Risk Education and Conflict Preparedness and Protection information with **97 humanitarian personnel** and disseminated a package of educational materials. This enabled partners to educate their own beneficiaries about responding to explosive threats, **reaching an unquantifiable number of civilians in the West Bank**.

As sustainability and localization are key to maximum impact, UNMAS efforts in the West Bank are undertaken in close collaboration with the PA. UNMAS supports the PA Mine Action Centre and PA Explosive Ordnance Disposal Police, including through training, quality assessments and support on coordination and information management, working to ensure that all West Bank humanitarian mine action efforts are PA-led.

Ongoing Explosive Ordnance Response:

In Gaza, aid delivery continued to be impacted by Israeli Forces denials and restrictions, and looting by desperate civilians. Particularly people in harder-to-reach areas, such as in North Gaza, often did not receive any aid.

On 10 June, the World Food Programme (WFP) cleared rubble from a road to open humanitarian access through a crossing in the north. Rubble removal took place with UNMAS assessments and constant oversight to ensure no EO threats impacted the mission. The next day, **59 aid trucks entered North Gaza** through this route, reaching these populations for the first time since the start of Israel's aid blockade on 2 March. WFP has since carried out numerous deliveries to the north, providing lifesaving food aid that would not otherwise have reached these populations. This is an example of humanitarian mine action as a critical enabler for humanitarian delivery.



While responding to the current situation, UNMAS is preparing for a huge surge in demand in the event of a ceasefire in Gaza. As this graph shows, current capacity is insufficient for the sector to meet humanitarian mine action needs in ceasefire times. **UNMAS** appeals to donors to continue supporting our work in the OPT and welcomes invitations to provide further information about our requirements.



For more information:

Chief Mine Action
Programme Mr. Luke Irving
luke.irving@un.org



Website



YouTube



X (Twitter)



Facebook



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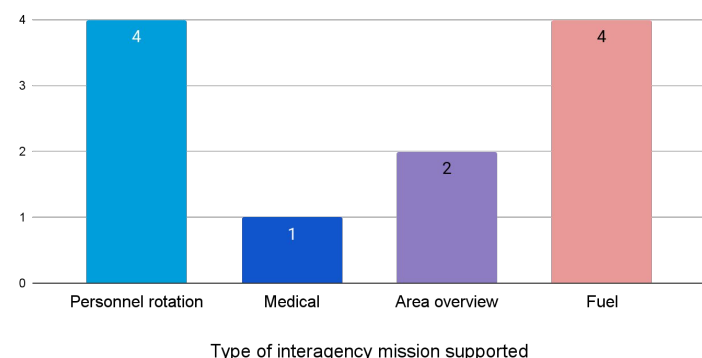
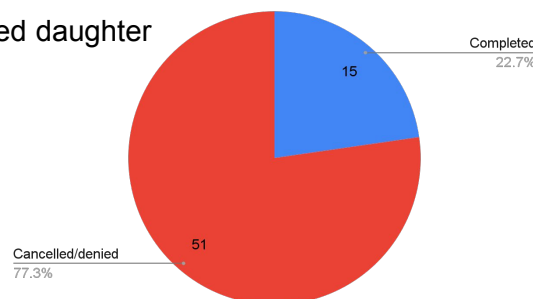


With active conflict continuing to claim lives, displace civilians and hinder humanitarian delivery, UNMAS support was requested for urgent missions. For instance, working with OCHA on 17 June, UNMAS facilitated the rescue of two people trapped under rubble in Jabalia. The seriously ill elderly man and his injured daughter were taken to hospital to receive care.

Fuel Trucks Throughout June, UNMAS supported the retrieval of **750,000l of fuel** from reserves in Rafah to enable hospitals, WASH facilities and other key infrastructure to continue running. By the end of the month, these reserves had run dry. The UN continues to advocate for Israeli Forces to allow more fuel to enter the Strip.



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UNMAS was able to respond to **14 interagency mission (IAM) requests**, supporting **35 daily missions** including **24 days** in Gaza city as part of the Mission Support Team providing on-call support to humanitarian agencies. UNMAS conducted one explosive hazard assessment (EHA), confirming low EO threat at a Medecins du Monde office and allowing 18 personnel to work from the site again.

A majority of mission requests were denied by Israeli Forces, significantly hindering humanitarian response.

Explosive Ordnance Risk Education

UNMAS provided risk education sessions to **166 humanitarians**, enabling them to navigate explosive threats in the OPT.



Reported Confirmed EOs

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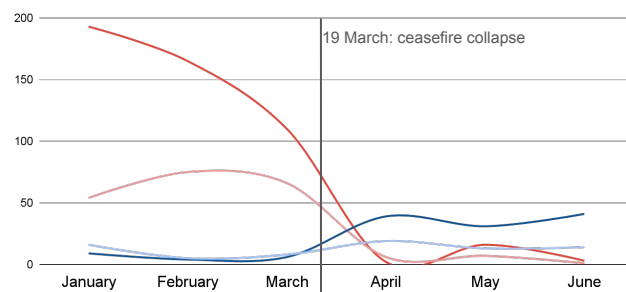
	Conflict-related casualties reported in June (WHO)	EO victims reported in June*
Killed	2,082	2
Injured	9,229	4
Total	11,311	6

Despite halting in-person risk education activities in Gaza, UNMAS continues to support the sector to reach civilians through coordination and information management. The sector reached **34,381 community members in Gaza** through **2,179 sessions**, spreading lifesaving awareness messages.

UNMAS identified no explosive ordnance (EO) in June. This means that any suspicious items found during EHAs and IAMs were identified by UNMAS Officers as non-dangerous, giving humanitarian partners the green light to more safely use sites and routes to provide critical humanitarian response to civilians.

Response in 2025 to date

Requests remain lower than during the January-March ceasefire, yet UNMAS expertise is still requested daily for lifesaving missions and humanitarian activities. Although UNMAS responds to all requests received, frequent denials continue to prevent missions from going ahead.

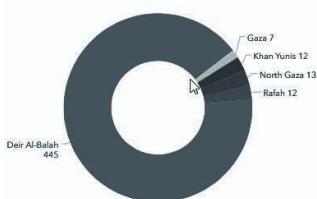


Threat since 7 Oct 2023

Reported Confirmed EOs

489

of EO per Governorates



EO victims reported since Oct 2023*

Killed	37
Injured	205
Total	242

*These are only incidents that have been reported to UNMAS; these figures are likely much higher.