

# Somalia: IED Threat Mitigation

16 DECEMBER 2021

# UNMAS Somalia Mandated Support

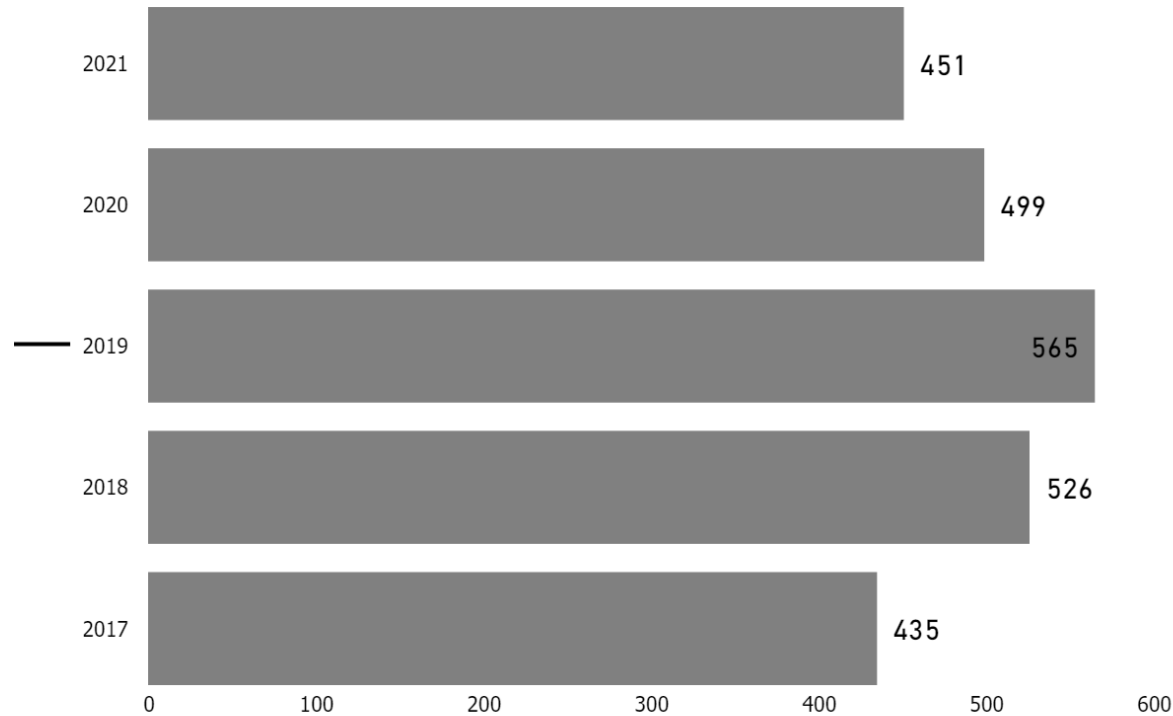
1. “Explosive threat mitigation” support to AU Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), through UNSOS logistical support:
  - Five AU Troop Contributing Countries (TCCs)
    - 40 IED Disposal teams
    - 65 IED Route Search teams
2. “Training, equipment... and mentoring of the SSF to counter the threat of improvised explosive devices,” through UNSOS logistical support:
  1. Somalia National Army (SNA) IED Disposal teams (21 teams)
  2. Somalia Police Force (SPF) EOD and IED Disposal teams (18 teams)

# IED Incident Trends and Casualty Impact 01 Jan 2017 - 03 Dec 2021

## Incident Trends

Since 2019 a decline in incidents has been recorded with a drop of 12% noted in 2020.

A continuation in the drop of incident numbers - based on current monthly trends - is also likely to be noted in 2021. However this drop in incidents should not be considered to be a result of any degrading of the AS IED network.



## Casualty Impact

Highest casualty numbers by group are typically sustained by civilians.

While 2020 noted that SNA sustained the highest casualty numbers, so far in 2021 civilians have once again become the highest impacted group.

The drop in the impact of 'VBIEDs' and 'Complex Attack - VBIED' is noted when 2020 is compared to 2019. However, casualties in 2021 have noted an increase even though incident numbers are at present lower than 2020

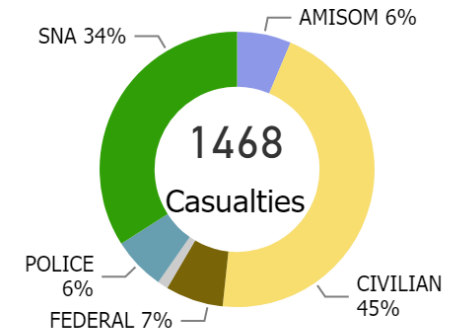
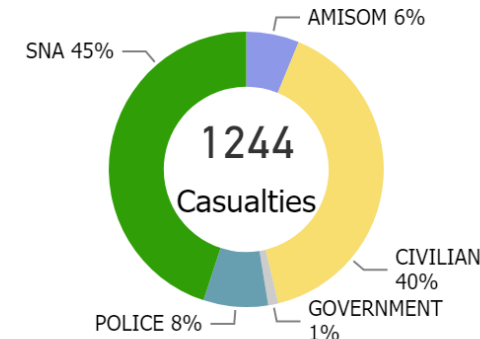
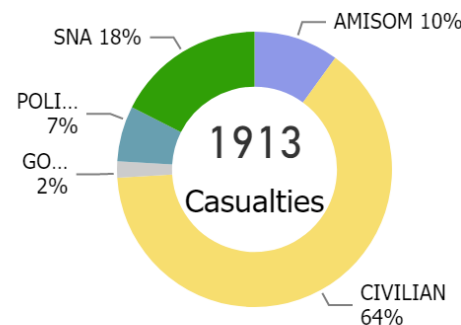
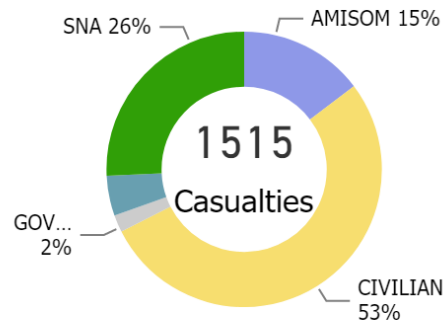
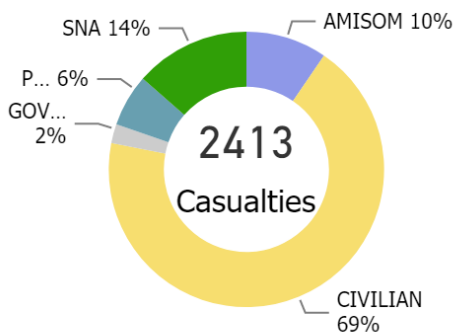
2017

2018

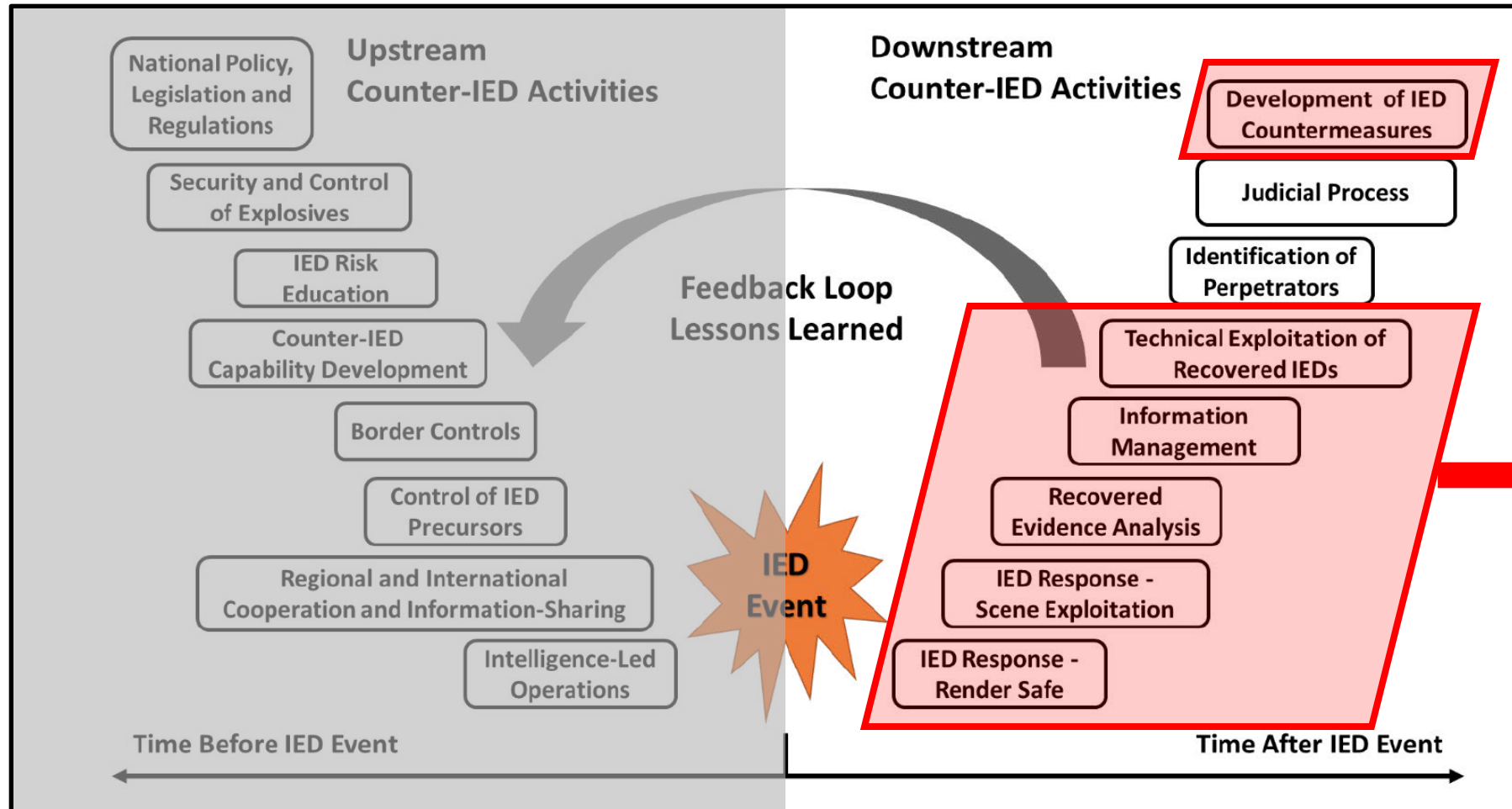
2019

2020

2021

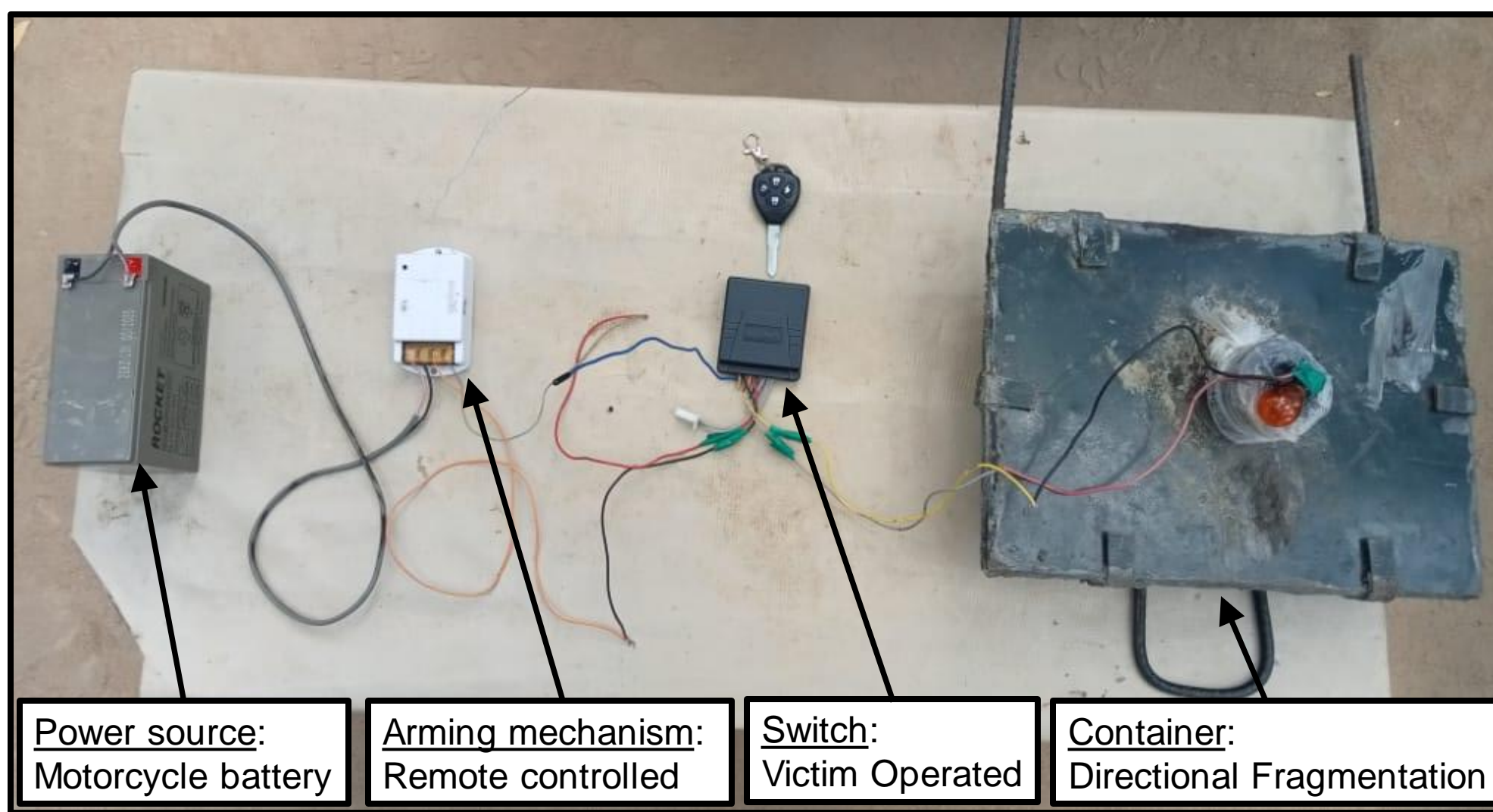


# Response: Understanding the IED threat in a conflict environment



These are the building blocks of understanding the IED threat. Once this technical information is robust, specific training and equipment should be adjusted based on the threat. This information is equally as relevant for IED prevention or 'Upstream' activities to be more effective.

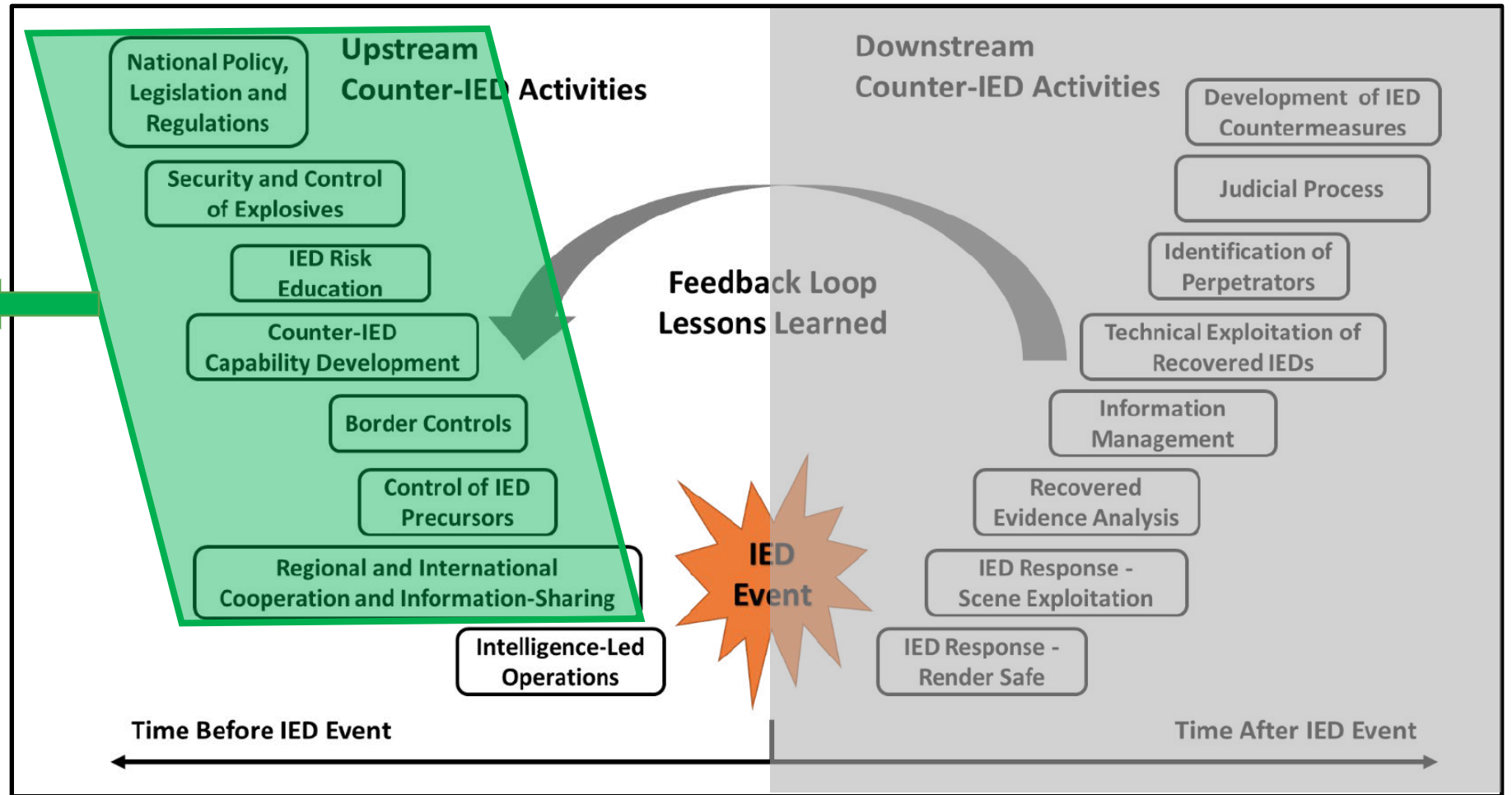
# Example: Why is technical and tactical analysis important?



1. The IED threat is dynamic.
2. Conflict environments require a continuous cycle of analysis and lessons learned to adapt to the ever-changing IED threat.
3. Training implications
4. Equipment implications

# Prevention: Understanding the IED threat in a conflict environment

In most cases, UNMAS is in a technical support or advisory role with IED prevention activities. Work in these areas requires broad collaboration with a range of stakeholders in Somalia and the region.



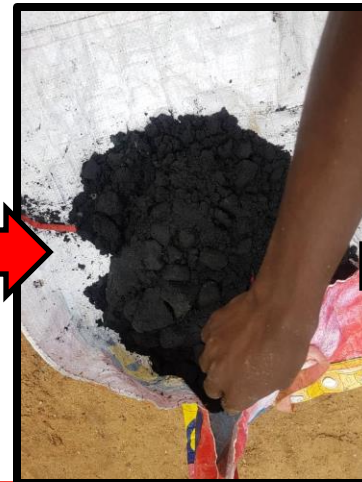
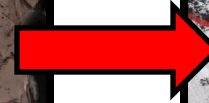
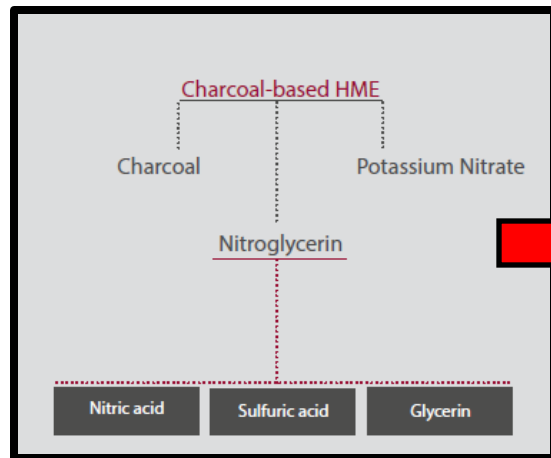


# Why is technical and tactical analysis important?

Prior to 2017: Main Explosive Charge Harvested from ERW



Since 2017: Main Explosive Charge transitioned to HME



# Examples of Prevention Activities in Somalia

## ✓ National Policy, Legislation, and Regulations

- Draft Explosives Act for FGS – to control explosives and explosive precursors

## ✓ Security and Control of Explosives

- WAM support to FGS to prevent diversion of explosives
- Mine / ERW clearance

## ✓ IED Risk Education

- IED Awareness training to security forces

## ✓ C-IED Capability Development

- Technical solutions to IED switch that was initiated by standard metal detectors

## ✓ Border Controls

- UNODC collaboration with IED components handbook for maritime interdiction operations

## ✓ Control of IED Precursors

- Arms Embargo – IED Components Ban
- IED Components database

## ✓ Regional and International Cooperation and Information Sharing

- IGAD technical support with regional C-IED strategy
- AU information sharing on IED threat in Somalia
- CAS C-IED Working Group





**UNMAS**

**Thank You**