



December 2015 News

UNMAS Supports Somali Police Force

Since 2010, the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) has supported the Somali Police Force (SPF) to develop a capacity to effectively manage explosive hazards, by providing training, mentoring, specialized equipment and operational financial support. Activities fall within the framework of the New Deal Compact, Peacebuilding and State Building Goal two (PSG) – security.

A key priority of UNMAS has been to help the SPF to establish skilled and effective explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) units in Mogadishu, Baidoa and Beletweyne. During 2015, UNMAS was able to:

- Advance SPF capability to dispose of bombs and improvised explosive devices (IEDs) in Mogadishu, and enhanced awareness of IEDs;

- Develop self-sustaining police EOD training capacities through training of trainer (ToT) and refresher training packages; and

- Support the Government to mark and register weapons and ammunition, complimenting wider efforts by UNSOM/UNMAS to assist the Federal Government with weapons and ammunition management (WAM) and the establishment of a comprehensive system in line with obligations under UN sanctions.

Today, the SPF can independently plan and execute EOD operations and the SPF bomb squad has become recognised by the State as one of the most effective and useful components of the Somali Security Sector. This capacity has cleared a total of 3,590 explosive hazards and responded to 97 IED call outs, mitigating the threat to those living and working in Somalia's major cities.

UNMAS is grateful to the voluntary contributions of Japan, Italy, Canada and the United Kingdom that supported the implementation of this project in Somalia. For more information, please contact Donor Relations Officer Kurt Chesko at chesko@un.org.



SPF EOD refresher training in Beletweyne/United Nations Mine Action Service

www.mineaction.org/news