



Highlights

All recovered explosive ordnance was successfully destroyed by UNMAS.

UNMAS continued the destruction of all confiscated weapons and ammunition, in line with the mandate of an Abyei free from weapons.

UNMAS collaborated with UNHCR and provided explosive ordnance risk education to refugees fleeing the conflict in Sudan.

National Community Liaison Officers are actively communicating within their communities, providing safety messages and collecting information on any explosive hazards found.



Ground Monitoring Mission at Tishwin



Safety briefing in Diffra



Ground preparation in Koladet

Stats **APRIL 2025**

106 Newly arrived uniformed and civilian members of UNISFA received safety induction briefing

82,505 Square meters of land made safe from explosive hazards

15 Ground monitoring missions supported by UNMAS ensured full implementation of the JBVMM mandate

40 Explosive ordnance risk education sessions provided among the Abyei area community members

*** HIGHLIGHTS ***

“SAFE FUTURES START HERE”

UNMAS UNISFA INITIATED A COMMUNITY ART IN ABYEI

On 4 April 2025, the International Day for Mine Awareness was celebrated through revealing of seven breathtaking murals, each a testament to a shared commitment to safety. These were not mere decorations; they were powerful visual declarations of partnership, echoing the community's deepest yearning for a land free from fear.



Ms. Antonette Miday, Chief of Strategic Communication and Public Information/Spokesperson, UNISFA says: **“I am happy to see young people from the Ngok Dinka and Misseriya communities putting aside their differences and coming together to create powerful art. With every stroke of the brush, the youth of Abyei are reclaiming their voice and adding their voice to efforts to rebuild trust between the two communities”**

KNOWLEDGE THAT SAVES LIVES: EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE RISK EDUCATION IN A TIME OF UNCERTAINTY

The ongoing conflict in Sudan has forced millions of people to flee their homes in search of safety and a better life. Some have moved southward and reached Abyei, where they feel safer due to the presence of United Nations peacekeepers from UNISFA and the absence of active fighting. However, the Abyei Area still harbors hidden landmines and explosive remnants of war, posing a constant threat to refugee families many of whom are unfamiliar with these dangers.

Currently, the Abyei Transit Centre hosts more than 1,800 refugees, far exceeding its intended capacity. As they await relocation to South Sudan, these individuals must navigate new and unexpected dangers not from the sky or gunfire, but from the ground beneath their feet. To address this silent yet deadly threat, the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) is conducting Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) sessions within the transit centre. These life-saving sessions are designed not only to protect people during their stay in Abyei but also to prepare them for future risks they may encounter on their journey to South Sudan. The knowledge gained will continue to serve them even when they eventually return to their homes in Sudan, which may be surrounded by or even filled with unexploded ordnance.

The training is tailored to meet the specific roles and needs of different groups. For example, women who often collect firewood and care for children are taught how to identify suspicious objects, avoid them, and educate their children to do the same. Men and youth participate in open focus discussions, asking questions and sharing experiences while learning how to keep their families and communities safe. Children are also included not just through lectures, but through interactive games and stories that help them understand the dangers in a way they can remember and act on.

Mr. Abraham Meles, a team leader with The Development Initiative, reflected on the importance of the program, saying: **“The knowledge they gain here could save their lives not just now, but months or even years from now. This is not just emergency education it's protection for the journey ahead.”**



Interactive EORE session



Focus group discussion

IF YOU SEE AN ITEM OF CONCERN, DO NOT TOUCH IT!

CONTACT UNMAS UNISFA IMMEDIATELY!

TELEPHONE NUMBER: +211 92 422 4805 (MTN)

