




Highlights **MAY 2023**

 **20 km**
of routes assessed as safe
from explosive hazards



Mechanical clearance



453,182
square meters cleared in
the Abyei Area



Manual Mine Clearance



2 Landmines
destroyed



One of explosive remnants of war recovered and destroyed



2 Explosive Remnants
of War destroyed



Explosive Ordnance Risk Education session in Achok



86 Explosive Ordnance
Risk Education
sessions provided

139
Newly arrived TCC members
received safety induction
training



Presenting new EORE comic book

UNMAS PROVIDING EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE RISK EDUCATION TO DISPLACED PEOPLE FLEEING SUDAN'S RECENT CONFLICT

An armed conflict between rival factions of the military forces of Sudan began on 15 April 2023. When clashes broke out, the fighting was concentrated around the capital city of Khartoum and the Darfur region, later spreading to other parts of the country, costing hundreds of lives and thousands of wounded and displaced people. As the clashes continue, the number of people fleeing Sudan rises. Sudanese civilians and refugees of other nationalities hosted by Sudan have been internally displaced or fled to neighbouring countries, including South Sudan, Chad, Egypt, as well as the Abyei Administrative Area. In May 2023, the Abyei Administrative Area witnessed an influx of people fleeing the Sudanese conflict. Women, children and elders have transited the area towards South Sudan and sought refuge in various locations in the Abyei Area. Mekenis and Al Radaya became major transit hubs, however, most were transiting in the Amiet market area, where humanitarian partners have established a movement flow monitoring desk. Amiet is situated along the main supply road and in the centre of the Abyei Area. Amiet is also one of the economic hubs connecting Sudan and South Sudan, to where a considerable road network converges.

To protect civilians from the dangers of explosive hazards, UNMAS UNISFA provided targeted Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) to displaced persons transiting through the area. UNMAS conducted a series of emergency EORE sessions for newly arrived people to prevent harm from explosive ordnances, by raising their awareness and promoting behavioural change. The teams' customised sessions for men, women, boys, and girls, enhanced the most common hazard risks while fleeing to South Sudan through the Abyei Area, such as grenades, mortars, landmines, rockets and other projectiles. Foreign nationals living in Sudan are not familiar with the prevalence of these explosive items, commonly found in the area. Some were already internally displaced because of previous conflicts in Sudan, and others were refugees from other countries seeking safety in Sudan. Children are the most vulnerable and risk-taking group among the displaced, as the shining materials attract their attention, and they attempt to touch or play with unexploded ordnance without knowing the risk.

In addition to the different EORE presentations and safety briefing sessions, UNMAS teams provided safety messages to children using various teaching techniques, including memory card games and the distribution of EORE comic books. In addition, the team provided scenario-based safety messages to adults through question & answer techniques and leaflets.



EORE to Eritrean displaced people



EORE to displaced people at Amiet Market



Before and after the EORE sessions, the team randomly interviewed some participants to assess the level of retained knowledge and received very positive feedback. Mr Tsegafab Kibreab Reosu, stated that, **"It was a long walk! We arrived at Amiet market on 18 May and plan to leave this place soon. We are moving towards South Sudan and then to Uganda. We don't know when we will reach our home in Eritrea. We don't know the ground situation around our next transit locations. We thank you for providing life-saving information regarding the risks posed by explosive items"**.

Another Eritrean citizen, Mrs Yordanase Tesfedse added: **"I came to Sudan three months ago with my family to run a little business in Khartoum. Before, I never heard about Landmines and Explosive Remnants of War, and I never expected that we would be in this situation. Last month we saw some of these explosive items in the streets of Khartoum, and I knew they were dangerous, but I didn't know my responsibility. Now I learnt something new; we also learnt how to safely mark the Explosive Remnants of War and the reporting procedure. Thank you, UNISFA and UNMAS teams, for teaching us. We lost everything except our lives. Inshallah - God will help us to reach our home safely!"**

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

CONTACT UNMAS UNISFA IMMEDIATELY!

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