RESOURCE MOBILISATION

COVID-19 changed the political, social, economic, security, stability and humanitarian landscape dramatically in 2020, and significantly impacted UNMAS resource mobilisation efforts. Many Member States understandably reprioritised their budgets in support of the COVID-19 response, negatively affecting some UNMAS programmes that rely on voluntary contributions. The pandemic also highlighted the critical need for unearmarked and multiyear, financial support. Predictable and sustainable funding enables the most effective and responsive support to affected States, while unrestricted funding allows UNMAS the flexibility to focus resources on areas of great need but limited resources.

Restrictions put in place to fight the virus also severely impacted UNMAS programme delivery, triggering widespread adaptation. Nonetheless, donors have shown immense flexibility in terms of budget realignments, no-cost extensions and amendment of expected outputs. UNMAS is deeply grateful to our donors for their continued support, especially in this unprecedented year.

In 2020, 14 programmes received a total of USD 69.2 million from 24 donors to the VTF. In addition, USD 2 million was received through pooled funding mechanisms: the Syria Humanitarian Response fund, the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security, which were critical in Burkina Faso, Sudan and Syria, respectively. Financial and in-kind personnel support also allowed for the continuation of activities and the expansion of the UNMAS IED Threat Mitigation Advisory Team (IED TMAT).

Furthermore, UNMAS benefited from generous in-kind contributions of highly qualified personnel in its headquarters and field programmes – support contributed to UNMAS ability to deliver effectively.

Reflecting the Secretary-General’s reform agenda, UNMAS is committed to transparency and accountability. Throughout 2020, UNMAS participated in several successful evaluations and due diligence exercises conducted by Member States to thoroughly assess UNMAS capabilities and performance, including in Iraq and Syria.

This challenging year has resulted in stronger partnerships with more frequent and transparent communications, enhancing flexibility and understanding among UNMAS and its donors. These relationships are essential for progress towards the United Nations goal of a world free from the threat of mines, explosive remnants of war (ERW) and improvised explosive devices (IEDs).

To learn more about how you or your organization can support UNMAS, visit www.unmas.org.