

A Strategic Framework for Mine Risk Education in Jordan (2006–2009)

*Adopted at the Workshop on Development of a National Mine Risk Education Plan for
Jordan
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Background

Mines and UXO – the legacy of past armed conflicts – continue to threaten the lives and livelihoods of civilians and soldiers alike in a number of areas across Jordan. Affected areas include the northern borders, the Jordan Valley and the Araba Valley as well as the areas around Jerash, Mafraq, and Ajloun.

Although important efforts have been made to inform those at risk of the dangers of these weapons, accidents have continued to occur. In March 2006, the National Committee for Demining and Rehabilitation convened a meeting of concerned bodies and organizations to develop a multi-year strategy for mine risk education in Jordan and to agree on an Action Plan of urgent activities for the period 1 April 2006 to 1 April 2007.

Strategic Principles and Priorities

1. Mine risk education projects and activities will be targeted at those most at risk from mines and UXO in Jordan. Groups identified as a priority for mine risk education include farmers, shepherds, children, and adolescents, as well as soldiers, forest rangers, smugglers and other community members moving through or living in affected areas.
2. The mine risk education program will build on the existing capacities and expertise of national bodies and organizations with experience in mine risk education, such as the Jordan Red Crescent Society and the Royal Engineers Corps. In addition, relevant Government ministries and departments, such as the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Education, the Jordan Valley authority and the Royal Medical Services, will be invited to become active partners in the mine risk education program.
3. Mine risk education projects and activities will be conducted in accordance with the International Mine Action Standards on mine risk education. National standards may be developed to guide the work of mine risk education actors.
4. All actors involved in implementing mine risk education shall endeavor to cooperate effectively with each other to ensure coherence of methodology and messages and to avoid duplication of efforts. In addition, mine risk education actors shall ensure coordination of their activities with other mine action efforts.

5. All those involved in providing mine risk education or related activities will contribute to essential information management and gather necessary data for the mine risk education program.

Roles and responsibilities of key actors

- ▶ The National Committee for Demining and Rehabilitation will be responsible for the overall coordination and management of the mine risk education program. It will also ensure coordination with other mine action efforts. The National Committee for Demining and Rehabilitation will endeavor to mobilize resources for the mine risk education program.
- ▶ The Royal Engineers Corps will be responsible for ensuring that border guards and members of the Jordanian Armed Forces are informed and educated about the dangers of mines and UXO.
- ▶ The Royal Engineers Corps will be responsible for ensuring that all mined areas are clearly marked and fenced to prevent unintentional entry into a dangerous area.
- ▶ The Royal Engineers Corps and Norwegian People's Aid will also be responsible for ensuring that community liaison is conducted before, during and after its clearance operations in Jordan.
- ▶ The Jordanian Red Crescent Society will be primarily responsible for implementing community-based mine risk education activities.
- ▶ The Hashemite Charitable Society for Soldiers with Special Needs and the Landmine Survivors Network will be responsible for promoting the inclusion of mine and UXO victims as mine risk education facilitators.
- ▶ The National Committee for Demining and Rehabilitation will be responsible for collecting and sharing relevant data with all actors.
- ▶ The National Committee for Demining and Rehabilitation will ensure that all data gathered is according to an agreed format.
- ▶ The National Committee for Demining and Rehabilitation shall have an active role in advocating with decision-makers on issues related to mine risk education.