



NATIONAL UNITS FOR MINE ACTION AND DEVELOPMENT ORGANISATION

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NUMAD Final Milestone Narrative Report

Project Title: National Multi-Tasking Teams for ERW Clearance in Darfur

Grant number: UNAMID/GRANTS/21009/2018/01

Project Duration: (23 Months)

Reporting Period: 1st August 2018- 30th June 2020

OVERVIEW:

This is the final milestone narrative report for the project “National Multi- Tasking Teams for ERW Clearance in Darfur.” covering activities carried out and output delivered by NUMAD’s teams during the reporting period. Upon signature of the grant support agreement (GSA) on 2nd August 2018, NUMAD had deployed three (3) accredited multi-tasking teams (MTT-1, MTT-2 & MTT-3) into localities and villages of Darfur states under mentorship from international mentors to conduct GEHA, EOD spot tasks, ERW clearance of multiple items, BAC surface & subsurface, Bulk destruction, weapon and ammunition destruction, community liaison and delivery of risk awareness where appropriate.

The achievements of the teams and outputs delivered toward achieving the overall project objective of “contributing to the reduction of injuries and deaths caused by ERW related incidents in Darfur, Sudan through national-led efforts”. For achieving the overall project objective the following below primary objectives were set;

1. To enhance the capacity of national actors trained in ERW clearance, through attention to quality assurance and international and national standards;
2. To reduce the threat and impact of explosive remnants of war (ERW) caused by recent and past conflicts in Darfur, Sudan and;
3. To enhance the protection of civilian including displaced persons affected by ERW in Darfur region, as well as to increase humanitarian access to communities by providing continuous clearance activities in affected areas.

Approximately (81%),out of the 250 CHAs, 202 confirmed hazardous areas (CHAs), ERW contaminated spots were reported and cleared which reduced injuries/deaths caused by ERW contamination and significantly allowed safe movement of IDPs, host communities and humanitarian actors across Darfur states.

A total of 825,583 persons as direct beneficiaries were benefited from ERW clearance in Darfur and about 16,281 persons were benefited from limited ERW risk awareness raising sessions and community liaison activities conducted by NUMAD's Community Liaison Officers (CLOs).

The NUMAD's teams found and destroyed a total of 7,042 items of ERW and 125,679 SAA.

The teams suspended operations at task sites and withdrawn on 30th June 2020.

As Highlights of This Reporting Period

During reporting period, NUMAD's MTT-1, MTT-2 & MTT-3 had completed ERW clearance in North, Central and West Darfur states and covered a total of 17 localities and assessed about 24 villages. The localities covered including Six (6) in North Darfur state, 8 in Central Darfur state and three (3) in West Darfur state, whereas, a total villages assessed through General Explosive Hazard Assessment (GEHA) including nine (9) villages in North Darfur state, twenty (20) villages in Central Darfur state and four (4) Villages in West Darfur state.

The below table shows highlights on the reporting period:

OUTPUT	ACCOMPLISHMENTS	COMMENTS
1. Three (3) multi-tasking teams are manned, equipped, trained, and accredited to deploy operational into ERW clearance task in Darfur.	- NUMAD formed 3 multi-tasking teams consisting of 8 personnel each, which were equipped, trained and accredited, and deployed operationally under mentorship from Dyna safe Mine Tech into various ERW clearance tasks in Darfur.	- All three (3) teams with their accreditation certificates were renewed and awarded operational accreditation for another year.
2. Total of 250 Confirmed Hazardous Areas / ERW contamination spots cleared of ERW which will subsequently reduce injuries/deaths caused by ERW significantly allowing for IDPs, host communities, and humanitarian actors to move safely.	- Total of 202 Confirmed Hazardous Areas (CHA), ERW contamination spots were cleared during this reporting period.	- 81% of Confirmed Hazardous Areas / ERW contamination spots cleared of ERW by NUMAD's teams.
3. Approximate 200,000 persons (including men, women, boys, and girls) will benefit from ERW clearance activities, community liaison,	- 825,583 persons including men, women, girls, and boys benefited from the team's activities during reporting period. The total includes	-Target beneficiaries were exceeded the planned..

and risk awareness in the Darfur region.	beneficiaries to ERW clearance, risk awareness, and community liaison activities. - A total of 16,281 persons including men, women, girls, and boys benefited from limited ERW risk awareness-raising and community liaison meetings conducted by the teams' CLOs in the areas of operations.	-Totals are for direct beneficiaries to community liaison and risk awareness achieved at the end of the project.
4. All items of ERW are recorded and reported internally to UNAMID - ODO and NMAC in Darfur in an appropriate reporting format.	- A total of 7,042 items of ERW and 125,697 SAA were destroyed and reported to UNAMID- ODO and NMAC inappropriate reporting formats.	All items found were destroyed during the ERW clearance operations, then reported and recorded in the IMSMA database.
5. National clearance capacity is enhanced and sustained, including 3 Multi-Tasking Teams and 3 Community Liaison Officers, which are well equipped to support UNAMID - ODO and NMAC in Darfur.	-NUMAD has trained and accredited three (3) multi-tasking teams and well equipped to complete ERW clearance project activities in Darfur states. Extra demining personnel (one team leader, one medic, and four operators) were trained and accredited, and on standby to support the teams.	- On- the job- training (OJT) was conducted by Intl mentors with NUMAD's team Leaders and it will be continued for the period of the project to develop the necessary skills and knowledge required of the team leaders.
6. Demobilization of NUMAD's teams & final reporting.		- The teams suspended operations and withdrawn as of 30th June 2020 .

PRIMARY ACHIEVEMENTS

The achievements of NUMD's teams MTT-1, MTT-2 and MTT-3 during the reporting period can be summarized as follows:

- NUMAD MTT-1 team found and destroyed a total of 3,124 of UXO and 33,700 SAA in North Darfur state. The team cleared ERW in 6 localities of North Darfur state including Dar EL Salam, EL Fasher, EL Sireaf, Kabkabiya, Kottom, and Tawila. The MTT-1 team also assessed through General Explosive Hazardous Assessment (GEHA) and Non-technical Survey (NTS) a total of nine (9) villages in North Darfur state including Dar EL Salam, EL Fasher, Fashar, Um Kadada, EL Sireaf, Kabkabiya, Kottom, Dobo Ulumda and Tawila.
- MTT-2 team covered six (6) localities in Central Darfur state including Azum, Nertiti, Rokoro, Umdukhun, Wadi Salih, and Zalingei localities. The team Assessed nine (9)

villages in those localities including Zalingei, Umkher, Garsila, Umdukhun, Golo, North IDP camp, Nertiti, Gorne and Um Dway villages. The team found and destroyed 1,103 UXO and 48,119 SAA.

- MTT-3 conducted ERW clearance operations in Central and Western Darfur states. In Central Darfur state the team covered two (2) localities and two (2) villages namely Nertiti and Zalingei respectively. The team also, destroyed 766 UXO and 1,071 SAA, whereas, in Western Darfur state, MTT-3 covered three (3) localities namely EL Geneina, Jabal Moon and Kulbus localities. The team assessed four (4) villages in West Darfur state including Tandalti, Jabal Moon, Nertiti and Kulbus villages. The team also destroyed 1,849 UXO and 42,807 SAA.

The MTT-3 in Central and Western Darfur states destroyed a total of 2,615 UXO and 43,878 SAA.

- The NUMAD MTT-1, MTT-2 & MTT-3 teams released a total of 237,379 square meters of land through Battle Area Clearance (BAC) sub surface while conducting ERW clearance operations.
- The teams had also maintained the standards and skills through quality monitoring and on- the job- trainings conducted by the international mentors during the deployment period and refresher trainings. NUMAD also ensured the quality of the teams' outputs by engaging the impacted communities in the activities implemented by the teams.

CHALLENGES

- The outbreak of COVID -19 compounded with the prolonged humanitarian crisis, economic and security situations in Darfur region. Humanitarian actors including NUMAD's teams had faced immense challenges adding to the outbreak of the COVID-19, the restriction measures to fight the pandemic.
- The shortage of fuel, the restriction of movements and total lock down to curb the outbreak of COVID-19 has hindered and limited the teams' operational deployment as well as disrupted the logistics and supply chain. NUMAD in coordination with UNAMID-ODO, NMAC and NODO had maintained the teams working through arrangement of permissions for the teams' movement and deployment into accessible tasks sites.
- The official exchange rate for US Dollar which the grant payments made against continue to be different from the actual exchange rate (parallel market) used for pricing goods and services which has created budget constraint.
- Despite improvement in tasking by task managers has been witnessed, however more coordination on tasking between UNAMID- ODO/ SLFOs and NODO is still required.

CASE STUDY:

NUMAD's team (MTT-1) was tasked by UNAMID- ODO and NODO in response to the situation resulted from the explosion of ammunition store in El Fasher, to clear the explosion site and to raise awareness about the risk of the explosive hazards among children and most vulnerable

people in and around the area of the explosion in El Fasher Town, and eventually contributing to saving lives and enhancing the safe movement of the local communities in the surrounding areas. The team destroyed a total of 743 small arms ammunition (SAA) and 151 items of unexploded ordnance (UXO) included some has land in the university campus of El Fasher resulted from the ammunition store explosion, as well as the team released through battle area clearance an area size of 14,044 square meters around the explosion pit. The effort by the team to clear the area was positively viewed by all stakeholders and benefited communities.

SUSTAINABILITY, ENVIRONMENT AND GENDER:

NUMAD considered the environment and the profile of the communities, where NUMAD operates in line with international standards and Sudan National Technical Standards and Guidelines (NTSGs) to deliver sustainable project.

- To ensure the sustainability of ERW clearance capacity in Darfur region, NUMAD has formed and recruited local project teams from area of operations in Darfur. Those teams were trained and employed by NUMAD in previous projects in Darfur. This approach had proved in sustaining the ERW clearance capacity, as the Darfur local staffs have been using their indigenous NUMAD MTT-2: Risk Awareness Raising for men and women at Khalwa (Islamic school) in Um Khair, North Darfur State NUMAD MTT-3: risk raising awareness & information gathering among women in Nertiti, Central Darfur State knowledge, the local culture and backgrounds, to engage their local communities through community liaison in the ERW clearance operations. The Darfur local staffs were trained and their capacity developed over the course of this project will continue working in ERW clearance beyond the end date of this project subject to fund. Also, also the engagement of communities had assisted in sustaining the project and promotes ownership. Worth mentioning that, areas cleared of ERW contamination were used in farming, grazing, other socio-economic activities, safe and free movement of people and for voluntary return of IDPs.
- The multi- tasking teams considered any possible negative impacts for ERW clearance, and impacts of explosive detonations on soil, air and immediate surrounding environment. The teams had taken into consideration the environment in which operation is conducted in compliance with international standards and in line with Sudan NTSG. The teams had disposed-off all encountered ERW items in a safe manner with due consideration to surrounding environment in Darfur, providing a safer environment where socio- economic activities can take place. The teams had also taken mitigation measures to protect surrounding environment, as well as, to ensure no harm to the local communities in the project locations. NUMAD has a “Code of Conduct” in place that adhered to by all NUMAD’s staff deployed under NUMAD implemented project, in line with basic principle of Do No Harm or adversely affects the local communities at the project locations.
- NUMAD had mainstreamed gender and considered the impact of ERW clearance operation on men, women, girls, and boys. NUMAD had also taken into account the

complexities of the situation in Darfur which dominated the context in which the multitasking teams operate. The teams where possible and practicable through community liaison and ERW risk awareness raising activities conducted by the team community liaison officers sensitized communities to ERW clearance operation and encouraged community members (men, girls, boys and women) to report on ERW hazard. The teams responded swiftly and appropriately to any reported ERW hazard for the benefit of the local communities. NUMAD has a second female medic who was trained, accredited and joint the teams. NUMAD MTT-1: risk awareness raising & gathering information among nomadic communities in Kabkabiya, North Darfur State NUMAD MTT-2: Team Leader & Deputy Team Leader raising awareness and gathering information in Um Khair, Central Darfur State

LESSONS LEARNED

The lessons learnt during the period of the project implementation were as follows:

- More considerations should be taken towards assisting security authorities in Darfur to adopt and implement preventive measures in ammunition safety management for storage facilities to prevent future explosions in ammunition stores across Darfur such as the explosions in Ed Daien and El Fasher which occurred within less than one month.
- The measures implemented by local state governments in Darfur region to curb the outbreak of COVID- 19 had affected the teams' operations by restriction of movements, and skyrocketing prices due shortages and lack of fuel, goods and commodities. To overcome these obstacles, NUMAD in close coordination with NODO, UNAMID- ODO and NMAC had maintained the teams operational.
- NUMAD drafted a plan to mitigate the spread of the COVID -19 and to cope with the new reality after the outbreak for better management of the crisis and emergency situations.
- The project sustainability is crucial for continue using the capacities developed over past years to address the need for ERW clearance in Darfur to reduce the level of contamination with unexploded ordnance (UXO) and explosive remnant of war (ERW). Therefore more funding for the teams should be sought from the donors as this project comes to its end.