

Emergency Mine Action Project – Yemen Phase Five
Terminal Evaluation Report

Project ID: 00099753

Period: 1 July 2017 - 30 June 2021

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Disclaimer

The content of the assessment is the sole responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily reflect the views of the various authorities, UNDP, UN entities and agencies, Ministries, Institutions, Organizations, INGOs and NGOs.

Acronyms

AoR	Area of Responsibilities
APMBC	Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (Ottawa Convention)
AXO	Abandoned Explosive Ordnance
AWP	Annual Work Plan
CBO	Community Based Organization
CCM	Convention on Cluster Munitions
CMR	Cluster Munitions Remnants
CPD	Country Programme Document
CPF	Country Programme Framework
CSO	Civil Society Organizations
CW	Conventional Weapons
DDG	Danish Demining Group
DFA	De Facto Authorities (based in Sana'a)
EMA	UNDP Yemen – Emergency Mine Action Project
ERW	Explosive Remnants of War
GICHD	Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining
GMP	Global Maritime Programme
HALO Trust	Hazardous Area Life Support Organization
HI	Humanity Inclusion
IC	International Consultant
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
IED	Improvised Explosive Device
IMSMA	Information Management System for Mine Action
IMAS	International Mine Action standards
IRG	Internationally recognized Government (based in Aden)
PADS	Portable Air Defence System
MDDU	Mine Dog Detection Unit
MRE	Mine Risk Education
MSF	Doctors without borders (Médecins Sans Frontières)
NC	National Consultant
NMAC	National Mine Action Committee
NMAS	National Mine Action Standards
NPA	Norwegian People's Aid
OECD/DAC	Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development/Development Assistance Committee
QA	Quality Assurance
QC	Quality Control
REMAB	Regional Executive Mine Action Branch
SOPs	Standard Operating Procedures
TDI	The Development Initiative
ToC	Theory of Change
ToR	Term of Reference
ToT	Training of Trainers
UFE	Utilization-Focused Evaluation
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEG	United Nations Evaluation Group
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
UNMHA	United Nations Mission to support the Hudaydah Agreement
UNOCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
UNWHO	United Nations World Health Organization
UN WOMEN	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
UXO	Unexploded Ordnance
VA	Victim Assistance
YALS	Yemen Association of Landmine Survivors
YEMAC	Yemen Executive Mine Action Centre
YMACC	Yemen Mine Action Co-ordination Centre
YRCS	Yemen Red Crescent Society

Executive Summary

Background and Context

The Republic of Yemen has been contaminated with mines and other explosive remnants of war from successive conflicts and crisis since the 60s, 70s, 90s and more recently 2015. They have all changed the extent and complexity of contamination dramatically, though its full extent is unknown. The escalation of conflict in Yemen, now in its seventh year, affects every aspect of the lives of the population and communities and has seen large tracts of land being affected by several types of explosive items and abandoned ammunition in areas of direct and indirect land warfare. The crisis is the result of a brutal armed conflict, causing immense suffering for the Yemeni people. Institutional and population resilience have been also weakened, with food insecurity verging on famine. Major roads, bridges and power lines across the country have been severely damaged, and oil and gas production have been totally disrupted. In violation of international humanitarian law, active ground hostilities, coupled with shelling and air strikes, often in populated areas, continue to harm civilians and damage their homes and infrastructure while explosive remnants of war impede freedom of movement and kill and injure civilians.

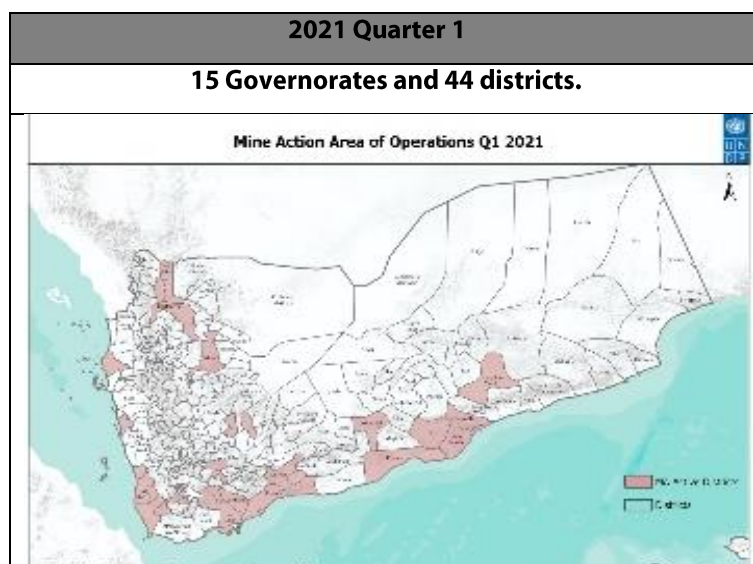
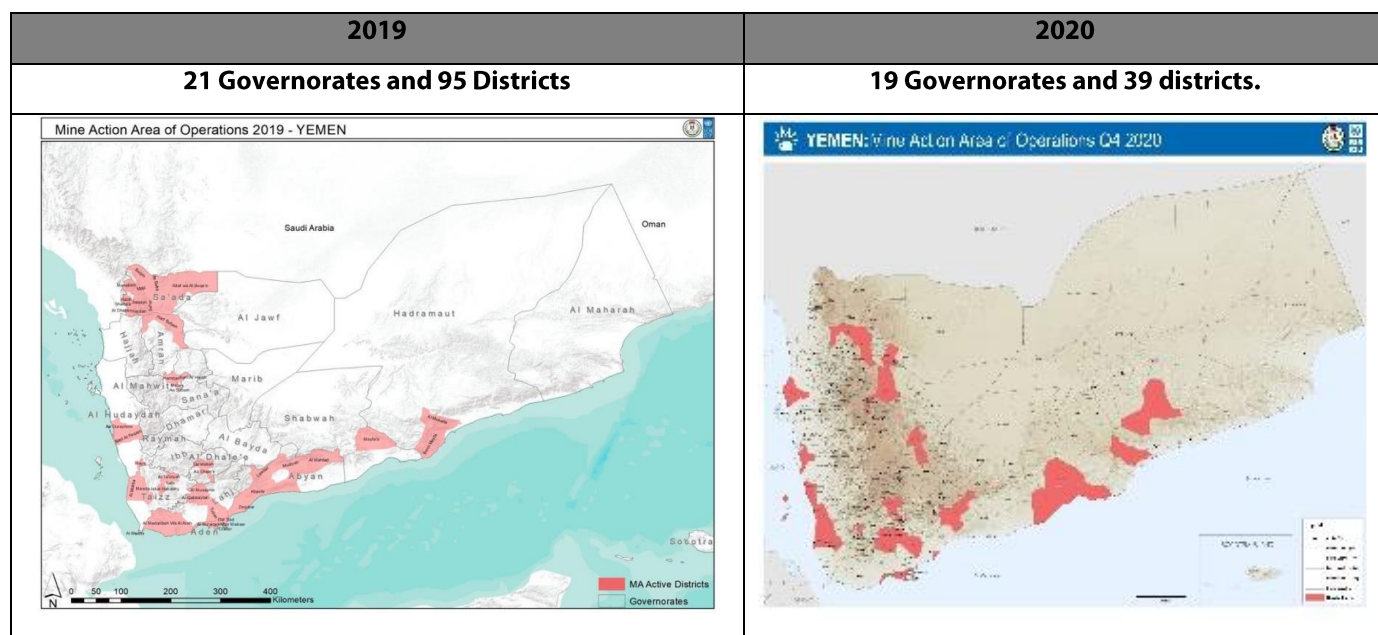
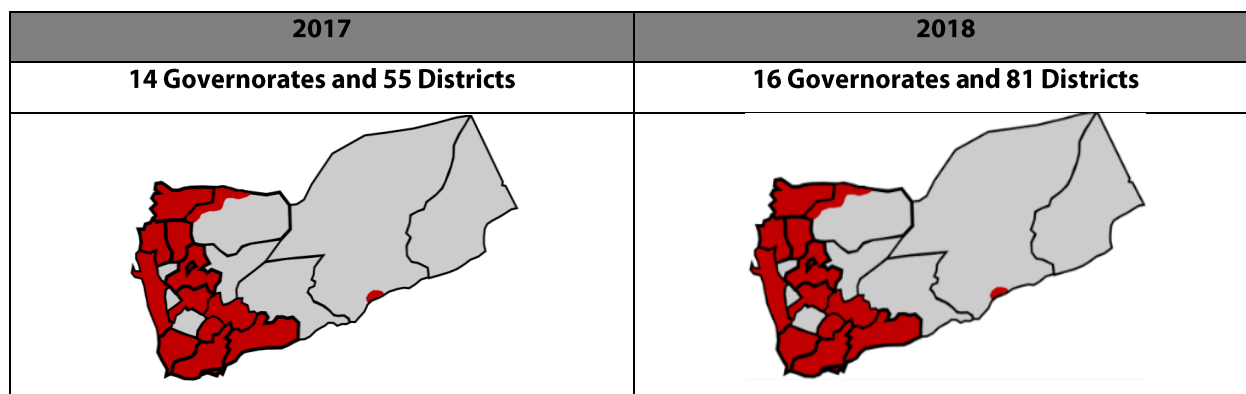
UNDP have provided technical and administrative assistance in humanitarian mine action efforts in Yemen since the mid-1990s. The current Phase five plan for 2017-2020, now extended to end September 2021 of the Emergency Mine action (EMA) project addresses the changed situation in the country with its new and evolving threats. The structure of YEMAC is to effect operations according to the needs with the personnel and assets required to meet both the immediate needs while concurrently addressing the longer-term obligations. In short, the project is designed to reduce the impact of explosive remnants of war and mines on people and communities. The aim is a flexible approach adapting to the evolving crises in country, allowing for the changing tide of conflict, new and realistic priorities, and a potential end of hostilities with resulting peace arrangements.

UNDP's mine action intervention is therefore considered long-term. Recent conflicts have changed the extent and difficulty of contamination significantly and represent an important challenge for YEMAC. Mine action in Yemen is an important and integrated component of United Nations humanitarian aid and developmental activities. Mine action is proactive in operational emergencies by delivering humanitarian aid in conflict affected areas and building the foundations for sustainable development in areas not consumed by the conflict.

The UNDP's Emergency Mine Action Project remains one of the "flagships" of UNDP Yemen and contributes to a wide spectrum of mine action activities in Yemen through supporting NMAC, YEMAC and the new Yemen Mine Action Coordination Centre (YMACC). UNDP has advisory and fiduciary roles covering technical implementation and methodologies, policy issues, planning processes through the full project cycle, and resource mobilization. The project addresses the physical and socio-economic impacts of ERW and mines on people and communities by (i) support aid delivery, (ii) preventing the situation from worsening by reducing injuries and fatalities; (iii) relieving communities from the impact of current contamination by providing access to critical infrastructure and restoring essential basic social and productive services and (iv) addressing the longer-term issues of international convention obligations. All of these are a prerequisite to stabilization and the normalization of economic activity in many of the most impacted regions of the country.

UNDP is implementing this by assisting/re-structuring work of the national mine action infrastructure, developing national capacity and providing support to implement a coordinated Mine Action Sector including counter-IED approach, specifically IED threat mitigation. The expected results of the project are: (1) Mine and UXO contamination is mapped, and impact assessed nationwide using primary and secondary resources; (2) Mines and UXO are cleared in identified priority areas; (3) The awareness of threats posed by mines and UXO is increased in affected communities; (4) Survivors of ERW are more effectively supported and rehabilitated socio-economically.

Since its inception in July 2017, the project has reached 1,8 million people, 140,000 of whom were IDPs, in the risk education activities of YEMAC and other partners. The Victim Assistance department of YEMAC, screened over five thousand survivors amongst whom over two thousand were assisted with various aids. The estimated total of direct beneficiaries of all the activities has nearly reached seven million throughout the country, covering a yearly average of 17 governorates and 63 districts within a duration of four years, which is not a small achievement. The YEMAC field teams cleared over 870,00 different pieces of explosive ordnance, mines, other Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) and Abandoned Explosive Ordnance (AXO) in more than 24,5 million square meters of land and destroyed close to 40% of explosive devices. The UNDP project has a total five-year budget of US\$ 49,5 million funded by the following main donors: Germany, Netherlands, UK, USA, KSA/UAE (through OCHA), UN OCHA, Canada, EU, Italy.



Mine Action Severity of Needs

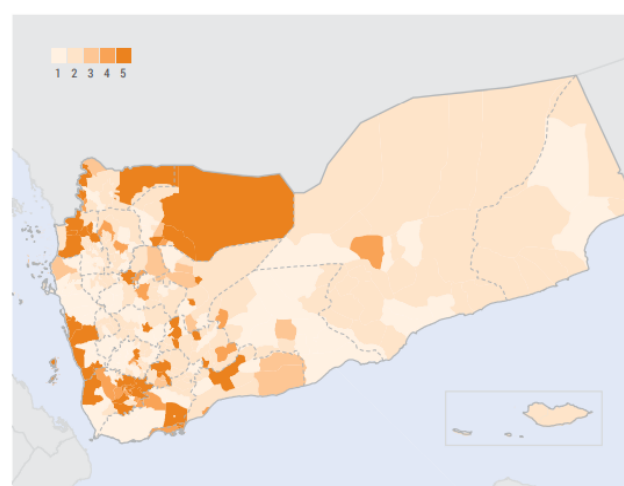


Figure 1: Distribution of YEMAC Mine Action Operations (in the contamin quarter 2021 (number of Governorates & Districts covered)).

Ref: 2017-2021 Q1 MA area of operations maps from EMA annual reports

Mine action severity of needs – Map from Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) 2021 Protection cluster p. 81

Evaluation Aim

Approach

The UNDP Yemen commissioned an independent evaluation between June and August 2021 of the emergency mine action (EMA) project phase five (2017-2021) to a team of two individual consultants (an international consultant working remotely due to the situation of Covid 19, and a national consultant assisting in collecting data on site, fields visits/interviews and met with local authorities, stakeholders, and communities in governorates).

The evaluation analyzed results and performance of the project to date, identified key constraints and challenges, recorded early signs of potential outcome (impact) of the project interventions, and identified and documented lessons learned and made recommendations for implementation of future mine action project phases. The evaluation explored concrete development through three key evaluation questions, which were adapted for different interlocutors:

- Relevance: Was the project relevant to the needs and priorities of the target groups/beneficiaries including women and men? And the extent to which the project is in line with UNDP strategy for assistance to the mine action, national priorities, priorities of the targeted governorates, the country programme's outputs and outcomes and the SDGs?
- Efficiency and Sustainability: What factors contributed to or hindered UNDP's performance and ultimately, the sustainability for the continued realisation of results?
- Effectiveness/impacts (outputs): To what extent has the project achieved (or is likely to achieve) its intended objectives by addressing issues of gender equality and women's empowerment (GEWE) and human rights? Has it forged partnerships at different levels, including with government institutions, donors, UN agencies, and communities.

The evaluation covered as far as possible, project conceptualization, design, implementation, monitoring, reporting and evaluation of results. The evaluation engaged a significant number of project stakeholders, benefitting communities/institutions, authorities in the governorates and districts covered by the project, funding partners, UNDP, UN agencies and partnering Civil Society Organizations (CSOs). The evaluation team used mixed methods involving semi structured individual interviews (SII), focus group discussions (FGDs), desk review of key documents and fields visits and meetings with communities or users of the services

provided through UNDP's project. Discussions were guided using open-ended questions enabling respondents to express their views freely and 65 Individuals interviewed in person, on-line and FGDs (18 women/28 % and 47 men). The evaluation team shared in advance the list of questions with interviewees to speed up the process and facilitate interviewee preparation. However, the evaluation team faced challenges with the unavailability of some interviewees during the evaluation. Each interviewee in the sites represented and/or supervised thousands of beneficiaries which makes the sample size adequate and representative. As the access to northern places is limited for security reasons; the sample was concentrated to the southern part of the country. The use of multiple sources of information (KII/FGDs/documents/reports/outputs) helped to triangulate findings to provide as accurate a view as possible of UNDP's contribution to mine action in Yemen.

Evaluation findings

A rating performance has been applied to each evaluation criteria, based on a satisfaction scale of five points (1 being minimum). In view of the findings, the evaluation considers the results of the implementation of the EMA project as satisfactory: 'the level of results is acceptable and encouraging, despite security environment constraints'), with very encouraging results for a score of 4.60/ 5. This score is obtained from the average of the scores obtained for the various criteria evaluated: Relevance: 5/5; Effectiveness/Outcome (Impact): 4.5/5; Efficiency: 4.5/5; Sustainability: 4,5/5; Human Rights: 4.5/5; GEWE:4,5/5.

Relevance

Finding 1. The Emergency Mine Action project appropriately sought to respond to the interlinked priorities of inclusive sustainable mine and unexploded ordnance threat prevention and peaceful resolution of conflicts, social cohesion, and the better protection of Yemeni communities.

Finding 2. The project is highly relevant to the priorities and needs of all peoples at individual beneficiaries (including women and men), group livestock, and national level, while its intervention enables and ensures the movement and access to areas of all programmes and projects implementing life-saving interventions.

Finding 3. The project is very relevant to the needs and priorities of the target groups and beneficiaries including women and men.

Finding 4. The relevance of UNDP interventions is illustrated by the fact that the EMA project responds to the country's real support needs.

Finding 5. The project objectives, supported by a good analysis in terms of impact of explosive ordnance (EO) on the civilian population, are consistent and meet the expectations of the population of reducing the threat of explosive ordnance (EO) contamination in many parts of the country by accessing of humanitarian aid.

Effectiveness/Outcome (Impact)

Finding 6. The project contributed to the overall Yemen Peace efforts and responded to the needs of the population living in the project's intervention areas.

In this regard, UNDP and UNMHA in partnership with YEMAC worked on the same vision to assist Yemen in making it a safer and more resilient nation and to adhere to the terms of the Stockholm agreement in Hudaydah and providing relevant data on humanitarian nexus.

Finding 7. UNDP supported the strengthening of technical and organizational capacities intended to contribute to the restoration of normal services and also an immediate humanitarian response, with access to roads and reducing injuries and fatalities. Mine action intervention in Yemen enables the building of bridges between immediate humanitarian aid and emergency response in many of the most impacted areas of the country. The project was able to manage the issues much better in the south than in the north.

Finding 8. Worsening access restrictions in De Facto Authorities (DFA) areas has placed the Mine Action intervention in the north in a humanitarian dimension and the developmental aspects are therefore delayed.

Difficulties remain in the fragmented south, but better access allows both humanitarian and developmental work in the sector.

Finding 9. To analyze the conflict under the volatile and changing conflict situations as well as environmental challenges, the project benefited from the field evidence of YEMAC and operational actors such as OCHA with its humanitarian cluster protection which helped to appreciate the evolving situation of explosive threats, environmental considerations and led to appropriate response planning.

Finding 10. The project facilitated the implementation of a coordinated mechanism for decentralized and deconcentrated structures as well as the development of plans and tools necessary for the effective management and reduction of explosives hazard risks through the establishment of the Yemen Mine action Coordinating

Centre (YMACC) in Aden. This resulted in more effective national mine action implementation and more Yemeni coordination bodies to coordinate all the relevant sectors which are already showing signs of improved efficiency, effectiveness, and impact.

Finding 11. The activities conducted by YEMAC, and supported by the Project, are ultimately resulting in land release, buildings, and assets free of mines and UXO, as well as free access to medical and schooling facilities. These actions facilitate the transportation and freedom of movement of IDGs, promote equality and inclusion, in brief, provide a safe overall working and living environment. Ultimately, the results of the project's activities have supported social cohesion and peace building efforts locally.

Finding 12. Survey and clearance remain top priority. Additionally, supporting the institutional capacities, such as YMACC, is key to operations and success. YEMAC is partially fit for the task with more equipment and training required but it has the basics in place.

Finding 13. UNDP has supported mine action with the aim of reducing poverty reduction. In most places visited, there is evidence of improvements in standards of living over the course of mine action activities, although the extent of the clearance efforts is difficult to quantify.

Finding 14. Countering-IED, both upstream and downstream is prioritized. Pilot projects have been successful with promising outcomes.

Finding 15. The current situation hindered the project implementation in a number of ways, including slow decision making by government authorities, and the implementation of the project interventions in two different areas controlled by two governments with different speeds in project progress and achievements. Worth mentioning in this purview are the many requirements and prolonged procedures for ensuring the necessary clearances and approvals, from these authorities, for conducting field visits and activities. This segmentation should be considered in the future programming.

Finding 16. Advocacy and adherence to the CCM and APMBC is ongoing. Limited success so far obtained due to ongoing conflict and half the country run by a declared non-state actor.

Finding 17. Victim Assistance is not an active component of the project, being deemed unfunded. UNDP recognizes the difficulties and supports the national infrastructure of YEMAC in screening casualties who are

referred to national medical facilities, YALS, MSF, ICRC, etc. for long-term care and rehabilitation.

Finding 18. To address the impact of COVID19 and to continue the field activities during the pandemic, the project provided all necessary protection facilities for the project and relevant field teams as they must work in any conditions. In addition, regulations and SOPs were considered including physical/social distancing, using masks and other relevant precautionary measures.

Efficiency

Finding 19. The evaluation found that UNDP is perceived as a neutral, credible, and valuable partner among stakeholders interviewed, appreciated for its proven expertise and efforts in mine action, providing institutional support to stimulate mine action operations' management. Its flexibility and ability to adapt to changes have also been highlighted by the interested parties.

Finding 20. Funding from donors remains largely constant. Most wish to keep supporting the sector at a reduced level until a robust peace process or at least a lasting ceasefire is in place. Roller-coaster funding does not help and can be inefficient. Constant funding, albeit at a reduced level has more impact.

Finding 21. The project was efficient in utilizing the programme's resources using UNDP efficient rules and regulations. UNDP has established partnerships with different types of actors such as donors, UN agencies, International and national NGOs, as well as a private company to assist Yemen and bringing their own relative advantages by implementing training and capacity development interventions.

Finding 22. Project's monitoring and field operations evaluation (M&E) system focused on achieving results through identifying the needs to be reinforced from more detailed data by the beneficiaries and the impact on their domestic life. It used more success stories as a relevant tool for resource mobilization. The M&E system does not sufficiently capitalize on project experiences for effective learning.

Finding 23. Considering the nature of the project, the utilization of the project's resources is not a factor as the interventions in dealing with mines and UXOs are the same. The importance of saving lives is similar in its impact while the cost of both interventions is totally different.

Sustainability

Finding 24. By developing survey and land release methodologies as well as specific training, productivity

has increased, and demining casualties reduced. Facilitating mine action INGOs 'long term' and commercial entities 'short term' in the south has proven very successful in improving standards and operations.

Finding 25. By helping to revitalize YEMAC field operations, that were suspended or disrupted by the war and all its consequences, and to support the installation of YEMACC, the project contributes to the preservation and the sustainability of the implementation capacity of much needed mine and ERW awareness/clearance activities.

Finding 26. The project acted as a catalyst for attracting additional support of interested donors. Worth mentioning in this purview is that the project started with two donors and ended with more than six donors. In addition, the project attracted funds from humanitarian aid programmes to address the halting in the implementation of humanitarian activities and to ensure access to targeted areas.

Finding 27. The project interventions have the potential to ensure the sustainability of impacts after the project ends. This is true considering the training and institutional capacity development interventions.

Finding 28. The project faced a range of social and political risks with potential to jeopardize sustainability of the project outputs and outcomes as well as the ban on importing technical equipment such as detectors and other relevant material for demolition and demining purposes.

Human Rights

Finding 29. The project interventions are based on the existence of pollution in the target areas; accordingly all people of different groups benefit as the clearance of an area supports all people living in that area. The project promotes a human rights-based approach to mine action while creating enough space for communities to report issues of concern within local governance networks.

Finding 30. UNDP supporting mine action in Yemen has contributed substantially to increased human safety, through the reduction of risk.

Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE)

Finding 31. The project has contributed to the gender equality in this difficult context where many women and children have died and been injured from mines and explosives every single day due to the lack of awareness and high illiteracy rates amongst them.

Finding 32. The project contributed to addressing structural inequalities which assume women can't participate in the mine action awareness and removal of explosive items and has conducted many training sessions for women, raising awareness of the importance of engaging women in this sector by highlighting success stories.

Finding 33. Not only has the project succeeded in making women, girls and the most vulnerable aware of mines and safety measures, it has paved the way for more trainings which has produced some potentially transformative results by encouraging YEMAC Aden to train and deploy women teams.

Major difficulties and challenges

Access: Lack of access to the areas under DFA control is hindering the evidence of field activities (verification and monitoring visiting clearance sites). The cancellation of the visa of the UNDP Chief Technical Advisor in December 2019 impacted on the work of the project in the north of the country. As a result, the post has now been relocated to Aden. The project is following up on the issue and is hopeful that the visa will be reissued once the situation stabilizes. However, no other mine action practitioner has been granted a visa in DFA area since 2017.

Security: Unpredictable security situation and access to contaminated sites particularly in the areas under DFA control remain challenging issues. Active and legacy IED contamination continues, with the shift in concentration moving from Hodeidah to Hadramawt, Shabwah and Taizz throughout 2020. YEMAC provides response to IED due to capacity shortfalls in the local security forces and the need to protect the civilian population.

Operations: Recent electricity and fuel shortages mainly experienced in the DFA controlled areas of lately may potentially seriously hamper the field work. Inability to conduct a country wide assessment is preventing a more specific planning of resources. Environmental challenges in the prioritization process need to be considered in the analysis of the conflict dynamics in the vulnerable context of Yemen. Alternative ways need to be investigated to respond to the extensive national administrative burdens which hamper the delivery of materials and equipment on time, mainly in the north. Large amounts of abandoned explosive ordnance and lack of secure storage must be addressed as soon as possible, according to the field security situation. Concerns are also to reduce the recent threat posed by the improvised sea mines, by organizing mapping and intend clearing of Yemen coastal areas.

Cooperation: the lack of cooperation between Project MASAM implemented by Safelane organization and funded by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and YMACC/YEMAC (South) undermine the opportunity to double the workforce of the sector. National authorities need to encourage this project to join the common efforts under the management of YMACC and share their data on contamination in areas where Project MASAM operates.

Resources: MA project funds for 2021 are earmarked for maritime survey and the security and control of explosives. The project is looking at a different methodology that can be implemented in Yemen, through surveying and identifying a cleared area for access to the west coast. Fostering resources for mobilization needs through advocacy and information sharing, joint donor visits to the field if security allows, informal remote meetings, help the donor community to undertake constant financial engagement within the project.

Gender sensitive challenges: In order to be compliant with UN Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security (2000), the project must pursue the promotion of gender dimension. The Nairobi and the Cartagena Action Plans of the APMBC, as well as the CCM and the Vientiane Action Plan, have included several points to make sure that it is an obligation for all mine action actors to integrate a gender dimension in their activities. The employment of more gender balanced staff in the field of mine action, which in many areas means employing more women, can be directly linked to those requirements. It can also contribute to Millennium Development Goal 3 (MDG3), promote gender equality and empower women, by offering employment, especially to women who need an income to support themselves and their families. The project should continue encouraging the diversification of YEMAC teams such as the training of women deminers and learning lessons from the first female bomb disposal and survey teams.

Project experience: best practices and lessons learned

The valuable lessons and experiences listed below were gained through the engagement of stakeholders in the Yemen emergency mine action project. The project experience is linked to the present at the emergency phase (listed above).

Best practices:

- Operations remain tightly controlled and monitored to assure effectiveness, productivity, and safety.

- Liaisons keep local communities fully informed during clearance operation and risk education activities.
- Post-clearance impact assessment/survey with TPM agents conducted to ensure the land cleared and handed over is used, proving that the local population has confidence in clearance operations.
- Women included in risk education and bomb disposal teams.
- Project implementation was always adapted to deal with changing situations and difficulties in order to achieve the maximum benefits of interventions. For example: In the polluted fields that prevent the access to the target areas, the main roads are cleared, and the remaining part of the field is marked, providing risk education for surrounding communities.
- The project responded to the emerging needs of the targeted communities including for example the needs for tools and equipment for ERW clearance.
- The establishment of the decentralized Yemeni decision-making structure (YMACC) improved effective mine action coordination and implementation in the south.
- The facilitation of the introduction of MA INGOs and commercial entities into the south improved standards and operations.
- The Humanitarian prioritisation matrix is an interesting tool for information sharing within integrated and coordinated interventions.
- The project implementation was always adapted to deal with changing situations and difficulties to achieve maximum benefits of interventions. Many of the results point to long-term change.
- Ministry of Interior supported community consultations and technical training in regard of countering the threat posed by IEDs.

Lessons learned:

- UNDP long-term engagement and being a positive team player yields results.
- UNDP successfully recruited mine action advisors/experts and contracted INGOs that were able to develop capacity and mentoring.
- All stakeholders, including national authorities, YMACC, YEMAC, operators and donors must have a

commonly defined vision and goal. Plans, results, and the theory of change (ToC) should be regularly assessed, upgraded, and discussed jointly.

- National ownership of the mine action project, including a capacity development plan, time framework, clear benchmark, risk assessment and sustainable funding, all clearly defined from the start as well as full commitment.
- Planning based on results must be transparently and constantly presented to donors. Such actions ensure continuous donor interest and reaffirm their belief in the joint vision and plan.
- Advocacy efforts are crucial to ensuring that focus is maintained on remaining difficulties and on commitment to international conventions.
- Actual results achieved with donor funds should be readily available during the implementation of the project.
- Following success in engaging women in MRE and removal activities, the project needs to engage more women with more trainings and high-level tasks.
- Huge and unprecedented diversification of pollution necessitated increasing the efficiency and further training of field staff to be able to identify and deal with this pollution, which is continuously changing.
- Improved productivity will be met by the employment of more efficient methodologies for the disposal of mines/UXO and more efficient land release surveys on which the project is working with its INGO partners.
- YEMAC needs to finalise the review of its organisational structure to achieve greater effectiveness and efficiency and rise to the new challenges in the country, both technical and geographic.
- YEMAC needs to further organise the field operations to meet both the emergency requirements and address the longer-term impact of the most recent contamination threats.
- Utilisation of the Mine Action Capability Maturity Self-Assessment tool (IRG area only) allows a better approach to the capacity strengthening process and defining the axis of intervention.
- Integration of Mine Action into Rule of Law (RoL) programme counters the threat posed by IEDs and provides valuable assistance to mine action

through a novel human rights-based approach driven by community consultations and threat analysis.

Conclusions

Conclusion 1. The project was designed to be more open and more aligned with the general changing needs of the country in the ongoing conflict. While the project could not totally clear all the contaminated areas, it responded to the needs of the population living in the projects' intervention areas while facilitating access to humanitarian support.

Conclusion 2. The project contributed to local peace in the targeted areas through clearing the roads and improving access to basic services such as access to water, agricultural lands, schools, and hospitals.

Conclusion 3. The main value-added contribution of UNDP is that the capacity development through exchange and sharing of knowledge in mine action institutions to coordinate and manage mine action operations (YMACC and YEMAC) has increased, assisted by a number of international NGOs through technical training, administrative and operational support and providing equipment that enables community education, explosive ordnance survey and clearance.

Conclusion 4. The Project is operating in and dealing with changing conditions in different areas and accordingly moving from one region to another, based on the development of conflicts. Accordingly, new objectives and needs are prioritised. Ensuring the financial sustainability of local institutions is at stake in making the continuation of emergency support a success.

Recommendations

Recommendation 1. Capacity development is a key component of mine action development assistance. UNDP should continue to support the national institutions YMACC and YEMAC in developing national

capacity to address the long-term humanitarian and development challenges caused by the threat of ERW. This will be realized through the continuation of provision of technical advisors to undertake all aspects of operational management to address the long-term humanitarian and development challenges posed by the presence of ERW, with other United Nations actors and international partners.

Recommendation 2. Recent conflicts have dramatically changed the extent and complexity of explosive ordnance contamination dramatically (i.e. CMR, AXOs, IEDs) and UNDP responses should continue to enhance support to national institutions and authorities by building on lessons from the two different areas under IRG/DFA control with different speeds in project progress and achievements. This segmentation should be considered for a sustainable national ownership and utilizing closer engagement with national and international partners.

Recommendation 3. UNDP must multiply efforts into exploring partnerships and fostering cooperation among the UN system actors and agencies such as UNICEF, to leverage comparative advantages, as opposed to setting up parallel systems, in the particular domain of mine risk education (MRE), explosive ordnance risk education (EORE) and improvised explosive device education as well as victim assistance (VA) for women and children.

Recommendation 4. UNDP Mine Action should reinforce its mechanism for planning, field monitoring and evaluation (M&E), risk management and results achieved or ongoing. This should feed into an updated theory of change (ToC) and their use in results management.

Recommendation 5. UNDP should maintain and reinforce its efforts to strengthen the gender and diversity dimensions for example persons with disabilities (PWD), the aged, marginalized tribes etc..., of its mine action project and further support the structuration and capacities on women's empowerment

Introduction, context, and background

Introduction

1. Consistent with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) strategy for assisting the mine action¹ sector in Yemen, one of the primary goals of the UN is to ensure the most efficient and effective response to the impact of landmines, unexploded ordnance (UXO) and other explosive remnants of war (ERW, including cluster munitions and improvised explosive devices (IEDs). According to the UN Policy on Mine Action and Effective Coordination, the primary responsibility for addressing the threats faced by the population from contamination rests with the affected state. To promote national ownership, responsibility, leadership and effective coordination, the UNDP is mandated by the General Assembly to assist the national authorities in their efforts to review and strengthen existing coordination mechanisms and further develop a national mine action programme.

2. The UNDP Yemen commissioned an independent evaluation between June and August 2021 of the emergency mine action (EMA) project phase five (2017-2021) to a team of two individual consultants (an international consultant working remotely and a national consultant collecting data on-site through field visits/interviews and meeting with local authorities, stakeholders, and communities in governorates). This brief/summary brings together the findings, conclusions, and recommendations from the various processes of the evaluation.

Context

3. The Republic of Yemen has been contaminated with mines and other explosive remnants of war from successive conflicts and crisis since the 60s, 70s, 90s and more recently 2015. They have call changed the extent and complexity of contamination dramatically, though its full extent is unknown. The escalation of conflict in Yemen, now in its seventh year, affects every aspect of the lives of the population and communities and has seen large tracts of land being affected by several types of explosive items and abandoned ammunition in areas of direct and indirect land warfare. The crisis is the result of a brutal armed conflict, causing immense suffering for the Yemeni people. Not only has the conflict destroyed critical infrastructure, but it has also caused major loss of life and injuries, internal displacement, government fragmentation and poor public service delivery. Institutional and population resilience have been also weakened, with food insecurity verging on famine. Major roads, bridges and power lines across the country have been severely damaged and oil and gas production have been totally disrupted. Active ground hostilities, coupled with shelling and air strikes, often in populated areas, in violation of international humanitarian law continue to harm civilians and cause widespread damage to civilians and damage their homes and infrastructure while explosive remnants of war impede freedom of movement and kill and injure civilians.

4. Mine Action in Yemen is well-established and linked to development initiative as a forerunner to stabilization, reconstruction, and recovery to an effective governance. This is closely linked with international community who support humanitarian and peace operations. Landmine and Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) contamination in hazardous areas as a result of conflicts, is largely contained in the southern coastal areas and in the governorates on the northern border with Saudi Arabia plus Sana'a, Marib, Ta'iz, Al Jaw, Hajjah, AL Hodeidah, and Sa'dah where the majority of the population resides, and which represent 3,8 million people in need². The erosion of the rule of law has also facilitated supply networks for weapons, ordnance, munitions, explosives, IED components and explosive chemical precursors.

¹ Mine action is a collective term used internationally to encompass the demining of landmines and explosive remnants of war (ERW); the destruction of landmines and ERW stockpiles; landmine and ERW risk education; mine victim assistance; and advocacy against the use of landmines and cluster munitions. According to the United Nations, mine action is "... not just about demining; it is also about people and societies, and how they are affected by landmine contamination. The objective of mine action is to reduce the risk from landmines and ERW to a level where people can live safely; in which social, economic and health development can occur free from the constraints imposed by landmine contamination".

² HNO 2021 Protection cluster p.82

ERW contamination is the result of all types of unexploded ordnance (UXO) which include cluster munitions, improvised explosive devices (IEDs), landmines (anti-personnel, anti-tank), sea mines and abandoned explosive ordnance (AXO). These have worsened the living conditions of a population already severely affected by the conflict and prone to famine.

Explosive ordnance hazards are a result of fighting between the main belligerents, Ansar Allah as De Facto Authorities (DFA) in the north and the Internationally Recognized Government (IRG) in the south and their allies, plus terrorist organizations and criminal networks.

5. The aerial campaign added the new threats of unexploded bombs, particularly cluster-type munitions in the middle and northern regions of the country. Recent improvised mines as well as other improvised explosive devices are being laid along roads, inside buildings, and are posing a serious hazard to displaced families returning to their property. The Yemen's Executive Mine Action Centre (YEMAC) reported over 4,000 incidents involving improvised explosive devices in 2019. Analysis of just over 2,600 improvised devices encountered since 2018³ found that 70 % were anti-personnel mines of an improvised nature, resulting in loss and livelihood in affected governorates.

Recently, sea mines and waterborne IEDs in various formats have become a constant issue in the coastal areas and have the potential to disrupt maritime traffic in the Red Sea, approaches to ports and maritime installations along Yemen's western coastline as well as the fishing industry.

6. Based on the 2021 Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO- February 2021) analysis, 20.7 million people - 66 % of the population - are estimated to need humanitarian aid and protection, 12.1 millions of whom are estimated to be in acute need. Humanitarian, and recovery activities such as waste and debris management, access to natural and other resources, access to aid and social services, and the recovery of business activities ; have become increasingly challenging.

7. Yemen is a signatory state to the APMBC (Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention) since entering into force in March 1999 and enacting national legislation in April 2005. Yemen is neither party to the 2008 Convention on Cluster Munitions nor the 1980 Convention on Conventional Weapons. APMBC extended obligations currently expire in March 2023 which will allow Yemen to obtain clarity regarding the remaining contamination through national surveys. As a result, the country will produce a detailed plan of action and submit an additional extension request.

National Ownership

8. Yemen has two state institutions for mine action implementation, the Sana'a based inter-ministerial National Mine Action Committee (NMAC-1998) and the Yemen Executive Mine Action Centre (YEMAC- 1999). YEMAC is a well-established and credible national institution that has delivered mine action activities in Yemen for almost three decades. NMAC which previously formulated national mine action policy, strategy, convention obligations, political facilitation and priority setting is no longer active. Since the beginning, YEMAC has fulfilled the double role of regulator responsible for the policy and planning whilst also serving as the sole national operator, conducting and/or co-ordinating risk-education; victim assistance; survey and clearance operations. In addition, YEMAC is responsible for information management and quality control/assurance of all operations.

9. In April 2020, YEMAC opened within the UNDP support project, a Yemen Mine Action Coordination Centre (YMACC) in Aden intended to strengthen programme management in areas controlled by the internationally recognized government (IRG). The Centre is also to facilitate cooperation with international organizations and has the responsibility for accrediting them. Staff is currently trained in the various challenges of operational management and coordination.

10. YEMAC is supported by regional executive Mine Action Branches (REMABs) in Aden, set up in 1999, Al-Mukalla (Hadramout governorates) in March 2004 and Saada in April 2016. As the front lines move, particularly

³ Recorded IED incidents on IMSMA YEMAC Data Base

in Al-Jawf, Marib and in Western coastal areas (Hodeida), YEMAC also has an office in Mokha and in 2019 opened an office in Taiz to support operations around these areas.

Since the conflict erupted in March 2015, management of mine action in Yemen is divided along the lines of the conflict between the de facto authorities (DFA) based in Sana'a and controlling the north and west, and the internationally recognized government (IRG) operationally based in Aden and the south.

Today, YEMAC is playing a key national role with more than 1,000 staff working around 17-20 governorates and 60-90 districts. YEMAC manages operations through two sub-offices in Sana'a (for Sana'a-centric governorates) and Aden (for Aden-centric governorates), organized with one clearance team for explosive disposal/immediate response and spot task destruction in the north and Aden with six teams dedicated to survey and field clearance in the south. YEMAC is not widely active in the north and as a result, most assets and trained YEMAC personnel are now in the south as the needs have changed.

Project background

11. UNDP have provided technical and administrative assistance in humanitarian mine action efforts in Yemen since the mid-1990s. The current Phase five plan for 2017-2020, now extended to mid-2021 of the Emergency Mine action (EMA) project addresses the changed situation in the country with its new and evolving threats. The structure of YEMAC is to effect operations according to the needs with the personnel and assets required to meet both the immediate needs while concurrently addressing the longer-term obligations.

In short, the project is designed to reduce the impact of explosive remnants of war and mines on people and communities. The aim is a flexible approach adapting to the evolving crises in country, allowing for the changing tide of conflict, new and realistic priorities, and a potential end of hostilities with resulting peace arrangements. UNDP's mine action intervention is therefore considered long-term. Recent conflicts have changed the extent and difficulty of contamination significantly and represent an important challenge for YEMAC.

12. Mine action in Yemen is an important and integrated component of United Nations humanitarian aid and protection and further developmental activities. Mine action is proactive in operational emergencies by delivering humanitarian aid in conflict affected areas and building the foundations for sustainable development in areas not consumed by the conflict. The UNDP's Emergency Mine Action Project remains one of the "flagships" of UNDP Yemen and contributes to a wide spectrum of mine action activities in Yemen through supporting NMAC, YEMAC and the new Yemen Mine Action Coordination Centre (YMACC). UNDP has advisory and fiduciary roles covering technical implementation and methodologies, policy issues, planning processes through the full project cycle, and resource mobilization.

13. The project addresses the physical and socio-economic impacts of ERW and mines on people and communities by (i) supporting aid delivery, (ii) preventing the situation from worsening by reducing injuries and fatalities ; (iii) relieving communities of the impact of current contamination by providing access to critical infrastructure and restoring essential basic social and productive services and (iv) addressing the longer-term issues of international convention obligations.

All of these are a prerequisite to stabilization and the normalization of economic activity in many of the most impacted regions of the country. UNDP is implementing this by assisting/re-structuring work of the national Mine Action infrastructure, developing national capacity and providing support to implement a coordinated Mine Action Sector including counter-IED approach, specifically IED threat mitigation.

14. The expected results of the project are : (1) Mine and UXO contamination is mapped, and impact assessed nationwide using primary and secondary resources ; (2) Mines and UXO are cleared in identified priority areas ; (3) The awareness of threats posed by mines and UXO is increased in affected communities ; (4) Survivors of ERW are more effectively supported and rehabilitated socio-economically.

In achieving these results, the project expects to (i) contribute to a wider development change which will result in enabling, countrywide, Yemeni households and communities to effectively cope with the impact of the crisis

and to rebuild their resilience; and (ii) strengthen confidence in and preserve and build the institutional capacities of NMAC, YEMAC, YMACC and third parties to deliver essential services to citizens.

15. Apart from the main SDGs 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions), SDG 5 (Gender Equality), SDG 1 (End Poverty), and the humanitarian response plan from OCHA, the project contributes to the intended outcomes :

UNDAF 2012-2015 extended to December 2021/Outcome 2 : Local authorities and communities effectively engaged in sustainable management of natural resources, biodiversity conservation, and adaptation to climate change and disaster risk reduction (DRR) by 2015.

UNDP Yemen Country Programme Document/CPD 2012-2015 extended to June 2019/Outcome 2 : Local authorities and communities effectively engaged in sustainable management of natural resources biodiversity conservation, adaptation to climate change and disaster risk reduction (DRR) by 2015.

UNDP Yemen Country Programme Document (CPD)/ Country Programme Framework (CPF) July 2019-June 2021/Outcome 3 : Yemenis contribute to and benefit from peacebuilding processes.

The outcomes statement shows quite wide results. For the purpose of planning UNDP interventions (*'make Yemen a safer and more resilient nation'*), these outcomes were understood to focus upon four areas (i) completing the development of the National Mine Action Standards; (ii) expanding the national mine action technical capacity within INGO presence to increase Yemen effective response (Policy & Coordination/YMACC; Executive & Operations/YEMAC); (iii) developing measures and activities to block the spread of new threats such as Improvised Explosive Devices and sea mines; (iv) fostering a safe overall working and living environment and ultimately supporting social cohesion and peace building efforts.

As part of the cluster system managed by OCHA to coordinate humanitarian response and namely within the cluster early recovery, mine action participated in the drafting of the 2021 Humanitarian needs overview (HNO) and Humanitarian Response Plan HRP) and has dedicated section in each document

Evaluation purpose, objectives, criteria, and approach

Purpose

16. As per the ToR, UNDP has commissioned between June and August 2021, an independent evaluation to assess the project's progress towards restoration of services and access to key infrastructure, reducing injuries and fatalities, and normalization of economic activity in targeted areas. The terminal project evaluation serves as an important learning and accountability tool, providing UNDP, key national stakeholders, authorities, and project donors in the targeted governorates and districts, with an impartial assessment of the results generated, including gender equality measures and women's empowerment.

The evaluation will assess the project's relevance, effectiveness/outcome (impact), efficiency and sustainability, identify and document lessons learned, and provide recommendations to inform future project phases. The findings and recommendations of the evaluation will guide the key stakeholders, relevant Yemen institutions and authorities, project donors, UNDP, UN agencies, civil society organizations in the implementation of related projects and support inclusion and leaving no one behind. In line with this requirement, an international consultant has been engaged remotely to work with a national consultant on site to undertake the review.

Objectives, criteria, and approach

17. In summary, the evaluation is to analyse results and performance of the project to date, identify key constraints and challenges, record early signs of potential outcome (impact) of the project interventions, and identify and document lessons learned. The findings and recommendations of the evaluation will guide the key

stakeholders, relevant Yemen institutions and authorities, project donors, UNDP, UN agencies, civil society organizations in the implementation of future mine action project phases and support inclusion with no one left behind.

18. As per the ToR, specific terminal evaluation objectives are to:

- 1) Assess the relevance and strategic positioning of the Emergency Mine Action (phase V) project and whether the initial assumptions are still relevant;
- 2) Assess (a) the progress made towards project results and whether there were any unintended results; (b) what can be captured in terms of lessons learned, best practices and recommendations for future continuation of activities and consolidation of results;
- 3) Assess whether the project management arrangements, country office support, approaches, and strategies, including monitoring strategies and risk management approaches, were well-conceived and efficient in delivering the project;
- 4) Assess the overall contribution of the projects towards humanitarian-peace-development nexus and whether there are indications of sustaining the project's results after the end of the project;
- 5) Analyse the extent to which the project enhanced application of a rights-based approach, gender equality and women's empowerment, social and environmental standards, and participation of other socially vulnerable groups such as children and the disabled.

In particular aspects linked to the humanitarian mine action support project, the evaluation sought to understand the extent to which the UNDP contribution to mine action has strengthened national institutional capacities (mainly YEMAC, YMACC) to deliver responsive mine action services that reduce vulnerability for affected communities, enable the restoration of services and equitable development in targeted cleared areas, advance the rights of persons with disabilities and support compliance with relevant international treaties.

19. In addition to assessing the above-mentioned objectives, the evaluation explored concrete development through four key evaluation questions (as per UNDP Evaluation Guidelines revised June 2021 and ICPE⁴ guidance) which were adapted for different interlocutors:

- Relevance: Was the project relevant to the needs and priorities of the target groups/beneficiaries including women and men? And the extent to which the project is in line with UNDP strategy for assistance to the mine action, national priorities, priorities of the targeted governorates, the country programme's outputs and outcomes and the SDGs?
- Efficiency and Sustainability: What factors contributed to or hindered UNDP's performance and ultimately, the sustainability for the continued realisation of results?
- Effectiveness/impacts (outputs): To what extent has the project achieved (or is likely to achieve) its intended objectives? by addressing issues of gender equality, women's empowerment (GEWE) and human rights? Has it forged partnerships at different levels, including with government institutions, donors, UN agencies, and communities).

The evaluation identified some good practice, lessons learned and made conclusions followed by recommendations. The evaluation has been also approached with the view to evolve and prioritized a new perspective on action, favored by a learning process (individual and collective) and appropriation of results and optimization of the ability to generate change. The evaluation used a collaborative and participatory approach to ensure close engagement with the UNDP team, government counterparts and other key stakeholders.

⁴ UNDP Independent Country Programme Evaluation (ICPE) 2019

20. A different set of questions has been adapted to specific interlocutors (annex 3) and this terminal evaluation adheres to the United Nations Evaluation Group's (UNEG) Norms and Ethical Standards, OECD/DAC evaluation principles, guidelines and criteria, and DAC Evaluation Quality Standards, UNDP Evaluation Guidelines and UNDP Evaluation Policy. The evaluation also explored aspects regarding human rights and gender equality and women empowerment (GEWE) within the project.

Evaluation scope, methodology and constraints

21. According to the terms of reference of the evaluation, the Project Evaluation covered the period of project implementation from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2021 within ten project locations between the northern and southern part of the country. According to the feasibility (current access and security as well as difficulties in obtaining clearance, from relevant authorities for conducting field visits in areas under DFA control), the field visits were limited to six Governorates including Sana'a, Taiz (North) and Aden, Abyan, Hadramout, Lahj (South).

The evaluation assessed progress made on key indicators agreed with all project stakeholders. In addition to assessing the relevance, effectiveness/outcome (impact), efficiency of the project, the evaluation aimed to a) explore the key factors that have contributed to the achieving or not achieving of the intended results, and b) determine the extent to which the project contributed towards the restoration of services and access to key infrastructure, reducing injuries and fatalities, and the normalization of economic activity in targeted areas; addressing crosscutting issues of gender equality and women's empowerment and human rights; and forging partnerships at different levels, including with government institutions, donors, UN agencies, and communities; c) assess the potential sustainability of the project for a continued realisation of results; and d) note lessons learned and best practices and make recommendations for future mine action projects.

The evaluation covered as far as possible, project conceptualization, design, implementation, monitoring and reporting of results. The evaluation engaged a significant number of project stakeholders, benefitting communities/institutions, authorities in the governorates and districts covered by the project, funding partners, UNDP, UN agencies and partnering Civil Society Organizations (CSOs).

22. The evaluation team used mixed methods involving semi-structured individual interviews (SII), focus group discussions (FGDs), desk review of key documents and field visits and meetings with communities or users of the services provided through UNDP's support project. Discussions were guided using open-ended questions enabling respondents to express their views freely. The use of multiple sources of information (KII, FGDs, documents, reports/outputs) helped to triangulate findings to provide as accurate a view as possible of UNDP's contribution to mine action in Yemen. Methods of triangulation involves checking the consistency of findings generated by different data collection methods and data sources.

23. The travel restrictions posed by the COVID-19 global pandemic forced the international consultant to cancel the planned in-country data collection mission to Yemen and work remotely. Through recent experience, to conduct remote project evaluation, accessibility to stakeholders i.e government, national counterparts and other actors is an issue as they may be working from home and subject to uncertain availability. The evaluation team has shared in advance the list of questions with interviewees to speed up the process and facilitate interviewee preparation. However, the evaluation team faced challenges with the unavailability of some interviewees during the evaluation.

24. To mitigate these challenges, including the limited capacity to conduct in-person interviews and interact with different stakeholder groups and communities benefitting from UNDP's support, the international consultant (IC) has been assisted by a national consultant (NC). The national consultant brought his knowledge of the country through his experience of working on field issues related to the response to crises in conflict environments to support of the international consultant working remotely. The national consultant contributed to the research, supporting interviews with individuals in the country and interacting with different

stakeholder/focus groups and communities. He did field visits and data collection on issues such as human rights and Gender equality and women empowerment (GEWE). This complementary team approach has been a significant advantage in overcoming delays and providing support during field interviews.

25. It has been anticipated that instead of fieldwork the use of remote consultations by phone and internet- to interview respondents may pose some challenges. Given (1) the security situation in the country, (2) the travel time between the different places and (3) the time set aside for data collection over a period of at least four weeks, the evaluation team visited a limited number of interventions as described above and based on their learning value, and on the four components⁵ of the project. This provided an opportunity to obtain feedback from national/local institutions and direct beneficiaries as well as from direct on-site observation data to support and triangulate⁶ data from other sources.

For conducting interviews, a purposive evaluation sample was considered with 65 Individuals interviewed in person, on-line and FGDs including 28 % of women. Worth mentioning in this regard is that each interviewee in the sites represented and/or supervised thousands of beneficiaries which makes the sample size adequate and representative. As the access to northern places is limited for security reasons; the sample was concentrated to the southern part of the country.

Mine action progress and achievements

26. Civilians continue to face serious risks to their safety, well-being, and the realisation of their basic rights with heightened risks reported by women, children, the elderly, the disabled and marginalised groups. Indiscriminate fighting and the use of explosive weapons near densely populated areas continue to be a major cause of civilian deaths and injuries, with ongoing threats in over 50 districts⁷ near active frontlines. Landmines and explosive remnants of war continue to pose a serious risk to the life and safety of millions of women, men, and children in 19 governorates, as well as hindering access to livelihoods, the movement of populations and goods, access to critical infrastructure and basic services, and access to humanitarian aid.

27. Women and girls are significantly affected by the ongoing conflict and the threat of explosive remnants of war. According to the Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO)⁸ document from OCHA, the estimated number of people who need assistance in the mine action sector is about 12.4 million of people in need (40% of the total population), with 3 million (men); 2.7 million (women) and 3.2 million (girls) which represents both 47,5% and 3.5 million (boys).

28. Since its inception in July 2017, with the support of the Project, clearance operations activities of YEMAC reached over 20 million indirect beneficiaries and close to seven million direct beneficiaries⁹ between the northern and the southern parts of the country. The YEMAC field teams cleared over 870,00 different pieces of explosive ordnance, mines, other Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) and Abandoned Explosive Ordnance (AXO) in more than 24,5 million square meters of land and destroyed close to 40% of explosive devices. The UNDP project has a total five-year budget of US\$ 49,5 million funded by the following main donors: Germany, Netherlands, UK, USA, KSA/UAE (through OCHA), UN OCHA, Canada, EU, Italy.

29. The project has reached over 1,8 million people, 140,000 were IDPs in the risk education activities of YEMAC and other partners. The estimated total of direct beneficiaries of all the activities has nearly reached 7 million throughout the country, covering a yearly average of 17 governorates and 63 districts which is not a small

⁵ Survey, clearance, risk education and victim assistance activities

⁶ Data validation: The triangulated findings (objective and factual) will be use from three different sources if available to ensure credibility and substantiate an assessment.

⁷ HNO Yemen 2021 – Cluster protection p. 78

The 22 Governorates included the island of Socotra are divided into 333 districts (source wikipedia)

⁸ HNO is consolidated by OCHA on behalf of the Humanitarian Country Team and partners. It provides a shared understanding of the crisis, including the most pressing humanitarian need and the estimated number of people who need assistance.

⁹ EMA project annual reports 2017- Q1 2021

achievement. The Victim Assistance department of YEMAC, screened over five thousand survivors amongst whom over two thousand were assisted with various aids.

30. As part of the OCHA humanitarian cluster system, the area of responsibilities (AoR3) 'Mine Action', the project participated in the drafting of the 2021 Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) and Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP)¹⁰ and has a dedicated section in each document. Regular meetings took place, uniting UN and INGOs partners from the whole country, providing a consolidated evidence base and helps inform joint strategic response planning. The protection cluster and its AoR mine action continues to monitor protection needs using the number of civilians killed or injured by ERW as an indicator.

31. The Project Implementation Team (annex 8) in Aden is currently composed of seven international advisors who perform the functions of Chief Technical Advisor/Programme Manager (previously based in Sana'a and now relocated to Aden due to the cancellation of North visa at the end of 2019); Senior Technical Advisor; Mine Action Operation Coordinator and Chief Technical Advisor on Counter IED (also shared with the UNDP RoI programme).

The project is supported by three international specialists on Planning and Monitoring specialist, Reporting and Coordination Analyst and Information Management specialist. In addition, there are four national staff supporting the project operations as Mine Action Coordinators based in Aden, Mokha, Mukalla and Hudaydah plus four national staff covering the aspects of admin/finance (two in Sana'a and Aden respectively). Additional technical specialists may be engaged as and when YEMAC requires support, with a particular focus on the new threats (cluster munitions, aircraft bombs, IEDs, improvised sea mines and an increasing number of advanced weapons within UXO) and more advanced methodologies in survey and clearance.

Institutional challenges

32. The conflict of interest within the organizational structure has been addressed and UNDP strived with its counterparts to support the separate functions of coordination, survey, clearance, and quality management. The new Yemen Mine Action Coordination Center (YMACC) established in 2020, in Aden centric operations-initiated cooperation and provided coordination among entities working on all aspects of mine action in the field (YEMAC, INGOs and potentially private companies) and promoted quality management. It also took the lead on the national standards on mine action. The standards form a critical part of the national mine action effort, together with the operator accreditation process and the verification of cleared land. UNDP works with YMACC on the development of departments for planning, information management, and quality assurance/control processes and longer terms plans for survey and clearance operations (annual work plans), staffing and procurement plans.

33. Despite the successes achieved in building a national mine action centre and capacity, challenges remain. Retention of staff with professional skills will be an ongoing challenge for YMACC. The YMACC is continuously supported by the project to ensure that staff capacity keeps up with the latest developments. YMACC gradually becomes fully operational as recruited staff undergo training. Cooperation with the mine action sector is strong and partners can support strategic planning and institutional development when requested by YMACC.

The mine action advisory team has shared with YEMAC colleagues in Aden the draft 'YMACC QA Evaluation Forms' for their review, comment, and approval. These QA forms are closely aligned and referenced to IMAS, and National Mine Action Standards (NMAS). Following the request (NMAC and YEMAC in Sana'a) to establish a similar body in Sana'a for the Sana'a centric operations, there has been no progress due to the security situation. The absence of the UNDP international staff in the north of the country does hinder this activity and this will continue until after the current situation is resolved.

¹⁰ The HRP is built on three key strategic objectives: preventing famine and restoring livelihoods; treating infectious disease; and providing protection.

Partnerships

34. UNDP's partnerships with national and international institutions and programmes which are perceived as fair and impartial in delivering services to communities were seen as a timely assistance in the current context marked by armed conflict and other forms of political, social, and economic grievances. UNDP worked with NMAC/YEMAC to introduce and facilitate international mine action orientated NGOs both to assist Yemen and to bring their own relative advantages. In terms of coordination NGOs actors are present and represented at UN coordination meetings (ICWG, MA AoR). In addition, the INGO Halo trust is co-chair of the Mine Action Area of Responsibilities (AoR) for the IRG areas.

35. The INGO's have also agreed to support the training of YEMAC Aden staff in coordination with UNDP by providing technically oriented advisory services. UNDP has entered into several agreements with INGOs mostly in Internationally Recognized Government (IRG) areas since 2019, to assist YEMAC in expanding intervention capacities:

- (i) with DDG for supporting YEMAC Aden with capacity building of national mine action staff with EOD II training and enhancing the capacity to deal with the most common explosive threats in Yemen, including training and survey operations in the southern parts of the country with the deployment of four NTS and two EOD teams in 2020. DDG also conducted Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) sessions at the beginning of 2021 reaching more than 6,000 people.
- (ii) with NPA to provide capacity building and re-structure YEMAC's mine detection dog (MDD) Unit with training and actual mine detecting dogs. The plan is for the NPA to assist in future operational developments during a two-year period, divided into three phases (a) strengthen the quality of the YEMAC MDD capacity through the selection of suitable Belgium Shepherds Malinois and the training of staff selected for MDD Handlers and MDD Team leaders; (b) improve the operational efficiency of the use of YMAC MDD capacity through the transfer of expertise in the area of survey and land release and operational monitoring, (c) improve YMAC capability for the planning and organizing of MDD training through the training of trainers. Kennels are built in Aden and training of handlers started in the first semester of 2021. Importation of the dogs already trained in Sarajevo (Bosnia-Herzegovina) is planned for the second part of 2021.
- (iii) with the commercial company 'The Development Initiative' (TDI), to provide technical support and advice to YMACC and YEMAC, with Non-Technical Survey and EOD level 2 course and Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) activities and to deliver advice on Explosive Safety Awareness training for UN and humanitarian staff to the required standards, focusing on likely contamination threats in specific areas of operation.
- (iv) with the HALO Trust on the training of YEMAC senior operational staff in the survey and battle/land clearance operations (EOD teams) and explosive ordnance risk education (EORE) with an emphasis on the destruction of cluster munitions and other UXO. HALO will continue to offer advice, engage in discussions, and lead the development of the mechanical mine clearance capacity within YMACC and YEMAC in 2021.

Due to the ongoing situation with COVID-19 in the south, the activities on this front are behind schedule. The INGOs are reorienting themselves to operations that do not require CASEVAC such as risk assessment (RA), Non-Technical Survey (NTS) and general training. The INGOs have also agreed to support the training of the new YMACC staff in coordination with UNDP by providing technical advice when needed.

36. UNDP's approach ensures the continuity of NMAC/YMACC/YEMAC as institutions operating mine action and further develops the concept of national ownership in addressing the needs. Further INGOs will be requested to support clearance operations if and when the conditions become conducive and the relative strengths of mine action orientated INGOs are identified according to identified priorities.

37. Prodigy Systems (Yemeni private company) was contracted by UNDP as the third-party monitoring agent, to conduct regular small-scale monitoring on mine action activities implemented by the Yemen Executive Mine Action Center (YEMAC). The monitoring is aimed to (i) verify the implementation of mine action activity in contaminated locations as requested; (ii) verify the status of land clearance (progress) and (iii) get feedback from communities benefitting from YEMAC MA activities. This monitoring exercise started on February 2018 and is still ongoing. Over 60 fields monitoring visits were conducted in YEMAC areas of operations between the South and the West coast. TPM requests were sent monthly by UNDP to Prodigy and coordinated with YEMAC focal points. During TPM visits to MA teams, Field Monitors interviewed beneficiaries and Community leaders (CL) from MA targeted areas to verify their knowledge and benefits from the mine clearance in their communities. The last reports showed 97% of CL and 94% of beneficiaries are aware of the MA activities happening in their area. According to 89% of CLs, different infrastructures have benefited from land clearance, mostly farms (75%) and roads (91%).

38. A key partner in the work to reduce the threat of unexploded ordnance in the governorate of Hudaydah is the United Nations Mission which supports the Hudaydah Agreement (UNMHA). In cooperation with UNMAS, UNMHA provides technical support to oversee the identification and further removal of minefields and ERW - when the political and security situation allows- in the three vital Red Sea ports of Hudaydah, Salif, and Ras Issa, which import eighty per cent of the humanitarian goods entering the country.

39. UNDP is cooperating with the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), on upgrading the Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) and on producing/updating a comprehensive and all-inclusive national standard. Interim National Mine Action Standards (NMAS) have been drafted and are under the current review of YMACC.

40. UNDP is working with the YMACC to establish IED upstream and downstream capacity development initiatives in conjunction with GICHD, YRCS and UNODC and its Global Maritime Programme (GMP) to determine the flow of IED components and precursor chemicals across the Arabian Sea. Community consultations, IED risk education (for women, children, vulnerable communities, justice actors) and IED disposal training (land and maritime) have been the focus, as well as working with female staff in the Family Protection Directorate.

Land released and ERW clearance operations (Project output 1: Mine and UXO contamination is mapped, and impact assessed nationwide using primary and secondary resources and output 2: Mines and UXO are cleared in identified priority areas).

41. External support to YEMAC/YMACC is gradually increasing via many partners i.e., UNDP, GICHD, INGOs which will help the impact made with setting up the programme and management, coordination, and implementation of mine action activities. During the period under consideration, YEMAC's technical staff continued to grow to reach a workforce of 1,000 persons active in 2019. The developments of early December 2017 in Sana'a have briefly disrupted the work in the city, but YEMAC teams have resumed their activities early in 2018.

YEMAC teams in different Governorates continued their regular duties. YEMAC and UNDP continued working on improving the administration activities of YEMAC's departments with review of internal procedures, operations planning and organizational charts. To fully enable 'behaviour change' and realisation of 'best practice' specifically with adherence to International/National Mine Action standards, the YEMAC benefits from the ongoing mentorship and support from UNDP technical advisory team and INGOs to allow them to increase their productivity and maintain operational safety and standards.

42. The project supported YEMAC with numerous completed procurement processes for equipment and other IT equipment. In May 2019, UNDP handed over to the YEMAC 40 double cabin pick-ups vehicles, 16 ambulances, 16 trucks (six tons) which included new field vehicles as two backhoe loaders and two cranes (mounted on trucks) as well as trucks and ambulances. These were distributed between the Aden and Sana'a centric operations, in support of YEMAC's country-wide operations to help ensure deminers are better equipped and

better able to work within the challenging Yemen environment. This handover was also part of UNDP's commitment to the Stockholm Agreement¹¹ where the organization is playing a key role in the civilian component of its implementation – with a focus upon Mine Action, support for port operations, and recovery.

In July 2020, UNDP purchased for YEMAC 36 double cabin pick-ups vehicles and 300 metal detectors. The metal detectors were mainly used for operations in the south of the country as the delivery of some of these detectors to the northern areas has been deemed impossible, due to the current situation.

In July 2021, UNDP has delivered 300 personal protective equipment (PPE) sets including helmets, visors, vest, and knee pads to the YEMAC in Aden to continue to safely respond to reports of explosives hazards (EH) in the community.

43. The table below shows the consolidated results of YEMAC field clearance operations.

Year	Area Cleared (m2) (manual and dog detection teams)	# active YEMAC pers	Area Surveyed (m2)	# ERWs Cleared	# ERWs destroyed	# Governorate	# District	# Beneficiaries	
								Indirect	Direct
2017	8,556,883	700	3,000,000	349,912	57,779 (17%)	14	55	10,000,000	3,681,946
2018	6,661,954	800	825,000	125,193	13,268 (11%)	16	81	12,000,000	1,592,261
2019 (*)	3,487,663	1,000	355,976	66,701	(**)	21	95	1,500,000	126,000
2020	Over 3,1 M	1,000	N/A	68,621	N/A	19	39	N/A	177,000
2021 Q1	967,400	1,000	N/A	16,448	4,112 (25%)	15	44	N/A	N/A

Table 1: Cumulative results of YEMAC activities 2017-2021 Q1 (Source annual EMA project reports)

N/A: Not available

(*) The activities show a drop from past years due to several factors: a) stricter regulations on counting ERW; b) minor interruptions in the work during second quarter of the year in the south of the country; c) decrease in number of collected ammunition due to earlier large-scale clearance operations.

(**) Not achieved due to the inability to obtain destruction materials

44. The YEMAC **information management** unit continued preparing progress reports of the completed activities for entry in the IMSMA. Since 2019, although not fully updated the IMSMA is becoming more reliable. UNDP is working with the GICHD to introduce a full scale IMSMA into the operations and make sure it is organized properly. With the support of the GICHD, YEMAC uses the new IMSMA core which also enables international NGOs to retrieve, edit and enter data online, thus improving data analysis and considerably facilitating land release processes. The international information management specialist is directly working with YEMAC on increasing their capacity in this sector with (i) training and increase knowledge on information management for mine action; (ii) elaboration, harmonization, and development of data collection forms to be used on national information management system for mine action and (iv) production of expected contamination maps and infographics related to operations.

45. By maintaining YEMAC operational capacity, according to the volatile security situation in parts of the country, mine action operations were able to be expanded. YEMAC continually strives to increase the number of personnel active in mine action and the skills and knowledge base. The activities completed include the training of personnel, releasing land through survey and explosive ordnance removal, all of which have a long-

¹¹ The Stockholm agreement is a voluntary accord between the parties of the conflict in Yemen. It was agreed in Stockholm, Sweden, on 13 December 2018 under three main components: (i) an agreement on the city of Hudaydah and the ports of Hudaydah, Salif and Ras Issa; (ii) an executive mechanism on activating the prisoner exchange agreement; (iii) a statement of understanding on Taiz. The UN Security Council endorsed the Stockholm agreement under resolution 2451 (2018).

lasting impact on the life of the Yemeni people. UNDP is assisting YEMAC with re-structuring, where required, and to be technically competent in conducting efficient and effective physical operations to reduce the socio-economic impact of explosive remnants of war on people and communities.

C-IED activities

46. Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) present a significant problem for Yemen in both the land and maritime domains. Between January 2018 and March 2021 there were more than 2400 recorded incidents on IMSMA, which contributed directly to 365 civilian casualties including within YEMAC teams. As at end 2020, Hadramaut, Shabwah and Taiz overtook Hudaydah as epicentres of IED related activity, contributing to 57% of all reported devices¹². In 2020, IED disposal training of YEMAC teams took place in these above-mentioned places.

47. Since March 2019, UNDP Yemen has been running a combined Mine Action (MA) and Rule of Law (RoL) programme in Yemen to counter the threat posed by IEDs by examining C-IED through a novel human rights-based approach, driven by community consultation, a number of upstream (IED prevention – before the event) and downstream (IED threat mitigation – after the event) capacity development initiatives. These form part of the UNIDIR C-IED maturity model¹³, a concept which UNDP piloted in Yemen between 2019 and 2020. Within this self-assessment tool, UNDP MA collaboration with national and international partners focused at upstream level on (i) security and control of explosives, (ii) IED risk education, (iii) control of IED precursors and (iv) cooperation and information sharing; and at downstream level on IED response ‘render safe’, (ii) information management and (iii) judicial process.

48. Specific issues identified for immediate action were the requirement for IED disposal training within the national authority and IED risk education working closely with UNICEF and HI, across communities relevant to the precise geographic threat. An IED Disposal Good Practice Course was designed around these shortfalls. The training initiative has proved to be a significant force multiplier. The IRG government has requested that training expand into Taiz and Aden in 2021. In February 2021, thirty senior judges and members of the supreme court were trained. UNDP Yemen is working with national authorities and international community to improve Southern Yemen’s C-IED stance governorate by governorate, planned in most areas by the end of 2021.

Mine Risk Education (MRE) (Output 3: The awareness of threats posed by mines and UXO is increased in affected communities).

49. UNDP is supporting the co-ordination and implementation of risk education and victim assistance elements of the national programme in conjunction with other UN agencies and active NGOs. YEMAC Mine risk education contributes to reducing the number of victims through behavioural changes, while reintegration of victims provides for more equitable access to public services, mitigating the negative impact of war on people and reducing the burden on communities. The risk education activities of YEMAC reached over 371 thousand people over the course of the year. Risk education is designed to change people’s behaviour but statistics of casualties during conflict, and when there is a rising threat, makes any beneficial analysis of the activity difficult. However, evidence from similar post-conflict theatres draws the conclusions that behaviour, particularly among high-risk groups, does initiate change and risk education does reduce the casualty rates significantly. The table below disaggregates MRE beneficiaries from 2017 to Q1 2021.

Year	# MRE Beneficiaries				# MRE Events
	Children	Female	Male	Total	
2017	182,181	17,380 (8%)	23,804	223,365	998
2018	182,093	96,621 (26%)	92,905	371,619	84

¹² EMA project 2020 annual report p.10

¹³ In 2016, the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) was mandated by the United Nations General Assembly to develop “a voluntary self-assessment tool to assist States in identifying gaps and challenges in their national regulation and preparedness regarding improvised explosive devices”. In response to this request, UNIDIR developed this Counter-IED Capability Maturity Model and Self-Assessment Tool (June 2020). This document is designed to assist States in the development of coherent national responses to the threat posed by IEDs

2019	350,000	185,000 (26%)	179,000	715,000	922
2020	274,873	54,427 (14%)	65,494	394,794 ¹⁴	N/A
2021 Q1	N/A	N/A	N/A	135,498	112
Total				1,840,276	

Table 2: 2017-2021 Q1 Cumulative results of YEMAC mine/ERW risk education activities

N/A: Not available

Source annual EMA project reports- and figures communicated by the MRE working Group (does include YEMAC)

50. In 2017, Supported with UNICEF funding and in cooperation with other organizations, the risk education activities reached over 770 thousand beneficiaries including high percentage of women and girls as per the details given in the table below:

	# of Districts	# of Locations	No. of Supervisors, Trainers, and Facilitators			Beneficiaries from Local Communities (723,914) and IDPs (46,312)						Grand Total
						Adults			Children			
			Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
Total	66	3,488	274	130	404	95,472	62,872	158,344	323,012	288,870	611,882	770,226

Table 3: 2017 Mine Risk Education activities completed with UNICEF support - Source annual EMA project reports

In addition, with UNICEF funding and support, YEMAC completed or coordinated ‘train the trainer’ sessions around the country for 731 trainers. 251 of whom were females to ensure reaching to women in the local communities which reflect their commitment to gender equality and women’s empowerment. The events organized covered around 178 schools, societies, and media offices.

51. In 2018 and 2019, the Child Protection programme of UNICEF has continued to provide lifesaving education (with the participation of women) on the risks posed by mines, unexploded ordnances and explosive remnants of war reaching 3,352,700 conflict affected people including 2,654,600 children (1,388,494 boys; 1,253,074 girls) and 698,100 adults (420,075 male; 278,025 (40%) female) across 20 governorates. Mine Risk Education was delivered in schools, in child friendly spaces, and through community campaigns¹⁵reaching out to women, girls and the most vulnerable.

4.6- Victim Assistance (VA) (output 4: Survivors of ERW incidents are effectively supported and rehabilitated socio-economically)

52. UNDP has managed to engage national authorities and is working hard on including the civil society in promote victims’ assistance and in cooperating with other players in this field.

The results presented below show that YEMAC is committed to victims’ assistance ensuring gender equality and targeting almost higher number females

Year	# Victims surveyed/screened				# Equipment delivered ¹⁶		
	Children	Female	Male	Total			
2017	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,394	673	991	1,551 (46%)
2018	686	364	351	1,401	318	(36%)	
2019	N/A	N/A	N/A	560	560 (100%)		

¹⁴ Less events due to covid 19 pandemic restrictions

¹⁵ Source: UNICEF Yemen Humanitarian Situation Report December 2018, 2019

¹⁶ Electric wheelchair, Wheelchair, Bathroom Stool, Bathroom chair, Crutches, Hearing devices, Cupping Devices, Massager, walking aid, Bed chair, Walking aid, Blood press.

2020	N/A	N/A	N/A	449	41
2021 Q1	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Table 4: Cumulative results on ERW victims screened and supported -2017-2021 Q1.

N/A: Not available

Source annual EMA project reports

53. The consequences of years of conflict have had a serious impact on the living standards and physical and mental well-being of the affected people. Essential in the short-term is to ensure that all sectors of the community, regardless of gender, age group, ethnicity, minority, or vulnerable grouping are included and have their needs included based on the priorities. The inability to import the victims' assistance equipment, purchased mid-2019, has hindered the efforts of the unit. However, following the unsuccessful attempts to deliver items to YEMAC in Sana'a may result in all items and equipment procured being delivered to the Aden centric operations.

54. In addition to the activities completed by YEMAC, UNICEF expanded in 2018, the victim assistance services to children who lost their limbs and to children with disabilities by supporting the Prosthesis and Rehabilitation centers in Aden and Taizz governorates as well as supporting the access of children coming from other governorates to these centres. By end of 2018, 102 children (79 boys; 23 girls) were provided with prosthesis and artificial limbs and 213 children (127 girls; 86 boys) were provided with assistive devices to help them overcome their disability.¹⁷

4.7- Casualties

55. After Shelling Airstrike, small arms fire, explosive remnants of war (ERW) (including UXO and landmines) were responsible for 862 civilian casualties between 2018 and 2020, almost half of whom were fatalities and over a third (36%) of casualties were children, with an average of 2-3 casualties per incident.

In 2020, it was observed by CIMP report that there was some correlation between landmine casualties and heavy rainfall in Yemen, possibly due in part to ground saturation causing landmine drift, bringing devices closer to the surface or into previously safe areas, but also due to flooding presenting access restraints, as well as conflict-related access, forcing civilians to take alternative, unsafe routes. Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) explosions harming civilian have increased by a factor of three since 2018.

Forty-three civilian casualties from Explosive hazards (14 landmines, 15 IEDs, 13 UXOs, 1 sea mine) out of 452 civilian casualties were recorded for the period January – March 2021. As reported by the CIMP 2021, this is the lowest civilian casualty count recorded in Yemen in one quarter since CIMP started monitoring at the beginning of 2018. In 2021, the frontlines both in Ta'izz city and in western and southern parts of Ta'izz governorate have seen an escalation in recent weeks, driving a significant uptick in resultant civilian casualties. In March 2021 alone, 72 civilian casualties were reported in Ta'izz, having seen 39 in January 2021 and 17 in February 2021.

IEDs present a significant new threat that over the past three years represents an average of 25-27% of the global total casualties, with over 50% of the casualties being women, children, and youth. Based on Civilian Impact reporting, their lethality (per event) is twice that of conventional mines and three times that of air strikes. The fourth quarter of 2020 saw 16 civilian casualties in Ta'izz on account of IED attacks targeting local security actors, but in the first of 2021, this dropped to 1 civilian IED casualty.

The tables below summarize data from CIMP for civilian casualties.

¹⁷ Source: UNICEF Yemen Humanitarian Situation Report December 2018

Data from 1 Dec 2017 <u>Latest update 30 June 2021</u>	Landmines	Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs)	Unexploded Ordnances (UXOs)	Sea Mines	Total
Civilian casualties	787 (56,5%)	339 (24,5%)	241 (17%)	27 (2%)	1,394
Number of incidents	325	160	94	6	585

Table 5: Cumulative civilian casualties per type of explosive items December 2017 – June 2021

Source: Civilian Impact Monitoring Project (CIMP), a service of the Protection Cluster in Yemen.

Data published between 1 December 2017 and 30 June 2021

Year	Landmine	IED	UXO	Total
2018	233 (74 incidents)	116 (47 incidents)	56 (27 incidents)	405
2019	233 (100 incidents)	139 (64 incidents)	56 (27 incidents)	428
2020	209	63	75	347
Total	675 (57%)	318 (27%)	187 (16%)	1,180

Table 6: Total casualties per type 2018 - 2020

Source: Civilian Impact Monitoring Project (CIMP), a service of the Protection Cluster in Yemen.

Data published between January 2018 and December 2020

Evaluation findings

56. The performance of the project examined, according to the evaluation criteria used for this purpose, was evaluated based on a satisfaction scale of five points (1 being minimum). A rating performance has been applied to each evaluation criteria. In view of the findings, the evaluation considers the results of the implementation of the EMA project as satisfactory: 'the level of results is acceptable and encouraging, despite security environment constraints', with very encouraging results for a score of 4.60/ 5. This score is obtained from the average of the scores obtained for the various criteria evaluated:

- 1) *Relevance 5/5*: The project is highly relevant to the priorities and needs of all peoples at individual beneficiaries (including men and women), group, livestock, and national level, while its intervention enables and ensures the movement and access to areas of all programmes and projects implementing life-saving interventions. *The relevance is considered high therefore highly satisfactory.*
- 2) *Effectiveness/Outcome (Impact) 4,5/5*: Mine action intervention in Yemen enables the building of bridges between immediate humanitarian aid and emergency response in many of the most impacted areas of the country. The project was able to manage the issues much better in the south while not so well in the north due to the on-going conflict and volatile security situation. *The effectiveness is valued satisfactory with very encouraging results.*
- 3) *Efficiency 4,5/5*: The project was efficient in utilizing the programme's resources using UNDP efficient rules and regulations. UNDP has established partnerships with different types of actors such as donors, UN agencies, International and national NGOs, and a private company to assist Yemen and they have brought their own relative advantages by implementing training and capacity development interventions. *The efficiency is considered overall satisfactory.*
- 4) *Sustainability 4,5/5*: By helping to reactivate YEMAC field operations, that were suspended or disrupted by the war and all its consequences, the project contributes to the preservation and the sustainability of the implementation capacity, through the important UNDP procurement of equipment, and of much needed mine and ERW awareness/clearance activities the project contributes to the preservation and

sustainability of the implementation capacity, thanks to major purchases of UNDP equipment, awareness-raising/clearance activities essential to mines and ERWs and secures further action through the participation of INGOs, each bringing their own value added to the sector. *The sustainability is appreciated overall satisfactory.*

- 5) *Human Rights 4,5/5:* The project promotes a human rights-based approach to mine action whilst creating enough space for communities to report issues of concern within local governance networks, and it has contributed substantially to increased human safety, through the reduction of risk and to improvements in socio-economic recovery conditions. *Human rights criteria results are seen as overall satisfactory.*
- 6) *GEWE 4,5/5:* Not only has the project succeeded in reaching to women and girls and the most vulnerable are aware of mines and safety measures, but the project has also paved the way for more trainings which has produced some potentially transformative results in encouraging YEMAC Aden to train and deploy an all-women survey team and the first complete bomb disposal squad in the areas under IRG control. *Gender equality and women empowerment results are deemed overall satisfactory with promising results.*

5.1- Relevance

Finding 1. The Emergency Mine Action project appropriately sought to respond to the interlinked priorities of inclusive sustainable mine and unexploded ordnance threat prevention and peaceful resolution of conflicts, social cohesion, and the better protection of Yemeni communities.

57. The evaluation considers that the project has met a real need and that the relevance, still valid in the current context, is very satisfactory, as stressed by all the people interviewed during the mission. Due to its long-term support, UNDP is the lead agency in coordinating mine action support clearance programmes in the country. This includes a continually improving National Capacity in Mine Action Programme. The programme has focused on efforts to support the national authorities in strengthening institutional capacities of management/coordination with the opening of YMACC. It also supports the activities of the YEMAC within its operational dimension, including initiatives to revive livelihoods, to enhance provision of and access to public and specialized services, and to secure the return of internally displaced people. Conflict over recent periods has led to an increased demand and need for mine action activities and an enhanced role for UNDP in this area. These activities are expected to reduce the risk of disaster and prepare communities to cope with the presence and negative effects of explosives and enhance better cohesion through community dialogue.

Finding 2. The project is highly relevant to the priorities and needs of all peoples at individual, group livestock, and national level, while its intervention enables and ensures the movement and access to areas of all programmes and projects implementing life-saving interventions.

58. Interviews with the various stakeholders revealed a very positive assessment of the usefulness of the project, its objectives, and priorities, in appropriate harmony with the needs of beneficiaries. The initiative remains relevant to local priorities and fully consistent with the main UN strategies and humanitarian response plan. Current UNDP engagement includes support for YEMAC's improvised munitions disposal capabilities and for eliminating the impact of mines and ERW. These projects include elements of technical and non-technical surveys, training, and survivor assistance activities (i.e., medical examinations and delivery of equipment). As a result, Yemeni families can go about their daily lives safe from threat of injury from explosive remnants of war in those areas where UNDP related mine action activities have and are being delivered.

Finding 3. The project is very relevant to the needs and priorities of the target groups and beneficiaries including women and men.

59. The relevance and consistency of the project's objectives fit well with the aspirations of the various populations in terms of risk management linked to the presence of explosives. The interviews carried out made it possible to assess the overall situation in terms of identifying the needs of local populations and to obtain relevant and consensual data from the main actors and beneficiaries.

Mine Action activities and ERW removal work is contributing to several key humanitarian and recovery elements that will help ensure Yemenis remain able to live a life of dignity. Specifically, these actions enable: (a) the improvement of humanitarian access; (b) the safe movement of populations and goods; and (c) the expansion of actors as INGOs presence, to assist and increase YMACC/YEMACC performance.

60. During the design of the project, it was difficult to involve beneficiaries and target groups (vulnerable, women and youth) in the process, as this was limited to the consultation of government officials in the south and north, for example YEMAC in Sana'a and Aden. However, during the implementation of the project, the needs of these groups such as road access, hospitals and schools were always prioritized.

Finding 4. The relevance of UNDP interventions is illustrated by the fact that the EMA project responds to the country's real support needs.

61. Tangible and encouraging results have been obtained mainly in the areas of (1) strengthening/coordinating the mine action clearance operations and assessing the extent of a threat linked to the proliferation of mines and unexploded ordnance (UXOs) and the spread of improvised explosive devices (IEDs); (2) promoting the expansion of the mine action INGO presence; (3) supporting YMACC for coordination and YEMAC in completing the national mine action standard and training in Mine/ERW disposal, counter-IED and information management system (IMSMA); (4) assisting in the awareness/education of threats posed by mines, UXO/ERW and IEDs and (5) assisting Yemeni Organizations in implementing mine action convention obligations and advocating for the adherence of Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM-2008) and Convention on Conventional Weapons (CCW-1980). UNDP has been working with YEMAC on improving clearance capacity to conduct emergency operation. Specifically, UNDP facilitates training of YEMAC staff in the disposal of explosive ordnance, provides supplies such as fuel and batteries for metal detectors, and offers technical equipment support.

Finding 5. The project objectives, supported by a good analysis in terms of impact of explosive ordnance (EO) on the civilian population, are consistent and meet the expectations of the population of reducing the threat of explosive ordnance (EO) contamination in many parts of the country by accessing of humanitarian aid.

62. Today, there are thousands of unexploded landmines and explosive remnants of war spread across the country, and they include IED threats. Unless they are cleared and destroyed, Yemeni lives will be at risk for years to come. Aside from immediate physical danger, explosives obstruct emergency assistance – such as the delivery of food. They also damage the necessary infrastructure, leaving the majority without access to clean water, basic health care or education. In fact, according to indicators on the Human Development Index in 2019, the past 20 years of development have effectively been reversed.

63. The project continues to develop the capacity of the people and institutions of Yemen to combat the risks posed by mines and ERW through institutional development, technical capacity building and logistics support. The project focus on clearing the way for the future and protecting lives by building up local capacity. UNDP works with the Yemeni Executive Mine Action Center (YEMAC) in clearing explosives, whilst improving the skills and competence of national institutions including the recently opened coordination centre, YMACC, which is managing, coordinating, and conducting demining exercises, and in the long term with limited external assistance.

5.2- Effectiveness/Outcome (Impact)

Finding 6. The project contributed to the overall Yemen Peace efforts and responded to the needs of the population living in the project's intervention areas. In this regard, UNDP and UNMHA in partnership with YEMAC worked on the same vision to assist Yemen in making it a safer and more resilient nation and to adhere to the terms of the Stockholm agreement in Hudaydah and providing relevant data on humanitarian nexus.

64. The project allows humanitarian actors, be they national or international, to deliver their aid safely and it enables local governments to get on with delivering services and facilities in areas that may previously have been unsafe because of the ongoing conflict. YEMAC clearance teams on both sides of the confrontation are reacting to the dangers of ERW inside Yemeni communities, whether it is through the elimination of cluster munitions affecting agricultural workers in Saada governorate in the north, through the delivery of EORE to communities in areas where the teams are working, or through the clearing of landmines from locally affected communities in IRG-controlled areas such as Taizz governorate.

65. In support of UNMHA mandate in Hudaydah, UNDP for mine action related activities participates in the coordination meetings between UNMHA, UNDP and the Ansar Allah (Party 2) Redeployment Coordination Committee to arrange access for YEMAC teams into military controlled areas inside the Hudaydah ports (Hudaydah, Ras Issa and Al Salif). UNDP supported the establishment of YEMAC office in Hudaydah city which deployed teams in support of the 'Stockholm' agreement. An example of cooperation was that a YEMAC team was able to respond to an unexploded missile that had failed to detonate inside a warehouse at Al Salif port. This warehouse belonged to 'the Yemen International Company for Food Industries' and the presence of the missile was therefore impacting on the company's day to day operations for the offloading of bulk food items from ships docked at the port. The YEMAC teams safely removed the aircraft missile thereby removing any threat to the safety of the local work force at the warehouse. Support was also provided through the tasks undertaken by the YEMAC demining which restored access to the Hudaydah Red Sea mills, clearing more than 1,200 explosive items near the port of Hudaydah, which held 51,000 tons of grain inaccessible due to the presence of mines and unexploded ordnances. UNDP is also directly helping the Hodeida ceasefire agreement by coordinating mine action activities in support of the redeployment of the forces.

Finding 7. UNDP supported the strengthening of technical and organizational capacities intended to contribute to assisting the restoration of normal services and also an immediate humanitarian response, with access to roads and reducing injuries and fatalities. Mine action intervention in Yemen enables the building of bridges between immediate humanitarian aid and emergency response in many of the most impacted areas of the country. The project was able to manage the issues much better in the south than in the north.

66. UNDP works with YMACC on the development of longer terms plans for survey and clearance operations (annual work plan), longer staffing, procurement plans and capacity development support plans. UNDP supports YEMAC field operations branches for the purposes of local operational planning. YEMAC is a well-established and credible national institution that has delivered mine action activities in Yemen for almost three decades. By helping to reactivate their operations, that were suspended or disrupted by the war and all its consequences, the project contributes to the preservation and sustainability of the implementation capacity of much needed mine and ERW clearance programs. UNDP strives to increase YEMAC's ability to conduct risk assessments and surveys, thereby increasing the local capacity for mine and UXO clearance and land release in addition to the purchase of critical individual equipment, detectors and vehicles used in the assessment and safe destruction of explosion hazards. In the past months, UNDP has supported Non-Technical Survey, Explosive Ordnance Disposal and improvised Explosive Device (IED) good practice trainings for over 117 deminers in Yemen, helping to build the local capacity to identify, report and respond to explosive hazards-including mines, unexploded ordnance and IEDs.

Finding 8. Worsening access restrictions in De Facto Authorities (DFA) areas has placed the Mine Action intervention in the north in a humanitarian dimension and the developmental aspects are therefore delayed. Difficulties remain in the fragmented south, but better access allows both humanitarian and developmental work in the sector.

67. UNDP continued to support an equitable response to mine action covering the most impacted governorates, north, middle, and south of the country. This includes survey, clearance, and risk education activities in 19 governorates and many districts. Mine action in Yemen is justified as part of the humanitarian-development-peace nexus within a core initiative to help national mine action agencies to (i) prevent, mitigate and address protection and risk issues by fostering coping capacities of responsible institutions as YMACC and YEMAC, (ii) promote recovery and development and ensuring sustainability of explosive disposal response in support of humanitarian response project, and (iii) support peacebuilding efforts and improving security and rule of law in line with sustainable development goals. Mine Action activities integrate security considerations with longer term national capacity development while also focusing on demining in support of preserving or increasing humanitarian space. As such, the project is a strong example of how the humanitarian development nexus can be activated in post-conflict environments.

68. YEMAC has demonstrated excellent commitment in managing field operations despite difficult circumstances hampered by the volatile security conditions and the nature of the threat. YEMAC has conducted most of the Cluster Munitions Remnants (CMR) clearance to date as the only operator working in northern-controlled areas of Yemen, which are the main areas of CMR contamination. YEMAC also remained Yemen's biggest operator, with the number of personnel reportedly rising to more than 1,000 in 2019. They included some staff in the north who were active in Sana'a, the northern-most governorate of Saada which borders Saudi Arabia, and northern districts of Amran governorate. The partnership with the main project counterparts in the North (YEMAC, NMAC) has deteriorated over the reporting period. The visa of the CTA was cancelled in December 2019, and despite the promises from national counterparts it has still not been re-instated. In this regard the duty station of the CTA has been transferred to Aden. YEMAC north increases its demands in terms of material, equipment, and qualified personnel (specialised advisors), however imports are blocked and visas for experts not granted (cf. NPA staff regarding the establishment of Mine Detection Dog unit).

Finding 9. To analyze the conflict under the volatile and changing conflict situations as well as environmental challenges, the project benefited from the field evidence of YEMAC and operational actors such as OCHA with its humanitarian cluster protection which helped to appreciate the evolving situation of explosive threats, environmental considerations and led to appropriate response planning.

69. YMACC coordination and YEMAC operational activities continue to monitor impact through analysis by combining density of population with density of contamination with the extent of contamination data. In the absence of country wide assessments, Mine action activities still use as their primary source Civilian Impact Monitoring Protection (CIMP), armed conflict and event data if available, the Information management system for Mine Action (IMSMA), TPM field monitoring, community consultation and mine action working groups (MAWG) under YMACC coordination. The information provided by the humanitarian worker prioritization matrix and the rapid assessment process, if applicable, is also a valuable tool for the evaluation in the field. A very relevant point in this purview is that the project teams were expressly forbidden to address any active military area. Once the area is cleared, the project team can then approach that area.

70. YEMAC continues to pay attention to environmental challenges in the prioritisation and disposal processes if the capacity in terms of equipment is there, thus avoiding harm to anyone and supporting communities in mitigating some of impacts (soil loss, drought, floods) and encouraging environmental recovery initiatives.

Finding 10. The project facilitated the implementation of a coordinated mechanism for decentralized and deconcentrated structures as well as the development of plans and tools necessary for the effective management and reduction of explosives hazard risks through the establishment of the Yemen Mine action Coordinating Centre (YMACC) in Aden. This resulted in more effective national mine action implementation and more Yemeni coordination bodies to coordinate all the relevant sectors which are already showing signs of improved efficiency, effectiveness, and impact.

71. Until 2020, YEMAC in the south, has fulfilled the double role of regulator responsible for policy and planning while also serving as the sole national operator. The project has assisted YEMAC to confirm and adapt their structure to the new challenges and improve their reporting and organizational capacities. Mine action increased efforts to coordinate with the new established mine action coordinating centre (YMACC) since 2020, to provide the required conditions and access to facilitate the safe disposal of explosive ordnance, with effective operations management in harmonization with operators and international actors. The center established in Aden should strengthen program management and enable collaboration with international organizations in their fields of competence, mainly in the south. The centre works through operative departments for planning, information management, and quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC).

72. Interlocutors noted that more has been done under the EMA project to develop effective governance and adaptive capacity of the mine action sector through the setting up of the YMACC and the organization of various training that have improved safety disposal and performance. Institutional operational support and capacity development are important aspects of UNDP mine action technical assistance to national stakeholders in Yemen and its INGO partners.

The project works to improve national capacity development through the implementation of advice based on the capability maturity model assessments conducted in 2020 including upstream measures¹⁸, categorized as the preventative end of the spectrum of activities while the downstream represented as the reactive end.

Finding 11. The activities conducted by YEMAC, and supported by the Project, are ultimately resulting in land release, buildings, and assets free of mines and UXO, as well as free access to medical and schooling facilities. These actions facilitate the transportation and freedom of movement of IDGs, promote equality and inclusion, in brief, provide a safe overall working and living environment. Ultimately, the results of the project's activities have supported social cohesion and peace building efforts locally.

73. The Project is operating in and dealing with changing conditions from one region to another, based on the development of conflicts in new areas and regions. Accordingly, new objectives and needs are prioritized. Otherwise, it is difficult for YMACC and YEMAC to draft a strategic plan as the scope of the contamination is yet unknown. The conduct of nationwide survey and new baseline estimate of contamination are priorities for the next few years. Yemen's recent conflicts have changed the extent and complexity of contamination dramatically. Against the background of Yemen's continuing conflict, YEMAC gives priority to delivering an emergency response to mitigate the threat to civilians posed by all forms of explosive hazard.

74. Prioritisation is given to the civilian social infrastructure, so often damaged and inaccessible due to the threats. In addition, YEMAC retained a 'fire-brigade' response capability in addressing high-priorities as they arise. The project will continue to support the organization in order to achieve its targets and improve productivity. As part of the prioritisation process for survey and clearance, UNDP has started to incorporate environmental challenges (floods, drought, soil loss, soil erosion, natural disaster...) to assist Yemen's

¹⁸ Upstream activities include countermeasures that may be adopted before an explosive threat is emplaced. Downstream component being actions to be adopted after an explosive ordnance threat is emplaced.

development and preparedness in support of environmental projects. In addition, YEMAC advised the consideration and adoption of minimal invasive techniques to reduce or avoid environmental impacts when following methodologies adopted in the field, particularly during clearance activities

75. Deteriorating contamination with explosive ordnance has a major impact on civilian lives and livelihoods. Where land release had been completed, the positive impact on the livelihood and wellbeing of the population had been significant. This is because only 3% of land in Yemen is arable land and the 70% of the population who live in rural areas, is poor and heavily dependent on agriculture for its own consumption and income generation. Therefore, agriculture supports the livelihoods of two-thirds of the population. The survival of rural populations is precarious and their food production, shelter as well as their mental wellbeing are all affected by contamination or suspected contamination. In communities visited, respondents said they were very happy that there had been mine/ERW clearance in their land, and they held YEMAC in respect. The most important benefits for both men and women were a sense of safety and peace of mind, and the ability to live and work without the constant underlying concern about safety for themselves and their children due to explosive ordnance injury.

76. Abandoned explosive ordnances (AXO) continue to be destroyed to prevent explosive harvesting. In reducing the post-conflict impact of the war, abandoned ammunition poses a considerable risk due to harvesting. As a proactive measure, AXO are specifically targeted and is commonly a relatively simple exercise with a high long-term impact preventing the opportunity for explosive harvesting. To prevent misuse over 40% of explosive items were destroyed. The destruction and safe storage of a large amount of recovered AXO is a challenge and measures must be considered for the future when operational conditions on the ground permit.

In Yemen, in order to render communities 'free from fear' and reduce social exclusion and insecurity due to the presence of explosive ordnances, the range of mine action activities contribute largely to social cohesion, the building of confidence in the institutions, the rule of law and the peace building efforts.

Finding 12. Survey and clearance remain top priority. Additionally, supporting the institutional capacities, such as YMACC, is key to operations and success. YEMAC is partially fit for the task with more equipment and training required but it has the basics in place.

77. The emergency priority falls to the land release of explosive ordnance through survey and clearance activities, the provision of explosive ordnance risk education to communities and victim assistance support to survivors as well as providing support for women, men, girls, and boys. The Project has accomplished an important achievement with the establishment of the Yemen Mine Action Coordination Centre (YMACC) in 2020 in Aden. The building has been upgraded and IT equipment procured immediately. The Project advisory team has worked with counterparts on the staffing of this new body. The staff is now on board, teams have been trained and technical working groups have been set up (National Technical Survey and Mine Risk Education for example). The level of outcome in developing the institutional capacity of the Yemeni mine action bodies is reflected by the improved quality of work by YMACC through training and providing equipment and other support. This resulted in more effective national mine actions implementation and Yemeni coordination bodies to coordinate all the relevant affairs. Efficiency and output by YEMAC can be improved when we get YMACC to control the Task Order process.

78. YEMAC is in contact with the GICHD on developing national standards for operators clearing mines/ERW/IEDs and the new coordination centre YMACC, as one of its first acts, started reviewing a draft of interim national standards whose aim is to guide the implementation of mine action activities in a safe, coordinated, and efficient manner. YEMAC recognized and praised the various key trainings where its technical staff benefited from the specialized advisory team of UNDP and INGO operators, particularly in dealing with improvised explosives and equipment as well as re-dynamizing the mine detector dog units. Recent large UNDP supplies of critical vehicles and protective equipment distributed in support of YEMAC's operations, allow YEMAC teams to improve their security and daily demining efforts in the field within the challenging

country-wide environment, thus allowing communities and vulnerable people to resume their activities with more serenity and less fear, once land is released.

79. The YEMAC teams are facing some issues regarding various tools such as medical, uniforms field tools, batteries etc. Need assessment of mine action teams, has been conducted by YEMAC to increase the performance of operational teams and to impact communities effectively. However, this monitoring mechanism must be improved to provide a timely response to the needs of the YEMAC team and to ensure the delivery of the needs if the availability of these tools allows it. The project is currently addressing these requirements with UNDP procurement.

80. The project continues to support YEMAC/YMACC with operational, information and operational management including procurement issues. The development of survey and land release methodologies has increased productivity within YEMAC's operations. For example, results in training on the use of pulling kits for remote render-safe procedures and on IED threat assessment, led to a significant decrease in deminer casualties.

Finding 13. UNDP has supported mine action with the aim of reducing poverty reduction. In most places visited, there is evidence of improvements in standards of living over the course of mine action activities, although the extent of the clearance efforts is difficult to quantify.

81. Several stakeholders stated during the interviews that Mine Action is seen as a full and legitimate sector of development and advances work in other development sectors. This contributes to increased human/community security by protecting people, restoring livelihoods, and supporting peacebuilding, recovery, and development. UNDP has also established links between these goals and issues of environmental sustainability, governance, rule of law and gender and resilience.

Mine action activities led by YEMAC are appropriate given the need of the population in the targeted area for land cleared of explosive items. According to the community, roads, farms, schools, health centres have benefited from this operation and their activities and safety have been restored. Those communities which include Internally Displaced Population (IDP), who benefited around contaminated fields, feel safer for knowing that mine action teams are working to eliminate the threat of mines/ERW. According to them they are highly satisfied with resuming daily routines and transportation in safe environment.

82. Moreover, the impact is difficult to analyse as the level of the mine and ERW contamination in Yemen is not yet well known. It is important to understand (i) both the economic and social impacts as well as 'people's social systems' of the affected community, (ii) how people have adapted to the presence of explosive ordnance, and (iii) how the removal of explosive ordnance can contribute to the solidification of peace. This links directly to the issue of capacity and vulnerability. The impact is contingent on whether landmines and explosive ordnances present the communities with a vulnerability. The level of impact will be determined by the absence of appropriate alternatives.

Finding 14. Countering-IED, both upstream and downstream is prioritized. Pilot projects have been successful with promising outcomes.

83. Another challenge for Yemen is the presence of Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) which present a major threat to local communities and has a significant impact on mobility and community access to essential services. With the support of the internationally recognized government (IRG), UNDP Yemen has been running a combined MA and RoL programme to counter the threat posed by IEDs since March 2019. Rather than examine C-IED through the traditional pillars, the project chose a novel human rights-based approach, establishing empowered community networks at governorate level, to marginalise use, restore confidence and establish effective response protocols with representation from community leaders, governance institutions and the emergency services, across affected communities.

84. The project consulted widely across accessible governorates and received input from implementing partners to determine predominant human-rights issues. These consultations incorporated feedback from hundreds of previous EORE sessions and involved some 4,000 community members across 25 employment categories, with consultation identifying problems associated with mines and land release in rural areas, and IEDs/UXO in the urban domain. Using the UNIDIR C-IED model, which the project piloted in Yemen with the support of the authorities, these consultations identified a number of capacity development initiatives including IED risk education across lessening community risk within the most affected governorates, and thus improve human security. EORE products to improve the safety of children and teenagers who were the predominant victims, have been used with the collaboration of UNICEF, HI, GICHD and UNMAS.

85. To respond to the civilian casualty rate of 3.15 civilians killed/injured per IED explosion, UNDP conducted a training needs analysis to design an IED Disposal Good Practice Course around these shortfalls. The first YEMAC pilot course ran in Hadramawt in January 2020, with a further two courses being run in Hadramawt and Taiz during October 2020. This culminated in 40 personnel being trained (10 IED disposal teams), including the first three female bomb disposal officers in Yemen's history. The training of females was also sanctioned in terms of MRE and NTS. The training initiative has proved to be a significant force multiplier, with the government requesting that training expand into Taiz and Aden in 2021. The project has already worked with GICHD to improve national legislation at the sub-national level.

86. The YEMAC capacity to respond adequately, safely, and reliably is now much improved. The reduction of casualties, 13 in 2019 in 160 IED disposals to no casualties amongst bomb disposal teams in well over 330 IED disposals has allowed police to respond more effectively to community need, thereby improving confidence in the rule of law. More than 1,040 civilian (including children and women) lives and livelihoods have been saved and protected. In those governorates receiving training, the availability of a bomb disposal team has risen to over 90%, meaning that a whole host of explosive related incidents ranging from IEDs to UXO can be addressed. IED response and risk education have reduced their overall effectiveness by over 25%.

Finding 15. The current situation hindered the project implementation in a number of ways, including slow decision making by government authorities, and the implementation of the project interventions in two different areas controlled by two governments with different speeds in project progress and achievements. Worth mentioning in this purview are the many requirements and prolonged procedures for ensuring the necessary clearances and approvals, from these authorities, for conducting field visits and activities. This segmentation should be considered in the future programming.

87. Management of mine action in Yemen is divided along the lines of the conflict that erupted in March 2015 with the Ansar Allah movement controlling the capital Sana'a and much of the north and west, and the internationally recognised government (IRG), operationally based in Aden and the south. Legacy contamination from earlier conflicts was largely in the south of the country and Saada in the north. YEMAC faced security and access constraints which limited mine action operations in the north, and as a result, the majority of assets and trained YEMAC personnel are now in the south. In the north the needs have changed, particularly from cluster munition contamination in the north and there is a mismatch of available assets to deal with them. As the front lines move, particularly in Al-Jawf, Marib (northern governorates) and in Western coastal areas, land is found to be heavily contaminated, and more resources are required to intervene in these areas, if security allows.

Finding 16. Advocacy and adherence to the CCM and APMBC is ongoing. Limited success so far obtained due to ongoing conflict and half the country run by a declared non-state actor.

88. Yemen's six-year conflict has created conditions that prevent it from taking the action required to fulfil its obligation under the APMBC. The main three-year extension to Yemen's Article 5 deadline agreed in 2019 is to conduct a nationwide survey to establish a baseline estimate of contamination that would then provide a foundation for assessing the time and resources needed for clearance. Instead, continued hostilities have added new contamination and prevented a significant survey to establish a baseline estimate. In June 2021, Yemen reported¹⁹ that those challenges indicated in its 2019 extension are still relevant including the level of contamination and the lack of information on the impact of anti-personnel mines, the laying of new anti-personnel mines of an improvised nature, the persistence of casualties and flooding those results in the movement of anti-personnel mines and other explosive ordnances.

89. In an effort to bring all parties to respect and promote international humanitarian law (IHL) in situations of armed conflict, Geneva Call²⁰ - as a neutral, impartial, and independent international humanitarian organization, endeavours to strengthen the respect of humanitarian norms and principles by armed non-State actors (ANSAs), in order to improve the protection of civilians, while supporting local communities in their efforts to enhance their own protection. In 2019, the Southern Transitional Council (STC) took a significant step to bring their policies and behaviour in line with international standards by signing three of Geneva Call's Deeds of Commitments related to civilian protection which included Deed of Commitment for Adherence to a Total Ban on Anti-Personnel Mines and for Cooperation in Mine Action. Geneva calls for Yemen to monitor the challenging situation and strengthened the ANSAs' knowledge on IHL through training sessions targeting high-ranking officials and soldiers within the STC. Thematic sessions focused among others on the prohibition of the use of AP mines, and ERW near highly populated areas.

Finding 17. Victim Assistance is not an active component of the project, being deemed unfunded. UNDP recognizes the difficulties and supports the national infrastructure of YEMAC in screening casualties who are referred to national medical facilities, YALS, MSF, ICRC, etc. for long-term care and rehabilitation.

90. Yemen is faced with the lack of comprehensive surveillance to collect and manage data on mines/ERW victims, for various reasons including conflict, the COVID 19 pandemic, a lack of resources and restricted access and movements. In addition to increased demand for emergency medical care, import restrictions and damaged port infrastructure prevented humanitarian aid and medical supplies from reaching populations affected by the conflict. Although results were not really attained during the period under review, YEMAC has shown commendable efforts by screening victims and distributing various mobility and assistive equipment to 46% of registered victims. UNDP has managed to engage national authorities including the civil society to promote victims' assistance and cooperate with other players in this field. YEMAC is committed to victims' assistance through providing emergency and continuing medical care, including emergency first aid to the victims of explosions and ongoing medical care and the provision of mobility devices should enable the victims to return to civilian life more easily. YEMAC's health care plan needs to be strengthened with long-term support and an increased specific mechanism to manage the needs of new mine/ERW victims. Although, the victim assistance department of YEMAC screened over 5,000 survivors of which over 2,000 were assisted with various aids, the number of surveyed and examined survivors was not achieved (11 %) compared to the targeted 45,000.

91. To foster an integrated vision which includes victim assistance support for the disabled, the project needs to guide YEMAC in the development of its victim assistance policies or programmes on a more structured and complementary manner with other initiatives from stakeholders involved in the sector, such as national rehabilitation centers, YALS, national human rights organisations, and ICRC, MSF, HI as well as international

¹⁹ Yemen report APMBC Article 5 Implementation, Intersessional meetings -22-24 June 2021

²⁰ Appel de Genève/Geneva Call is a private, not-for-profit, humanitarian organization foundation under Swiss law, founded in 1998

organizations like UNICEF and WHO. The YMACC as a new coordinating body for mine action activities should assist YEMAC in this challenge. One area that needs immediate improvement is the collection of casualty data (as a starting point to understand the extent of the problem and the challenges ahead) with an integrated approach, involving other active actors in the sector and ensuring that information about services available to persons with disabilities are available to those responsible for the monitoring and reporting on the same, including civil society organizations.

Finding 18. To address the impact of COVID19 and to continue the field activities during the pandemic, the project provided all necessary protection facilities for the project and relevant field teams as they must work in any conditions. In addition, regulations and SOPs were considered including physical/social distancing, using masks and other relevant precautionary measures.

92. COVID-19 did not affect the work of demining teams, as it is considered as vital activity by national authorities. During the peak of the crises, YEMAC teams were isolated from the rest of the population and were working as emergency teams on stand-by. Considering the health pandemic situation, the INGOs are reoriented themselves to operations that didn't require casualty evacuation such as risk assessment, non-technical survey, and general training. The INGO's have agreed to support the training of MACC staff in coordination with UNDP by providing technical advice in explosive ordnance risk mitigation.

The project provided all needed protective facilities for the project and relevant field teams to address the impact of COVID-19 and to continue the field activities during the pandemic. In addition, instructions and SOPs were considered including physical distancing, using masks and other relevant protective measures. International consultants were unable to be involved in or brought to field activities due to health restrictions. The project provided protective tools for the project teams and adopted social distancing measures during the activities and training. However, the pandemic affected mine risk education activities. During half of the year 2020, no session could be carried out. Activities resumed at the end of 2020 and the mine risk education working group worked with local and international partners to implement innovative ways of organizing remote mine risk education sessions, via a digital platform where possible.

5.3- Efficiency

Finding 19. The evaluation found that UNDP is perceived as a neutral, credible, and valuable partner among stakeholders interviewed, appreciated for its proven expertise and efforts in mine action, providing institutional support to stimulate mine action operations' management. Its flexibility and ability to adapt to changes have also been highlighted by the interested parties.

93. UNDP is perceived as a neutral and reliable partner with considerable knowledge of Yemen and with proven experience. It has a comparative advantage in addressing the national needs for appropriate institutional and legal frameworks. For many of its mine action stakeholders, UNDP is an appreciated partner with established credibility. The credibility of UNDP coincides with recognition by its partners of its comparative advantages, especially with respect to UNDP's perceived expertise in governance, rule of Law and mine action. This extends to protection of the population, promotion of gender equality, capacity development, fostering INGOs role and further restoring confidence in governance and rule of law institutions which opens real prospects for diversifying partnerships.

94. However, in order to drive visible change, it is important to emphasize the need to develop a communication policy focused on its specific needs and on providing a better understanding of UNDP's mandate and links between Mine action - in particular IED - response and Rule of Law. These encouraging measures and efforts provided by Yemen, which illustrate a security-development approach model, should be emphasised among partners and donors, mainly for their contribution to restoring confidence in governance

and rule of law on the way to building peace. Yemen facing more than a 20-year process of landmine/ERW removal recognize that UNDP has the in-country staying power to provide quality support for the duration.

95. UNDP is also identified by stakeholders to be in a good position to advocate national ownership and to work with authorities and legislative bodies in assisting in the development of legal and institutional frameworks for mine action, including strategies to implement legal obligations stemming from the Ottawa convention and the convention on cluster munition.

Finding 20. Funding from donors remains largely constant. Most wish to keep supporting the sector at a reduced level until a robust peace process or at least a lasting ceasefire is in place. Roller-coaster funding does not help and can be inefficient. Constant funding, albeit at a reduced level has more impact.

96. The contribution of mine action to development is more obvious. Contamination by or fear of ERW leads to human displacement, delays the return and resettlement of refugees and internally displaced persons, and blocks access to vital resources and social services. In response to the recognition of the obvious contribution of mine action to development, mine action organizations and their donors started to place increasing emphasis on the “security–development nexus” and to integrate mine action into emergency response to enable free movement of populations and goods, ensure access to humanitarian actors and facilitate the safe disposal of explosive ordnance. The current emergency phase is focused on relieving the highly impacted communities, to prevent the situation worsening, provide relief from the impact of current contamination and further addressing the longer-term issues of convention obligations.

97. Nevertheless, the security situation and long-term conflict environment hamper the confidence of donors and most wish to continue supporting the sector at a reduced level until political engagements is seen in the way of ending the current conflict. In addition, non-regular funding does not allow the project to effectively plan mine action activities while constant funding even at a small amount allows for regular operational planning even on a limited scale.

Finding 21. The project was efficient in utilizing the programme’s resources using UNDP efficient rules and regulations. UNDP has established partnerships with different types of actors such as donors, UN agencies, International and national NGOs, as well as a private company to assist Yemen and bringing their own relative advantages by implementing training and capacity development interventions.

98. During the reporting period the diversity of the donor pool provided the project with the needed flexibility in using the resources. Due to some donors’ fatigue as mine action in Yemen has stretched over two decades and Covid related budgetary constraints, the 2021 budget has decreased by a third compared to the budget amounts of 2019-2020. Apart from output 4 for victim assistance which was not funded, the uses of funds for the other three outputs were met with a satisfied expenditure rate of 85%, according to the UNDP delivery processes and rules. Staffing cost grew as the project developed and the need for expertise increased in parallel with UN led peace talks. The volatile environment, added to sudden changes in context, including Covid 19 related restrictions, resulted in a constant necessity of adapting operations, resulting in additional cost for ongoing activities.

99. Worth mentioning in this purview is that the project started with a total cumulated fund of 9 M USD from five donors (UK, US, Netherlands, Germany, UN OCHA) in 2017-2018 and ended with three additional donors from 2020 (Canada, European Union, and Italy) for a total of 49,5 M USD with close to 85% of total expenditures (annex 7). In addition, from 2018 the project attracted funds from humanitarian assistance programmes (UN OCHA) to address the emergency humanitarian needs through ensuring access to targeted areas.

The tables below provide an overview of resources and expenditures during the period under review:

No	Output	Planned budget (USD)	Expenditures (USD)
Output 1	Mine and UXO contamination is mapped, and impact assessed nationwide using primary and secondary resources	\$ 43,568,997 (88%)	36,013,300 (82,6%)
Output 2	Mines and UXO are cleared in identified priority areas	\$ 5,007,608 (10%)	4,997,020 (99,7%)
Output 3	The awareness of threats posed by mines and UXO is increased in affected communities	\$ 1,004,245 (2%)	1,004,246 (100%)
Output 4	Survivors of ERW incidents are effectively supported and rehabilitated socio-economically	Not funded	-
Total		\$ 49,580,850 (100%)	42,014,556 (84,5 %)

Table 7: EMA Project- Planned Budget by Outputs (July 2017-June 2021) –

Source: EMA Project performance overview 08112021

Year	Budget USD \$	Expenditure
2017	2,629,428 (5 %)	2,546,586 (96,8 %)
2018	6,432,914 (13 %)	6,396,061 (99,5 %)
2019	15,761,349 (32 %)	14,115,437 (89,5 %)
2020	14,603,225 (29,5 %)	12,878,115 (88,1 %)
2021	10,153,934 (20,5 %)	6,078,367 (59,8 %)
Total	49,580,850 (100 %)	42,014,566 (84,5 %)

Table 8: EMA Project -Summary of contributions and expenditures (July 2017-June 2021) –

Source: EMA Project performance overview 08112021

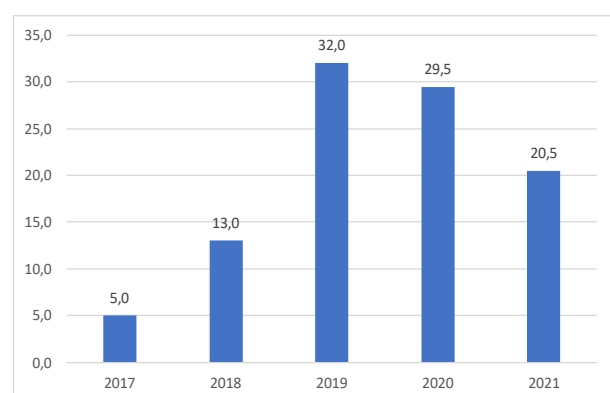


Figure 2: EMA project - Budget Percentage by Year (July 2017-June 2021)

Source: EMA Project performance overview 08112021

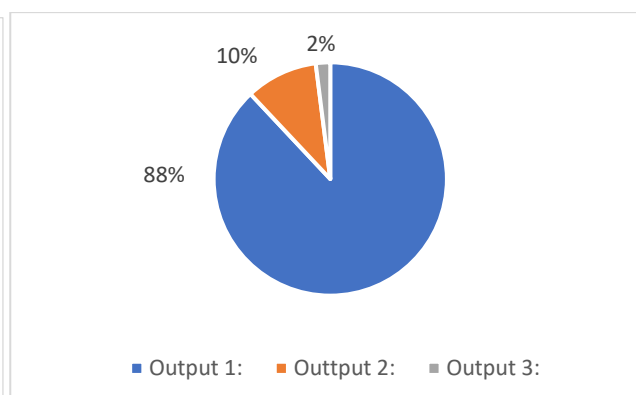


Figure 3: EMA project - Planned budget by outputs

100. The project estimates that it needs around 18 M USD every year to pursue mine action activities for the next five years, including all downstream C-IED activities on land and at sea. Emergency/humanitarian mine action interventions, particularly explosive hazard survey and clearance operation, require important financial and technical resources to ensure continuous capacity to mitigate the threat posed by the presence of mines

and ERW to communities in need and to enable the safe delivery of humanitarian aid. The cost of the response is also increased to maintain multiple interventions as emergency response capacity to address the protection needs and medium programming, targeting the effected effects of IEDs, CMRs, AXOs on hosting communities. Procurement of specialized clearance and mobile equipment are also costly.

101. According to the new challenges faced and in particular to the C-IED response, the project has yet to capitalize on its successes in Yemen, in highlighting land release and clearance operations as well as risk education activities that have been achieved in support of humanitarian response and better protection of Yemeni communities, despite the difficult operating environment and limited resources.

Finding 22. Project's monitoring and field operations evaluation (M&E) system focused on achieving results through identifying the needs to be reinforced from more detailed data by the beneficiaries and the impact on their domestic life. It used more success stories as a relevant tool for resource mobilization. The M&E system does not sufficiently capitalize on project experiences for effective learning.

102. UNDP emergency mine action interventions are rich in experiences that deserve to be collected and analysed for sharing within the project and with other interested users, and to inform policy dialogue. Some examples include experiences with C-IEDs, explosive disposal (Mines, UXOs, CMR), explosive ordnance risk education, communities' consultations, and good practices in support of resilience and recovery in the north and south.

103. The project results frameworks identify results indicators mainly as process indicators none gender specific (for example, in terms of quantities to be achieved) but it is not easy to find indicators that could be used to assess progress towards the intended results/change and thus attain short/long-term outcomes, whether positive or negative, brought about by the projects' activities. Most of these indicators are relevant for monitoring the implementation of project activities and achieving the main outputs, but not fitting for measuring change at the outcome level. However, the definition of certain indicators could have better outlined the desired changes in institutional and behavioral capacities, so that the conditions for change which occur between the completion of the outputs and the achievement of the objectives, are optimized. For example: 'number of people covered by the mine/ERW risk education', 'number of surface of land cleared through field clearance operations' are *process indicators* that give an idea as to whether the product or service was completed or delivered; while 'percentage of people in contaminated areas with improved knowledge, attitudes and practices related to mine/ERW/IED risk education' or 'percentage of women who feel that living conditions improved through YEMAC interventions' are *result indicators* that address whether the completed output is bringing about intended changes²¹. Thereby, managers and field operators can discuss not only the progress of planned outputs and activities, but the quality and impact of those outputs and activities.

104. UNDP emergency mine action interventions are rich in experiences that deserve to be collected and analysed for sharing with actors and stakeholders, and to inform technical policies dialogue. With the recent INGOs engaged in mine action with the same objectives, and under the YMACC coordination, the compilation and mapping of results across activities is important to ensure their complementarity in terms of results, and to make necessary adjustments and optimize activities and interventions. The lessons learned would enrich knowledge management, good practice, capitalization of results and guide future strategies.

105. The logic of the project' intervention through the theory of change (ToC) needs to be reinforced. According to the project document: 'the theory of change is based on the assumption that (i) the impact of the conflict on

²¹ Ref UNDP handbook on planning, monitoring, and evaluating for development results (2009) chapter 2.

people can effectively be mitigated and (ii) the capacity for increased resilience at community level can be strengthened, reducing people's reliance on humanitarian assistance, and increasing the prospect of early recovery'. The ToC of the EMA project appears to be concerned with ensuring that the planned interventions will lead to some sort of output, rather than by identifying the necessary conditions required to achieve the intended objective, given the specific context of each output of this mine action support.

The TOC for UNDP's support in mine action helps in understanding the causal pathways for UNDP mine action support across the various environments in Yemen. The ToC should be considered a 'living' document and be monitored and updated throughout the life of the project.

Finding 23. Considering the nature of the project, the utilization of the project's resources is not a factor as the interventions in dealing with mines and UXOs are the same. The importance of saving lives is similar in its impact while the cost of both interventions is totally different

106. Worth mentioning in this regard is that the project has delivered reasonable efficiency in terms of land cleared of mines and returned to use, thereby creating the potential of socio-economic development for the target population. In addition, there has been improved awareness of mine/ERW risks through risk education approach, and success in capacity building of national mine action institutions. Accordingly, it is not practical to measure and demonstrate efficiency relying on this simple indicator of efficient use of inputs (e.g. cost per unit area of cleared land, average cost of landmine clearance/ERW removal/IED disposal etc.).

5.4- Sustainability

Finding 24. By developing survey and land release methodologies as well as specific training, productivity has increased and demining casualties reduced. Facilitating mine action INGOs 'long term' and commercial entities 'short term' in the south has proven very successful in improving standards and operations.

107. The project, not only helped in strengthening the capacities of relevant nation institutions, but in some cases, it supported the national authorities to launch them, for example, the support provided by the project to the authorities for the establishment of the Yemen Mine Action Coordination Centre (YMACC) in the south as well as in a sector, which did not exist before. These currently have enough demining staff and a number of INGOs working with them including NPA, DDG and Halo Trust as well as commercial firms conducting expert/technical trainings, among others. UNDP encouraged and facilitated the deployment of INGOs in the country (south only for the moment), each bringing their own value added to the sector and supported by the commercial sector. This is a seismic shift for advancing the sector as a future basis for operations – efficiency, effectiveness, and impact.

Finding 25. By helping to revitalize YEMAC field operations, that were suspended or disrupted by the war and all its consequences, and to support the installation of YEMACC, the project contributes to the preservation and the sustainability of the implementation capacity of much needed mine and ERW awareness/clearance activities.

108. The emergency mine action project is focused on linking mine/ERW/IED clearance with livelihoods and economic recovery by targeting impacted and vulnerable communities. Various policies, technical frameworks, and quality management (assurance and control) guidelines have been developed which provide institutional frameworks for YMACC and YEMAC institutional/operational management respectively, which have received adequate attention. The project addressed beyond a flexible approach, the changed situation with new and evolving threats, as well as the upgrading of the structure of YMACC and YEMAC to effect operations according

to the immediate needs, new priorities while concurrently addressing the short/longer-term obligations. The project was also significant in addressing the impact of UXO and ERW in the target areas. However, one of the main challenges is the demining personnel's knowledge of the presence on the ground of small fragments of mines and ERW. It is a tedious process in the demining of polluted areas, as the detectors of mines quickly saturate in their presence.

Through important UNDP procurement of equipment and much needed mine and ERW awareness/clearance activities the project contributes to the preservation and sustainability of the implementation capacity, thanks to major purchases of UNDP equipment. Raising awareness of clearance activities is essential in the domain of mines and ERWs and there is a need to secure further action through the participation of INGOs, each bringing their own value added to the sector.

Finding 26. The project acted as a catalyst for attracting additional support of interested donors. Worth mentioning in this purview is that the project started with two donors and ended with more than six donors. In addition, the project attracted funds from humanitarian aid programmes to address the halting in the implementation of humanitarian activities and to ensure access to targeted areas.

109. The project acted as a catalyst for attracting additional support for interest donors with three additional donors from 2020 (Canada, European Union, and Italy). In addition, since 2018 the project attracted funds from humanitarian aid programmes (UN OCHA). However, to ensure greater visibility, the communication strategy/tool needs to be strengthened with larger publishing of success stories, focusing on implementation and activities, showing contribution to changes at outcome level. This will contribute and facilitate capitalization of the rich experience already accumulated.

Finding 27. The project interventions have the potential to ensure the sustainability of impacts after the project ends. This is true considering the training and institutional capacity development interventions.

110. Obviously, there is no current exit strategy given that the UNDP Mine action initiative support is linked to emergency intervention as an important component of the humanitarian response. Important equipment and maintenance have been delivered (vehicles, mine detectors, protective vests, helmets...) and the high-quality level of specialized training including daily basis advice on working procedures has been provided by the project. Its partners present to them alone, an exit strategy capable of being more responsible. Through this operational capacity strengthening, it's also allowing for the empowering of the targeted groups, institutions, and relevant stakeholders. UNDP mine action has been successful in supporting development capacity to establish the conditions for effective national ownership and management. This was also facilitated by the full commitment of the national staff of YMACC and YEMAC who completed a very good job under difficult conditions, operating with improved knowledge and skills including institutional and human resource capacity. Furthermore, the project partners included national and specialist international organizations with a track record in mine action programmes and projects. However, ensuring the financial sustainability of local institutions is at stake in making the transition/exit a success.

Finding 28. The project faced a range of social and political risks with potential to jeopardize sustainability of the project outputs and outcomes as well as the ban on importing technical equipment such as detectors and other relevant material for demolition and demining purposes.

111. The procurement of the much-needed materials did not go at the speed expected which has at times hindered the work of the counterparts. The project should find alternative ways of proceeding with the work. Due to the overall situation in the country the project is working with its national counterparts to procure some materials locally. The project is also discussing ways to repair the existing items (small generators, detectors etc.) or even produce them locally (dog equipment, office items etc.). The process of procuring these items

started towards the end of 2018 and the majority has still not been delivered to the counterparts. The delays are due to the extensive national administrative burdens and the overall situation in the country.

5.5- Human Rights

Finding 29. The project interventions are based on the existence of pollution in the target areas; accordingly, all people of different groups benefit as the clearance of an area supports all people living in that area. The project promotes a human rights-based approach to mine action while creating enough space for communities to report issues of concern within local governance networks.

112. During the implementation of the project, the needs of beneficiaries and targeted groups (vulnerable, women and youth) were always prioritized such as farming land, road access, hospitals, and schools. Nevertheless, there is a need for more community-based and community sensitive indicators to measure the impact of mines/ERW presence as well as the impact of mine action activities, in order to inform prioritisation and planning. Mine action is beneficial to affected communities, but it is important to optimise the impact or even understand how to optimize the impact at the community or micro level. Greater engagement before and during mine action as well as the use of a new approach to mine action impact assessment need particular attention. The project started an encouraging initiative through the introduction of a mechanism for community dialogue - so that the needs of marginalised/vulnerable groups are represented – within a rule of law (RoL) framework. This novel rights-based approach - driven by community consultations at prevention stages - in examining C-IED, has allowed to get better knowledge about the contexts in which intervention occurs. The commitment of RoL programme in Yemen to mine action and to counter the threats posed by IEDs since 2019 is a valuable aid to the sector by introducing a more political and conflict-sensitive analysis.

Finding 30. UNDP supporting mine action in Yemen has contributed substantially to increased human safety, through the reduction of risk.

113. Yemen Mine action follows a human-rights based approach, given that mines and ERW/IEDs directly affect the exercise of a number of political, economic, social, civil and cultural rights. A human rights framework helps to secure freedoms and human development and to empower people to take part in decisions that will affect their lives. The C-IED case approach developed is a good example to illustrate this requirement. The project has contributed largely to re-establishing access to vital resources and the enjoyment of the freedom of movement and the exercise of some of internationally guaranteed rights. To a lesser degree, it has also led to improvements in socio-economic recovery conditions on land released at community level in the context of humanitarian access, aid delivery and data collection. The national commitment since 2009 to the convention on the rights of persons with disabilities further boosted the attention given to victims by clarifying states 'obligation to ensure the equal enjoyment of human rights by persons with disabilities. As such, mine action Yemen serves in the application and promotion of human rights instruments, even though challenges remain in the sector, mainly in the victim assistance domain.

5.6- Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE)

Finding 31. The project has contributed to the gender equality in this difficult context where many women and children have died and been injured from mines and explosives every single day due to the lack of awareness and high illiteracy rates amongst them.

114. In addressing gender perspective and gender balance the project ensured that the capabilities, contributions, concerns and needs of women, girls, boys, and men are acknowledged and addressed within the

scope of its activities. The project incorporated the principles of gender in UN mine action programmes in its activities, notably with YEMAC in demining by ensuring mainly that survey information is collected from organisations and/or groups representing both males and females and that data is gender-disaggregated by sex and age (with boys and girls); and that risk education materials address issues associated with all gender roles. Through working with contracted parties as the third-party monitoring agent for example, the project expressed a good determination to address gender and diversity considerations during their activities in the field. The evaluation team noted very encouraging initiatives with the training and operationalization of female intervention teams (IED and survey). This performance is worth highlighting considering the cultural difficulties that women face.

Finding 32. The project contributed to addressing structural inequalities which assume women can't participate in the mine action awareness and removal of explosive items and has conducted many training sessions for women, raising awareness of the importance of engaging women in this sector by highlighting success stories.

115. Women are more included in risk education interventions which target all community groups including men and women, boys, and girls. For this purpose and to achieve optimum benefits, women and men are involved in conducting risk education. This ensures the community acceptance of the interventions and promotes the participation of women and girls. Many partners have shown a general commitment to gender equality. All mine awareness team were male in majority which hindered in some case mine awareness amongst women and some girls' schools in a conservative community. The project contributed to addressing structural inequalities that think that women can't participate in the mine action awareness and removal of explosive items. It has conducted many trainings for women and raised awareness on the importance of engaging women in this sector highlighting the success story of one of these women.

116. The project considered the gender dimension in the design and implementation of its intervention and has made direct and indirect contributions to the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women. The evaluation team perceived a general commitment to the principles that mine action activities have benefited all members of the community-women and men, boys, and girls.

By ensuring that community surveys include focus groups of women, that operations have female actors and that gender-disaggregated data are collected for reports about communities. For statistics on casualties and victim assistance, there is a valued effort from the project involving a complex environment, that is important to highlight and encourage for future actions. The majority of results are considered 'gender targeted' while others are potentially 'gender -transformative'.

Finding 33. Not only has the project succeeded in making women, girls and the most vulnerable aware of mines and safety measures, it has paved the way for more trainings which has produced some potentially transformative results by encouraging YEMAC Aden to train and deploy women teams.

117. Starting to engage women in the removal of ordnance is challenging, mainly in a context where gender inequalities remain significant and where much remains to be done. However, the Project is encouraging the integration of women into teams. The project is also strongly encouraging YEMAC Aden to train and deploy an all-women survey team in the areas under IRG control. The first female bomb disposal operator was trained in Hadramaut in November 2020 and three more have been trained in June 2021 to generate 2021 to generate one complete bomb disposal squad, accompanied by ten in Non-technical Survey where half were women who trained in February 2021. Her role will be to accompany the police into female dwellings and render any IEDs or unexploded ordnance found there safe.

Major difficulties and challenges

118. *Access:* Lack of access to the areas under DFA control is hindering the evidence of field activities (verification and monitoring visiting clearance sites). The cancellation of the visa of the UNDP Chief Technical Advisor in December 2019 impacted on the work of the project in the north of the country. As a result, the post has now been relocated to Aden. The project is following up on the issue and is hopeful that the visa will be reissued once the situation stabilizes. However, no other mine action practitioner has been granted a visa in DFA area since 2017.

119. *Security:* Unpredictable security situation and access to contaminated sites particularly in the areas under DFA control remain challenging issues. Active and legacy IED contamination continues, with the shift in concentration moving from Hodeidah to Hadramawt, Shabwah and Taizz throughout 2020. YEMAC provides response to IED due to capacity shortfalls in the local security forces and the need to protect the civilian population.

120. *Operations:* Recent electricity and fuel shortages mainly experienced in the DFA controlled areas of lately may potentially seriously hamper the field work. Inability to conduct a country wide assessment is preventing a more specific planning of resources. Environmental challenges in the prioritization process need to be considered in the analysis of the conflict dynamics in the vulnerable context of Yemen. Alternative ways need to be investigated to respond to the extensive national administrative burdens which hamper the delivery of materials and equipment on time, mainly in the north. Large amounts of abandoned explosive ordnance and lack of secure storage must be addressed as soon as possible, according to the field security situation. Concerns are also to reduce the recent threat posed by the improvised sea mines, by organizing mapping and intend clearing of Yemen coastal areas.

121. *Cooperation:* the lack of cooperation between Project MASAM implemented by Safelane organization and funded by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and YMACC/YEMAC (South) undermine the opportunity to double the workforce of the sector. National authorities need to encourage this project to join the common efforts under the management of YMACC and share their data on contamination in areas where Project MASAM operates.

122. *Resources:* MA project funds for 2021 are earmarked for maritime survey and the security and control of explosives. The project is looking at a different methodology that can be implemented in Yemen, through surveying and identifying a cleared area for access to the west coast. Fostering resources for mobilization needs through advocacy and information sharing, joint donor visits to the field if security allows, informal remote meetings, help the donor community to undertake constant financial engagement within the project.

123. *Gender sensitive challenges:* In order to be compliant with UN Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security (2000), the project must pursue the promotion of gender dimension. The Nairobi and the Cartagena Action Plans of the APMBC, as well as the CCM and the Vientiane Action Plan, have included several points to make sure that it is an obligation for all mine action actors to integrate a gender dimension in their activities. The employment of more gender balanced staff in the field of mine action, which in many areas means employing more women, can be directly linked to those requirements. It can also contribute to Millennium Development Goal 3 (MDG3), promote gender equality and empower women, by offering employment, especially to women who need an income to support themselves and their families. The project should continue encouraging the diversification of YEMAC teams such as the training of women deminers and learning lessons from the first female bomb disposal and survey teams.

Project experience: best practices and lessons learned

124. The valuable lessons and experiences listed below were gained through the engagement of stakeholders in the Yemen emergency mine action project. The project experience is linked to the present at the emergency phase (listed above).

125. Best practices:

- Operations remain tightly controlled and monitored to assure effectiveness, productivity, and safety.
- Liaisons keep local communities fully informed during clearance operation and risk education activities.
- Post-clearance impact assessment/survey with TPM agents conducted to ensure the land cleared and handed over is used, proving that the local population has confidence in clearance operations.
- Women included in risk education and bomb disposal teams.
- Project implementation was always adapted to deal with changing situations and difficulties in order to achieve the maximum benefits of interventions. For example: In the polluted fields that prevent the access to the target areas, the main roads are cleared, and the remaining part of the field is marked, providing risk education for surrounding communities.
- The project responded to the emerging needs of the targeted communities including for example the needs for tools and equipment for ERW clearance.
- The establishment of the decentralized Yemeni decision-making structure (YMACC) improved effective mine action coordination and implementation in the south.
- The facilitation of the introduction of MA INGOs and commercial entities into the south improved standards and operations.
- The Humanitarian prioritisation matrix is an interesting tool for information sharing within integrated and coordinated interventions.
- The project implementation was always adapted to deal with changing situations and difficulties to achieve maximum benefits of interventions. Many of the results point to long-term change.
- Ministry of Interior supported community consultations and technical training in regard of countering the threat posed by IEDs.

126. Lessons learned:

- UNDP long-term engagement and being a positive team player yields results.
- UNDP successfully recruited mine action advisors/experts and contracted INGOs that were able to develop capacity and mentoring.
- All stakeholders, including national authorities, YMACC, YEMAC, operators and donors must have a commonly defined vision and goal. Plans, results, and the theory of change (ToC) should be regularly assessed, upgraded, and discussed jointly.
- National ownership of the mine action project, including a capacity development plan, time framework, clear benchmark, risk assessment and sustainable funding, all clearly defined from the start as well as full commitment.
- Planning based on results must be transparently and constantly presented to donors. Such actions ensure continuous donor interest and reaffirm their belief in the joint vision and plan.

- Advocacy efforts are crucial to ensuring that focus is maintained on remaining difficulties and on commitment to international conventions.
- Actual results achieved with donor funds should be readily available during the implementation of the project.
- Following success in engaging women in MRE and removal activities, the project needs to engage more women with more trainings and high-level tasks.
- Huge and unprecedented diversification of pollution necessitated increasing the efficiency and further training of field staff to be able to identify and deal with this pollution, which is continuously changing.
- Improved productivity will be met by the employment of more efficient methodologies for the disposal of mines/UXO and more efficient land release surveys on which the project is working with its INGO partners.
- YEMAC needs to finalise the review of its organisational structure to achieve greater effectiveness and efficiency and rise to the new challenges in the country, both technical and geographic.
- YEMAC needs to further organise the field operations to meet both the emergency requirements and address the longer-term impact of the most recent contamination threats.
- Utilisation of the Mine Action Capability Maturity Self-Assessment tool (IRG area only) allows a better approach to the capacity strengthening process and defining the axis of intervention.
- Integration of Mine Action into Rule of Law (RoL) programme counters the threat posed by IEDs and provides valuable assistance to mine action through a novel human rights-based approach driven by community consultations and threat analysis.

Conclusions

Conclusion 1. The project was designed to be more open and more aligned with the general changing needs of the country in the ongoing conflict. While the project could not totally clear all the contaminated areas, it responded to the needs of the population living in the projects' intervention areas while facilitating access to humanitarian support.

127. Conscientiousness, hard work, determination, and direct and frequent communication between all involved partners were key variables that contributed to the successful mine action project in Yemen. The project is well managed by UNDP and the governance structures were appropriate and relevant. Mine action as a sector has struggled with measuring outcomes and impact, and the case in Yemen is no different. However, EMA project has clear links to the relevant and broader development planning documents and other initiatives as rule of Law, although the reporting on outcomes could be strengthened through post-clearance inspections, case studies etc. UNDP has provided leadership and guidance through its work on linking mine action to the SDGs, and this is utilized by EMA project.

128. UNDP has shown flexibility and adaptability in view of the recent changing conditions during the EMA project's implementation. Contamination prevents freedom of movement. Mined roads affect the delivery of aid and the transportation of goods, and contamination prevents children from going to school on their own. The rural population suffers from the inability to access natural resources, including land for grazing and farming, firewood, drinking water and irrigation. The greatest contribution of UNDP's support to mine action at the community level has been the reduction of fear and anxiety. The benefits of this sense of increased safety are shared by all community members, even though the economic benefits may be uneven and difficult to quantify.

Conclusion 2. The project contributed to local peace in the targeted areas through clearing the roads and improving access to basic services such as access to water, agricultural lands, schools, and hospitals.

129. In the community visited, there was a palpable sense of relief that they and especially their children could go about their daily lives without fear that a wrong step would kill them. They reported significant safety improvements and limited socioeconomic improvements. Community members and local officials perceive that the main problems caused by landmine and ERW contamination heightened levels of fear, reduced freedom of movement and restricted access particularly to natural resources. The end of the landmine/ERW threat is the way people perceive the immediate and lasting impact of Mine action. Enabling farmers to return to and operate their cleared farms and wells and livestock herders to graze their livestock in the cleared rangelands, have had economic, social, and peace-building impacts whilst facilitating access to humanitarian support. The communities reported reduced fear and improved access to agriculture, natural resources, water and food, and income and livelihood options. Changes related to safety-reduced fear, improved freedom of movement and improved safety of livestock-were the most frequently reported, followed by changes related to livelihood access and limited growth. Surveys and clearance operations elicit people's views on Mine action service delivery in order to measure the level of satisfaction and to identify where Mine action service could be improved.

Conclusion 3. The main value-added contribution of UNDP is that the capacity development through exchange and sharing of knowledge in mine action institutions to coordinate and manage mine action operations (YMACC and YEMAC) has increased, assisted by a number of international NGOs through technical training, administrative and operational support and providing equipment that enables community education, explosive ordnance survey and clearance.

130. UNDP's support to peace building focused on strengthening the capacities of different actors, ensuring the consolidation of results in terms of significant contribution to local peace and community cohesion. Mine action activities have led to the significant reduction of the risk of threat and have prepared communities to cope with the presence and negative effects of explosives. Wherever and whenever the peace comes, YEMAC has the capacity to deal with the future threats. The evaluation noted that there have been promising results within the national staff on developing management capacities, including in the following areas: quality management, monitoring and evaluation, gender sensitive prioritisation, stakeholder communication, data management and use of adaptive management capacities.

131. UNDP's ability to influence national accountability and effective operation management was successful through a specific approach to a C-IED training/approach framework, initiating female NTS survey/bomb disposal/MRE teams, introducing complementary clearance forces with INGOs and capacity development from international experts. The gender balance approach has been addressed through incipient initiatives with encouraging results despite of the cultural resistance. UNDP placed emphasis on mainstreaming gender principles into plans, aiming for the equal participation of beneficiaries, employees, and decision-makers in mine action.

132. While there is no doubt that UNDP has made a significant contribution to the development of mine action capacity. Yemen is notable for the great levels of cooperation and goodwill among the key stakeholders which has facilitated progress despite concerns regarding financial and human resources. The international organizations present have had complementary expertise and mandates rather than being in direct competition with each other.

Conclusion 4. The Project is operating in and dealing with changing conditions in different areas and accordingly moving from one region to another, based on the development of conflicts. Accordingly, new objectives and needs are prioritised. Ensuring the financial sustainability of local institutions is at stake in making the continuation of emergency support a success.

133. Prioritisation strategies take practical aspects into consideration, as demining operators logically seek to maximize the efficiency of their teams and equipment, by prioritising factors as such as physical and seasonal access and the suitability of a minefield/contaminated areas for clearance with the assets available. The project recognized the need for good surveys of landmines issues, and it promoted local community involvement in its prioritisation. Conducting surveys help to determine and delay the use of clearance assets in areas where there is insufficient evidence of contamination. The clearance tasks were typically identified through local decisions, based on developmental needs and requests by governorates and districts level authorities and individual households. Field monitoring tools carried out regular monitoring through review of regular reports for quality management. As part of the risk mitigation measures, a Third-Party Monitoring (TPM) agent was introduced to ensure that assets employed would have the greater positive result on mine/ERW affected communities, using evidence to propose adjustment to its programming for optimal results achievement.

134. The project demonstrated an equitable response to mine action covering the most impacted governorates, in the north, centre and south of the country. Following the changing situation, the southern governorates are supported by YMACC and YEMAC through technical assistance and capacity support for survey, clearance, risk education, information management and victim assistance. UNDP and YEMAC continued working on a plan to ascertain the optimal number of staff for operations based on the needs and resources available. In agreement with the national authorities and YMACC/YEMAC on a needs' basis, UNDP promoted the engagement of international organisations to assist in the implementation of mine action. They bring their comparative advantages of technical assistance to YEMAC and YMACC. Mine/explosive risk education and victim assistance activities have been implemented with various actors (YEMAC, UNICEF, national NGOs, and associations) with some good but disproportionate impact. Resource mobilization strategy is implemented to get a reasonable level of donors' pledge while an effective approach and constant commitments are challenging.

135. UNDP's support has helped to develop capacity, policies, services, and a legal framework for UXO/mine action in Yemen. The sector has yet to capitalize on its successes such as the land release/clearance that has been achieved, despite a difficult operating environment and concerns related to the donors' commitment. Ideas to publicize Mine action activities include the use of social media, existing websites belonging to the different mine action stakeholders, success stories, and at sector events such as the National Directors Meeting, APMBT intersessional meetings. And the publication of articles in relevant journals.

Recommendations

Recommendation 1. Capacity development is a key component of mine action development assistance. UNDP should continue to support the national institutions YMACC and YEMAC in developing national capacity to address the long-term humanitarian and development challenges caused by the threat of ERW. This will be realized through the continuation of provision of technical advisors to undertake all aspects of operational management to address the long-term humanitarian and development challenges posed by the presence of ERW, with other United Nations actors and international partners.

136. UNDP should conduct a capacity development assessment analysis to map the current capacity baselines of the YMACC and YEMAC and formulate a joint three-year capacity development strategy, developed jointly

with them thereby, affirming a strong partnership. Strengthening the institutional capacity for the mine action sector governance and coordination made links with the other sectors to promote an aligned and coordinated national and humanitarian response to crisis recovery, poverty reduction and longer-term sustainable human security and development.

137. UNDP should continue to enhance its support to national Governments in the areas of: (a) institutional capacity assessment for mine action, including the use of relevant indicators; (b) management of operations (survey, clearance of ERW/UXO/AXO, IED disposal and MRE/EORE:IED risk education and victim assistance) ; development and management of comprehensive information management system for mine action (IMSMA) in suspected and released mine areas; (c) land release prioritization; (d) guidance for monitoring (M&E), quality assurance and control (QA/QC) and coordination of mine action activities and partners programme; (e) mainstreaming mine action into broader recovery and long-term development imperatives, with special emphasis on marginalized communities; (f) taking gender and diversity aspects into account in mine action programming; (g) linking victim assistance support within mine action programmes, and broader support for persons with disabilities through referrals; (h) efficiently channeling donor funding; and (i) utilizing partnerships with other United Nations agencies and international organizations. These actions have intended to strengthen national institutions which accelerate development benefits, including livelihoods and human security.

Recommendation 2. Recent conflicts have dramatically changed the extent and complexity of explosive ordnance contamination dramatically (i.e. CMR, AXOs, IEDs) and UNDP responses should continue to enhance support to national institutions and authorities by building on lessons from the two different areas under IRG/DFA control with different speeds in project progress and achievements. This segmentation should be considered for a sustainable national ownership and utilizing closer engagement with national and international partners.

138. UNDP needs to focus efforts on YMACC responsibilities regarding policy, through the monitoring and coordination of mine action that bring about change management and foster sustainable long-term challenges. The capacity of national partners in information management for mine action remains a challenge and needs to be reinforced for effective information sharing. UNDP needs to pursue the reinforcement of equipment for YEMAC to deal with cluster munitions remnants (CMR), abandoned explosive ordnance (AXO) and improvised explosive devices (IED) within an exchange and sharing of knowledge framework through partnerships of INGOs and commercial entities to increase results and impact.

Efforts should continue to expand EOD and IED disposal trainings of demining operators to improve achievements related to land release through surveys or clearance. UNDP needs to expand the C-IED Maturity Model for Yemen by linking the upstream activities within Rule of Law (RoL) such as adopting measures to prevent the proliferation of the contamination, to run concurrently with immediate downstream initiatives like C-IED risk education, mapping the explosive threats to ground and shipping areas and adopt measures to mitigate the risks. Mine action Yemen should conduct a country-wide assessment to identify the scope of contaminated areas where possible as well as climate risk assessments to better identify vulnerabilities. Such communities should be prioritized, together with responses on humanitarian aid and climate adaptation and with economic recovery being the most important objective.

139. Addressing the triple links between Mine action, Peacebuilding and Rule of Law and inclusive sustainable recovery and development remains relevant in the context of Yemen and can form the basis of the next theories of change. Mine action future support should continue with a coordinated and systemic approach with a long-term view of change, considering the various interaction between Mine action and Rule of Law actors, contributing to community security, wellbeing, and empowerment.

140. UNDP should pursue dialogue with its mine action partners through quarterly programme reviews in order to take any necessary corrective and adaptative measures, and to reinforce synergies and coherence of interventions within and between portfolios and to consolidate achievements. At the macro or policy level UNDP should serve as a technical advisory service (best practices and sharing of knowledge). At the meso level, UNDP should continue to strengthen national institutional capacity to implement operational activities. At community level, UNDP should promote civil society action to contribute to the dynamics of change in the Mine action projects mainly through community consultation within survey and C-IED, risk education and victim assistance. UNDP should also continue to disseminate its knowledge and lessons learned from its past interventions at the community level. Capitalising on unforeseen potential benefits in measuring sociological and economic data will help mine action to measure efficiently the significant changes effected by the intervention, not just short-term outputs, but also immediate impact. The pursuit of the adoption of a rights-based approach to mine action, as a result of the wide-ranging violations of human rights and international norms, constituted by the presence of mines/ERW and IEDs, should include social and economic analysis and would be more representative of the needs of the affected communities.

141. Due to some constraints in mobilizing financial resources, UNDP may continue to reach out to traditional partners with whom its credibility has already been established, while on the other hand UNDP should actively creating new niches among non-traditional donors with a new financial mechanism showing the links between Mine action, Governance/Rule of Law, Crisis recovery and Development. UNDP is well suited to support by channeling targeted donor support towards improving socioeconomic conditions in mine affected communities. The capacity of a rural community to improve standards of living depends on access to labour, credit, and markets.

The lives and livelihoods of impacted communities and citizens were improved as a result of demining and land release. More results could have been achieved if additional resources had been made available simultaneously to stimulate the local economy. Landmine/UXO clearance is an initial step in a much longer recovery and development effort. The elaboration of a Mine action partnership with a communications action plan should help. A resource mobilization strategy should be updated according to the changing environment and new threats as well as new objectives, including capacity development and operations/information management. UNDP should also strengthen its collaboration not only with the national mine action but also with relevant authorities for sector-led development, if possible, with a view to engaging them in its advocacy efforts with other development partners.

Recommendation 3. UNDP must multiply efforts into exploring partnerships and fostering cooperation among the UN system actors and agencies such as UNICEF, to leverage comparative advantages as opposed to setting up parallel systems, in the particular domain of mine risk education (MRE), explosive ordnance risk education (EORE) and improvised explosive device education as well as victim assistance (VA) for women and children.

142. As planned in the HRP 2021, the integration of Mine action into a humanitarian response plan through the Protection Cluster's Mine action area of responsibilities (AOR 3) should continue to support the development of national mine action frameworks and monitor protection needs using the indicator of number of civilians killed or injured by ERW as planned in the HRP 2021. The project should also continue to utilize the extracted information from the prioritization matrix that is communicated by humanitarian workers on the ground. As this partnership is linked to not only with survey/clearance activities through mine action implementing actors but also with risk education and victim assistance, it is essential to better develop synergies and integration with other MRE/EORE programmes such as UNICEF and other national actors. It should prove more effective if UNDP and UNICEF could better associate efforts - in a joint programme for example - to increase awareness. This would be by promoting effective coordination of MRE activities as well as training educators for the benefits of the population as well as getting data more effectively. This approach should reinforce the

integration of the needs of vulnerable groups (women, youth, those in poverty and people living with disabilities).

An integrated strategic MRE/EORE framework should be elaborated between UNDP and UNICEF with all actors involved in the sector (ICRC, MSF, HI, YALS...) and an annual work plan developed consequently which would include M&E responsibilities.

Even UNDP has undertaken modest engagement on victim assistance within its mine action work, the most common activities being surveys of victims and advocacy for national mine victim policies. It should be relevant for the project to include victim assistance support to everyone with disabilities and to strengthen support to Yemen's efforts in fulfilling its victim assistance commitments under the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). The related services transect the sector of health, rights and social welfare, labour, and economic development. The immediate actions should consider the improvement of a centralized casualty data collection, the revision of the National Victim assistance strategy, its coordination and provision. They should link to support from other international and UN agencies such as WHO, the International Labour Organization (ILO) and UNICEF. This need be within the capacity of a Mine Action Programme to leverage comparative advantages, as opposed to setting up parallel systems,

143. This will reinforce the coordination and learning of YMACC and effectiveness of YEMACC. An integrated comprehensive strategic support framework on risk education and victim assistance should be elaborated, and endorsed by all actors involved (UN agencies, international and national organizations) and implemented through a single planning document, with an integrated annual work plan. Greater visibility, effectiveness and the changes induced would guide Yemen's attainment on risk education and support to survivors.

Recommendation 4. UNDP Mine Action should reinforce its mechanism for planning, field monitoring and evaluation (M&E), risk management and results achieved or ongoing. This should feed into an updated theory of change (ToC) and their use in results management.

144. The Mine action project should reinforce its mechanisms for planning and monitoring and evaluation so that it can provide information based on concrete data and analysis on the outcome and impact or benefits of Mine Action interventions in order to inform decision-making during programme implementation and maintain donor confidence. Starting with revisiting the Theory of change (ToC) will enable the project to better articulate its priority and also document results achieved, as well as creating solid foundations for the development of a vision for further actions. This will allow better visibility of interventions and facilitate communication and shared understanding with its partners. The ToC appropriate for Mine action as well as the monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system should be designed in such a way as to encourage active learning. Once the theory of change has been articulated, improved results frameworks and indicators need to be adjusted to include relevant outcome indicators in addition to the usual output indicators. This will assist in measuring transformational changes through an analysis of Mine action's contribution.

145. Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) mechanism should improve communication on results, further showing local improvement in living conditions and community resilience including GEWE aspects. The monitoring function should include not only tracking indicators, but also regular monitoring of possible scenarios in the context of the evolution of programmatic hypotheses (are they playing out as anticipated, do they need to be revised?), of risks, of progress towards results, and of evidence of change (intended or unintended). UNDP should continue to involve a TPM agent for regular monitoring Mine action' activities and field evaluation and revise the evaluation plan periodically as necessary. However, it remains important to identify multiple scenarios to anticipate situations that could lead to a break in the chain of expected results.

146. Orientation for implementing partners should be organized by UNDP not only to communicate on organizational procedures but also to strengthen capacities for results-based project management, monitoring

and evaluation, so that partners have a better understanding of the issues and can contribute further to strengthening the efficiency and effectiveness of interventions.

147. It is essential that UNDP capitalises on its long and rich experience with Mine action in Yemen to consolidate the results and lessons learned from projects to optimize experiences and progress and continue

the role of providing strategic advice on technical and operations management aspect. Greater emphasis on communicating the positive changes resulting from Mine action supported interventions should be considered with a dedicated action plan. An analysis of lessons learned and success stories including a quarterly newsletter would ensure greater visibility of mine action intervention and to facilitate communication and a shared understanding with its partners, project beneficiaries and the public. This should be aimed at achieving sustainable changes.

Recommendation 5. UNDP should maintain and reinforce its efforts to strengthen the gender and diversity dimensions - for example persons with disabilities (PWD), the aged, marginalized tribes etc - of its mine action project and further support the structuration and capacities on women's empowerment.

148. UNDP should further pursue the gender and diversity dimension, continuing to advocate for and facilitate women's and other marginalized groups' (such as aged, youth, PWD, marginalized tribes) participation in Mine action and peace building mechanisms (for example seeking to increase the percentage of women in MRE/EORE activities beyond the current 22 percent). Fostering a gender perspective is not only ensuring the participation of women in mine action activities but also ensuring that interventions respond to the concerns and needs of women, girls, boys and men and livelihoods in areas previously affected by explosive ordnances. The project should ensure that these are either acknowledged or addressed within the scope of its activities and would improve the socio-economic conditions in mine-affected communities.

149. The project should encourage the diversification of YEMAC teams such as the training of women deminers and learning lessons from the first female bomb disposal team. Particular attention needs to be implemented by ensuring that the training of trainers for MRE is gender balanced; introducing female quality assurance/quality control officers; raising awareness of the targeted communities on gender to enhance their local acceptance of women to work in this field; enabling staff to fulfill their potential in the workplace; ensuring that staff receive appropriate gender sensitivity training among the main challenges. A YEMAC gender focal point should be appointed to assume responsibility for the role and better manage this important issue. This initiative should ensure the relevant facilities have an enabling environment to encourage more women to (i) participate, advocate for female leadership and decision making in the mine action, (ii) document the impact and highlight the stories of more women engaging in this sector in close collaboration with women led organizations and (ii) produce educational materials on gender dimension in Mine action.

ANNEXES

Annex 1: Terms of reference

International Consultant for the Emergency Mine Action Project – Yemen Phase Five Terminal Evaluation

Service:	<u>International Consultant for Project Terminal Evaluation</u>
Project Title:	Emergency Mine Action Project – Yemen, Phase Five
Contract Type:	Individual Contract (IC)
Duty Station:	Home-based, with possible travel to Yemen
Expected Duration:	Approximately 30 working days within the period of March/April 2021

Background and Context

Yemen is widely considered to be the worst humanitarian and development crisis in the world. The conflict, which escalated in March 2015, has caused major loss of life, internal displacement, and destroyed critical infrastructure, government fragmentation, poor public service delivery, weakened population and institutional resilience and food insecurity verging on famine. Major roads and bridges across the country have been destroyed, power lines have been severely damaged, and oil and gas production are totally disrupted. An estimated 24.1 million people - equivalent to more than 80 % of the population need humanitarian or protection assistance, including 14.3 million in acute need.

The socio-economic situation deteriorated further due to economic effects of COVID-19 including the reduction of remittances, business closures and livelihood losses; lower oil revenues due to reduced global oil prices and conflict-related disruption in oil production and exports; and reduced foreign aid – only 40% of the 2020 Humanitarian Response Plan was funded by September 2020. Many aid agencies scaled down humanitarian operations due to funding shortfalls, access constraints posed by the conflict, COVID-19, and bureaucratic impediments. As a result, pockets of the population are exposed to famine-like conditions for the first time in two years. More than 20 million people are food insecure.

The escalation of conflict in Yemen has seen large tracts of land being contaminated with unexploded ordnance (UXO) in areas of direct and indirect land warfare. The aerial campaign added new threats of unexploded aircraft bombs, particularly cluster-type munitions in the middle and northern regions of the country. Existence of explosive remnants of war (ERW) and mines have worsened the living conditions of the already conflict-affected and famine prone populations by challenging humanitarian, and recovery activities such as waste and debris management, access to natural or other resources, access to rescue and social services, and the recovery of business activities.

Consistent with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) strategy for assistance to the mine action sector in Yemen, one of the primary goals of the UN is to ensure the most efficient and effective response to the impact of landmines, unexploded ordnance (UXO) and other explosive remnants of war (ERW, including cluster- munitions and IEDs). According to the UN Policy on Mine Action and Effective Coordination, the primary responsibility for addressing the threats faced by the population from contamination remains with the affected state. To promote national ownership, responsibility, leadership and effective coordination, the UNDP is mandated by the General Assembly to assist the national authorities in their efforts to review and strengthen existing coordination mechanisms and further develop a national mine action programme.

The UNDP's Emergency Mine Action Project contributes to a wide spectrum of mine action activities in Yemen through supporting the National Mine Action Committee (NMAC) and the Yemeni Executive Mine Action Centre (YEMAC). UNDP acts in an advisory role covering technical implementation and methodologies, policy issues at the central level, planning processes through the full project cycle and resource mobilisation. The project addresses the physical and socio-economic impacts of explosive remnants of war and mines on people and communities by a) preventing the situation from worsening; b) relieving communities from the impact of current contamination and c) addressing the longer-term issues of convention obligations.

Project outputs are:

- Mine and UXO contamination is mapped, and impact assessed nationwide using primary and secondary resources.
- Mines and UXO are cleared in identified priority areas.
- The awareness of threats posed by mines and UXO is increased in affected communities.

- Survivors of ERW are more effectively supported and rehabilitated socio-economically.

Since its inception in July 2017, the project reached 6.7 million demining and Mine Risk Education (MRE) beneficiaries across the country covering 17 governorates and 217 districts. The field teams cleared over twenty million square meters of land from which they cleared almost 580 thousand different pieces of explosive ordnance, mines, other Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) and Abandoned Explosive Ordnance (AXO). The project has a budget of US\$48 million funded by the following donors: UK FCO, US DoS, Netherlands, Germany, UK DfID, UK FCDO, Canada, European Union, and Italy. The project contributes to the UNDP Yemen Country programme Document Outcome 3: Yemenis contribute to and benefit from peacebuilding processes, Sustainable Development 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions.

Purpose of the evaluation

The Emergency Mine Action Project (V) ends on 30 Jun 2021. This terminal evaluation is commissioned to assess the project's progress towards restoration of services and access to key infrastructure, reducing injuries and fatalities, and normalisation of economic activity in targeted areas.

The terminal project evaluation serves as an important learning and accountability tool, providing the donors, UNDP, key national stakeholders, and authorities in the targeted governorates and districts with an impartial assessment of the results generated, including gender equality measures and women's empowerment. The evaluation will assess the project's relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, and sustainability, identify and document lessons learned, and provide recommendations to inform future project phases. The findings and recommendations of the evaluation will guide the key stakeholders, relevant Yemen institutions and authorities, project donors, UNDP, UN agencies, civil society organisations in implementation of related projects and support inclusion and leaving no one behind.

Objectives

Specific terminal evaluation objectives are to:

1. Assess the relevance and strategic positioning of the Emergency Mine Action (V) project and whether the initial assumptions are still relevant.
2. Assess a) the progress made towards project results and whether there were any unintended results; b) what can be captured in terms of lessons learned for future Emergency Mine Action projects.
3. Assess whether the project management arrangements, country office support, approaches, and strategies, including monitoring strategies and risk management approaches, were well-conceived and efficient in delivering the project.
4. Assess the overall contribution of the projects towards humanitarian-peace-development nexus and whether there are indications of sustaining the project's results after the end of the project.
5. Analyse the extent to which the project enhanced application of a rights-based approaches, gender equality and women's empowerment, social and environmental standards, and participation of other socially vulnerable groups such as children and the disabled.

Scope

The Project Evaluation will cover the period 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2021 covering the project locations – Abyan, Aden, Hajjah, Sa'ada, Amran, Sana'a, Taizz, Hadramaut, Hodeidah and Al Jawf . The evaluation will cover programme conceptualisation, design, implementation, monitoring, reporting and evaluation of results.

The evaluation will engage all project stakeholders - benefitting communities/institutions, authorities in the governorates and districts covered by the project, funding partners, UNDP, UN agencies and partnering CSOs. The evaluation will assess progress made on key indicators agreed with all project stakeholders. In addition to assessing the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency of the project, the evaluation will a) explore the key factors that have contributed to the achieving or not achieving of the intended results; and b) determine the extent to which the project contributed towards restoration of services and access to key infrastructure, reducing injuries and fatalities, and normalisation of economic activity in targeted areas; addressing crosscutting issues of gender equality and women's empowerment and human rights; and forging partnership at different levels, including with government institutions, donors, UN agencies, and communities; c) assess potential sustainability of the project for continued realisation of results; and d) draw lessons learned and best practices and make recommendations for future mine action projects.

Terminal evaluation questions

Referencing and adopting from Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Development Assistance Committee (DAC) evaluation criteria, the evaluation will answer the following questions:

Relevance:

1. Was the project relevant in addressing the impacts of UXO and ERW in the targeted areas?
2. To what extent was the project in line with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) strategy for assistance to the mine action, national priorities, priorities of the targeted governorates, the country programme's outputs and outcomes and the SDGs?

3. Was the project relevant to the needs and priorities of the target groups/beneficiaries including women and men? Were they consulted during design and implementation of the project?
4. Did the project address gender issues and help women overcome challenges or limitations?

Efficiency:

5. Were the programme's resources efficiently utilised? Are there more efficient ways of delivering the same or better results with the available inputs?
6. How efficient were the management and accountability structures of the project? (programme cycle, staffing, M&E processes, selection of implementing partners...)
7. To what extent have the M&E systems utilized by UNDP enabled effective and efficient project management?
8. To what extent gender equality results are achieved at reasonable cost?

Effectiveness/impact:

9. To what extent has the project contributed to the country programme outcomes and outputs, the SDGs, the UNDP Strategic Plan, and mine action priorities?
10. To what extent did the project achieve its intended outputs?
11. To what extent has the project contributed towards its intended outcome?
12. What was the impact of the project on developing the institutional capacity of the Yemeni mine action bodies?
13. What factors have contributed to achieving or not achieving intended project outputs and outcomes? What could be done to maximise project impact?
14. To what extent has the project contributed to gender equality, the empowerment of women and the realization of human rights?
15. To what extent did COVID-19 impact positively and negatively to the project implementation?

Sustainability:

16. To what extent will financial and economic resources be available to sustain the benefits achieved by the project?
17. Are there any social or political risks that may jeopardize sustainability of project outputs and the project's contributions to country programme outputs and outcomes?
18. To what extent have relevant government ministries or institutions integrated project outcomes into ongoing policies and practices?
19. To what extent are lessons learned being documented by the project team on a continual basis and shared with appropriate parties who could learn from the project?
20. To what extent the interventions have well-designed and well-planned exit strategies?

Human rights

21. To what extent have poor, indigenous and physically challenged, women and other disadvantaged and marginalized groups included in helping design and prioritize the work of the project in the spirit of broad societal inclusion. To what extent have they benefited from the work of the project?
22. To what extent are the planned project interventions relevant to the overall strategy of inclusivity and empowerment?
23. Was conflict sensitivity mainstreamed and included as an approach throughout project implementation?

Gender equality and empowerment

24. To what extent have gender equality and the empowerment of women been addressed in the design, implementation, and monitoring of the project?
25. To what extent has the project promoted positive changes in gender equality and the empowerment of women? Were there any unintended effects?

Guiding evaluation questions will be further refined by the consultant and agreed with UNDP evaluation stakeholders.

Terminal evaluation methodology

This terminal evaluation will adhere to the United Nations Evaluation Group's Norms and Ethical Standards, OECD/DAC evaluation principles and guidelines and DAC Evaluation Quality Standards, UNDP Evaluation Guidelines and UNDP Evaluation Policy.

As of 11 March 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared COVID-19 a global pandemic as the new coronavirus rapidly spread to all regions of the world. Travel to and in the country is constrained by a combination of COVID-19 and the ongoing conflict. If it is not possible to travel to or within the country for the evaluation then the consultant should develop a methodology that takes this into account the conduct of evaluation virtually and remotely, including the use of remote interview methods and extended desk reviews, data analysis, survey, and evaluation questionnaires. This should be detailed in the inception report and agreed with the Evaluation Manager.

Since the evaluation is to be carried out virtually, consideration should be taken for stakeholder availability, ability, or willingness to be interviewed remotely. In addition, their accessibility to the internet/computer may be an issue as many government and national counterparts may be working from home. These limitations and any others must be reflected in the evaluation report.

It is expected that the evaluation will employ a combination of both qualitative and quantitative evaluation methods. The evaluators should propose their own methodology, which may include:

1. Document review of all relevant documentation. This would include a review of inter alia; project documents; theory of change and results framework; programme and project quality assurance reports; annual workplans; consolidated progress reports; results-oriented monitoring report; highlights of project board meetings; and technical/financial monitoring reports.

2. Semi-structured interviews with key female and male stakeholders. This would include national authorities, YMACC, YEMAC, project implementing agencies, representatives of key civil society organizations, UNCT members.

Evaluation questions will be tailored to the different needs and participation of various stakeholders.

All interviews will be undertaken in full confidence and anonymity. Prior to engaging in interviews or focus group discussions, the consultant must obtain informed consent from all stakeholders, but especially those from vulnerable categories. The final evaluation report should not assign specific comments to individuals but indicate patterns according to categories of respondents.

3. Validation of results. The consultant is expected to follow a participatory and inclusive consultative approach that ensures close engagement with the evaluation managers, implementing agencies and direct male and female beneficiaries. Other methods such as outcome mapping, observational visits, group discussions, etc.

4. Data review and analysis of monitoring and other data sources and methods.

All analysis must be based on observed facts, evidence, and data. Findings should be specific, concise, and supported by quantitative and/or qualitative information that is reliable, valid, and generalizable. The broad range of data provides strong opportunities for triangulation. This process is essential to ensure a comprehensive and coherent understanding of the data sets, which will be generated by the evaluation. Gender and Human rights need to be incorporated in the evaluation report sections as per the UNDP evaluation guidelines and UNEG Guidance.

The final methodological approach including interview schedule, field visits and data to be used in the evaluation should be clearly outlined in the inception report and be fully discussed and agreed between UNDP, stakeholders, and the evaluators.

Evaluation Ethics

Evaluations in the UN are conducted in accordance with the principles outlined in the UNEG 'Ethical Guidelines for Evaluation.' The consultant must safeguard the rights and confidentiality of information providers, interviewees, and stakeholders through measures to ensure compliance with legal and other relevant codes governing collection of data and reporting on data. The consultant must also ensure security of collected information before and after the evaluation and protocols to ensure anonymity and confidentiality of sources of information where that is expected. The information knowledge and data gathered in the evaluation process must also be solely used for the evaluation and not for other uses with the express authorization of UNDP and partners. The consultant is required to read the guidelines and ensure a strict adherence, including establishing protocols to safeguard confidentiality of information obtained during the evaluation. Upon signing the contract, the consultant will also sign this guideline which may be made available as an attachment to the evaluation report.

Expected Deliverables

The consultant will be expected to deliver the following:

- a) **Evaluation inception report (10-15 pages).** The inception report should be carried out following and based on preliminary discussions with UNDP after the desk review. It should be produced and approved before the evaluation starts (before any formal evaluation interviews, survey distribution or field visits) and prior to the country visit in the case of the international consultant.
- b) **Evaluation** debriefings. Immediately following an evaluation, UNDP will ask for a preliminary debriefing of findings.
- c) **Draft evaluation report (max 40 pages).** Donors, UNDP, and stakeholders will review the draft evaluation report and provide an amalgamated set of comments to the evaluator within 10 days, addressing the content required (as agreed in the inception report) and quality criteria as outlined in the UNDP evaluation guidelines.
- d) **Evaluation report audit trail.** Comments and changes by the evaluator in response to the draft report should be retained by the evaluator to show how they have addressed comments.
- e) **Final evaluation report.** The final report should address comments, questions, and clarification. The final report should also contain a stand-alone executive summary of no more than five pages.

Standard templates that need to be followed are provided in the Annexes section. It is expected that the evaluator will follow the UNDP evaluation guidelines and UNEG quality check list and ensure all the quality criteria are met in the evaluation report. In line with UNDP's financial regulations, when determined by the Country Office and/or the consultant that a deliverable or service cannot be satisfactory completed due to impact of COVID-19 and limitations to the evaluation, that deliverable or service will not be paid. Due to the current COVID-19 situation and its implications, a partial payment may be considered if the consultant invested time towards the deliverable but was unable to complete to circumstances beyond his/her/their control.

Required qualifications:

The project evaluation will be conducted by an independent consultant. The consultant must have extensive experience in strategic programming of development assistance in active conflict setting countries within the broader areas of mine action. The consultant

must also have substantial knowledge and experience of gender and monitoring and evaluation of similar initiatives in volatile environments.

Education:

- Advanced university degree (i.e. master's degree or equivalent) in the field of social science or other relevant fields of study with a minimum of eight years of relevant experience.
Or
- First Level University Degree (bachelor's degree or equivalent) with a minimum of 15 years of relevant experience.
Or
- Military Experience (or relevant Police Experience) at the Officer level with a minimum of 15 years of relevant experience.

Experience:

- At least eight years of practical experience in a similar professional role (i.e. implementation, consultancy support and/or Evaluation for the projects (inter alia in local economic development, rural development, community led development and other related areas)
- At least 10 years of programme/project management and policy formulation experience in mine action and/or related field.
- Proven record of leading complex programmatic evaluations, including Mine Action/UXO programmes or related field.
- Demonstrable in-depth understanding of results-based management, gender equality, human rights, capacity building and strategic planning.
- Demonstrated experience with UNDP and/or other multilateral/bilateral development assistance agencies in similar assignments is an advantage.
- Fluency in English is a requirement. Knowledge of Arabic would be an asset.

Implementation arrangements

The UNDP Yemen Country Office will select the consultant through a transparent process. UNDP will be responsible for the management of the consultant and will in this regard designate an evaluation manager and focal point. The Emergency Mine Action Project staff will assist in facilitating the process (e.g., providing relevant documentation, arranging visits/interviews with key informants, reviewing evaluations deliverables).

The evaluation manager will convene an evaluation reference group comprising of technical experts from UNDP, donors and implementing partners. This reference group will review the inception report and the draft review report to provide detailed comments related to the quality of methodology, evidence collected, analysis and reporting. The reference group will also advise on the conformity of processes to the UNDP and UNEG standards. The consultant will take responsibility, with assistance from the project team, for setting up meetings and conducting the review, subject to advanced approval of the methodology submitted in the inception report. Project staff will not participate in meetings between consultant and evaluation participants.

The consultant will report directly to the designated evaluation manager and focal point and work closely with the project team. The consultant will work full time and may be required to travel to the targeted areas for the purpose the evaluation. If it is not possible for the consultant to travel to Yemen or project locations due to security or COVID-19 restrictions, they should develop a methodology that considers the conduct of the evaluation virtually and remotely. This should be detailed in the Inception Report and agreed with the Evaluation Reference Group and the Evaluation Manager.

Support during the implementation of remote/ virtual meetings will be provided by evaluation manager and focal point. An updated stakeholder list with contact details (phone and email) will need to be provided by the country office to the consultant. UNDP with support of relevant stakeholders will develop a management response to the evaluation within 2 weeks of report finalization.

Timeframe for the evaluation process

The selected consultant will be expected to deliver the following outputs according to the following tentative schedule:

Deliverable	Time Allocation	Documents to be submitted	% of payment	Approving Officer
Deliverable 1: Evaluation inception report (10-15 pages) describing initial findings based on the comprehensive documentation review - work plan and evaluation matrix prepared. Presentation of inception report to UNDP	8 days	A comprehensive inception report	25%	Team Leader, MSU
Deliverable 2: Presentation(s) delivered to key stakeholders	1 day	PowerPoint Presentation		
Deliverable 3: Draft evaluation report (max 40 pages) should be prepared based on collected data and information following the UNDP templates	15 days	Draft evaluation report	40%	Team Leader, MSU

Deliverable 4: Final Terminal Review Report integrating feedback on draft evaluation report provided by the ERG, UNDP and other stakeholders, Audit trail	7 days	Final evaluation report, audit trail	35%	Team Leader, MSU
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The consultancy is expected to take a period of 30 working days starting in March 2021. The 30 working days will be spread over a period of two months to provide for delays and the need for additional time that may be required for implementing evaluations virtually recognising possible delays in accessing stakeholder groups due to COVID-19. The consultant will inform the evaluation manager if additional time is needed to complete the evaluation.

Application process

Interested qualified and experienced individual consultants must submit the following documents/information to demonstrate their qualifications and interest: (i) Letter of Confirmation of interest and availability using the template provided by UNDP; (ii) Most Updated Personal detailed CV including past experience in similar assignment and at least 3 references; (iii) UN P11 Form ("CV Form"); (iii) A detailed methodology on how the candidate will approach and conduct the work and (v) links to at least two samples of evaluation work done/authored within the past two years.

Submitted proposals will be assessed using Cumulative Analysis Method. The proposals will be weighed according to the technical proposal (carrying 70%) and financial proposal (carrying 30%). Technical proposals should obtain a minimum of 70 points to qualify and to be considered. Financial proposals will be opened only for those application that obtained 70 or above in the technical proposal. Below are the criteria and points for technical and financial proposals.

A) Technical proposals (total score: 70 points)

Criteria	Max score	Weight
General adherence to the Term of Reference (ToR)	5	7%
Proposed methodology, approach, and workplan (relevance, logic, rigor, practicality, creativity, realism of work plan etc). Clarity and relevance of the proposed methodology, to the local context and to achieve the deliverables of the ToR. Realistic and complete work plan which reflects clear and comprehensive understanding of the scope of work in the ToR. Clarity about how gender considerations will be factored into the evaluation. Clarity on the quality assurance process that will be in place for this assignment	35	50%
Quality of plan to ensure ethics of conducting evaluation with human subjects (methodological component that will be accorded special attention given the project engagement of women, juvenile children, and other targeted groups).	10	14%
Technical capacity of the applicant: qualifications, competencies, experience, and skills as per the ToR (also assessed against sample of evaluation work done)	20	29%
Total	70	100%

A) Financial Proposal (total score: 30 points)

The financial proposal will specify a total lump sum amount and payment terms shall be in line with those that are mentioned in the deliverable table. Financial proposal will be assessed based on the completeness, clarity, and appropriateness. The maximum number of points shall be allotted to the lowest Financial Proposal that is opened /evaluated and compared among those technical qualified candidates who have obtained a minimum **70 points** in the technical evaluation. Other Financial Proposals will receive points in inverse proportion to the lowest price applying the formula: Marks Obtained = Lowest Priced Offer (Amount) / Offer being considered (Amount) X 30 (Full Marks)

Payments

Fee payments will be made upon acceptance and approval by UNDP planned deliverables, based on the following payment schedule:

Milestone for payment	Percentage
Inception report	25%
Draft Evaluation Report & presentation of findings	40%
Final Evaluation Report, audit trail	35%

Annex 2: List of persons interviewed and calendar of terminal evaluation EMA project

A- List of persons interviewed

Date	Surname, Name	Sexe	Fonction	Organisation
18/6/2021	MIHAJLOV, Aleksandar	M	M&E	UNDP Yemen - Mine Action team
27/6/2021	COLLETT, Gareth	M	Chief Technical Advisor C-IED	UNDP Yemen - Mine Action team

5/7/2021	BRYANT, Stephen	M	CTA – Project Manager	UNDP Yemen - Mine Action team
24/6/2021	YAGOUT, Majed	M	Coordination/liaison YEMAC Sana'a	UNDP Yemen - Mine Action team
7/7/2021	LUCKETT, Jes	M	MA Operation Specialist	UNDP Yemen - Mine Action team
5/7/2021	ROBINSON, Stephen	M	STA (Aden)	UNDP Yemen - Mine Action team
7/6/2021	DAHAN, Marie	F	Reporting- coordination specialist	UNDP - Amman
6/7/2021	SMITH, Matt	M	Programme Manager - Yemen	HALO TRUST
29/6/2021	KHAN, Sanaa	F	Project Manager -TPM	PRODIGY (TPM)
30/6/2021	YAMANO, Makiba	F	Chief Child Protection	UNICEF - MRE
1/7/2021	KILAMA, Douglas	M	Risk Education Technical Coordinator	HI (Handicap International)
9/7/2021	WILLIAMS, Colin	M	Chief Technical Adviser	United Nations Mission in support of the Hudaydah Agreement (UNMHA)
30/6/2021	SAEED, Tawfiq	M	PSO, ERDU & Governance teams –TLs	PSO, UNDP
10/7/2021	TSUCHIYA, Tsunetaka	M	PSO, ERDU & Governance teams - TLs	UNDP
15/7/2021	AQUILI, Ameen	M	YEMAC (Yemen Executive Mine Action Centre) Aden	YEMAC (Yemen Executive Mine Action Centre) Aden
7/7/2021	IM, Won-Hyuk	F	RoL Project	UNDP
7/7/2021	AIKEN, Mark	M	PSO, ERDU & Governance teams – TLs - Maritime	UNDP
29/6/2021	AJAM, Qasem	M	NMAC (National Mine Action Committee) Sana'a	NMAC (National Mine Action Committee) Sana'a
2/7/2021	Rehab AL SANABANI	F	Gender Analyst - PSO, ERDU & Governance teams - TLs	UNDP
8/7/2021	Hannah BUECHNER	F	Donor relations and PSF	UNDP - Amman liaison
8/7/2021	Lucy MATHIESON	F	RoL project team –Team Leader	UNDP
4/7/2021	AI-OGAILI, Abdullah	M	Mine Action officer	UNDP Yemen - Mine Action team
8/7/2021	Salma EL HAGYOUSIF	F	Head of HoSO Aden	UNDP - Aden HoSO
11/7/2021	Kennedy CHIBVONGDZE	M	Head: Management Support Unit	UNDP
6/7/2021	Adnan Cheema	M	Head of Office in Hodeidah	UNDP Office in Hodeidah
8/7/2021	Abdo SEIF	M	MSU	UNDP
14/6/2021	FGDs in Taiz –Al- Mocha with 10 Participants	10 M	Project Beneficiaries	Community members
15/7/2021	FGDs in Aden with 9 participants	3 F 6 M	Project Beneficiaries	Community members
15/7/2021	FGDs in Lahej with 7 Participants	1 F 6 M	Project Beneficiaries	Community members
16/7/2021	FGDs in Abyan with 8 Participants	3 F 5 M	Project Beneficiaries	Community members
18/7/2021	FGDs in Mukalla (Hadramout) with 5 participants	2 F 3 M	Project Beneficiaries	Community members

Total of persons interviewed: 65 = 47 Male and 18 Female (28%)

Nota (extract para 25): For conducting interviews, a purposive evaluation sample was considered. For this purpose, 65 Individuals interviewed in person, on-line and FGDs including 28 % of women. Worth mentioning in this regard is that each interviewee in the sites represent and/or supervise thousands of beneficiaries which makes the sample size adequate and representative. As the access to northern places is limited for security reasons; the sample was concentrated to the southern part of the country.

B- Calendar of terminal evaluation EMA project: 5 June – 31 August 2021

- 18 April: Project's documentation received
- 14 May: Submission of draft inception report
- 5-22 June: Start with the NC recruitment and documentation review, evaluation tools
- 23 June: Submission of final inception report
- 24 June -27 July: On-line and in persons interviews and field visits
- 2 August: Submission on brief preliminary findings
- 11 August: Presentation ppt on preliminary results: findings, best practices and lessons learned, conclusions and recommendations
- 12-31 August: Preparation of draft and final terminal evaluation report

Annex 3: Suggested Data Collection Guides for Conducting Interviews and FGDs

(A: Donors, B: National authorities, C: Partners, D: UNDP staff and E: Beneficiaries)

A- Donors :

Name: _____ Organization _____

Contact Details: _____

Location _____ Male _____ Female _____

Date: _____ Time: _____ End _____

Confidentiality and Informed Consent Statements: Thank you for taking the time to meet with us. We are conducting an independent terminal evaluation of the current **Emergency Mine Action Project – Phase Five - Yemen** which ends in 2021. This evaluation is commissioned to assess the project's progress towards restoration of services and access to key infrastructure, reducing injuries and fatalities, and normalization of economic activity in targeted areas. We have been hired by the UNDP for this assignment but are not employees of the UNDP.

It is expected the project terminal evaluation serves as an important learning and accountability tool, providing authorities, actors, and partners with an impartial assessment of the results generated, including gender equality measures and women empowerment.

This evaluation will make it possible to draw lessons on (i) the implementation of the project, (ii) the results obtained, and thus (iii) propose recommendations for the development of the next UNDP Mine Action Support Project.

All information shared will be kept anonymous. We will aggregate and present our findings from interviews in a way that cannot be tied back to any individual or organization. Therefore, please feel free to speak openly and candidly with us.

Your participation is voluntary. Please feel free to ask to skip any question that you do not feel comfortable answering or ending the interview at any point

The evaluation through specific questionnaire will address the following three key evaluation questions which also guide the findings in the report:

- (1) What did the UNDP Emergency Mine Action Project intend to achieve during the period under review (2017-2020)?
- (2) To what extent has the project achieved (or is likely to achieve) its intended objectives?
- (3) What factors contributed to or hindered project's performance and eventually, the sustainability of results?

In terms of use, we will produce a draft evaluation report following our fieldwork which will be shared with Donors and other stakeholders for their comments. We'll then revise and finalize the draft based on comments received. UNDP Yemen will then be responsible for the circulation of the report.

Thank you again for your willingness to participate in this interview.

Do you have any questions before starting?

GENERAL

1. Are you familiar with the UNDP Emergency Mine action project? If yes, what has been your involvement?
2. Do you think that the emergency mine action project contributes to UNDP's role in Yemen in supporting a peace building process and restoring essential basic social services?
3. Looking at the bigger picture, do you believe that this project contributes to the overall Yemen Peace efforts and responds to the needs of the population living in the projects' intervention areas? If yes, can you provide examples of how it does?
4. What do you think about the range of activities undertaken with UNDP technical assistance on survey and clearance, mine/UXO risk education and victim assistance?

RELEVANCE

5. Do you think that the emergency mine action project contributes to UNDP'S role in Yemen in supporting a peace building process and restoring essential basic social services?
6. Was the project relevant to the needs and priorities of the target groups/beneficiaries including women and men? Were they consulted during design and implementation of the project?
7. Was the project relevant in addressing the impacts of UXO and ERW in the targeted areas?
8. Did the project address gender issues and help women overcome challenges or limitations?

EFFECTIVENESS AND IMPACT

9. To what extent has the project contributed to the country programme outcomes and outputs, the SDGs, the UNDP Mine Action for Sustainable development, and mine action priorities?
10. To what extent has the project contributed to gender equality, including improved access to services and skills, the empowerment of women and the realisation of human rights?

SUSTAINABILITY

11. Are there any social or political risks that may jeopardize sustainability of project outputs and the project's contributions to country programme outputs and outcomes?
12. Has the project results in term of gender equality and/or women empowerment being likely to be of increased or sustained beyond project end? Did the project gained the stakeholders commitment to advance gender equality and/or to resolve/overcome gender equality institutional challenges and gaps?
13. Did the project acts as a catalyst for attracting additional support from interested donors?

HUMAN RIGHTS AND GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

14. To what extent have poor, indigenous and physically challenged, women and other disadvantaged and marginalized groups been benefited from the work of the project?
15. To what extent are the planned project interventions relevant to the overall strategy of inclusivity and empowerment?

LESSONS/GOOD PRACTICES and RECOMMENDATIONS

16. What are the main good practices and lessons learned so far? To what extent has the project generated lessons learned and good practices to inform future interventions?
17. Do you have any recommendation or inputs regarding the better implementation of the project activities?

B- National Authorities and Organizations (YEMAC, YMACC, NMAC and REMAB) and UN Agencies (OCHA, UNODC, WFP, UNICEF, and UN Mission Hodeidah).

Name: _____ Organization _____
 Contact Details: _____
 Location _____ Male _____ Female _____
 Date: _____ Time: _____ End _____

Confidentiality and Informed Consent Statements: Thank you for taking the time to meet with us. We are conducting an independent terminal evaluation of the current **Emergency Mine Action Project – Phase Five - Yemen** which ends in 2021. This evaluation is commissioned to assess the project's progress towards restoration of services and access to key infrastructure, reducing injuries and fatalities, and normalization of economic activity in targeted areas. We have been hired by the UNDP for this assignment but are not employees of the UNDP.

It is expected the project terminal evaluation serves as an important learning and accountability tool, providing authorities, actors, and partners with an impartial assessment of the results generated, including gender equality measures and women empowerment. This evaluation will make it possible to draw lessons on (i) the implementation of the project, (ii) the results obtained, and thus (iii) propose recommendations for the development of the next UNDP Mine Action Support Project.

All information shared will be kept anonymous. We will aggregate and present our findings from interviews in a way that cannot be tied back to any individual or organization. Therefore, please feel free to speak openly and candidly with us.

Your participation is voluntary. Please feel free to ask to skip any question that you do not feel comfortable answering or ending the interview at any point

The evaluation through specific questionnaire will address the following three key evaluation questions which also guide the findings in the report:

- (a) What did the UNDP Emergency Mine Action Project intend to achieve during the period under review (2017-2020)?
- (b) To what extent has the project achieved (or is likely to achieve) its intended objectives?
- (c) What factors contributed to or hindered project's performance and eventually, the sustainability of results?

In terms of use, we will produce a draft evaluation report following our fieldwork which will be shared with Donors and other stakeholders for their comments. We'll then revise and finalize the draft based on comments received. UNDP Yemen will then be responsible for the circulation of the report.

Thank you again for your willingness to participate in this interview.

Do you have any questions before starting?

GENERAL

1. To begin, please tell us about your familiarity with the UNDP Emergency Mine action project. What was your organization's role in the project? What was your role in the project? What activities did you involve in?

RELEVANCE

2. Do you think that the emergency mine action project contributes to UNDPs role in Yemen in supporting a peace building process and restoring essential basic social services?
3. Looking at the bigger picture, do you believe that this project contributes to the overall Yemen Peace efforts and responds to the needs of the population living in the projects' intervention areas? If yes, can you provide examples of how it does?

4. Was the project relevant in addressing the impacts of UXO and ERW in the targeted areas?
5. What do you think about the range of activities undertaken with UNDP technical assistance on survey and clearance, mine/UXO risk education and victim assistance?

EFFECTIVENESS & IMPACT

6. To what extent has the project contributed to the country programme outcomes and outputs, the SDGs, the UNDP Mine Action for Sustainable development, and mine action priorities?
7. What was the outcome level result of the project on developing the institutional capacity of the Yemeni mine action bodies?
8. What factors have contributed to achieving or not achieving intended project outputs and outcomes? What could be done to maximise project impact ?
9. To what extent has the project contributed to gender equality, including improved access to services and skills, the empowerment of women and the realisation of human rights?
10. To what extent did COVID-19 impact positively and negatively to the project implementation and regarding gender issues? and how do they differ between both sexes? How the inclusion of gender issues led to better quality results/ opportunities/ benefits?

SUSTAINABILITY

11. Did the project acts as a catalyst for attracting additional support from interested donors?
12. Are there any social or political risks that may jeopardize sustainability of project outputs and the project's contributions to country programme outputs and outcomes?
13. What are project outputs that contributed to sustainable change?
14. To what extent the interventions have well-designed and well-planned exit strategies?
15. Have the project results in term of gender equality and/or women empowerment being likely to be of increased or sustained beyond project end? Did the project gained the stakeholders commitment to advance gender equality and/or to resolve/overcome gender equality institutional challenges and gaps?

HUMAN RIGHTS AND GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

16. To what extent have poor, indigenous and physically challenged, women and other disadvantaged and marginalized groups been included in helping design and prioritize the work of the project in the spirit of broad societal inclusion? To what extent have they benefited from the work of the project?
17. To what extent are the planned project interventions relevant to the overall strategy of inclusivity and empowerment?
18. To what extent has the project promoted positive changes in gender equality and the empowerment of women including gender roles/access to services and skills? How it can be improved

LESSONS/GOOD PRACTICES and RECOMMENDATIONS

19. What are the main good practices and lessons learned so far? To what extent has the project generated lessons learned and good practices to inform future interventions?
20. Do you have any recommendation or inputs regarding the better implementation of the project activities?

C- Implementing Partners (in South and North): DDG-DRC, Halo Trust, MSB, NPA (Norwegian People's Aid), TDI, ACTED, Hi, PRODIGY, ICRC, UNHCR Protection Cluster

Name: _____ Organization _____

Contact Details: _____

Location _____ Male _____ Female _____

Date: _____ Time: _____ End _____

Confidentiality and Informed Consent Statements: Thank you for taking the time to meet with us. We are conducting an independent terminal evaluation of the current **Emergency Mine Action Project – Phase Five - Yemen** which ends in 2021. This evaluation is commissioned to assess the project's progress towards restoration of services and access to key infrastructure, reducing injuries and fatalities, and normalization of economic activity in targeted areas. We have been hired by the UNDP for this assignment but are not employees of the UNDP.

It is expected the project terminal evaluation serves as an important learning and accountability tool, providing authorities, actors, and partners with an impartial assessment of the results generated, including gender equality measures and women empowerment.

This evaluation will make it possible to draw lessons on (i) the implementation of the project, (ii) the results obtained, and thus (iii) propose recommendations for the development of the next UNDP Mine Action Support Project.

All information shared will be kept anonymous. We will aggregate and present our findings from interviews in a way that cannot be tied back to any individual or organization. Therefore, please feel free to speak openly and candidly with us.

Your participation is voluntary. Please feel free to ask to skip any question that you do not feel comfortable answering or ending the interview at any point

The evaluation through specific questionnaire will address the following three key evaluation questions which also guide the findings in the report:

- 1) What did the UNDP Emergency Mine Action Project intend to achieve during the period under review (2017-2020)?
- 2) To what extent has the project achieved (or is likely to achieve) its intended objectives?
- 3) What factors contributed to or hindered project's performance and eventually, the sustainability of results?

In terms of use, we will produce a draft evaluation report following our fieldwork which will be shared with Donors and other stakeholders for their comments. We'll then revise and finalize the draft based on comments received. UNDP Yemen will then be responsible for the circulation of the report.

Thank you again for your willingness to participate in this interview.

Do you have any questions before starting?

GENERAL

1. Are you familiar with the UNDP Emergency Mine action project? If yes, what has been your involvement? What was your organization's role in the project? What was your role in the project? What activities did you involve in?
2. Do you think that the emergency mine action project contributes to UNDPs role in Yemen in supporting a peace building process and restoring essential basic social services?

RELEVANCE

3. To what extent do you think the project responded to the targeted people needs and existing issues? Was it relevant or irrelevant why? Was the project relevant in addressing the impacts of UXO and ERW in the targeted areas?
4. What do you think about the range of activities undertaken with UNDP technical assistance on survey and clearance, mine/UXO risk education and victim assistance?
5. How do you assess the national capacity at management and operational level, and can you identify critical areas for improvement?
6. Are the current legal framework and regulations related to mine action adequate, and if not, how could they be improved?

EFFECTIVENESS AND IMPACT

7. To what extent has the project contributed to gender equality, including improved access to services and skills, the empowerment of women and the realisation of human rights?
8. How successful do you believe training activities have been?
9. In your opinion, are there any gaps in capacity sharing within YEMAC that the UNDP mine action support project should have addressed?
10. Is the prioritization system for Non-Technical Survey, Technical Survey and Clearance adequate? If not, how could it be improved?
11. Are the operational training regimes in place, adequate for operations?
12. Are the regulations, national standards, and SOPs appropriate, and if not, how could they be improved?
13. Is the equipment purchased by the project adequate for the tasks?
14. Is there adequate technical support available to YEMACC to manage and maintain the information management system, based on IMSMA?
15. What is the assessed benefit and outcome of the mine risk education (MRE) activities?
16. What activities have specifically been implemented to support victims of UXO accidents? Have the living conditions of mine victims changed significantly?
17. To what extent did COVID-19 impact positively and negatively to the project implementation and regarding gender issues? and how do they differ between both sexes? How the inclusion of gender issues led to better quality results/ opportunities/ benefits?

SUSTAINABILITY

18. Do you think the project interventions (project activities) are sustainable beyond the project period? Why/why not? What are the main challenges for sustaining a national mine action data base?
19. To what extent the interventions have well-designed and well-planned exit strategies?
20. What are project outputs that contributed to sustainable change? What could have been done differently so the project becomes more sustainable?

HUMAN RIGHTS AND GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

21. Was conflict sensitivity mainstreamed and included as an approach throughout project implementation?
22. To what extent have gender equality and the empowerment of women been addressed in the design, implementation, and monitoring of the project?
23. To what extent has the project promoted positive changes in gender equality and the empowerment of women including gender roles/access to services and skills? How it can be improved?

LESSONS/GOOD PRACTICES and RECOMMENDATIONS

24. What are the main good practices and lessons learned so far? To what extent has the project generated lessons learned and good practices to inform future interventions?
25. Do you have any recommendation or inputs regarding the better implementation of the project activities?

D- UNDP Staff and UNDP Mine Action Project Team:

Name: _____ Organization _____

Contact Details: _____

Location _____ Male _____ Female _____

Date: _____ Time: _____ End _____

Confidentiality and Informed Consent Statements: Thank you for taking the time to meet with us. We are conducting an independent terminal evaluation of the current **Emergency Mine Action Project – Phase Five - Yemen** which ends in 2021. This evaluation is commissioned to assess the project's progress towards restoration of services and access to key infrastructure, reducing injuries and fatalities, and normalization of economic activity in targeted areas. We have been hired by the UNDP for this assignment but are not employees of the UNDP.

It is expected the project terminal evaluation serves as an important learning and accountability tool, providing authorities, actors, and partners with an impartial assessment of the results generated, including gender equality measures and women empowerment.

This evaluation will make it possible to draw lessons on (i) the implementation of the project, (ii) the results obtained, and thus (iii) propose recommendations for the development of the next UNDP Mine Action Support Project.

All information shared will be kept anonymous. We will aggregate and present our findings from interviews in a way that cannot be tied back to any individual or organization. Therefore, please feel free to speak openly and candidly with us.

Your participation is voluntary. Please feel free to ask to skip any question that you do not feel comfortable answering or ending the interview at any point

The evaluation through specific questionnaire will address the following three key evaluation questions which also guide the findings in the report:

1. What did the UNDP Emergency Mine Action Project intend to achieve during the period under review (2017-2020)?
2. To what extent has the project achieved (or is likely to achieve) its intended objectives?
3. What factors contributed to or hindered project's performance and eventually, the sustainability of results?

In terms of use, we will produce a draft evaluation report following our fieldwork which will be shared with Donors and other stakeholders for their comments. We'll then revise and finalize the draft based on comments received. UNDP Yemen will then be responsible for the circulation of the report.

Thank you again for your willingness to participate in this interview.

GENERAL

1. To start, please tell us about your familiarity with the UNDP Emergency Mine Action Project? What were the projects' objectives, outcomes, and outputs? What was your role in the project? What activities did you involve in?

2. One of the major constraints with mine action seems to be the lack of accurate and detailed information about the scope and scale of the problem of mines, explosive remnants of war and cluster munitions remnants problem in Yemen. What steps are being taken to address this, and what else needs to be done?

3. Looking at the bigger picture, do you believe that this project contributes to the overall Yemen Peace efforts and responds to the needs of the population living in the projects' intervention areas? If yes, can you provide examples of how it does?

4. Do you think that the emergency mine action project contributes to UNDP's role in Yemen in supporting a peace building process and restoring essential basic social services?

RELEVANCE

5. Was the project relevant to the needs and priorities of the target groups/beneficiaries including women and men? Were they consulted during design and implementation of the project?

6. Was the project relevant in addressing the impacts of UXO and ERW in the targeted areas?

7. Has the project updated its conflict/situation analysis and how, the project addressed new evolving threats?

8. Can you provide any examples or evidence where the project has helped strengthen the capacity of:

- a) NMAC (National Mine Action Committee)?
- b) Yemen Executive Mine Action Centre (YEMAC)?
- c) Yemen Mine Action Coordination Centre (YMACC)?

EFFECTIVENESS

9. To what extent has the project contributed to the country programme outcomes and outputs, the SDGs, the UNDP Mine Action for Sustainable development, and mine action priorities?

10. What were the outcome level results of the project on developing the institutional capacity of the Yemeni mine action bodies?

11.To what extent were the projects' objectives, outcomes and outputs achieved? What factors have contributed to achieving or not achieving intended project outputs and outcomes? What could be done to maximize project impact? Were there any unintended results?

12.To what extent has the project contributed to gender equality, including improved access to services and skills, the empowerment of women and the realisation of human rights?

13.To what extent did COVID-19 impact positively and negatively to the project implementation and regarding gender issues? and how do they differ between both sexes? How the inclusion of gender issues led to better quality results/ opportunities/ benefits?

EFFICIENCY

14.Were the programme's resources efficiently utilized? Are there more efficient ways of delivering the same or better results with the available inputs?

15.To what extent gender equality and women empowerment results are achieved with sufficient resources? Has the project collected sex- disaggregated data and monitor, report and communicate gender-related results?

16.How efficient were the management and accountability structures of the project? (Programme cycle, staffing, M&E processes, selection of implementing partners...) How strong is the project logic and ToC?

17.To what extent have the M&E systems utilized by UNDP enabled effective and efficient project management?

SUSTAINABILITY

18.Did the project acts as a catalyst for attracting additional support from interested donors?

19.What are the main challenges for sustaining a national mine action data base?

20.Are there any social or political risks that may jeopardize sustainability of project outputs and the project's contributions to country programme outputs and outcomes?

21.To what extent the interventions have well-designed and well-planned exit strategies?

22.Has the project results in term of gender equality and/or women empowerment being likely to be of increased or sustained beyond project end? Did the project gained the stakeholders commitment to advance gender equality and/or to resolve/overcome gender equality institutional challenges and gaps?

HUMAN RIGHTS AND GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

23.To what extent have poor, indigenous and physically challenged, women and other disadvantaged and marginalized groups been included in helping design and prioritize the work of the project in the spirit of broad societal inclusion?

To what extent have they benefited from the work of the project?

24.Was conflict sensitivity mainstreamed and included as an approach throughout project implementation?

25.What project activities have specifically been implemented to support victims of UXO accidents? Have the living conditions of mine victims changed significantly? How can the mine action Victim Assistance activities be better integrated into the broader disability sector?

LESSONS/GOOD PRACTICES and RECOMMENDATIONS

26.What are the main good practices and lessons learned so far? To what extent has the project generated lessons learned and good practices to inform future interventions?

27. Do you have any, comments, recommendation, or inputs regarding the better implementation of the project activities?

E- FGDs Guide for beneficiaries of different project interventions

Date: _____ Time: _____ End _____

Location _____

No. of participants _____ No. of Males _____ No. of Females _____

Name of Mediator: _____

Name of Assistant (note taker): _____

List of participants and contact data - To be developed during FGDs (excluding those who prefer to be kept anonymous).

Confidentiality and Informed Consent Statements: Thank you for taking the time to meet with us. We are conducting an independent terminal evaluation of the current **Emergency Mine Action Project – Phase Five - Yemen** which ends in 2021. This evaluation is commissioned to assess the project's progress towards restoration of services and access to key infrastructure, reducing injuries and fatalities, and normalization of economic activity in targeted areas. We have been hired by the UNDP for this assignment but are not employees of the UNDP.

It is expected the project terminal evaluation serves as an important learning and accountability tool, providing authorities, actors, and partners with an impartial assessment of the results generated, including gender equality measures and women empowerment.

This evaluation will make it possible to draw lessons on (i) the implementation of the project, (ii) the results obtained, and thus (iii) propose recommendations for the development of the next UNDP Mine Action Support Project.

All information shared will be kept anonymous. We will aggregate and present our findings from interviews in a way that cannot be tied back to any individual or organization. Therefore, please feel free to speak openly and candidly with us.

Your participation is voluntary. Please feel free to ask to skip any question that you do not feel comfortable answering or ending the interview at any point

The evaluation through specific questionnaire will address the following three key evaluation questions which also guide the findings in the report:

- What did the UNDP Emergency Mine Action Project intend to achieve during the period under review (2017-2020)?
- To what extent has the project achieved (or is likely to achieve) its intended objectives?
- What factors contributed to or hindered project's performance and eventually, the sustainability of results?

In terms of use, we will produce a draft evaluation report following our fieldwork which will be shared with Donors and other stakeholders for their comments. We'll then revise and finalize the draft based on comments received. UNDP Yemen will then be responsible for the circulation of the report.

Thank you again for your willingness to participate in this interview.

Do you have any questions before starting?

GENERAL

1. To begin, please tell me a little about your participation in the project. What activities did you involve in ?
2. How were you selected to participate in the project activities?

RELEVANCE

3. Was the project relevant to the needs and priorities of the target groups/beneficiaries including women and men? Were they consulted during design and implementation of the project?
4. Was the project relevant in addressing the impacts of UXO and ERW in the targeted areas?
5. Did the project address gender issues and help women overcome challenges or limitations? Did the project try to address any specific issue/need in your community?

EFFECTIVENESS/IMPACT

6. To what extent has the project contributed to the country programme outcomes and outputs, the SDGs, the UNDP Mine Action for Sustainable development, and mine action priorities?
7. To what extent has the project achieved (or is likely to achieve) its intended objectives?
8. To what extent has the project contributed to gender equality, including improved access to services and skills, the empowerment of women and the realisation of human rights?

SUSTAINABILITY

9. Are there any social or political risks that may jeopardize sustainability of project outputs and the project's contributions to country programme outputs and outcomes?
10. What are project outputs that contributed to sustainable change?
11. What are project outputs that contributed to sustainable change? What could have been done differently so the project becomes more sustainable?

HUMAN RIGHTS AND GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

12. To what extent have gender equality and the empowerment of women been addressed in the design, implementation, and monitoring of the project?
13. To what extent has the project promoted positive changes in gender equality and the empowerment of women including gender roles/access to services and skills? How it can be improved?

LESSONS/GOOD PRACTICES and RECOMMENDATIONS

14. Do you have any comments, recommendations, or inputs regarding the better implementation of the project activities?

Annex 4: Evaluation Matrix

Relevance/is the intervention doing the right things?

1

Key evaluation questions	Issue	Data sources	Collection methods
1- Was the project relevant in addressing the impacts of UXO and ERW in the targeted areas?	Relevance	Documentary analysis, key informants' interviews (KII), UNDP/project staff, CSOs, NMACC, YEMAC, and beneficiaries focus groups	Project documents and interviews with key informants (KI), local authorities, CSOs, donors. Work plans, priorities, progress/annual reports, ROAR

2- Has the project update its conflict/situation analysis and how, the project addressed new evolving threats?	Adaptability/Risk management	Documentary analysis, key informants' interviews (KII), UNDP/project staff, CSOs, NMACC, YEMAC, and beneficiaries focus groups	Project documents and interviews with key informants (KI), local authorities, CSOs, donors. Work plans, priorities, progress/annual reports, ROAR
3- Was the project relevant to the needs and priorities of the target groups/beneficiaries including women and men? Were they consulted during design and implementation of the project?	Responsiveness	Documentary analysis, key informant interviews (KII), UNDP/project staff, CSOs, NMACC, YEMAC, and beneficiaries focus groups	Project documents and interviews with key informants (KI), local authorities, CSOs, donors. Work plans, priorities, progress/annual reports, ROAR
4- Did the project address gender issues and help women overcome challenges or limitations?	Gender	Documentary analysis, key informant interviews (KII), UNDP/project staff, CSOs, NMACC, YEMAC, and beneficiaries focus groups	Project documents and interviews with key informants (KI), local authorities, CSOs, donors. Work plans, priorities, progress/ annual reports, ROAR

2

Effectiveness²²/Outcome (impact)²³: Is the intervention achieving its objectives? / What difference does the intervention make?

Key evaluation questions	Issue	Data sources	Collection methods
5- To what extent has the project contributed to the country programme outcomes and outputs, the SDGs, the UNDP Mine Action for Sustainable development, and mine action priorities?	Outcome achievement	Documentary analysis and KII including field level beneficiaries Focus groups	Project documents, Key informant interviews (KII), beneficiaries focus groups, on site visit by national consultant, with local authorities' interviews, information triangulated
6- To what extent has the project achieved (or is likely to achieve) its intended objectives?	Key results	Documentary analysis and KII including field level beneficiaries focus groups	Project documents, KII, beneficiaries focus groups, on site visit by national consultant, with local authorities' interviews, information triangulated
7-What was the outcome level result of the project on developing the institutional capacity of the Yemeni mine action bodies?	Achievement of objectives	Documentary analysis and KII including field level beneficiaries focus groups	Project documents, KII, focus group, on site visit by national consultant, with local authorities' interviews, information triangulated
8- What factors have contributed to achieving or not achieving intended project outputs and outcomes? What could be done to maximise project impact ?	Effective management	Documentary analysis and KII including field level beneficiaries focus groups	Project documents, KII, focus group, on site visit by national consultant, with local authorities' interviews, information triangulated

²² As per the OECD/DAC document "Better Criteria for better evaluation-December 2019" box 6 P.11: ".....direct and primary effects are covered by effectiveness"

²³ Note of evaluation team: Considering the above-mentioned OECD/DAC definitions, it would be technically not easy to evaluate 'impact' since maximizing results needs enough time to obtain expected results. In mine action, the overall impact relates to improved livelihoods (towards poverty eradication) and reduced marginalization (towards reduction of inequalities and exclusion) which are long term process. **Therefore, the evaluation team will focus on the outcome results (positive and negative) in term of response to the needs which introduced change that make the life of beneficiaries and local communities easier**, according to the UNDP definition (ref. *UNDP Handbook on planning, monitoring and evaluating for development results - 2009, p.56:* "Outcomes describe the intended changes in development conditions that results from the interventions of governments and other stakeholders, including international development agencies such as UNDP. They are medium-term development results created through the delivery of outputs and the contribution of various partners and non-partners. Outcomes provide a clear vision of what has changed or will change globally or in a particular region, country, or community within a period of time. They normally relate to changes in institutional performance or behaviour among individuals or groups).

Key evaluation questions	Issue	Data sources	Collection methods
9- To what extent has the project contributed to gender equality, including improved access to services and skills, the empowerment of women and the realization of human rights?	Gender/Human Rights	Documentary analysis and KII including field level beneficiaries focus groups	Project documents, KII, focus group, on site visit by national consultant, with local authorities' interviews, information triangulated
10- To what extent did COVID-19 impact positively and negatively to the project implementation and regarding gender issues? and how do they differ between both sexes? How the inclusion of gender issues led to better quality results/ opportunities/ benefits?	Contingency Management	Documentary analysis and KII including field level beneficiaries focus groups	Project documents, KII, focus group, on site visit by national consultant, with local authorities' interviews, information triangulated

3 Efficiency/How well are resources being used?

Key evaluation questions	Issue	Data sources	Collection methods
11- Were the programme's resources efficiently utilised? Are there more efficient ways of delivering the same or better results with the available inputs?	Management efficiency	Documentary analysis, AWP, ROAR, KII, project staff and counterparts	Desk review and secondary data, ROAR
12- How efficient were the management and accountability structures of the project? (Programme cycle, staffing, M&E processes, selection of implementing partners...) How strong is the project logic and ToC?	Effective mechanism for monitoring	Documentary analysis, AWP, ROAR, KII, project staff and counterparts	Project document, M&E system, KII, workplans, progress/annual reports, ROAR
13- To what extent have the M&E system utilized by UNDP enabled effective and efficient Project management ?	Effective RBM	Documentary analysis, AWP, ROAR, KII, project staff and counterparts	Project document, M&E system, workplans, monitoring reports, ROAR
14- To what extent gender equality and empower results are achieved with sufficient resources? Has the project collected sex- disaggregated data and monitor, report and communicate gender-related results?	Achievement of GEWE objective	Documentary analysis, AWP, ROAR, KII, project staff, counterparts	Project document, M&E system, KII, workplans, progress /annual reports, ROAR

4 Sustainability/Will the benefits last?

Key evaluation questions	Issue	Data sources	Collection methods
15- Did the project acts as a catalyst for attracting additional support from interested donors?	Implementation Management	Documentary analysis, KII, stakeholders, focus groups, progress report, project staff	Desk review of secondary data, KII, stakeholders, beneficiaries focus group
16- Are there any social or political risks that may jeopardize sustainability of project outputs and the project's contributions to country programme outputs and outcomes?	Knowledge Management	Documentary analysis, KII, stakeholders, focus groups, progress report, project staff	Desk review of secondary data, KII, stakeholders, beneficiaries focus group
17- What are project outputs that contributed to sustainable change?	Ownership	Documentary analysis, KII, stakeholders, focus groups, progress report, project staff	Desk review of secondary data, KII, stakeholders, beneficiaries focus group

18- To what extent are lessons learned being documented by the project team on a continual basis and shared with appropriate parties who could learn from the project?	Knowledge Management	Documentary analysis, KII, stakeholders, focus groups, progress report, project staff	Desk review of secondary data, KII, stakeholders, beneficiaries focus group
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Key evaluation questions	Issue	Data sources	Collection methods
19- To what extent the interventions have well-designed and well-planned exit strategies?	Ownership	Documentary analysis, KII, stakeholders, focus groups, progress report, project staff	Desk review of secondary data, KII, stakeholders, beneficiaries focus group
20- Has the project results in term of gender equality and/or women empowerment being likely to be of increased or sustained beyond project end? Did the project gained the stakeholders commitment to advance gender equality and/or to resolve/overcome gender equality institutional challenges and gaps?	Gender management	Documentary analysis, KII, stakeholders, focus groups, progress report, project staff	Desk review of secondary data, KII, stakeholders, beneficiaries focus group

5 Human rights and Gender equality and women empowerment

Key evaluation questions	Issue	Data sources	Collection methods
21- To what extent have poor, indigenous and physically challenged, women and other disadvantaged and marginalized groups been included in helping design and prioritize the work of the project in the spirit of broad societal inclusion? To what extent have they benefited from the work of the project?	Human rights	Documentary analysis, KII, stakeholders, beneficiaries, progress report, project staff	Desk review of secondary data, KII, stakeholders, beneficiaries focus group, on site visit by national consultant
22- To what extent are the planned project interventions relevant to the overall strategy of inclusivity and empowerment?	Inclusiveness approach	Documentary analysis, KII, stakeholders, beneficiaries, progress report, project staff	Desk review of secondary data, KII, stakeholders, beneficiaries focus group, on site visit by national consultant
23- Was conflict sensitivity mainstreamed and included as an approach throughout project implementation?	Conflict sensitivity	Documentary analysis, KII, stakeholders, beneficiaries, progress report, project staff	Desk review of secondary data, KII, stakeholders, beneficiaries focus group, on site visit by national consultant

6 Gender equality and women empowerment (GEWE)

Key evaluation questions	Issue	Data sources	Collection methods
24- To what extent have gender equality and the empowerment of women been addressed in the design, implementation, and monitoring of the project?	Gender equality	Documentary analysis, KII, stakeholders, beneficiaries, progress report, project staff	Desk review of secondary data, KII, stakeholders, beneficiaries focus group, on site visit by national consultant
25- To what extent has the project promoted positive changes in gender equality and the empowerment of women including gender roles/access to services and skills? How it can be improved?	Women empowerment	Documentary analysis, KII, stakeholders, beneficiaries, progress report, project staff	Desk review of secondary data, KII, stakeholders, beneficiaries focus group, on site visit by national consultant

Annex 5: Bibliography

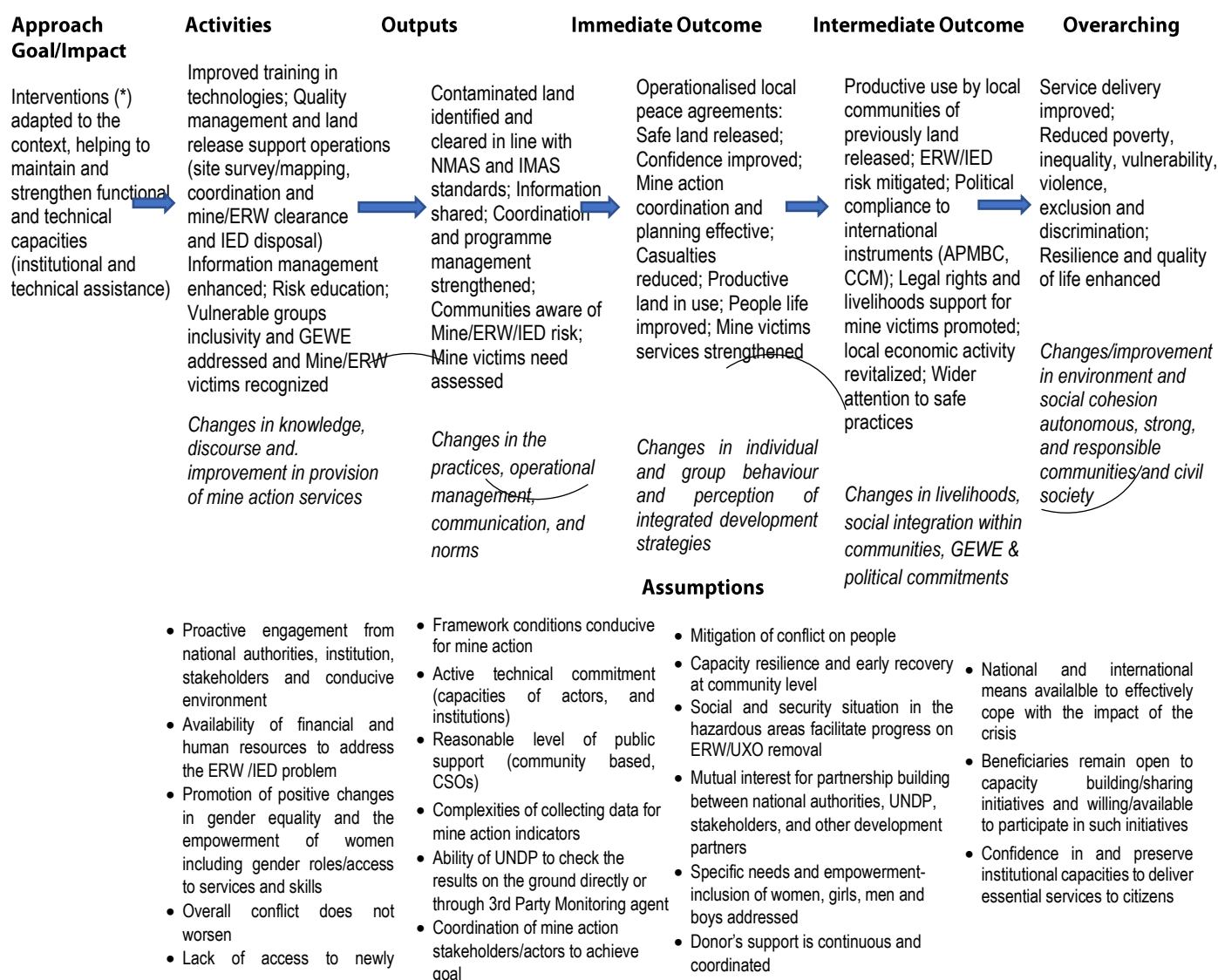
- UNDP EMA project document
- UNDP CPD 2012-2015 extended June 2019
- UNDP CPD/CPF 2019-2021
- UNSF 2017-2019
- UNDP Country Strategic Note 2019-2021
- UNDAF 2012-2015 extended December 2021
- Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) 2017
- Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) 2019
- Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) 2021
- Yemen Humanitarian Needs Overview 2021
- UNDP Strategic Plan (Global) 2014-2017
- UNDP Strategic plan 2018-2021
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- UNDP's Development and Mine Action support framework (BPPS) June 2016
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- UNSC Resolution UNMHA 2452 (2019), 2481 (2019), 2505 (2020), 2534 (2020)
- UN General Assembly, 13 December 2019, Assistance in mine action
- ICBL (International Campaign to Ban Landmines) - Landmine Monitor Yemen reports 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020
- ALNAP (Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance) - Mine Action Review (Clearing the mines 2020 & Clearing Cluster Munition Remnants 2020)

Annex 6: EMA Theory of Change revisited

A ToC should illustrate the sequence of changes that are expected to lead to the intended outcome or impacts (through a gender lens), and identify the causal mechanism involved-the reason why certain activities lead to particular results- while recognising that reality is not linear. A ToC addresses not only how, but 'why' we expect the intervention to succeed - in short it sets out 'why' we think that our actions will lead other people to change their behaviour changes (outcomes), and 'how' to achieve this change? (to the social improvements we desire/impacts).

The ToC is not inside the boxes of the result chain diagram but in the arrows linking the boxes, most importantly in the link from outputs (which we control) to outcomes (which we can only influence). The evaluation team elaborated for example the figure below to illustrate a generic sequence of such intended change that could be applied and adapted to the EMA project.

Figure 4: Example of a schematic theory of change of the EMA project



(*) The need for an integrated programmatic approach in the field of capacity sharing for a security environment conducive to sustainable development, based on a long-term vision, appears an essential factor of success. This requires the support of the donors and the UN system to national initiatives, within the framework of the restauration of normal services to the population, and fostering the **functional capacities** necessary for the officials and actors to fulfill the main functions related to the mine action field but also of the **technical capacities** to carry out interventions aimed at promoting prevention and response measures including explosive

ordnance survey and clearance operations; risk education; assistance to victims and to help ensure a safer Yemen for all and reduce inequalities while respecting human rights and gender equality.

(Acronyms of figure 4: NMAS: National Mine Action Standards; IMAS: International Mine Action Standards; APMBC: Antipersonnel Mine Ban Convention; CCM: Convention on Cluster Munitions; ERW: Explosive Remnants of War; UXO: Unexploded Ordnance; IED: Improvised Explosive Devices; GEWE: Gender Equality and Women Empowerment).

Annex 7: Budget Emergency Mine Action Project Yemen - Summary of available data

1st July 2017 – 30 June 2021

Project 00099753			
Output 00103025			
Budget	Year	Expenses	% Utilised
\$ 2,629,428	2017	\$ 2,546,586	97%
\$ 6,112,375	2018	\$ 6,088,265	100%
\$ 10,078,449	2019	\$ 8,430,010	84%
\$ 14,594,811	2020	\$ 12,870,072	88%
\$ 10,153,934	2021	\$ 6,078,367	60%
\$ 43,568,997	Total	\$ 36,013,300	83%
Output 00110440 (KSA/OCHA)			
Budget	Year	Expenses	% Utilised
	2017	\$ -	
\$ 267,292	2018	\$ 258,032	97%
\$ 4,740,316	2019	\$ 4,738,988	100%
-	2020	\$ -	
-	2021	\$ -	
\$ 5,007,608	Total	\$ 4,997,020	100%
Project 00114450 (UNOCHA)			
Output 00112466			
Budget	Year	Expenses	% Utilised
\$ 53,247	2018	49,764	93%
\$ 942,584	2019	946,439	100%
\$ 8,414	2020	8,043	96%
\$ 1,004,245	Total	\$ 1,004,246	100%
\$ 49,580,850	Grand total	\$ 42,014,566	85%

Annex 7: Staffing job overview of the current EMA Project's implementation support team

The Project Implementation Team (seven internationals and eight nationals): 15 technical/expert support

International Chief Technical Advisor (CTA). The Chief Technical Advisor (Mine Action) is responsible for providing high-level and continuous technical advice to the NMAC in relation to UNDP's support to mine action, and in particular to advise on the development and maintenance of a credible mine action concept of operations and mine action plan, prepared under the guidance of the Chairman, NMAC, and in cooperation with UN agencies, local authorities and other relevant partners, and develop approaches to bring forward the national mine action strategy. The CTA oversees the deployment of YEMAC teams, making sure that this support is co-ordinated and integrated with the components of UNDP's early recovery and resilience programming. The CTA is also responsible for assisting in the preparation of work plans in conjunction with all national counterparts, to coordinate reporting against these work plans and tracking the project's critical path, providing substantive support to the organisation of all Project Activities, including management of YEMAC operations and coordination with national and international NGOs within the broader framework of the mine action programme, liaising with all counterparts, preparing and contributing to an ongoing program formulation exercise, intensive human resources development implementation, monitoring Project activities and reporting to UNDP's management on progress and results

achieved by the Project activities. The post was based in Sana'a but due to cancellation of the visa at the end of 2019 the post has been moved to Aden.

Senior Technical Advisor, Mine Action Support (MAS) – works closely with the Yemen Executive Mine Action Centre to co-ordinate, enhance and develop the internal and external planning and reporting processes including the donor requirements. Including, but not limited to the monitoring and implementation of a) Yemen's legal mandates and policies; b) Implementation of the Project Document 'Phase Five of the Support to Eliminate the Impact of Mines and Explosive Remnants of War in Yemen'. This includes assisting YEMAC in the planning of field operations, introduction of efficient and effective land release methodologies, advising on national standards implementation, quality management and information management; c) Collection, integration and analysis of strategic mine action information and its dissemination to all mine action actors and other stakeholders involved in the emergency recovery and development efforts; and d) The preparation, monitoring and budgetary reporting. The post is based in Aden.

Mine Action Operations Coordinator – works closely with the mine action team in the country, other UN agencies and counterparts to develop and implement the mine action plan in the areas under the authority of the YEMAC and in support of the humanitarian efforts in Yemen. This will include, but not limited to, the five pillars of land release from explosive contamination, risk awareness for the population in impacted communities, victim assistance, stockpile destruction of redundant ammunition and advocacy towards implementation of the APMBC. The post is based in Aden.

Chief Technical Advisor on Counter IED – supports the identification, establishment, and implementation of Counter-IED capacity building and disposal training programs to be provided to local security forces in Yemen. The advisor builds strategic partnerships and alliances with government counterparts, civil society, and the international community and contributes to the development of knowledge products, and project reporting, monitoring and evaluation activities. The advisor is also an integral part of the UNDP Rule of Law project team contributing towards achievement of project results and will be supported by a team of policing and rule of law specialists at different levels. The post is cost shared with the UNDP Rule of Law programme and is based in Aden.

Planning and Monitoring Specialist (PaMS) – The Project Planning and Reporting Officer is responsible for providing continuous and timely support to the CTA ensuring internal and external planning and reporting requirements are met. Including financial monitoring, project quality management and monitoring of complete project cycles to proactively flag issues that will impact the project's outputs/activities and conduct remedial actions. The PaMS is responsible for assisting the CTA in the preparation of work plans in conjunction with national counterparts, to co-ordinate reporting against these work plans and tracking the project's critical path, providing substantive support to the UNDP Country Office of all project activities. The PaMS encourages efficiency within the project, streamlining activities to ensure delivery from both UNDP CO and national counterparts. The post was based in Sana'a and with the latest reconfiguration of the Project the same is relocated to Amman.

Reporting and Coordination Analyst – contributes to the Project's resource mobilization, donor coordination and reporting prepares activities. The incumbent works closely with the CTA and team members in developing partnerships with donor communities and other development partners in support of planning processes for funding and strategy development. The incumbent coordinates the activities of the project related to mine action area of responsibilities (AoR), engaging current and potential donors to leverage additional resources for the project; is responsible for ensuring that the results-monitoring system is adequately implemented, results-data and information are systematically collected and analysed and ensures that all reports of the Project are prepared in a timely manner and in accordance with UNDP corporate and donor guidance. The post is based in Amman.

Information Management Specialist: leads the information management system in support of explosive hazard management and risk education activities in Yemen. Coordinates the installation of the IM system, developing the database and making sure that the overall system is operational and meets the operational needs of the programme. Provides overall quality assurance and quality control for operations data from field operators and ensures the internal information management system continuously facilitating the recording of all relevant data related to survey, clearance and risk education activities and the Quality Management of these. The incumbent also supports the delivery of the overall objectives of the Emergency Mine Action Project's operations. The post was based in Aden until 2020 when the incumbent left UNDP. With the latest reconfiguration of the Project the post may be filled in the future.

National Mine Action Project Area Coordinators (four national posts in Aden, Mokha, Mukhalla and Hodaydah). Under the direct supervision of the UNDP CTA, the project coordinators are responsible for the timely and cost-effective implementation of the activities in their area of responsibility. They support the CTA and Project team in engaging with national counterparts and other national stakeholders, as appropriate.

Admin/Finance/IT Unit (four national posts – two in Sana'a and Aden respectively). are responsible for guidance on overall financial management of the project including the release of funds, quality of financial delivery, audit process, financial reports to UNDP and donor etc. In addition, all administrative and IM issues, both related to the Project and its cooperation with national mine action authority (NMAA) counterparts are covered by the members of the team.

Annex 8: Yemen Mine Action - Key milestones

Date	Description
4 December 1997	Anti-personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC) Signed 4 Dec. 1997 (Law No 7/8 Jun 1998)
17 June 1998	Prime Minister Resolution No 46: Establishment and formulation of the National Mine Action Committee (NMAC/Inter-ministerial body) and specifying its tasks
1998	Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs decree 'Organizational by law for National Mine Committee (NMAC)': a detailed by law regulating the work structures and tasks of subordinate (1) organizational structures, (2) technical executive unit, (3) supportive organizations and (4) committee secretariat
1 Sept. 1998	Ratification of APMBC (first nation in the region to ratify the treaty)
January 1999	Establishment of the Yemen Executive Mine Action Centre (YEMAC) (Implementing body of the NMAC with responsibility of coordinating all mine action activities in Yemen)
1999	Establishment of YEMAC support regional branch: Regional Executive Mine Action Branch (REMAB) and National Training Centre (NTC) in Aden (South Yemen)
1 March 1999	APMBC entered into force
2002	Draft National legislation: Implementation of APMBC
March 2002	Prime Minister revised resolution No 46 of 1998, passed to Resolution No 282 of 2002 'Reestablishment and formulation of Mine Action Committee & Specification of its tasks'
27 April 2002	Yemen reported a stockpile destruction of 78,000 mines including 4,000 to be retained for training (Ref Art 7 and Art 3 report/2002)
16 Dec. 2004	National implementation legislation endorsed by Yemeni Parliament
March 2004	Establishment of YEMAC support regional branch: Regional Executive Mine Action Branch (REMAB) in Al-Mukalla (Governorate of Hadramout/South-East Yemen)
20 April 2005	Presidential Law No 25: to bring national legislation into force
16 December 2007	Yemen destroyed an additional 30,000 mines and declared that there are no stockpile anti-personnel mines (Ref Article 7 report/2008)
26 March 2009	Yemen ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)
2011	Political transition and fighting following by escalated on-going conflict from Sept. 2014
2013	APMBC: Article 5 (Destruction on AP mines in mined areas); Request for a second extension, deadline: 1 March 2020
April 2016	Establishment of YEMAC support regional branch: Regional Executive Mine Action Branch (REMAB) in Sa'dah (Governorate of Sa'dah/North Yemen)
1 March 2020	APMBC: Article 5 (destruction on AP mines in mined areas) deadline (second extension)
April 2020	Establishment of the YMACC (Yemen Mine Action Coordination Centre) in Aden in April 2020 under partnership and guidance of the YEMACC for programme management and coordination in areas controlled by the IRG (Internationally recognized government)
August 2020	APMBC: Article 5 (destruction on AP mines in mined areas) Request for a third extension, deadline: 1 March 2023: additional three years to understand the new situation, adjust its response to meet this situation, and will submit a fourth extension request that will be based on reality supported by reliable data, analysis, and planning.

Note: Yemen is neither party to the 2008 Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) nor the 1980 Convention on Conventional Weapons (CCW).

Annex 9: Yemen Emergency Mine Action- Summary of results 2017 - 2021 Q1

(Source EMA project annual report)

Item	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021 Q1
Technical and Non-Technical survey (T&NTS)	Over 3 M m2	Over 825,000 m2	Over 355,976 m2	N/A	N/A
Cleared ERW	349,912	125,193	66,701	66,179	16,448
AP Mine	1,729	680	1,536	966	343
AT Mine	3,763	8,047	10,091	2,909	1,376
Sea Mines	-	-	35	-	-
IED	632	1,163	786	553	141
Mix UXO	267,548	106,019	41,687	57,978	12,937
Cluster Munitions	3,245	79	7,071	362	584
Rockets	891	1,646	302	97	105
Missiles	1,383	102	14	57	70

Fuses	70,721	7,457	5,179	3,257	892
Destroyed ERW	57,779	13,268	N/A	N/A	4,112
# Governorates	14	16	21	19	15
# Districts	55	81	95	39	44
Cleared Area (m2) (Manual & Dog Detection Team)	8,556,883 m2	6,661,954 m2	3,487,663 m2	Over 3,1 M m2	967,400 m2
# Beneficiaries Direct	3,681,946	1,592,261	126,000	177,000	N/A
Deminers active in field operations	700	800	1,000 (end 2019)	1,000	1,000
MRE Beneficiaries	223,365	371,619	715,930	394,794 ²⁴	135,498
Number events/sessions	998	84	922	N/A	112
Male	23,804	92,905	178,983	65,494	N/A
Female	17,380	96,621	186,142	54,427	N/A
Children	182,181	182,093	350,806	274,873	N/A
Screened Victims	1,394	1,401	560	449	N/A
Male	N/A	350	140	N/A	N/A
Female	N/A	364	146	N/A	N/A
Children	N/A	686	274	N/A	N/A
Civilian Casualties²⁵	N/A	N/A	N/A	284 civilians 129 fatalities	43 civilians
Victims Given support	673	318	N/A	41	N/A
Male	277	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Female	69	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Children	327 246 male 81 female	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

N/A: Not available

²⁴ Less events due to Covid-19 pandemic restrictions

²⁵ No centralized system in place. Reports come from different sources

Annex 10: Links between EMA project and other key strategic documents

11/1: Links between EMA project and SDGs 2015-2030; UNDAF 2012-2015 extended to Dec 2021; CPD UNDP 2012-2015 extended to June 2019; CPD/CPF UNDP July 2019- June 2021. HRP 2017; HRP 2019; HRP 2021; UNDP Strategic Plan 2014-2017; UNDP Strategic Plan 2018-2021; and Covid-19 Pandemic UNDP Yemen Response 2020.

National Mine Action Strategy/priorities (work plan)		?	Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) 2017	Strategic Objective 3: Support and preserve services and institutions essential to immediate humanitarian action and the promotion of livelihoods and resilience. Indicator: % targeted square metres of land surveyed for or cleared of contamination of mines or other explosive remnants of war
SDGs (*) 2015 - 2030	SDG 2: Zero Hunger SDG 5: Gender Equality SDG 15: Life on land SDG 16: Peace and justice Strong Institutions SDG17: Partnerships to achieve the Goal			
UNDAF 2012-2015 > Extended to December 2021	Outcome 2: Local authorities and communities effectively engaged in sustainable management of natural resources biodiversity conservation, adaptation to climate change and disaster risk reduction (DRR) by 2015. Outcome indicator: 2.1. % of mine polluted areas cleared Baseline: 420 km2 contaminated (2010) – Target: 100% of mine polluted areas		Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) 2019	Strategic Objective 4: Reducing the risk of displacement and violence against civilians and facilitating the recovery of people traumatized by the conflict.
			Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) 2021	Strategic Objective 1: Preventive disease outbreaks and reducing morbidity and mortality Strategic Objective 2: Preventive famine, malnutrition and restoring livelihoods Strategic Objective 3: Protecting and assisting civilian
CPD UNDP Yemen 2012-2015 > Extended to June 2019	Outcome 2: Local authorities and communities effectively engaged in sustainable management of natural resources biodiversity conservation, adaptation to climate change and disaster risk reduction (DRR) by 2015. Output 2.2: Capacity of Yemen Mine Action Centre strengthened to conduct demining and ensure the fulfillment of Ottawa convention		UNDP Strategic Plan (Global) 2014-2017	Outcome 5: Countries are able to reduce the likelihood of conflict, and lower the risk of natural disasters, including from climate change. Output 5.4. Preparedness systems in place to effectively address the consequences of and response to natural hazards (e.g., geo-physical and climate related) and man-made crisis at all levels of government and community
			UNDP Strategic Plan 2018-2021	Outcome 3: Building resilience to shocks and crises.
CPD/CPF UNDP Yemen July 2019- June 2021	Outcome 3: Yemenis contribute to and benefit from peacebuilding processes Indicator 3.1: Number of operationalized local peace agreements Baseline: 0 Target: 2 (Hodeidah and Taiz) Output 3.1: Relevant mine action organizations capacitated to provide Yemen with a safe environment Indicator 3.1.1: National and sub-national governments have improved capacities to plan, budget, manage and monitor basic services Baseline : 2 Target : 4		Covid-19 Pandemic UNDP Yemen Response 2020	UNDP is contributing to the UN response through preparedness, mitigation, and recovery by delivering within four pillars: (1) Strengthening the first line of defense (support procuring critical supplies); (2) Flattening the curve (supporting containment measures). (3) Protecting now and the future (strengthen social protection and congested areas from COVID -19 spreading) and (4) Stimulating economy (rely upon partnerships to expand existing and develop initiatives in the sector).

(*) **SDGoal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture. (Targets 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3)** Prioritizing and linking mine action efforts to sustainable agricultural development, enabling previously contaminated land to be used for cultivation. Mine action can also open trading (and relief) routes and marketplaces, enabling better distribution and access to food.

Target 2.1 By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious, and sufficient food all year round.

Target 2.2 By 2030, end all forms of malnutrition, including achieving, by 2025, the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children under 5 years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women, and older persons. **Target 2.3** By 2030, double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists, and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment.

SDGoal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. Championing mainstreaming of gender considerations in mine action assessment, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

SDGoal 15: Protect, restore, and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.

Target 15.C Enhance global support for efforts to combat poaching and trafficking of protected species, including by increasing the capacity of local communities to pursue sustainable livelihood opportunities

SDGoal 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions at all levels. (Targets 16.1, 16.3, 16.4, 16.6, 16.7, 16.8). Encouraging the return of displaced people, opening freedom of movement in a post-conflict society, decreasing fear and the threat of the ‘frozen violence’ of landmines and other ERW. Mine action often plays the role of a confidence-building measure in post-conflict societies. **Target 16.1** Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere. **Target 16.3** Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all; **Target 16.4** By 2030, significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime. **Target 16.6** Develop effective, accountable, and transparent institutions at all levels. **Target 16.7** Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory, and representative decision-making at all levels. **Target 16.8** Broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries in the institutions of global governance.

SDGoal 17: Revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development. To add value and maximize cost efficiency, mine action coordinate and facilitate the establishment of global partnerships with national mine action authorities and other relevant mine action actors. Effectively mitigating the threats posed by explosive ordnance requires close collaboration with States, regional organizations, affected communities, civil society, and the private sector

Annex 11/2: Links between EMA project and UNDP Mine action for Sustainable Development 2016; UN Mine action Strategy 2013-2018; UN Mine action Strategy 2019-2023; and UN Gender Guidelines for mine action 2016.

<p><u>UNDP’S Development and Mine action Support Framework (BPPS) June 2016</u></p> <p>3 major areas of focus:</p> <p>(1) Rebuilding lives: translating mine action into sustainable development dividends</p> <p>(2) Building capacity of national institutions that accelerate development benefits</p> <p>(3) Supporting international normative frameworks on mine action</p>	<p><u>The United Nations Mine action Strategy 2013-2018</u></p> <p>Strategic Objective 1: Risks to individuals and the socio-economic impacts of mines and ERW, including cluster munitions, are reduced.</p> <p>Strategic Objective 2: Comprehensive support is provided by national and international actors to mine and ERW victims within broader responses to injury and disability.</p> <p>Strategic Objective 3: The transfer of mine action functions to national actors is accelerated, and the national capacity to fulfil mine action responsibilities is increased.</p> <p>Strategic Objective 4: Mine action is promoted and integrated in multilateral instruments and frameworks as well as national plans and legislation.</p>
<p><u>United Nations Gender Guidelines for Mine Action Programme – 3rd Edition 2019</u></p> <p>These Guidelines represent an update of the most recent United Nations Gender Guidelines for Mine Action Programmes published in 2010. Specifically, these Guidelines reflect the expanded range of explosive hazard threats, incorporate the latest best practice and lessons learnt and are designed in such a way as to be more user-friendly, being structured according to the way that projects are planned and implemented, with checklists at the end of each chapter for easy reference.</p> <p>These United Nations Guidelines will contribute to an effective implementation of the United Nations Mine Action Strategy 2019-2023 and to its greater positive impact. One of the five strategic outcomes calls for the <i>mainstreaming of the specific needs of women, girls, men, and boys from diverse groups, while facilitating their empowerment and inclusion</i>, in a cross-cutting manner in all aspects of mine action programmes.</p>	<p><u>The United Nations Mine Action Strategy 2019-2023</u></p> <p>Strategic Outcome 1: Protection of individuals and communities from the risks and socio-economic impacts of explosive ordnance strengthened.</p> <p><i>Cross-Cutting Strategic Outcome 1:</i> <i>Momentum and profile of mine action efforts, including through humanitarian assistance, human rights, peacebuilding, stabilization, and sustainable development, maintained, and enhanced.</i></p> <p>Strategic Outcome 2: Survivors, family members and communities affected by explosive ordnance have equal access to health and education and participate fully in social and economic life.</p> <p><i>Cross-Cutting Strategic Outcome 2:</i> <i>Mine action programmes address the specific needs of women, girls, men, and boys from diverse groups, while facilitating their empowerment and inclusion.</i></p> <p>Strategic Outcome 3: National institutions effectively lead and manage mine action functions and responsibilities.</p>

Annex 11/3: PNUD Yemen- Position of Mine action involvement within UNDP programme priorities 2019-2021.

SDGs	UNSF 2017-2019 (not formalized) ²⁶	UNDP Strategic Plan 2018-2021	CPD Yemen July 2019 – June 2021		Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) 2019
			Outcome	Output	
Goal 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions at all levels. Goal 5: Achieve Gender equality and empower all women and girls	Outcome 1: <i>Critical state institutions, at central and local levels, maintain core functions and contribute to confidence building between the parties to the conflict.</i>	Outcome 3: Building resilience to shocks and crises.	Outcome 1: Yemenis contribute to and benefit from inclusive, accountable and gender responsive governance, at local and central levels.	Output 1.1: Capacities developed for inclusive, formal and informal local governance systems Output 1.2: Public security and access to justice improved, with a focus on women and marginalized groups Output 1.3: Local authorities' capacity economic recovery and development planning capacity improved Output 1.4: Yemeni Women empowered to participate in local and national level decision-making fora	Strategic Objective 5: Preserving the capacity of public sector institutions to deliver basic life-saving services.
Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere.	Outcome 3: <i>Communities are better managing external threats, local risks and shocks with increased economic self-reliance and enhanced social cohesion.</i>	Outcome 1: Eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions.	Outcome 2: Yemenis improve their livelihoods and access inclusive productive services.	Output 2.1: Vulnerable and at-risk Yemenis have received short and medium-term livelihoods and recovery support Output 2.2: Social and productive community assets rehabilitated Output 2.3: Yemeni citizens and businesses provided with affordable and renewable energy Output 2.4: Yemeni women have the capacity, training and access to financial services to sustain their livelihood through micro and small businesses	Strategic Objective 1: Helping millions of destitute Yemenis overcome hunger. Strategic Objective 2: Reducing outbreaks of cholera and infectious diseases
Goal 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions at all levels.	Outcome 2: <i>Basic social services continue to be delivered to the general population.</i>	Outcome 3: Building resilience to shocks and crises.	Outcome 3: Yemenis contribute to and benefit from peacebuilding processes. Outcome Indicator 3.1: Number of operationalized local peace agreements Base line: 0 Target: 2 (Hodeidah and Taiz)	Output 3.1: Relevant mine action organizations capacitated to provide Yemen with a safe environment Indicator 3.1.1: National and sub-national governments have improved capacities to plan, budget, manage and monitor basic services Baseline: 2 Target: 4 Output 3.2: Support provided to the implementation of local peace agreements Output 3.3: Support provided to tackle root causes of conflict at the local level with a focus on women's empowerment.	Strategic Objective 4: Reducing the risk of displacement and violence against civilians and facilitating the recovery of people traumatized by the conflict.

²⁶ Email MSU – UNDP Yemen 2 May 2021

Annex 11: Emergency mine action project – Result framework July 2017 – June 2021 (ref. p.14,15, prodoc)

Project	UNDAF 2012-2015 Extended to December 2021	CPD/CPF July 2019 - June 2021	Expected Project Outputs 2017-2021	Project Outputs Indicators 2017-2021	Baseline 2016	Target Year 3 (end proj.)
Emergency Mine Action Project July 2017- Jun 2020 Proj ID 00099753 43,424,981 ²⁷	Outcome 2: Local authorities and communities effectively engaged in sustainable management of natural resources biodiversity conservation, adaptation to climate change and disaster risk reduction by 2015. Outcome indicator: 2.1. Proportion of mine polluted areas cleared Baseline: 420 km2 contaminated (2010) Target: 420 Km2	Outcome 3: Yemenis contribute to and benefit from peacebuilding processes Outcome Indicator 3.1: Number of operationalised local peace agreements Base line: 0 Target: 2 (Hodeidah and Taiz) Output 3.1: Relevant mine action organizations capacitated to provide Yemen with a safe environment Output Indicator 3.1.1: National and sub-national governments have improved capacities to plan, budget, manage and monitor basic services Baseline : 2 Target : 4	Output 1: Mine and UXO contamination is mapped, and impact assessed nationwide using primary and secondary resources GEN 2 (**)	1.1 Desk, technical and non-technical survey processes completed	0	1
				1.2 Impact assessments completed	0	9
				1.3 Timely production and dissemination of accurate contamination maps to stakeholders	0	4
			Output 2: Mines and UXO are cleared in identified priority areas- (2020): Abandoned explosive ordnance (AXO) and weapons are collected and destroyed. GEN 2 (**)	2.1 Surface of land cleared through field clearance operations conducted according to national standards (both manual and dog detection teams)	3 km2	15 Km2
				2.2 Number of mines and UXO cleared according to national standards	262,810	300,000
				2.3 Number of mines and UXO destroyed according to national standards	180,414	300,000
			Output 3: The awareness of the threat posed by mines and UXO is increased in affected communities GEN 2 (**)	3.1 Mine Risk Education events completed or coordinated by YEMAC	7,000	10,000
				3.2 Number of people covered by MRE	350,000	5 million
				3.3 Mine Risk Education events completed in all Governorates covered by Project activities	10	22
			Output 4: Survivors of ERW are more effectively supported and rehabilitated socio-economically GEN 2 (**)	4.1 Number of survivors surveyed	13,440	20,000
				4.2 Number of survivors examined	4,000	5,000
				4.3 Number of survivors supported with medical aid	475	600

(**) UNCT Gender Equality Marker (GEM) Guidance Note (June 2019): A GEM is defined as a tool used by organisations to track planned or actual financial investments in gender equality within programmes or projects. A GEM has codes (i.e., 0, 1, 2, 3) which denote the type and/or degree to which a unit of analysis –usually an Output or Project –addresses GEWE (Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment). - Gender Marker **GEN 0:** The Key Activity is not expected to contribute to GEWE: The Key Activity is “Gender Blind”. In other words, there is **no consideration** of gender equality issues in the Key Activity, its indicator or its activities;- Gender Marker **GEN 1:** The Key Activity contributes to GEWE in a **limited** way: GEM1 indicates that there are planned actions targeting the disadvantaged sex as a specified beneficiary, and this is also reflected in the Outcome and Key Activity Indicators and/or Targets;- Gender Marker **GEN 2:** GEWE is a **significant** objective of the Key Activity’s overall intent: **Key Activity and its accompanying indicators clearly capture that gender equality is significantly mainstreamed into the broader work planned.**- Gender Marker **GEN 3:** GEWE is the **principal** objective of the Key Activity: For GEM3 to be applied, narrowing gender inequalities, transforming prejudicial gender norms, or the empowering of women and girls is the main reason the Key Activity is being undertaken.

²⁷ Source EMA project- Annual report 2020

Annex 12: UNDP Yemen: EMA project (2017-2021) overall achievement against target

(Source EMA project annual reports 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020)

UNDP EMA project (2017-2021) overall achievement against targets (Source EMA project annual reports 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021 Q1)

✓ **Three Color legend:** Light Green: Achieved/on track; White: Partially achieved/partially on track; Light Red: Not achieved/off track/ delayed N/A: Not available

➤ ① Progress towards relevant Country Programme Document (CPD)/Country Programme Framework (CPF) July 2019-June 2021 - OUTCOME (Year 2020)

CPD/CPF Outcome 1: Yemenis contribute to and benefit from peacebuilding processes

Summary achievement against 2020 Results Framework (RF) target

Indicator (as they appear in the CPD RRF)	2020 Indicator Target	Summary achievements	Status: On-track, Delayed, Achieved
Number of operationalised local peace agreements	2 (Hodeidah and Taizz)	delayed – tensions in Hodeidah remained and impossibility to mark and clear the area	Delayed

➤ ② Progress towards relevant Country Programme Document (CPD)/Country Programme Framework (CPF) July 2019-2021 - OUTPUTS (Year 2020)

CPD/CPF Output 1: 3.1 Relevant mine action organisations capacitated to provide Yemen with a safe environment

Summary achievement against 2020 Results Framework (RF) target

Indicator	2020 Indicator Target	Summary achievements	Status: Partially Achieved, Delayed, Achieved
National and sub-national governments have improved capacities to plan, budget, manage and monitor basic services	Establish two mine action coordination centres (YMACC): one in Sana'a one in Aden. The present YEMAC institutions should be part of the actors on the ground while the new institutions will perform coordination.	Establishment of the YMACC in Aden in April 2020. Incapacity to do the same in De Facto Authorities (DFA) (based in Sana'a) areas due to the lack of government capacity.	Partially achieved (On-track)

➤ **3 Progress towards PROJECT OUTPUTS (Years 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021 Q1)**

OUTPUT 1: Mine and UXO contamination is mapped, and impact assessed nationwide using primary and secondary resources

Indicator	Year	Annual Target	Progress	Status
1.1 Desk, technical and non-technical survey processes completed	2017	1	Numerous survey operations were conducted in the country covering an area of over 3 million square meters.	Achieved
	2018	1	Numerous survey operations were conducted in the country covering an area of 825 square meters.	Achieved
	2019	1	Numerous survey operations were conducted in the country covering an area of 355,976 square meters. No country wide survey is possible at the moment	Achieved
1.2 Impact assessments completed	2017	9	The indicator will need to be reviewed as YEMAC does not have the capacity to complete such a number of activities. The impact survey completed was in fact done by HI.	Partially achieved
	2018	9	The indicator will need to be reviewed as YEMAC does not have the capacity to complete such a number of activities.	Partially achieved
	2019	2	The indicator will need to be revisited or adjusted as the current environment is not conducive to such activities	Not achieved
1.3 Timely production and dissemination of accurate contamination maps to stakeholders	2017	4	The maps produced by HI were shared with counterparts.	Achieved
	2018	4	The maps produced were shared with counterparts.	Achieved
	2019	4	The maps produced were shared with counterparts.	Achieved
AWP 2020/2021: Indicator 1.1: Updated IMSMA reflects accurate contamination picture, maps are circulated to those that need them	2020	Interim NMAS	Arabic version under review by YMACC	Achieved
	2021			
AWP 2020/2021: Indicator 1.2: YEMAC staff are trained and certified to IMAS EOD 3	2020	YEMAC staff trained	27 YEMAC staff were trained	Achieved
	2021		14 YEMAC were trained on IMAS EOD Level 2 (Q1 report 2021)	On-track
AWP 2020/2021: Indicator 1.3: YEMAC staff are trained in IEDD philosophy/principles, incident management, and the use of semi-remote means to achieve the appropriate	2020	YEMAC staff trained	27 YEMAC staff were trained team availability increased to 90%, no casualties experienced in over 230 IEDs dealt with, first female bomb disposal officer trained in Yemen's history.	Achieved
	2021		Trainings are meant to take place on Q2 of 2021 (Q1 report 2021)	On-track

render safe of command, victim operated, time and projected IEDs.				
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OUTPUT 2: Mines and UXO are cleared in identified priority areas. (2020): Abandoned explosive ordnance (AXO) and weapons are collected and destroyed

Indicator	Year	Annual Target	Progress	Status
2.1 Surface of land cleared through field clearance operations conducted according to national standards (both manual and dog detection teams)	2017	5 km2	Over the year the total amount of land cleared was over 8.5 M m2. This was due to the increased number of active deminers and the improvement of survey techniques	Achieved
	2018	5 km2	Over the year the total amount of land cleared was over 6.6 M m2. This was due to the increased number of active deminers and the improvement of survey techniques	Achieved
	2019	5 Km2	Over the year the total amount of land cleared was over 3.5 M m2. The target will be reduced in the future due to the smaller theaters of operation	Partially achieved
	2020	The third-party monitoring (TPM) contractor (Prodigy) completed during 2020 field visits to the Governorates of Aden, Al Dhalee, Hadramaut, Abya and Lahj. The field visit reports highlighted those 441,122 square meters of lands were surveyed, and 153,820 square meters cleared. The objectives of the monitoring are: (1) to verify implementation of mine action activity in contaminated locations as requested; (2) to verify status of land clearance; (3) to verify whether the communities of these locations have benefited from mine action activities.		
	2021	5,000,000 sqm	967,400 (Q1 report 2021)	On-track
2.2 Number of mines and UXO cleared according to national standards	2017	300,000	Over the year the total numebr of cleared UXO reached almost 350 thousand various items. This was due to the increased number of active deminers and increased productivity of clearance operations	Achieved
	2018	300,000	Over the year the total number of cleared UXO reached over 125 thousand various items. The drop is due to stricted counting regulations and other factors.	Partially achieved
	2019	350,000	Over the year the total number of cleared ERW reached over 66 thousand various items. The drop is due to stricted counting regulations and other factors.	Partially achieved
	2020	?	?	
	2021	100,000	16,448 (Q1 report 2021)	On-track
2.3 Number of mines and UXO destroyed according to national standards	2017	300,000	The target was partially achieved due to the inability to obtain destruction materials. UNDP will work with YEMAC on finding an alternative options for UXO destruction.	Partially achieved

	2018	300,000	The target was partially achieved (only 13 thousand items destroyed) due to the inability to obtain destruction materials. UNDP will work with YEMAC on finding an alternative options for UXO destruction.	Partially achieved
	2019	350,000	The target was not achieved due to the inability to obtain destruction materials. UNDP is working with YEMAC and other Not achieved18 partners on finding alternative options for UXO destruction.	Not achieved
	2020	?	?	
	2021	50,000	4,112 (Q1 report 2021)	Delayed
AWP 2020: Indicator 2.1: YEMAC demining/NTS/TS teams are equipped with necessary assets	2020	Delivery of equipment to IRG area (equivalent to those delivered to DFA area in 2019)	36 pick-ups and 300 detectors were handed over to Yemac in July	Achieved
AWP 2020: Indicator 2.2: YEMAC work becomes aligned with IMAS increasing effectiveness and reducing accidents. Based on UNDP QM activities	2020	Interim NMAS operational	Interim NMAS operational	Achieved
AWP 2020/2021: Indicator 2.3: YEMAC management systems become IMAS compliant based on UNDP staff assessment	2020	Target for 2023	On-going	Partially achieved
	2021		On-going (Q1 report 2021)	On-track
AWP 2020/2021: Indicator 2.4: YEMAC staff trained on the most common IEDs encountered in Yemen, including incident coordination & control	2020	20 YEMAC staff trained	27 YEMAC staff were trained	Achieved
	2021	20 YEMAC staff trained	Training planned during Q2 and Q3 of 2021 (Q1 report 2021)	On-track
AWP 2020/2021: Indicator 2.5: Prioritisation systems utilised for 100% operations.	2020	Prioritisation matrix Explosive Hazard matrix	Establishment and communications to different actors of the prioritisation matrix	Achieved
	2021	Prioritisation matrix Explosive Hazard matrix	Establishment and communications to different actors of the prioritisation matrix (Q1 report 2021)	On-track

OUTPUT 3: The awareness of the threat posed by mines and UXO is increased in affected communities

Indicator	Year	Annual Target	Progress	Status
3.1 Mine Risk Education events completed or coordinated by YEMAC	2017	1,000	The results reported against (998 events) comprises events completed by YEMAC teams only.	Achieved
	2018	1,000	The target may need revision as it should be against events completed by YEMAC teams only.	Partially achieved
	2019	1,000	922. The target may need revision as it should be against events completed by YEMAC teams only.	Achieved

	2020	1,000	450 (less events due to COVID-19 restrictions)	On-track
	2021		112 (Q1 report 2021)	
3.2 Number of people receiving mine risk education (MRE)	2017	250,000	The activities were reached 182,181 children, 17,380 women and 23,804 men.	Achieved
	2018	250,000	The activities reached 371 thousand beneficiaries (children over 182 thousand, Female over 96 thousand, Male over 92 thousand)	Achieved
	2019	250,000	The activities reached 715,000 beneficiaries (children over 350,000, Female over 186 thousand, Male 179,000 thousand)	Achieved
	2020	?	?	
	2021	350,000	135,498 (Q1 report 2021)	On-track
3.3 Mine Risk Education events completed in all Governorates covered by Project activities	2017	10	All activities completed by YEMAC risk education teams were directly supported by UNDP. However, UNDP was not directly delivered any events. The indicators need to be revised.	Partially achieved
	2018	10	All activities completed by YEMAC risk education teams were directly supported by UNDP. However, UNDP was not directly delivered any events. The indicators need to be revised.	Partially achieved
	2019	10	All activities completed by YEMAC risk education teams were directly supported by UNDP. However, UNDP was not directly delivered any events. The indicators need to be revised.	Achieved
AWP 2020/2021: Indicator 3.4: Record notified accidents related to explosive hazard	2020	Target for 2023	No system in place. Reports come from different sources.	Delayed
	2021			

OUTPUT 4: Survivors of ERW are more effectively supported and rehabilitated socio-economically

Indicator	Year	Annual Target	Progress	Status
4.1 Number of survivors surveyed	2017	20,000	Over the year the number of surveyed survivors was not achieved. Potentially the low level of this type of activities was due to the appointment of the former head of the Victims Assistance Department of YEMAC to the position of Administrative Director.	Not achieved
	2018	20,000	The number of surveyed survivors was not achieved. The target is too ambitious and needs to be revised.	Not achieved
	2019	5,000	The number of surveyed survivors was not achieved. The target is too ambitious and needs to be revised.	Not achieved
AWP 2020 ?	2020	?	<i>Not reported in 2020 annual report</i>	N/A
AWP 2021 ?	2021	?	<i>Not reported in 2021 Q1 report</i>	N/A
4.2 Number of survivors examined	2017	5,000	Over the year the number of surveyed survivors was not achieved. Potentially the low level of this type of activities was due to the appointment of the former head of the Victims Assistance Department of YEMAC to the position of Administrative Director.	Not achieved
	2018	5,000	The number of surveyed survivors was not achieved. The target is too ambitious and needs to be revised.	Partially achieved
	2019	1,000	The number planned was not achieved. YEMAC will need to strengthen its capacity in this field	Partially achieved

AWP 2020 ?	2020	?	<i>Not reported in 2020 annual report</i>	N/A
AWP 2021 ?	2021	?	<i>Not reported in 2021 Q1 report</i>	N/A
4.3 Number of survivors supported with medical aid	2017	600	The target was achieved despite the fact that YEMAC's plan for the year did not foresee for such materials.	Achieved
	2018	600	The target was only partially achieved and depending on funding may need to be revised.	Partially achieved
	2019	600	The target was not achieved due to inability to import items and equipment, but the victims were offered psychological assistance	Partially achieved
AWP 2020 ?	2020	?	<i>Not reported in 2020 annual report</i>	N/A
AWP 2021 ?	2021	?	<i>Not reported in 2021 Q1 report</i>	N/A

N/A: Not available

Annex 13: EMA project: Summary of main results (ref. Executive summary – Progress reports)

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021 Q1
Overall activities	Overall productivity during the year was very high and with limited resources in a complex operating environment represents a quantum leap over earlier years. The same activities continued in 2017 at an increased pace with efforts focused on clearing small, high-impact and high-threat areas commonly referred to as 'spot-tasks' rather than systematic clearance of larger and often lower-priority areas. Additionally, large quantities of AXO have been destroyed to prevent explosive harvesting. In reducing the post-conflict impact of the war, abandoned ammunition poses a considerable risk due to harvesting. As a proactive measure, AXO are specifically targeted and is commonly a relatively simple exercise with a high long-term impact preventing the opportunity for explosive harvesting.	The activities in 2018 continued at an increased pace with efforts focused on clearing small, high-impact and high-threat areas commonly referred to as 'spot-tasks' rather than systematic clearance of larger and often lower-priority areas. Additionally, large quantities of AXO have been destroyed to prevent explosive harvesting. In reducing the post-conflict impact of the war, abandoned ammunition poses a considerable risk due to harvesting. As a proactive measure, AXO are specifically targeted and is commonly a relatively simple exercise with a high long-term impact preventing the opportunity for explosive harvesting.	The activities in 2019 continued at an increased pace with efforts focused on clearing small, high-impact and high-threat areas commonly referred to as 'spot-tasks' rather than systematic clearance of larger and often lower-priority areas. Additionally, considerable quantities of AXO have been collected to prevent explosive harvesting. In reducing the post-conflict impact of the war, abandoned ammunition poses a considerable risk due to harvesting. As a proactive measure, AXO are specifically targeted and is commonly a relatively simple exercise with a high long-term impact preventing the opportunity for future misuse.	In addition, UNDP continues working with NMAC/YEMAC to introduce and facilitate international mine action orientated NGOs each to assist Yemen and bringing their own relative advantages: Danish Demining Group (DDG); Norwegian People's Aid (NPA) and the HALO Trust. Due to the ongoing situation with COVID-19 in the south, the activities on this front may be put behind the schedule. The INGOs are reorienting themselves to operations that do not require CASEVAC such as RA, NTS survey training, NTS, general training. UNDP is cooperating with the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD). Interim NMAS have been drafted and under current review of YMACC. UNDP is working with the YMACC to establish IED upstream and downstream capacity development initiatives in conjunction with UNODC, GICHD and YRCS and community consultations.	
Support	During the year, with the support of the Project, activities of YEMAC reached around 10 million indirect beneficiaries, around 3.7 million direct beneficiaries,	During 2018, with the support of the Project, activities of YEMAC reached around 12 million indirect beneficiaries, almost 1.6 million direct beneficiaries (of which 370 thousand MRE), 1,401	During 2019, with the support of the Project, activities of YEMAC reportedly reached around 1.5 million indirect beneficiaries, 126,000 direct beneficiaries, 715,000 MRE beneficiaries, 560		

	<p>673 survivors were given support, almost 350,000 ERW were cleared of which over 57 thousand were destroyed. A total of over 8.5 million m2 were cleared in 14 Governorates and 55 districts. Of note, since the beginning of the year, YEMAC has mobilised a total of just over 800 personnel across the country. The field operations in the contaminated areas throughout Yemen during the reporting period were conducted in the Governorates of: Abyan, Aden, Al Dhale'e, Hadramaut, Lahj, Taizz, Hajjah, Sa'ada, Sana'a, Amran, Al Jawf, Amanat Al Asimah, Dhamar and Shabwah in 55 districts.</p> <p>YEMAC and UNDP continued working on improving the administration activities of YEMAC's departments with review of staff profiles and organisational charts.</p> <p>The YEMAC IMSMA department continued preparing progress reports for the completed activities which are to be entered in the IMSMA. The mine danger maps are being updated for Aden, Abyan, Lahaj.</p>	<p>victims were screened, over 125 thousand ERW were cleared of which over 13 thousand were destroyed. A total of over 6.6 million m2 were cleared in 16 Governorates and 81 districts. YEMAC's operations continue to grow - a total of 1,000 personnel is active across the country. The field operations in the contaminated areas throughout Yemen during the reporting period were conducted in the Governorates of: Abyan, Aden, Al Bayda, Al Dhale'e, Al Hodeidah, Amran, Dhamar, Hadramaut, Hajjah, Ibb, Mareeb, Sa'ada, Sana'a, Amran, Shabwah, Taizz, in 81 districts.</p> <p>The developments of early December 2017 in Sana'a have briefly disrupted the work in the city, but YEMAC teams have resumed their activities early in 2018. YEMAC teams in different Governorates continued their regular duties.</p> <p>YEMAC and UNDP continued working on improving the administration activities of YEMAC's departments with review of internal procedures, operations planning and organisational charts.</p> <p>The YEMAC information management unit continued preparing progress reports for the completed activities to be entered in the IMSMA. The mine danger maps are being updated for Aden, Abyan, Lahaj.</p>	<p>victims were screened, over 66,000 ERW were cleared and 3.5 million m2 of land released. The field teams were active in 21 Governorates covering 95 districts. YEMAC's operations continue to grow – over 1,000 personnel are active across the country. The field operations in the contaminated areas throughout Yemen during the reporting period were conducted in the Governorates of: Abyan, Aden, Al Bayda, Al Dhale'e, Al Hodeidah, Amran, Dhamar, Hadramaut, Hajjah, Ibb, Mareeb, Sa'ada, Sana'a, Amran, Shabwah, Taizz, in 95 districts.</p> <p>YEMAC field teams in different Governorates continued their regular duties and YEMAC and UNDP continued working on improving the administration activities of YEMAC's departments with review of internal procedures, operations planning and organisational charts.</p> <p>The YEMAC information management unit continued preparing progress reports for the completed activities to be entered in the IMSMA. The mine danger maps are being updated for several Governorates.</p>	
Training	<p>A demining training for 98 new trainees, was completed in July 2017 in Sana'a. Similar course for 53 new trainees, was completed in Aden. UNDP CTA completed two training courses for the survey leadership group of YEMAC in August 2017, in support of the operations in the Amran cement factory. The topics covered were survey methodology and cluster munitions.</p> <p>Ms. Amal Al-baadani, YEMAC Administrative and MRE Coordinator, attended a course in Developing Effective Mine/ERW Risk Education from 18th until 27th September 2017 in Spiez, Switzerland. The course was designed and organised by UNICEF, in collaboration with the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian</p>	<p>Two senior YEMAC officials, (Ameen Saleh Al Aqili - YEMAC director and Ahmed Alawi – executive officer YEMAC Sana'a) along with the UNDP Chief Technical Advisor attended the 21st International Meeting of National Mine Action Programme Directors and United Nations Advisers (NDM-UN). The meeting took place from 13 to 16 February 2018 at the Palais des Nations at the United Nations Office at Geneva.</p> <p>Following the unfortunate events of July 2018 and the detaining of ten YEMAC (Sana'a) staff, the organisations changed the approach and invited ten deminers from YEMAC Aden to an EOD Fundamental and T-Jet familiarisation training. The training was conducted in December 2018.</p>		<p>The INGO's have also agreed to support the training of MACC staff in coordination with UNDP by providing someone to provide face to face (at a socially appropriate distance) answers to questions etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNDP has entered into agreement with DDG for supporting YEMAC Aden with capacity building. • UNDP has signed an agreement with NPA to provide capacity building to YEMAC's mine detection dog Unit with training and actual mine detecting dogs. Training started in November 2020 and importation of the dogs is planned early 2021 once NPA received government's accreditation.

	Demining (GICHD) and other partners, and sponsored by the Swiss Federal Department of Defence, Civil Protection and Sport (DDPS).			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• UNDP has entered into agreement with TDI, supporting YMACC with trainings, and advice for UN field mission.• UNDP is working with the HALO Trust on the training of YEMAC staff. HALO is planning to orient their EOD teams to NTS.• UNDP is working with the YMACC to establish IED upstream and downstream capacity development initiatives in conjunction with UNODC, GICHD and YRCS.	
MRE/VA	YEMAC has completed MRE sessions in Aden, Lahj, Hodeida, Hajjah and Sana'a, reaching out to over 220,000 beneficiaries (Male 21,000, Female 20,000, Children 181,000), and has provided victims assistance (screening of survivors) to around 1,468 people of whom 637 were given direct support.	YEMAC has completed MRE sessions in Abyan, Aden, Al Bayda, Dhammar, Ibb, Marreb, Sana'a, Sa'ada, and Taiz, reaching out to over 371 thousand beneficiaries (male over 92 thousand, female 96 thousand, children 182 thousand), and has provided victims assistance (screening of survivors) to around one thousand four hundred people.	YEMAC has coordinated numerous MRE around the country, reaching out to over 715,930 beneficiaries (male over 179,000, female 186,000, children 350,000), and has provided victims assistance (screening of survivors) to around five hundred and sixty people.	Community consultations, IED risk education (for women, children, vulnerable communities, justice actors) and IED disposal training (land and maritime) have been the main focus, as well as working with female staff in the Family Protection Directorate.	
APMBC	-	The members of the UNDP project team accompanied the representatives of YEMAC to the 17 Member States Party meeting of the APMBC . The YEMAC delegation comprised Mr. Ameen Alaqili, YEMAC Director, Mr. Qaid Haitham, Director of Aden Center and Mr. Akram Alaqili, YEMAC office manager. The visit was a first of the kind for the YEMAC colleagues and presented a unique chance to present their work and have many side meetings to discuss support to Yemen.	<p>The Fourth Review Conference of the States Parties to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC) took place in Oslo on 25-29 November 2019 and Yemen was represented by a delegation from Aden, supported by the IRG. The request of Yemen, to extend the deadline for three years, was approved at the Conference and the target date set for 1 st March 2023.</p> <p>During this period Yemen projects that clarity regarding the remaining contamination will be obtained through national surveys, the country will produce a detailed plan of action and submit an additional extension request.</p>	-	
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021 Q1
Cross cutting Issues	In the planning phase, emphasis is placed on the gender and human rights issues by UNDP ensuring the issues are addressed. The target for clearance, risk education and victim assistance and the decision-making processes, is to reach all segments of society. In addressing gender mainstreaming and gender balance the project will ensure that the capabilities, contributions, concerns and needs of women, girls, boys and men are either acknowledged and addressed within	In the planning phase, emphasis is placed on the gender and human rights issues by UNDP ensuring the issues are addressed. The target for clearance, risk education and victim assistance and the decision-making processes, is to reach all segments of society. In addressing gender mainstreaming and gender balance the project will ensure that the capabilities, contributions, concerns and needs of women, girls, boys and men are either acknowledged and addressed within the	In the planning phase, emphasis is placed on the gender and human rights issues by UNDP ensuring the issues are addressed. The target for clearance, risk education and victim assistance and the decision-making processes, is to reach all segments of society. In addressing gender mainstreaming and gender balance the project will ensure that the capabilities, contributions, concerns and needs of women, girls, boys, and men are acknowledged and addressed within the	Integrating gender issues within the Mine Action sector continues to pose a challenge. Across the world this sector is predominantly masculine, and Yemen is no exception.	Integrating gender issues within the Mine Action sector continues to pose a challenge. Across the world this sector is predominantly masculine, and Yemen is no exception. However, the Project is encouraging the integration of women into teams. The project is also strongly encouraging
Gender HR					

<p>the scope of its activities. The project strives to have equal representation of women, girls, boys and men with access to and participation in mine action programmes as beneficiaries, employees and decision-makers. The project incorporates the principles of gender mainstreaming in UN mine action programmes in its activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with YEMAC the project aims to address the gender mainstreaming in demining by ensuring that: a) information is collected from organisations and/or groups representing both males and females; b) survey data is disaggregated by sex and age (with boys and girls defined as those under the age of 18); c) the distinct views and assessments of men, women, boys and girls by ensuring gender are collected; d) the sex and age group of interviewers and interviewees in all data analyses are specified. • The MRE activities in the country are done by YEMAC, UNICEF and national NGOs. In working with YEMAC the project strives to mainstream gender in mine risk education by: a) encouraging the collection of data disaggregated by sex and age; b) analysing the data to determine which population groups (identified according to sex and age) are most at risk; d) presenting MRE materials that accurately portray the risks facing and the roles and behaviours of men, women, boys and girls; e) Ensuring that the planning, monitoring and evaluation of MRE activities involves women, men, and, to the greatest extent possible, girls and boys. The total number of beneficiaries during 2018 were 222,854 of whom: 181,400 children, 20,354 women, 21,100 men. • The main organization working with victims of ERW, and mines is YALS (Yemeni Association of Landmine Survivors). The project is working with this organization and will address the issues of gender mainstreaming in victim assistance. 	<p>scope of its activities. The project strives to have equal representation of women, girls, boys, and men with access to and participation in mine action programmes as beneficiaries, employees, and decision-makers. The project incorporates the principles of gender mainstreaming in UN mine action programmes in its activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Working with YEMAC the project aims to address the gender mainstreaming in demining by ensuring that: a) information is collected from organisations and/or groups representing both males and females; b) survey data is disaggregated by sex and age (with boys and girls defined as those under the age of 18); c) the distinct views and assessments of men, women, boys and girls by ensuring gender are collected; d) the sex and age group of interviewers and interviewees in all data analyses are specified. - The MRE activities in the country are done by YEMAC, UNICEF and national NGOs. 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The project strives to have equal representation of women, girls, boys, and men with access to and participation in mine action programmes as beneficiaries, employees, and decision-makers. The project incorporates the principles of gender mainstreaming in UN mine action programmes in its activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with YEMAC the project aims to address the gender mainstreaming in demining by ensuring that: a) information is collected from organisations and/or groups representing both males and females; b) survey data is disaggregated by sex and age (with boys and girls defined as those under the age of 18); c) the distinct views and assessments of men, women, boys and girls by ensuring gender are collected; d) the sex and age group of interviewers and interviewees in all data analyses are specified. • The MRE activities in the country are done by YEMAC, UNICEF and national NGOs. 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The project is engaging this organization and will strive to address the issues of gender mainstreaming in victim assistance. • Through working with contracted parties (the third-party monitoring agent) the project is determined to address gender and diversity 	<p>However, the Project is encouraging the integration of women into teams. The project is also strongly encouraging YEMAC Aden to train and deploy an all-women survey team in the areas under IRG control.</p> <p>As mentioned in the training section, the first female bomb disposal operator was trained in Hadramaut in November 2020. Her role will be to accompany the police into female dwellings and make any IEDs or unexploded ordnance found there safe. When asked, her main concern was how to detect hidden suicide vests.</p> <p>Three further women will be trained in this role in June 2021 to generate one complete bomb disposal squad, accompanied by ten in Non-technical Survey.</p>	<p>YEMAC Aden to train and deploy an all-women survey team in the areas under IRG control. As mentioned in the training section, ten women were trained in February on Non-Technical Survey course, and among of the top ten students 5 were women.</p> <p>Three (3) further women will be trained as bomb disposal operation in June 2021 to generate one complete bomb disposal squad.</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Through working with contracted parties (the third-party monitoring agent) the project is determined to address gender and diversity considerations during their activities in the field. 	considerations during their activities in the field.	considerations during their activities in the field.		
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Annex 14: UNDP Emergency Mine Action Project Yemen - July 2017-June 2021 – Roles and responsibilities of key stakeholders *(Extract Prodoc p. 29 & 30)*

A: National Mine Action Committee (NMAC)	B : Yemen Executive Mine Action Centre (YEMAC)	C: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Serves as the regulatory and policy body of the Government of Yemen and defines and determines the scope and thrust of all mine action related interventions in Yemen Serves as a first point of contact for all mine action initiatives in Yemen Oversees the implementation of the obligations of Yemen under the Ottawa Mine Ban Convention to which Yemen is a party and other mine action related obligation Approves structures and systems of the NMAC/YEMAC, Regional Mine Action Units and any sub-offices. Approves budget of the NMAC/YEMAC in preparation for its approval by the ministry of finance Oversees the activities of the YEMAC and its regional and sub-units to ensure the implementation of approved mine action policies, strategies, programmes, projects, and plans Prepares policies, guidelines and rules and regulations on the utilization of all kinds of resources allocated for mine action in Yemen by the Government of Yemen and other donors Approves/endorse work-plans, programmes, and projects of the YEMAC, UN agencies, national and international NGOs and other operators engaged in mine action in Yemen. Uses its role to assist in the mobilization of resources for mine action in Yemen from national budget and other sources In coordination with UNDP enters into partnership agreements, memorandum of understanding (MOU) with UN 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinates and synchronizes the efforts and activities of all the mine action players/operators in Yemen Plans, coordinates, monitors, and oversees the implementation of all components of mine action including clearance, EOD, survey, risk education, victim assistance and stockpile destruction Ensures that all mine action initiatives are linked to and undertaken in support of humanitarian needs, early recovery, and development initiatives Ensures proper management of the Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) Develops and maintains a system and process for the registration and tracking of mine action operators/players in Yemen Prioritizes, tasks, and authorizes all mine action activities undertaken by YENMAC Operations Department and other supporting partners Accredits national and international mine action organizations/operators in accordance with NTSGs and IMAS to undertake mine action projects/activities in Yemen Puts in place necessary measures, structures, and systems to ensure adherence and compliance to NTSGs and IMAS of all mine action operations Revises and updates NTSGs according to in-country needs and conditions and new developments Ensures the establishment and proper functioning of a quality management system for all mine action activities 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Assist NMAC/YEMAC in the development and implementation of policies, strategies and plans to ensure their alignment with national recovery and development goals and achievement of corporate goals and objectives of mine action Provide technical assistance to NMAC/YEMAC in the periodical review/development of mine action policies, strategies, and legislative frameworks to ensure their alignment with national recovery and development agenda and ensure their continued relevance. Assist the NMAC/YEMAC in ensuring strategic direction of mine action in Yemen Serve on the 'mine action project board' as a senior supplier In partnership with NMAC approves project work plans, key reports projects funded by UNDP or through UNDP Monitor, evaluate and validate deliverable, outputs and outcomes of projects funded by UNDP or through UNDP Provide technical assistance in the form of providing Technical Advisor/Assistance to NMAC/YEMAC to effectively and efficiently discharge its duties and responsibilities Assists the NMAC/YEMAC in the preparation of project proposals, plans, reports, and other documents to mobilize resource in support of mine action

<p>agencies, donors, and national and international organizations in the field of mine action</p> <p>11. Authorizes, at its discretion, UN agencies, national and international NGOs, and other players to undertake mine action activities/projects in Yemen</p> <p>12. Seeks assistance from relevant UN agencies, national and international NGOs, and other stakeholders/players in undertaking mine action projects/activities in Yemen.</p> <p>13. Put all necessary measures in place to fulfil its duties and responsibilities</p> <p>14. Provide all possible assistance to YEMAC to perform its duties and responsibilities</p>	<p>11. Prepares project proposals, reports, briefing packages and other documents to assist in mobilizing funds/resources for mine action</p> <p>12. Prepares updates, reports, presentations, and other documents for NMAC, donors and other stakeholders as and when needed</p> <p>13. Ensures timely preparation and submission of all donors, Mine Ban Convention and other reports.</p> <p>14. Ensures all mine action initiatives are aligned with national mine action policies and strategies</p> <p>15. Works with other humanitarian and development organizations to include mine action in the planning and implementation of their projects</p> <p>16. Organizes donor and others stakeholder's office and field level visits/missions in support of mine action</p> <p>17. Ensures effective, efficient, and transparent utilization of the resources allocated for mine action by the Government of Yemen and other donors</p>	<p>9. Assists NMAC/YEMAC in resource mobilization, resource management and donor interface</p> <p>10. Assist NMAC/YEMAC to link mine action to humanitarian needs, early recovery, and development</p> <p>11. Undertakes project appraisals, capacity assessment and capacity strengthening activities as and when necessary</p> <p>12. In consultation with NMAC ensure effective, efficient, and transparent utilization of the mine action resources to ensure value for money</p>
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