



Highlights **JUNE 2022**

Bulk demolitions of TCC obsolete ammunition were completed in June.



2 anti-tank mines destroyed



10 explosive remnants of war destroyed



26 assault weapons confiscated by UNISFA and destroyed by UNMAS



72 explosive ordnance risk education (EORE) sessions provided



473 new UNISFA military members received safety training



8 ground monitoring missions supported



Bulk demolition



Safety briefing in Abyei



Ground monitoring mission in Tishwin

UNMAS through Radio Agok, concluded a two-month broadcast of EORE messages in Dinka, Arabic and English languages.

SUPPORTING UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDG) THROUGH DESTRUCTION OF EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DEVICES

At the beginning of June 2022, the community chief of Rumajak area, Mr Mawyen Adel Akwel, contacted UNMAS and reported suspected items near his village in the Koldong area, which had initially been located and reported by a local fisherman. Koldong, a non-residential area where the Nymora River flows, is the primary source of livelihood through fishing, for the residents of Rumajak and the surrounding area. It is situated 1.5 kilometres from the UNISFA Dukra camp in a north-western direction and on the western side of Dukra - Noong road.

UNMAS responded to the information received from Mr Mawyen Adel Akwel, the village chief and interviewed him as well as other fishermen to determine the extent of the reported threat of the Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) in the Koldong area. The initial information provided by the villagers about the level of threat was unclear. The team established a control point and commenced with an investigation. For access to the reported area where the suspect items were, every centimetre of access had to be checked. The team found two anti-tank (AT) mines partially buried vertically in muddy water on the riverbank.

During this investigation, the type and models of these AT mines were determined. While remotely pulling the AT mines the team discovered a hand grenade and a piece of detonating cord wrapped around the AT mines. After carefully analysing the situation and according to information received from the community members and fishermen, the team concluded that the mines had been recently abandoned by unknown people at the riverbank.

Once the assessment was completed, the team destroyed the found items in a controlled manner. Prior to destruction, the team carefully selected the demolition area bearing in mind the Health, Safety, Social and Environment (HSSE) aspects such as site remediation and environmental damage. The community liaison officers notified the community members, local authorities, UNISFA air operation centre and the UNISFA camp in the Rumajak area before and after the demolition activities.

In mid-June 2022 the team revisited the area and had a meeting with the Rumajak village chief and conducted a formal interview as part of their liaison activities. **"I was nervous when I heard that there were explosive items in the Koldong area and was unsure if the area was safe since we conduct fishing activities in the river. There was a lot of confusion during this time. However, we had no choice, and we continued fishing near the location of the explosive items. I reported the matter to UNMAS and they responded quickly! We thank UNMAS for making the area safe and allowing us to continue our normal life"** said Rumajak's village Chief, Mr Mawyen Adel Akwel.



Anti-tank mines found in Koldong



In 2015, all United Nations Member States adopted 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which provides a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future. At its heart are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which are an urgent call for action by all countries - developed and developing - in a global partnership. They recognise that ending poverty and other deprivations must go hand-in-hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth. In September 2015, UNMAS launched and committed to promote the SDGs throughout its activities. Mine action plays a critical role in the achievement of SDG targets and in building resilience in the areas affected by explosive ordnances.

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

CONTACT UNMAS-UNISFA IMMEDIATELY!

TELEPHONE NUMBERS: +211 92 422 4805 (MTN) & +249 90 728 9630 (ZAIN)

