

Mozambique, Sri Lanka, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Vietnam, Albania, Colombia, Cambodia, Afghanistan, Jordan, etc.

State the current shortcoming and/or need for improvement of existing IMAS/TNMA that this new topic will seek to address? (max 200 words)

IM is a cross cutting issue, which has been discussed in a number of IMAS (i.e. land release, non-technical survey, technical survey, post clearance documentations etc.) but the requirements and issues of IM has not been discussed in any of the IMAS.

There are a number of IM NMAAS (i.e. Afghanistan, Mozambique, Laos, etc) that are either too narrow or too detailed. Consequently they do not provide an overview of IM best practices as needed.

One consolidated IM IMAS would amalgamate the current initiatives resulting in a single reference point for the entire mine action sector.

Explain the negative impact on field operations that this shortcoming will or has caused and/ or the improvement that is expected? (max 200 words)

Poor or inaccurate information hinders efficient decision making in planning, implementing and monitoring of activities.

Good IM practices improves all phases of mine action activities from planning through implementation to monitoring by ensuring the availability of relevant, accurate and timely information in support of decision making. Therefore a clear and concise IM IMAS will lead to more efficient and effective operations.

Explain the negative impact on the mine affected community that this shortcoming will or has caused and/ or the improvement that is expected? (max 200 words)

Quality socio economic information on impacted communities facilitates efficient and equitable prioritization of mine action activities. In addition this information will serve as input to measuring the targeted impact on communities and highlighting any gaps in assistance that need addressing.

Are there any existing publications already dealing with this topic?

Currently there are no IMAS on Information Management.
In the past an initiative was taken to develop the IM IMAS resulting in a draft document. However, that document was never sent to the Review Board due to disagreements on the scope, content and level of details to be covered.

State why this issue is best addressed through IMAS/TNMA and may not be adequately covered by support and/or endorsement of an existing or under draft publication? (max 200 words)

IM has been approached very differently in each mine action programme. There are numerous lessons learnt between countries that are not addressed in the existing IM NMAS. To avoid reinventing the wheel, an IMAS could point out the key elements that should be part of an NMAS.

The draft IMAS that was circulated in 2006 put greater emphasis in information management tools and technologies, rather than the methodologies. It is now common knowledge that the non-technical elements are the most challenging in most mine action programmes. As such, the IMAS should have its focus on that subject. Furthermore, the draft went to too great detail in some aspects, which would have made it less applicable in some countries not using IMSMA or not using computers.

ANNEX A

Summary and recommendations resulting of above proposal: *(To be prepared by the Secretary or the Chair of the IMAS Review Board)*

Date Received: 01 June 2011

Action: The proposal to develop new IMAS on information management has been supported by members of the IMAS Review Board. IMAS has been drafted, approved and published