Glossary of mine action terms, definitions and abbreviations
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Foreword

International standards for humanitarian demining programmes were first proposed by working groups at an international technical conference in Denmark, in July 1996. Criteria were prescribed for all aspects of demining, standards were recommended and a new universal definition of ‘clearance’ was agreed. In late 1996, the principles proposed in Denmark were developed by a UN-led working group and the International Standards for Humanitarian Mine Clearance Operations were developed. A first edition was issued by the UN Mine Action Service (UNMAS) in March 1997.

The scope of these original standards has since been expanded to include the other components of mine action and to reflect changes to operational procedures, practices and norms. The standards were re-developed and renamed as International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) with the first edition produced in October 2001.

The United Nations has a general responsibility for enabling and encouraging the effective management of mine action programmes, including the development and maintenance of standards. UNMAS, therefore, is the office within the United Nations responsible for the development and maintenance of IMAS. IMAS are produced with the assistance of the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining.

The work of preparing, reviewing and revising IMAS is conducted by technical committees, with the support of international, governmental and non-governmental organisations. The latest version of each standard, together with information on the work of the technical committees, can be found at http://www.mineactionstandards.org/. Individual IMAS are reviewed at least every three years to reflect developing mine action norms and practices and to incorporate changes to international regulations and requirements.
Glossary of mine action terms, definitions and abbreviations

1. Scope

This Glossary provides a summary of key technical mine action terms, definitions and abbreviations used within IMAS and, where relevant, Technical Notes for Mine Action (TNMA) and Test and Evaluation Protocols (T&EP). If two or more alternative definitions are in common use, then both are given in this glossary (either as a separate definition or a note within the definition).

Note: Definitions can change and new definitions may be added to this IMAS. In order to set the definitions in time, new definitions or changed definitions will have the relevant date in the brackets below the word or term to be defined. All other definitions are assumed to have been included in the second edition of IMAS 04.10 dated 01 January 2003.

2. References

The following normative documents contain provisions, which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this part of the standard. For dated references, subsequent amendments to, or revisions of, any of these publications do not apply. However, parties to agreements based on this part of the standard are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the normative documents indicated below. For undated references, the latest edition of the normative document referred to applies. Members of ISO and IEC maintain registers of currently valid ISO or EN:

a) IATG 01.40, Glossary of terms, abbreviations and definitions;
b) ISO 3166, Codes for the representation of names of countries;
c) ISO 9000:2000, Quality management systems – Fundamentals and vocabulary;
d) ISO 14000:2004, Environmental management systems – Requirements with guidance for use;
e) ISO 10241, International terminology standards - Preparation and layout;
f) ISO Guide 51, Safety aspects - Guidelines for their inclusion in standards;
g) ISO/IEC Guide 2, Standardization and related activities - General vocabulary;
h) ISO/IEC Directives Part 2, Methodology for the development of International Standards;
i) ISO/IEC Directives Part 3, Rules for the structure and drafting of International Standards;
j) ISO Standards Handbook, Quantities and units;
k) OHSAS 18001:1999, Occupational health and safety management systems - Specifications;
l) OHSAS 18002:2000, Occupational health and safety management systems - Guidelines for the implementation of OHSAS 18001;
m) ILO R164 - Occupational safety and health recommendation 1981;
n) ILO C155 - Occupational safety and health convention 1981;
o) AAP-6, NATO glossary of terms and definitions;
3. Terms, definitions and abbreviations

[ A ]

3.1. abandoned cluster munitions
(2009)
cluster munitions or explosive sub-munitions that have not been used and that have been left behind or dumped, and that are no longer under the control of the party that left them behind or dumped them. They may or may not have been prepared for use. [CCM]

3.2. abandoned explosive ordnance
AXO
(2005)
explosive ordnance that has not been used during an armed conflict, that has been left behind or dumped by a party to an armed conflict, and which is no longer under control of the party that left it behind or dumped it. Abandoned explosive ordnance may or may not have been primed, fuzed, armed or otherwise prepared for use. [CCW protocol V]

3.3. acceptance
(2005)
the formal acknowledgement by the sponsor, or the sponsor’s nominated representative that the equipment meets the stated requirements and is suitable for use in mine action programmes. An acceptance may be given with outstanding caveats.

3.4. access lane
a marked passage leading through a hazardous area that has been cleared to provide safe movement to a required point or area.

3.5. accident
an undesired event which results in harm.

Note: Modified from definition in OHSAS 18001:1999.

3.6. accreditation
(2009)
the procedure by which a mine action organization is formally recognised as competent and able to plan, manage and operationally conduct mine action activities safely, effectively and efficiently.
Note: For most mine action programmes, the NMAA will be the body which provides accreditation. International organisations such as the United Nations or regional bodies may also introduce accreditation schemes.

Note: ISO 9000 usage is that an ‘Accreditation’ body accredits the ‘Certification or Registration’ bodies that award ISO 9000 certificates to organisations. The usage in IMAS is completely different to this, and is based on the main definition above, which is well understood in the mine action community.

3.7. accreditation body
an organisation, normally an element of the NMAA, responsible for the management and implementation of the national accreditation system.

3.8. advocacy
in the context of mine action, the term refers to…. public support, recommendation or positive publicity with the aim of removing, or at least reducing, the risk from, and the impact of, mines and ERW.

3.9. agreement (2004)
an alternative term for a contract. An agreement includes all the crucial elements of a contract.

Note: Definition when used in a legal sense.

3.10. all reasonable effort (2013)
describes what is considered a minimum acceptable level of effort to identify and document contaminated areas or to remove the presence or suspicion of explosive ordnance. All reasonable effort has been applied when the commitment of additional resources is considered to be unreasonable in relation to the results expected.

3.11. Amended Protocol II
APII
Amended Protocol II (APII) to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which May be Deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects [CCW].

Note: It prohibits the use of all undetectable anti-personnel mines and regulates the use of wider categories of mines, booby-traps and other devices. For the purposes of the IMAS, Article 5 lays down requirements for the marking and monitoring of mined areas. Article 9 provides for the recording and use of information on minefields and mined areas. The Technical Annex provides guidelines on, inter alia, the recording of information and international signs for minefields and mined areas.

3.12. ammunitions
see munition

3.13. anti-handling device
a device intended to protect a mine and which is part of, linked to, attached or placed under the mine and which activates when an attempt is made to tamper with or otherwise intentionally disturb the mine. [APMBC]
3.14. 
Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention
APMBC
Ottawa Convention
Mine Ban Treaty

Note: Provides for a complete ban on the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personnel mines (APMs) and on their destruction. For the purposes of IMAS documents, Article 5 of the APMBC lays down requirements for the destruction of APMs in mined areas. Article 6 details transparency measures required under the Treaty including information on the location of mined or suspected mined areas and measures taken to warn the local population.

3.15. 
anti-personnel mine
APM
a mine designed to be exploded by the presence, proximity or contact of a person and that will incapacitate, injure or kill one or more persons. [APMBC]

Note: APM include improvised explosive devices that fit the above definition.

3.16. 
anti-tank mine
ATM
anti-vehicle mine
AVM
(2018)
a mine designed to be exploded by the presence, proximity or contact of a vehicle.

Note: Mines designed to be detonated by the presence, proximity or contact of a vehicle as opposed to a person that are equipped with anti-handling devices, are not considered APM as a result of being so equipped.

Note: ATM/AVM include improvised explosive devices that fit the above definition.

3.17. 
applied research
research focused at clearly defined problems and market opportunities.

Note: Its principal purpose is to establish the feasibility of applying technology to solve a clearly defined problem, within defined parameters such as cost, time and risk.

3.18. 
armed
(2009)
the state of a mine or explosive ordnance when all elements of the fuzing train are in line and capable of initiation/firing by applied energy.

3.19. 
audit
(2006)
an assessment of the adequacy of management controls to ensure the economical and efficient use of resources; the safeguarding of assets; the reliability of financial and other information; the compliance with regulations, rules and established policies; the effectiveness of risk management; and the adequacy of organisational structures, systems and processes.
3.20. battlefield
(2007)
refers to an area in which ERW including UXO and AXO have been found. This may include former battle areas, defensive positions and sites where air delivered or artillery munitions have been left, fired or dropped.

3.21. battle area clearance
BAC
(2005)
the systematic and controlled clearance of hazardous areas where the hazards are known not to include mines.

3.22. benchmark
(2004)
_in the context of humanitarian demining, the term refers to… a fixed point of reference used to locate a marked and recorded hazard or hazardous area. It should normally be located a short distance outside the hazardous area._

Note: A benchmark may not be necessary if the reference point is sufficiently close to the perimeter of the hazardous area.

3.23. bomb live unit
BLU
(2004)
part of the nomenclature of a type of submunition e.g. BLU 26 or BLU 97.

3.24. bomblet
see submunition.

3.25. booby trap
an explosive or non-explosive device, or other material, deliberately placed to cause casualties when an apparently harmless object is disturbed or a normally safe act is performed. [AAP-6]

3.26. boundary lane
a cleared lane around the perimeter of a hazardous area.

3.27. box
(2005)
a squared area that is developed for the purpose of being searched by MDDs.

Note: A box normally measures 10m x 10m, but other sizes may be preferred.

3.28. briefing area
(2004)
in the context of humanitarian demining … a clearly identifiable control point intended to be the first point of entry to a demining worksite.
Note: The briefing area contains a plan of the minefield and its current level of clearance, at a scale large enough for briefing purposes, showing the location of control points (car park, first aid point, explosive storage areas, the areas where mine clearance work is progressing and distances), and where safety equipment is issued to visitors.

3.29.
burning site
(2005)
an area authorised for the destruction of munitions and explosives by burning.

[ C ]

3.30.
cancelled area
cancelled land
(2013)
A defined area concluded not to contain evidence of explosive ordnance contamination following the non-technical survey of a SHA/CHA.

3.31.
CCM
the 2008 Convention on Cluster Munitions
(2009)
the CCM prohibits all use, stockpiling, production and transfer of Cluster Munitions. Separate articles in the Convention concern assistance to victims, clearance of contaminated areas and destruction of stockpiles.

3.32.
CCW
the 1980 Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons
(2007)
The 1980 Convention on Conventional Weapons

Note: The 1980 Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May be Deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects as amended on 21 December 2001. It has five parts, or “protocols.” Only two of them are related to mine action. Amended Protocol II deals with landmines, booby-traps and other devices, and Protocol V deals with the problem of explosive remnants of war (ERW).

3.33.
CEN
Committee European Normalisation
CEN is the European Committee for Standardisation.

Note: The mission of CEN is to promote voluntary technical harmonisation in Europe in conjunction with worldwide bodies and its European partners. European standards (referred to as EN (Europe Normalisation) form a collection which ensures its own continuity for the benefit of users.

3.34.
CWA
CEN Workshop Agreement
(2007)
an agreement developed by a CEN Workshop, which reflects the consensus of identified individuals and organizations responsible for its contents.
3.35. certification committee
a committee appointed by UNMAS to regularly review compliance of the impact component of the GMAA process with the UN certification guidelines based on the reports of the UN quality assurance monitor from the field.

Note: Acceptance of the findings of the impact component of the GMAA of a specific country by the international community is dependent on its certification by the UN certification committee.

3.36. clearance
(2018)
in the context of mine action, the term refers to tasks or actions to ensure the removal and/or the destruction of all Explosive Ordnance from a specified area to a specified depth or other agreed parameters as stipulated by the NMAA/Tasking Authority.

3.37. cleared area
cleared land (m²)
(2013)
A defined area cleared through the removal and/or destruction of all specified Explosive Ordnance hazards to a specified depth.

3.38. cleared lane
safety lane
the generic term for any lane, other than a boundary lane, cleared by a survey or clearance team to the international standard for cleared land. This may include access lanes outside the hazardous area or cross/verification lanes inside a hazardous area.

3.39. cluster bomb unit
CBU
an expendable aircraft store composed of a dispenser and sub-munitions. [AAP-6]
a bomb containing and dispensing sub-munitions which may be mines (anti-personnel or anti-tank), penetration (runway cratering) bomblets, fragmentation bomblets etc.

3.40. cluster munition
(2009)
Note: The following definition of cluster munition is for political purposes as defined in the CCM. From a technical point of view cluster munitions are included in the overall definition of ERW.

Cluster munition refers to a conventional munition that is designed to disperse or release explosive sub-munitions each weighing less than 20 kilograms, and includes those explosive submunitions. (CCM)

It does not include the following:

a) a munition or submunition designed to dispense flares, smoke, pyrotechnics or chaff; or a munition designed exclusively for an air defence role;
b) a munition or submunition designed to produce electrical or electronic effects;
c) a munition that in order to avoid indiscriminate area effects and the risks posed by unexploded submunitions, has all of the following characteristics:
   (i) each munition contains fewer than 10 explosive submunitions;
   (ii) each explosive submunition weighs more than four kilograms;
(iii) each explosive submunition is designed to detect and engage a single target object;
(iv) each explosive submunition is equipped with an electronic self-destruction mechanism;
(v) each explosive submunition is equipped with an electronic self-deactivating feature;

3.41.
cluster munition contaminated area
(2009)
an area known, or suspected, to contain cluster munition remnants. (CCM)

3.42.
collaboration
in the context of mine action equipment procurement, the term refers to….. an activity which applies solely to the procurement of common equipment by two or more organisations.

3.43.
command
(2018)
a type of switch that is initiated by the user in order to control the moment of initiation.

3.44.
commercial off the shelf
COTS
in the context of mine action equipment procurement, the term refers to….. an equipment that is available direct from the manufacturer and requires no further development prior to introduction into service apart from minor modifications.

3.45.
codermonality
in the context of mine action equipment procurement, the term refers to….. a state achieved when groups of individuals or organisations use common procedures and/or equipment.

3.46.
community liaison
See community mine action liaison
(2009)
liaison with men and women in explosive ordnance affected communities to exchange information on the presence and impact of mines and, or ERW, create a reporting link with the mine action programme and develop risk reduction strategies. Community liaison aims to ensure that the different community needs and priorities are central to the planning, implementation and monitoring of mine action operations.

Note: Community liaison is based on an exchange of information and involves men, women, boys and girls in the communities in the decision making process, (before, during and after demining), in order to establish priorities for mine action. In this way mine action programmes aim to be inclusive, community focused and ensure the maximum involvement of all sections of the community. This involvement includes joint planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of projects.

Note: Community liaison also works with communities to develop specific interim safety strategies promoting individual and community behavioural change. This is designed to reduce the impact of mines and, or ERW on individuals and communities until such time as the hazard is removed.
3.47. compatibility
_in the context of mine action equipment procurement, the term refers to..._ the capability of two or more components or sub-components of equipment or material to exist or function in the same environment without mutual interference.

3.48. concept formulation
the first stage in the procurement process, and covers the period of the emergence of the idea to the initial SON.

3.49. confirmed hazardous area
CHA (2013)
refers to an area where the presence of explosive ordnance contamination has been confirmed on the basis of direct evidence of the presence of Explosive Ordnance.

3.50. contaminated area
(2009)
in the context of mine action, the term refers to... an area known or suspected to contain explosive ordnance.

3.51. contract
(2009)
a formal legally binding agreement with specific terms between two or more entities in which there is a promise to do something in return for a valuable benefit known as a consideration.

3.52. contractor
(2009)
any organisation (governmental, non-governmental or commercial entity) contracted to undertake a mine action activity. The organisation liable under contract responsible for the conduct of the overall contract is referred to as the ‘prime contractor’. Other organisations or parties the prime contractor engages to undertake components of the larger contract are referred to as ‘sub-contractors’. Sub-contractors are responsible to the prime contractor and not to the principal.

3.53. control area or point
(2004)
all points or areas used to control the movements of visitors and staff on a demining worksite.

3.54. cost-effectiveness
an assessment of the balance between a system’s performance and its whole life costs.

3.55. cost-plus contract
(2004)
a contract in which the contractor is reimbursed all costs incurred in undertaking a specific scope of work and is paid an additional lump sum or fixed percentage of the reimbursable costs.

3.56. counter IED
(2018)
C-IED is a government process specifically designed to reduce or eliminate the threat posed by improvised explosive devices. It is generally framed around three pillars of activity: attacking the network; defeating the device; preparing the force. Whilst prepare the force and defeat the device may relate to humanitarian mine action, attack the network does not as this would compromise the neutrality of the Humanitarian Mine Action community. As such, C-IED cannot be considered Mine Action.

3.57. critical non-conformity
(2004)
the failure of a 1.0m² unit of land during inspection to meet the stated clearance requirements. IMAS identifies two types of critical non-conformities:

a) the discovery of Explosive Ordnance; and

b) other critical non-conformities as defined by NMAA.

[ D ]

3.58. decontamination
a process of removing undesired contamination from test items, tools and accessories that are used when preparing a field test. (Definition for ADS use only).

3.59. deflagration
(2009)
a technical term describing subsonic combustion that usually propagates through thermal conductivity [(hot burning material heats the next layer of cold material and ignites it (AOP 38)].

3.60. demilitarisation
(2009)
the act of removing or otherwise nullifying the military potential of a munition. Demilitarization is a necessary step for military items prior to their release into a non-military setting (AOP 38).

the process that renders munitions unfit for their originally intended purpose.

3.61. deminer
(2009)
a man or woman qualified and employed to undertake demining activities on a demining worksite.

3.62. demining
humanitarian demining activities which lead to the removal of Explosive Ordnance hazards, including technical survey, mapping, clearance, marking, post-clearance documentation, community mine action liaison and the handover of cleared land. Demining may be carried out by different types of organisations, such as NGOs, commercial companies, national mine action teams or military units. Demining may be emergency-based or developmental.

Note: in IMAS standards and guides, explosive ordnance clearance is considered to be just one part of the demining process.

Note: in IMAS standards and guides, demining is considered to be one component of mine action.
Note: in IMAS standards and guides, the terms demining and humanitarian demining are interchangeable.

3.63. demining accident
an accident at a demining workplace involving an Explosive Ordnance mine, and or ERW hazard (c.f. mine accident).

3.64. demining accident response plan
a documented plan developed for each demining workplace which details the procedures to be applied to move victims from a demining accident site to an appropriate treatment or surgical care facility.

3.65. demining machine
(2009)
in the context of mine action, the term refers to ..... a unit of mechanical equipment used in demining operations.

3.66. demining incident
an incident at a demining workplace involving an Explosive Ordnance hazard (c.f. mine incident).

3.67. demining organisation
refers to any organisation (government, NGO, military or commercial entity) responsible for implementing demining projects or tasks. The demining organisation may be a prime contractor, subcontractor, consultant or agent.

3.68. demining sub-unit
(2004)
an element of a demining organisation, however named, which is operationally accredited to conduct one or more prescribed demining activities, such as technical surveys, manual clearance, EOD or the use of ADS teams.

3.69. demining worker
(2009)
all employees, male and female, who work at a demining worksite.

3.70. demining worksite
(2004)
any workplace where demining activities are being undertaken.

Note: Demining worksites include workplaces where survey, clearance and EOD activities are undertaken including centralised disposal sites used for the destruction of explosive ordnance identified and removed during clearance operations.

Note: Survey, in relation to a demining worksite includes general survey undertaken to identify mine, and or ERW hazards and hazardous areas.
3.71. 
**demolition (dml)**
destruction of structures, facilities or material by use of fire, water, **explosives**, mechanical or other means (AAP 6).

3.72. 
**demolition ground**
(2004)
an area authorised for the destruction of **munitions** and **explosives** by detonation.

3.73. 
**destroy in situ**
destruction in situ
**blow in situ**
(2009) the destruction of any item of ordnance by explosives without moving the item from where it was found, normally by detonating an explosive charge alongside.

3.74. 
**destruction**
(2004)
the process of final conversion of **munitions** and **explosives** into an inert state whereby they can no longer function as designed.

3.75. 
**destruction organisation**
(2004)
refers to any organisation (government, military or commercial entity) responsible for implementing **stockpile destruction** projects or tasks. The destruction organisation may be a prime contractor, subcontractor, consultant or agent.

3.76. 
**detection**
(2004)
in the context of humanitarian demining, the term refers to..... the discovery by any means of the presence of Explosive Ordnance.

3.77. 
**detonator**
a device containing a sensitive explosive intended to produce a detonation wave. [AAP-6]

3.78. 
**disarm**
the act of making a mine or explosive ordnance safe by removing the fuze or igniter. The procedure normally removes one or more links from the firing chain.

3.79. 
**dispenser**
(2009)
a container or device which is used to carry and release submunitions. (AAP-)

3.80. 
**disposal site**
destruction site
(2009)
an area authorised for the destruction of **munitions** and **explosives** by detonation and/or burning.
3.81.
DNT (Dinitrotolulene)
(2005)
a residual product of TNT manufacture, and a breakdown product of TNT decay. It is normally present in varying amounts in any explosive device containing TNT. The vapour pressure of DNT is much higher than that of TNT, and under some conditions it may be easier to detect DNT than TNT.

3.82.

drill munition
(2005)
an inert replica of a munition specifically manufactured for drill, display or instructional purposes.

3.83.
durability
the ability of an item or material to continue to perform its required function under stated conditions as time progresses. Durability is a function of reliability with time.

Note: Durability involves resistance to degradation, corrosion, cracking, de-lamination, thermal shock, wear and the effects of foreign object damage.

[ E ]

3.84.
efficiency
(2009)
in the context of mine action evaluation, the term refers to… a measure of how economically resources/inputs (funds, expertise, time, etc.) are converted to results (outputs and outcomes).

3.85.
effectiveness
(2009)
in the context of mine action evaluation, the term refers to… the extent to which the intervention’s objectives were achieved, or are expected to be achieved, taking into account their relative importance.

3.86.
ensemble
the group of protective clothing designed to be worn as a protective measure.

3.87.
environment
surroundings in which an organisation operates, including air, water, land, natural resources, flora, fauna, humans, and their interrelation. [ISO 14001:2004 (E)]

3.88.
environmental aspects
element of an organisation’s activities or products or services that can interact with the environment. [ISO 14001:2004 (E)]

3.89.
environmental factors
factors relating to the environment and that influence the transportation of odour from the mine, the detection of the target odour or the ability of people and dogs to work safety and effectively. (i.e. Wind, rain, temperature, humidity, altitude, sun and vegetation). (Definition for ADS use only).
3.90. **environmental impact**
(2006)
any change to the environment, whether adverse or beneficial, wholly or partly resulting from an organisation’s environmental aspects. [ISO 14001:2004 (E)]

3.91. **environmental impact assessment**
EIA
(2007)
*in the context of mine action, the term refers to* .... the process of identifying, predicting, evaluating and mitigating the biophysical, social, and other relevant environmental effects of mine action activities prior to decisions being taken and commitments made.

3.92. **environmental management system**
EMS
(2006)
part of an organisation’s management system used to develop and implement its environmental policy and manage its environmental aspects. [ISO 14001:2004 (E)]

3.93. **environmental policy**
(2006)
overall intentions and direction of an organisation related to its environmental performance as formally expressed by top management. [ISO 14001:2004 (E)]

3.94. **equipment**
a physical, mechanical, electrical and/or electronic system which is used to enhance human activities, procedures and practices.

3.95. **European Normalisation**
EN
(2005)
See CEN (Committee European Normalisation)

3.96. **evaluation**
(2009)
*in the context of equipment test and evaluation, the term refers to* .... the analysis of a result or a series of results to establish the quantitative and qualitative effectiveness and worth of software, a component, equipment or system, within the environment in which it will operate.

an assessment, as systematic and objective as possible, of an on-going or completed project, programme or policy, its design, implementation and results. The aim of an evaluation is to determine the relevance and fulfilment of objectives, developmental efficiency, effectiveness, impact and sustainability. An evaluation should provide information that is credible and useful, enabling the incorporation of lessons learned into the decision-making process of both recipients and donors. [DAC:1991]


*in the context of programmes, the term refers to* .... a process that attempts to determine as systematically and objectively as possible the merit or value of an intervention.
Note: The word ‘objectively’ indicates the need to achieve a balanced analysis, recognising bias and reconciling perspectives of different stakeholders (all those interested in, and affected by programmes, including both male and female beneficiaries as primary stakeholders) through use of different sources and methods.

Note: Evaluation is considered to be a strategic exercise.

Note: Definition when used in relation to programmes. (UNICEF Policy and Programming Manual)

3.97. excavation
(2009)
procedures employed in the process of demining whereby ground is removed to detect or confirm the presence of sub-surface Explosive Ordnance.

3.98. explosive materials
components or ancillary items used by demining organisations which contain some explosives, or behave in an explosive manner, such as detonators and primers.

3.99. explosive ordnance
EO
(2018)
interpreted as encompassing mine action’s response to the following munitions:

- Mines
- Cluster Munitions
- Unexploded Ordnance
- Abandoned Ordnance
- Booby traps
- Other devices (as defined by CCW APII)
- Improvised Explosive Devices*

Note: Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) meeting the definition of mines, booby-traps or other devices fall under the scope of mine action, when their clearance is undertaken for humanitarian purposes and in areas where active hostilities have ceased.

3.100. explosive ordnance disposal
EOD
(2005)
the detection, identification, evaluation, render safe, recovery and disposal of EO. EOD may be undertaken:

a) as a routine part of mine clearance operations, upon discovery of EO;

b) to dispose of ERW discovered outside hazardous areas, (this may be a single item of ERW, or a larger number inside a specific area); or

c) to dispose of EO which has become hazardous by deterioration, damage or attempted destruction.

3.101. explosive remnants of war
ERW
(2005)
Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) and Abandoned Explosive Ordnance (AXO). [CCW protocol V].
3.102. explosives
a substance or mixture of substances which, under external influences, is capable of rapidly releasing energy in the form of gases and heat. [AAP-6]

3.103. explosive submunition
(2009)
a conventional munition that in order to perform its task is dispersed or released by a cluster munition and is designed to function by detonating an explosive charge prior to, on or after impact. [CCM]

3.104. failed cluster munition
(2009)
a cluster munition that has been fired, dropped, launched, projected or otherwise delivered and which should have dispersed or released its explosive submunitions but failed to do so. [CCM]

3.105. failure
an event in which any system, equipment, components or sub-components does not perform as previously specified.

Note: Failures may be classified as to cause, degree, relevance, dependence and responsibility.

3.106. feasibility study
FS
da study to establish the feasibility of the statement of tasks and outputs (STO) in terms of technology, costs and time.

3.107. field editor
an individual whose main responsibility is to ensure accuracy, consistency, readability and clarity of the information gathered by enumerators in the field.

Note: The field editor must work closely with the survey teams in order to ensure that the review process is done shortly after the survey has been completed and while the teams are in the same general vicinity as the community being reviewed.

3.108. fixed price contract
(2004)
a contract in which a contractor is paid a fixed price to undertake a specific scope of work or to provide a specific number of assets (demining teams, ADS teams or mechanical equipment) over an agreed time-frame. The fixed price covers the whole of the works, supplies and services to be provided by the contractor.

3.109. force majeure
(2009)
a common clause in contracts which essentially frees both parties from liability or obligation when an extraordinary event or circumstance occurs that is beyond the control of the contracting parties.
3.110. full development (FD)
the procedure containing all of the engineering processes, trials and tests necessary to establish the final detailed design to enable full production to commence.

3.111. fuze
a device which initiates an explosive train. [AAP-6]

3.112. gender analysis
(2009)
the study of the differences in men’s and women’s roles as well as their different access to and control over resources. It is a tool for improving the understanding of how the differences between men and women influence their opportunities and problems and can identify the challenges to participation in development.

3.113. gender equality
(2009)
the equal rights, responsibilities and opportunities of men and women and implies that the interests, priorities and needs of both are taken into consideration equally.

3.114. gender mainstreaming
mainstreaming a gender perspective
(2009)
refers to the process of assessing the different implications for women and men of any planned action, including legislation, policies or programmes, in all areas and at all levels. It is a strategy for making the concerns and experiences of both women and men an integral dimension of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and societal spheres so that women and men benefit equally and inequality is not perpetuated. [UNMAT 2005]

3.115. gender sensitive
see gender equality
(2009)
A gender sensitive approach to mine action takes into consideration the different impact landmines have on men, women, boys and girls. The ultimate aim of gender sensitive mine action is to conduct mine action in such a way that respects and is based on gender equality.

3.116. general mine action assessment
GMAA
(2003)
the continuous process by which a comprehensive inventory can be obtained of all reported and/or suspected locations of Explosive Ordnance contamination, the quantities and types of explosive hazards, and information on local soil characteristics, vegetation and climate; and assessment of the scale and impact of the landmine and ERW problem on the individual, community and country.

3.117. generic requirement
the performance and environmental characteristics which will be common to all planned uses of the proposed equipment.
3.118. georeferencing
a process whereby graphic coordinates or other indirect referencing codes are added to tabular data in order to allow simple comparison, compilation and analysis of disparate datasets based on common locations.

3.119. geospatial information system (GIS)
an organised collection of computer hardware, software, geographic data, and personnel designed to efficiently capture, store, update, manipulate, analyse, and display all forms of geographically referenced information.

Note: GIS allows a user to graphically view multiple layers of data based on their geographic distribution and association. GIS incorporates powerful tools to analyse the relationships between various layers of information.

3.120. ground preparation (2009)
preparing of ground in a confirmed or defined hazardous area by mechanical means by reducing or removing obstacles to clearance e.g. tripwires, vegetation, metal contamination and hard soil to make subsequent clearance operations more efficient. Ground preparation may or may not involve the detonation, destruction or removal of landmines.

3.121. group interview (2009)
the conduct of a formal interview with a group of key informants, both men and women, in an impacted community, on what to survey within that community.

[ H ]

3.122. handover (2009)
the process by which the beneficiary (for example, the NMAA on behalf of the local community or land user) receives and accepts land which was previously suspected of containing an explosive hazard but which has subsequently had this suspicion removed, or reduced to a tolerable level, either through non-technical survey, technical survey or clearance.

3.123. handover certificate (2009)
documentation used to record the handover of land which was previously suspected of containing an explosive hazard but which has subsequently had this suspicion removed or reduced to a tolerable level.

3.124. hardware equipment with physical size and mass; as opposed to software.

3.125. harm
physical injury or damage to the health of people, or damage to property or the environment. [ISO Guide 51:1999(E)]
3.126. harmful event
(2004)
ocurrence in which a hazardous situation results in harm. [ISO Guide 51:1999(E)].

3.127. hazard
potential source of harm. [ISO Guide 51:1999(E)]

3.128. hazardous area
see contaminated area
(2009)
a generic term for an area perceived to have mines and, or ERW.

3.129. hazard marker
object(s), other than hazard signs, used to identify the limits of a mine and ERW hazard area. Hazard markers shall conform to the specification established by the NMAA.

3.130. hazard marking system
a combination of measures (signs and barriers) designed to provide the public with warning and protection from mine and ERW hazards. The system may include the use of signs or markers, or the erection of physical barriers.

3.131. hazard sign
a permanent, manufactured sign which, when placed as part of a marking system, is designed to provide warning to the public of the presence of mines or ERW.

3.132. hazardous situation
(2004)
circumstance in which people, property or the environment are exposed to one or more hazards. [ISO Guide 51:1999(E)].

3.133. health
(2004)
in relation to work, the term refers to … not merely the absence of disease or infirmity, it also includes the physical and mental elements affecting health, which are directly related to safety and hygiene at work. [ILO C155]

3.134. high risk area
(2009)
an identifiable area that is typically mined in a Confirmed Hazardous Area, or an area that is described by a non-technical survey as being more likely to be mined, or contain ERW than others.

3.135. homemade explosive
(2014)
a combination of commercially available ingredients combined to create an explosive substance.
3.136. humanitarian demining
see demining

Note: In IMAS standards and guides, the terms demining and humanitarian demining are interchangeable.

3.137. humanitarian principles
(2019)
a set of principles that guides humanitarian action, which include the principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence.

Note: See IMAS 01.10 (6.2) for more on humanitarian principles in mine action. These principles are endorsed in UN resolutions 46/182 and 58/114 and considered the foundation for humanitarian action [UNOCHA].

3.138. International Ammunition Technical Guidelines
IATG
(2012)

Note: IATG are referred to as appropriate within IMAS and are of relevance to demining organizations for the storage, transport and logistics disposal of ammunition. IATG also provide guidance on the EOD clearance of ammunition storage areas after explosion.

3.139. improvised explosive device
IED
(2013)
a device placed or fabricated in an improvised manner incorporating explosive material, destructive, lethal, noxious, incendiary, pyrotechnic materials or chemicals designed to destroy, disfigure, distract or harass. They may incorporate military stores, but are normally devised from non-military components [IATG 01.40:2011].

Note: An IED may meet the definition of a mine, booby trap, and/or other type of explosive ordnance depending on its construction. These devices may also be referred to as improvised, artisanal, or locally manufactured mines, booby traps, or other types of explosive ordnance.

3.140. IED Disposal
IEDD
(2014)
the location, identification, rendering safe and final disposal of IEDs

3.141. impact
(2009)
in the context of mine action, the term refers to ..... the level of social and economic suffering experienced by the community resulting from the harm or risk of harm caused by explosive ordnance hazards and hazardous areas.

Note: Impact is a product of:

a) the presence of explosive ordnance hazards in the community;
b) intolerable risk associated with the use of infrastructure such as roads, markets etc;

c) intolerable risk associated with livelihood activities such as use of agricultural land, water sources etc; and

d) number of victims of mine and ERW incidents within the last two years.

Note: in the context of mine action evaluation, the term refers to the positive and negative, primary and secondary long-term effects produced by an intervention, directly or indirectly, intended or unintended. The term ‘final outcome’ may be substituted.

3.142. impact free
(2004)
a term applied to countries that may still have mines but where the mined areas are not having a negative socio-economic impact on communities, e.g. the mines may be in remote, marked and unpopulated areas.

Note: In most cases, “impact free” should be considered in a static sense (i.e. impact free at this point in time) because changes in socio-economic patterns may bring people into contact with mines/ERW that previously had no impact

3.143. impact survey
(2009)
an assessment of the socio-economic impact caused by the actual or perceived presence of mines and ERW, in order to assist the planning and prioritisation of mine action programmes and projects.

3.144. IMSMA
Information Management System for Mine Action
(2007)

Note: This is the United Nation's preferred information system for the management of critical data in UN-supported field programmes. IMSMA provides users with support for data collection, data storage, reporting, information analysis and project management activities. Its primary use is by the staff of MACs at national and regional level, however the system is also deployed in support of the implementers of mine action projects and demining organizations at all levels.

3.145. incident
(2004)
an event that gives rise to an accident or has the potential to lead to an accident.

3.146. inert
a munition that contains no explosive, pyrotechnic, lachrymatory, radioactive, chemical, biological or other toxic components or substances.

Note: An inert munition differs from a drill munition in that it has not necessarily been specifically manufactured for instructional purposes. The inert state of the munition may have resulted from a render safe procedure or other process to remove all hazardous components and substances. It also refers to the state of the munition during manufacture prior to the filling or fitting of explosive or hazardous components and substances.

3.147. informal demining
(2009)
self-supporting mine and/or ERW clearance and hazardous area marking, normally undertaken by local inhabitants, on their own behalf or the behalf of their immediate community. Often described as a self-help initiative or spontaneous demining, informal demining usually sits outside or in parallel with formal mine action structures, such as demining undertaken by military or humanitarian demining such as is supported by the UN, international and national non-governmental organisations, private enterprise and governments, among others.

Note: Informal demining is sometimes referred to as “village demining”.

3.148. inspection
(2004)
the observation, measurement, examination, testing, evaluation or gauging of one or more components of a product or service and comparing these with specified requirements to determine conformity.

3.149. inspection body
an organisation which conducts post-clearance QC on behalf of the NMAA by applying random sampling procedures, or other appropriate and agreed methods of inspection.

3.150. insurance
(2009)
an arrangement for financial compensation in the event of damage to or loss of (property, life of a person) to an individual or organization to predetermined levels and due to specific listed circumstances.

Note: Insurance should include appropriate medical, death and disability coverage for all personnel as well as third party liability coverage.

Note: Such insurance need not necessarily have to be arranged through an insurance broker or company, unless otherwise required by contractual arrangements. Self-insurance (underwriting) schemes, provided they are formally constituted on accepted actuarial principles and provide adequate cover, may be an acceptable alternative.

3.151. integrated mine action and development (linking mine action and development)
(2009)
(1) Efforts to enhance the contribution that mine action makes to socio-economic development and poverty reduction, particularly in contexts where contamination by landmines and ERW impedes post-conflict reconstruction and development.
(2) Efforts by development actors, working with mine action organizations, to actively promote the development of mine-affected communities and regions.

3.152. intended use (land)
use of land following demining operations.

Note: Intended use: use of a product, process or service in accordance with information provided by the supplier. [ISO Guide 51:1999(E)]

Note: Intended land use should be included in the clearance task specification and clearance task handover documentation.
3.153. interchangeability

In the context of mine action equipment procurement, the term refers to a condition which exists when two or more items of equipment possess such functional and physical characteristics as to be equivalent in performance and durability, and are capable of being exchanged for one another without alteration of the items themselves, or of adjoining items, except for adjustment, and without selection for fit and performance.

3.154. intermediate point
(2004)

Survey markers used between turning points that are more than 50m apart.

3.155. International Mine Action Standards
IMAS
(2009)

Documents developed by the UN on behalf of the international community, which aim to improve safety, quality and efficiency in mine action by providing guidance, by establishing principles and, in some cases, by defining international requirements and specifications.

Note: They provide a frame of reference which encourages, and in some cases requires, the sponsors and managers of mine action programmes and projects to achieve and demonstrate agreed levels of effectiveness and safety.

Note: They provide a common language, and recommend the formats and rules for handling data which enable the free exchange of important information: this information exchange benefits other programmes and projects, and assists the mobilisation, prioritisation and management of resources.

3.156. International Organisation for Standardization (ISO)

A worldwide federation of national bodies from over 130 countries. Its work results in international agreements which are published as ISO standards and guides. ISO is a NGO and the standards it develops are voluntary, although some (mainly those concerned with health, safety and environmental aspects) have been adopted by many countries as part of their regulatory framework. ISO deals with the full spectrum of human activities and many of the tasks and processes which contribute to mine action have a relevant standard. A list of ISO standards and guides is given in the ISO Catalogue [www.iso.ch/infocatinfo/html].

Note: The revised mine action standards have been developed to be compatible with ISO standards and guides. Adopting the ISO format and language provides some significant advantages including consistency of layout, use of internationally recognised terminology, and a greater acceptance by international, national and regional organisations who are accustomed to the ISO series of standards and guides.

3.157. intrusive machine
(2007)

In the context of mine action, the term refers to a machine designed to work inside a hazardous area, while the term ‘non-intrusive machine’ refers to those designed to operate from a cleared or known safe area, with its mechanical tool working in the hazardous area.

3.158. investment appraisal

The process of defining the objectives of expenditure, identifying the alternative ways of achieving those objectives and assessing which way is likely to give best value for money.
3.159. **key informants**
(2009)
all men, women and children who have relatively good knowledge on the hazardous areas in and around their community.

Note: Key informants may include, but are not limited to, community leaders, mine-affected individuals, schoolteachers, religious leaders etc.

3.160. **lachrymatory ammunition**
Lachrymatory ammunition contains chemical compounds that are designed to incapacitate by causing short-term tears or inflammation of the eyes.

3.161. **land release**
(2013)
_in the context of mine action, the term describes the process of applying “all reasonable effort” to identify, define, and remove all presence and suspicion of Explosive Ordnance through non-technical survey, technical survey and/or clearance. The criteria for “all reasonable effort” shall be defined by the NMAA._

3.162. **letter of agreement**
(2004)
a simpler form of contract that states the essentials of the agreement without including all the details. It may be used as a precursor to a formal contract or, in some cases, may be used in place of a more formal contract.

3.163. **licence**
(2004)
in the context of mine action, the term refers to….. a certificate issued by a NMAA in relation to the capacity or capability of a facility, for example a demolition site may be licensed for certain explosive limits and explosive storage areas may be licensed for certain types and quantities of munitions. Demining organisations receive organisational or operational accreditation from an accreditation body authorised by a NMAA.

3.164. **linking mine action with development**
LMAD
(2009)
see integrated mine action and development

3.165. **local requirement**
the performance and characteristics of the proposed equipment which reflect local environmental conditions, operating procedures and operational requirements.

3.166. **logistic disposal**
(2004)
in the context of mine action, the term refers to ..... the removal of munitions and explosives from a stockpile utilising a variety of methods, (that may not necessarily involve destruction). Logistic disposal may or may not require the use of RSP.
3.167. lot size
in the context of humanitarian demining, the term refers to ..... an area (comprising a number of 1.0m² units of cleared land) offered for inspection.

[ M ]

3.168. magazine
(2013)
In the context of mine action, the term "magazine" refers to any building, structure, or container approved for the storage of explosive materials c.f. explosive storehouse. [IATG 01.40]

3.169. maintainability
(2009)
the ability of an equipment, component or sub-component under stated conditions of use, to be retained or restored to a specific condition, when maintenance is performed by staff having specific skill levels, under stated conditions and using prescribed procedures and resources.

3.170. marking
emplacement of a measure or combination of measures to identify the position of a hazard or the boundary of a hazardous area. This may include the use of signs, paint marks etc, or the erection of physical barriers.

3.171. marking system
an agreed convention for the marking of hazards or hazardous areas.

3.172. mechanical demining operations
(2007)
refers to the use of machines in demining operations and may involve a single machine employing one mechanical tool, a single machine employing a variety of tools or a number of machines employing a variety of tools.

3.173. mechanical tools
(2007)
the working component(s) attached to a machine, such as flails, tillers, sifters, rollers, excavators, ploughs, magnets etc. A single machine may utilise a number of different tools, which may be fixed or interchangeable.

3.174. medical support staff
(2009)
men and women employees of demining organisations designated, trained and equipped to provide first aid and further medical treatment of demining employees injured as a result of an accident.

3.175. memorandum of understanding
MOU
a document used to facilitate a situation or operation when it is not the intention to create formal rights and obligations in international law but to express commitments of importance in a non-binding form.
3.176. mine munition

designed to be placed under, on or near the ground or other surface area and to be exploded by the presence, proximity or contact of a person or a vehicle. [APMBC]

3.177. mine accident

an accident away from the demining workplace involving a mine or ERW hazard

See demining accident).

3.178. mine action

(2009)

activities which aim to reduce the social, economic and environmental impact of mines, and ERW including unexploded sub-munitions.

Note: Mine action is not just about demining; it is also about people and societies, and how they are affected by landmines and ERW 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 economic, social and health development can occur free from the constraints imposed by landmine and ERW contamination, and in which the victims’ different needs can be addressed. Mine action comprises five complementary groups of activities:

a) MRE;

b) humanitarian demining, i.e. mine and ERW survey, mapping, marking and clearance;

c) victim assistance, including rehabilitation and reintegration;

d) stockpile destruction; and

e) advocacy against the use of APM.

Note: A number of other enabling activities are required to support these five components of mine action, including: assessment and planning, the mobilisation and prioritisation of resources, information management, human skills development and management training, QM and the application of effective, appropriate and safe equipment.

3.179. mine action centre

MAC

national mine action centre

NMAC

mine action coordination centre

MACC

organisation that, on behalf of the national mine action authority, typically is responsible for planning, coordination, overseeing and in some cases implementation of mine action projects. The NMAC/MAC/MACC acts as the operational arm of the NMAA.

Note: Note: In the absence of a NMAC, it may be necessary and appropriate for the UN, or some other body, to assume some or all of the responsibilities of the NMAC.

3.180. mine action organisation

(2009)

refers to any organisation (government, military, commercial or NGO/civil society) responsible for implementing mine action projects or tasks. The mine action organisation may be a prime contractor, subcontractor, consultant or agent.
3.181. mine awareness
(2004)
see mine risk education (MRE).

3.182. mine clearance
the clearance of mines and ERW from a specified area to a predefined standard.

3.183. mine detection dog
MDD
a dog trained and employed to detect mines, ERW and other explosive devices.

3.184. mine free
(2004)
a term applied to an area that has been certified as clear of mines to a specified depth. Also applied to a country or an area that has not had a mine contamination problem.

3.185. mine incident
an incident away from the demining workplace involving a mine or ERW hazard
See demining incident.

3.186. mine risk
(2004)
the probability and severity of physical injury to people, property or the environment caused by the unintentional detonation of a mine or ERW. [ISO Guide 51:1999(E)]

3.187. mine risk education
MRE
(2009)
activities which seek to reduce the risk of injury from mines or ERW by raising awareness of men, women, and children in accordance with their different vulnerabilities, roles and needs, and promoting behavioural change including public information dissemination, education and training, and community mine action liaison.

3.188. mine risk reduction
(2004)
those actions which lessen the probability and/or severity of physical injury to people, property or the environment. [Adapted from ISO Guide 51:1999(E)]

Note: Mine risk reduction can be achieved by physical measures such as clearance, fencing or marking, or through behavioural changes brought about by MRE.

3.189. mine sign
a sign which, when placed as part of a marking system, is designed to provide warning to the public of the presence of mines.

3.190. mined area
an area which is dangerous due to the presence or suspected presence of mines. [APMBC]

27
3.191. minefield
an area of ground containing mines laid with or without a pattern. [AAP-6]

3.192. monitoring
(2009)
refers to a continuing function that uses systematic collection of data on specified indicators to provide management and the main stakeholders of an on-going project, programme or policy with indications of the extent of progress and achievement of objectives, and progress in the use of allocated funds. [OECD/DAC]

3.193. monitoring body
an organisation, normally an element of the NMAA, responsible for management and implementation of the national monitoring system.

3.194. MRE organisation
(2009)
any organisation, including governmental, non-governmental, civil society organisations (e.g. women’s organisations, youth organisations, red cross and red crescent societies etc.), commercial entities and military personnel (including peace-keeping forces), which is responsible for implementing MRE projects or tasks. The MRE organisation may be a prime contractor, subcontractor, consultant or agent. The term ‘MRE sub-unit’ refers to an element of an organisation, however named, that is accredited to conduct one or more prescribed MRE activities such as a public information project, a school-based education project or a community mine action liaison project evaluation.

3.195. MRE partner
(2004)
an institution or agent within the mine-affected community who is able to work with an MRE organisation to facilitate, establish and implement an MRE project.

3.196. munition
a complete device charged with explosives, propellants, pyrotechnics, initiating composition, or nuclear, biological or chemical material for use in military operations, including demolitions. [AAP-6]

Note: in common usage, the term ‘munitions’ (plural) refers to .... military weapons, ammunition and equipment.

3.197. national authority
(2004)
in the context of stockpile destruction the term refers to .... the government department(s), organisation(s) or institution(s) in each country charged with the regulation, management and coordination of stockpile destruction.

3.198. national mine action authority
NMAA
(2009)
government entity, often an inter-ministerial committee, in an EO-affected country charged with the responsibility for broad strategic, policy and regulatory decisions related to mine action.
Note: In the absence of an NMAA, it may be necessary and appropriate for the UN, or some other body, to assume some or all of the responsibilities of an NMAA.

3.199.
no*non-permissive environment

(2018)
In the context of humanitarian mine action: an operational area during a specified time period where there is a humanitarian need, where access is not possible, or where consent is not provided by relevant stakeholders, preventing mine action activities to take place according to the humanitarian principles and within the framework of international humanitarian law. (opp. Permissive environment)

3.200.
n*on-sparking material

(2004)
material that will not produce a spark when struck with tools, rocks, or when the material itself strikes hard surfaces.

3.201.
n*on-technical survey

(2013)
refers to the collection and analysis of data, without the use of technical interventions, about the presence, type, distribution and surrounding environment of explosive ordnance contamination, in order to define better where explosive ordnance contamination is present, and where it is not, and to support land release prioritisation and decision-making processes through the provision of evidence.

[ O ]

o*perational analysis

OA
see operational research

(2009)
a field of research that applies scientifically based quantitative and qualitative analysis to assist management decisions relating to operations.

3.203.
o*perational research

see operational analysis (OA)

3.204.
o*put

(2009)
in the context of mine action evaluation, the term refers to ..... the products, capital goods and services which result from a mine action intervention. Outputs may also include changes resulting from the intervention which are relevant to the achievement of outcomes (such as the development of local capacities).

3.205.
o*utcome

(2009)
in the context of mine action evaluation, the term refers to ..... the likely or achieved short-term and medium-term effects of an intervention’s outputs. Outcomes are related to the ‘effectiveness’ of an intervention.
3.206. **particle board**  
(2009)  
a composition board made of small pieces of wood, bonded together frequently used as profile boards for testing soil penetration by demining machines.

3.207. **permanent marking system**  
a marking system having an indefinite period of use, usually requiring maintenance (c.f. temporary marking system).

3.208. **permissive environment**  
(2018)  
In the context of humanitarian mine action: an operational area during a specified time period where there is a humanitarian need, where access remains possible, and where consent is provided by relevant stakeholders, allowing mine action activities to take place according to the humanitarian principles and within the framework of international humanitarian law. (opp. Non-permissive environment)

Note: Reference can be made to IMAS 01.10: 6.2 Humanitarian Principles: In its response to explosive ordnance, mine action is first and foremost a humanitarian concern. Framing of the standards and their application as part of any humanitarian response shall reflect the fundamental humanitarian principles of humanity, impartiality, neutrality and independence.

3.209. **personal protective equipment**  
PPE  
all equipment and clothing designed to provide protection, which is intended to be worn or held by an employee at work and which protects him/her against one or more risks to his/her safety or health.

3.210. **pilot test**  
a process ahead of the commencement of wide range data collection to ensure that all survey project elements, such as team deployment, data collection, reporting and administration, are functioning as planned.

3.211. **policy**  
(2009)  
defines the purpose and goals of an organisation, and articulates the rules, standards and principles of action that govern the way in which the organisation aims to achieve these goals.

3.212. **positive action**  
(2019)  
refers to any action taken by the operator that will disturb, move, render safe, destroy or introduce any outside influence on EO.

Note: This includes actions such as X-ray or any other activity that may change the state of the EO.

3.213. **post clearance assessment**  
(2009)  
surveys to assess the effectiveness and efficiency of mine action planning, priority setting, and implementation processes, aiming to enhance the productivity and effectiveness of mine
action, monitor post-clearance land use, ensure priority-setting processes are clear, transparent and carried out correctly, and help identify problems faced by communities in transforming the outputs of mine action (e.g. cleared land) into sustainable developmental outcomes.

3.214.
post clearance inspection
(2004)
in the context of humanitarian demining, the term refers to ..... the process of measuring, examining, testing or otherwise comparing a sample of cleared land against the clearance requirements.

3.215.
post design services
PDS
further services such as on-going development and modification of equipment, subsequent to the acceptance of the equipment.

Note: PDS may be used after the initial contract in order to update the equipment in response to changing circumstances and requirements.

3.216.
preliminary development
PD
(2004)
the planning, design and engineering work necessary to explore areas of technical uncertainty and to provide detailed estimates of duration and cost before the decision to proceed to full development is made.

Note: During PD a relatively flexible relationship should exist between the technical specification and the operational requirements.

3.217.
preliminary study
a study to give an indication of the practicability of an idea in terms of technological possibilities and cost.

3.218.
pre-test
a process at the start of a survey to validate clarity and appropriateness of the selected survey instrument.

3.219.
primer
a self-contained munition which is fitted into a cartridge case or firing mechanism and provides the means of igniting the propellant charge.

3.220.
principal
(2004)
the entity that contracts another entity to undertake the required mine action activity. The principal may be a donor, an NMAA, an organisation acting on behalf of the NMAA, a commercial organisation or any entity that desires mine action to be conducted and engages a mine action organisation to do so.

3.221.
priority-setting
(2009)
the process of deciding which tasks should be undertaken first, given limited resources and time. Priority-setting applies to all aspects of mine action (MRE, land release, stockpile destruction, and advocacy).

3.222.
procurement
the process of research, development and production or purchase which leads to an equipment being accepted as suitable for use, and continues with the provision of spares and Post Design Services (PDS) throughout the life of the equipment.

3.223.
prodding
a procedure employed in the process of demining whereby ground is probed to detect the presence of sub-surface mines and/or ERW.

See sapping.

3.224.
programme
(2009)
a group of projects or activities which are managed in a co-ordinated way to deliver benefits that would not be possible or as cost effective were the projects and/or contracts managed independently.

3.225.
project
(2004)
an endeavour in which human, material and financial resources are organised to undertake a unique scope of work, of given specification, within constraints of cost and time, so as to achieve beneficial change defined by quantitative and qualitative objectives.

3.226.
project management
(2004)
the process by which a project is brought to a conclusion.

3.227.
propellant
deflagrating explosive used for propulsion.

a substance that is used to move an object by applying a motive force. This may or may not involve some form of chemical reaction. It may be a gas, liquid, or, before the chemical reaction, a solid. Chemical propellants are most usually used to project ammunition warheads.

a substance on its own or in a mixture with other substances that can be used for the chemical generation of gases at the controlled rates required for propulsive purposes.

Note: Propellants can also be used as components of gas generators or other items.

3.228.
protective measure
means used to reduce risk. [ISO Guide 51:1999(E)]

3.229.
Protocol V
(2007)
Protocol V to the CCW on Explosive Remnants of War
Note: Under Protocol V, States Parties and parties to armed conflict are required to take action to clear, remove or destroy ERW (Art. 3), and record, retain and transmit information related to the use or abandonment of explosive ordnances (Art. 4). They are also obligated to take all feasible precautions for the protection of civilians (Art. 5) and humanitarian missions and organizations (Art. 6). States Parties in a position to do so should provide cooperation and assistance for marking, clearance, removal, destruction, and victim assistance, among other things (Art. 7 & 8). Protocol V entered into force on 12 November 2006.

3.230. prototype
an equipment, component or sub-component built as nearly as possible to the final design and build standard.

Note: Prototypes are used to aid development of the final production standard and/or to demonstrate performance or specification compliance.

3.231. proximity verification
an activity to observe explosive ordnance hazard areas reported during the community interview.

Note: Observation must be done from a safe area and in accordance with the relevant protocols.

3.232. public education (2009)
the process aimed at raising general awareness of the hazards of mines and ERW; through public information, formal and non-formal education systems.

Note: Public education is a mass mobilisation approach that delivers information on mine and ERW hazards. It may take the form of formal or non-formal education and may use mass media techniques. There may be a difference in access to education between men, women, boys and girls, which may affect the outreach of the mine awareness message and may call for the adoption of different educational means, message and material.

Note: In an emergency situation, due to time constraints and the lack of available data, it is the most practical means of communicating safety information. In other situations it can support community liaison.

information concerning the mine and ERW situation, used to inform or update men, women and children. Such information may focus on particular issues, such as complying with mine ban legislation, or may be used to raise public support for the mine action programme. Such projects usually include risk reduction messages, but may also be used to reflect national mine action policy.

3.234. quality
degree to which a set of inherent characteristics fulfils requirements. [ISO 9000:2000]

[ Q ]

3.235. quality assurance QA (2005)
part of QM focused on providing confidence that quality requirements will be fulfilled. [ISO 9000:2000]
Note: The purpose of QA in humanitarian demining is to confirm that management practices and operational procedures for demining are appropriate, are being applied, and will achieve the stated requirement in a safe, effective and efficient manner. Internal QA will be conducted by demining organisations themselves, but external inspections by an external monitoring body should also be conducted.

3.236.
quality control
QC
part of QM focused on fulfilling quality requirements. [ISO 9000:2000]

Note: QC relates to the inspection of a finished product. In the case of humanitarian demining, the ‘product’ is safe cleared land.

3.237.
quality management
QM
coordinated activities to direct and control an organisation with regard to quality. [ISO 9000:2000]

[ R ]

3.238.
random sampling
selection of samples by a process involving equal chances of selection of each item. Used as an objective or impartial means of selecting areas for test purposes.

3.239.
raster data
the use of an imaginary grid of cells to represent the landscape. Point features are stored as individual column/row entries in a grid; lines are identified as a set of connected cells; and areas are distinguished as all of the cells comprising a feature.

3.240.
RDX (1, 3, 5-triazacyclohexane)
(2005)
RDX is another military explosive which is used extensively as an explosive in many munitions formulations. RDX is relatively insensitive; it has a high chemical stability, although lower than that of TNT. RDX is never handled pure and dry because of the danger of accidental explosion. It is used as a component in explosive mixtures, especially plastic explosives.

3.241.
reasonably foreseeable misuse
(2004)
use of a product, process or service in a way not intended by the supplier, but which may result from readily predictable human behaviour. [ISO Guide 51:1999(E)]

3.242.
recognition piece
(2004)
A metal piece, which is placed under test items to make them recognisable with a metal detector.

3.243.
reduced land (m²)
(2013)
A defined area concluded not to contain evidence of explosive ordnance contamination following the technical survey of a SHA/CHA.
3.244. **reference point**
landmark
a fixed point of reference some distance outside the **hazard(ous) area**. It should be an easily recognised feature (such as a cross-roads or a bridge) which can be used to assist in navigating to one or more **benchmarks**.

Note: Internationally these are often also referred to as Geodetic Points when they refer to a pre-surveyed location such as a trig point.

3.245. **relational database management system**
RDMS
as opposed to a single table with numerous fields for each record entered, a RDMS uses identification codes to link multiple tables of data. The codes used establish the relationship between data tables. RDMS are very effective in managing large amounts of data and permitting detailed queries to determine the relationship among data compiled against different records.

3.246. **relevance**
(2009)
in the context of **mine action evaluation**, the term refers to....the extent to which the objectives of a project, programme or policy are consistent with beneficiary requirements, country needs, global priorities, and donor policies.

3.247. **reliability**
the ability of an **equipment**, component or sub-component to perform a required function under stated conditions for a stated period of time.

3.248. **reliable (mine action) information**
(2009)
information deemed acceptable by the **NMAA** for the conduct of **demining** operations.

3.249. **remote action**
(2019)
positive actions that can be carried out without the need for an EOD operator to leave the EOD Control Point (CP) and approach suspected EO.

3.250. **render safe procedure**
RSP
(2019)
the application of EOD methods and tools on EO to interrupt functions or separate components to prevent an unacceptable detonation.

Note: The term permanent neutralisation is sometimes used interchangeably here.

Note: EO is said to be “neutralised” when it has been rendered, by external means, incapable of firing on passage of a target, although it may remain dangerous to handle.

3.251. **residual contamination**
(2016)
refers to contamination which gives rise to residual risk
3.252. residual risk
is the risk remaining following the application of all reasonable effort to identify, define, and remove all presence and suspicion of explosive ordnance through non-technical survey, technical survey and/or clearance.

3.253. risk
combination of the probability of occurrence of harm and the severity of that harm. [ISO Guide 51:1999(E)]

3.254. risk analysis
systematic use of available information to identify hazards and to estimate the risk. [ISO Guide 51:1999(E)]

3.255. risk assessment
overall process comprising a risk analysis and a risk evaluation. [ISO Guide 51:1999(E)]

3.256. risk evaluation
process based on risk analysis to determine whether the tolerable risk has been achieved. [ISO Guide 51:1999(E)]

3.257. risk reduction
actions taken to lessen the probability, negative consequences or both, associated with a particular risk.

[S]

3.258. safe
(2009)
the absence of risk. Normally the term tolerable risk is more appropriate and accurate.

Note: in the context of munitions, the term safe is related to the “safe position” of a fuze.

3.259. safe waiting period
(2019)
waiting times which an operator must allow to elapse prior to making a manual approach, including approaches after conducting a remote or semi-remote positive actions.

Note: The term “soak time” is sometimes used interchangeably here.

3.260. safety
the reduction of risk to a tolerable level. [ISO Guide 51:1999(E)]

3.261. sample
in the context of humanitarian demining, the term refers to one or more 1.0m\(^2\) units of land drawn at random from a lot.
3.262.
sample size
_in the context of humanitarian demining, the term refers to_____ the number of 1.0m² units of land in the sample.

3.263.
sampling
_in the context of humanitarian demining, the term refers to_____ a defined procedure whereby part or parts of an area of cleared land are taken, for testing, as a representation of the whole area.

3.264.
sampling plan
_in the context of humanitarian demining, the term refers to_____ a specific plan that indicates the number of 1.0m² units of land from each lot which are to inspected (sample size or series of sample sizes) and the associated criteria for determining the acceptability of the lot (acceptance and rejection numbers).

3.265.
scent
a distinctive odour.

3.266.
secondary fragmentation
_in an explosive event, fragmentation which was not originally part of the explosive ordnance.

3.267.
self-destruction mechanism
(2009)
an incorporated automatically-functioning mechanism which is in addition to the primary initiating mechanism of the munition and which secures the destruction of the munition into which it is incorporated. [CCM]

3.268.
self-neutralisation
action generated by means of a device integral to a mine, which renders the mine inoperative, but not necessarily safe to handle. In landmines, this process may be reversible. [AAP-6]

3.269.
semi-remote action
(2019)
positive actions that require the EOD operator to leave the EOD Control Point (CP) and approach the immediate vicinity of the EO in order to place an EOD tool which is then operated/activated remotely once the EOD operator has returned to the CP.

3.270.
sex and age disaggregated data
SADD
(2009)
collection of data which includes details on sex and age, knowing who is affected – men or women, boys or girls - and who among them is the most at risk, and so prevents the services provided from being off target. Data on the population affected by the crisis should always be broken down by age and sex and other relevant factors such as ethnicity or religion.

3.271.
specified area
_in the context of humanitarian demining, the term refers to_____ that area for which mine or ERW clearance activity has been contracted or agreed, as determined by the NMAA or an organisation acting on its behalf.
3.272. specified depth
*in the context of humanitarian demining, the term refers to* .... the depth to which a specified area is contracted or agreed to be cleared of mine and ERW hazards, as determined by the NMAA or an organisation acting on its behalf.

3.273. specified quality limit
SQL
*in the context of humanitarian demining, the term refers to* ..... an indication of the quality required from clearance operations.

Note: For acceptance *sampling* purposes, the SQL is a specified borderline between what can be considered reasonable as a process average and what cannot. It has to be attainable by the producer (*demining organisation*) but tolerable to the consumer (*NMAA* or contracting agency).

Note: In the case of *mine* and ERW clearance, the SQL indicates the average contamination (in terms of non-conforming items per square metre) following a lengthy and steady process run.

3.274. sponsor
the sponsor of an *equipment trial* is the authority requiring the trial to be carried out.

Note: This is most likely to be an international organisation, national MAC, *donor* or demining organisation.

3.275. standard
documented agreement containing technical specifications or other precise criteria to be used consistently as rules, guidelines, or definitions of characteristics to ensure that materials, products, processes and services are fit for their purpose.

Note: *Mine action standards* aim to improve safety and efficiency in mine action by promoting the preferred procedures and practices at both headquarters and field level. To be effective, the standards should be definable, measurable, achievable and verifiable.

3.276. standard operating procedures
SOP
instructions which define the preferred or currently established method of conducting an operational task or activity.

Note: Their purpose is to promote recognisable and measurable degrees of discipline, uniformity, consistency and commonality within an organisation, with the aim of improving operational effectiveness and safety. SOPs should reflect local requirements and circumstances.

3.277. standing operating procedures
SOP
see standard operating procedures (SOPs)

3.278. statement of operational need
SON
(2004)
the document that describes the user’s operational needs.

Note: The SON should be prepared by the user who has identified the need, or by a *sponsor* acting on a user’s behalf.
3.279. statement of requirement
SOR
the document that provides a detailed statement of the characteristics and performance expected of the equipment, based on the preferred solution.

3.280. statement of tasks and outputs
STO
the document that articulates the user’s needs in broad terms, giving the tasks of the equipment and the key characteristics, with the emphasis on the output required rather than the means of achieving it, so as to enable full consideration of alternative solutions.

3.281. stockpile
in the context of mine action, the term refers to .... a large accumulated stock of EO.

3.282. stockpile destruction
(2009)
the physical destructive procedure towards a continual reduction of the stockpile of explosive ordnance.

3.283. submunition
any munition that, to perform its task, separates from a parent munition. [AAP-6] mines or munitions that form part of a CBU, artillery shell or missile payload.

3.284. survey marker
(2004)
a durable and long lasting marker used to assist in the management of marked and cleared land during demining operations.

3.285. survivor
(2012)
a man, or a woman or a child who has suffered harm as a result of a mine, ERW or cluster munition accident.

3.286. survivor assistance
see victim assistance

3.287. suspected hazardous area
SHA
(2013)
an area where there is reasonable suspicion of explosive ordnance contamination on the basis of indirect evidence of the presence of mines/ERW.

3.288. sustainability
(2009)
in the context of mine action evaluation, the term refers to .... the continuation of benefits from a mine action intervention after major assistance has been completed.
3.289. switch
(2019)
a device for making, breaking or changing a connection [UNMAS IED Lexicon]

Note: a single switch can have multiple functions i.e. arming and firing

3.290. systematic investigation
(2013)
a systematic process of applying technical survey in a SHA/CHA. It is typically used where there are no areas within the SHA/CHA that are more likely to contain mines/ERW, than others.

[ T ]

3.291. targeted investigation
(2013)
the investigation during technical survey of certain areas within a SHA/CHA that are more likely to contain mines/ERW.

3.292. task identification number
task ID
a unique number used to designate a hazardous area. Task identification numbers shall be allocated by the NMAA.

3.293. technical survey
(2013)
refers to the collection and analysis of data, using appropriate technical interventions, about the presence, type, distribution and surrounding environment of explosive ordnance contamination, in order to define better where explosive ordnance contamination is present, and where it is not, and to support land release prioritisation and decision making processes through the provision of evidence.

3.294. test
determination of one or more characteristics according to a procedure. [ISO 9000:2000]

3.295. Test and Evaluation
T&E
activities associated with the testing of hardware and software.

Note: Activities include the formation and use of procedures and standards, the reduction and processing of data and the assessment and evaluation of test results and processed data against criteria such as defined standards and specifications.

3.296. test site
(2005)
the site at which a series of test boxes or lanes are prepared for the purpose of operational accreditation testing of mine detection dog(s).

3.297. theft resistant
(2004)
construction designed to deter and/or delay illegal entry into facilities used for the storage of explosives.

3.298.

time
(2018)
A type of switch that functions after a period of time.

3.299.

TNT (2, 4, 6 Trinitrotoluene)
one of the most widely used military high explosives. TNT is very stable, non-hygroscopic and relatively insensitive to impact, friction, shock and electrostatic energy. TNT is the most widespread type of explosive used in mines and munitions.

3.300.

tolerable risk
risk which is accepted in a given context based on current values of society. [ISO Guide 51:1999(E)]

3.301.

trial
a series of tests organised in a systematic manner, the individual results of which lead to an overall evaluation of a component, equipment or system.

3.302.

triangulation
(2009)
in the context of mine action evaluation the term refers to .... the use of multiple theories, sources or types of information, or types of analysis to verify and substantiate an assessment. The sources of information may not necessarily be people but include documents, maps, photographs, satellite imagery etc.

3.303.

turning point
(2004)
a fixed point on the ground which indicates a change in direction of the perimeter of the hazardous area. It shall be clearly marked and recorded. Buried metal objects should be used to mark all turning points for permanent future reference.

3.304.

unexploded bomblet
(2009)
an explosive bomblet that has been dispersed, released or otherwise separated from a dispenser and has failed to explode as intended. [CCM]

3.305.

unexploded ordnance
UXO
explosive ordnance that has been primed, fuzed, armed or otherwise prepared for use or used. It may have been fired, dropped, launched or projected yet remains unexploded either through malfunction or design or for any other reason.

3.306.

unexploded submunition
(2009)
an explosive submunition that has been dispersed or released by, or otherwise separated from, a cluster munition and has failed to explode as intended. [CCM]
the rates agreed and accepted for specific priced activity items and quantities stated in a contract.

the focal point within the UN system for all mine-related activities.

Note: UNMAS is the office within the UN Secretariat responsible to the international community for the development and maintenance of IMAS.

Note: UNICEF is the focal point for MRE, within the guidelines of UNMAS overall coordination.

3.309. user (2009)
a man or a woman or an organisation that will operate the equipment.

Note: For the purpose of mine action, the user could also be defined as ‘a composite body of informed and authoritative opinions on the needs of national commercial and NGO users, today and in the future’.

3.310. validation
the act of ratification that takes place after a process of verification.

3.311. vector data
the use of X, Y coordinates to locate three basic types of landscape features; point, line and areas.

Note: Points (towns, incident locations etc) are represented by a single pair of X, Y coordinates. Lines (roads, rivers etc) are represented by a series of X, Y coordinate points connected in order. Areas or polygons (lakes, boundaries etc) are represented by a set of X, Y coordinates closing on itself and implying its interior.

3.312. verification
confirmation, through the provision of objective evidence that specified requirements have been fulfilled. [ISO 9000:2000]

3.313. victim (2012)
persons either individually or collectively who have suffered physical, emotional and psychological injury, economic loss or substantial impairment of their fundamental rights through acts or omissions related to the use of mines or the presence of ERW. Victims include directly impacted individuals, their families, and communities affected by landmines and ERW.

Note: in the context of victim assistance, the term may include …. dependants or other persons in the immediate environment of an explosive ordnance casualty, hence having a broader meaning than survivor.

3.314. victim assistance
see survivor assistance (2004)
refers to all aid, relief, comfort and support provided to victims (including survivors) with the purpose of reducing the immediate and long-term medical and psychological implications of their trauma.

3.315. *victim operated*  
(2018)  
A type of switch designed to be initiated by a victim’s presence, proximity, contact or activity causing a device to function that may injure or kill one or more persons.

3.316. *visitor*  
(2004)  
for the purposes of IMAS, a person who is neither a member of the demining organisation, nor a demining worker accredited by the NMAA.

Note: In circumstances where the NMAA does not have an accreditation system the demining organisation should determine the status of non-employees.

3.317. *white phosphorous (WP)*  
(2004)  
a chemical smoke screening agent which burns in contact with air, (with serious anti-personnel affect if the phosphorous comes in direct contact with people).

3.318. *workplace*  
all places where employees need to be or to go by reason of their work and which are under the direct or indirect control of the employer. [ILO R164]
Annex A
(normative)

Guidance for the management of terminology in IMAS

1 Scope
This document establishes guidelines for the management of terminology within the IMAS framework. It is also intended to guide national mine action authorities in the management of terminology. Note: This document is based on the English language. Some of this guidance may need to be adapted to the specific rules applicable to other languages.

2 Terms and definitions
For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in IMAS 04.10 (and the following) apply.

2.1 management of terminology
process of documenting terms and definitions in a systematized and orderly fashion

2.2 term
verbal designation of a concept in a specific domain or subject

2.3 domain
field of special knowledge

Note to entry: If a domain is subdivided, the result is again a domain albeit at a higher level of detail.

EXAMPLE Land release and explosive ordnance risk education are domains of mine action
EXAMPLE Clearance, animal detection systems, mechanical demining are domains of land release.

2.4 circular definition
explanation of a term that relies on reference to the term itself or a close synonym

2.5 synonyms
different terms which designate the same concept or refer to the same definition

EXAMPLE ‘Ammunition’ and ‘munition’ are synonyms.

2.6 quasi-synonyms
different terms which have almost identical definitions

EXAMPLE  Within IMAS ‘demining’ and ‘land release’ are quasi-synonyms

2.7 homonyms
terms that are written and pronounced identically but have different definitions

EXAMPLE  ‘Can’ meaning ‘be able’ and ‘can’ meaning ‘put something in a container’ are homonyms

2.8 homophones
terms that are phonetically identical but written differently

EXAMPLE  ‘Peace’ and ‘piece’ are homophones

2.9 homographs
terms that are written identically but pronounced differently

EXAMPLE  ‘Lead’ has two different meaning depending on its pronunciation

2.10 antonym
term representing an opposite concept of that represented by another term

EXAMPLE  ‘permissive’ and ‘non-permissive’.

3 General requirements for the management of terms

Oxford English spelling shall be used for terms and definitions.

Only terms designating a concept specific to mine action shall:
- be defined;
- be recorded in IMAS 04.10 with its definition and abbreviated form where applicable.

One term should correspond to one concept and one concept should correspond to one term. Every effort shall be made to avoid the use of a single term for multiple concepts, or of multiple terms for a single concept.

A term defined in IMAS 04.10 shall not be used to designate a different concept in an IMAS chapter, Technical Note for Mine Action (TNMA) or Test & Evaluation Protocol (T&EP).

A term contains one or more words, for example ‘accreditation’, ‘mine action’, ‘explosive ordnance risk education’.

Homonyms, homophones and homographs should be avoided when developing terms and definitions. For example, within IMAS the term clearance is defined and understood as tasks or actions to ensure the removal and/or the destruction of all Explosive Ordnance from a specified area to a specified depth or other agreed parameters as stipulated by the NMAA/Tasking
Authority. The use of the term clearance to refer to an official permission that is given to somebody before they can work somewhere, have particular information, or do something they want to do should be avoided.

Every effort shall be made to avoid contradictions occurring in terminological entries across IMAS chapters, TNMA and T&EPs.

Only the concepts relevant to the domain, subject or scope of IMAS chapters, TNMA and T&EPs shall be defined within a document. For example, when developing or revising an IMAS document, an already defined term shall not be used with a different meaning.

Synonyms and quasi-synonyms should be harmonized.

4 General requirements for the management of definitions

A definition shall be such that it can replace the term in context (principle of substitution). As such, a definition should take the form of a single phrase.

Additional information may be included in a Note to entry or an Example.

Definitions should not:

- be circular (for example, a confirmed hazardous area refers to an area where hazards have been confirmed).
- be negative (for example, a confirmed hazardous area is a hazardous area that is not a suspected hazardous area).
- indicate a requirement, method or specification that is to be applied, to conform to IMAS. Precisely, it should not contain the term “shall”.
- indicate a preferred requirement, method or specification. Precisely, it should not contain the term “should”.
- indicate a possible method or course of action. Precisely, it should not contain the term “may”.

Where relevant, gender-neutral terms shall be used instead of their gendered equivalent. For example, “staff” rather than “manpower”. Where relevant, the use of gendered pronouns, e.g., he/his or she/her shall be avoided.

IMAS 04.10 is the terminology standard for the IMAS framework. Each IMAS chapter, TNMA and T&EP contains a “Terms and definitions” clause.

When a concept is already defined and designated by a term contained in IMAS 04.10, this term and definition shall be used in relevant IMAS chapters, TNMA and T&EPs. The person or group responsible for the review, revision or development of an IMAS document shall verify if the terms and definitions needed are not already included in IMAS 04.10.

When a new or revised term and/or definition specific to mine action is approved by the IMAS governance system, the term shall then be included in the IMAS 04.10.

All terms and definitions contained in IMAS 04.10 are understood to apply to mine action. If a particular term or definition applies to a specific domain within mine action, then this should be explicitly indicated. In general, self-explanatory terms existing beyond mine action should not be included in IMAS 04.10. Terms existing beyond mine action may be included in specific IMAS chapters, TNMA or T&EP if they contribute to the clarity of the considered document. For
example, the definition of the terms ‘employer’ and ‘employee’ in IMAS 10.10 helps to clarify their respective responsibilities relating to safety and occupational health.

5 Storing of terms and definitions in IMAS 04.10

5.1 Terminology entries

Defined terms designating a concept specific to mine action or to one of its domains, i.e. a specific component of mine action such as explosive ordnance risk education or animal detection systems, shall be entered in IMAS 04.10.

Terms shall be entered in alphabetical order. They constitute entries. An entry number is attributed to each term. The order of the entry number shall follow the order of the terms.

5.2 Structure and format of terms and definitions

Terms and definitions are written according to the following convention.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component parts</th>
<th>Example</th>
<th>Formatting guidelines</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>entry number</td>
<td>3.198</td>
<td>• Written in bold.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Each term is attributed an entry number.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>term</td>
<td>blind testing</td>
<td>• Written in bold, lowercase letters.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>national mine action authority NMAA</td>
<td>• No punctuation (e.g. no full stop).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• An acronym of the term may be added directly below the term. Acronyms are written in uppercase letters.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>definition</td>
<td>&lt;ADS&gt; procedure to determine the ability of an animal to locate a test target, the location of which is unknown by the ADS handler</td>
<td>• The domain, or area of mine action, can be added before a definition.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Definitions are written in lowercase letters. acronyms are written in uppercase letters.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Definitions should not begin with an article (e.g. “a”, “the”) nor end with a full stop.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Note to entry</td>
<td>Note 1 to entry: Anti-personnel Mines include improvised explosive devices that fit the above definition.</td>
<td>• Notes to entry can be added to provide further information about a term.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• There may be multiple notes to entry. Each</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Legacy terms and definitions written using a different style and format, that were written prior to this guidance, will continue to be used in IMAS.

5.3  Amendments

Amendments to IMAS 04.10 shall be classified according to the following four categories:

- New terminology – relating to terms to be added to IMAS 04.10 and were therefore previously not included in the document.
- Deleted terminology – relating to terms that are considered by the mine action sector to be obsolete. For example, defined hazardous area is an obsolete term.
- Changed definitions – relating to existing terms within IMAS 04.10 which require modification.
- Changed term – relating to existing definition within IMAS 04.10 which require modifications, based on established evolutions within the mine action sector.

6  Use of terms and definitions in IMAS chapters, TNMA and T&EP

Only the concepts relevant to the domain, subject or scope of the considered IMAS chapter, TNMA or T&EP shall be defined. A term that is not used in an IMAS chapter, TNMA or T&EP shall not be entered in Clause 3 Terms and definitions. General, self-explanatory terms existing beyond mine action should not be included. For example, it is not necessary to include the term management and its definitions in IMAS chapters dealing with quality management or risk management.

If a concept specific to mine action or one of its domains is already designated by a defined term registered in IMAS 04.10, the entity responsible for the review, revision or development of an IMAS, TNMA or T&EP shall use it.

If a concept specific to mine action or one of its domains is not designated by a defined term, the entity responsible for the review, revision or development of an IMAS shall choose a term and define it.

If the entity responsible for the review, revision or development of an IMAS considers that an existing term and definition needs to be changed, it should provide the IMAS Review Board with the information concerning the modification proposed.

The entity responsible for the review, revision or development of an IMAS shall not draft a new definition deviating or contradicting an existing standardized definition unless the definition has become partially or entirely outdated.
The responsible entity shall clearly report any suggested new term and definition or modification to an existing term or definition to the IMAS Review Board.

When an IMAS chapter, TNMA or T&EP is adopted, the IMAS Review Board Secretary shall enter any new term specific to mine action or to one of its domains in IMAS 04.10.

7 Responsibilities

7.1 The IMAS Review Board Secretary shall ensure that:

a) new terminology will be entered into IMAS 04.10;
b) deleted terminology will be removed from IMAS 04.10 and archived in a repository;
c) changed definitions will be amended in all IMAS documents, where the definitions are present;
d) changed terms will be amended in all IMAS documents, where the terms are present.

7.2 The national mine action authority (NMAA) should ensure that:

a) there is a clear terminology for mine action activities;
b) this terminology is aligned with IMAS terminology;
c) any country-specific term is defined in accordance with this IMAS;
d) this terminology is available to mine action organizations.

In cases where a language other than English is used when adopting an IMAS term, the NMAA shall ensure identical technical content in the definition.

In cases where a language other than English is used, the terms and definitions:

● may be literal translations;
● shall not be freely translated, thereby giving rise to ambiguities;
● should observe the linguistic rules and conventions of the considered language.
Amendment record

Management of IMAS amendments

The IMAS series of standards are subject to formal review on a three-yearly basis, however this does not preclude amendments being made within these three-year periods for reasons of operational safety and efficiency or for editorial purposes.

As amendments are made to this IMAS they will be given a number, and the date and general details of the amendment shown in the table below. The amendment will also be shown on the cover page of the IMAS by the inclusion under the edition date of the phrase ‘incorporating amendment number(s) 1 etc.’

As the formal reviews of each IMAS are completed new editions may be issued. Amendments up to the date of the new edition will be incorporated into the new edition and the amendment record table cleared. Recording of amendments will then start again until a further review is carried out.

The most recently amended IMAS will be the versions that are posted on the IMAS website at www.mineactionstandards.org.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Amendment Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1      | 01 Dec 2004| 1. Formatting changes.  
2. Minor text editing changes.  
3. Substantive changes:  
a) New definitions: Abandoned Explosive Ordnance (AXO); agreement; air sampling machine; audit; Bomb Live Unit (BLU); buffer zone; CEN Workshop Agreement (CWA); contract; contractor; cost-plus contract; demining worker; demining worksite; destruction organisation; ductility; education; emanation; epidemic disease; filter box; filter cartridge; filter container; fixed price contract; flexible tube or pipe; force majeure; ground preparation; ground processing; harmful event; hazardous situation; historical verification; IATA; i/m; i/v; impact free; inspection; Landmine Impact Survey (LIS); letter of agreement; mechanical application; Mine Action Coordination Centre (MACC); mine action organisation; mine awareness; mine free; mine risk; mine risk reduction; mine safe; Mine Threat Level (MTL); MRE organisation; MRE partner; national authority; positive, negative and blank filters; post clearance inspection; preventative maintenance; principal; programme; project; project management; proposal; public information dissemination; quarantine; reasonably foreseeable misuse; recognition piece; reliable (mine action) information; s/c; steel; target substance; tender; tender process; test site; theft resistant; toughness (tensile); unit rate; village demining; visitor; weather resistant; White Phosphorous (WP). (72 definitions).  
b) Deleted definitions: expert opinion; mechanically-assisted clearance; public information.  
c) Changed definitions: accreditation; area reduction; benchmark; box; briefing area; burning ground; cancelled area (note only); cleared area (note only); community liaison (and note); control area or point; critical non-conformity; demilitarisation (note only); deminer; demining sub-unit; demolition ground; destruction; detection; disposal site; drill; General Mine Action Assessment (GMAA) (and note); health; inspection; IMSMA (note only); incident (change to the reference only); inert; intermediate point; licence; logistic disposal; magazine; mine action; Mine Risk Education (MRE); monitoring; non-sparking material; Preliminary Development (PD) (note only) (includes a ‘must’ changed to ‘should’); Quality Assurance (QA); Statement of Operational Need (SON); survey marker; survivor (landmine/ERW); technical survey; threat; turning point; United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) (note only); usable area (note only); victim; victim assistance. |
| 2      | 23 Jul 2005| 1. Clause 1, change to scope.  
2. Clause 2, new sub clause n).  
3. New definitions: Battle Area Clearance (BAC); European Normalisation (EN); Explosive Remnants of War (ERW). (3 definitions).  
4. Deleted definitions: air sampling machine; buffer zone; ductility; emanation; epidemic disease; filter box; filter cartridge; filter container; flexible tube or pipe; historical verification; i/m; i/v; I.A.T.A; mine safe; mine threat levels; organiser; positive, negative and blank filters; preventative maintenance; quarantine; s/c; target substance; toughness; weather resistance; undesirable scent; usable area. (25 definitions). |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Changes/Deletions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30 Jun 2009</td>
<td>1. Updated to include definition of IATG,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2. Updated definition of survivor and victim.</td>
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<td>3. Deleted definitions: donor, mechanical demining unit, standards (repeated),</td>
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<td></td>
<td>temporary marking system</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 May 2013</td>
<td>1. Definitions modified; SHA, CHA, TS, NTS, Clearance, LR, all reasonable effort,</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Targeted investigation, systematic investigation, cancelled land, cleared land,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Magazine</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Disposal, Time Activated IED (RCIED), Pressure Plate IED (PPIED), Propellant,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Vehicle Borne IED (VBIE), Victim Operated IED (VOIED).</td>
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<tr>
<td>27 July 2018</td>
<td>Scope updated</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Modified definitions: anti-personnel mine, Improvised Explosive Device, Counter</td>
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<td></td>
<td>IED, clearance, explosive ordnance</td>
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<tr>
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<td>3. Replaced 'mine/ERW' with 'explosive ordnance' in the following definitions;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>All reasonable effort, cancelled land, community liaison, confirmed hazardous area,</td>
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<td>impact, non-technical survey, proximity verification, reduced, residual risk,</td>
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<td>secondary fragmentation, technical survey</td>
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<td>15 Feb 2019</td>
<td>4. New definitions: anti-tank/vehicle mine, command, time, victim operated, residual contamination</td>
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<td>5. Definitions removed: Command Activated IED, Time Activated IED, Radio</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Controlled IED (RCIED), Pressure Plate IED (PPIED), Propellant, Vehicle Borne IED</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(VBIE), Victim Operated IED (VOIED).</td>
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<tr>
<td>22 Jun 2022</td>
<td>1. Amendment to NMMA and NMAC definition</td>
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<tr>
<td>17 Jan 2023</td>
<td>1. Addition of Annex A</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Correction in numbering</td>
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