

Awareness of EO on pre-monsoon Preparedness



Session Overview

1. Introduction to Explosive Ordnance causality and incident data 2023 (Country Wide)
2. Introduction to key concepts of Explosive Ordnance Risk Education in Myanmar
3. Feedback and Learning: Key EORE Safety Messages
4. Monsoons/inclement weather and increased risk from Explosive Ordnance

EO Incidents Information in 2023

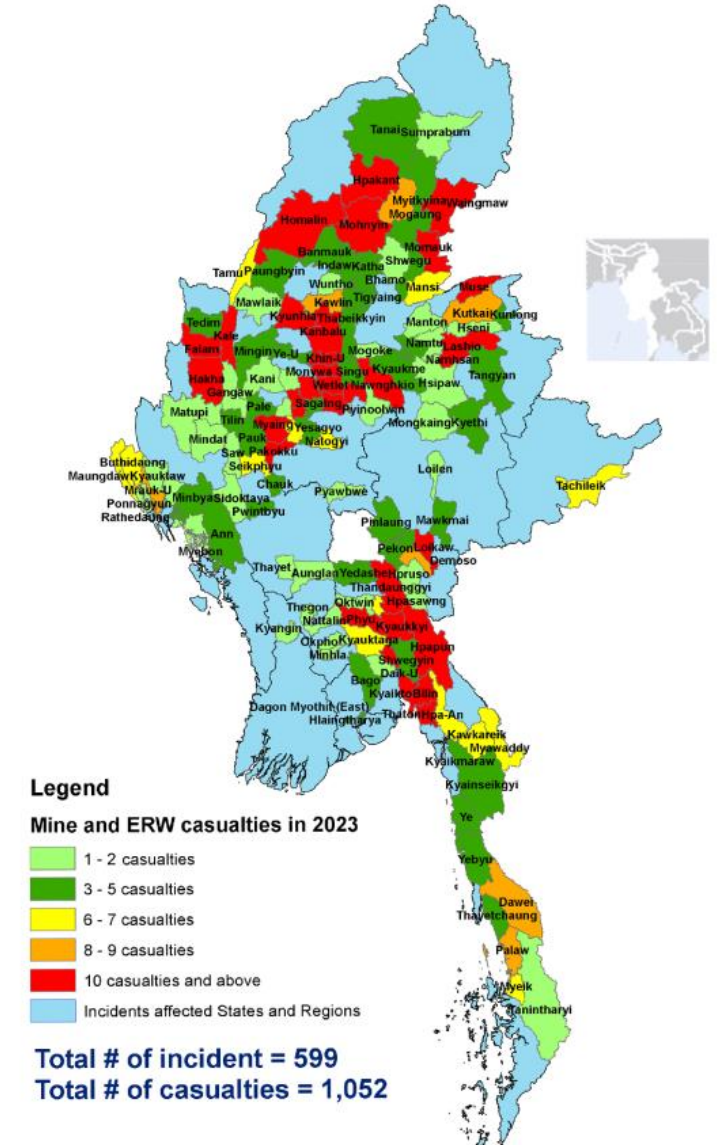
Overview of incidents and casualties in 2023

Total incidents		599		
Total Victims		Killed	Maimed	Total
		188	864	1,052
Adult	Total Adult	129	697	826
	Male	94	472	566
	Female	35	225	260
Child	Total Child	59	167	226
	Male	52	116	168
	Female	7	51	58

States/Regions most affected by Landmines/EO in 2023

1. Sagaing Region (35% of total casualties)
2. Shan State (12% of total casualties)
3. Bago Region (9% of total casualties)

289 other incidents resulting in 457 casualties (43% of total casualties) were also documented in Ayeyarwady, Chin, Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Magway, Mandalay, Mon, Rakhine, Tanintharyi and Yangon. This figures only reflect civilian casualties.



Group Exercise

1. Explosive Ordinance Threat
2. Explosive Ordinance Recognition
3. Dangerous Areas/ Safe Areas
4. Safe Behaviours

Explosive Ordinance Threat

- Explosive Ordnances in Myanmar are having a devastating impact on people. One of the highest EO incident rates in the world. Almost everyday someone dies or gets injured by EO.
- Despite the intended military purposes, EO have severe humanitarian consequences. Remain active long after conflicts end, continuing to threaten civilian lives, obstruct development, and disrupt livelihoods in affected regions.
- The indiscriminate nature of EO and do not distinguish between combatants and civilians, leading to terrible accidents and loss of innocent lives.
- Landmines can kill or injure adults and children, soldier, anyone. Injuries are severe. You may lose your hands, your legs, your eyes or a combination of all.
- They are effected psychologically, physically and socio-economically

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MAG Basic Safety Messages – Explosive Ordnance



- Explosive Ordnance (UXO) also come in many shapes, sizes and forms (rockets, mortars, grenades, shells, bullets etc.)
- They are usually launched, thrown, fired or dropped during conflict and explode on impact
- Sometimes when they are launched they do not explode and remain extremely unstable and dangerous

Beware ! If you see something you do not recognize it could be a EO – Never touch it!

Dangerous Areas

- Always be careful and stay on safe and known paths, do not take shortcuts, and never go at night into these areas.
- Because Explosive Ordnances are well hidden and sometimes buried underground **it is difficult to know where they are**
- In order to avoid Explosive Ordnances **you need to know some of the common areas they can be found and recognize clues** that indicate Explosive Ordnances are present

Dangerous Areas

- **Do NOT go into or near Former Conflict Areas (barracks, training fields)**
- **Do NOT go near Dead Animals / carcasses**
- **Do NOT go into or near Damaged Infrastructure (bridges)**
- **Do NOT go near Electric towers & plants**
- **Do NOT go into or near Known former accident locations**





Be careful when going into these areas after conflict !

Not every road/water source/food source etc. will be mined but be careful if you know these areas were important during the war

Clues indicating mines/UXO can be present:

- **Areas are abandoned/people do not go there – vegetation is high, paths are not used**
- **Area contains signs of combat : trenches, abandoned military vehicles or camps**
- **Accidents are known to have happened**
- **Area contains dead/injured animals (skeleton)**
- **Area is marked by a local or international danger sign**

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MAG Basic Safety Messages

Safe Behavior

- **Avoid going into dangerous areas**
- **Stay on the safe (used) path / ask which is the safe (used) path when you go to a new area**
- **Don't take the path through an unknown area just because it is quicker (no short cuts)**

**NEVER TOUCH, MOVE, HIT, THROW
OR BURN EO!**

What to do if you think you are in a contaminated area / suspected area?

- **STOP WALKING** immediately
- **WARN OTHERS** not to come any closer
- **DO NOT TOUCH OR APPROACH** the item
- **LOOK** very carefully behind you and retrace your footsteps exactly
- When you arrive at the safe path (where people pass every day) **MARK IT** to warn that there is a dangerous area
- **INFORM** local authorities, your friends, family and the community that there is a danger and where it is

What to do if you think you are in a contaminated area / minefield?

CHILDREN

CHILDREN SHOULD **NOT** be encouraged to retrace their steps –they should wait for help

CHILDREN SHOULD **NOT** mark a dangerous area – they should inform an adult who can mark the entry to the dangerous area

Monsoons and Increased Risk of EO

- Heavy rain, floods, landslides etc can disturb Explosive Ordnance, landmines and UXOs
- Beware! Contamination may have moved even in areas where conflict has not happened for a long time



Erosion after flooding uncovers landmines in Cambodia - 2023

LANDMINE (AND OTHER EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE) CONTAMINATION AND INCIDENTS IN CYCLONE MOCHA'S RED ZONE



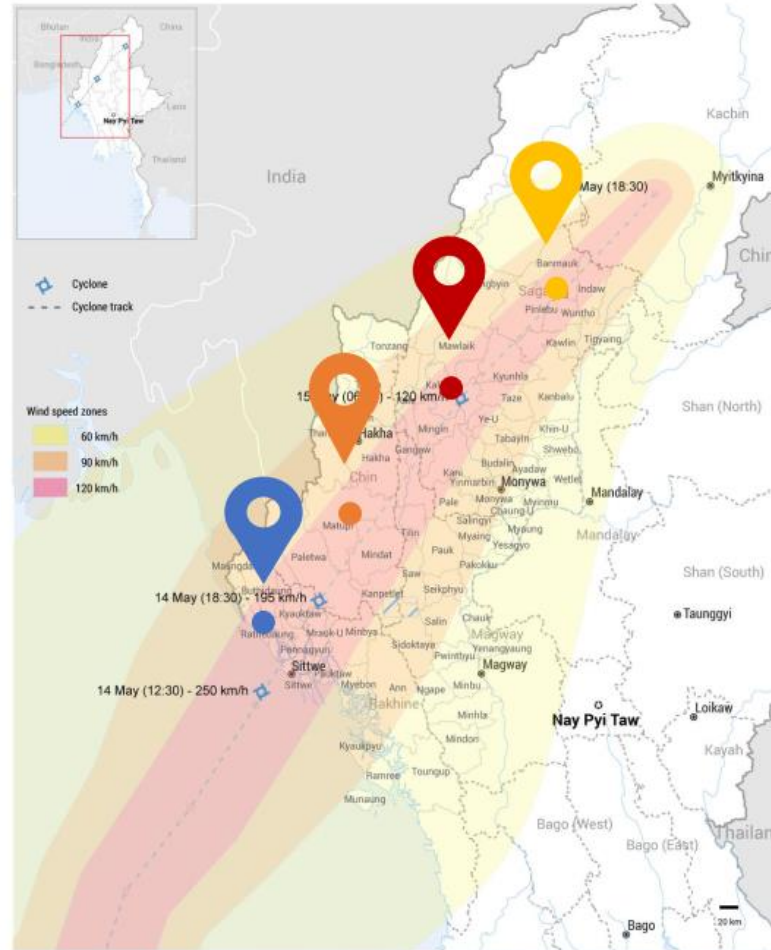
Incidents

Over 60% of the landmine incidents reported in the first quarter of 2023 are from areas recently affected by cyclone Mocha



Red zone

90% of the incidents are reported from the red zone where winds of over 120km/h have been recorded



High confidence of contamination

47% of villages surveyed have reported high confidence of contamination (evidence of landmines reported)



Low confidence of contamination

48% of villages surveyed have reported low confidence of contamination (people suspicious of landmine contamination)

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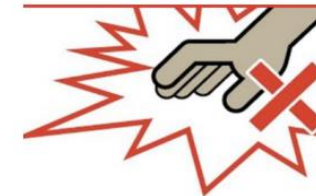


Heavy Rain, Floods, landslides etc can disturb landmines and unexploded ordinances, they may have been moved during the cyclone. Be aware! If you see something that you do not recognize it could be a landmine or a UXO - do not touch it, move it or hit it! Report to the representative community!



CLEAN UP SAFELY AFTER CYCLONE MOCHA

Be careful when removing debris! Landmines and other other explosive ordinances may have been washed away! Do not touch landmines! Report if you see anything suspicious! Keep children away from the debris!







Questions?