

HMA in OPT: the EO threat and sector-wide response



Explosive Ordnance threat in OPT



Gaza:

- ★ **>450 EO items** found
- ★ **>170 victims** of EO reported
- ★ **Potential contamination** impedes humanitarian and early recovery efforts



West Bank:

- ★ The number of EO identified in the West Bank in 2024 has increased to **over 2,200 compared** with 250 in 2023*
- ★ **100 victims** of EO reported in 2024 - a sharp increase compared with previous years*

*PMAC data

Current HMA response



Allows humanitarian response to continue despite the EO threat

Prioritizes sustainability by empowering local actors to conduct mine action activities

EOD response **EORE activities**



Reduce the risk of civilian deaths and injuries caused by explosive ordnance



Capacity building EORE activities



Coordination and information management



Creates a harmonized, efficient mine action response



Current HMA response

When EO is identified:

- Items **marked** and **cordoned**
- **EORE** provided to nearby communities



When no EO is identified:

- Organizations can **begin using sites or routes productively** for humanitarian activities





After Explosive Hazard Assessment



Protecting Children From Explosive Ordnance

- **Over 400,000 children** reached with life-saving EORE in Gaza and the West Bank through mass media and community-based interventions (2024-Q1 2025), with mass messaging scale up (SMS, radio, social media) during the ceasefire in Gaza (Q1) .
- **Integrated victim assistance** includes referrals to medical, protection, MHPSS, cash, and rehabilitation services.
- In the West Bank, UNICEF and partners **trained 82 professionals (ToT) to deliver EORE**.
- **26,000 awareness materials** and games distributed to support EORE outreach to children and caregivers, especially in Jenin, Tulkarem, and Tubas (WB).
- **40 puppet shows** underway to engage children in safe behaviors around UXOs



From Awareness to Action: a Lifesaving Continuum

- **Over 2,000 children** with conflict-related injuries identified and referred for support and assistance.
- Grave violations against children including ERW incidents **documented through the MRM**
 - *20 children reported killed or injured in Q1 2025 ceasefire, highlighting risks*
- **Coordination** with Child Protection and Mine Action actors through EORE-CPP TWG and CP AoR
- **Urgent Ask: Sustain investment in EORE and child-centered victim assistance**

“I used to collect bullet shells for fun. I didn’t know they could kill me. After the session, I promised to never touch anything again — and to protect my friends too.”

— Abdul Qader, 11, Gaza



Gaps in Response



The programme takes an **18-month** perspective starting Jan 2025, loosely spanning three phases:

Phase 1

Phase 2

Phase 3

Ongoing emergency response

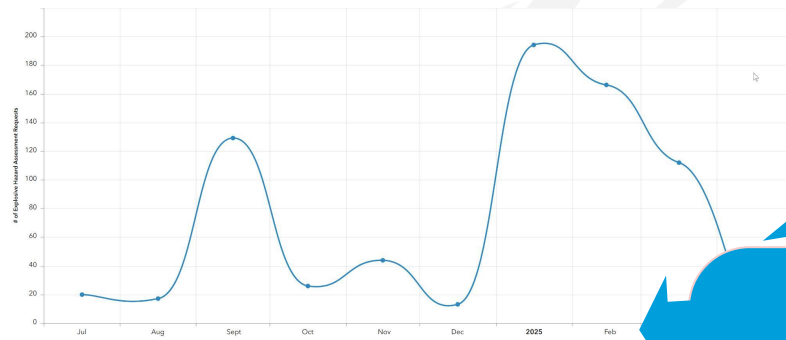
Scaled-up delivery in immediate post-war scenario and early recovery

Reconstruction response

The programme currently has a **\$15m funding gap**. Some key gaps for 2025:

- **Scaled-up EOD response (~10 mil to provide 18 EOD teams throughout Gaza for 7 months)**
- **Coordination capacity** to support the sector's response
- **Risk education capacity**
- **Other support costs** to the programme's operations

Gaps in Response



← EHA requests - Jul 2024 - March 2025

↓ EHA requests - Dec 2024 vs Jan 2025



A significantly increased mine action capacity is needed in oPt to respond to this significant surge of requests and demand



Date: 26-11-2024
No: 2445

Service (UNMAS)

Training and Equipment Requirement

ments of the Palestinian Civil Police General

press our interest in cooperation between our disposal Department and the UNMAS and we building the capacity of the staff of this developing and implementing national levels, as well as giving advice in management and reporting in accordance with the local and international standards, so that our EOD staff have the ability to perform their tasks more professionally.

Since October 2023, our Explosive Ordnance Disposal units operations have increased and our main challenge is lack of equipment and training.

Please find attached a document with the list of equipment and tools that our EOD units have lacks in, and we seek your assistance in providing us with them and with the related training in order for our units to fulfill their sensitive role efficiently.

State of Palestine
Ministry of Interior
Palestine Mine Action Center
04/11/2024



دولة فلسطين
وزارة الداخلية
المركز الفلسطيني لمكافحة الألغام

Ms. Ilene Cohn,
Director / United Nations Mine Action Service
UNMAS / Headquarters

Continued Support of UNMAS for the Palestinian Mine Action Center

The Palestinian Mine Action Center extends its warmest greetings to you. With reference to the above subject, we at the Palestinian Mine Action Center consider UNMAS to be our primary partner and supporter since the establishment of the center. You have been, and continue to be, our essential partner and supporter.

We hope for your continued support for the center and for building the capacities of our team to manage activities related to mines and Explosive Ordnance in the West Bank, as well as preparing for future operations in the Gaza Strip. Additionally, we seek to develop the necessary strategic plans to organize our work, including training plans at both the institutional and individual levels, quality control management, and data management, all aimed at ensuring compliance with national and international standards.

Therefore, the Palestinian Mine Action Center looks forward to more support, and collaborative work with UNMAS, so that the center can fulfill its duties and achieve its objectives.

General / Osama Abuhanana
Director Of Palestinian Mine Action Center



↑ PA requests for support - Nov 2024



NDM 28

UN