



TERMS OF REFERENCE

Consultancy for the production of a report on “The impact of contamination by UXO from bombing and shelling on access to services in Ninewa Governorate (Iraq)”

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1. Presentation of the service

Title of the project:	The impact of contamination by UXO from bombing and shelling on access to services in Ninewa Governorate (Iraq)
Handicap International Programme:	Advocacy and Institutional Relations
Objective of the service:	Report
Duration of the service:	15 working days (Between March & mid-July 2021)
Location of the service:	Consultant's usual work location and fieldwork in the Ninewa
ToR last updated:	20/01/2021
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2. Presentation of the Report

2-1- Why this Report?

Since 2016, HI has documented the indiscriminate harm caused by the use of explosive weapons in populated areas (EWIPA), focusing on the immediate and reverberating effects, namely casualties, displacement, psychological harm, destruction of civilian infrastructure (health centers, water and sanitation systems, transport systems etc). In this report focusing on the Iraqi context, we would like to draw attention to the specific risks and long term threats posed by UXO contamination to civilians. **The report will describe the impacts of contamination by unexploded ordnances from bombing and shelling on access to services and socio-economic recovery for affected communities, and propose concrete policy recommendations on how to address these impacts.**

As the global momentum to address the use of explosive weapons in populated areas is to come to fruition in 2021, with planned adoption of a political declaration to prevent the harm from explosive weapons, it is of the utmost importance to ensure that the process addresses the risks caused by explosive ordnance contamination and to demonstrate the dire need for scaling-up comprehensive mine action in affected areas.

Country context

Ninewa Governorate is located in northern Iraq, at the border with Syria. It is Iraq's third largest and second most populated governorate, with Mosul as capital. Other important districts of the governorate include Sinjar, Telafar, Tilkaif, Al-Shikhan and Akre. From 2014 to 2017, several belligerents (ISIL, other Islamists groups, Iraqi government military and its allied forces) engaged in intense fighting for control over the area, with major offensives in 2017 such as the battle of Mosul, the battle of Telefar, the Hawija battle etc. Occupation by Islamist groups and intensive military operations resulted in massive displacement of population, destruction of infrastructure and unprecedented level of contamination by unexploded ordnances from bombing and shelling.¹ The level of

¹ Government of Iraq and the World Bank Group, "Iraq Reconstruction and Investment, Part II: Damage and Needs Assessment of Affected Governorates," January 2018.

contamination is a continuous threat for civilians, especially as displaced population is returning to their areas of origin following the closure of IDP camps.²

Mine action experts, among which HI, have estimated that clearing of massively contaminated areas from unexploded ordnances will take years, if not decades. In the densely populated urban areas, such as Mosul, urban clearance is particularly challenging for mine action operators.³

In addition to the increased risks of accidents leading to injuries, permanent impairments and death, contamination is also likely to seriously undermine the socio-economic recovery efforts, hinder the return of displaced populations and impede access to basic services and livelihood opportunities.

2-2- Report's objectives

This report aims at identifying and describing the impacts of contamination by unexploded ordnances from bombing and shelling on access to services and socio-economic recovery for affected communities, in Ninewa governorate (Iraq). It will:

1. Draw on existing evidence to assess the level of contamination caused by bombing and shelling in Ninewa Governorate, look into the contamination of landmines, including those of improvised nature.
2. Draw on existing and new evidence to identify and describe how contamination by unexploded ordnances from bombing and shelling has affected:
 - Civilians,
 - Infrastructure,
 - Access to services.
3. Identify actionable recommendations addressed to policy-makers to respond to the long-term impacts on affected communities, with a special focus on disability, age and gender, and within the frame of the implementation of a political declaration to prevent the harm caused by the use of explosive weapons in populated areas.

2-3- Advocacy targets of the Report

- States involved in the development of political declaration, states that haven't adopted the declaration:

Namely Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Ministries of Defence representatives, States Representatives in New York & Geneva mission.

Key donors on comprehensive mine action.

- Members of Parliaments in countries where INEW parliamentary campaign is active.

Namely France, Belgium, Germany, Luxembourg, Belgium, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Norway and UK.

- International organisations:

- Civil society networks and other NGOs:

² REACH Initiative, "Rapid Overview of Areas of Return (ROAR): Sinjar and Surrounding Areas," May 2018

³ HI, MAG, NPA, "A Persistent Danger: Unexploded Ordnance in Populated Areas", February 2020

At international level and national level.

- General public targeted through media.

Secondary advocacy targets include: academia and expert community on EWIPA.

2-4- Methodology

A Consultant, with expert knowledge on long term impact of contamination on access to services and economic recovery, will be recruited to:

- Support the elaboration of a detailed study protocol;
- Develop data collection tools and implement data collection in accordance with protocol,
- Provide a draft report based on the evidence collected.

First elements of chosen methodology:

- **Draw on existing evidence to assess the level of contamination caused by bombing and shelling in Ninewa Governorate, look into the contamination of landmines, including those of improvised nature.**

We will base our analysis on the data available for the Ninewa Governorate, from national authorities, agencies and international organisations, mine action experts.

The objective is to highlight the level of devastation caused by explosive weapons with wide area effects, and assess the subsequent contamination.

- **Draw on existing and new evidence to identify and describe how contamination by unexploded ordnances from bombing and shelling has affected:**
 - ✓ Civilians: survivors of weapon incidents and their families, affected population living in contaminated areas, and population obliged to stay outside of the contaminated areas,
 - ✓ Infrastructures (reconstruction efforts),
 - ✓ Access to social services such as health, education, social protection, livelihood and food security.

We will base our analysis on the data released immediately after the ceasefire, as well as most recent data on contamination available for the Ninewa Governorate, interviews with key officials and authorities, agencies and international organisations, mine action experts, civil society organisations, community leaders, and affected population as much as possible. The objective is to highlight how these impacts limit access to services for most at risk populations, especially returnees and displaced populations, and taking into account intersecting factors of vulnerability such as disability, gender and age.

- **Identify the policy recommendations to respond to the long term impacts on access to services for affected communities, with a special focus on disability, age and gender, and within the frame of the implementation of a political declaration to prevent the harm caused by the use of explosive weapons in populated areas.**

Concrete recommendations identified will focus on immediate and long term actions in the different components of mine action. We will take into consideration vulnerability factors

arising from disability, age and gender to ensure that the most at risk of victims are included in the response.

2-5- Ethics

The different steps of the production of the report will be implemented in accordance with HI's ethical principles. We will develop this activity with all necessary caution to avoid exposing our staff, partners and the populations with whom we work to danger.

We will ensure that high ethical and rigorous research standards are maintained, by following HI's principles for ethical management of data, HI internal policies on PSEA and child protection.

In compliance with the principle of non-discrimination, we fully recognize the importance of adapting our methods to the specific context of Iraq, for which we will rely on the advice and guidance of the Iraq program, and we will ensure systematic attention given to disability, gender and age.

When partners, local colleagues or beneficiaries will be involved, we will ensure the respect of their dignity, namely by:

- Ensuring that the report or any other outputs of the study contribute to amplify the voices of the most affected population and to challenge injustice and exclusion, but do not reinforce negative stereotypes, biases, post-colonial thinking or white savior gaze;
- Ensuring that individual consent is properly collected for every picture, testimony or quote;
- Respecting copyright and obtain permissions from the photographers;
- Ensuring that the final outputs are never used for commercial purposes.

3. Presentation of the service

3-1- Overall objective of the consultancy service

The consultant will ensure implementation (protocol finalisation & administrative authorisations), execution (collection, processing & analysis) of the study. The consultant will deliver a coherent, consolidated draft report, based on the study findings.

3-2- Expected results of the service

(1) A written protocol is finalised.

Based on the terms of reference provided by HI, the technical proposal of the consultant, and in collaboration with the Information & Publication Manager, a protocol is finalised. This document provides the key elements of the study's implementation and contains, a *minima*: an introduction specifying the study/research context, providing a brief situational analysis, and describing the study/research's value; presentation of the objectives (general & specific), with target population, location; presentation of the detailed methodological framework: study design, selection of participants, data collection, data processing, data analysis, quality

monitoring mechanisms; responsibilities of the expert and of HI; timeline; budget; ethical considerations.

(2) Relevant data collection tools (matrix for the literature review, quantitative data analysis and interview guides) are produced. Interviews or focus groups are organised with selected targets. All collected data is analysed and interpreted to assess the level of contamination caused by bombing and shelling in Ninewa Governorate, and to identify and describe how contamination by unexploded ordnances from bombing and shelling has affected civilians, infrastructure and access to services.

(3) A report, including recommendations is produced.

The main output will be a report of 30-40 pages. The report will provide specific recommendations to respond to the long term impacts on access to services for affected communities, with a special focus on disability, age and gender and their intersectionality, and within the frame of the implementation of a political declaration to prevent the harm caused by the use of explosive weapons in populated areas.

3-3- Deliverables & timeline of the service

	Deliverables	Recipients	Dissemination	Delivery deadlines
Technical Documents relative to study implementation				
1-	Final Protocol	HI	Internal	By end of March 2021
2-	Final data collection tools	HI	Internal	By end of March 2021
3-	Transcribed material & databases	HI	Internal	By end of the consultancy
Mid-term Documents				
7-	1 Draft report	HI	Internal	By end of June
	1 Final report		External	By 15 th July
8-	1 memo on lesson learnt from the implementation of the study	HI	Internal	By end of the consultancy
Workshops/Meetings				
9-	1 Meeting with key contributors to present study protocol and prepare literature review (2h)	HI	Internal	By end of March
11-	1 Meeting with key contributors to discuss findings; formulate recommendations (2h)	HI	Internal	By end of June

The consultant accepts that Humanity & Inclusion may reproduce the methodological proposal and use the tools developed for data collection in other contexts or projects.

3-4- Mechanisms for communication and monitoring between the Consultant and Humanity & Inclusion

The recruitment and mission of the consultant will be supervised by an internal committee involving all relevant internal stakeholders, including relevant in-house experts. Advocacy Unit's Information & Publication Manager will follow up the whole process to ensure that the methodology is consistent throughout the project. She will assess the quality and adequacy of the deliverables submitted by the consultant.

A final evaluation will be conducted focusing on overall achievements of objectives, key recommendations for ensuring continuity, lessons learned.

3-5- Data collection in the country of intervention

The consultant will operate independently to the management of HI program in Iraq. Therefore, he/she will arrange for his/her own transportation, accommodation, administrative management of official requests and authorisations, or any other elements which he/she should consider in view of his activity in the country of intervention. However, when support is required and HI has the capacity to assist, HI can facilitate authorizations and access to specific areas of intervention or people.

Cost of incurred expenses shall be included by the consultant in the overall invoice.

3-6- Payment modality

Taxes relating to services provided by a consultant not registered in Belgium are payable directly by HI to the Belgian tax authorities. It is therefore the amount excluding tax of the service that will be paid by HI to the consultant.

Payment of the service will be made in three installments upon reception of invoices:

- 30% upon signature of the contract,
- 40% upon delivery of the final output (final report) by the consultant,
- 30% upon validation of the final output by HI.

4. Requested profile

4.1 Requested profile

A disarmament expert or team of experts, with proven expertise in secondary, quantitative and qualitative data collection, treatment and analysis for the assessment of the humanitarian impact of UXO contamination, and knowledge of the Iraqi context. .

4.2 Expertise

Mandatory:

- ✓ Minimum Diploma Master's degree: Peace, Conflict Management; Political Science; Anthropology; Social Sciences; Disability and Community Rehabilitation, Law; Diplomacy and International relations; Information and Technology,
- ✓ At least 5 years of experience in similar projects, demonstrated ability in conducting applied research and in writing quality publications (provide a list of publications)
- ✓ Experience working in disarmament, disability and/or protection sectors,
- ✓ Knowledge of the Iraqi context,
- ✓ Demonstrated ability to facilitate interviews and focus groups,
- ✓ Excellent written and oral communication skills through a proven record of successful interaction with individuals from a diverse array of backgrounds, including government officials, women, people with disabilities, CSOs, etc.
- ✓ Excellent analytical skills, ability to conduct evidence-based policy analysis,
- ✓ IT skills - MS Office applications (Excel, Word and Power Point)
- ✓ Knowledge of working language (written & oral): English mandatory,
- ✓ Understanding and adherence to HI's values and ethics.

Desired:

- ✓ Experience in a country of operation with an international non-governmental organisation is an asset
- ✓ Knowledge of working languages (written & oral): Arabic strongly recommended, French also a plus.

5. Application process

Applications must include:

- Technical proposal with key elements of proposed study implementation and a financial proposal including, a *minima*, details of consultancy fees
- Curriculum Vitae (training, experience in the areas mentioned above, lists of key publications)
- References
- A letter of motivation

Please, send all required documents **by 24/02/2021** to the following address: a.beaujolais@hi.org