



**HUMANITARIAN MINE ACTION:
EXAMINING THE PAST
TO PROMOTE FUTURE SUCCESS**

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Why Is This a “New” Problem in the Late 1980s and 1990s?



- Changing nature of the threat
 - Conventional to unconventional use of landmines
 - New technologies, new applications
- Largely ignored during the Cold-War era
- Landmines as “economy of effort” weapons (used in asymmetrical warfare)



Late 1980s & early 1990s

Humanitarian Consequences

- Refugee repatriation and Migration
 - Afghanistan, Cambodia, etc.
- Unusable land
 - Stability
- Health consequences
 - VVAF (SE Asia)
 - MEDICO (Central America)
- Developmental impacts (roads, etc.)
 - World Bank

Organizational Milestones in Mine Action



- **1980:** The Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW)
 - Regulate landmine use and other weapons
- **1988:** Afghanistan Mine Action Program
 - “Humanitarian demining” begins
- **1991:** International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL)
 - Banning use, production, stockpiling, transfer, sale and export of APMs
- **1992:** Cambodian Mine Action Center
 - First major integrated mine action program
- **1994:** U.S. Humanitarian Demining Program
 - Pol-Mil/Weapons

A photograph of two deminers in a field. They are wearing olive green protective suits and clear face shields. The person on the right is using a metal detector. The background shows a grassy field under a blue sky. The text '1997' is overlaid in a white rounded rectangle on the left side of the image. Below it, a white rounded rectangle contains a list of events: '- UNMAS is created' and '- The Mine Ban Treaty'. At the bottom right, the text 'JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY.' is displayed in a serif font.

1997

- UNMAS is created
- The Mine Ban Treaty

CISR

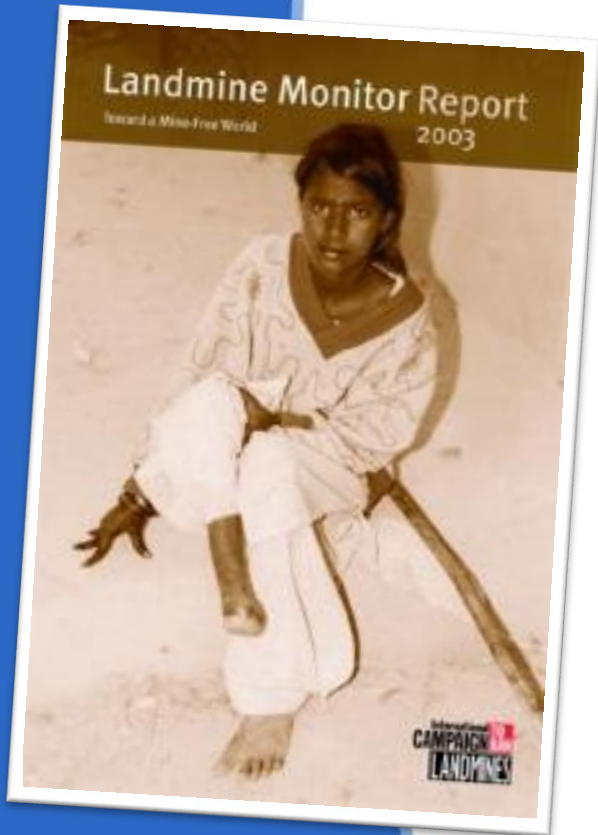
- Founded in 1996 at James Madison University, CISR is **one of the world's leaders** in addressing
 - post-conflict research
 - education & training
 - landmine & UXO management
- **On-the-ground work in more than 12 countries**, including Jordan, Lebanon, Burundi, Rwanda, Uganda, Vietnam, Cambodia, Croatia, Colombia, Peru, Tajikistan, Bosnia & Azerbaijan



1996 - Landmine Survivors Network



1998 – GICHD & Landmine Monitor



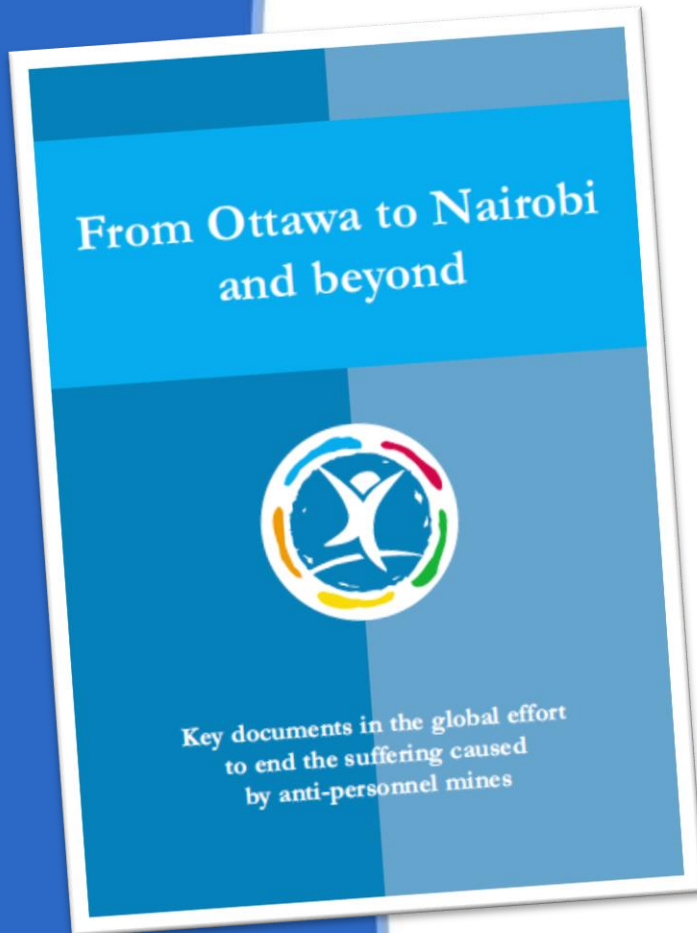
- The “Landmine Monitor Report” established by the ICBL – 1st Civil Society Monitoring System of Weapons Category
- Survey Working Group
- The Geneva International Center for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) is established by the government of Switzerland.

1999 – IMAS, IMSMA & Management Training



- IMAS: The U.N. initiates a review of “International Standards for Humanitarian Mine Clearance Operations”
- The Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA), Version 1, is developed for UNMAS
- UNDP commissioned a study of “Management Training Needs”

2004–Beyond



- **2004:** First Review Conference of the States Parties to the Ottawa Convention
- Nairobi Action Plan
 - Focuses on concepts relevant to *completion*:
 - a. Risk management
 1. Prioritization
 2. Cost benefit
 3. Mine-free vs. impact free
 - b. Mainstreaming of Mine Action activities in support of development
 - c. “New” victim assistance (comprehensive)
 - d. “New” clearance (highest impact first)

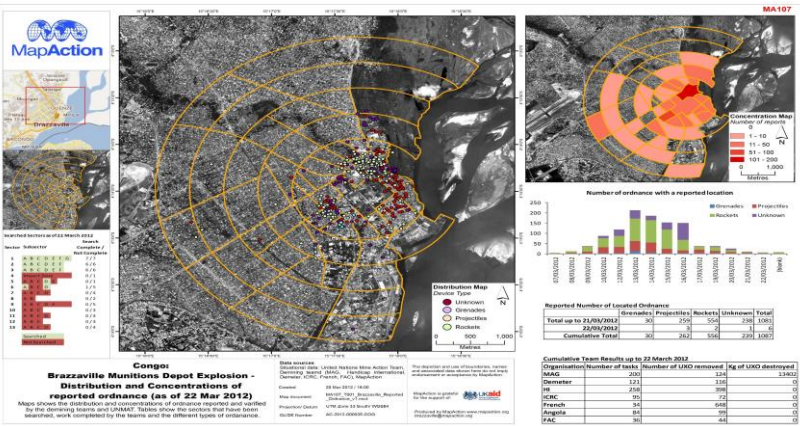
Mine Action's New Paths

- Ammunition Stockpile Management & Unplanned Explosions

- Victim Assistance

- Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs)

- Changing nature of conflict – Increasing Grey area



IED's Past is Prologue: Landmine's Buried History

U.S. CIVIL WAR

World's First:

- ◆ Minefields
- ◆ Mine Mapping
- ◆ Clearance Ops
- ◆ Geographical Diversity



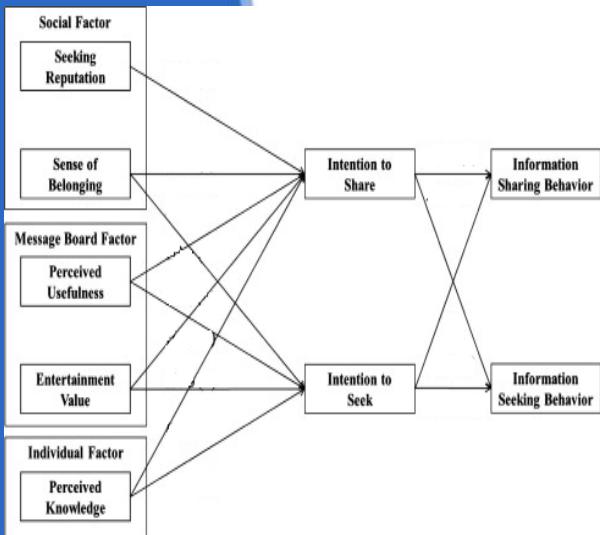
Alabama 1864



Iraq 2005

Virginia 1865



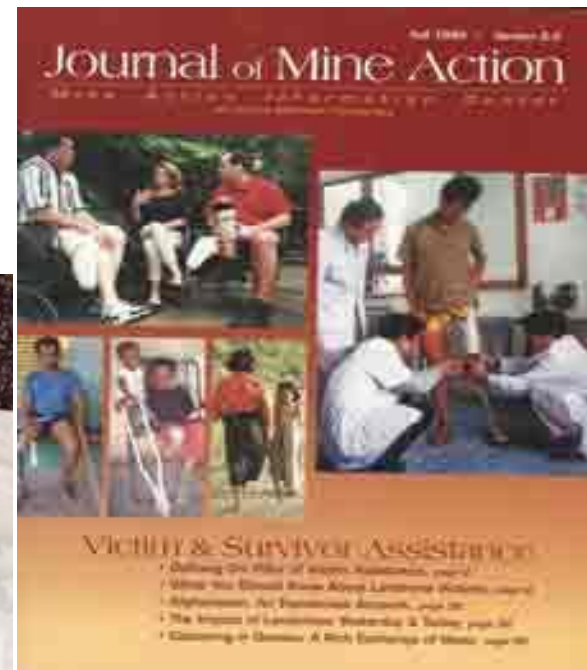


New Technologies Processing - Drones



PHOTOS CREDIT: JAMUS

INFORMATION SHARING

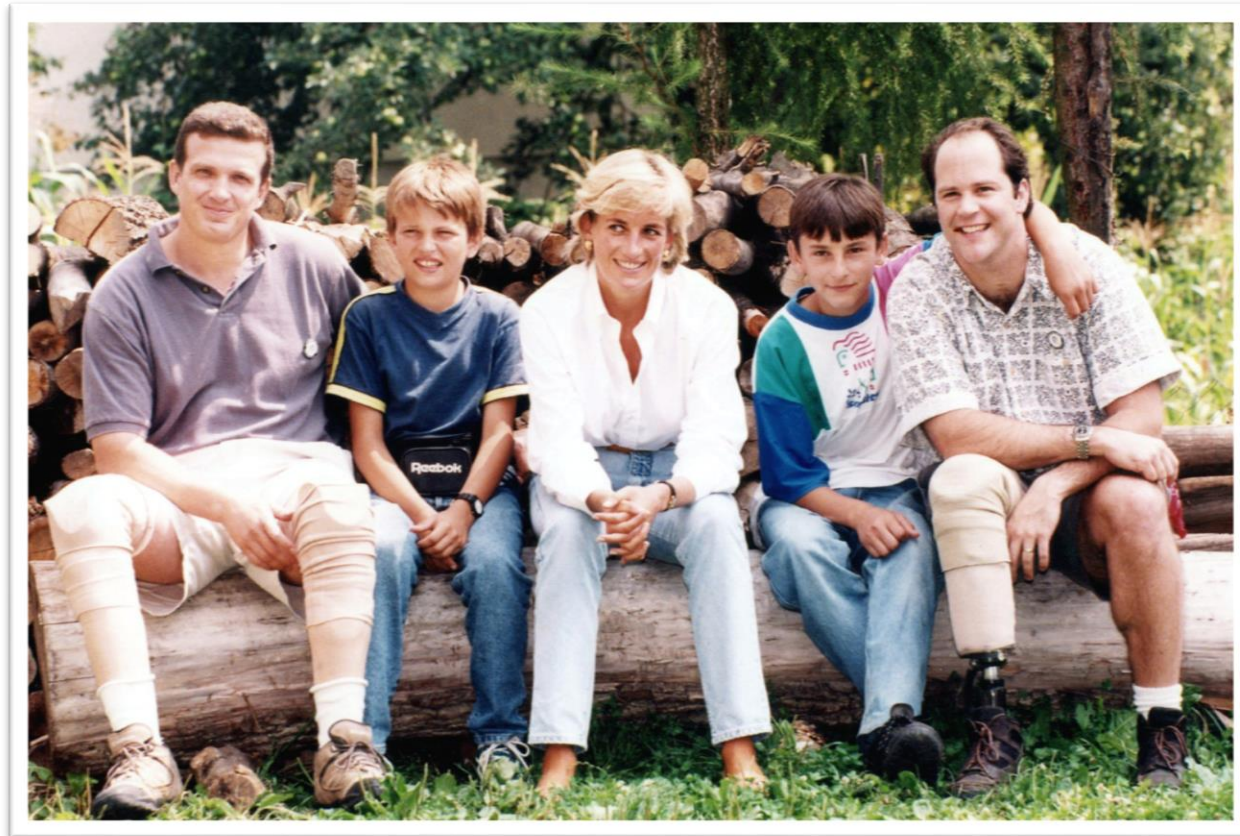


JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY

ENVIRONMENT AND LANDMINES



Princess Diana – Angola and Bosnia 1997



Nobel Peace Prize October 1997



International
CAMPAIGN **TO**
LANDMINES **BAN**

ADVOCACY



Maintaining the
Political Pressure



SUMMARY



1. Know the Past: “He who knows not his own generation, remains always a child.”
2. Communication and Information Sharing
3. Context (Local and Situational)
4. New Technologies Processing
5. Advocacy – Keeping Mine Action in the political and media spotlight.