



KINGDOM OF BELGIUM  
Federal Public Service  
Foreign Affairs,  
Foreign Trade and  
Development Cooperation

## Impact of explosive ordnance contamination in Syria and mine action as vector for early recovery

Wednesday 4 May at 2:00 pm, Brussels Time (GMT+2)

**Weblink:** [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Syria is among the world's countries most affected by explosive ordnance contamination. 10.2 million people, roughly 1 in 2 Syrians, are estimated to be living in areas contaminated with explosive ordnance in 2022. Half of them are children. In 2021, on average 4 explosive ordnance incidents were recorded per day, and 805 people were killed by mines and unexploded ordnance.

In 2021, the mine action sector required 77 million USD to implement humanitarian mine action activities, across Syria, in line with the Humanitarian Response Plan. Only 27% was funded.

This side event aims to outline the extent of explosive ordnance contamination in Syria and its devastating impact on people, vital infrastructure, and provision of humanitarian assistance. The event will also outline the crucial activities performed by humanitarian mine action actors to address these issues. It will underscore the need for further international funding to support early recovery through mine action, demonstrating how mine action is essential to provide the basis for early recovery efforts, such as the safe use of agricultural land, thus enabling communities' socio-economic independence, and promoting resilience.

**Speakers:** representatives from UNMAS, UNICEF, INGOs, as well as donors

**Organisers:** UNMAS and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Belgium

*Views, thoughts, and opinions expressed during the side events reflect solely those of the speakers/organisers and do not constitute endorsement by the EU or the UN.*