



Rapport annuel

2008 - 2009

CAMPAGNE SUISSE CONTRE LES MINES ANTIPERSONNEL

SCHWEIZERISCHE KAMPAGNE GEGEN PERSONENMINEN

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Le mot du Président

L'action de notre Campagne suisse contre les mines antipersonnel continue d'être d'une nécessité absolue dans ce monde où quotidiennement des femmes, des hommes et des enfants se font tuer ou déchiQUETER par une des armes les plus perfides qui soient - la mine antipersonnel.

L'engagement pour l'interdiction, puis la surveillance du respect de l'interdiction, sont des tâches indispensables auxquelles de nombreuses organisations et personnes dédient leurs efforts dans le monde entier.

La sensibilisation et l'implication des femmes aux problèmes des mines et à l'action contre cette arme est la noble tâche à laquelle l'équipe de nos professionnelles s'adonne actuellement avec une dynamique exemplaire. L'effet multiplicateur des efforts des collaboratrices de la Campagne suisse est désormais connu et reconnu au niveau international. Cette action appelle aujourd'hui à davantage de ressources humaines et financières.

Ces derniers temps nous avons dû concentrer nos forces sur le programme « genre et action anti-mines ». Je salue l'excellent travail fourni dans le cadre de ce programme et je dois constater avec regrets les difficultés grandissantes pour obtenir les moyens financiers si nécessaires à la continuation et l'élargissement d'un travail visant l'efficacité et l'égalité des chances.

Au moment de me retirer de la présidence et du comité de la Campagne suisse, je tiens à souligner mon profond attachement à cette noble cause, et je m'engage à maintenir mon soutien dans le futur, qui prendra ainsi d'autres formes. Que toutes celles et tous ceux qui ont œuvré et continuent d'œuvrer au sein et en dehors de notre Campagne pour qu'elle atteigne ses buts soient très chaleureusement remerciés ici.

Ueli Leuenberger, Président



Rapport d'activité 2008 et 2009

Aspect général

Durant ces deux dernières années la Campagne Suisse contre les mines (ci-après la Campagne) a vu ses activités générales diminuer fortement. Par contre, le programme « genre et action anti-mines » a été vraiment actif et s'est largement développé jusqu'à devenir une référence internationale.

La Suisse est un pays qui a signé et ratifié la Convention d'Ottawa dès la première heure, elle n'est pas affectée par des terres minées et elle n'a pas de victimes ; elle avait des stocks mais ils ont été détruits conformément aux exigences de la Convention. La Suisse s'est donc acquittée de manière exemplaire de ses obligations envers ce traité humanitaire. En tant que pays disposant de moyens financiers importants, elle se doit également de soutenir des programmes d'aide aux victimes et de déminage dans les pays affectés. La Campagne s'assure que la Suisse finance de tels projets dans les pays touchés par le fléau des mines, et que les sommes attribuées ne diminuent pas au cours des années, le sujet devenant moins « à la mode ».

Il est donc clair qu'au niveau national, les objectifs de la Campagne ont été atteints et les autorités suisses peuvent être félicitées pour leur engagement dans ce processus.

Il faut mentionner que parallèlement aux progrès, les forces vives de la Campagne ont été régulièrement en diminution ainsi que ses capacités financières. Il est en effet de plus en plus difficile, de recevoir des soutiens financiers, les donateurs préférant attribuer les fonds non plus au travail de plaidoyer et de sensibilisation, qui était l'activité principale de la Campagne, mais plutôt à l'aide directe sur le terrain (éducation aux dangers des mines, déminage, aide aux victimes).

Faute de ressources humaines, la Campagne a décidé de ne pas s'investir de manière très active dans la nouvelle campagne contre les bombes à sous-munition, cependant elle en fait partie et appuie le mouvement général de plaidoyer de la société civile.

A cette évolution s'ajoute le fait qu'en 2008, le collaborateur qui travaillait à temps partiel pour la Campagne a quitté son poste de chargé de projet désireux de trouver une activité à plein temps. C'est lui qui avait mené à bien le projet d'un jeu interactif sur les mines antipersonnel, à l'attention des jeunes adolescents, et financé par le Département de l'Instruction Publique du Canton de Genève. Ce jeu peut d'ailleurs toujours être trouvé sur le site de la Campagne. (www.stopmines.ch)

Malgré la diminution de ses activités, la Campagne a cependant décidé qu'elle ne pouvait – et ne voulait – cesser d'exister, et qu'elle se devait de chercher à développer un domaine encore peu traité. C'est ainsi qu'elle a décidé d'ouvrir un programme novateur et de concentrer ses forces sur la question du genre et de l'action contre les mines. (seul l'UNMAS, il y a quelques années, avait brièvement abordé cet aspect de la lutte contre les mines, mais n'en avait pas

assuré le suivi). Ce programme, lancé maintenant il y a 3 ans, est donc devenu le programme « phare » de la Campagne, et il est désormais connu et re-connu au plan mondial. Ses responsables, qui font un travail remarquable, sont de plus en plus sollicités pour partager leur expertise (voir en annexe le rapport d'activité du programme « genre et action anti-mines »)

Ainsi, bien que la Campagne ait choisi de progressivement diminuer ses activités dans son secteur général de plaidoyer, elle se renforce dans un autre domaine et reste donc une organisation forte et utile sur un domaine dont elle est devenue l'experte.

A terme il faudra cependant qu'elle réfléchisse à sa structure car la grande majorité de ses membres, qui s'étaient engagés dans la phase active de pression et de plaidoyer pour qu'une convention d'interdiction des mines soit signée et pour que la Suisse y adhère, sont désormais devenus des membres passifs, considérant les principaux objectifs atteints.

Il s'agira pour le comité de réfléchir à divers scénarios durant cette année 2010.

Donateurs

Agence de Développement - Canada
Commune de Troinex
Fonds Global pour les Femmes
Ministère des Affaires Etrangères – Norvège
Ministère des Affaires Etrangères - Suisse
Rolex
Service de l'Action Anti-Mines des Nations Unies
Ville de Thônex

Remerciements

La Campagne a donc retrouvé un second souffle avec ce programme novateur et qui suscite désormais beaucoup d'intérêt.

Cet ambitieux projet a progressé en particulier grâce à Marie Nilsson, Virginie Rozes, Ariana Calza-Bini et enfin Åsa Massleberg. Aidées par des stagiaires dévouées et efficaces, elles ont pu durant ces deux années développer ce projet de manière remarquable. Qu'elles en soient ici vivement remerciées.

A Cyril Amberg, coordinateur adjoint de la campagne pendant plus de 2 ans, vont aussi tous nos remerciements.

Le responsable du site web, Stefano Campa, doit également être félicité ici pour son travail de qualité.

Enfin rien ne pourrait se faire sans les généreux donateurs qui placent leur confiance dans notre Campagne. A eux aussi va toute notre reconnaissance.

Report for 2008 and 2009

Project: The Swiss Campaign to Ban Landmines, Gender and Mine Action Programme

Period: January 2008 – December 2009

Donors: Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway, Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), United Nations Mine Action Team, The Global Fund for Women, Commune de Troinex, Ville de

The Swiss Campaign to Ban Landmines' Gender and Mine Action Programme (GMAP) started in December 2006 with the kind support of the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs.

In **PHASE ONE**, December 2006 – February 2008, funded entirely by the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA), this programme produced:

Research, analysis and web-based forum and network:

- a global, geographically balanced electronic consultation with civil society and grass roots organisations and relevant government ministries (approx. 130 returned questionnaires);
- five, geographically-balanced, in-depth face-to-face interview missions to Colombia, Lebanon, Mozambique, Sri Lanka and Sudan with groups of civil society and grass roots organisations (approximately 80) involved in national mine action campaigns;
- a database of quantitative and qualitative statistics, analysis and recommendations stemming from the electronic consultation and the interview missions;
- a web-based 'information and action' portal on gender and mine action subdivided by five global regions and covering the four relevant pillars of mine action (demining, MRE, victim assistance and advocacy); and
- a web-based, fully interactive and moderated discussion forum.

Toolkit mapping

A database consisting of existing toolkits within mine action and related sectors in a meaningful, easily available, and straightforward format. The database has been used to identify key collaborators and toolkits in which the GMAP can integrate the outputs of the undertaken research. Moreover, the database is circulated among the GMAP's collaborating partners, as a useful resource on the current valid research on gender and mine action.

Report “Gender and Landmines – from Concept to Practice”

A guide on gender mainstreaming in mine action, distributed to 1000 mine action stakeholders and other relevant actors, including women’s grass roots organisations in three languages: English, French and Spanish.

The publication includes the following parts:

- an introduction to the concept on gender and how it is relevant in the context of mine action;
- five country profiles of Colombia, Lebanon, Mozambique, Sri Lanka and Sudan discussing gendered dimensions of mine action;
- a discussion on how and why gender is important in each of the four relevant pillars of mine action, presented together with a collection of good practices and recommendations; and
- a concluding part with proposed areas for further research.
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Gender and Landmines from Concept to Practice



Swiss Campaign to Ban Landmines



In **PHASE TWO**, March 2008 – May 2009, funded by Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) of Norway, the GMAP focussed primarily on three different projects:

Project 1: Distribute and Support Global Implementation of the Swiss Campaign’s report “Gender and Landmines – From Concept to Practice”

A promotional and publicity **pamphlet summarising the main findings from the report “Gender and Landmines – From Concept to Practice”** was produced in three languages: English, French and Spanish.

The pamphlet describes the importance of integrating a gender perspective in mine action through the presentation and deconstruction of the following four myths:

- Mainstreaming gender in mine action activities only targets and benefits women
- Gender is complex and expensive to implement in mine action
- Culture and traditions are the main obstacles to mainstreaming gender within mine action
- Gender mainstreaming means simply employment of women.

The pamphlet was successfully distributed at various events, study trips and directly to collaborating partners worldwide. The pamphlet is also available for download at the programme's web portal: <http://scbl-gender.ch/index.php?id=215>.

Expertise assistance on gender and mine action.

The expertise of the GMAP has been requested from several organisations, including civil society mine action organisations, women's grass roots organisations, governments, media, international organisations and UN agencies. Some of the main consultancies that the GMAP undertook are presented below:

- Co-chair of the segment on gender and mine action on the National Directors Meeting in Geneva in March 2009;
- A full gender review of International Mine Action Standards (IMAS), including a review of how the IMAS Advisory Board can be more gender balanced, Dec. 2008 - Feb. 2009;
- Presentation and facilitation of working groups during a gender and diversity training at Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) in January 2009;
- Foreword in a pamphlet on gender and cluster munitions by the Swedish branch of Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF);
- Expertise on gender and mine action and facilitation of a session on gender in a workshop on mine action and development (within the Linking Mine Action and Development - LMAD project) in Hue, Vietnam in November 2008;
- Launch of the Spanish version of the report "Gender and Landmines – from Concept to Practice" in Bogotá and Pasto, Colombia in September 2008;
- Presentation on gender in mine action in a workshop organised by Geneva Call in Pasto, Colombia in September 2008;
- Official statements drafted on gender and mine action for the MFA Norway and the International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL) at the 9th Meeting of States Parties;
- Full revision of UNIFEM's issue brief on landmines published on the Women War and Peace web portal (<http://www.womenwarpeace.org>).

Other activities under project 1:

In addition to the activities described above, the GMAP carried out the following activities after the launch of the report:

- An evaluation of the report "*Gender and Landmines – From Concept to Practice*". A questionnaire containing questions on both structure and content was developed in three languages (English, French and Spanish – the same languages that the report was developed in) and sent to 362 actors worldwide. The objective was to document the use and usefulness of the report for mine action practitioners as well as collect comments for possible revision of the report. The response rate was very low, 2.4 %, and no general conclusions can therefore be drawn based on these results. Some of the reasons for the low response could be that the questionnaire was too long (4 pages) and too detailed, focusing on the actual structure of the report instead of on the relevance and usefulness of the report as a whole or parts of it for the work of the organisations that received it. Furthermore, it was sent out by email six months after the release of the report and several questionnaires remained undelivered because the email addresses were not working. However, among those who did submit a completed questionnaire, the majority was very

positive about the report and used it in their daily work on gender and mine action. Here are some of the comments provided:

“Con este informe se tiene un buen diagnostico de la situación en cuanto a género; ahora bien se requiere medir el impacto de esta publicación en un futuro y los logros y desafíos en un futuro cercano”

“It’s very professional work and useful material”

“Good examples of good practice”

“Very good application of gender approach”

“Conclusions are inspirational for our possible work”

“Gender approach is very important and congratulation for the inclusion in mine action!”

Facing such a low rate of response, it was decided to revise the questionnaire and a much shorter version of it (1 page) was integrated as an evaluation tool in the advocacy kit for women grass roots organisations developed under project n.2 “Raising the Awareness and Developing the Capacity of Women’s Grass Roots and Female Mine Survivors to Play a Role in Mine Action” (see below). The responses to this shorter questionnaire will be received and analysed during phase 3 of the programme.

- The GMAP improved its visual and communication identity by launching a local competition among graphical designer schools in Geneva and its surroundings to design a logotype to be used in all correspondence and external communication which captures the values and ideas of the programme. Four graphic design schools were identified and invited to participate in the logo contest. Two schools accepted to participate and 20 different logos were sent. The chosen logotype looks like this (available in both English and French):



Project 2: Develop the Capacity of Women’s Grass Roots Organisations and Women Directly Affected by Landmines to Advocate for and Implement Gender Mainstreaming in Mine Action

A network of women’s grass roots organisations to find common strategies and links on how mine action could be gender mainstreamed was launched. The network consists of 16 women’s grass roots organisations in mine affected countries, representing the seven countries of Colombia, Croatia, Lebanon, Mozambique, Sri Lanka, Sudan and Yemen. These partners were chosen based on their expertise on gender and development and on the will and interest of the organisation concerned.

Internally, the network has been corresponding in English, but the majority of the material developed (primarily the proposed advocacy kit) has been translated into Arabic, Croatian, French, Sinhala, Spanish and Tamil.

The network consists of the following organisations:

Country	Organisation
Colombia	ANMUCIC
Colombia	Casa del la Mujer Trabajadora
Colombia	Corporación Casa de la Mujer
Colombia	LIMPAL
Lebanon	Palestinian Arab Women League
Lebanon	Gender Linking and Information Project
Mozambique	Gemsa
Mozambique	Muleidi
Sri Lanka	Association for War affected Women
Sri Lanka	Centre for Women & Development
Sri Lanka	INFORM
Sudan	Hawa Society
Sudan	Eastern Sudan Women Development Organisation
Croatia	Women's Action of Rijeka
Croatia	Centre for Women War Victims
Croatia	Sve-mir
Yemen	Women's Forum for Researches and Training

An advocacy pamphlet targeting women's organisations, describing their role in mine action and which actions that can be undertaken: *"The missing part of the puzzle – why gender matters when working with landmines and cluster munitions"*. The pamphlet explains why it is necessary to involve local women's grass roots organisations in mine action and how mine action will benefit from adopting this inclusive approach. The pamphlet was produced in English and then translated into 6 other languages (Arabic, Croatian, French, Sinhala, Spanish and Tamil) according to the requests from the women's grass roots organisations of the network. It was printed in 100 copies for each language and is part of a larger Advocacy Kit (see "Real Outcome 2.3" below). It is available online at: <http://scbl-gender.ch/index.php?id=233#c453>

The **Advocacy Kit on Gender and Mine Action** includes the following materials:

- a Fact Sheet on "The Arguments for a gender mainstreamed mine action";
- an Advocacy Pamphlet in 7 languages (see outcome 2.2);
- the Report *"Gender and Landmines – From Concept to Practice"*, available in three languages (English, French and Spanish);
- a pamphlet summarising the main points in the report;
- a checklist developed by GICHD on gender and development in relation to mine action;
- the link to a list mapping mine action organisations in each of the 6 countries of the network, prepared by GMAP and stored on the web portal; and
- a CD ROM containing all previous documents in electronic format

The advocacy kit was developed in English and thereafter translated, by local translators identified within the network, into Arabic, Croatian, French, Sinhala, Spanish and Tamil. The assignment of translation included a process of quality assurance, i.e. rereading and rechecking the translations by a third, independent actor, to guarantee a clear message and proper gender-sensitive language.

Upon finalisation the kit was printed in 50 copies in each of the seven languages and distributed to the network of women's grass root organisations. The network has subsequently undertaken a further distribution of the kits to their local partner organisations. All seven versions are available online on the programme's web portal at: <http://scbl-gender.ch/index.php?id=233#c453>

Project 3: Raise Awareness of Governments as Donors and Programmers of Mine Action regarding their Crucial Role as Gender Mainstreaming Advocates and Capacity Developers in Mine Action

Two **brochures** aiming at increasing awareness of governments on the need for introducing **gender sensitive budgeting** and **gender sensitive programming in mine action** were produced. The first brochure discusses what gender sensitive budgeting is, why it is important in mine action and the added values of introducing gender sensitive budgeting in mine action. It furthermore addresses the often raised issue of costs; what costs and what does not cost when it comes to integrating a gender perspective in mine action. The second brochure highlights the different phases of the programming cycle and explains how gender can be integrated into these phases.

The brochure was printed in 500 copies in English. It was distributed during the Intersessional Meeting of the Standing Committees of the Ottawa Convention held in Geneva in May 2009. The pamphlet was also shared at various information networks, such as GICHD's LMAD, IASC Sub Working Group on Gender in Humanitarian context, ICBL, and E-Mine and is available online on the programme's web portal at: <http://scbl-gender.ch/index.php?id=214>

A **side-event**, together with International Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO), **on gender and mine action in Colombia** was organised at the 9th Meeting of States Parties of the Ottawa Convention in Geneva, Switzerland, in November 2008. At the seminar, the Swiss Campaign discussed why gender matters in mine action, through the illustration with concrete examples collected during a study trip to Colombia in August-September 2008. PRIO presented its research on gender and mine action from the same region. The presentations were followed by a debate and interactive discussion with the audience.

Other activities under project 3:

As a condition for funding from the Royal Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway, the Swiss Campaign also added the following two components to fulfil the target of advocating the cause of gender to governments:

On the eight anniversary of the UNSCR 1325 on Women, War and Peace, 31st of October 2008, the GMAP and PRIO organised a **seminar on gender and mine action at PRIO** in Oslo, Norway. Members from the governmental agencies of MFA

Norway, Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), Swedish Rescue Services Agency participated alongside several Norwegian mine action and women's rights NGOs. At the seminar, the Swiss Campaign made a general presentation on why gender matters in mine action, whereas PRIO focussed its talk on its research on gender and mine action in Colombia.

On the 29th of April 2009, the Swiss Campaign organised a **lunch seminar on “The need to gender sensitise the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer or Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction”**. Seeing that 2009 was the year for the Second Review Conference of the Mine Ban Convention (held in Cartagena, Colombia in November-December 2009), the GMAP took the opportunity to introduce representatives of the States Parties to the need to gender sensitise mine action. During the meeting the following presentations were made:

- The GMAP on the need to gender sensitise the Convention
- The Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland on how Switzerland addresses the importance of gender in mine action and how it will address the issue at the Second Review Conference.
- UNDP/BCPR on the UN's general stance to gender sensitise all actions and BCPR's 2006 Forward Looking Review highlighting how women are impacted by crises and by the work the UN do to prevent and deal with crises.

The meeting was facilitated by Gender Issues Coordinator Aurélie Lamazière at Geneva Call (member organisation of the GMAP) and brought 19 people from different organisations together for an interesting and fruitful debate. Representatives from 6 governments participated alongside UN agencies and civil society organisations active within the sectors of mine action and/or gender.

Other relevant meetings and conferences attended/co-chaired during the second phase of the programme (in addition to those events arranged by the GMAP as described above):

- At the Intersessional Meetings of the Standing Committees in Geneva in **June 2008** the GMAP was asked to make a presentation in the plenary on gender and mine action and to participate in a panel within the project of Linking Mine Action to Development (LMAD).
- The GMAP participated in a range of meetings and workshops during a study trip to Colombia (Bogotá and Pasto), in **August and September 2008**, most notably two workshops arranged by Geneva Call. The mission also gave the programme the opportunity to link up with some very interesting local women's organisations and study visits to rehabilitation centres for women, girls, boys and men injured by landmines.
- In **September 2008**, the GMAP was invited as an additional resource, bringing in the NGO-perspective, at the annual UNMAS workshop on gender and mine action. The 2008 workshop was titled “Gender Stocktaking Workshop” and held in Brindisi, Italy. The UN Gender Guidelines for Mine Action Programmes was discussed as well as individual country cases and lessons learned.
- One representative from the GMAP was invited in the workshop “Tackling Poverty in Mine-Affected Countries: Linking Development, Security and the Remnants of Conflict” arranged by GICHD in Hue, Vietnam in **November**

- 2008.** During the workshop, the GMAP co chaired, and presented the section on gender and mine action as well as facilitated working groups with practical implementation exercises.
- Also in **November 2008**, the GMAP participated in the 9th Meeting of the States Parties in Geneva. As described earlier in the report, the GMAP participated in a panel on a side event with PRIO, provided gender statements to various partners and distributed materials (report, brochures and pens) to the participants.
 - The GMAP was invited to participate with two resource persons at a Gender and Diversity training at GICHD in **January 2009**.
 - In **March 2009**, the GMAP was invited to participate in a workshop arranged by GICHD on evaluation in mine action in Bangkok, Thailand.
 - During the National Directors Meeting in Geneva in **March 2009** the GMAP had two roles; one as co-chair of the gender segment (together with Sheila Mweeba, Zambia Mine Action Centre) and secondly as presenters of the gender review of IMAS for the IMAS Review Board.

The programme's **PHASE THREE** started in June 2009 and continues until December 2010. The following five projects were included in the proposal:

1. Further disseminate and evaluate the report "*Gender and Landmines – From Concept to Practice*";
2. Advocate for the gender-sensitisation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction;
3. Undertake further research in collaboration with or through joint ventures with partners, on the possible correlation between mine action and/or landmines and gender based violence (GBV);
4. Provide expertise assistance on gender and mine action to mine action stakeholders and collaborating partners, with a preference for women's grass roots organisations; and
5. Continue capacity building to the network of women's grass roots organisations

The fundraising for the current phase started in October 2008. More than 60 requests for funding have been sent to: 15 Swiss-based private companies, 14 private foundations, 4 local administrations (Canton and City of Geneva, municipalities of Thônex and Troinex), 20 countries who are donors in mine action, the EU, several UN organisations and Trust Funds, the WB and the ADB.

70% of the planned budget was secured thanks to the generous contributions from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway (210.000 NOK), the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland (60.000 CHF), the United Nations Mine Action Team (29.000 USD), the Global Fund for Women (6.000 USD), Rolex (1.000 CHF), the city of Thônex (1.000 CHF) and the municipality of Troinex (500 CHF).

Should the programme not be able to obtain additional funding for phase 3 in 2010, it will have to downsize and/or refocus project 3 (Undertake further research in collaboration with or through joint ventures with partners, on the possible correlation between mine action and/or landmines and gender based violence (GBV) and cancel

project 5 (Continue capacity building to the network of women's grass roots organisations through a workshop in Zagreb, Croatia). In terms of the general budget this will mean cutting down especially on the travelling of both GMAP staff and external collaborators/partners.

Having only two staff working on an 80% basis, the programme considers that downsizing the human resources would heavily compromise its capacity to provide timely expertise assistance and implement activities.

Project 1: Further disseminate and evaluate the report “Gender and Landmines – From Concept to Practice”

The report has been further disseminated both through the Advocacy Kit and at public events, such as the Intersessional Meeting of Standing Committees in Geneva, the Second Review Conference of the AP Mine Ban Convention in Cartagena, and several other meetings, workshops and presentations. The Spanish version was reprinted in 100 copies and widely distributed in Colombia.

Further efforts to get some feedback on the report were carried out. The evaluation questionnaire was reformulated making it shorter (2 pages) and published on the web site. It was also sent by email to 66 people including personal contacts working in mine action, however there was no feedback at all.

Project 2: Advocate for the gender-sensitisation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction

In May 2009, GMAP participated at the Intersessional Meetings of the Standing Committees in Geneva where it promoted the use of Form J to voluntarily report on gender-sensitive mine action. The Swiss Campaign's work on gender and mine action was mentioned in official statements by both Switzerland and Norway. Gender-sensitive statements were drafted and submitted to several SPs. A document produced by ICBL “Ideas on Cartagena Action Plan (CAP) – Victim Assistance” which was used as a basis for discussion during the parallel work programme on VA was gender sensitised. The final document presented by the co-chairs to the plenary “Victim Assistance in the Context of the AP Mine Ban Convention. Priorities and challenges during the period 2010-2014” recognises “that a gender perspective is necessary”.

GMAP carried out preparatory work for the Second Review Conference of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction (hereafter: AP Mine Ban Convention) that was held in Cartagena, Colombia, from 30 November to 4 December 2009.

- 43 letters were sent out to representatives of mine-affected (25) and donor countries (18) drawing their attention to the importance of gender mainstreaming mine action and the opportunity to do so at the Cartagena Summit on a Mine-free World (Second Review Conference of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction). All States were encouraged to highlight gender in their statements at the Cartagena Summit and to call for all mine action activities to be gender sensitive, and to demand that victim assistance is available to affected women,

girls, boys and men without discrimination, as well as to call for the definition of specific gender strategies and anticipated results, with comprehensible indicators in place. The letters were adapted to the different recipients according to their profile as mine-affected or donor countries.

- Enclosed with the letters were a series of three articles written by the GMAP on “Gender Mainstreaming the Cartagena Summit on a Mine-free World”, namely on Community Liaison and Mine Risk Education, Victim Assistance and Mine Clearance, and three pamphlets produced by the SCBL on different aspects of Gender and Mine Action, namely Gender-sensitive Budgeting and Gender-sensitive Programming in Mine Action and the Summary of the Swiss Campaign’s report “Gender and Landmines”. The articles were also published on several relevant websites and mailing lists, including the Cartagena Summit official website (www.cartagenasummit.gov.co) and Reliefweb (www.reliefweb.int).
- Gender sensitive messages on the various pillars of mine action to be included in official statements were drafted and submitted to various States Parties, UNMAS, ICBL.
- The summit was attended by the two staff members of the GMAP. The Swiss Campaign had the status of observer at the summit, as a member of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines’ delegation.
- A joint UNMAT (United Nations Mine Action Team)-Swiss Campaign to Ban Landmines (SCBL) side event was held on 1 December 2009 at the Cartagena Summit with the intention to raise awareness on gender and mine action. The event was titled “What Is Gender Sensitive Mine Action? Good Practices and Lessons Learned from Field Programmes”, the panel was chaired by ICBL and composed by the SCBL and five mine action practitioners from UNDP, UNICEF, UNMAS, NPA and MAG with experience working in Afghanistan, Colombia, Iraq, Sri Lanka and elsewhere.
The lively discussion that followed the presentations considered gains made in advancing the gender dimension of mine action as well as the gender sensitive aspects of the Cartagena Action Plan. The event was attended by more than 70 people. The audience included representatives from the Australian, Canadian, Norwegian and Swedish missions, as well as representatives from UNMAS, UNOPS, UNMAO, GICHD, USCBL, ICBL, DDG and many other organisations.

Project 4: Provide expertise assistance on gender and mine action to mine action stakeholders and collaborating partners, with a preference for women’s grass roots organisations

The complete list of expertise assistance provided in 2009 can be found in the annex. Highlights are:

- In September 2009 the GMAP was invited to give a presentation on Gender and Mine Action by the Network on Humanitarian Assistance (NOHA) at the Aix en Provence University for a group of about 160 students and teachers.

- In October-December 2009 the GMAP was invited by UNMAS to review the new version of the UN Gender Guidelines for Mine Action Programmes to be published in March 2010.

Project 5: Continue capacity building to the network of women's grass roots organisations

- Prior to the Cartagena Summit, GMAP organised together with PRIO (Peace Research Institute of Oslo) two workshops to raise awareness on gender and mine action among civil society organisations of Colombia and especially women's organisations. They were held in Bogotá on 24 November 2009 and in Cartagena on 26 November 2009. The workshop in Bogotá was attended by 18 people (17 women, 1 man), mainly from Colombian mine action organisations, including PAICMA, Fundación Restrepo Barco, Colombian Campaign to Ban Landmines, but also women's organisations (Limpal Colombia, Fundación Telar Social y Humano), international organisations (ICBL, UNDP, ICRC, International Crisis Group, Geneva Call) and the Norwegian Embassy. The audience at the workshop in Cartagena was very different and was composed by 33 people (22 women, 11 men) from grass roots organisations, mostly women's organisations coming from communities in and around Cartagena, many displaced from mine affected areas.
- In July-September 2009, the GMAP collaborated with Geneva Call and the Colombian Campaign to Ban Landmines to a study on The Impact of Anti-Personnel Mines and Explosive Remnants of War on Women Victims in Colombia. The study presents the results of a survey of 41 women survivors of AP mines/ERW and 55 indirect victims conducted in June 2009 across 8 departments of Colombia.
- The GMAP presented preliminary results from the abovementioned study at a Conference on Mine Action organised by Geneva Call in Bogotá in August 2009 and attended by over 100 people.

Strengths of the Gender and Mine Action Programme

- GMAP has grown to become a key actor on gender and mine action. There is a wide recognition, amongst governments, UN agencies as well as civil society organisations, that GMAP possesses special expertise on gender and mine action. This is most notably in the number of requests that GMAP has received during the programme period to give presentations or in other ways provide expertise on gender and mine action.
- The report "*Gender and Landmines – From Concept to Practice*" was developed during phase 1, but launched during this second phase of the programme. The report has had positive recognition worldwide, most notably in the number of organisations, websites, newsletters, etc that have chosen to refer to the report as a useful tool.
- The formation of the network of women's organisations to become gender advocates in mine action is unique in its kind. Several other actors, governments as well as NGOs, whom we have informed about the network, have already showed interest in linking up with these women's organisations in the countries they operate. Moreover, the advocacy kit provided to these organisations is, according to the women's organisations themselves, groundbreaking in the regions in which it will be used.

- Despite having a very small team of just one Programme Manager and one Programme Officer working 80%, the GMAP managed to carry out the activities and reach its objectives in a timely, efficient and effective way, with only minor occasional delays, also thanks to the support from unpaid interns.

Weaknesses of the Gender and Mine Action Programme

- As already pointed out in the end-report of the first phase of the programme, the team working for the Swiss Campaign's Gender and Mine Action Programme continues to lack a gender balance. All staff, paid or unpaid, involved in the programme during the period, are women. The GMAP has tried to reach a more gender balanced staffing, for example through including a paragraph on gender balance in the vacancy advertisements encouraging male applicants. A few CVs from male applicants have actually been received; however, positive discrimination was not applied, and female candidates were chosen on the basis of stronger and more experienced profile.
- Being a small programme in terms of human resources has meant relying on unpaid interns to assist with administrative tasks, such as receiving permission to use external photos for the information materials developed, larger printing jobs, the updating and maintenance of the GMAP website and library.
- Fundraising has proved to be time-consuming and divert the attention of the gender experts from more programmatic tasks.

Lessons learned

- Many actors involved in mine action want quality and cost effectiveness arguments for gender mainstreaming. For many, the arguments of gender equality, inclusion, fair approach are not enough to convince them to adopt a gender perspective. It has been a challenge to gather these "quality and cost effectiveness arguments", as there are not enough studies/analyses done or statistics collected on these benefits. Smaller studies in Cambodia have, for example, showed that female deminers seem to save more money than their male counterparts; money that they send back to their families in their villages. Other studies, for example the interviews the GMAP conducted in 2007, indicate that female deminers are more accurate and careful in their demining activities (Somaliland), or that women who receive MRE are more likely to spread the message further to their children and other members of the family, than men. These studies are however too limited to draw any general conclusions, and the results may vary between countries and even within specific mine affected areas. In the future, the GMAP needs to collect more evidence/hard data to support these arguments, as cost and effectiveness related-questions are constantly raised.
- Running a gender programme implies occasionally having to compromise and settle for results that might not be as far-fetched as expected/desired, as these issues repeatedly encounter scepticism and criticism within and by the mine action community. Being a strong advocate for gender inclusion requires balance, diplomacy and weighting of words, so that the message is not lost because of "gender lingo" or general misunderstandings related to what it really is about. It furthermore requires that arguments are fully backed up with statistics, data or case studies, that there are direct references to the field, and

that the reasons why gender is needed in mine action are clear and easily understood.

- To receive recognition of a programme it is crucial to link up with the like-minded actors, who share the same values and concepts. In this regard, the GMAP has collaborated on several occasions throughout the programme period with the LMAD project at GICHD and the Norwegian PRIO. It has furthermore been important for the Swiss Campaign, as a small organisation, to have support from these bodies as a kind of “guarantor” and external assurance that the GMAP’s expertise and services are relevant for the sector.

Staff:

In 2008 and until April 2009 the GMAP was run by Marie Nilsson, Programme Officer working on an 80% basis.

Virginie Rozès worked as Programme Assistant on a 50% basis from May 2008 until April 2009 and then as Programme Officer on an 80% basis from May to July 2009.

Arianna Calza Bini is the Programme Manager since April 2009 and Åsa Massleberg is the Programme Officer since September 2009. They both work on an 80% basis.

Pilar Castillo worked as Administrative Assistant from October 2009 to April 2010 through the *Office cantonal de l’emploi* of Geneva.

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