

# Annual Report

2009

**GICHD | CIDHG**



## CONTENTS

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT	1
FOREWORD BY THE DIRECTOR	1
MINE ACTION   THE CHALLENGE	2
WORKING METHODS	2
OPERATIONS	3
Strategic Management and Socio-economics	3
Operational Methods and Technology	4
Information Management	8
GICHD   WORKING AROUND THE WORLD	7
MINE ACTION STANDARDS	9
INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW	10
SPREADING THE MESSAGE	11
RESOURCES	12



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

This was my first year as President of the GICHD Council of the Foundation and I would like to thank the members of the Council, donors and all our co-workers for contributing to a productive year.

This year was particularly important for international law governing the explosive legacy of armed conflicts. The Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (AP MBC) held its Second Review Conference in Cartagena, Colombia, to take stock of progress since the 2004 Nairobi Summit and to map out the road ahead for the coming five years. The Cartagena Declaration is also a commitment for the GICHD to continue its support for a world free of anti-personnel mines.

In addition, several conferences took place on the promotion of the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM). These meetings contributed to a better understanding of the key norms of the Convention. We are extremely pleased that the CCM will enter into force on 1 August 2010 and we stand ready to make an important contribution to its implementation.

Dr Barbara Haering | President of the GICHD Council of Foundation



## FOREWORD BY THE DIRECTOR

We have now completed the first year of our Strategy 2009-2011. Our core aim continues to be increased performance and professionalism in mine action.

We have had a busy and effective year in our operational activities. The focus has been on policy research and advice for strategic programme planning and management, implementation of more efficient ways to reduce suspected hazardous areas, enhanced survey and clearance methods, as well as better use of appropriate information management tools and procedures.

I am pleased that three new International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) on land release were adopted in mid-2009. Consequent outreach to promote these IMAS has been an important task of the GICHD.

The Centre continued to support the implementation of humanitarian disarmament treaties. It attended the Cartagena Summit on a Mine-Free World, where the Implementation Support Unit again provided outstanding assistance to the President of the Meeting, the Coordinating Committee, the host country and many States Parties in fulfilling their tasks and obligations.

The Centre's mandate is to play a sustained and important role in dealing with all kinds of explosive remnants of war. The Convention on Cluster Munitions is a major step towards the elimination of this threat, and it is a challenge for us to provide and develop expertise to support the implementation of this important instrument of humanitarian law.

The GICHD has again hosted the National Mine Action Programme Directors and UN Advisors Meeting in March 2009, and we look forward to continuing our close cooperation with all our partners, including national authorities, the UN and mine action operators in 2010. I would in particular like to thank our donors for their support, which enabled 2009 to be a highly productive year for the GICHD.

Ambassador Stephan Husy | GICHD Director



## **MINE ACTION | THE CHALLENGE**

Landmines and other explosive remnants of war (ERW) affect some 80 countries and territories worldwide. Long after conflicts have ended, landmines and other ERW continue to delay reconstruction and development in some of the world's poorest countries. They can prevent farmers from growing food and stop their animals from grazing safely. They can block roads and deny access to schools and hospitals. They disrupt infrastructure and impede access to water sources and basic sanitation. The first United Nations Millennium Development Goal, which aims to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger by 2015, will remain difficult to achieve while landmines and other ERW continue to litter developing countries.

There is no way of knowing the full extent of the harm they inflict, but according to the latest figures compiled by the Landmine Monitor ([www.lm.icbl.org](http://www.lm.icbl.org)) around 5,200 new casualties were recorded in 2008. This is a small reduction from 2007, but many more casualties go unrecorded. Although the level of new casualties is still far too high, the downward trend, especially with respect to landmines, is welcome, and must continue.

Anti-personnel mines need to be cleared worldwide, but other explosive remnants of war also have to be disposed of safely. Unexploded ordnance comprises bombs, mortars, grenades and other devices that failed to explode on impact and may remain live and potentially lethal if touched. Abandoned explosive ordnance is ammunition that has not been used during an armed conflict, but has been left behind or dumped.

A particular threat exists from cluster munitions. Unexploded submunitions can be found in more than 30 countries, with several nations acutely affected even though the conflicts that generated the problem have long since ended. Stockpiles of cluster munitions far exceed those of anti-personnel mines, with the number of submunitions they contain estimated at several billion worldwide. Destroying those stockpiles, an integral requirement of the Convention on Cluster Munitions, will constitute a technical and financial challenge that will require support for many years to come.

## **WORKING METHODS**

The GICHD provides professional services to mine action programmes worldwide. Our advice and support is based on a combination of experience, applied research, information exchange and programme evaluations, to ensure relevance and effectiveness in everything we do. We provide expertise in areas such as programme planning and management, risk assessment and education, survey and detection, manual and mechanical clearance, destruction of mines, cluster munitions and other ERW, safe ammunition storage, information and quality management.

Research findings are followed by outreach, through the development of international and national standards, publishing guide books and the conduct of training workshops. Our aim is to help spread knowledge and best practice among mine-affected countries, donors and operators.

Our work is based on a wide range of partnerships – with governments, the United Nations, international and national non-governmental organisations and research institutions. In 2009, GICHD staff visited numerous countries and territories worldwide to deliver training, conduct studies, hold workshops, or provide professional advice and expertise on mine action. During the year we worked throughout Africa, Asia, Europe, the Middle East and Latin America.

## OPERATIONS

In 2009, the Centre's operations continued to focus on support for strategic management, information management, technology and operational methods (including land release).

### Strategic Management and Socio-economics

#### Capacity Development

Much of the work undertaken by the GICHD in 2009 assisted mine-affected countries to improve the management of their mine action programmes. Information and training were provided to various programmes on national legislation, standards, international law, priority setting, strategic planning, needs assessments and land release.

The Centre maintained its support to Cambodia to develop a new National Mine Action Strategy. This involved providing advice on the plan and governance structure for the strategic planning process, advising on the agenda for the launch event, conducting workshops to prepare the draft outline, assisting with drafts of the key chapters, background research on funding trends and preparing the initial budget and resource mobilisation schedules. Cambodia released their new strategy at the Second Review Conference of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention in Cartagena in December 2009.

Strategic planning and management advice was provided at workshops held in Nepal and Vietnam. Workshops covering strategic planning for mine risk education programmes were also held in Egypt, Iraq, Senegal and Sri Lanka.

In 2009, the Linking Mine Action to Development (LMAD) project continued to make significant progress, providing organisations with the tools required to integrate mine action into development plans and budgets. Working with key partners such as UNDP, the GICHD:

- > organised a regional workshop in Vientiane, Laos, on the role of priority-setting and pre- and post-clearance assessment in promoting development; the workshop brought together mine action and development practitioners working in mine/ERW affected areas within Southeast Asia
- > published and disseminated guidelines aimed at States affected by mines/ERW and guidelines for mine/ERW operators
- > maintained the LMAD practitioners network, which has over 230 members





## Evaluations

Quality management in mine action has traditionally focused on safety and efficiency. The GICHD has broadened this remit. The Centre's evaluations also consider whether a policy, programme or project is sustainable, relevant to local needs and effective in promoting reconstruction and development priorities in affected countries.

In 2009, the Centre conducted evaluations in five countries. In Afghanistan, the German Government commissioned the Centre to conduct a follow-up evaluation of Danish Demining Group (DDG), which was completed in May. The German Government also requested the Centre to conduct evaluations in 2009 of projects in Croatia, Somaliland and Tajikistan. The reports were all completed and submitted during the year. Finally, the GICHD undertook an evaluation of the demining programme in Chile at the request of the Chilean National Demining Commission. This was completed in July 2009.

The Centre finalised the evaluations of European Commission (EC) support to mine action, which have been ongoing since 2007. In 2009, the Centre completed reports on EC support in the Caucasus and Asia-Pacific regions. A two-day workshop to review the EC Regional Evaluations and initiate work on a Synthesis Report was held in Brussels in April. The Centre submitted a draft Synthesis Report to the EC in August.

The GICHD has also continued capacity development for evaluation in mine action. In partnership with the World Bank's International Program for Development Evaluation Training (IPDET), the Centre held an "Evaluating Mine Action Workshop" in March 2009 in Bangkok. The aims of the workshop were to develop basic knowledge of evaluation concepts, processes and methods; and to assist mine action officials and practitioners in assuming enhanced roles in evaluations (eg commissioning, designing and/or conducting evaluations). A second workshop was held in Tbilisi, Georgia, in partnership with the International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF) as well as IPDET.

The Research and Evaluation Database ([www.gichd.org/links/information-database/research-and-evaluation-reports/](http://www.gichd.org/links/information-database/research-and-evaluation-reports/)) serves as the largest online repository of mine action evaluations, with more than 300 reports available for download.



## Operational Methods and Technology

### Land Release

In a study of over 15 different programmes in 2004, it was found that of 292 km<sup>2</sup> of land that had physically been cleared, less than 2.5% of the area proved to be actually contaminated with landmines. These statistics underscore known inefficiencies within the mine action sector in the targeting of clearance resources, where too much land remains subject to full clearance.

It is improvements in the balance of survey activities versus clearance that is the focus of the land release concept. Land release approaches and methodologies encourage better technical and non-technical survey to minimise the use of more expensive clearance approaches and to more effectively target them on actual mined areas.

The introduction of the three land release International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) in July 2009 provided operators, national authorities and donors with an appropriate reference to help address liability concerns and to encourage a review of this most critical, but challenging, area of mine action. This is essential in order to make appreciable advances in clearance efficiency and to help develop better planning tools for national authorities – especially for those countries that have obligations under the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention. Outreach by the GICHD to promote these IMAS has been an important task, targeting Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Tajikistan and others.

The GICHD land release team is engaged with national authorities, the UN, donors and operators to promote better survey and operational planning to facilitate more efficient land release procedures. Such activities take the form of:

- > promotion and provision of outreach activities for the land release concepts and the relevant IMAS
- > refinement and further development of generic land release models
- > publishing of reference material on land release issues (eg technical and non-technical survey approaches)

In 2009, the land release team continued its outreach support to interested States and demining operators. In Cambodia, for example, the GICHD has a dedicated consultant based in Phnom Penh working together with the Cambodian Mine Action Authority and the Cambodian Mine Action Centre on land release issues.



### Technology

Research by the GICHD into new techniques and tools, especially to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of demining, continued in 2009.

As an example, the Centre initiated a trial in Azerbaijan in cooperation with the Azerbaijan National Agency for Mine Action (ANAMA) in using a permanent magnet in combination with a mechanical flail. The Centre also participated in trials with rollers in the USA with Humanistic Robotics during the fall of 2009.

The Centre continued providing support on operational methods and technology to mine action agencies throughout the year. The Centre provided advice on how to assess what would be the best methodologies and most suitable technologies either during field missions or as desk support; for example, how to select new metal detectors for ERW clearance in Laos or how to organise the optimum tool box for technical survey in Jordan.

In 2009, the GICHD completed a study into contracting in mine action, the results of which were published in November. *A Guide to Contracting in Mine Action* will assist national directors and mine action programmes in the various aspects of mine action contracting, as well as other organisations involved in mine action. The Guide provides information about the various methods and practices from various agencies and organisations and explains the basics of mine action contracting and procurement.





**GICHD Missions & Meetings | Visits | Seminars**

**IMSMA**

**GICHD & IMSMA activities**

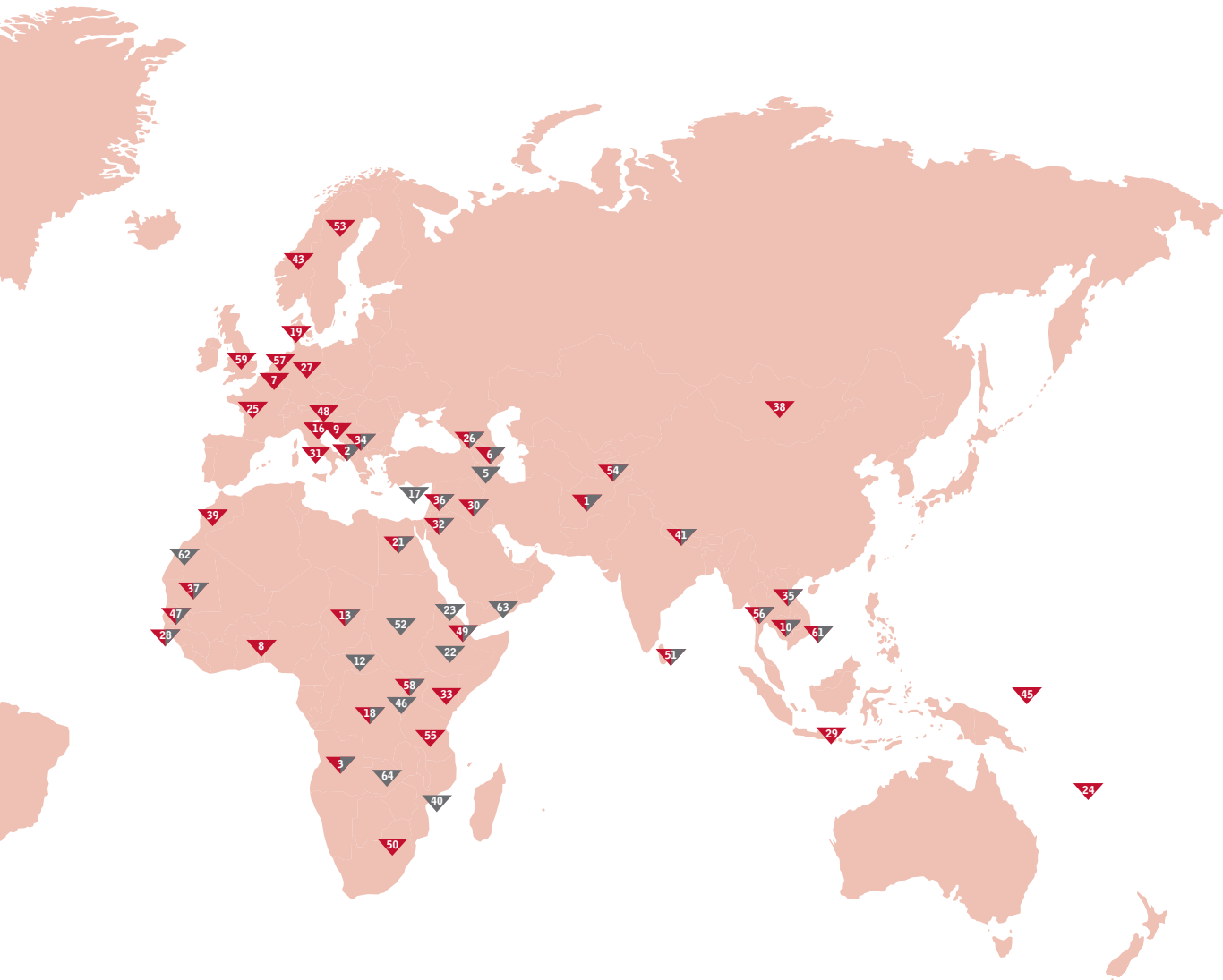


- |                                    |                                          |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| <b>1</b> Afghanistan               | <b>16</b> Croatia                        |
| <b>2</b> Albania                   | <b>17</b> Cyprus                         |
| <b>3</b> Angola                    | <b>18</b> Democratic Republic of Congo   |
| <b>4</b> Argentina                 | <b>19</b> Denmark                        |
| <b>5</b> Armenia                   | <b>20</b> Ecuador                        |
| <b>6</b> Azerbaijan                | <b>21</b> Egypt                          |
| <b>7</b> Belgium                   | <b>22</b> Eritrea                        |
| <b>8</b> Benin                     | <b>23</b> Ethiopia                       |
| <b>9</b> Bosnia and Herzegovina    | <b>24</b> Federated States of Micronesia |
| <b>10</b> Cambodia                 | <b>25</b> France                         |
| <b>11</b> Canada                   | <b>26</b> Georgia                        |
| <b>12</b> Central African Republic | <b>27</b> Germany                        |
| <b>13</b> Chad                     | <b>28</b> Guinea-Bissau                  |
| <b>14</b> Chile                    |                                          |
| <b>15</b> Colombia                 |                                          |



## GICHD | WORKING AROUND THE WORLD

The GICHD works across the world with an emphasis on mine-affected countries, and also visits donor countries and other countries with a strong emphasis on mine action. In 2009, GICHD staff delivered training, conducted research, held workshops or provided professional advice and expertise on mine action in 64 countries. This map illustrates those countries where IMSMA is installed and running, as well as the countries GICHD staff visited during 2009.



- |    |            |    |                              |    |                 |
|----|------------|----|------------------------------|----|-----------------|
| 29 | Indonesia  | 43 | Norway                       | 57 | The Netherlands |
| 30 | Iraq       | 44 | Peru                         | 58 | Uganda          |
| 31 | Italy      | 45 | Republic of Marshall Islands | 59 | UK              |
| 32 | Jordan     | 46 | Rwanda                       | 60 | USA             |
| 33 | Kenya      | 47 | Senegal                      | 61 | Vietnam         |
| 34 | Kosovo     | 48 | Slovenia                     | 62 | Western Sahara  |
| 35 | Lao PDR    | 49 | Somaliland                   | 63 | Yemen           |
| 36 | Lebanon    | 50 | South Africa                 | 64 | Zambia          |
| 37 | Mauritania | 51 | Sri Lanka                    |    |                 |
| 38 | Mongolia   | 52 | Sudan                        |    |                 |
| 39 | Morocco    | 53 | Sweden                       |    |                 |
| 40 | Mozambique | 54 | Tajikistan                   |    |                 |
| 41 | Nepal      | 55 | Tanzania                     |    |                 |
| 42 | Nicaragua  | 56 | Thailand                     |    |                 |

## Information Management

Effective information management is key to a successful mine action programme. The Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) is the GICHD's biggest single project.

Used in more than 50 mine action programmes around the world, IMSMA has been specifically designed to meet the requirements of users in the field. Since its initial release ten years ago, the system has been continuously revised and improved and is now the *de facto* standard in mine action information management, as well as being the UN's preferred system for the programmes it supports.

Having completely re-engineered, updated and upgraded the IMSMA software over the past four years, the IMSMA team continued to install the latest version in mine action programmes during 2009. The IMSMA team helped to ensure an effective migration from earlier versions in 18 countries, including Afghanistan, Cyprus, Ecuador, Ethiopia and Mozambique, and completed new installations in Morocco and the UN peacekeeping mission in the Central African Republic and Chad (MINURCAT). In addition, the Centre updated its IMSMA mobile software and tested it on new multi-sensor platforms for handheld data collection.

A new tool for remote IMSMA support was also launched, which enables support staff in Geneva to connect to IMSMA installations in the field to resolve technical issues at the request of national administrators. This has greatly increased productivity and reduced the response time needed for support. In addition, an IMSMA Google Group has been set up, [groups.google.com/group/imsma](https://groups.google.com/group/imsma). More than 70 members from the mine action community have joined and comment regularly in the Group. An IMSMA Twitter was also created, [twitter.com/imsma](https://twitter.com/imsma).



Throughout the year, there was greater emphasis on training of national information managers with workshops being conducted in Geneva, as well as in mine action programmes. The Centre is also pursuing its efforts to introduce a broad-based framework approach to the overall management of information of all kinds in mine action.

Finally, the GICHD set up an implementing partners initiative for information management. So far, it includes the US Humanitarian Demining Training Center (HDTC), Information Management and Mine Action Programs (iMMAP), Norwegian People's Aid (NPA) and the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB). Experts from these organisations have been certified and have been providing support to several mine action programmes on behalf of the GICHD.

## MINE ACTION STANDARDS

The International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) provide guidelines for national governments, mine action centres, demining organisations and militaries engaged in humanitarian demining for safe and efficient implementation of mine action programmes and projects. They then become the basis for national mine action standards (NMAS) and standing operational procedures (SOPs). The IMAS, and other related documents in support of IMAS, are managed by the GICHD on behalf of the United Nations. This management consists of the review process for extant IMAS and technical notes for mine action (TNMA); the development of new IMAS and TNMA; and an outreach support capacity to disseminate information on the new and amended IMAS and other related documents as well as assistance in the development of national mine action standards.

Three IMAS on land release were developed, approved and endorsed in 2009 (see [www.mineactionstandards.org](http://www.mineactionstandards.org)). IMAS 08.20 deals with land release in general, IMAS 08.21 covers non-technical survey for land release and IMAS 08.22 governs land release by technical survey. In addition, a TNMA on Field Risk Assessment was developed, approved and published in 2009.

The Risk Education IMAS have been reviewed and revised, and were formally submitted to an international MRE Advisory Group for comment in November. Finalisation of the new standards is expected in the first quarter of 2010.

National standards workshops were held in Lima, Peru, in March, and in Ziguinchor, Senegal, in May and September 2009. The Senegalese national mine action standards have now been finalised and endorsed by the government of Senegal. In addition, a national workshop in support of MRE standards in Sri Lanka was conducted in February 2009. A NMAS workshop was also held in support of revising and updating Ecuadorian national standards in conjunction with the Organization of American States (OAS) in Quito in October.

The Centre also conducted a desk review of the draft national standards for Nepal and the UK's national standards for demining on the Falkland Islands/Malvinas, providing comments in writing to the relevant authorities in 2009.

IMAS trainings were provided to mine action personnel in various programmes and in the UN meetings and forums throughout the year in Geneva, Jordan and the USA.

The Swiss Campaign to Ban Landmines – Gender & Mine Action Programme (GMAP), under contract from the GICHD, conducted a review of all 47 IMAS in January and February 2009 to ensure that gender issues were taken into account in the IMAS. They developed a checklist for those drafting future IMAS on how to ensure gender issues are considered within each set of standards. They also reviewed all current standards and recommended changes from a gender perspective. In November, amendments to the IMAS were made based on the recommendations of the GMAP and in consultation with UNMAS.

In addition to the inclusion of gender and diversity issues, all IMAS were amended to ensure that the land release concept and terminology is integrated throughout and that the IMAS are in compliance with the Convention on Cluster Munitions. The amended versions of all the IMAS were circulated to the IMAS Review Board for approval during the first quarter of 2010.

The popular *Guide to IMAS* was updated in 2009 and it contains 10 new and several amended versions of IMAS; it was published in August. In addition, information on training and support services, developing national standards and information about European Standards (CEN Workshop Agreements) were added, which make the guide more comprehensive than the 2006 version.



An up to date CD-ROM of all the IMAS including some translation into Arabic, French, Chinese, Spanish and Russian was also issued in March 2009.

Finally, the IMAS website [www.mineactionstandards.org](http://www.mineactionstandards.org) has been maintained and updated throughout the year 2009, in partnership with the Mine Action Information Center at James Madison University (MAIC/JMU). All up-to-date IMAS, their translations and other relevant documents can be viewed or downloaded at this website.

## INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW

Since 1999, the GICHD has supported the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention in a number of practical ways. The Centre hosts meetings of the intersessional Standing Committees established by the States Parties to the Convention, administers a delegate sponsorship programme and provides technical and operational input as an observer delegation at the Convention's meetings.

The Convention's Implementation Support Unit (ISU), hosted by the GICHD, was established in 2001 under a mandate by the States Parties. The ISU provides States Parties with professional advice, assistance and information concerning all aspects of the Convention's implementation process. The ISU serves as the principal support for the Convention's President and Co-Chairs of the Standing Committees and advises the Sponsorship Programme's Donors' Group.

Under its agreement with the States Parties to the Convention, the GICHD reports to the States Parties in detail on the activities of the ISU. During 2009, the ISU:

- > provided substantive and organisational support to the President of the Second Review Conference of the Convention and support and assistance to the Co-Chairs of the Convention's Standing Committees
- > offered advice to all relevant States Parties on the preparation of requests for extensions on the period required to fulfil mine clearance obligations, and assisted others in reporting the completion of these obligations
- > helped initiate or provided support to the inter-ministerial planning processes established by several States Parties with responsibilities for large numbers of landmine survivors
- > assisted States Parties in fulfilling their reporting obligations under Article 7 of the Convention and in disseminating information provided in transparency reports
- > maintained the Convention's Documentation Centre, which was established by the ISU as part of its mandate

The GICHD has continued to support global efforts to address the threat from cluster munitions. This includes the publication of a revised and updated edition of *A Guide to Cluster Munitions*. The Convention on Cluster Munitions, adopted in 2008, represents a new milestone in international humanitarian law and is expected to significantly reduce casualties from cluster munitions in the years to come. It will enter into force on 1 August 2010.

The GICHD also has observer status to the 1980 Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) – a framework convention that aims to ban or restrict the use of various types of weapons deemed to cause unnecessary human suffering. The Convention has five protocols, two of which deal with the use of landmines and other ERW. Amended Protocol II restricts the use of landmines, booby traps and other devices, while Protocol V is designed to minimise the risks and effects of ERW in the post-conflict period. The GICHD also administered the CCW sponsorship programme, aiming to promote the universalisation and implementation of the CCW and its annexed Protocols.

## SPREADING THE MESSAGE

In 2009, the GICHD produced a wide range of books and documents. These included a number of studies based on the results of new research conducted by specialists at the Centre. The Centre also published guides for the field staff of demining organisations and operators, manuals for specialists, as well as up-to-date equipment catalogues.

During the year the Centre produced, among others, the following publications:

- > *A Guide to Contracting in Mine Action*
- > *A Guide to the International Mine Action Standards – Edition 2010*
- > *Detectors and Personal Protective Equipment Catalogue 2009*
- > *A Handbook of Mechanical Demining*
- > *Mechanical Demining Equipment Catalogue – Edition 2010*
- > IMAS CD ROM - Issue 5 - 2009
- > International Mine Action Standards for Mine Risk Education Training Manuals
- > Report on the Regional Conference on the Promotion and Universalization of the Convention on Cluster Munitions (EU Joint Action)

In keeping with the GICHD's ethos to provide practical and relevant assistance to those working in the field, as well as at national and international levels, the Centre worked hard to ensure that publications remained accessible, clear and useful.

Where relevant, publications were translated into appropriate languages. Following many requests, a number of IMAS were also translated. Some IMAS are already available in Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian and Spanish. In partnership with CPADD and the French Engineers School in Angers (ESAG), 25 additional IMAS were translated into French in 2009. With this the total number of IMAS translated into French is 35. Further information on non-English IMAS can be found at [www.mineactionstandards.org](http://www.mineactionstandards.org).

All our publications are available free of charge. They can be downloaded or ordered online via the Centre's website [www.gichd.org](http://www.gichd.org).

French and Spanish versions of the GICHD website home page and other key pages were also updated ([www.gichd.org/fr/](http://www.gichd.org/fr/); [www.gichd.org/es/](http://www.gichd.org/es/)), strengthening the GICHD's efforts to ensure access to our publications and other mine-action-related material to as wide an audience as possible.

In July 2009, the Centre formally launched Bibliomines, an online library of mine action resources in French ([www.bibliomines.org](http://www.bibliomines.org)). At the end of 2009, almost 1,900 documents had been entered in the database with their descriptions.

The Centre also continued to provide further support to mine affected Francophone countries, including the organisation of:

- > a regional risk education workshop for Francophone African countries, convened at the West African Centre for Humanitarian Mine Action Training (CPADD) in Benin with the support of UNICEF; the workshop was the first to use the newly developed best practice training manuals for risk education standards
- > a second annual seminar for mine action in Francophone Africa, held in Dakar, Senegal, which brought together representatives of some 20 countries, as well as UN agencies, members of the European Commission and NGOs

## RESOURCES

The GICHD enjoys effective partnerships with many donor governments and organisations, whose contributions allow us to achieve our mission. In 2009, we received support from 17 contributors (without counting those contributing to the Implementation Support Unit Trust Fund). Many of these donors have funded us over several years. Some financial contributions are earmarked for specific projects while others provide flexible core funding, in particular the major financial support of the Swiss government. To undertake our activities in 2009, we had a total expenditure of just over CHF 13 million.

The GICHD would like to thank the following countries and organisations for their support in 2009: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, the European Commission, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Lithuania, Norway, the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie, Sweden, Switzerland, the UN and the USA.

The Centre's strength lies in the abilities and knowledge of our staff members: during 2009 we had more than 50 staff supporting the aims of our strategy. Our operations staff formed the largest part with about half of the total; the Implementation Support Unit numbered seven; the remaining staff worked within support functions (conferences, communications, publications and sponsorship programmes), as well as the administration and management of the Centre.



As we have done during the last few years, we also selected young professional people from mine-affected countries or regions to work with us. During 2009, individuals from Azerbaijan, Benin and Sri Lanka were represented in this role. We also regularly host interns in the Operations Division and Implementation Support Unit, providing young graduates with professional experience and a window into the topic of mine action.

Following our usual practice, we also held information and training weeks for all staff which gave us the opportunity to examine our activities in relation to the trends in humanitarian disarmament, as well as different aspects of our organisational structure and procedures. An internal discussion and training process on gender and diversity issues, which started in 2008, continued to inform and influence the Centre's activities and practices during 2009.

Our Council of Foundation and Advisory Board are of great importance to the Centre. Nineteen States – six of whom are mine-affected – make up the Council of Foundation; UNMAS has observer status. The Council of Foundation met twice to review our performance and supervise activities.

The Advisory Board has 15 members representing national authorities, NGOs, commercial organisations and international organisations such as UNMAS, UNDP and UNICEF. These experts advise the Centre on how to make the most useful and relevant contributions to the mine action community. The Advisory Board met three times and was regularly consulted on the key developments of the Centre during the year.



## COUNCIL OF FOUNDATION

The Council of Foundation has 21 members and one observer nominated by States contributing significantly and/or participating in the Centre's immediate activities.

### President

**Dr Barbara Haering**

### Honorary President

**Dr Cornelio Sommaruga**

### Members of the Council in 2009

Afghanistan | **Ambassador Nanguyalai Tarzi** | Permanent Representative of Afghanistan | Geneva

Australia | **Ambassador Caroline Millar** | Permanent Representative of Australia to the Conference on Disarmament | Geneva

Canada | **Ambassador Marius Grinius** | Permanent Representative of Canada to the Conference of Disarmament | Geneva

Colombia | **Ambassador Angelino Garzón** | Permanent Representative of Colombia | Geneva

Croatia | **Ms Dijana Plestina** | Advisor on Mine Action to the Minister of Foreign Affairs | Croatia

Finland | **Ambassador Hannu Himanen** | Permanent Representative of Finland | Geneva

France | **Ambassador Eric Danon** | Permanent Representative of France to the Conference on Disarmament | Geneva

Germany | **Ambassador Hellmut Hoffmann** | Permanent Representative of Germany to the Conference of Disarmament | Geneva

Italy | **Ambassador Giovanni Manfredi** | Permanent Representative of Italy to the Conference on Disarmament | Geneva

Japan | **Ambassador Kenichi Suganuma** | Deputy Permanent Representative of Japan | Geneva

Jordan | **His Royal Highness, Prince Mired bin Raad bin Zeid al-Hussein of Jordan** | Chairman of the National Committee for Demining and Rehabilitation

Mozambique | **Ambassador Frances Victória Velho Rodrigues** | Permanent Representative of Mozambique | Geneva

Netherlands | **Ambassador Paul van den Ijssel** | Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the Conference of Disarmament | Geneva

Norway | **Ambassador Susan Eckey** | Deputy Director General in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs | Norway

Senegal | **Ms Seynabou Dial** | Second Counsellor | Permanent Mission of Senegal | Geneva

Sweden | **Ambassador Hans Dahlgren** | Permanent Representative of Sweden | Geneva

Switzerland | **Brigadier General Erwin Dahinden** | Secretary of the Council of Foundation, Head International Relations | Swiss Federal Department of Defence, Civil Protection and Sport

Switzerland | **Ambassador Jürg Streuli** | Treasurer of the Council of Foundation | Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva

United Kingdom | **Ambassador John Duncan** | Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom to the Conference of Disarmament | Geneva

United States of America | **Ambassador Warren W. Tichenor** | Permanent Representative of the United States of America in Geneva

### Observer

**Mr Maxwell Kerley** | Director of United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) | New York

## ADVISORY BOARD

Members in 2009

The Advisory Board provides advice to both the Council of Foundation and the management of the GICHD. It consists of a group of distinguished practitioners who are in charge at various levels of the international mine action community. The Advisory Board is chaired by the Director of the GICHD.

**Ms Arianna Calza Bini** | Programme Manager | Gender and Mine Action | Swiss Campaign to Ban Landmines (SCBL)

**Mr Carl Case** | Director | Humanitarian Mine Action, Organization of American States (OAS)

**Mr Chris Clark** | Senior Liaison Officer in Geneva | United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS)

**Mr Hansjoerg Eberle** | Director General | Swiss Foundation for Mine Action (FSD)

**Mr Steinar Essén** | Deputy Director | Mine Action | Norwegian People's Aid (NPA)

**Mr Etsay Gebre Selassie** | Director General | Ethiopian Mine Action Office (EMAO) | Ethiopia

**Ms Judy Grayson** | Senior Advisor | United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

**Mr Shohab Hakimi** | Director | Mine Dog Centre | Afghanistan

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