

# Annual Report | 2011



**GICHD | CIDHG**



The Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), an international **expert organisation** legally based in Switzerland as a non-profit foundation, works for the **elimination** of mines, explosive remnants of war and other explosive hazards, such as unsafe munitions stockpiles. The GICHD provides **advice** and capacity development support, undertakes applied research, disseminates knowledge and best practices and develops **standards**. In **cooperation** with its partners, the GICHD's work enables national and local authorities in **affected countries** to effectively and efficiently **plan, coordinate, implement, monitor and evaluate** safe mine action programmes, as well as to implement the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, the Convention on Cluster Munitions and other relevant instruments of international law. The GICHD follows the humanitarian principles of **humanity, impartiality, neutrality and independence**.

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Participating in the Eleventh Meeting of States Parties to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC) in December 2011 in Cambodia, and meeting with affected communities in one of the most heavily impacted countries, I witnessed the importance of humanitarian demining for broader development efforts. Mine action is an integral element of development policies in countries affected by mines, cluster munitions and explosive remnants of war. The APMBC, together with the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) provide the legal framework for mine action. Both conventions are instrumental in maintaining a strong focus on these indiscriminate weapons. It is encouraging to see the CCM gaining more and more traction with a constant increase of the number of States Parties and the APMBC welcoming two new States Parties in 2011 and early 2012. In addition to these treaties, several parallel initiatives address the devastating impact of explosive weapons on civilian populations such as the Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence and Development and the International Network on Explosive Weapons.

I am happy to witness the engagement of an increasing number of actors and organisations in these initiatives - all aiming in the same direction: the protection of populations against indiscriminate weapons. It is in this context that the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) will continue to remain responsive to the needs of countries affected by mines, cluster munitions and explosive remnants of war. However, without our donors and partners this commitment could not be translated into action - we thank you all for your continued support of the GICHD and its objectives.

Dr Barbara Haering | President of the GICHD Council of Foundation



## FOREWORD BY THE DIRECTOR

2011 was a year of action as well as one of reflection and definition for the GICHD. An extensive strategy review was undertaken. Consultation with national mine action authorities, the UN, ICRC, operators, research centres, donors and other partners took place throughout the year, as well as intense discussion and debate about the way forward for the GICHD. It was important to understand the current working context of mine action, as well as how the GICHD should contribute to the development of the mine action sector and the achievements required by the international humanitarian legal framework.

This year-long process culminated in the formal adoption of the new Strategy for 2012 – 2014 by the GICHD Council of Foundation in December 2011. We believe that this Strategy, with its analysis of the working context within mine action, will become an effective guide for the development of GICHD activity, as well as a useful tool for others working within mine action.

An observer could think that the GICHD exclusively deals with mines, explosive remnants of war and other explosive hazards such as unsafe munitions stockpiles. Indeed, this is a core focus of GICHD's work because it is these devices that kill and maim people. At the same time, the GICHD is actively concerned with land-related issues, and quite often with land that contains no mines or explosive remnants of war (ERW).

The land release approach aims to promote operational efficiency by making the difference between land that contains mines and ERW and land that is, in fact, safe. Land is a key factor for the development of communities, and value for money should be an important driving force for mine action. It is in light of this aim that we work extensively on the planned and actual use of land after the release or clearance, and on land rights.

The GICHD is also working increasingly on management issues for mine action. Running a mine action programme is a complex and challenging task, which requires solid management knowledge, skills and tools. In response, the GICHD works with advisory teams from different backgrounds on topics such as strategic management, information management, quality management and legal questions of, for example, compliance and liabilities.

For a knowledge hub such as the GICHD, spreading the message is of key importance. There are always new and different methods of communicating with our various audiences, some of which we are currently exploring. At the same time, however, language remains the basis for all communication. We have in recent years invested heavily in creating the Francophone programme, which came to a planned point of handover to our Francophone country partners. This model of creating a free flow of information and experience within a language group has proved to be very effective and during 2011 we started the process of creating a similar programme which will benefit those countries working in Arabic.

As always there has been an internal emphasis within the GICHD on becoming increasingly fit, as an organisation, to meet the challenges of our sector and the scope of our activities. This emphasis has included improved project management methods, financial controlling systems and development training of our teams.

The GICHD continues to exercise an important role in mine action, contributing significantly to the work of the sector. This is possible due to a highly motivated GICHD team and close partnerships throughout mine action and increasingly in related fields.

Ambassador Stephan Husy | GICHD Director



## WORKING CONTEXT

Anti-personnel (AP) mines, cluster munitions (CM) and other explosive remnants of war (ERW) affect civilians indiscriminately and remain an impediment to development long after the cessation of armed conflict. More than one-third of the world's countries remain contaminated by these weapons.

The comprehensive ban on AP mines, through the adoption of the AP Mine Ban Convention (APMBC), has been instrumental in drastically reducing the number of new victims, the global mined area, and the laying of new AP mines. In 2009, the Second Review Conference reflected on progress made and remaining challenges. This led to the Cartagena Action Plan, with strong implementation commitments, including the need to focus on better identification of hazardous areas. The Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) has entered into force on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2010 and has gained much traction and wide support. The active involvement of some of the most affected countries in the work of the Convention has been crucial. In addition, the Amended Protocol II on Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices and Protocol V on Explosive Remnants of War within the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) establish general restrictions and responsibilities regarding mines, cluster munitions and ERW.

After having singled out two of the worst indiscriminate weapons, international and national attention is now directed towards the broader phenomenon of armed violence. For example, the Explosive Weapons initiative deals with a broad range of weapons that have horrible effects on civilians when used in populated areas, while the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) process aims at an international agreement to regulate the international transfer of all types of conventional weapons. Backed by the Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence and Development, the Oslo Commitments on Armed Violence and other processes, the international community nowadays widely recognizes that armed violence poses a serious obstacle to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

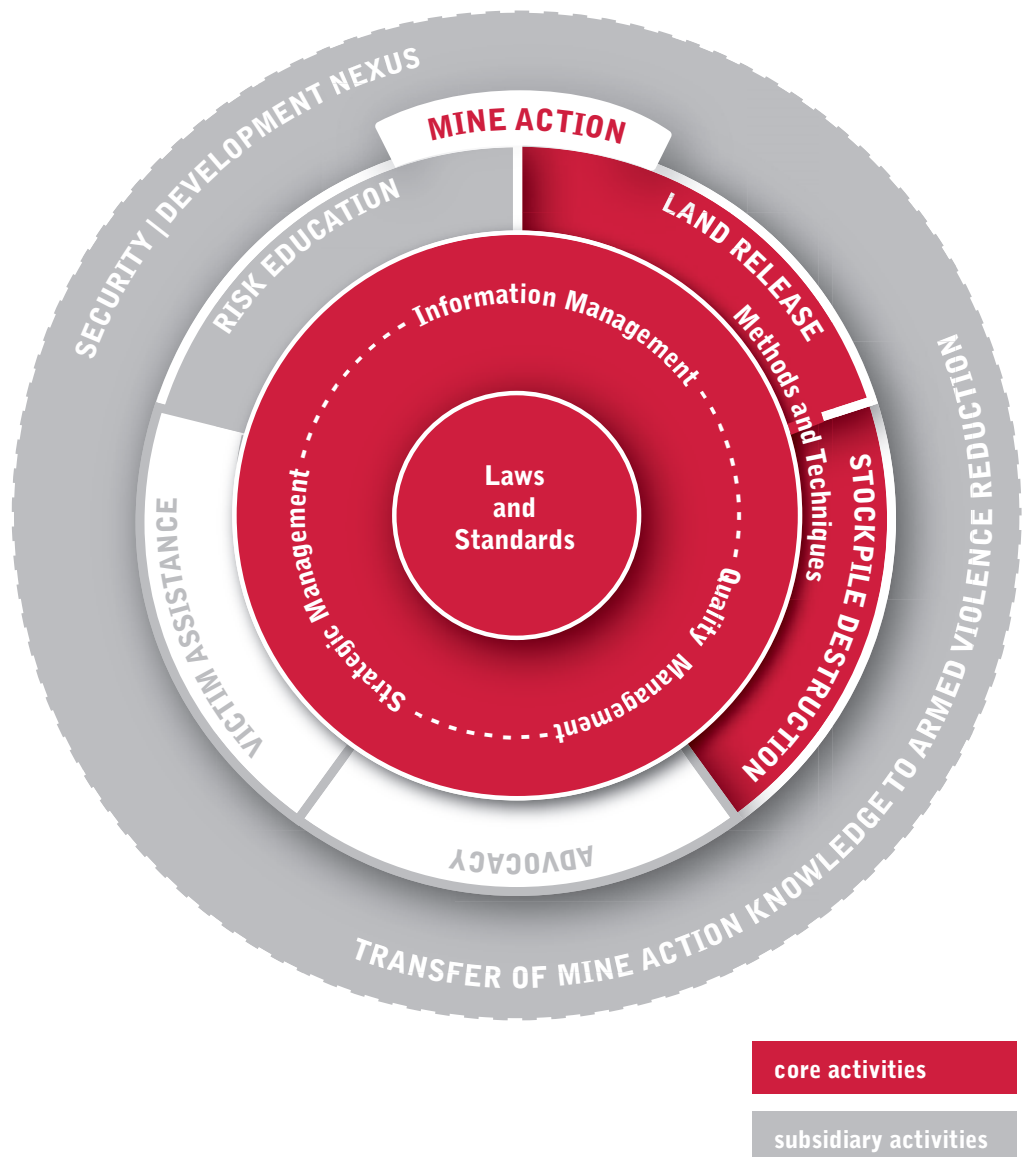
At a more operational level:

- > Progress will accelerate in terms of countries meeting treaty obligations, reducing and eliminating the impact, or assuming responsibility for their remaining contamination problem, implying a fall in both the total volume of assistance required for national mine action programmes and in the total number of countries needing and seeking mine action assistance from the international community.
- > The assistance provided to some countries will not disappear, but may shift into wider explosives and weapons related activities or more targeted mine action support delivered, for example, via training workshops, short-term advisors, and South-South exchanges.
- > There is a clear move among donors towards greater focus on projects and country programmes, as opposed to the past practice of providing core funding to organisations with global activities.
- > Mine action is becoming a more competitive place. Contracting, compliance issues and business opportunities (e.g. with oil companies) are increasingly important. Resources are sometimes allocated to other activities, such as the destruction of a broader range of weapons. As a result, many mine action organisations are moving successfully into related fields.
- > Given donors' increasing focus on value-for-money, countries and organisations are expected to provide more justification for their activities, with clearer evidence of effectiveness - development outcomes and treaty compliance - and efficiency, by better definition of the contamination problem and by using the most cost-effective ways to eliminate threats and constraints.

- > There is clear expectation that national authorities will assume greater ownership of mine action problems and their resolution, including managing treaty obligations and dealing with residual levels of contamination. The management of the long-term aspects of the problem, especially those affecting victims of landmines/ERW, has begun to shift towards other established social and governmental actors.
- > As in most sectors, rapid changes in technology - particularly Information & Communication Technology (ICT) - are creating opportunities for innovation and challenges for established platforms.

In summary, mine action remains an important humanitarian and development activity and significant tool of progress. It is changing shape and form as the nature of the remaining problem evolves and as the circumstances and conditions which surround it change.

### GICHD | Scope of Activity



The work of the GICHD during 2011 is described in more detail in the following pages.

## WORKING METHODS

Based on a combination of experience and applied research, the GICHD provides advice and capacity development support, disseminates knowledge and best practices and develops standards. In cooperation with its partners, the GICHD's work enables national and local authorities in affected countries to effectively and efficiently plan, coordinate, implement, monitor and evaluate safe mine action programmes, as well as to implement the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, the Convention on Cluster Munitions and other relevant instruments of international law.

Our work is based on a wide range of partnerships – with governments, the United Nations, the ICRC, other international, regional and national organisations, operators and research institutions. In 2011, GICHD staff visited around 50 countries and areas worldwide to deliver training, conduct studies, hold workshops and provide professional advice and expertise on mine action.

## PROGRAMMES

During 2011, the GICHD Strategy for 2009-2011 was the guiding document for our activity, along with our evolving thoughts and the development of a new Strategy for 2012 - 2014. Following an internal reorganisation in 2011, the new structure, comprising three sections of strategic management, operations and information management, continued to develop and strengthen their relationships internally and externally. These were added to our existing Standards section, creating a total of four sections. The management of the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS), on behalf of the United Nations and the mine action community, continued; while the Francophone outreach programme reached a planned handover in 2011, when responsibility was transferred to our Francophone partners.

### Strategic Management

Improved management of mine action programmes is a key aim of the GICHD, so much of our support to capacity development focuses on strengthening the strategic management capabilities in mine-affected countries. To help achieve this aim, the Strategic Management section provides support to a number of programmes through training, advisory services and publications. While the publications for 2011 focused on enhancing the capacities of national mine action programmes' priority-setting and survey, training focused on enhancing programme design, monitoring and evaluation and quality management.



### Mine Action, Security and Development (MASD)

The purpose of GICHD's Mine Action, Security and Development (MASD) programme is to provide mine action and development practitioners with information and tools required to link mine action with broader priorities on government and international community levels (development, humanitarian, peacekeeping, post-conflict recovery, armed violence reduction, security sector reform, etc). In 2011, key MASD-related activities included:

- > Assisting UNMACC in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) in the development of the country's mine action strategy for 2012 - 2016. The DRC Government subsequently adopted the strategy



- > Facilitating a transition workshop in South Sudan in June 2011
- > Facilitating a strategic planning workshop in South Sudan and assisting national authorities in preparing a draft strategic plan (GICHD will assist in finalising this strategy in 2012)
- > On behalf of the Government of Iraq and the U.S. Department of State, the Centre conducted an assessment of the institutional architecture of the Iraqi mine action programme and provided recommendations for the way forward
- > The Centre continued its advice and training to Vietnamese authorities on the reform of its mine action programme, and delivered an overview of the national programme at the first annual Vietnam Mine Action Forum
- > Publication of four Issue Briefs on 'Priority-Setting in Mine Action' to deepen understanding of how to deliver value-for-money in mine action. In addition, the Centre provided advice on the economics of landmines to the World Bank's 'Economics of Conflict' project
- > Publication of 'A Sourcebook on Socio-economic Survey' at the end of 2011, which will assist National Mine Action Authorities (NMAA) and operators in undertaking socio-economic surveys for prioritisation and for monitoring and reporting on the development outcomes stemming from mine action
- > At the request of UNMAT, initiation of a GICHD study on Transitioning Mine Action Programmes to National Ownership. Case study research was undertaken in Albania, Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Ethiopia, Lebanon, Mozambique, and Sudan. The overall purpose of the study is to develop practical guidance on how to plan and implement transitions from UN-managed and supported programmed to national ownership
- > Organising side events on 'Landmines and Land Rights in Conflict Affected Contexts' during key mine action and Armed Violence Reduction (AVR) related conferences in Geneva, in association with UN-HABITAT and the International Organisation for Migration (IOM). These deepened awareness of the links between land and conflict, and the need for mine action organisations to 'do no harm' by taking land issues into account as part of their operations
- > Initiation of a study on how mine action organisations contribute to Armed Violence Reduction, with case studies in Albania and Somaliland. The purpose of the project is to generate evidence that demonstrates how, at an operational level, mine action organisations provide practical support to wider human security programmes

### **Quality Management, Monitoring and Evaluation (QMME)**

The Centre's evaluations take into account whether a policy, programme or project is sustainable, relevant to local needs and effective in promoting security, reconstruction and development priorities in affected countries.

During 2011, the GICHD conducted evaluations of Danish Demining Group (DDG) in Afghanistan and South Sudan. A second landmines and livelihoods survey was implemented in Herat, Afghanistan, in collaboration with the Gender and Mine Action Programme (GMAP), the Mine Action Coordination Centre in Afghanistan (MACCA) and a number of implementing partners (HALO Trust, DDG, Afghan Red Crescent Society (ARCS), Organisation for Mine Action and Rehabilitation (OMAR) and the Afghan Institute for Rural Development). In addition, the GICHD continued its focus on developing national evaluation capacities to ensure greater ownership and sustainability. Activities towards this objective included the 'Evaluating Mine Action', 'Evaluating Conflict, Security and Development' and 'Quality Management' workshops.

The GICHD also ensured that the new national strategy for the DRC included a monitoring and evaluation framework. In addition, the Centre delivered a presentation at DDG's Annual Country Programme Directors' meeting in June 2011 on how to enhance corporate Monitoring and Evaluation capability.

Additional QMME activities included:

- > 'Evaluating Mine Action' workshops delivered in Afghanistan (February), Geneva (October) and in India (November). The workshops deepened knowledge of evaluation concepts, processes and methods, as well as results-based management approaches, and assisted mine action practitioners in assuming enhanced roles in the evaluation function
- > 'Evaluating Conflict, Security and Development' workshop delivered in partnership with the Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP), Small Arms Survey (SAS), and the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of the Armed Forces' International Security Sector Advisory Team (DCAF-ISSAT) in Geneva in August-September. The workshop provided practitioners working in security and development fields with the opportunity to learn design, monitoring and evaluation concepts
- > Quality Management assessments undertaken in the DRC, Vietnam, Afghanistan and Azerbaijan, as well as in Western Europe (France, Germany and the United Kingdom)
- > National Quality Management workshop delivered in Afghanistan (September); Asia regional Quality Management workshop in India (November)

## Operations

### Land Release

Land release approaches to mine clearance focus on the better targeting of clearance resources through improvements in technical and non-technical survey activities. Outreach activities are part of the GICHD's efforts to widen and deepen understanding of the principles of land release and how to increase efficiency during survey and clearance operations. The GICHD facilitated or took part in over 20 meetings, workshops and discussions on various aspects of the land release concept and principles. Examples of outreach activities include a workshop and assessment in Sudan; an evaluation of the land release approach of the Cambodian Mine Action Centre (CMAC); an operational efficiency assessment in Lao PDR and workshops on survey in Northern Iraq. In addition, a global meeting on 'enhanced operational approaches' was co-facilitated with CMAC in Siem Reap. This was attended by participants from over 20 countries.

'A Guide to Land Release: technical methods' was published and the GICHD website pages were updated to provide an accurate, in-depth resource on this topic. The publication highlights best practices in technical survey approaches, including how machines, dogs and manual demining teams can be used most effectively.

### Animal detection

At the end of March 2011, the GICHD Mine Detection Dogs (MDD) support project to Afghanistan was completed. This project was started in 2004 and has benefited the Afghanistan dog project through improved facilities for training and accreditation which has resulted in a considerable increase in the number of reliable dogs available for operations. In addition, research activities developed the Odour signature/Harmless target concept, which improves security of test fields by removing the need to use live mines and Unexploded Ordnance (UXO).

Progress continued in supporting animal detection programmes in mine-affected countries in establishing new knowledge, experience and best practice. One example of this is the support provided to Cambodian Mine Action Authority (CMAA) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Cambodia for accreditation procedures and identifying personnel, training and infrastructure requirements. This is an on-going process which will continue into 2012.

In 2010, the REST (Remote Explosive Scent Tracing) project was completed and a part of 2011 was spent coordinating the research results from all those who took part during this lengthy project. Work continued on documenting the findings, which were subsequently published in early 2012.

### **Mechanical demining**

Mechanical demining can significantly improve the efficiency of mine action operations. The GICHD continues to support mechanical activities that promote such efficiency. In 2011, this included mechanical demining training delivered in Northern Iraq for the General Directorate for Mine Action, in Sweden for the Swedish EOD and Demining Centre (SWEDEC) and for the Ministry of Defense (MoD) in Iraq. Assistance with test and accreditation processes was also provided in Mozambique and Jordan during the year.

A new electronic tool was developed within the GICHD for the management of mechanical demining operations and training on this was successfully completed in Colombia. The tool was launched on the GICHD website with an accompanying manual and is freely available to all. The tool was also included within the mechanical demining training package. It was also widely presented in a number of different fora, including the Fourteenth International Meeting of National Mine Action Directors and UN Advisors in Geneva and for the Colombian army.

Advisory services on mechanical demining to those in the field and the research and development community were provided throughout the year.

### **Military Liaison**

Military Liaison activity included presentations on humanitarian demining at the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) Defense College in Rome, humanitarian demining training for military personnel from several countries, and participation in a NATO conference in Brussels. Relationships with NATO centres of excellence in Slovakia and Germany were also strengthened.

### **Stockpile Destruction and Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD)**

This is a topic of considerable importance to the mine action community and to those States who have responsibility to destroy stockpiles within the International Humanitarian Law (IHL) framework. Large stockpiles of aging ammunition, often kept in less than ideal conditions, represent considerable risk to human and economic life. According to the Small Arms Survey, the recent accident rate has increased to one every two weeks. The consequences, particularly in human life and injury, can be enormous. As an example of GICHD support, a GICHD mission provided assistance to Norway in their support of the destruction of PFM-1 anti-personnel mine stockpile in Ukraine. Further advisory missions were undertaken to Lebanon, Lao PDR and Vietnam within 2011 and extensive desk support was undertaken on key aspects of EOD and stockpile destruction.

Work has also continued on the signature metal detector project for the survey and clearance of explosive submunitions.

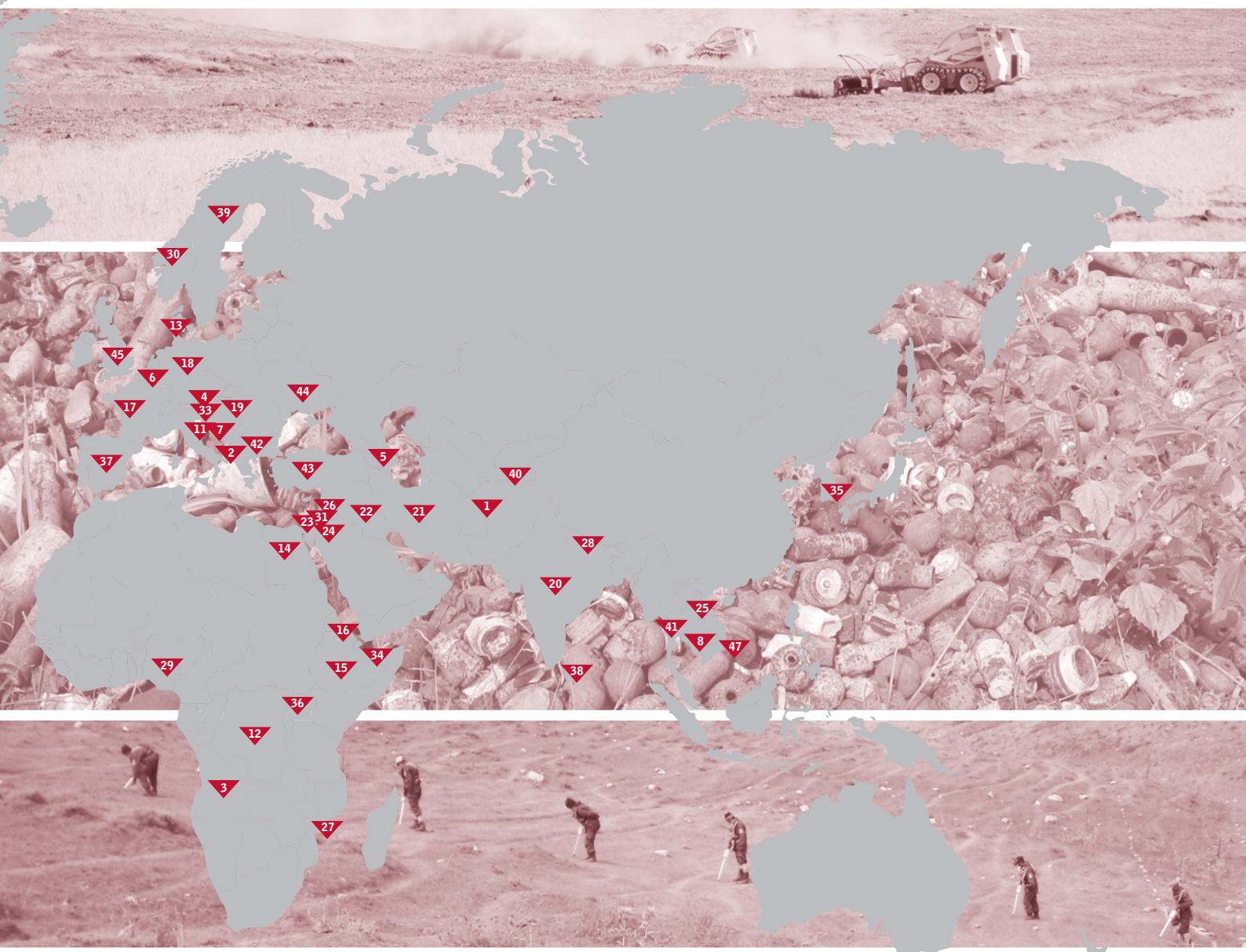
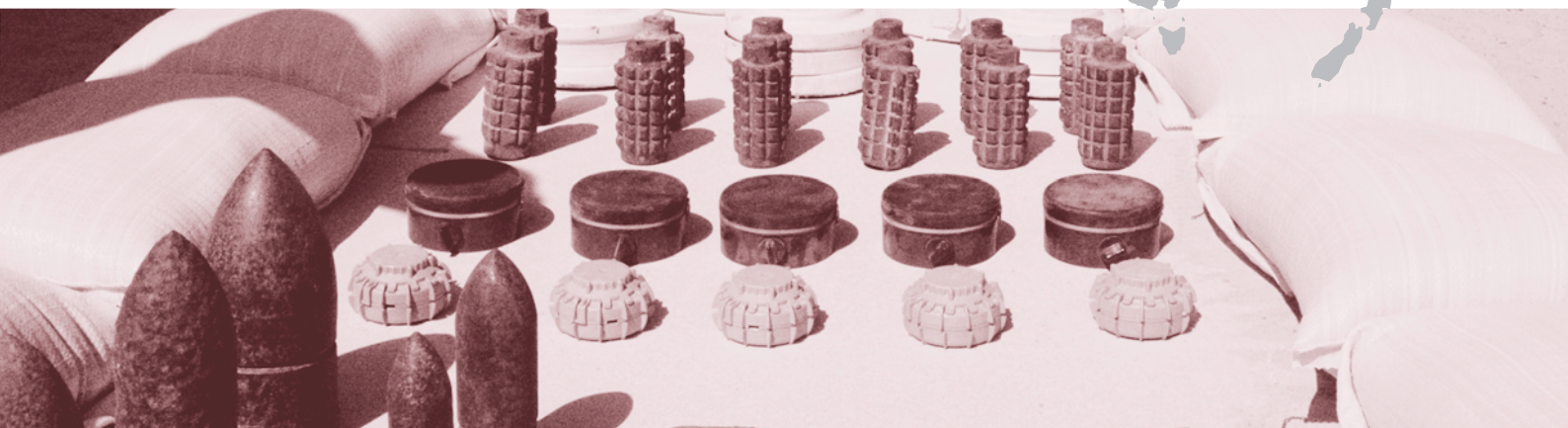
The first stage of development of the Cluster Munitions Identification Tool, focussed on cluster units, was completed within 2011 and work on the second stage (bomblet units) also commenced. This database tool is designed to assist those who must identify unknown material in the field or in stockpiles and helps countries to fulfil treaty obligations.

Stockpile destruction demands planning and funding to make such demilitarisation operations safe, efficient, cost-effective and environmentally friendly.

## GICHD | WORKING AROUND THE WORLD

The GICHD works across the world with affected communities and also visits donor countries. In 2011, GICHD staff went to around 50 countries and areas to deliver training, conduct research, hold workshops and to provide professional advice and expertise on mine action. This map illustrates the places GICHD staff worked in during 2011.





## Technology

The flow of knowledge between mine action actors about technological developments is of great importance to the sector and the GICHD has a key role in facilitating discussions and knowledge dissemination. One example of this is the absorption of the International Test and Evaluation Program (ITEP) for Humanitarian Demining resource into the GICHD Links and Information for Mine Action (LIMA) database, which can be found on the GICHD website.

## Contracting

The publication, in 2010, of 'A Guide to Contracting in Mine Action' proved to be of great interest to national mine action authorities, international organisations, operators and other actors in the contracting of suppliers for equipment and services within mine action. During 2011, the contents of this publication were used as a basis for several key presentations and workshops given to, for example, the Senior Managers Training course at James Madison University. The GICHD ran several specific workshops where different mine action actors had an opportunity to understand this topic in depth. During the last quarter of 2011 further development work on this publication was undertaken, including an entirely new chapter on contracting in the oil and gas industry. An updated second version will be published in the first half of 2012.

During 2011, a further publication helped consolidate the GICHD's contribution to mine action management practices - 'A Guide to Insurance and Liability in Mine Action'. The topic was then included in the contracting training and workshops, as well as being delivered as a stand-alone course.



## Information Management

### Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA)

An effective mine action programme has to have information management as a cornerstone of its development and the Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) is the product that the GICHD offers which provides mine action programmes capability in this field. It is used in over 60 mine action programmes worldwide and represents the biggest single project investment of the GICHD since its start 15 years ago.

It is designed to provide solutions to users' information management needs and is continuously evolving to meet emerging new requirements. It is recognised as the information management standard within mine action and is the UN's preferred system in programmes it supports.

During 2011, there has been a growing understanding of how effective IMSMA can be in meeting the changing needs of mine action organisations, not simply as a technical function.

### **Software Development**

In the GICHD annual report of 2010, it was recognised that the need for further large scale developments of IMSMA<sup>NG</sup> (the version that was delivered to partners and users in 2010) was unlikely and that the software package would remain broadly stable. This is still the case and no major developments are planned. However, two updates were made and released during 2011, which have been responses to the changes in the mine action environment.

Considerable efforts have been made to move remaining users of the older IMSMA Legacy version to the current IMSMA<sup>NG</sup>. Countries who have achieved this in 2011 include South Sudan, Somalia/Somaliland and Cambodia.

### **Implementing Partners**

The GICHD has an implementing partners' initiative for information management. Its purpose is to certify experts who can, in turn, provide support to mine action programmes on behalf of the GICHD. The partners include organisations such as Norwegian People's Aid (NPA), the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB), the US Humanitarian Demining Training Center (HDTC) and the Information Management and Mine Action Programs (iMMAP). Discussions continued during 2011 to find new members for this group. A further training session for these implementing partners, originally planned for 2011, was postponed into the early part of 2012 for organisational reasons.

### **Training**

If mine action programmes are to truly benefit from information management, then providing training materials and opportunities should be, and is, a key task of the GICHD. One example of such activity in 2011 is the Geographic Information System (GIS) for Humanitarian Mine Action web course which has been published by the information management section on the ESRI Virtual Campus. Finding new and effective ways to deliver training and information to relevant audiences is vital to the success of the GICHD's information management systems and tools - and is a constantly evolving process. The development of more online courses is expected in the coming years.

As awareness of the potential usefulness of web-based GIS tools grows, there are increasing requests to help mine action programmes strengthen the quality of their data and staff knowledge. There has been considerable progress in this area during 2011 - work, for example, continued on the further identification and acquisition of data sources in the GICHD Baseline Spatial Data Repository.

### **Information Management**

One of the highlights of 2011 took place in San Diego at the ESRI International Users Conference when the GICHD Head, Information Management, Daniel Eriksson, was presented with the very prestigious 2011 'Making a Difference' prize by ESRI, in front of an audience of 15,000. This award is a recognition of our concentration in the last three years on capacity building in broader information management and the consolidation of IMSMA<sup>NG</sup>.

IMSMA is now installed in more than 60 countries and over 1,200 computer terminal installations.

## MINE ACTION STANDARDS

The GICHD continues to be fully engaged in supporting the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS). They benefit national mine action authorities, mine action centres, demining organisations and other stakeholders engaged in humanitarian or development activities. The standards provide guidelines for safe and efficient implementation of mine action programmes and projects. IMAS form a framework for the development of national mine action standards (NMAS) and standing operational procedures (SOPs) and, with other documents, are managed by the GICHD on behalf of the United Nations.

This management process consists of:

- > An on-going review process of extant IMAS and of technical notes for mine action (TNMA)
- > The development of new IMAS and TNMA
- > An outreach capacity to disseminate information on new and amended IMAS and other documents
- > Assistance on the development of NMAS

During 2011, five IMAS were reviewed and amended and work was progressed significantly on a further eight IMAS. The process of creating and adopting a new IMAS on Information Management was begun, with a draft to be completed in 2012. The annual Review Board meeting was convened in Geneva and the IMAS work plan was discussed. The GICHD Standards section continued its coordination and liaison with the UN and other standardisation bodies. As an example, the GICHD is a member of the Coordinating Action on Small Arms Expert Reference Group to review draft International Small Arms Control Standards.

As part of the outreach work surrounding the IMAS, the annual publication of updated IMAS, translations and TNMA on the IMAS CD – Issue 7 – 2011 took place and was circulated to the mine action community. There was also a considerable commitment in maintaining and updating the IMAS website. This was complemented by the regular provision of online support to users of the IMAS, the delivery of four IMAS training courses and six presentations on various aspects of the IMAS, including mine risk education, land release, quality management, mechanical and dog operations.

It is, of course, important to make IMAS available in different languages wherever possible and these efforts are reflected in the contents of the IMAS website. During 2011, seven IMAS, ten TNMA and four CEN Workshop Agreements (CWA) were translated into French and published, with the assistance of the military schools in Angers, France and of CPADD in Benin. Some IMAS were translated into Spanish in conjunction with the Organization of American States - a project which will continue to fruition in 2012.

In 2011, four countries, Vietnam, Tajikistan, DRC and Jordan, were supported in the development and revision of national mine action standards.

A system of international standards will need to be reviewed periodically to ensure its continued relevance to the problem it defines and describes. An evaluation of the IMAS was undertaken in 2011 and its findings and recommendations were fully discussed at the IMAS Review Board meeting in October 2011, held in Copenhagen. One of the conclusions which emerged from this process, and which was agreed at the meeting, was the need for an IMAS stakeholder analysis. Terms of reference for this were drafted and circulated to the Review Board - and follow-up to this will occur in 2012. The conclusions of the evaluation and all other information relevant to standards can be found at the website [www.mineactionstandards.org](http://www.mineactionstandards.org) which is supported by the GICHD website team.



## **RAPID**

In addition, activity began on developing an IMSMA system for reporting, analysis and prevention of incidents in demining (RAPID) which was subsequently launched in early 2012. This project is led by our Standards section working in conjunction with the GICHD information management team. The purpose is to enable analysis of trends in demining accidents in order to enhance work place safety procedures and standards for deminers.

## **INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW (IHL)**

The GICHD contributes to the development and implementation of instruments of international law that address the problem of explosive hazards through technical, logistical and administrative support.

### **Expert input to the development and implementation of IHL**

The GICHD provided expert input to facilitate informed discussions and negotiations during formal and informal meetings of relevant instruments of international humanitarian law (Meetings of States Parties, Review Conferences, Intersessional Meetings, Meetings of Experts, etc.).

For example, the Centre assisted Belgium in revising the reporting templates of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC) and drafting a Guide to reporting under the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM). The GICHD also regularly supported the Coordinators under the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) Amended Protocol II on Mines, Booby-Traps, and Other Devices and Protocol V on Explosive Remnants of War with expertise on many aspects of mine action.

In its advisory role, the GICHD assisted the Governments of affected States to comply with treaty obligations in the most efficient, effective and sustainable way. The scope of GICHD activities covered:

- > issues of laws and standards
- > strategic management of national mine action programmes
- > quality management and information management
- > methods and techniques of land release (survey and clearance)
- > stockpile destruction

GICHD is also involved in other political and legal issues which relate to the broader field of armed violence reduction. While the ATT process is closely followed, the Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence and Development provides an excellent platform for the Centre to inform its research and share its relevant findings. In this context, the GICHD organised a side-event on mine action and land rights during the Second Ministerial Review Conference on the Geneva Declaration in October 2011. In addition, the GICHD participated in the ongoing discussion on the impact of explosive weapons on the civilian populations.

### **Hosting and supporting of treaty mechanisms**

In 2011, the GICHD provided general administrative support to the implementation support unit (ISU) of the APMBC based on a revised agreement between the States Parties and the GICHD on implementation support for the APMBC, signed on 6 September 2011. This support covered Human Resources management (including insurances), financial management, contract and document management (Sharepoint), office rent and supplies, ICT (hardware, software, maintenance and telecommunication), travel services, publications and website management.

The GICHD also supported the ISU-APMBC in the organisation of the intersessional work programme and the administration of the sponsorship programme. GICHD services for hosting the intersessional meetings of the APMBC Standing Committees at the GICHD included, for 2011, conference management, conference room rental and interpretation services (English, French, Russian, Spanish). The administration of the APMBC Sponsorship Programme included travel and accommodation services as well as reporting and auditing. In 2011, the programme sponsored 100 participants to attend the Meetings of the Standing Committees from 20 to 24 June 2011 and the Eleventh Meeting of the States Parties (11MSP) from 27 November to 2 December 2011. The GICHD provided similar support to the CCM intersessional work programme, which took place between 27 and 30 June 2011.

At the Second Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (2MSP CCM) in 2011, the President of the Convention was mandated to negotiate and conclude an agreement between the States Parties and the GICHD on the hosting of an Implementation Support Unit.

As part of its financial support services, the GICHD is administering several Trust Funds such as the ISU-APMBC Trust Fund and the Sponsorship Programmes Trust Funds of the APMBC, CCW and CCM. The Trust Funds are audited by an independent auditor.



## **SPREADING THE MESSAGE**

The GICHD produced a wide range of publications in 2011. A number of guides, policy briefs and other publications are added each year to the GICHD library of tools and information, building a considerable resource for the mine action sector.

All of this material is available free of charge to anyone who can find it useful – in mine action activity or in simply understanding the scope and depth of mine action. Information and guidance on most aspects of mine action is available through printed publications, downloadable PDFs and CDs, as well as through other developing channels of communications.

2011 publication highlights included:

- > A Sourcebook on Socio-economic Survey
- > Priority-setting in Mine Action – four Issue Briefs
- > Landmines and Land Rights in Conflict Affected Contexts
- > A Guide to Liability & Insurance in Mine Action

- > A Guide to Land Release: Technical Methods
- > IMAS CD – Issue 7 - 2011
- > Land Release and Cluster Munitions
- > REST – Remote Explosive Scent tracing - a summary of the research project

In addition, the GICHD produced several publications on behalf of the ISU-APMBC, including:

- > Understanding Mine Clearance in the Context of the APMBC
- > Assisting Landmine and other ERW Survivors in the Context of Disarmament, Disability and Development

All of the GICHD publications and information can be downloaded, searched or ordered through the website [www.gichd.org](http://www.gichd.org).

### **Links & Information for Mine Action (LIMA)**

LIMA is an easy-to-use resource suited to both those who are new to mine action and to those requiring detailed technical information on specific aspects of mine action activity. LIMA absorbs the Mine Action Equipment E-Catalogue currently containing three sub-sections; Detectors, Mechanical and PPE, the European Union in Humanitarian Demining (EUDEM) and the International Test and Evaluation Program for Humanitarian Demining (ITEP) data. The LIMA also includes various databases relating to organisations and photos. The GICHD has made considerable investment in this resource to ensure that relevant information can be easily and effectively accessed by anyone who needs it. [www.gichd.org/lima/links-information-for-mine-action-lima/](http://www.gichd.org/lima/links-information-for-mine-action-lima/).

### **Francophone Programme**

The GICHD Francophone Outreach Programme reached its logical conclusion with the handover of resources and responsibility to the Centre's Francophone country partners - Benin, Mauritania and Senegal – in December 2011. The lead centre in this transfer is the CPADD (Centre de Perfectionnement aux Actions Post Conflictuelles de Déminage et de Dépollution) in Benin. The Francophone programme, supported by Switzerland, France and the countries mentioned, as well as the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie, had three key aims:

- > Promoting French-language mine action expertise
- > Increasing knowledge-exchange, particularly between French and English-speaking mine action communities
- > Identifying Francophone mine action experts

Since the programme's inception in 2006, these aims were gradually achieved through the translation and publication of key mine action material (including IMAS), the establishment of the *Bibliomines* French-language online library [www.bibliomines.org](http://www.bibliomines.org), the identification and promotion of Francophone mine action expertise and the organisation of annual seminars of African Francophone actors which created platforms for the sharing of expertise and information.

## Arabic-language Outreach Programme

During 2011, and partly in response to the successful handover of the Francophone programme but mainly due to the need within the mine action community, the GICHD initiated an Arabic-language Outreach Programme. The aim of such a programme is to promote exchange of knowledge and expertise between Arabic mine action programmes.

## RESOURCES AND GOVERNANCE

Without an effective combination of donors, resources and management the GICHD cannot deliver its mandate. Our donors and partners assist us enormously in achieving this aim and the annual roster of our activities. During 2011, we received contributions from 24 donors and contracting agencies.

We would like to thank those governments and organisations who have supported and contracted us this year:

### Governments

- |             |               |                                   |
|-------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| > Australia | > France      | > Norway                          |
| > Belgium   | > Germany     | > Sweden                          |
| > Canada    | > Italy       | > Switzerland                     |
| > Denmark   | > Japan       | > the United States<br>of America |
| > Finland   | > Netherlands |                                   |

### Organisations

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| > United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)              | > Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF) |
| > United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS)               | > Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP)                        |
| > United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)       | > Danish Demining Group (DDG)                                     |
| > the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIF) | > Handicap International  |
|  | > the Mines Advisory Group (Dfid-UK)                              |
|  | > the Small Arms Survey   |

Many of these contributors have supported the Centre over some years and this consistency is greatly appreciated. In the current context of financial constraints, the GICHD is grateful for the confidence which donors have shown in the Centre. The GICHD has continued to exercise caution in expenditures and activity and made effective use of funding in achieving its mandate.

**Expenditures and Revenues Statement** (CHF, without in-kind contributions)

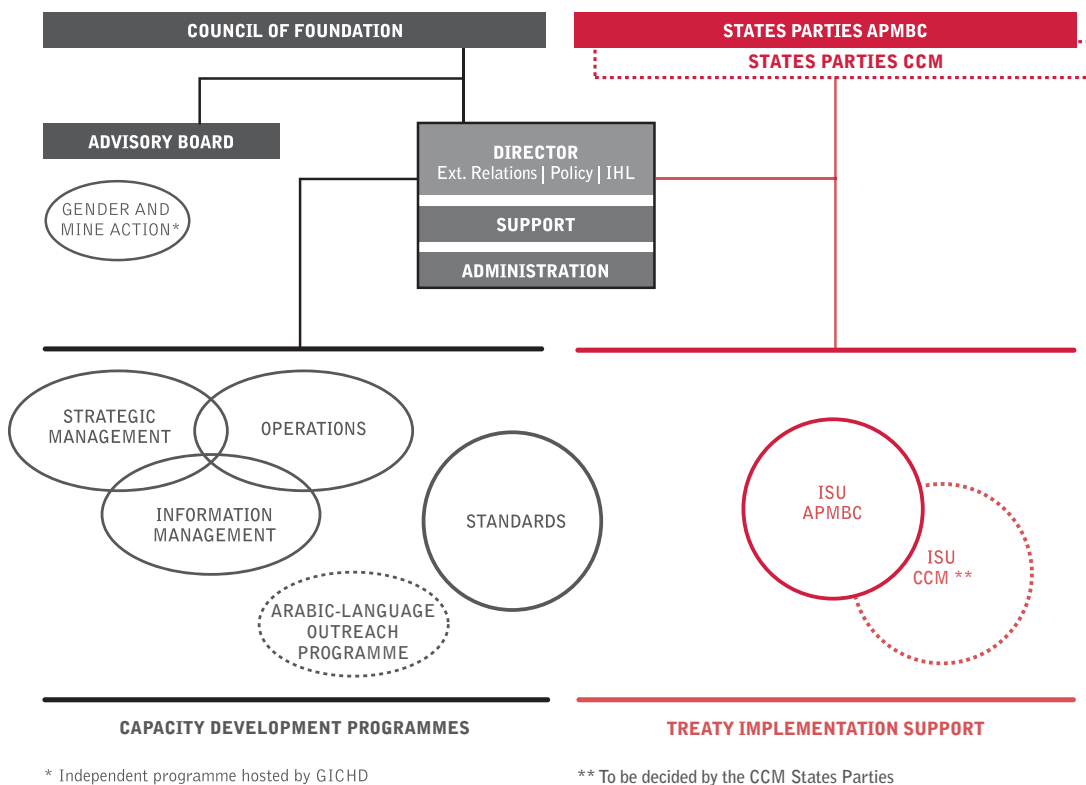
		<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>
<b>Operations</b>	Production of publications publishing, editing, printing, layout	188'275	272'310
	Travel GICHD Staff	699'382	710'420
	Assistance consultants	3'031'068	3'733'797
	Travel by third persons	374'203	525'036
<b>Staff</b>	Salaries	4'174'254	4'597'467
	Social Contributions	801'096	909'019
	Internal Staff Training	29'685	14'410
	Insurances	—	4'999
	Other Staff Expenses	190'605	108'485
<b>General Services</b>	Maintenance	127'305	55'947
	Acquisition	179'240	104'073
	Communications	135'308	202'347
	Office Supplies	28'740	46'193
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	Various expenses	105'197	94'263
	Foreign currency exchange loss (gain), net	38'253	347'378
	Extraordinary	85'675	27'764
<b>Total Expenditures</b>		<b>10'188'287</b>	<b>11'753'727</b>
<b>Contributions</b>	Contributions received	(10'455'055)	(11'173'846)
	Contributions outstanding	(20'995)	—
	Activities   contributions deferred to 2012	1'599'437	1'514'560
	Activities   contributions deferred from previous year	(1'541'560)	(2'123'193)
	<b>Total Contributions for the year</b>	<b>(10'391'173)</b>	<b>(11'782'479)</b>
<b>Other Income</b>	Miscellaneous income	(185'701)	(270'128)
	Restatement of carry-over	2'889	
<b>Total Revenues</b>		<b>(10'573'985)</b>	<b>(12'052'608)</b>
<b>Surplus</b>		<b>(385'698)</b>	<b>(298'881)</b>

The staffing of the Centre is, of course, the key factor in the Centre's delivery of its annual work plans within our Strategy. Combining specific skills and experience within 40 equivalent full time staff members, in order to meet the wide scope of GICHD and ISU-APMBC activities can be something of a challenge. The Centre has benefited from the presence of Junior Professional Officers or trainees during 2011 who have contributed their energy, experience and skills to the work of the Centre. 2011 brought us new colleagues, across the organisation, from Canada, Colombia, Ireland, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland.

The GICHD Council of Foundation and the Advisory Board are of great importance to the working and management of the Centre. The Council of Foundation has 23 States/organisations represented, including several which are mine-affected. It meets twice a year to review performance and supervise activities of the Centre.

The Advisory Board consists of 23 members, drawn from national authorities, international organisations, NGOs and commercial organisations. Their knowledge and experience provide the GICHD with valuable insight and input.

### GICHD Governance and Organisation | Strategic Chart



## Council of Foundation

The Council of Foundation has 23 members and one observer nominated by States/organisations contributing to and/or participating in the Centre's immediate activities.

**Members of the Council**  
(as at 1<sup>st</sup> February 2012)

**President**  
**Dr Barbara Haering**

**Honorary President**  
**Dr Cornelio Sommaruga**

**Members of the Council**  
Afghanistan | **Ambassador Zalmi Aziz** | Permanent Representative of Afghanistan in Geneva

Albania | **Ambassador Gazmend Turdiu** | Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Albania

Australia | **Ambassador Peter Woolcott** | Permanent Representative of Australia in Geneva

Cambodia | **H.E. Prak Sokhonn** | Minister Attached to the Prime Minister and Vice-Chair of the Cambodian Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority

Canada | **Ambassador Elissa Golberg** | Permanent Representative of Canada in Geneva

Colombia | **Ambassador Alicia Arango** | Permanent Representative of Colombia in Geneva

European Union | **Ambassador Dimitris Iliopoulos** | Deputy Head | Permanent Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations in Geneva

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

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

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

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

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

Lebanon | **Ambassador Najla Riachi Assaker** | Permanent Representative of Lebanon in Geneva

Mozambique | **Ambassador Frances Victoria Velho Rodrigues** | Permanent Representative of Mozambique in Geneva

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

Norway | **Ambassador Steffen Kongstad** | Permanent Representative of Norway in Geneva

Senegal | **Ambassador Fode Seck** | Permanent Representative of Senegal in Geneva

Sweden | **Ambassador Jan Knutsson** | Permanent Representative of Sweden in 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 Alexandre Fasel** | Treasurer of the Council of Foundation | Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva

Tajikistan | **Ambassador Salohiddin Nasriddinov** | Permanent Representative of Tajikistan in Geneva

Thailand | **Ambassador Sihasak Phuangketkeow** | Permanent Representative of Thailand in Geneva

United States of America | **Ambassador Laura Kennedy** | Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva

**Observer**  
**Mr Justin Brady** | Acting Director of the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) | New York

## Advisory Board

It provides advice to both the Council of Foundation and management of the GICHD. It is a group of 23 distinguished practitioners in charge at various levels of the international mine action community, chaired by the Director of the GICHD.

**Members of the Advisory Board**  
(as at 1<sup>st</sup> February 2012)

**Mr Havard Bach** | Head of Operations & Human Security | APOPO

**Ms Arianna Calza Bini** | Director | Gender and Mine Action Programme Association (GMAP)

**Mr Kerry Brinkert** | Director | Implementation Support Unit of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention

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

**Mr Mark Downes** | Head of International Security Sector Advisory Team (ISSAT) and Assistant Director of the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF)

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

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

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

**Mr David Hewitson** | Director | PRESCIENCE AG

**Mr Timothy Horner** | Head UNDP-Mine Action | United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

**Mr Rasmus Stuhr Jakobsen** | Head of the Danish Demining Group (DDG) | Danish Refugee Council

**Mr Keith Krause** | Director Small Arms Survey | Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies

**Mr Ben Lark** | Head of ERW/Mine Action Sector | International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

**Mr Gustavo Laurie** | Acting Senior Liaison Officer in Geneva | United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS)

**Mr Dorijan Marsic** | Director | ITF Enhancing Human Security | Slovenia

**Ms Marie Mills** | Mine Action Advisor | Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB)

**Ms Deemah Naser** | Head of Planning Department | National Committee of Demining and Rehabilitation (NCDR) | Jordan

**Mr Chris Pearce** | Director Ordnance Management | G4S Risk Management Limited

**Mr Heng Rattana** | Director General | Cambodian Mine Action Centre (CMAC) | Cambodia

**Mr Rashid Mohammed Sediq** | Chief of Operations | Mine Action Coordination Centre of Afghanistan (MACCA)

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

**Mr Paul Vermeulen** | Head of Federal Advocacy and Institutional Relations | Handicap International | Switzerland

**Mr Rob White** | Director of Operations | Mines Advisory Group (MAG)



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