



**> Priority-setting for ERW Programmes**  
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## > Topics

- > **General concepts for priority-setting for ERW programmes**
  - > Purpose of priority-setting
  - > Guidance from Protocol V
  - > Standard criteria for ERW programmes
  - > National priority-setting systems
- > **Special issues when there is extensive contamination**
  - > A problem that can't be solved – it must be managed



## >General Concepts

### > Overall purpose of priority-setting

- >To determine what gets done first → doing the 'right job'
- >To get 'the most bang for the buck'  
= the most benefits per \$ cost

**Formally, to maximise the benefit:cost ratio**

### > Main challenges

- >Quality of data on benefits
- >Different opinions on how to value different types of benefits



## > What Protocol V states

### Article 3 – “After the cessation of active hostilities and as soon as feasible, each...party...shall...

- > assess and prioritise needs and practicability in terms of marking and clearance, removal or destruction” (par. 3)
- > mark and clear, remove or destroy [ERW]... Areas...which are assessed...as posing a serious humanitarian risk shall be accorded priority...” (par. 2)

### “Each...party...shall:

- > Protect, as far as feasible, from the effects of [ERW], humanitarian missions and organisations that are or will be operating in the area...” (Article 6, par. 1)



## > Standard criteria for ERW programmes

- > **Technical (feasibility; safety)**
- > **Cost**
- > **Risk to lives & limbs**
- > **Economic benefits**
  - > Potential benefits from safe use of land & assets
    - > Livelihoods
    - > Constraints to reconstruction & development
  - > Likelihood that land/assets will be used as expected
- > **Progress toward international norms & obligations**

Input from mine  
action technical  
experts



## > Weighting of criteria

**Technical (feasibility → if infeasible, don't do)**

**Cost**

**Benefits:**

> Risk reduction



> Economic benefits



> Potential benefits

> Likelihood that land/assets will be used as expected

> International obligations & norms



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**These aren't questions that technical experts are best equipped to answer**



## > National priority-setting systems

- > **OECD/industrialised countries don't leave priority-setting to technical experts**
  - > Technical experts provide inputs to priority-setting decisions
- > **Many ERW-affected countries require assistance for the short- to medium-term**
  - > Fragile & conflict-affected states
  - > Low income countries (need financial support & donors have their views on priorities)
- > **Key question: can the problem be solved in the short- to medium-term?**
  - > If not, must have national system for determining priorities and national capacity to deal with residual problem



## > National priority-setting systems cont.

### > National priority-setting systems require 'top-down' & 'bottom-up' inputs

#### > Top-down

- > Allocation of resources/assets among provinces, districts, etc
- > Policies (e.g. priority-setting criteria that decision-makers at lower levels should use)

#### > Bottom-up

- > Preferences based on local knowledge & values





## > National priority-setting systems cont.

- > Campaign or Public Service management model
  - > ‘Campaign’ model for emergency response
    - > top-down ‘command-and-control’
    - > emphasises efficiency → difficulty in getting ‘bottom-up’ input from those directly affected
  - > Public service model for long-term
    - > sustainable response to long-term problems
    - > based on standard government systems
  - > Whether, when & how to transition?



## > When there is extensive contamination

### 1. Campaign management model can't be justified over the long term

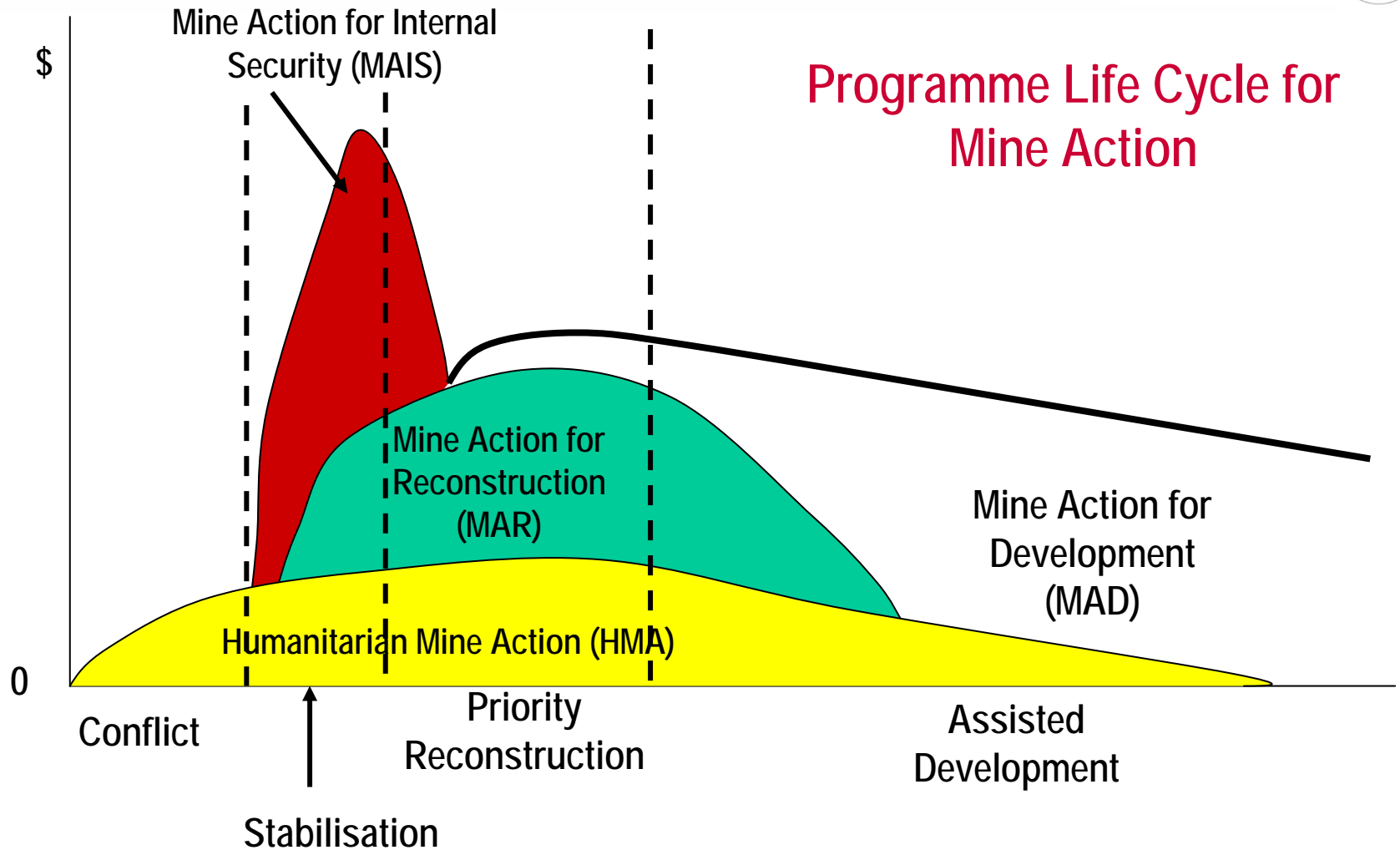
- > Need exit strategy agreed early as basis for...
- > Transition & capacity-development planning to allow national ownership

### 2. Priorities will change over time

- > As emergency recedes
- > As focus of assistance programmes change
- > As national capacities strengthen



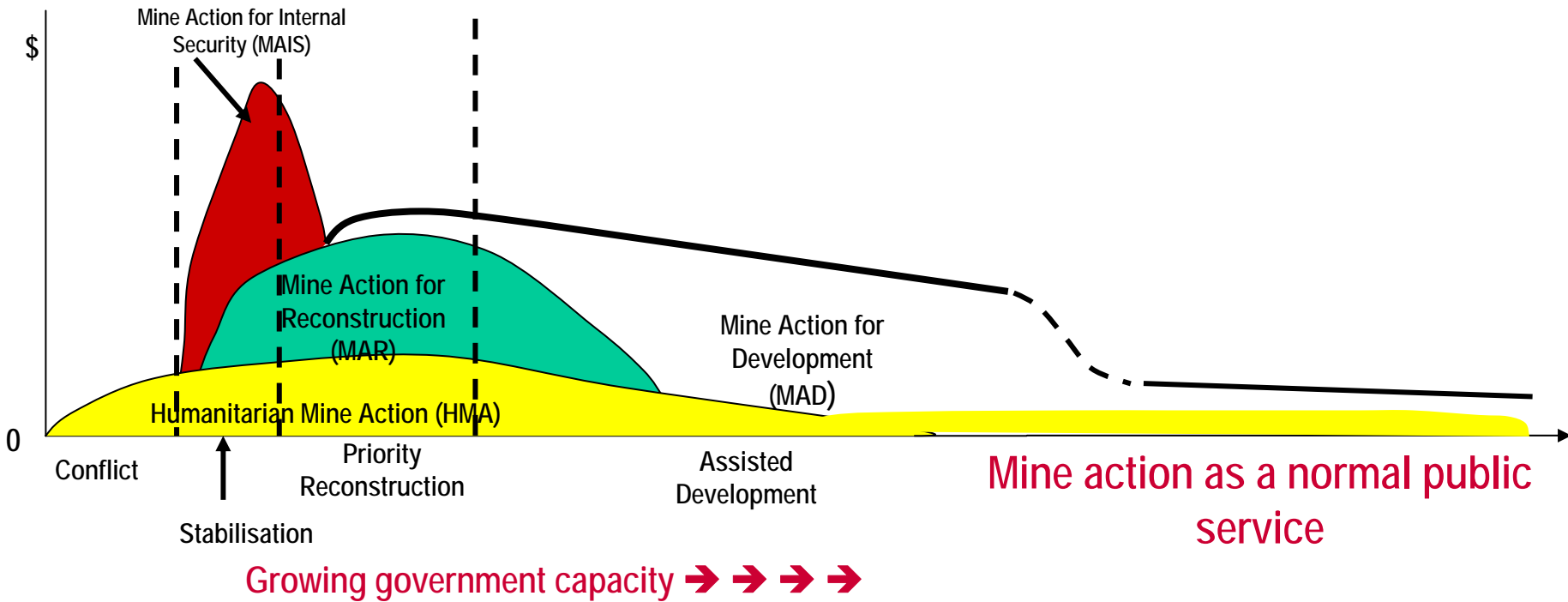
## Programme Life Cycle for Mine Action



Growing government capacity → → → →



# Programme Life Cycle – Residual Contamination





## > Mine action components & key criteria

Mine Action Component	Heavy weight on...
Humanitarian	>Risk to lives & limbs
Internal security	>Constraints to force mobility
Priority Reconstruction	>Constraints to reconstruction projects
Development	>Livelihoods (poverty reduction) >Constraints to development >International obligations
Normal public service	>Risk to lives & limbs >Constraints to public & private investments