

COUNTERING EXPLOSIVE THREAT & DEMINING

TWO STAR PARTNER



ONE STAR PARTNERS



Day One, Tuesday 23 September

Strategic Insights & International Cooperation

0740	REGISTRATION AND REFRESHMENTS
0845 <small>Defence iQ</small>	DEFENCE iQ OPENING REMARKS Sascha Pollock , Conference Producer, Defence iQ
0850	CHAIR'S OPENING REMARKS Lieutenant Colonel (ret) Mark Wickham MBE QGM , former Specialist advisor to the JIEDO
STRATEGIC INSIGHTS ON NEXT-GENERATION TRAINING	
0900	ENHANCING COUNTER-EO CAPABILITIES OF THE BRITISH ARMY <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Readiness and Structural Adaptation• Implementing strategies to maximise resource utilisation and achieve greater efficiency• Recognising the evolving threat and developing comprehensive countermeasures for non-conventional threats Colonel Darren Fisher , Commander, 29 EOD & Search Regiment
0930	DOK-ING KOMODO: addressing new challenges on a battlefield Konstantin Darmanian , Chief Technical Advisor for Sales, Training & International Business Development, DOK-ING
1000	EVOLVING THREATS: NEW CAPABILITIES FOR INTER-OPERABILITY, MULTI-MISSION EFFECTIVENESS AND ALLIED COLLABORATION <p>This panel will discuss the diversification and increasing complexity of modern threats – from traditional mine warfare and UXO to asymmetric challenges like improvised explosive devices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Cost of "Dull, Dirty, and Dangerous":<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Highlight the critical need to reduce human exposure in high-risk environments, emphasising the human and economic costs of traditional methods. Doctrinal Evolution: How are national defence doctrines adapting to these new threats, and how do these adaptations necessitate new technological solutions?
1030	MORNING COFFEE AND NETWORKING
1100	PANEL DISCUSSION: CURRENT THREAT LANDSCAPE & OPERATIONAL CHALLENGES TO BE ADDRESS <p><i>This panel will explore strategic opportunities for collaboration between military, humanitarian, and industry stakeholders to tackle evolving threats in demining and EOD operations. The discussion will focus on a three-pronged approach: military strategies, humanitarian impact, and industry innovation.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How do we improve data collection and sharing through collaborative initiatives with military, NGOs and industry to enhance the effectiveness of bomb disposal operations?• What role can partnerships play in accelerating the development and deployment of innovative EOD technologies?• What new approaches can be developed to counter the increasing use of unseen explosive threats, and how can we enhance our capabilities to detect and dispose of these threats? Panellists: Alan Chapman MBA , Deputy Head of Defence EOD Trials and Information Section, Defence EOD and Search Branch Professor Rachel Hazael , Reader in Applied Materials, Cranfield University Defence and Security Luke Irving , Chief Mine Action Programme, UNMAS oPt

TABLE A: RESEARCH UPDATE: IEDS IN SAHEL

This session will explore:

- Threat proliferation data from one of the world's most challenging operational environments
- The evolving distinction between mine action and counter-IED approaches in active conflict
- Humanitarian response limitations and opportunities in non-permissive environments

Moderated by:

Georgina Darlow, Advisor in the Research and Innovation Programme, **Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD)**

TABLE B: INTEGRATING MINE ACTION WITH BROADER HUMANITARIAN DEVELOPMENT: A COLLABORATIVE LONG-TERM APPROACH – RESEARCH ELEMENTS TO MINE ACTION

Hear about innovative approaches to financing mine clearance and understanding how development investment bonds can support long term, sustainable mine action efforts

FCDO focusing on train track approach – research and practical delivery – collaborating with GICHD – long term financial solutions for the sector

Front loading model – Research Side

Development impact bond projects – efficiency of delivery – show case both projects e.g. APOPO in Cambodia Optimise Mine Action as an Enabler of Broadly wide

Replicate development impact bond model – proof of concept opportunity for others to come in and assists.

Asks the question to the group: Challenges facing the sector, perfect storm of more conflict less money, international approaches in terms of sustainability, different funding models, how we can view mine action as an enabler. How do we strengthen our communications into why Mine Action?

Moderated by:

Andrew Griffiths, Head of Demining Team, **Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office**

TABLE C: TRAINING AND CIED EFFORTS IN TUNISIA

Join this discussion and hear from Colonel Yessai on the creation of the TC2E and Tunisian approach to C-IED. It is an excellent opportunity to discuss different regional approaches to C-IED operations

Moderated by:

Colonel Jemai Yessai, Commander – **Tunisian Counter-IED Center of Excellence, Ministry of National Defense**

TABLE D: FUTURE-PROOFING BLAST MITIGATION AND PROTECTION SYSTEMS FOR RAPID, RESPONSIBLE DEPLOYMENT

Focusing on how to deliver next generation survivability systems— such as sustainable blast mitigation technologies and carbon-zero body armour—into military and NGO hands more quickly and responsibly.

Moderated by:

Professor Rachel Hazael, Reader in Applied Materials, **Cranfield University Defence and Security**

TABLE E: EOD INTEROPERABILITY

Discussions will look at enhancing collective capabilities in addressing CBRN and EOD challenges. This requires shared procedures, compatible equipment, and coordinated training cycles across the Alliance.

Moderated by:

Lieutenant Colonel Blake Zeneto, Deputy Director, **NATO EOD COE**

TABLE F: INTEGRATED TRAINING PROGRAMMES

Challenges in collaboration with the private sector: cross-disciplinary exercises to enhance communication and coordination between military, humanitarian and local organisations involved in demining and C-IED efforts

Moderated by:

Sean Dennis, President, **US Bomb Technician Association**

HALO TRUST'S GLOBAL DEMINING EFFORTS AMIDST CHALLENGES

- HALO Trust's strategic focus on clearing landmines and ERW in conflict-affected regions
- Overcoming the challenging conditions under which Halo's deminers work
- The importance of partnerships and international cooperation in achieving our mission

Major General (Ret.) Rob Thomson, Chief Strategy Officer, **The HALO Trust**

1430	SWEDECs APPROACH TO DEMINING <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Latest technological innovations developed or adopted by SWEDEC, including new clearance methods and equipment. • Comprehensive training programs for military and civilian personnel • SWEDEC's collaboration with international experts and humanitarian organisations Lieutenant Colonel Anders Södermyr , Commanding Officer EOD and Search School, Swedish Armed Force SWEDEC
1500	ENHANCING GLOBAL SECURITY THROUGH COUNTER-EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DEFENCE ENGAGEMENT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective engagement with international partners • Sharing knowledge and experience to counter explosive ordnance threats • Future Plans and key activities in the sector Brian Howard , Chief, Counter-Explosive Ordnance Defence Engagement (CEDE)
1530	AFTERNOON TEA AND NETWORKING
REGIONAL PERSPECTIVES & NATO REQUIREMENTS FOR EOD	
1600	SUPPORTING INDUSTRY WITH INTERNATIONAL DEMINING AND CIED PROJECTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessing contested and complex markets • Understand the threat situation • Partnering with global organisations to enhance demining and CIED efforts Lieutenant Colonel Andy Teeton , Military Advisor Counter-Explosive Ordnance & CBRN, UK Defence and Security Exports
1630	PROTECTION OF COMMAND POSTS OF A RAPID REACTION NATO CORPS, WITH FOCUS ON C-IED AND C-UXS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparedness and Warfighting • Addressing challenges to combine C-IED and counter drone technologies Lieutenant Colonel Dirk Fuchtmann , Staff Officer EOD/C-IED, 1 German-Netherlands Corps Münster
1700	CLOSING KEYNOTE: ADVANCING DEMINING EFFORTS IN UKRAINE: A COLLABORATIVE APPROACH <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priorities for utilising resources and equipment in demining efforts • Addressing current challenges around explosive threats in Ukraine • Enhancing operational effectiveness through training and capability development Colonel Ruslan Berehulia , Head of the Main Department of Mine Action, MoD Ukraine
1730	CHAIR'S SUMMARY REMARKS
1745	END OF DAY ONE

Day Two, Wednesday 1st April

Future Directions in ED and C-IED: Emerging Trends and Technologies

0800	REGISTRATION AND REFRESHMENTS	
0850	CHAIR'S OPENING REMARKS Lieutenant Colonel (ret) Mark Wickham MBE QGM, former Specialist advisor to the Joint IED Defeat Organisation (JIEDDO) and ATO	
CURRENT & FUTURE REQUIREMENTS		
0900	AI PROJECTS AT GICHD: CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS AND FUTURE NEEDS <ul style="list-style-type: none">Evaluation of the technological capabilities of AI in demining operation. Case studies demonstrating the effectiveness of AI applications in the fieldFuture directions and potential advancements in remote sensing technology Armen Harutyunyan, Head of Operations and Standards Division, Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD)	
0930	FUTURE CAPABILITY DEVELOPMENT WITHIN EOD&S CAPABILITY <ul style="list-style-type: none">Remote threat detection and neutralisation, reducing human exposure to danger and enhancing operational efficiencyIntegrating autonomous technologies to address current gaps and future needs in EOD operationsEnsuring higher precision and safety in operation & navigating challenging environments Major Mark Fetters, SO2 Counter-Explosive Ordnance, Army Futures Directorate	
1000	THE ROLE OF HUMAN EXPERTISE AND AUTONOMOUS INNOVATION IN MARITIME EOD <ul style="list-style-type: none">DTXG's critical role as expert practitioners of maritime Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) in an era of evolving offboard and autonomous systemsExamining the Royal Navy's MHC Programme; aims to transition from crewed to autonomous mine hunting shipsEnhancing safety and boosting operational efficiency through lessons learned Commander Rory Armstrong, Commanding Officer Diving & Threat Exploitation Group, Royal Navy	
1030	MORNING COFFEE AND NETWORKING	
EXPLORING THE LATEST ADVANCEMENTS IN AI, ROBOTICS & REMOTE SENSING		
1100	REMOTE CONTROL & REMOTE VISION IN DEMINING <ul style="list-style-type: none">Assessing the success of remote sensing and the survey processEstablishing a testing and evaluation criteria for successful mine action Adam Jasinski, Chief Operating Officer, The HALO Trust	
1130	AN S&T PERSPECTIVE: METAL DETECTION, RADAR AND INTEGRATION <ul style="list-style-type: none">Recent advancements in ground-penetrating radar and metal characterisation systemsImproving accuracy and reliability in sensing systems with Multi-Modal DetectionChallenges and Industry Collaboration: Quantifying and obtaining reliable test sensors & working with industry to advance technological developments Professor Tony Peyton, Professor of Electromagnetic Tomography, University of Manchester	
1200	MINE CLEARANCE AND EOD EFFORTS IN LEBANON <ul style="list-style-type: none">Ongoing efforts to address legacy contamination and increasing damage in South LebanonCollaboration with international partners and the role of LMAC in coordinating national demining effortsTraining and capacity building within the region Major Anis Wardani, Chief of Training and Security Sections, Lebanese Mine Action Centre	
1230	NETWORKING LUNCH	
1330	ADDRESSING CONTAMINATION: STRATEGIES AND SUCCESSES <ul style="list-style-type: none">Lessons learned from 30 years of Mine Action AccidentsMAG field trials of Sensors, Mechanical Equipment and DetectorsHMA Operations from new conflicts; Syria or Lebanon Stephen Ingram, Global Technical Advisor (HMA), Mine Action Global (MAG)	
1400	UPDATE ON THREAT DYNAMICS FROM EXPLOSIVE-LADEN SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS (S-UAS) Lieutenant Colonel José M RUFAS, Chief of the Attack the Networks Branch, Counter Improvised Explosive Devices Centre of Excellence (C-IED COE)	
1430	RDN FLEET DIVING UNIT: CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION AND MARITIME EOD OPERATIONS <ul style="list-style-type: none">Rapid deployment capabilities for critical underwater infrastructure emergenciesAdvancing specialised diving operational capabilities and the protection of seabed infrastructure Commander Bo Snekstrup, Commanding Officer, Royal Danish Navy Fleet Diving Unit	

1500

AFTERNOON TEA AND NETWORKING

1530 THE LAND MINE AND ERW PROBLEM IN AZERBAIJAN

- Highlights of current demining efforts and challenges
- The role of international organisations and foreign governments in supporting Azerbaijan's demining efforts
- Broader vision for post-clearance development

Mr. Elnur Gasimov, Head of the Quality Control Department, **ANAMA**

1600 ENHANCING SECURITY AND EFFICIENCY IN STOCKPILE AND WEAPONS & AMMUNITION MANAGEMENT

- Update on Current Programmes & Technologies
- Physical Security & Stockpile Management (PSSM) & innovative approaches
- Golden West Training practices for military personnel in Explosive Risk Mitigation

Lee Moroney, *Director Physical Security and Stockpile Management (PSSM) / Coordinator Europe Programs, Golden West Humanitarian*

1630 CHAIR'S SUMMARY REMARKS

Lieutenant Colonel (ret) Mark Wickham MBE QGM, former Specialist advisor to the Joint IED Defeat Organisation (JIEDDO) and ATO

1640 END OF CONFERENCE