



2020

ANNUAL REPORT

ASEAN REGIONAL MINE ACTION CENTER



 info@aseanmineaction.org

 www.aseanmineaction.org

 (+855) 23 221 354 / 23 221 364

 #29, Street 115, Veal Vong, 7 Makara, Phnom Penh, Cambodia

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AMS	ASEAN Member States
ARMAC	ASEAN Regional Mine Action Center
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
ASEC	ASEAN Secretariat
AUN	ASEAN University Network
AVP	Australian Volunteers Programme
BOE	Basic Operating Expenditure
CDRI	Cambodia Development Research Institute
CISR	Center for International Stabilization and Recovery
CKS	Center for Khmer Studies
CMAA	Cambodian Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority
CMAC	Cambodian Mine Action Centre
CRPD	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
CRS	Catholic Relief Service
COVID-19	Corona Virus Disease 2019
DCA/NCA	Danish Church Aid/Norwegian Church aid
ED	Executive Director
EORE	(Explosive Ordnance Risk Education)
EORE AG	Explosive Ordnance Risk Education Advisory Group
ERW	Explosive Remnants of War
FOA	Friends of ARMAC
GICHD	Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining
HI	Humanity & Inclusion
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
IMAS	International Mine Action Standards
MAG	Mines Advisory Group
MFAIC	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Cambodia)
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MSWRR	Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement (Myanmar)
MRE	Mine Risk Education
NCT	Non-Conventional Threat
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organisations
NPA	Norwegian People's Aid
NPMEC	National Center for Peacekeeping Forces (Cambodia)
NRA	National Regulatory Authority (Lao PDR)
PDR	People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR)
PS	Permanent Secretariat
SC	Steering Committee
SOM	Senior Officials' Meeting
TMAC	Thailand Mine Action Center
TOR	Terms of Reference
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNMAS	United Nations Mine Action Service
US	United States
USD	United States Dollar
VA	Victim Assistance
VOE	Variable Operating Expenditure
VNMAC	Viet Nam National Mine Action Center

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ARMAC STEERING COMMITTEE



Viet Nam's Chairmanship of the Steering Committee of ASEAN Regional Mine Action Center (ARMAC) marked the third year of ARMAC's operationalisation since the signing of Host Country Agreement between ARMAC and Cambodia in February 2018.

The 2020 Chairmanship was dominated by the corona virus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, and as such, a great extent of the story of ARMAC's work in this past year has been on adapting to the new challenges. The risk of transmission meant that large scale gatherings became no longer an option: this inhibited the organisation of ARMAC's programme activities in a physical context. However, despite the limitations, ARMAC has been able to adapt the fashion of organising the events in a virtual format – making experience/knowledge/expertise exchange, seminars and large meetings feasible.

2020 Highlights

In 2020, we all expected several ARMAC's projects to kick off and cover a wide range of topics across the breadth of mine action, as well as maintaining a wide geographical scope within the region. However, like other countries and organisations, we quickly realised that this year would be challenging for us all. As the projects were postponed until further notice and despite the challenges of funding sustainability, ARMAC can still be proud of how innovative programme activities were delivered this past year.

I am pleased to share that a series of webinars have been held this year, and although they have required a measure of adaptation during the pandemic, they have certainly managed to be as constructive as usual. These webinars were 'Explosive Ordnance Risk Education in ASEAN in a Time of Pandemic,' 'Upholding the Oslo Action Plan in Times of COVID-19 – A Discussion on Risk Education,' and 'Protecting ASEAN Communities through Explosive Ordnance Risk Education Implementation Amidst the COVID-19 Pandemic' (which all included the regional/global concern on the impact of COVID-19); and Non-Conventional Threat (NCT) Virtual Asia 2020 (which enabled networking and other communication with industry professionals, charities and other intergovernmental bodies). Further, an online training (*Regional Training: Quality Management in Mine Action*) was also organised to enhance mine action stakeholders' capacity in quality management.

Meanwhile, in February, just before COVID-19 was declared as a global pandemic, ARMAC managed to release the first edition of its new ARMAC Magazine,

to showcase the vital work achieved by a broad range of organisations that operate explosive ordnance risk education. Also, under the project “*Enhance Awareness Programs on the Dangers of Mine/Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) among ASEAN Member States*,” the Regional Consultative Meeting was organised to consolidate inputs on the Study “*Integrated Approach to Explosive Ordnance Risk Education in ASEAN Member States*,” which was published in May this year.

ARMAC in 2021 and Beyond

Although 2021 may not bring an automatic end to this year’s disruption due to the ramifications of COVID-19, ARMAC must stay precautious but innovative in carrying out its works. Eventually, I believe opportunities for ARMAC will emerge, especially with the establishment of Friends of ARMAC (FOA) initiative to elevate ARMAC’s interconnection with current and prospective partners. I am hopeful that FOA will streamline resource mobilisation for ARMAC and ASEAN Member States in need.

Several short-term projects which were postponed last year will hopefully be implemented in the coming year, while long-term projects may complete its approval/appraisal process in due course. Further, as Enhance Victim Assistance Programme in ASEAN Member States (which was endorsed in the end of 2020) will be

implemented in 2021 for a three-year period, I hope for more activities to be carried out to facilitate assistance to the victims of explosive ordnance in ASEAN Member States, particularly in the affected States.

I believe, with support from the incoming Chair and Vice Chairs, the Steering Committee Members, the current Executive Director and the personnel of the Permanent Secretariat, ARMAC will be able to carry out outcomes under the 2019-2021 Work Plan. ARMAC’s successes in this difficult year leave me with no doubt that this organisation is equipped for further excellent work in the field of mine action.

Finally, I wish my successor, H.E. Mr. Pengiran Kasmirhan Pengiran Tahir, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Brunei Darussalam to the Kingdom of Cambodia, well in this new endeavour.



H.E. Mr. Vu Quang Minh

Chairman of the ARMAC Steering Committee 2020
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the
Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to the Kingdom of Cambodia



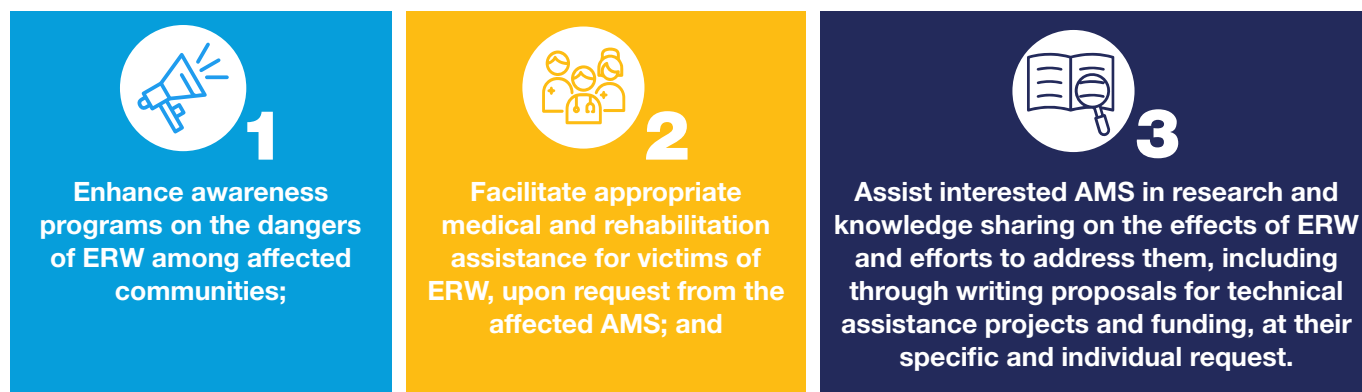
The Handover of the Steering Committee Chairmanship from Viet Nam to Brunei, December 2020

ABOUT **ARMAC**

The ASEAN Regional Mine Action Center (ARMAC) is a center of excellence working towards reducing the impact of mines and explosive remnants of war (ERW) throughout the ASEAN region. Using a multilateral approach to encourage cooperation and the sharing of good practices, ARMAC aims to assist ASEAN Member States (AMS) to find common solutions to the shared problem of explosive hazards.

Currently, ARMAC works with a full range of mine action stakeholders including national authorities and centres, mine action operators, donor countries, research institutions, the general public and other groups. This diversity of partners provides ARMAC the flexibility to implement a variety of programmes and scale them from the regional level down to the local community, ensuring that both national governments and everyday people benefit from sustainable impactful mine action.

Established by the ASEAN Leaders at the 21st ASEAN Summit in 2012, ARMAC has the mandate and functions to:



ASEAN Member States



STEERING COMMITTEE OF ARMAC 2020

Chairman of the Steering Committee

Viet Nam



H.E. Mr. Vu Quang Minh (As Representative)

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to the Kingdom of Cambodia

Mr. Lai Xuan Chien (As Alternate)

Minister and Deputy Chief Mission
Embassy of Viet Nam in Phnom Penh

Vice Chairmen of the Steering Committee

Brunei Darussalam



H.E. Mr. Pengiran Kasmirhan Pengiran Tahir

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Brunei Darussalam to the Kingdom of Cambodia

Lieutenant Colonel Haji Rony Zai Haji Zaini (As Representative)

Head of Army Capability Development
Royal Brunei Land Force/ Ministry of Defence, Brunei Darussalam

Mr. Kelvin Ng Tien Loong (As Alternate)

Second Secretary Embassy of Brunei Darussalam in Phnom Penh

Colonel Mohamad Huzaimi Husin (Former)

Colonel Royal Brunei Armed Forces, Brunei Darussalam

Cambodia



H.E. Mr. Norng Sakal (As Representative)

Under - Secretary of State Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

H.E. Mr. Kan Pharidh (Former)

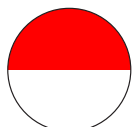
Secretary of State
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and ASEAN SOM Leader of Cambodia

H.E.Mr. Sim Vireak (As Alternate)

Director-General of ASEAN-Cambodia
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation

Steering Committee Members

Indonesia



H.E. Mr. Sudirman Haseng

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Indonesia to the Kingdom of Cambodia

Lao PDR



H.E. Mr. Amphay Kindavong

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the Kingdom of Cambodia

Malaysia



Colonel Hazmi bin Abd Hamid (As Representative)

Defence Attaché
Embassy of Malaysia in Phnom Penh

Mrs. Nora Azlinda Jaapar (As Alternate)

First Secretary
Embassy of Malaysia in Phnom Penh

Myanmar



Lieutenant Colonel Win Min (As Representative)

Staff Officer (1) Directorate of Military Engineers, Ministry of Defence
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Mr. Nyan Myint Aung (As Alternate)

Director Department of Social Welfare, Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Philippines



BGEN. Fernando V Felipe

Commander Armed Forces of the Philippines Munitions Control Center (AFPMCC),
Republic of the Philippines

Singapore



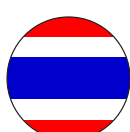
H.E. Mr. Michael Tan (As Representative)

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Singapore to the Kingdom of Cambodia

Mr. Timothy Fang (As Alternate)

Second Secretary (Political)
Embassy of the Republic of Singapore in Phnom Penh

Thailand



H.E. Mr. Panyarak Poolthup (As Representative)

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Thailand to the Kingdom of Cambodia

Lieutenant General Sittipol Nimnuan (As Alternate)

Director-General of the Thailand Mine Action Centre (TMAC)

2020 MILESTONES

The year of 2020 was intended to be a productive year with implementation of various programme activities, as it began with various meetings and communications with potential donors and partners. Instead, for ARMAC and many organisations/institutions, 2020 provided both challenges and opportunities posed by the corona virus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, whereby various activities in physical context were put to a halt and ARMAC was encouraged to adapt its activities for a virtual context with support of technology.

Partner Engagement and Communications

ARMAC began the calendar year by strengthening

relationship with partners, while simultaneously initiating potential partnership with countries and/or organisations with missions that line up to ARMAC's mandate and functions.

Further, ARMAC initiated the *Friends of ARMAC (FOA)* in the latter to strengthen existing relationships with various stakeholders and establish new engagements with others. Having received confirmation from more than thirty government institutions, mine action and other relevant organisations/institutions, United Nations agencies, and private sectors, ARMAC hopes to leverage and expand its current efforts in eliciting support from existing and prospective stakeholders through the FOA.



The ASEAN Heads of Mission's Luncheon, 14 October 2020

Various stakeholders including, national government institutions, embassies, international mine/ERW action organisations, research institutes and other partners that ARMAC has partnered and been in communication with are highlighted as follows:



The year of 2020 was also marked with the successful launch of the ARMAC Magazine Issue 1 in February and the release of study *Integrated Approaches to Explosive Ordnance Risk Education in ASEAN Member States* in May. Meanwhile, with regards to COVID-19, ARMAC visited a number of victims of mines/ERW in Cambodia and conducted a *Rapid Assessment on Health and Socio-Economic Impacts of COVID-19*. This assessment was conducted with safety measure with support from Cambodian Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority (CMAA), Physical Rehabilitation Center and Disability Development Service Programme in Cambodia.

ARMAC continued its engagement with various stakeholders through its digital media including updates in the social media/website, the issuance of ARMAC E-Newsletters and the production of video to commemorate the *International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action* in April. This year, a number of local and international events participated by ARMAC are (i) the 21st Anniversary of *Cambodian Mine Awareness Day*; (ii) workshop on Civil Peace Service in Battambang, Cambodia; (iii) the *ASEAN-Regional Advance Demining Technical Training of Trainers Course for United Nations Peacekeeping Operations in Cambodia*; and (iv) the 23rd *International Meeting of Mine Action National Directors and the UN Advisers (NDM – UN23)*. In the NDM – UN23, ARMAC

had an opportunity to chair a Regional Breakout Group Session for Asia and Pacific, and speak in the plenary of the Regional Approaches to Mine Action.

In March, ARMAC personnel also had an opportunity to visit Siem Reap and Kampong Cham provinces of Cambodia, where the personnel met with Halo Trust, APOPO, Humanity & Inclusion and Angkor Association for the Disabled, and saw first hand the tremendous efforts made of supporting Cambodia in achieving its mine action goal. Further, in August, ARMAC and CMAA visited victims of mines/ERW in Kampong Chhnang and Pursat provinces of Cambodia to conduct a *Rapid Assessment on Health and Socio-economic Impacts of COVID-19 on Victims of Mines/ERW*.



The 23rd International Meeting of Mine Action National Directors and the UN Advisers, 11-14 February 2020



The 21st Anniversary of National Mine Awareness Day, 24 February 2020



ARMAC's Visit to Demining Activities Operated by APOPO and CMAC, March 2020



Rapid Assessment on Health and Socio-Impacts of COVID-19 on Victims of Mines/ERW, August 2020



Workshop on Civil Peace Service in Battambang, Cambodia, January 2020

With restricted situation due to COVID-19 pandemic, ARMAC attended various virtual events including *Intersessional Meetings of the State Party of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention*, *Standardising Beneficiary Definitions in Humanitarian Mine Action – Second Version*, and *NCT Virtual Asia 2020*. In the *NCT Virtual Asia*, ARMAC spoke in the *Persisting Challenges of Mine Action in Post-Conflict Areas*.



NCT Virtual Asia 2020, 12-13 November 2020

Programmes

1. Enhance Awareness Programmes on the Dangers of Mine/ERW Among ASEAN Member States

The project, titled “*Enhance Awareness Programmes on the Dangers of Mine/ERW among ASEAN Member States*,” commenced in May 2019. The main outcome of the project, funded by the Government of Japan (through Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund / JAIF) is to develop integrated approaches to explosive

ordnance risk education (EORE)¹ in AMS. The development of the study on *Integrated EORE in AMS* adhered to certain processes, including the organisation of (i) the 2019 national consultative meetings held in the mines/ERW affected AMS (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam); (ii) the 2019 Side Event during the Fourth Review Conference of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention in Norway; and (iii) the Regional Consultative Meeting on *Good Practices and Integrated Approaches to Mine/ERW Risk Education for Affected Communities in AMS*, in February 2020, in Cambodia.



Regional Consultative Meeting, 06 February 2020

¹ Also known as mine/ERW risk education (MRE)

Under this project, ARMAC also developed the first issue of ARMAC Magazine “*Exploring Mine/ERW Risk*



February 2020

EXPLORING MINE/ERW RISK EDUCATION IN ASEAN

ARMAGAZINE

FEATURING:
STORIES OF INTEGRATED
MINE/ERW RISK EDUCATION
FROM ACROSS ASEAN

ARMAC Magazine Issue 1 – Exploring
Mine/ERW Risk Education in ASEAN

International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action 2020

The 2020 International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action was planned to mark the completion of the project. However, this commemoration was postponed to 2021 due to the ramification of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Government of Japan granted ARMAC's request

of no-cost extension of the project to April 2021 as response of the pandemic.

In order to commemorate the 2020 International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action amidst COVID-19, ARMAC created a 6-minute video as a tribute to all the lives touched by mine action. The video is available at ARMAC's digital media.

A tribute to the people and organisations making ASEAN communities safe from landmines and/or explosive remnants of war



The Opening of the 2020 International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action Video

2. Regional Training: Quality Management in Mine Action

ARMAC, in partnership with the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), organised **Regional Training “Quality Management in Mine Action”** September 2020, in a virtual format through online application. There were 19 trainees from national authorities/centres and mine action related organisations in ASEAN, and the translation process for the trainees in need was provided with support from the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Myanmar and the Norwegian People's Aid (NPA) Viet Nam.

The trainees received comprehensive lessons and participated interactive discussions which consist a wide range of topics revolving around quality management in mine action such as (i) Quality Management and Land Release Overview; (ii) Key Quality Management Principles; (iii) Quality Planning of Non-Technical Survey, Technical Survey and Clearance; (iv) Mechanical Demining Operations and Quality Management; (v) Quality Assurance; (vi) Quality Control; (vii) Accreditation, Testing and Evaluation of Mine Action Equipment; and (viii) Application Changes in Mine Action Organisations.



Regional Training on Quality Management in Mine Action, 07-12 September 2020

With reference to the pre and post training assessments, the trainees demonstrated a significant improvement on quality management in mine action. This training also provided an opportunity to share knowledge and experience in the trainees' duty country, learn from a number of global experts and build networks beyond the region. In the end of the session, all the trainees provided feedbacks on both contents and organisation of the training. Based on the positive feedbacks, both ARMAC and GICHD were convinced that an online training could be an alternative fashion to be considered amidst global health situation.

3. Online Seminars/Events

The emerging pandemic situation has compounded huge challenges to mine action, particularly in upholding EORE to the community all over the world including the ASEAN region. With regard to this, ARMAC in collaboration with other entities organised a series of online seminars/events, often called

webinar, to provide a platform for mine action all over the world to share their knowledge and experience in conducting EORE innovatively (in term of technology and methodology) with ensuring *do no harm principle*.

Regional Webinar “Explosive Ordnance Risk Education in ASEAN in a Time of Pandemic”

The first Regional Webinar “*Explosive Ordnance Risk Education in ASEAN in a Time of Pandemic*” was organised in May 2020. This webinar gathered more than 50 representatives from explosive ordnance affected AMS, mine action related organisations, academics and individuals from all over the world. Overall, it aimed to identify all potential and available means and capabilities to ensure the continuity of EORE operations within affected AMS. Despite the complex challenges, EORE should continue to be provided to the affected communities using alternative safer approaches, where possible, which reduce the risk of spreading the pandemic.



Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) in Myanmar in a Time of Pandemic



Mr. Win Naing Tun

**Co-Chair of Mine Risk Working Group
Director General of Department of Rehabilitation
Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement
Myanmar.**

Regional Webinar on Explosive Ordnance Risk Education in ASEAN in a Time of Pandemic, 19 May 2020

Upholding the Oslo Action Plan in Times of COVID-19 – A Discussion on Risk Education

The Side Event “Upholding the Oslo Action Plan in Times of COVID-19 – A Discussion on Risk Education” was co-organised by ARMAC and EORE Advisory Group (EORE AG) in July 2020, during the Intersessional Meetings of Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC). The event was attended by 75 participants including States Parties of the APMBC, States not Party and other observers of the Intersessional Meetings, representing 25 countries and 34 authorities/organisations in total.



EORE in context of COVID-19

- [Community of Practice](#): 420 members
- [Webinar](#): 47 countries, 28 organizations
- [Resource Library](#)
- [Q & A](#): 15-page guidance

EORE Advisory Group



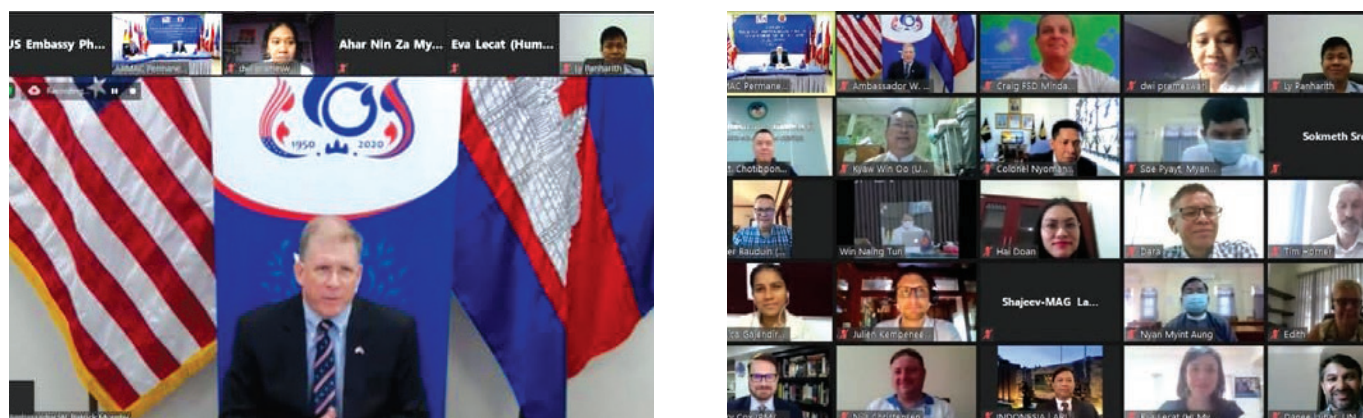
Hugues Laurence

unicef  for every child

Side Event on Upholding the Oslo Action Plan in Times of COVID-19 – A Discussion on Risk Education, 01 July 2020

Regional Webinar “Protecting ASEAN Communities through Explosive Ordnance Risk Education Implementation Amidst the COVID-19 Pandemic”

ARMAC and the United States (US) Department of State / US Embassy of Phnom Penh co-organised the **Regional Webinar “Protecting ASEAN Communities through Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) Implementation Amidst the COVID-19 Pandemic”** in November 2020. Attended by 52 participants, the webinar provided an open forum for authorities and all the stakeholders in sharing (i) good practices and lessons learned of EORE programme activities to protect children and overall affected communities during COVID-19 pandemic; (ii) consequences and challenges faced and how these were addressed; and (iii) integration of EORE and COVID-19 risk education efforts.



Regional Webinar on Protecting ASEAN Communities through EORE Implementation Amidst the COVID-19 Pandemic, 24 November 2020

4. Enhance Victim Assistance Programmes in the ASEAN Member States

The three-year programme ***“Enhance Victim Assistance Programme in the ASEAN Member States”*** aims to strengthen the assistance provided to victims through the achievement of five objectives as follows:

- i. Promote the establishment of a victim assistance network as a regional platform for various stakeholders within ASEAN;
- ii. Assist the AMS on victim assistance related knowledge sharing, needs and resources assessments and its mobilisation;
- iii. Assess the needs of the victims of mines/ERW in the affected AMS for further assistance;
- iv. Assist the AMS in providing psychosocial support to the victims of mines/ERW; and
- v. Conduct research regarding “Mine Victim Assistance Inclusive Services in Cambodia,” as well as “Community Perspectives on Humanitarian Mine Action in Lao PDR and Viet Nam”.

ARMAC received an approval from the ASEAN Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR), followed by the Government of the Republic of Korea’s approval through ASEAN-Korea Cooperation Fund (AKCF). The official letter to acknowledge this approval is to be submitted by the ASEAN Secretariat for ARMAC to commence the programme and contact the partners of the implementation of the programme.

SingHealth will be one of ARMAC’s partners in implementing the programme, particularly in conducting the train-the-trainers on psychosocial support. In-kind contribution as the cost-sharing of the training programme will be part of SingHealth’s support.

5. Regional Workshop on Mine Action Coordination

The project ***“Regional Workshop on Mine Action Coordination”*** was planned to be organised in Manila, the Philippines, in 2020. However, the workshop was

postponed to the following year due to global health situation. ARMAC will collaborate with the Philippines’ assigned National Institution, the Philippines Campaign to Ban Landmine and Swiss Foundation for Mine Action/FSD in Mindanao in organising the workshop.

In the Philippines where the establishment of Bangsamoro (western Mindanao) Mine Action Center is being reviewed by the Government of Philippines, the workshop, in which national mine action authorities/centres in ASEAN are to share their good practices of mine action coordination, will be a valuable platform for the stakeholders in the Philippines to discuss and brainstorm next steps for mine action coordination in Mindanao.

6. Regional Workshop on Enhancing National Capacity for Development of National Mine/ERW Action Programme in Myanmar

The project ***“Regional Workshop on Enhancing National Capacity for Development of National Mine/ERW Action Programme in Myanmar”*** is in response to the request from the Government of Myanmar through the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, Myanmar, to ARMAC. The Government of Myanmar highlighted its intention to work closely with ARMAC with regard to mine action through its active participation in the Steering Committee of ARMAC and other programme activities, e.g. numerous study visits between Myanmar and other mines/ERW affected AMS in 2018, a National Mine Action Authority Workshop in 2019 and consultative and bilateral meetings in 2019.

In collaboration with NPA Myanmar, ARMAC intended to organise the workshop in 2020 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar. However, due to the ramification of COVID-19, the Government of Myanmar requested for ARMAC and NPA Myanmar to postpone the workshop until further notice. The workshop will aim to provide a knowledge sharing platform for Myanmar and other mine/ERW affected AMS in regard of national mine/ERW action programme.

7. Regional Workshop on Mine Action and Sustainable Development Goals

In cooperation with the Government of Indonesia, ARMAC intended to organise a project “**Regional Workshop: Synergizing ASEAN Mine/Explosive Remnants of War Action with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**” in Siem Reap, Cambodia, in 2020. However, due to global health situation, the workshop is postponed to the following year.

The workshop will aim to deliberate upon pertinent issues related to initiatives in humanitarian mine/ERW action in ASEAN and its mainstreaming to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Targeting both humanitarian mine action and peacekeeping operations, the workshop will also potentially advance the UN Peacekeeping personnel’s capacities in their upcoming operations.

8. Regional Community of Practice Project

The project “**Build Regional Community of Practice in Mine/ERW Action Among ASEAN Member States**” aims to improve regional cooperation and build mine action capacity by working to the two following main objectives:

- i. Assess needs and capacity of mine action in ASEAN; and
- ii. Develop skills, competencies and expertise in mine action in ASEAN through a community of practice.

ARMAC will implement this three-year project in collaboration with GICHD. The project has been submitted to the ASEAN Secretariat to undertake appraisal through the ASEAN project appraisal/approval mechanism. ARMAC hopes to receive final approval from the potential donor (the Government of Turkey through the ASEAN-Turkey Fund), and launch the project in 2021.

9. Regional Cooperation and Resource Mobilisation Capacity Project

In line with ARMAC’s mandate, the project “**Enhancing Regional Cooperation and Resource Mobilisation Capacity in Mine/ERW Action in ASEAN**” aims to improve bilateral cooperation and build sector knowledge and best practice in mine action through annual Regional Mine/ERW Action High-level Meeting. The project’s three main objectives are as follows:

- i. Improve bilateral/multilateral cooperation and resource mobilisation capacity for ASEAN mine/ERW action;
- ii. Develop action plan to provide clear outline of activities required to support mine/ERW action in ASEAN; and
- iii. Exchange skills and promote best practice in implementing mine/ERW action programmes.

The Government of China through the China Mission to ASEAN expressed their initial interest to fund the project, and thus further discussion is preceded by both ARMAC and the Mission.

10. Youth Project

Targeting youths and academicians, the project “Promoting Youth Scholarship and Awareness of Mine Action for Peace and Security in ASEAN” aims to promote knowledge sharing and research by working through the following four objectives:

- i. Facilitate shared awareness about mine action and the dangers of ERW among ASEAN youth through the ASEAN Mine Action Youth Conference;
- ii. Develop and publish the “ASEAN Journal of Mine Action;”
- iii. Inaugurate a series of youth-produced ASEAN-centric films regarding mine action; and
- iv. Develop a rigorous internship program for youth of ASEAN member states to perform internships and support programming at the ARMAC Permanent Secretariat in Phnom Penh Cambodia.

ARMAC is attempting to find potential partner/donor to fund this three-year project.

CONTRIBUTIONS IN CASH, IN KIND OR IN OTHER FORMS

The success of ARMAC has only been possible due to the perpetual support of the Steering Committee of ARMAC who represent all the ASEAN Member States (AMS) in providing guidance and direction to ARMAC. All the contributions from AMS have helped ARMAC operate effectively, as well as uphold and achieve its programme activities.

Partners

The role of partners is significant catalyst for ARMAC to deliver its Mandate and Functions and its Work Plan. This year ARMAC received contributions and pledged contribution from existing and new partners including private sectors. Those contribution are for both ARMAC's operation and programme.

The Australian Volunteer Programme (AVP), with funding from the Government of Australia, assisted ARMAC through providing volunteers in the areas of Communication and Programme in first semester of the year. ARMAC is in the process of receiving further support from AVP in the area of Communication.

ARMAC successfully engaged with a number of private sectors including Grant Thornton Cambodia. The MGN Emperor Bank Plc. pledged its contribution to support ARMAC's operation, while MB Bank Plc. was keen to support the organisation of the FOA Reception. Further in November, ARMAC and Grant Thornton Cambodia (through the Embassy of the Phillipines in Phnom Penh linkage) provided *Training on the Best Practices of Financial Reporting and Taxation for Mine Action Organisations*. The training was attended by relevant ARMAC staff and staff of national mine action organisations in Cambodia.

In programme side, ARMAC has collaborated with international EORE AG and the US Department of State including the US Embassy in Phnom Penh to organise webinars on EORE. Meanwhile, the collaboration

with GICHD in 2020 was to organise a virtual regional training on Quality Management in Mine Action. GICHD provided its expertise to ARMAC for the development of content and training materials, while ARMAC played a role of coordination.

Both ARMAC and GICHD are in the process of signing a memorandum of understanding (MoU) that defines assistance provision to the National Mine Action Authorities in the ASEAN region with regard to establishing effective and accountable policies and capacities for co-ordination, management and implementation of humanitarian mine action operations in accordance with the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) and good practices. Meanwhile, the MoU on technical assistance between ARMAC and NPA Myanmar is also to be signed in due course.

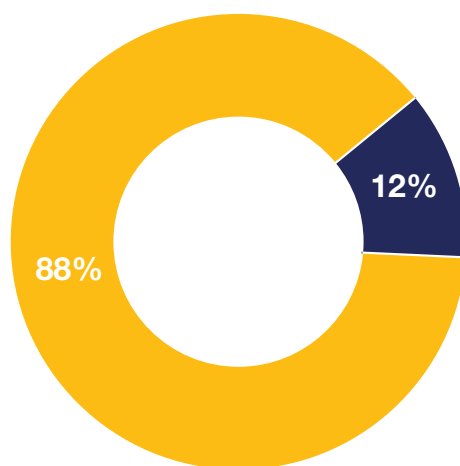
At the end of 2020, ARMAC received a pledged contribution from the Republic of Korea through AKCF with funding of USD 2,061,429.68 to enhance victim assistance programme in the region through the establishment of victim assistance network. The train-the-trainer on psychosocial support will be implemented in collaboration with SingHealth under this programme. ARMAC is awaiting the official letter to commence the programme and proceed with legal instrument with partners of this programme.

The Government of Italy also pledged a contribution of EUR 100,000.00 to support implementing ARMAC's programme activities. Further, ARMAC is to complete a remaining activity (commemoration of the International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action) of the project supported by Government of Japan through the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund with funding of USD 156,735.54 for the project "*Enhance Awareness Programmes on the Dangers of Mine/ERW among ASEAN Member States*".

2020 ANNUAL BUDGET UTILISATION

No	Description	Budget	Expenditure	Balance
I. Basic Operating Expenditure (BOE)		219,894.02	203,968.34	15,925.68
I.A	Personnel Costs			
I.B	Property and Vehicles Insurance			
I.C	Hosting and Staff Phone Card			
I.D	Public Utilities			
I.E	Audit and Administration Expenses			
I.F	Maintenance and Repairs			
I.G	Stationeries, Internet, Media and Publication			
I.H	Fuel			
II. Variable Operating Expenditure (VOE)		44,975.00	27,761.27	17,213.73
II.A	Meeting Costs			
II.B	Travel, Accommodation and Staff Development			
II.C	Other Administrative Cost			
II.D	Fixed Assets and IT Software			
III. Contingency Budget		13,243.45	-	13,243.45
TOTAL 2020 ANNUAL BUDGET		278,112.47	231,729.61	46,382.86

Budget Utilisation 2020



● I. Basic Operating Expenditure
 ● II. Variable Operating Expenditure

WAY FORWARD

The year of 2020 was the third year of ARMAC's operation and the second year of the implementation of the ARMAC's three-year Work Plan 2019-2021. The past years (during the course of 2018-2020) had been years of foundation laying for ARMAC's activities, clarifying its roles and functions vis-à-vis those of national mine action centres/authorities of AMS, as well as establishing its reputation and credibility to fulfil its mandate and functions in line with the Center's terms of reference.

With challenges posed in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, several programme activities in 2020 were postponed; these conditions will remain at least through the first half of 2021. Hence, ARMAC has used innovative technology and methodology to adapt to the situation, putting in place contingency plans in order to carry out its mandate and functions by delivering its programme activities in the coming year/s.

To respond to the needs of women, men, girls and boys facing the effects of mines/ERW in the ASEAN region, ARMAC will implement *"Enhance Victim Assistance Programme in the ASEAN Member States"* for the period of 2021-2024. The project hopes to enable victim assistance stakeholders in building strong networks and provide adequate assistances to these vulnerable women, men, girls and boys in the region.

Further with *"Build Regional Community of Practice in Mine Action among the ASEAN Member States"* programme, potentially commencing in 2021, ARMAC is looking to contribute in improving regional cooperation and mine action capacity in the region. Meanwhile, the Center's existing *"Enhance Awareness Programmes on the Dangers of Mine/Explosive Remnants of War among ASEAN Member States"* project will hopefully be recurred in the coming years to ensure ARMAC's sustainable support to EORE related development in ASEAN and beyond.

Building on the successful work in these past years, ARMAC strives for a peaceful, stable and resilient ASEAN Community with enhanced capacity in responding challenges including humanitarian aspect of mines/ERW issues in the region. Therefore, in line with its mandate and functions, ARMAC continues to be the official regional entity that coordinates mine action awareness enhancement, assistance to ASEAN Member States in need of risk education and victim assistance, and mine action related knowledge sharing activities and capacity building.

Going beyond 2020, ARMAC will continue to strengthen its regionalism and multilateralism approaches in mobilising resources to implement its programme activities with adherence to its core mandate and functions, the *ASEAN 2025: Forging Ahead Together* and the *2030 Agenda of Sustainable Development*. By working with various mine action related stakeholders, inter alia, national mine action centres/authorities, international and national mine action related non-governmental organisations, the United Nations, and with its continued attempts to build a strong institutional capacity, ARMAC commits to deliver significant outcomes with robust, transparent and accountable system in the region.



ARMAC's Personnel

WORK PLAN 2019-2021

The Work Plan 2019-2021 is designed to ensure that by the end of 2021 the development, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation that ARMAC achieves over the year follows the principles outlined below:

- ✿ Adherence to the ASEAN Charter: as an entity associated with ASEAN under Article 16 of the ASEAN Charter, ARMAC shall follow the ASEAN Charter.
- ✿ In line with ARMAC's terms of reference (TOR): programme and operation content shall be developed in compliance with ARMAC's TOR, especially the mandate and functions.
- ✿ In line with ARMAC Guidelines on Decision Making and Reporting Processes and ARMAC Policies: all activities shall be undertaken based on the guidelines and ARMAC policies.
- ✿ Need-Based: programmes and their future project/programme proposals shall be designed to meet the needs of the interested AMS while the operation will be carried out based on the needs within ARMAC.
- ✿ Cost-Efficiency: cost-benefit analysis shall be prudently conducted for all activities.
- ✿ Harmonisation: ARMAC shall collaborate with mine action authorities/centres or other relevant institutions in respective AMS to implement its projects/programmes.
- ✿ Inclusiveness: gender, children, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups shall be considered in project/programme formulation, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation.
- ✿ Regional Focus: while there can be some projects/programmes designed to meet the needs of a specific AMS, those projects/programmes shall reflect the regional aspect of ASEAN.

ARMAC has developed a vigorous monitoring and evaluation process with regular reports: (i) monthly basis to the Chair and Vice Chairs; (ii) quarterly basis to the Steering committee; and (iii) annually basis to the ASEAN Secretariat alongside overall community. In the implementation of ARMAC Work Plan 2019-2021, ARMAC has not only built a credible reputation, but also put in place significant and sustainable projects/programmes to fulfil its mandate and functions. In 2020, due to the global health situation, ARMAC has put a halt a number of activities with physical contact to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Thus, a number of projects/programmes has been postponed. Hence, from 41 targeted programme activities, ARMAC has been able to complete 35 activities (with details in the matrix). ARMAC hopes for the improved situation to be able to implement its programme activities safely.

Programmes Matrix

Mandate			Outputs	Activities	Timeframe		
1	2	3			2019	2020	2021
Objective 1: To promote mine/ERW awareness on the dangers of mine/ERW through various communication methods and platforms							
√		√	Website and social media accounts are enhanced	Enhance the design of the website and social media pages/accounts	√ ²	√	x
√		√	Articles on the dangers of mine/ERW are shared/published on social media, website, print media (magazine, newspaper...etc.) or/and other media channels	Produce or search for articles	√	√	x
				Share/publish the articles	√	√	x
√		√	Popular events such as sports and art are engaged to raise awareness on the dangers of mine/ERW	Identify and explore collaboration with relevant events	√	√	x
				Develop message and/or create side event to raise awareness on the dangers of mine/ERW	√	√	x
√	√	√	Study visit/Seminar of ASEAN university students is organised to produce content e.g. essays, articles, photos, art, etc. to raise awareness on the dangers of mine/ERW	Formulate and submit the proposal to potential donor for funding the study visit/seminar	√		
				Call for and select applications of ASEAN university students	√		
				Organise the study visit and produce content	√		
√		√	To promote April 4 th as an ASEAN Official Day to commemorate the International Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action Day	Identify the event or/and article to be organised or published by assessing the available resources	√	√	x
				Organise the event or/and publish the article	√	√	x

² Tick marks indicate activities which have been completed or are being implemented. Cross marks indicate activities that are still to be completed.

Mandate			Outputs	Activities	Timeframe		
1	2	3			2019	2020	2021
Objective 2: To promote the establishment of a regional mine/ERW victim assistance network (VAN)							
	√	√	Forum to discuss the establishment of the VAN is organised to develop its concept note and map/identify its potential members	Organise workshop and consultative meetings to seek inputs from the victim assistance stakeholders	√	x	
				Develop the concept note and list of proposed members			x
	√		The TOR and members of the VAN are adopted and appointed respectively	Develop the TOR by using information in the concept note		x	
				Appointment of members by the interested AMS, victim assistance experts and other stakeholders			x
Objective 3: To promote cooperation among AMS regarding the integrated approach to victim assistance ³ and obligations under the convention on the rights of persons with disabilities (CRPD) to protect and ensure the wellbeing and the fundamental freedom of all persons with disabilities are included in respective AMS national legislation							
	√	√	Best practices related to the implementation of CRPD and integrated approach to victim assistance are documented and shared among AMS	Collaborate with expert institution to conduct the documentation		√	x
				Share the documents through email, letter or/and event			
	√	√	Event is organised to discuss key aspects of the integrated approach to victim assistance and CRPD	Organise the event	√	√	x
Objective 4: To facilitate medical treatment, physical rehabilitation and psychological supports for the mine/ERW victims in interested AMS							
	√	√	Medical treatment, physical rehabilitation or/and psychological supports to mine/ERW victims are provided by medical institution/ practitioner in cooperation with ARMAC upon request from AMS	Assess the needs	√	√	x
				Identify medical institution/ practitioner as a partner for relevant project/programme	√	√	x
				Formulate proposal for relevant project/programme and submit to potential donor for funding	√	√	x
				Implement the project/programme	x	x	x

³ Integrated approach to victim assistance is to ensure that a.) victim assistance efforts are implemented to improve the inclusion and wellbeing of survivors, other persons with disabilities, indirect victims and other vulnerable groups and b.) broader efforts reach the survivors and indirect victims among beneficiaries

Mandate			Outputs	Activities	Timeframe		
1	2	3			2019	2020	2021
Objective 5: To promote long-term support for mine/ERW victims through skills training and provision of equal economic opportunity and meaningful integration into mainstream society and work place							
	√	√	Skills training to mine/ERW victims is provided by vocational training centre/expert in cooperation with ARMAC upon request from AMS	Assess the needs of skills training		√	
				Identify vocational training centre/expert as a partner for relevant project/programme		√	
				Formulate proposal for relevant project/programme and submit to potential donor for funding			x
				Implement the project/programme			x
Objective 6: To coordinate and organise knowledge-sharing events to disseminate knowledge, best practices and research findings to all AMS when necessary							
√	√	√	Conference is organised to assist in the knowledge sharing and identification of needs and resources for future projects/programmes for interested AMS ⁴	Formulate and submit proposal to potential donor for funding the conference	√	√	x
				Organise the conference	√	√	x
√	√	√	Exchange programme for interested AMS is organised to develop capacity in relevant area	Formulate and submit proposal to potential donor for funding the exchange programme	√	√	x
				Organise the exchange programme	√	x	x
√	√	√	Other specific knowledge-sharing events including workshop/seminar are organised for interested AMS	Formulate and submit proposal to potential donor for funding the event	√	√	x
				Organise the event	√	√	x

⁴ Some activities across all mandate areas under the Work Plan 2017-2018 which aim to promote/organise events to share knowledge, disseminate publications on relevant subjects and identify needs and experts/resources; are addressed under this output 6.1.

Mandate			Outputs	Activities	Timeframe		
1	2	3			2019	2020	2021
Objective 7: To develop the training programmes which meet the requirements of interested AMS							
√	√	√	Training programme for interested AMS is developed in partnership with expert institution/expert	Conduct training need assessment	√	√	x
				Identify expert institution/expert as a partner for the training programme	√	√	x
				Formulate and submit the proposal to potential donor for funding the training programme	√	√	x
				Organise the training	√	√	x
Objective 8: To promote the development of a standard and integrated approach which is appropriate to the ASEAN context, for interested ASEAN Member States							
√	√	√	Standard or/and integrated approach which is appropriate to the ASEAN context are developed in partnership with expert institution/expert for interested AMS	Assess needs for developing the standard or/and integrated approach	√	√	x
				Identify expert institution/expert as a partner for relevant project/ programme	√	√	x
				Formulate and submit the proposal to potential donor for funding the project/programme	√	√	x
				Implement the project/programme	√	√	x
Objective 9: To promote the development of research and the collaboration among AMS in the area of research and development							
√	√	√	Baseline survey to take stock of the achievements made by national programmes across the ASEAN region is conducted by ASEAN academic institution/research centre and shared among AMS	Identify expert institution/expert as a partner to conduct the survey	√		
				Formulate and submit the proposal to potential donor for funding the survey	√		
				Conduct the survey	√	√	

Mandate			Outputs	Activities	Timeframe		
1	2	3			2019	2020	2021
√	√	√	Research on relevant topic is conducted by the ASEAN academic institution/research centre and shared among AMS	Identify ASEAN academic institution/research center as a partner to conduct research	√	√	x
				Identify the research topic	√	√	x
				Formulate and submit the proposal to potential donor for funding the research	√	√	x
				Conduct the research and share the research paper	√	√	x
√	√	√	Technology exhibition is organised to generate more R&D interests from ASEAN universities on the subject matter	Formulate proposal and submit to potential donor for funding the exhibition		√	x
				Organise the exhibition			x
Objective 10: To support interested ASEAN Member States in mobilising financial, technical and/or in-kind resources to address the effects of mine/ERW							
√	√	√	Assistance in project/programme proposal formulation and submission to potential donor is provided by ARMAC upon request	Assist to formulate the project/ programme proposal and submit to potential donor	√	√	x
√	√	√	Technical assistance in project/ programme implementation is provided by ARMAC upon request	Provide technical assistance upon request, subject to available man power and expertise	√	√	x

2021 ANNUAL BUDGET

No	ITEM DESCRIPTION	Annual Budget 2021
I. Basic Operating Expenditure (BOE)		201,533.25
I.A	Personnel Costs	
I.B	Property and Vehicles Insurance	
I.C	Hosting and Staff Phone Card	
I.D	Public Utilities	
I.E	Audit and Administration Expenses	
I.F	Maintenance and Repairs	
I.G	Stationeries, Internet, Media and Publication	
I.H	Fuel	
II. Variable Operating Expenditure		35,225.00
II.A	Meeting Costs	
II.B	Travel, Accommodation and Staff Development	
II.C	Other Administrative Cost	
II.D	Fixed Assets and IT Software	
III. Contingency Budget		11,837.91
TOTAL 2021 ANNUAL BUDGET		248,596.16

