



UNMAS provides risk education so that Sahrawi children can recognize and avoid mines and ERW. Photo Credit: UNMAS

Since 2008, UNMAS has achieved the following in the Territory of Western Sahara, east of the berm:

- **147,513,196** square meters of hazardous areas released and/or cleared.
- **35 of 61** known **minefields** and **425 of 498** known **cluster strike areas** cleared
- **9,278** km of routes verified or cleared for UN military observers' patrols (**1,181** km verified since 1 July 2015)
- **7,866** landmines removed and destroyed
- **8,372** explosive remnants of war (ERW) destroyed
- **23,643** sub-munitions destroyed
- **3,228** MINURSO personnel received ERW Awareness Briefings
- **73,044** local and nomadic people received risk education (RE)
- **252** individuals (**28** survivors of mine accidents and **224** of their dependents) received victim assistance. Over **1,000** mine victims have been recorded east of the berm.



ABOUT

Both sides of the 1,465 km (out of 2,700 km) berm dividing the Territory of Western Sahara remain significantly contaminated with landmines and ERW as a result of the armed conflict from 1975 until 1991 between the Royal Moroccan Army and the Polisario Front. These explosive hazards continue to endanger the lives of local nomads, daily activities in settlements, as well as the livestock on which they are dependent, United Nations military observers monitoring the ceasefire and humanitarian workers.

UNMAS operates as a component of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO). Operating from the MINURSO Headquarters in Laayoune (Territory of Western Sahara) and the MINURSO Liaison Office in Tindouf (Algeria), UNMAS in the Territory of Western Sahara serves as the United Nations focal point for mine action related activities within the MINURSO area of operations. Thanks to funding from donors, UNMAS has also reduced the threat posed by landmines and ERW by conducting humanitarian mine clearance, stockpile destructions, RE, capacity enhancement and by providing assistance to survivors of mine/ERW accidents.



