



# United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL)

## 2013/14 ACTIVITIES



National Police Training Academy instructors received ERW awareness and recognition training.

First group of 16 AFL engineers completed practical testing for IMAS EOD Level 1 on 22 November.



United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) is a unit of the Office of Rule of Law and Security Institutions (OROLSI) which is a section of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO). In support UN Security Council resolution 2116 (2013), UNMAS is working directly with the Liberian security forces, specifically the Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL) and the Liberian National Police (LNP). UNMAS activities are designed to assist in the development of national security institutions and support their path to achieving operational independence in anticipation of UNMIL military drawdown.

UNMAS is **training LNP Instructors** to deliver **explosive remnants of war (ERW) Awareness and Recognition training** to police officers. The ERW recognition training will then be incorporated in the National Police Training Academy (NPTA) curriculum. This training will support safe handling and efficient reporting of ERW items for disposal.

UNMAS is conducting **6-week courses to qualify 32 selected candidates from the AFL engineering unit in explosive ordnance disposal (EOD)**. UNMAS will support the establishment of centralized response teams through technical mentoring and guidance in co-operation with the Ministry of National Defence (MOD), Operation Onward Liberty (OOL) and UNMAS implementing partner, Action on Armed Violence (AOAV).

UNMAS is conducting a **review of the current reporting system for ERW** and providing support to migrate the system from UNMIL to the LNP and AFL. The incorporation of the reporting system into the training will be critical for ensuring the sustainability of the EOD capability in the context of the UNMIL security drawdown.

## OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2013—UPDATE

Notable achievements for the months of October and November include:

- 39 candidates from the AFL engineering unit passed pre-selection processes, including combat life support medical training.
- 4 November the EOD training started for the first group of 16 students at the Armed Forces Training Command at Camp Ware, Careysburg. In attendance at the opening ceremony was the UNMIL Force Chief Engineer, MOD Deputy Chief of Staff and Assistant Chief of Staff for training, Officer in Charge Operation Onward Liberty, and several AFL, OOL, UNMAS, and ECOWAS personnel.
- 22 November all 16 AFL Engineers successfully obtain International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) EOD Level 1 certification.
- 25-28 November the first training-of-trainers course was delivered to nine (9) LNP Instructors at the National Police Training Academy (NPTA). These instructors will be able to deliver future courses at the NPTA to new recruits and existing officers.
- UNMAS Programme Manager, Ms. Sheila Black, travelled to Ganta and Gbarnga to meet with UNMIL Sector B Bangladesh Engineer Commanding Officers to inspect expired ammunition in preparation for movement to support the EOD training. UNMIL Chinese Transport provided valuable assistance in re-locating the ammunition for destruction.
- UNMAS hosted a delegation from New York, UNMAS Chief of Programmes Planning & Management Section and UNMAS Chief of Weapons and Ammunition Section, to meet with project stakeholders and carry out assessments for future opportunities with the Liberian security services.



UNMAS, PAKENGR-19, and Chinese Transport organized handover of ammunition for AFL training.

UNMIL Bangladesh Engineer Commanding Officer and UNMAS Programme Manager in Ganta

