



# Fact Sheet

## International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) and Compliance

### HMA CHE. 2873.2

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Within the framework of the PfP Partnership Work Programme, the Swiss Government, through the Federal Department of Defence, Civil Protection and Sport (DDPS), has the honour to invite qualified representatives from the National Mine Action Authorities (NMAA) to the above-mentioned course.

The training course “IMAS and Compliance” is a five-day intensive course, which aims to strengthen the relationships between risk, method, quality management and information management. These are key areas to improve safety, efficiency and quality. The workshop is aimed at mine action officials and practitioners from mine-affected countries, officials from mine action agencies in donor countries, and other representatives as specifically selected by the Swiss Ministry of Defence and the GICHD. This course is also designed for National Officers and military personnel responsible for or engaged in the development of the national Mine Action Standards (NMAA), who are conversant with IMAS. It is also relevant for military personnel, responsible for pre-deployment trainings of EOD experts or engineer units in the framework of peace support operations. The aspired outcome is enabling participants to apply the acquired knowledge to improve and upgrade their national standards. The course will also provide an opportunity to understand the latest developments in the IMAS and the mine action sector.

#### Course Outline

The course's presentations, discussions and group work will cover effective and efficient implementation of national QMS to complement risk management, information management and land release methods and the definition of concepts such as “All Reasonable Effort” and “Compliance”.

#### International Mine Action Standards

The IMAS provide guidance, establish principles and, in some cases, define international requirements and specifications for the mine action sector. They are designed to improve safety, efficiency and quality in mine action, and to promote a common and consistent approach to the conduct of mine action operations. The IMAS are the main guide for the development of NMAA, Standard Operating

Procedures (SOPs) and training material in mine action. The United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) is mandated with developing and maintaining the IMAS. Drafting, re-viewing and revising the IMAS is conducted by a technical committee with the support of international, governmental and non-governmental organisations. This process is managed and coordinated by the GICHD. The GICHD also outreaches them on behalf of the UN and helps NMAA in the design and development of IMAS compliant NMAA. IMAS follow the format of the International Organization for Standards (ISO) and draw on the three main treaties in international law which deal with landmines, ERW and cluster munitions.

#### Application of IMAS

The IMAS have three main applications;

- They are issued as a guide to the mine action community to explain the agreed quality of work required in a programme;
- They are a framework for the development of NMAA, which can more accurately reflect specific local realities and circumstances in a given country. NMAA should take the IMAS into account but will not necessarily follow the IMAS in every respect. NMAA will differ from country to country depending on the local situation;
- Where there are no NMAA, the IMAS may be directly applied as NMAA and can also be the legal basis for developing contracts.

#### Course objectives

The objectives of the course are to:

- Enhance the understanding on how to develop IMAS compliant NMAA
- Enhance the understanding of how standards relate to control processes to deliver strategic objectives under conditions of uncertainties
- Enhance the understanding of how Risk Management (RM), Information Management (IM) and Quality Management (QM) support an evidence-based decision-making process.

Additional Information / details	
EAPWP Code	HMA CHE. 2873.2
Nickname	<b>International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) and Compliance</b>
Type	Training Course
Target Audience / Level	The workshop is aimed at mine action officials and practitioners from mine affected countries, officials from mine action agencies in donor countries, and other representatives as specifically selected by the Swiss Ministry of Defence and the GICHD. This course is also designed for National Officers and military personnel responsible for or engaged in the development of the national Mine Action Standards (NMAS), who are conversant with IMAS. It is also relevant for military personnel responsible for pre-deployment trainings of EOD experts or engineer units in the framework of peace support operations. Participants should also be able to communicate and present on their national standards in English.
Duration / Date	5 days / 30 April to 04 May 2018
Location	Spiez, Switzerland
Language Requirements	<p>Participants must have the following standards of proficiency in English (as described in STANAG 6001): <b>3221</b>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Listening (good / 3)</li> <li>▪ Speaking (fair / 2)</li> <li>▪ Reading (fair / 2)</li> <li>▪ Writing (elementary/ 1)</li> </ul> <p>Language requirements are <b>compulsory</b> and have to be confirmed by applicants' superiors - No interpreters are provided for this course.</p>
Costs	The Swiss Government will cover participant expenses for food and accommodation while in Spiez (29 April, date of arrival, to 5 May, latest date of departure). Train tickets Zurich Airport – Spiez – Zurich Airport will be reimbursed to the participants (only second class tickets). In addition, there are a limited number of subsidies for transportation to and from Switzerland available. It is imperative that applicants wishing subsidies for transportation send a letter signed by their supervisor, stating that they are the NMAS person in charge in the programme and that they do need sponsorship for travel expenses, to Vanessa Di Giorgi, <a href="mailto:v.digiorgi@gichd.org">v.digiorgi@gichd.org</a> as soon as possible, before making any arrangements, and not later than the application deadline on 2 March 2018.
Application	In order to apply, please use the following link for our online registration page, where you will be asked to provide relevant personal information and upload your CV: <a href="https://training.gichd.org/">https://training.gichd.org/</a> The registration form should be filled in no later than <b>2 March 2018</b> .
Restrictions	<p>Course is open to NATO/PfP, MD, ICI and Contact States. Course participation is limited to 22; as far as possible 2 slots per nation will be accepted.</p> <p><b>Registration deadline: no later than 2 March 2018.</b> Allocation will be on application basis! The acceptance will be submitted in mid-March 2018.</p>
Liability	The Swiss Armed Forces do not cover health care expenses. All participants are themselves responsible for adequate insurance (health, accident and liability) or need a Governmental guarantee to cover any health care expenses in Switzerland.
Additional Course Information	<p><b>VANESSA DI GIORGI</b> Junior Programme Officer, Strategies &amp; Standards Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) Chemin Eugène-Rigot 2C   P.O. Box 1300 1211 Geneva 1   Switzerland <a href="mailto:v.digiorgi@gichd.org">v.digiorgi@gichd.org</a></p>