



# What practice needs from science

## Lessons from mine action

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- >





# > Geneva Intl Centre for Humanitarian Demining

- >Active in 57 countries
- >1'200 installation of our software
- >50 staff
- >Our activity is to build capacity in information management





# Historical tendencies of science in mine action

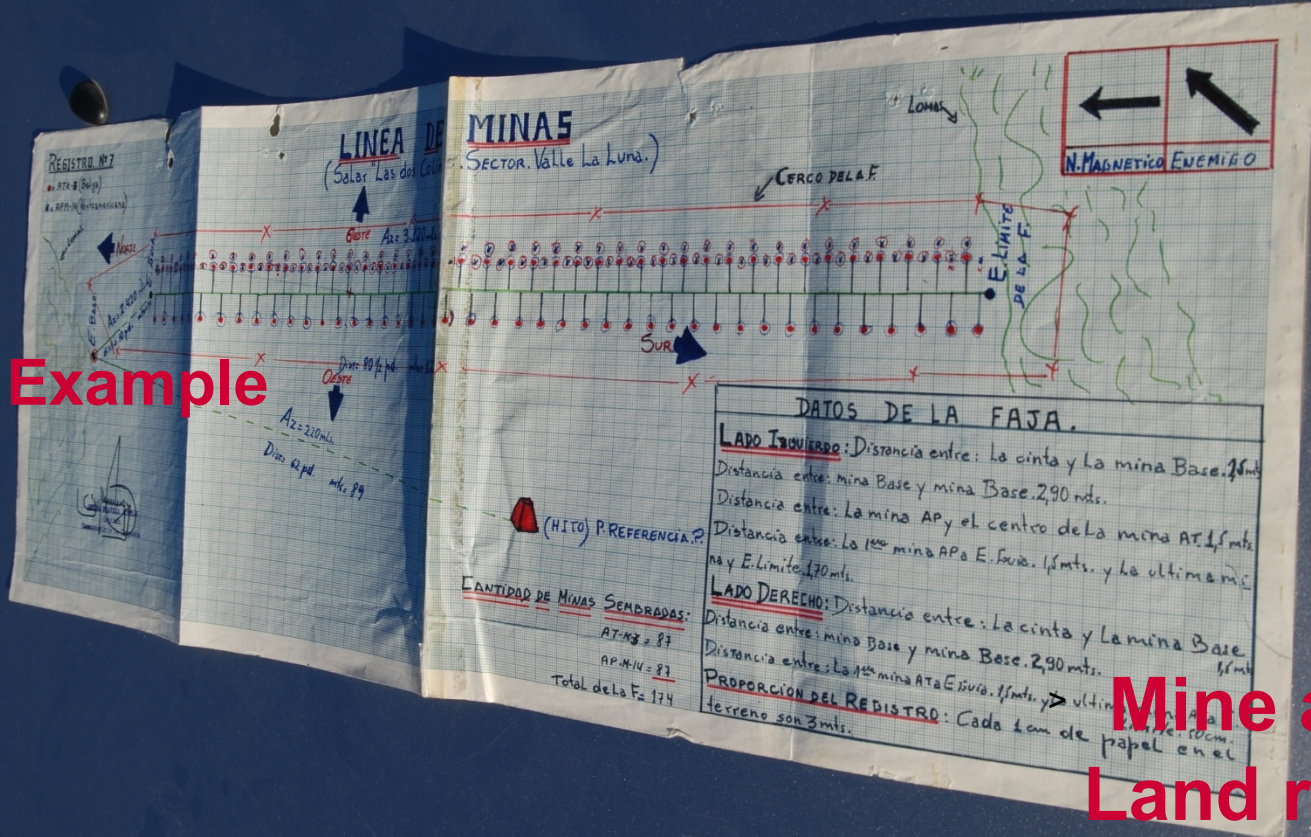
- Technology > Methodology
- High-tech > Appropriateness
- Solution > Capacity
- Rationalisation > Effectiveness
- Problem > Process







> Example



Mine action  
Land release



## > **The start of science in demining**

### > **Research focus was on**

- > Technologies for finding and destroying mines
- > Reducing risk to deminers

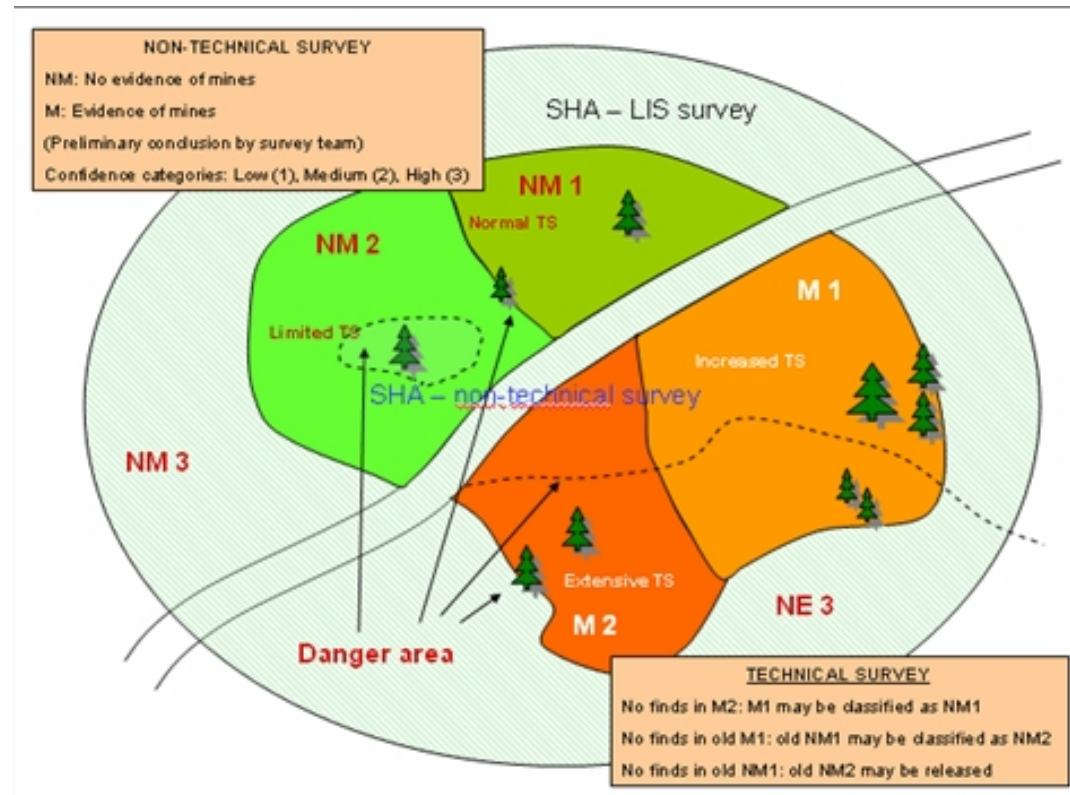
### > **The result was**

- > The methodologies used to determine a contaminated area were secondary
- > Prioritisation was inadequate
- > Clearance of huge areas without mines



## Land release

- ❑ Mine action risk management
- ❑ Reduces suspected hazardous area (SHA)
- ❑ Increases efficiency
- ❑ Greatly reduces clearance costs





# Land release in Mozambique

2000 – 2002

Landmine Impact  
Survey (LIS)

558km<sup>2</sup>  
of SHA

2000 - 2008

8 years of  
clearance

Clearance of  
60km<sup>2</sup>

498km<sup>2</sup>  
of SHA

2008 – 2009

1 year of  
application of land  
release concept

Application of the  
Land release concept  
(survey and improving  
information)

Release of  
486km<sup>2</sup>

1212km<sup>2</sup>  
of SHA





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A photograph of a tree trunk in a forest. A metal device, possibly a sensor or a small stove, is attached to the trunk. The ground is covered in dry leaves, and there are green leaves in the foreground and background.

> Thank you!

*There is always a solution to every problem  
that is neat, plausible and wrong"*

*H.L. Mencken*

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