

BACKGROUND NOTE
Plenary Session V. SDGs From Theory to Practice: Linking Mine Action to Development and SDGs

Date and time: Thursday 13 February 2020, 3:00 p.m. - 4:15p.m.

Chair: **Ms. Maria-Luisa Silva**, Head of UNDP Geneva office

Speakers: **Ambassador Stefano Toscano**, Director, GICHD
(TBC) **Mr. Sasa Obradovic**, Director, BHMAL, Bosnia and Herzegovina
Ambassador Prum Sophakmonkol, CMAA, Secretary-General
and Project Director, CFRIL, Cambodia

Location: Room XVIII, Palais des Nations, Geneva

Introduction

The objective of this session is to hear from countries who have been able to ‘scale-up’ mine action and facilitate its evolution as a key element of national development planning. In the cases of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Cambodia, this has been done through the formulation of a dedicated Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 18 at the national level. Other countries have successfully been able to identify entry points to mainstream mine action across the current SDG framework, emphasizing that mine action contributes directly or indirectly to multiple SDGs, and is a foundational element for the development futures.

Until recently, the mine action community has struggled with being siloed as a humanitarian activity – its link to development policy and planning not fully integrated in a meaningful way. The plenary will discuss how the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its associated SDGs provide the policy architecture at the national level to engage with intra-ministerial planning processes. It aims to show that, by aligning with broader national development planning and SDG priorities, relevant stakeholders will be in a better position to demonstrate how the catalytic role of mine action translates from humanitarian assistance to development outcomes.

Purpose of the Session

This session will demonstrate the catalytic potential of mine action for progress across the entire 2030 Agenda and provide a platform for the mine action community to add its voice to the broader debates on how to accelerate SDGs implementation, as part of the Decade of Action and Delivery for Sustainable Development. The panelists will promote peer-learning by presenting case studies of how countries have defined specific policy approach to link mine action with the SDGs framework and discuss what are the key challenges and opportunities for successfully mainstreaming mine action into development planning.

Format for the Plenary: (75 minutes)

Introductory remarks by Chair	05 minutes
Presentation by GICHD	10 minutes
Presentation by Bosnia and Herzegovina	10 minutes
Presentation by Cambodia	10 minutes
Discussion and Q & A	30 minutes
Closing remarks by Chair	05 minutes

Food for Thought:

- Is mainstreaming mine action into SDG Frameworks possible in countries that have already finalized their SDG plans?
- What capacities are needed at Mine Action Centres to mainstream mine action into SDG planning processes?
- What capacities are needed at Mine Action Centres to report on how mine action contributes to SDG achievements?