Landmines, cluster munition remnants and other explosive ordnance (EO) pose a serious and ongoing threat to civilian lives, deny access to resources and hinder development. Reducing their impact requires long-term solutions and the development of competent, accountable and transparent national institutions. However, many internal and external factors – including low levels of state financial contributions, inadequate training and lack of expertise – impede the capacity of states to respond to EO contamination. Mine Action is a national responsibility. The conventions that provide the international framework for mine action require states to demonstrate high levels of national ownership. A better-regulated and coordinated national mine action programme ensures efficient planning, tasking, implementation and reporting of mine action operations.

NPA defines capacity development of the National Mine Action Authorities (NMAAs) and local Implementing Partners (IP’s) as: ‘the process of establishing, strengthening and maintaining national capacity at the enabling environment, organizational, and individual levels to support the NMAAs and local IP’s to manage and implement mine action programmes safely and efficiently’.

NPA’s capacity development framework comprised of three interconnected levels of capacity: individual, organizational and enabling environment. NPA believes providing only the trainings and competence development of personnel is insufficient. NPA implements its capacity development projects guided by the following principles:

- National ownership: Ultimate responsibility rests with the NMAA. NPA Advisors support the NMAA in a process to implement their Mine Action Programme’s
- Coordination: Capacity Development plans and activities are well coordinated with all mine action stakeholders in country.
- Adaptation to local conditions: Advisors ensure that the proposed response and solutions conform with local laws and socio-political norms
- Partnership: NPA promote a culture of partnership and networking with other international stakeholders (GICHD, JMU, UNDP, UNMAS) and other INGOs
- Quality: NPA advisors deliver activities that are of quality and in compliance with international standards, setting the standard for the NMAA to conform to IMAS requirements
- Shared responsibility: NMAAs and/or IPs share equal responsibility and accountability with NPA
DONORS
NPA wishes to express thanks to all donors supporting our work to develop the national capacity of NMAAs in 2022. NPA’s capacity development programming was supported by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (NMFA) and the United States Political-Military Affairs Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement (PM/WRA).

CONTACT
Robert White, Global Capacity Development Advisor: RobWhi315@npaid.org
Jonathon Guthrie, Global Director of Operations: jonathong@npaid.org

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT
NPA is a sector lead in providing information management capacity development to NMAAs globally. Working closely in partnership with the GICHD, NPA has/is working with the NMAAs in Vietnam (both the national database unit in Hanoi, and the provincial database units in Quang Tri, Quang Bin and Hue provinces); Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, Somalia, Colombia, Libya, Angola, Democratic Republic of Congo, South Sudan, Mozambique, and Palau.

MINDE DETECTION DOGS
NPA is the sector lead in the breeding, training, deployment and supplier of Mine detection Dogs (MDD). NPA delivers a complete package when providing MDDs to NMAAs, providing training and advisory support, and development and review of standards. NPA has been and is assisting Cambodia, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Ethiopia, and Yemen.

OPERATIONAL MANAGEMENT
Operational management covers all the necessary requirements to implement a safe and efficient mine action programme. These include development and/or review on national mine action standards, and operational planning. NPA has or is working on all or some of these with NMAAs in Vietnam, Cambodia, Myanmar, Thailand, Angola, Afghanistan (Third Party Monitoring), and Iraq.

QUALITY MANAGEMENT
The success of any national mine action programme can be linked to the quality of activities implemented. NPA assists NMAA to establish their quality management systems for mine action, including accreditation and training quality management procedures and standards, and provision of Quality Assurance or Quality control teams. NPA has or is providing quality management support to Vietnam, Iraq and Angola.

PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT
In some instances, and where the context and environment support so, NPA provides NMAAs with general mine action advisory support, similar to that of a Chief Technical Advisor provided by some UN agencies. This role generally works with the Director (Head) of the NMAA and provide them with strategic guidance and advice across all aspects of the mine action programme. In addition to the Information and Operational Management, advice may be given on long and medium-term strategy, resource mobilization, or structure of the programme. NPA has or is providing advisory support to Vietnam, Iraq and Angola.