



## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Readers,

Since Ken Rutherford became the Director of the Center for International Stabilization and Recovery in February 2010, *The Journal* team and the rest of the CISR staff have been blessed with his insight, energy and creativity. He is a dynamic leader whom we admire, and he is well respected throughout the world. Many of you know him as cofounder of Landmine Survivors Network (later Survivor Corps, now defunct), a landmine survivors' advocacy and support group. While Dr. Rutherford continues as a personal champion of survivors' and other disability rights, as CISR's Director, he is also broadening and deepening the Center's vision and mission to develop, implement and deliver global programs that make a difference, and publishing the premier information source for the humanitarian mine-action sector, this journal.

*The Journal of ERW and Mine Action* is focused on programming. Yet, we have recently received an increasing number of articles promoting various issues—often entirely outside of *The Journal's* scope (such as the ongoing Arms Trade Treaty negotiations). It is time to clearly state what topics we will publish and what articles we are interested in receiving.

*The Journal* is a professional trade journal for the HMA and ERW community. The first two-thirds of the publication is devoted to topics that interest a wide variety of HMA and ERW industry people—field, management, programming, training, academic and government personnel. The last third of *The Journal* focuses on new or emerging technologies and scientific studies that contribute to more effectively expanding the discussion regarding innovative methods to clear and/or neutralize mines and ERW.

*The Journal* is a forum for HMA and ERW-clearance best practices and methodologies, strategic planning, mine-risk education and survivors' assistance. We love case studies discussing projects/programs: what happened, who was involved and supported the project, successes, failures and ideas for improvements. By highlighting the good work you do in the world, we help readers learn, grow, innovate and do more good. Kindly remember, however, that without donors, you would be unable to do as much for the world, so please acknowledge their support in your articles.

Although we want to hear about the many good things you do, please ensure your articles are substantive. In this issue we feature many interesting and informative articles, including a summary of NPA's project on the Thailand-Cambodia border, articles about the situation in Libya and a story about Afghanistan's community-based demining teams.

In addition, we welcome your contributions to our website forum and commenting features. I invite you to use these tools to tell the world what you think.

Lois Carter Fay  
Editor-in-Chief  
editormaic@gmail.com



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