

Third Review Conference of the
Convention on Cluster Munitions
(3 RC-CCM)

Date: 14-18 September 2026 Venue: Vientiane Capital Laos.

Statement of the Republic of South Sudan on Risk Education
Presented by Teddy Shiela Akello (VA Representative NMAA)

Thank you, Mr. President,

Distinguished Delegates,

Let me start by thanking Lao PDR for hosting the Third Review Conference in the historic city of Vientiane, in Laos. I extend my appreciation to President of the Convention on Cluster Munitions and the Director of the Implementation Support Unit (ISU) of the Convention of Cluster Munitions (CCM) for the efforts in organizing this important meeting.

South Sudan's Government, through its National Mine Action Authority, has continued to implement risk education as an essential pillar of mine action to protect communities from the devastating impact of cluster munition and explosive remnants of war to save lives, build resilience, and support affected communities to navigate the risks of this contamination.

As South Sudan, we reaffirm the commitment, during this Review Conference 2026, to maintain risk education as part of the foundation of our work. As such, we would like to highlight the need for increased focus and resources to effectively protect communities from the dangers posed by cluster munition remnants.

The strategic goal of risk education should be clear: risk education should bring behavioral change to promote and facilitate safe livelihood and reduced accidents.

To achieve the above goals, all areas known or suspected of containing cluster munitions have been marked with warning signs for the local populations.

South Sudan has expanded its community outreach by integrating MRE into schools, in primary school curriculum, National Mine Action Strategy, Humanitarian Needs and Responses Plan 2026, the Revised National Development Strategy, the protection cluster South Sudan flood protection guideline. Furthermore, UNICEF has integrated EORE within child protection programs.

South Sudan has laid much emphasis on the importance of Explosive Ordnance Risk Education for the communities at risk, such as refugees, IDPs, and other categories of people in areas with contamination of cluster munitions and other explosive ordnance, to raise awareness within communities, improving their safety access and limit accident.

South Sudan prioritized deployment of Community Liaison/EORE teams within the clearance teams where a pre-deployment assessment or needs assessment conducted to identify the specific Payams/Bomas where EORE interventions are required.

Clearance tasks are prioritized based on the findings, with a focus on vulnerable populations,

including children, and communities living in high-risk or contaminated areas.

Risk Education is prioritized as stand-alone risk education activity, with sessions that are conducted by all partners in schools and communities.

Risk Education is also integrated in entertainment (theatre play, Music, dance, drama, Poems, games, talent shows and films, etc.), and train-the-trainer activities are also organized, including the training of community focal points, volunteers, and peers. Mass media, such as tv, radio, newspaper, are also used for risk education activities.

Risk education teams used the following materials for the different at-risk groups: Print material (brochures, posters, billboards, leaflets, etc.)

The total beneficiaries of Risk Education to date are men:1,527,533, Women:1,527,533, Boys:2,546,120 and Girls:2,110,918 total 7,757,736

All Explosive Risk Education activities are well coordinated by NMAA/ UNMAS through the monthly EORE Working group meetings, where NMAA is the Chair of the meeting and UNMAS is the Co-chair.

Current challenges are financial constraints, fluxes of returnees, refugees, ongoing economic crisis in the country, communities' preference to procure food through other organizations, rather than attending EORE sessions, flooding, and unsecure access to rural areas.

The Government is putting in place a national capacity development plan to ensure sustainability of risk education in schools and effective coordination during the implementation of the National mine action strategy.

South Sudan still seeks financial assistance from donors to consider funding risk education activities as our top priority for the implementation of the upcoming Vientiane Capital Action Plan on the Implementation of the Convention on Cluster Munitions, 2027-2031.

In conclusion, I would like to thank Lao PDR, the organizers once again, and to appreciate donors for sponsorship to enable our meaningful participation.

Thank You

Explosive Ordnance Risk Education Locations in South Sudan as of 04 Sept 2026

Legend

- EORE Location
- Major Cities
- Country Capital
- State Capital
- River Nile

Explosive Risk Ordnance Education (EORE)		
EORE Total Beneficiaries	1,527,533	1,573,165
	# Women	# Men
7,757,736	2,110,918	2,546,120
	# Girls	# Boys