

## **NON-STATE ACTORS GUIDELINES**

### ***Landmine Monitor Report 2005***

The Landmine Monitor Editorial Board has confirmed the creation of a new thematic area for focused coordination of research for the 2005 report, and possibly beyond. The thematic coordinator for NSA focused research is Yeshua Moser-Puangsuwan. These research questions will have some relevance to about 40 of the current 90+ countries designated for focused research for 2005.

More than other research areas, no one single country will find all these questions applicable, and answers may not feel like they fit so neatly into the framework provided by the question.

As a guide to answering the question "What is an NSA?" for your country/area of research, if it is not a formal member of the military, police or other state agency, then it is an NSA. This could include proxies controlled by the state, mercenaries, 'village guards' or other quasi-state entities, and criminal groups. It will clearly include any counter state, armed organization, revolutionary or rebellion force, or other armed political entities.

While research on use by NSAs is not new in the Landmine Monitor, focused coordination of research is a reflection of the fact that global use by formal military forces has been dropping during the past decade, and use by non-state armed groups has now overtaken known use by formal military forces.

In past years, Landmine Monitor researchers have revealed WHERE NSAs have been using landmines. A new research agenda needs to be pursued to understand how NSAs impact efforts to achieve a global landmine ban, and the new research guides to be introduced in 2006 will be the result of interaction between you, the researchers, and the research coordinator on NSAs, in this year's research process. The input and ideas of all researchers is requested in helping map out new areas for research which will help us achieve our goal of a mine free world.

Please note that we are not adding a separate section of the Landmine Monitor report on NSAs. Your research findings on NSAs should all be incorporated into the Ban Policy, Mine Action, Mine Risk Education or Victim Assistance sections of your reports.

The research questions on NSAs for the 2005 report, will, given the short time frame left for this year's research, remain the same as previous years.