

International Day for Mine Awareness



- The **International Day for Mine Awareness** has been marked on 4 April every year since 2005. It aims to promote the UN vision of a world free of landmines.
- More than 15 years ago, civil society organisations, national governments and the UN came together to establish the 1997 Mine Ban Treaty which introduced a **complete ban on antipersonnel landmines**.



-
- Once a country signs up to the treaty it agrees to never to use, develop, produce, stockpile (keep in storage), or transfer antipersonnel landmines, or to assist another country to conduct these activities.



-
- The Treaty has now been signed by over **160 countries** worldwide and has brought about a dramatic reduction in the use of landmines.
 - As a result more than **47 million** stockpiled antipersonnel mines have been destroyed.
 - In 1997, some 20,000 people a year were killed or injured by mines. That number has fallen to around 4,000.