

Research Project on Humanitarian Demining Proposed

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Washington, D.C. The Department of Health and Human Service Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is proposing to fund an observational baseline survey to assess the effectiveness of humanitarian demining efforts upon the economic, social and mental well being of impacted communities.

The Harvard Humanitarian Initiative, a Harvard University organization, has been selected to conduct the study under a cooperative agreement with the Federal Government. According to the posting in [Federal Register](#), the general theory to be examined is that individuals and local communities suffer when living in an area with landmines and UXO since they cannot use all land resources and suffer trauma when family members are injured or killed in accidental explosions.

The research project will involve the creation of a survey form designed to capture information directly from the local populace in communities impacted by landmines and UXO. After a brief pilot project, the actual survey work will be conducted in one country per year for a total of five years, depending upon available funding. The likely countries include Angola, Bosnia, Colombia, Lebanon, and Nepal.