

From: APOPO HeroRATs [mailto:herorats@apopo.org]
Sent: Thursday, March 06, 2014 7:54 AM
To: Benvie, Ruth
Subject: Re: Herorats



Dear Ruth,

First of all, many apologies for our silence. We have been restructuring our adoption system and are still working on making the corporate adoption system more satisfactory to our adopters. We are a bit behind in sending out the HeroRAT updates, we're very sorry you had to wait so long for news.

Sniffles is still doing a great job, working hard in the Mozambican minefields, supporting our teams to find mines and clear the land so we can give it back to the local population. The mine action in Mozambique is going very well, so far GAZA province has been completely cleared. With the help of Sniffles and the other HeroRATs (we have now 78 rats in Mozambique), more than 6 million m² has been given back to the population. The Rats did an amazing job, finding 2393 landmines, 12838 small ammunitions and 922 other explosives. In total, for the whole of Mozambique more than 8.6 million square meters of land has been returned to the local communities.

The trainers and deminers in Mozambique are very impressed by Sniffles skills. He doesn't seem to suffer much from the sun, even during the very hot season, he's sniffing for landmines like he doesn't even feel the heat. He's an enthusiastic and active rat and very much like to play during the nights (he then can also be quite noisy apparently).

I've also attached some pictures of the mine action in Mozambique and Sniffles and his colleagues at work.

We get back to you with more news once our system is updated – we hope to be able to offer more regular updates then, so you have more information about the life-saving job Sniffles is doing and that you are supporting. We are very appreciative for your support - many thanks!

Kind regards,

The heroRAT team

