



BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

**Request for Extension to the Deadline for Fulfilling Obligations as per
Article 5, Para 1 of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use,
Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their
Destruction**

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Executive Summary

The challenge in the implementation of Article 5 of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction in Bosnia and Herzegovina dates back from the period 1992-1995. From 1992 to 1995 warring factions in Bosnia and Herzegovina laid a huge number of minefields throughout the country. All warring factions in Bosnia and Herzegovina (Army of BH, Army of Republic of Srpska, Croatian Defence Council) laid minefields and primarily between confrontation lines, in order to prevent or slow down the movement of military units of one fraction into the area controlled by another fraction. Minefields were also laid in front of strategic points of all warring factions and military facilities. Geographically speaking, minefields were laid throughout the country, from Herzegovina to the south and south/west, over the mountains, canyons, and gorges of Central Bosnia to the flat areas to the north of the country. Minefields are present on the ground with all types of vegetation typical for Bosnia and Herzegovina (high grass and forest) at all types of ground (stone, karst).

The Mine action program in Bosnia and Herzegovina commenced in 1996, through the establishment of UNMAC and in order to build local structure and capacities for mine action. Entity centres for mine action (MAC RS and FED MAC), along with the coordination centre on the state level (BHMAL) were established in 1998. With the passing of the Demining Law in Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2002, the existing mine action structure has been transformed. The central body of the State is presented by the Demining Commission in Bosnia and Herzegovina, operating within the Ministry of Civil Affairs in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The expert Commission's body for demining in Bosnia and Herzegovina – Mine Action Centre BiH (BHMAL) has been established by the Decision of the Council of Ministers and based on the Demining Law in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

On 26 March 2008, Bosnia and Herzegovina submitted a request to extend its 1 March 2009 mine clearance deadline. The request was granted at the Ninth Meeting of the States Parties and a new deadline set for 1 March 2019. After nine (9) years of implementation Bosnia and Herzegovina was not able to fulfil obligations in accordance with the previous request. The circumstances that have prevented Bosnia and Herzegovina from submitting from meeting the deadline of 1 March 2019 are related to the following:

- **Lack of financial means**
- **The size of mine problem** in Bosnia and Herzegovina
- **Non-functional minefield records available.**
- **Prevailing climate conditions.**

On September 2018, Bosnia and Herzegovina submitted Interim Request for Extension to the Deadline for Fulfilling Obligations as per Article 5, Para 1 of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction.

At the time when Interim Request was submitted the total remaining contamination in Bosnia and Herzegovina totals 8,967 SHAs measured 1,056,574,142 square meters and 935 CHAs measured 23.846.939 square meters.

In accordance with Article 5, Para 1, Bosnia and Herzegovina requested a two (2) years extension from 01 March 2019 to 01 March 2021, to carry out survey and clearance activities to better define the precise perimeter of mined areas in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Following the better definition of the remaining challenge, Bosnia and Herzegovina is now in a better position to highlight the exact amount of time required to implement its obligations under Article 5. During the requested time period three main projects/activities were carried out:

1. **Country assessment of SHAs in Bosnia and Herzegovina**
2. **Mine Action Governance and Management Project**
3. **Land release operations: survey and clearance operations**

In the period from 2 July 2018 to 14 May 2020, the Mine Action Centre of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Armed Forces of BiH and the Norwegian People's Aid (NPA) conducted a project entitled “**Country assessment of SHAs in Bosnia and Herzegovina**”. In the implementation of the project, with the support of authorities of local communities, the initial step was to establish MSAs or geographical areas which brought together a number of areas into one “area of operation” to be subsequently subjected to the land release process (NTS, TS and clearance). Activities of the project were directed towards the fulfilment of two specific objectives:

1. Reassessment of the suspect area in accordance with the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) and with a developed approach to the land release in Bosnia and Herzegovina.
2. Defining the indicators for the implementation of the new strategy of mine action in Bosnia and Herzegovina and development of midterm action plan for land release.

The end result of this project includes the creation of 488 MSAs (+10 MSAs in progress) for further operations and led to the cancelation of approximately 966,686,086 square meters.

Mine Action Governance and Management Project - The Ministry of civil affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Bosnia and Herzegovina Mine Action Centre (BHMIC), with UNDP support, has achieved the following results:

1. Re-establishment of the Board of donors in BiH;
2. The new National Mine Action Strategy 2018-2025, developed in partnership with stakeholders with the support of the GICHD, developed and accepted by the Council of ministers of BiH;
3. Development and design of the public awareness campaign (mobile application); to be published in the near future and available for all interested parties;
4. Development and design of the new web orientated information management (database) system for BHMIC, to replace the existing system and increase accessibility and transparency of mine action data. European Union ICSP Programme (Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace) financed this activity and national mine action authorities (Demining commission and BHMIC) agreed to accept the IM system developed by the GICHD (IMSMA Core) and adjust for the needs of BHMIC
5. Two chapters of Standard operating procedures, chapter for non-technical survey and chapter for Standard operational procedures for opening and follow-up of the task, are adopted by the Demining Commission of BiH in March 2018.

Land release operations: survey and clearance operations are continuing in line with the annual priorities presented by municipal authorities as well as in line with the financing available for implementation. As per the National Demining Law, these plans are developed on an annual basis.

During the conduct of the interim request, some challenges persisted and some new challenges manifested themselves:

1. **A delay in demining** – The term of office of the Demining Commission in BiH expired in October 2109
2. **Lack of financial means**
3. **Prevailing climate conditions**
4. **COVID-19 pandemic**

According to Oslo Action Plan mine risk education in the period 2020-2027 will be implemented through public information, education of affected population groups and through linking mine action with affected communities. Mine risk education will focus on the priority implementation of activities on the entire territory of BiH, primarily its conduct in rural communities ranked low at the priority list for other mine

action, where they might present threat for local population for a long period of time. This implies communities that will be technically surveyed and cleared only after 2023.

In the period from 2009 to 2019, 128 mine/ERW victims were registered in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Out of the total, males constitute 95% and females 5%. Additionally, out of the total, adults constitute 88%, and children 12%. More than 80% percent of victims from this period occurred in mine accidents at areas qualified as 3rd category.

At their 143rd Session held on May 23rd 2018, the Council of Ministers has issued the Decision on the Establishing of Coordinating Body for mine/cluster munition/ERW victims.

Elimination of the risk caused by anti-personnel mines for the population in affected communities and for the social and economic development of Bosnia and Herzegovina is resolved through integrated approach to mine action. Mine suspected areas (MSA)¹ are defined they are subjected to Non-Technical Survey, Technical Survey and clearance with priorities being set in accordance with the needs of local communities and municipalities/cities in order to eliminate threat for population. These needs are assessed through integration of mine risk education activities with wider humanitarian, development, protection and education efforts, as well as with ongoing survey, clearance and victim assistance activities to reduce the risk to the affected population and decrease their need for risk-taking. (Oslo Action Plan: Action 28)

In accordance with the Demining Law in Bosnia and Herzegovina, funds for the conduct of mine action in Bosnia and Herzegovina will be ensured via donors' sources, budgets of Bosnia and Herzegovina institutions, entity budgets and other sources. In order to fulfil the obligations under Article 5 of the Convention in requested timeframe (six years) from 1 March 2021 to 1 March 2027, the funds totalling 336,2 million BAM are necessary. The finance plan according to the operational plan for 2020-2027 is prepared in accordance with the realistic financial frame of mine action.

Country assessment of SHAs in Bosnia and Herzegovina provided an insight into the scope of contamination and the size of the mine problem. In further works, evidence will be analysed and areas prepared for technical survey and clearance. Non-technical survey is also the final step in handover of the land to final users (in accordance with NMAS - National Mine Standards).

1. Remaining implementation challenge at the time of previous request submission

At the time of submission of the previous request, Bosnia and Herzegovina was the most mine contaminated country in Europe with mined areas measuring approximately 1,056,574,142 square meters (2 % of the total area of Bosnia and Herzegovina).

1.1. Obligations taken under the previous request and circumstances which prevented completion

During the period of the interim request implementation, there were following challenging circumstances that affected implementation:

Delay in demining - The term of office of the Demining Commission in BiH expired in October 2019 and the new members of the Demining Commission were not appointed until 30. April 2020. Given that the Demining Commission in BiH being the body responsible for the conduct of mine action, which entails accreditations

¹ An area made up of SHAs and CHAs which encompasses one or more impacted communities and due to economic, cultural, geographical, and other reasons, is selected as a logical unit. The MSA is selected by BHMAL in close cooperation with the municipal authorities. These areas are then treated comprehensively through the land release procedure. MSA represents an organizational task for a demining organization.

for demining organizations, the conduct of foreign policy, adoption of new Standards and SOP as well as amendments to the existing Standards and SOP, the delay led to the expiration of accreditation of mine clearance organization at the beginning of 2020, in some cases preventing the start of the demining season and, in other cases, preventing the deployment of the full available capacity.

Lack of financial means - The Mine Action Strategy 2018-2025 adopted by the Council of Ministers required financial resources in the total amount of BAM 336.2 million to flow to the mine action programme. Unfortunately, available financial resources have not met the expectation of the Strategy which may not allow full realization of the set goals. For the beginning of 2021, it is predicted that remaining SHA will amount to approximately 857,000,000 m². From all of the above, we anticipate that we will need two more years to implement the Strategy and clear Bosnia and Herzegovina of mines. At the end of 2020, we will have the first revision of the Strategy based on the results of the Country assessment of SHAs in Bosnia and Herzegovina project and the results achieved so far. We believe that the projected amount of a total of 336.2 million BAM will be sufficient for the implementation of the Strategy.

Prevailing climate conditions. Demining season in most of Bosnia and Herzegovina lasts from mid-March to the beginning of December. On the south of BiH, demining works can be conducted during the winter season due to the mild climate conditions. Demining season lasts for 8 months.

COVID-19 pandemic. Similar to the rest of the world, Bosnia and Herzegovina was caught in COVID-19 pandemic which caused either a cessation of or hindrance to the work of Bosnia and Herzegovina institutions. This reflected onto the process of mine action conduct in Bosnia and Herzegovina in the period from March to June 2020, since Mine Action Centre BiH worked with reduced capacities as well. It also caused cessation or serious deceleration of work that companies conduct on the ground. After appointment of the Demining Commission in BiH (April 30 2020), all companies that submitted request were accredited and ground activities continued.

2. Progress made regarding the previous request

2.1. Progress made during the previous extension period

Over the period of 2018-2019 the affected area in Bosnia and Herzegovina has been reduced from 1,056,574,142 square meters to 966.686.086 square meters. During this period a total of 94,555,274 square meters were addressed with 84,655,964 square meters of suspected hazardous area (SHA) cancelled through non-technical survey operations 8,342,881 square metres of SHA reduced through technical survey operations or technically surveyed locations and 1,556,429 square meters of CHAs cleared. A total of 3,064 anti-personnel mines, 76 anti-tank mines and 2,363 pieces of ERW, including cluster munitions were identified and destroyed.

Detailed information on the progress of non-technical and technical survey and mine clearance in the period from 2018 to 2019 is shown in the following table:

Time (2018-2019)	Plan (square metres)	Realization (square metres)	Percentage of realization %	Percentage per method %
Cancelled area (square metres) Non-technical survey	238,000,000	84,655,964	35.57	89.53
Reduced area (square metres) Technical Survey	8,000,000	8,342,881	104.29	8.82
Cleared area (square metres) Clearance of mines	4,000,000	1,556,429	38.91	1.65
Total area released (square metres)	250,000,000	94,555,274	37.82	100.00

Table 1: Review of non-technical and technical survey, and mine clearance

2.2. Methodologies and standards employed in the implementation of Article 5

Methods for release of the SHAs and CHAs in Bosnia and Herzegovina are defined through national standards and standard operational procedures which are in accordance with the international standards for mine action (IMAS). In 2016, three chapters of the Standard were adopted: chapters for non-technical survey, technical survey and land release. In 2018, two chapters of the Standing Operational Procedures were adopted: chapters for non-technical survey and chapter for opening and follow-up of the issued tasks. Remaining chapters of Standard and SOP are currently under construction and their adoption is expected by the end of 2020.

Non-technical survey in Bosnia and Herzegovina (relation to IMAS 08.10) is an activity for collection and analysis of information on presence, type, and layout of mines without the use of technical methods. Non-technical survey permits the analysis of gathered information and allows for decisions to be made on further technical activities, if necessary. Through Non-Technical Survey methods, the affected area is more precisely defined for technical survey activities to take place should evidence of mines be discovered or cancellation of areas should there be no evidence of mines. Non-technical survey activities are conducted by the Mine Action Centre BiH, providing quality assurance and quality control (Standard for non-technical survey adopted 2016).

Technical survey is a process which collects and analyses information on presence, type and layout of mines with the assistance of appropriate technical methods, and confirms their presence. The goal of technical survey is the use of appropriate methods for defining the borders of the mined areas (if any) or removal of doubt about the existence of mines in the area to which the evidences points. Technical survey represents entry into the areas which are identified through non-technical survey activities, direct search and defining the presence of mines, specific characteristics of the soil, marking the borders of mined areas, and setting the parameters for further mine clearance operations. **Technical survey** will be conducted in order to check and verify the information collected through non-technical survey, as well as to determine the borders of mined areas more precisely, i.e. to define the CHAs.

Three methods are used in technical survey in Bosnia and Herzegovina: mechanical preparation of the land, MDD search by trained dogs, and manual method that implies the deminer working with his detector and his prodder (Standard operational procedures for humanitarian demining –Chapter V, adopted in 2003, Standard for technical survey, adopted in 2016).

Mine clearance implies physical removal of mines from the CHAs and their destruction. Methods used in mine clearance in Bosnia and Herzegovina are: mechanical preparation of the ground, mine detection dog teams, and manual method which implies the deminer working with his detector and his prodder (Standard for mine clearance and UXO removal in Bosnia and Herzegovina, adopted in 2003). **Mine clearance** will be carried out with the aim of physically removing mines from the CHAs that are treated through the process of non-technical and technical survey. These activities will be carried out by accredited organizations.

Quality Assurance and Quality Control

Quality control is conducted by Mine Action Centre in BiH (Standard operational procedures for humanitarian demining in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Annex II, Chapter I, adopted in 2008). The Mine Action Centre BiH also conducts technical supervision/inspection over technical survey operations conducted by accredited organizations.

Quality assurance in humanitarian demining is a system of control and activities including organization, planning, screening of the equipment, training, procedures and activities of humanitarian demining on the ground which will confirm that controlled operational procedures of humanitarian demining are correct and adequate and that tasks are achieved in a safe, efficient and effective manner. Quality assurance system is a

significant factor for the trust in both demining personnel and users of demined area. Quality assurance in Bosnia and Herzegovina is conducted in accordance with the Demining Law in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Standard for mine clearance and UXO removal and Standard operational procedures for humanitarian demining in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The aim of quality assurance is implementation of prescribed norms and procedures that provide safety for people, and result in the quality of the area addressed. Quality assurance in Bosnia and Herzegovina consists of the following:

1. Technical inspection of humanitarian demining operations conducted by inspection bodies of Mine Action Centre Bosnia and Herzegovina, in accordance to the Demining Law in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Standard and approved SOPs. Technical inspection is conducted through:
 - a. Planning, including the project task, conduct plan for the technical survey and mine clearance tasks;
 - b. External quality control monitoring Of the humanitarian demining process conducted by Mine Action Centre BiH which enables the handover of the technically surveyed and cleared area;
 - c. Sampling of the cleared area,
 - d. Final technical inspection and issue of the quality assurance certificate,
2. Estimation and issue accreditation to organizations for the conduct of humanitarian demining in accordance with the Law, Standards and SOPs.
3. Process of training and testing including training and planning, approval of training plans for accredited organizations, control and participation in training, testing the personnel and readiness to work in Bosnia and Herzegovina.
4. Occupational safety and health.
5. Internal quality control over accredited organizations is conducted by the organization itself, i.e. team leader, site manager and quality assurance officer. Every internal quality control is recorded at site, in writing, with control samples of the situation, including sampling results, attached sketches and marking of the area. Through internal organization of work and through conduct of control within the accredited organization, maximum safety is achieved for deminers and users of demined area.
6. Monitoring by contractor over organizations in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Monitoring represents the control of the contract between the contractor and the organization. Such monitoring is not obligatory and it is conducted per request of the contractor. Mine Action Centre issues the Quality Control Certificate, which is a confirmation that a certain location is demined in accordance with Article 36 of the Demining Law (Official Gazette BiH, no: 5/02) and Chapter VII of the Standard Operational Procedures for humanitarian demining (defined that a demined location is in accordance with IMAS, with the guarantee of 99,65%). Detailed information of quality assurance and quality control activities in the period 2018-2019 is shown below in table 3:

Operational plans are conducted in accordance with technical regulations compatible with international standards (IMAS):

- a. Chapter of Standard for Land Release,
- b. Chapter of Standard for non-technical survey,
- c. Chapter of Standard for technical survey,

- d. Chapter of Standard for mine clearance and UXO removal,
 - e. Standard Operating Procedures for humanitarian demining,
 - f. Standard Operating Procedures for non-technical survey,
 - g. Standard Operational Procedures for revision of suspect hazardous area,
 - h. Quality assurance and quality control guidelines necessary for conduct of "Land Release" project.
 - i. Accreditation Guide for Mine Action in Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Methods which will be used in technical survey and mine clearance in Bosnia and Herzegovina are as follows: Mechanical preparation of the ground, EDD and Manual method.

In the period from 2018 to 2019, Mine Action Centre BiH inspection bodies have conducted 10.551 inspections at 339 humanitarian demining tasks (technical survey and mine clearance).

Quality assurance and Quality control (2018-2019)			
2018-2019	2018	2019	Total
Approved accreditations	244	233	477
Deminers licences issued	1,164	1,156	2,320
Metal detectors tested	949	690	1,639
EDD teams tested	110	106	216
Machines tested	29	11	40
Technical supervision/inspection	2,768	3,091	5,859
Total	10,551		

Table 3: Review of quality assurance and quality control

2.3. Organizational/coordination improvements

Mine Action Centre in BiH was amongst the first to introduce a standardized information management in the initial phase of humanitarian demining and served as an example to numerous similar organizations and institutions.

During the previous extension request period the following two activities were carried out:

1. **Country assessment of SHAs in Bosnia and Herzegovina**
2. **Mine Action Governance and Management Project**

Country assessment of SHAs in Bosnia and Herzegovina

In the period from 2 July 2018 to 14 May 2020, the Mine Action Centre of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Armed Forces of BiH and the Norwegian People's Aid (NPA) conducted a project entitled "Country assessment of SHAs in Bosnia and Herzegovina."

This project was approved and financed through EC emergency grants in the sum of 900,000 EUR. The aim of this project was to increase the efficiency in mine action in Bosnia and Herzegovina through the application of non-technical and technical survey with the aim of setting a new baseline i.e. and aimed to establish a new foundation for realistic planning in mine action in order to plan for the realization of the Mine Action Strategy 2018-2025 and preparation of the final request for the fulfilment of Bosnia and Herzegovina's obligations under Article 5 of the Convention. This project was carried out by 14 Non-Technical Survey Teams (9 of the BHMIC, 2 of the Armed Forces of BiH and 3 of Norwegian People's Aid).

In the implementation of the project, with the support of authorities of local communities, the initial step was to establish MSAs or geographical areas which brought together a number of areas into one “area of operation” to be subsequently subjected to the land release process (NTS, TS and clearance). MSAs cover former confrontation lines taking into consideration the character of the war and geographical characteristics of terrain. Priorities now reflect the level of impact of mines on residents, which is estimated through threat to the population and blocked resources. In this way it is expected that operations will better respond to the needs of the community through strengthening community liaison and ensuring that the needs of the communities are prioritized and addressed. It also simplifies the tasking procedure by assigning certain organizations a larger geographical area in which to conduct operations. In partnership with the Armed Forces BH and Norwegian People’s Aid, the Mine Action Centre BH conducted the assessment of suspect areas in Bosnia and Herzegovina, in accordance with the developed assessment plan, on 1.030 km² of suspect area, defining a total of 488 polygons. Most suspect areas defined for releasing are adjusted to the optimal size - of 1,7 km² - 2,5 km² (2,1 km² on average).

Mine Action Governance and Management Project

The Mine Action Governance and Management (MAGMA) Project aimed to assist the mine action authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina in increasing transparency, improve planning capabilities and implement contemporary mine action standards for an accelerated pace of mine clearance. It builds on the activities implemented in the past that resulted in reconvening the Board of Donors, improvements in human resource management processes and mine action standardization within BHMACH.

The aim of the MAGMA Project is to influence policy and build the capacity to instill greater organizational openness and adaptability to new methodologies. This aims to contribute towards re-establishing donor confidence through the formulation of a credible, realistic and achievable completion plan, which will provide the strategic framework and work plan necessary to clear all known mined areas in the country and comply with the country’s demining obligations under the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (hereafter referred to as the Ottawa Convention). A credible completion plan should generate greater support for mine action and land release projects in the country ensuring the required resources are available to achieve a mine-free country. Through the implementation of this project, Bosnia and Herzegovina, with the support of the UNDP, aims to strengthen the institutions, policies, systems and by-laws to enable increased citizen security and delivery of basic services to contribute to efficient release of previously mine suspected land back to communities. This should enable inclusive growth and sustainable development increasing the productive capacities that create employment and livelihoods for the poor and excluded communities that currently live near landmine affected areas.

This project is anchored to the Board of Donors providing the forum with well-coordinated plans, timely and accurate reports and advice on strategic and operational developments in the mine action arena in Bosnia and Herzegovina. It will establish a strong partnership with international partners including the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) and the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention’s Implementation Support Unit and Convention’s office holders, Demining Battalion of the Armed Forces of BiH, civil protection and national mine action authorities.

During 2016, GICHD conducted an estimation of information management quality in Mine Action Centre in BiH. In the same year, Mine Action Centre in BiH commenced the process of revision of all the mine action standards and SOPs in Bosnia and Herzegovina. By the end of 2017, the draft has been completed for two chapters of Standard operating procedures, chapter for non-technical survey and chapter for Standard operational procedures for opening and follow-up of the task. These two documents are adopted by the Demining Commission of BiH in March 2018. Mine Action Centre in BiH collects, stores, analyses and updates all necessary information from the domain of mine action. They are available to all interested parties. Mine Action Centre in BiH is currently in the phase of defining its organizational structure which supports integration of information management within and between the organizational units.

2.4. Resources available for achieved goals

In the period from 2018 to 2019, mine action in Bosnia and Herzegovina was financed with 77,84 million BAM (94% of planned 82,84 million). In this period, Bosnia and Herzegovina failed to find additional finance resources that would total 3,07 million BAM. Considering the bad economic situation in the country as well as the size of the mine problem, the fact remains that mine action is an exceptionally costly process could not have been adequately supported. Bosnia and Herzegovina ensured 56,88 million BAM or 73% out of total funds invested into mine action, from the budgets of the state, entities, cantons, municipalities as well as public and private sector budgets. Donors and partner countries provided 20,96 million BAM or 27% out of total invested means, for which Bosnia and Herzegovina is very grateful.

International donors in the period from 2018 – 2019 included: USA, Germany, Norway, Switzerland, EU, Japan, UNDP, UNICEF, EUFOR, MKCK, and Marshall Legacy Institute. Through the mediation of international fund for humanitarian demining and mine victims assistance for South-East Europe (ITF - Enhancing Human Security), 55% of donor funds were implemented. The review of mine action financing in Bosnia and Herzegovina in millions of BAM for the period from 2018-2019 is given in Table 3 below:

2018-2019	2018	2019	Total	%
Financial resources made available by the Bosnia and Herzegovina	25.34	31.54	56.88	94%
Financial resources made available by International Donors	12.76	8.20	20.96	
Total	38.10	39.74	77.84	
Not Ensure	3.32	1.68	5.00	6%

Table 3: Review of funds invested in mine action in the period 2018-2019

2.5. Efforts made on ensuring effective exclusion of civilians from mined areas

In the period from 2018 – 2019, continuous efforts were made in Bosnia and Herzegovina in order to prevent civilians entering SHAs and CHAs. Mine risk education is an integral part of mine action in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Apart from Mine Action Centre Bosnia and Herzegovina, MRE was conducted by accredited organizations under the supervision of Mine Action Centre Bosnia and Herzegovina, all in order to inform the population in affected communities and to diminish the number of mine victims.

Mine risk education was conducted through public dissemination, education of affected groups and through liaising between mine action and affected communities. Mine risk education is a part of the regular school curriculum in elementary schools in Bosnia and Herzegovina. In the period since the submission of previous extension request, 23 mine risk education projects were realized in Bosnia and Herzegovina and 73,533 persons were educated on mine threat, most of them school children. Since 2020, planning, conduct of activities and reporting in MRE has been adjusted and disaggregated by gender and age.

The review of conducted MRE projects and educated persons in the period from 2018 to 2019 are stated below in Table 5:

2018-2019	2018	2019	Total
Number of implemented MRE projects	12	11	23
Number of people cover by MRE projects	36,608	36,925	73,533

Table 5: Review of mine risk education program 2018-2019

MRE methodology has been improving for years based on the exchange of experiences gained. Mine risk education is planned based on Standard for Mine Risk Education and Standing Operational Procedures for Mine Risk Education, and in accordance with capacities of local communities classified by the level of threat, Action plan, and within the conduct of other mine action activities – through community liaising, activities of public communication, education system in primary and secondary schools, general survey and emergency marking operations and within permanent marking projects.

Mine risk education plan is based on information gathered through general survey, Action plan and the number of inhabitants as per records and current census of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Regional offices gather information on affected groups through the process of creation of the non-technical survey form for affected communities within the non-technical survey plan. As for the rest of affected communities, regional offices cooperate with local government to create propositions by affected groups which will be integrated within the mine risk education plan.

Mine risk education is conducted in accordance with jointly created plan, and focusing on the areas planned for humanitarian demining later on.

As for those areas where humanitarian demining operations are being conducted, mine risk education is conducted through community liaising and by the organization that conducts humanitarian demining, with assistance of MRE accredited organizations.

Analysis of mine victims information within BHMAIS database shows a pattern of accident occurrence, together with other patterns of habits and activities of population in local communities, and it is used for planning of mine risk education activities, where prioritization is administered based on information from the latest general assessment. Analysis of mine/ERW mine victims information shows that the patterns of accident occurrence are prevalingly seasonal, with peaking accidents during autumn and spring, during agricultural work and collecting of firewood. The second highest cause for accidents is collection of raw materials with economic value.

Analysis of mine/ERW information further shows a highly gender specific pattern where adult men consistently present the most affected group of direct victims.

Additional analysis conducted by BHMAL shows that a high number of accidents occur when males go into known hazardous areas to fulfil their existential needs. Although it is important to note that adult males constitute a vast majority of mine/ERW victims, it is also very important to know that once the family provider is either killed or seriously injured in an accident, other family members (sometimes referred to as „indirect victims”) generally become highly affected as the responsibility for earning and providing for the family often changes. It is also important to understand psychological and socio-economic consequences for mine survivors and affected family members, and in this regard, their needs must be encompassed within mine victims assistance services.

Emergency marking is a preventive measure of mine awareness, which is conducted through marking of the SHAs boundaries; marking is an integral part of non-technical survey and mine awareness, thus presenting a very effective risk reduction measure. Total number of placed emergency marking signs in the period from 2018 to 2019 is 4,091 (23% of the plan). The review of emergency marking signs places is shown in the Table

BHMAL in cooperation with Armed Forces BiH and EUFOR conducts emergency marking at the entire area of BiH. Once this task is completed, it is estimated that the entire suspect area will be marked. In all regional offices, the signs are being placed at all previously unmarked areas.

2018-2019	2018	2019	Total	Plan	%
Emergency marking activities	2,621	1,470	4,091	18,000	23%

Table 6: Review of emergency marking activities in the period from 2018 -2019

Emergency marking represents a preventive mine risk education measure, which is conducted through marking of boundaries of the SHA+CHAs. Placing of the signs at locations of III category priority was conducted at areas where humanitarian demining operations were planned in future, and it presented a very effective risk reduction measure. In the period from 2018 to 2019, 1,26 square kilometres of SHAs has been permanently marked. Review of permanent marking activities is given in Table 7 below:

2018-2019	2018		2019		TOTAL	
Permanent marking activities	Areas km ²	Signs	Areas km ²	Signs	Areas km ²	Signs
		0.89	121	0.37	50	1.26

Table 7: Review of permanent marking activities for the period 2018 - 2019

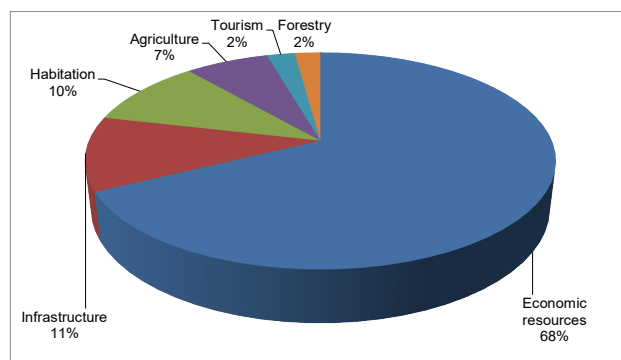
2.6. Social and economic aspects in the period since submission of the interim request

Country assessment of SHAs in Bosnia and Herzegovina in Bosnia and Herzegovina 2018-2020, has identified a total of 1.413 mine affected communities. It has been estimated that mine contaminated locations affect the safety of 825.053 residents or 22,68% of the total population. The micro-locations contaminated by mines directly affect the safety of 120.760 residents, which is 3,32% out of total number of Bosnia and Herzegovina residents. Total number of endangered men is 412.875 and total number of endangered women is 412.178. The number of directly endangered men is 61.661, while the number of directly endangered women is 59.099.

The first category in priority encompasses repatriation, demining of housing objects for people to return, reconstruction of settlements, educational and health facilities, agricultural land, industrial complexes, forests, tourist and forest locations away from inhabited areas, where both mine risk and mine threat are low.

The second category in priority encompassed areas in occasional use or areas that border with I category areas. They represent a minimum safety belt through already treated I category locations, and they are defined by logical geographic unit borders. Traditionally, such areas are neither interesting nor motivating the residents to move towards periphery areas treated as III category in priority.

The third category in priority encompasses SHAs with the least possible risk but with probable consequences dating from the war, since they were located between the confrontation lines. These are distant locations without traditional or any other recognizable motifs that would make people approach or move. They also do not contain strategically significant natural resources. The intentional use of the reduced area and area cleared through demining, i.e. technical survey and clearance is shown below in Graph 1:

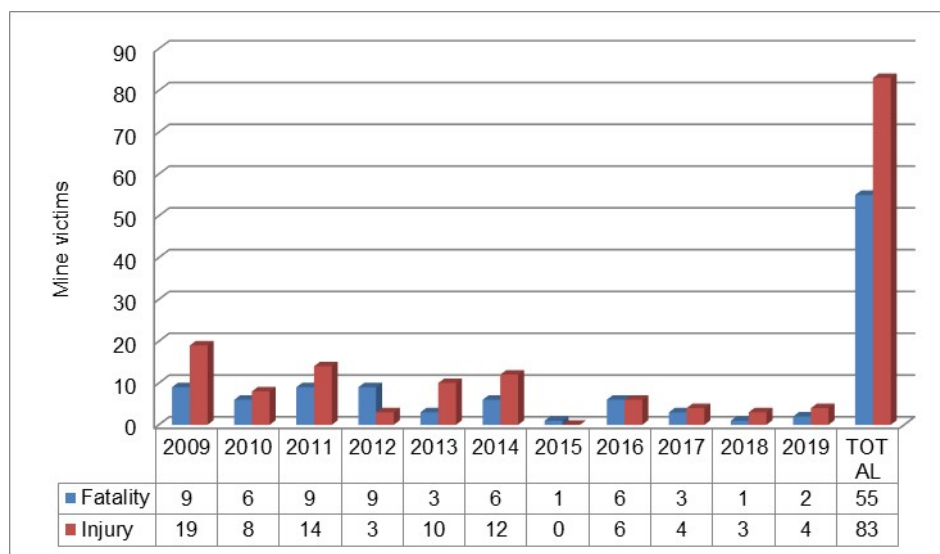


Graph 1: Intentional use for reduced and cleared area in the period 2018-2019

Analyses of mine accidents in Bosnia and Herzegovina indicate that patterns are seasonal: most accidents occur in autumn and spring, which is the result of agricultural and firewood collecting activities (80% in third category). The second important cause of mine accidents is collection of raw materials of economic value. Analyses of mine victims reveal a high gender sample where adult males prevail as the most affected group. Most accidents with fatal outcome were the consequence of activation of PROM-1 mine, which is fragmentation bouncing mine. BHMIC conducted an analysis on accidents which revealed that great many accidents were the result of adult men entering the suspect minefields, where they intended to do activities related to survival or economic benefit. It is important to perceive that adult males constitute a great number of victims; however, the key is to perceive that death or disability of the bread winner greatly affects other family members, who are considered to be indirect victims. It is of critical significance to understand the psychological and psychosocial consequences for survivors and affected family members, and conditions must be ensured for the satisfaction of their needs. In the period from 2009 to 2019, 128 mine/ERW victims were registered in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Out of the total, males constitute 95% and females 5%. Additionally, out of the total, adults constitute 88%, and children 12%. The review of victims as per gender and age in the period from 2009 to 2019 is given in Table 7 and Graph 2 below:

Mine victims	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	TOTAL
Fatality	9	6	9	9	3	6	1	6	3	1	2	55
Injury	19	8	14	3	10	12	0	6	4	3	4	83
Men	25	14	22	11	12	18	1	12	6	3	5	129
Women	3		1	1	1				1			7
Adults	23	14	23	11	7	15	1	12	6	3	5	120
Children	5			1	6	3			1			16

Table 7: Review of mine/ERW victims in the period 2009-2019



Graph 2: Review of mine/ERW victims in the period 2009-2019

3. Remaining implementation challenge

3.1. Suspected hazardous areas and confirmed hazardous areas to contain anti-personnel mines

Bosnia and Herzegovina is currently the most mine affected country in Europe with a total of 488 SHAs measuring 945,938,493 square meters and 799 confirmed hazardous areas measuring 20,747,593 square metres. In Bosnia and Herzegovina SHAs are identified as the area between the zones of confrontation of the warring factions, for which there is information and probability of mine contamination. Unlike SHA, which is a wider term, CHA constitute smaller areas where following non-technical survey (including general survey) direct evidence of the presence of the minefield is identified. Through technical survey detailed information is collected for the conduct of clearance operations. The review of suspected and CHA is given in Table 8:

ADMINISTRATIVE LEVEL	CHA area (square metres)	Number of projects CHA	SHA area (square metres)	MSA= SHA+CHA (square metres)	Number of MSA
UNSKO SANSKI	2,603,992	125	95,806,345	98,410,337	49
POSAVSKI	211,251	6	13,571,234	13,782,485	7
TUZLANSKI	1,469,127	60	79,770,718	81,239,845	43
ZENICKO DOBOJSKI	1,879,721	63	112,223,720	114,103,441	50
BOSANSKO PODRINJSKI	785,051	14	46,015,957	46,801,008	19
SREDNJE BOSANSKI	2,863,902	94	108,829,348	111,693,250	57
HERCEGOVACKO NERETVANSKI	2,841,534	68	146,774,680	149,616,214	77
ZAPADNO HERCEGOVACKI	0	0	0	0	0
SARAJEVO	889,543	24	64,764,311	65,653,854	30
KANTON 10	1,001,512	36	75,717,329	76,718,841	32
BRCKO DISTRIKT	0	0	13,101,196	13,101,196	6
REPUBLIKA SRPSKA	6,201,958	309	189,363,657	195,565,615	118
Grand Total	20,747,593	799	945,938,493	966,686,086	488

Table 8: Review of SHAs and CHAs – May 2020

3.2. Relevant qualitative characteristics of remained challenge

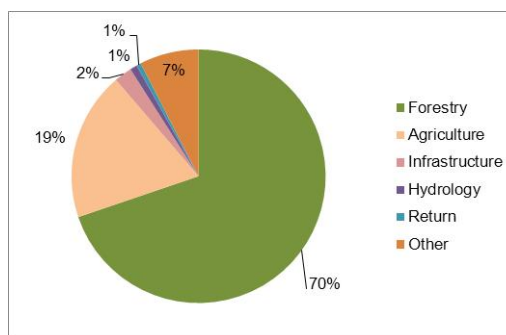
Elimination of risk for population and social and economic development of Bosnia and Herzegovina will be resolved through integrated approach to mine action. Through the system of defining the mine suspect areas (MSA)², non-technical survey, technical survey, and clearance operations the mine situation will be defined on and addressed with the areas prioritised in accordance with the needs of local communities and municipalities/cities. In relatively sparsely inhabited hills and mountains of category III priority areas where the mine threat is low, the contamination problem will be dealt with in phases. The first phase will be conducted non-technical survey, marking of the SHA, and mine risk education. As indicated earlier mine action activities in Bosnia and Herzegovina are confronted with the challenge that weather condition are permissible for operations solely from mid mid-March to beginning of December.

The remaining SHA defined by potential use is shown below in table 9 and graph 3:

² A geographical area made up of SHAs and CHAs which encompasses one or more impacted communities and due to economic, cultural or geographical and other reasons is selected as a logical unit. The MSA is selected by BHMIC in close cooperation with the municipal authorities. These areas are then treated comprehensively through the land release procedure.

Intentional use of SHA	Area m ²
Forestry	641,524,712
Agriculture	174,269,208
Infrastructure	20,737,479
Hydrology	8,285,111
Return	5,339,681
Other	69,192,734
TOTAL:	919,348,925

Table 9: Intentional use of SHA



Graph 3: Intentional use of SHA

4. Timeframe requested for fulfilment of obligations and the justification

During the interim extension period, clearance operations have been also continued, following the better definition of the remaining challenge, Bosnia and Herzegovina is now in a better position to provide information on the remaining challenge and the amount of time required to implement Article 5.

Based on a more precise understanding of the remaining challenge, and in accordance with Article 5, Para 1, Bosnia and Herzegovina requests a **six (6) years** extension request from 01 March 2021 to 01 March 2027, to carry out non-technical and technical survey activities to better define the precise perimeter of mined areas in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Through the full application of land release SHAs will be identified through the collection of indirect evidence and CHAs will be identified where direct evidence exists, likewise, activities will lead to significant cancellation of areas where no evidence exists and reduction through technical survey. Non-technical survey effort will allow for efficient tasking in technical survey, which will include both systematic and targeted investigation in order to confirm or refute the presence of mines and ensure that mine clearance capacities are deployed to CHAs only. In order to ensure the quality of the efforts carried out in the next year, the BHMIC has developed and adopted three chapters in its new standards on non-technical survey, technical survey and land release. All three have been developed in accordance with International Mine Action Standards (IMAS 07.11).

The outline of the plan and milestones presented below is based on the results of the “Land Release” project which was realized in Bosnia and Herzegovina in the period 2013-2017 and based on the assumption that sufficient financial resources will be mobilized during the requested period.

In accordance with the results of the General Assessment project and the Strategy timeline, three years can be defined as milestones in resolving the mine problem in Bosnia and Herzegovina, as follows:

1. Introduction and application of the results of the Country assessment of SHAs in Bosnia and Herzegovina, in 2020 and 2021 (the first revision of the Mine Action Strategy in Bosnia and Herzegovina 2018-2025).
2. The second revision of the Mine Action Strategy in Bosnia and Herzegovina 2018-2025, in 2023.
3. The completion of the Mine Action Strategy in Bosnia and Herzegovina 2018-2025, in 2025, status assessment and creation of the Exit Strategy and completion of the process, in 2027.

If we apply the results of the “Land Release” projects, it is possible to deduce that not all SHAs currently in the database of BHMIC are contaminated by mines and that mine clearance capacities will have to be deployed in relatively small areas. The results of the “Land Release” project represent the basis during the process of making the Mine Action Strategy in Bosnia and Herzegovina 2018-2025, created by Mine Action

Centre Bosnia and Herzegovina, in cooperation with International centre for humanitarian demining in Geneva (GICHD) in the domain of Strategic goal 3 that relates to survey and mine clearance.

Strategic goals

Five strategic goals have been set in the Strategy; each strategic goal has several operational goals, starting points, indicators and targeted shapes.

1. Information quality management procedures ensure the gathering, storage, analysis, exchange of relevant information and their use for efficient and effective planning, setting priorities, tasking and implementation of mine action. (Oslo Action Plan: Actions 9, 22 and 35)
2. Bosnia and Herzegovina mine action program has been promoted on national and international level in order to increase its visibility and to enhance the responsibility, commitment and support of the state. (Oslo Action Plan: Actions 1 and 8)
3. The size and impact of mine/ERW contamination problems are specified and confirmed; the problem is being solved in accordance with BiH mine action standards, ensuring that safe areas are returned to impacted communities for use. (Oslo Action Plan: Actions 2, 3, 5, 6, 19, 20 and 27)
4. Safe proceeding is promoted through mine awareness measures that are gender sensitive and respect diversity in order to reduce the number of mine/ERW accidents and to support safe and sustainable activities necessary for life. (Oslo Action Plan: Actions 28, 29, 30, 31 and 32)
5. All mine/ERW victims participate in society on equal grounds with others; their needs are identified and fulfilled, and their existential opportunities promoted through rights-based assistance which recognizes diversity. (Oslo Action Plan: Actions 4, 33 and 34)

5. Social and economic implications in requested timeframe and prioritization

In the period of 2021-2027, the mission of all participants is to eliminate the risk posed by anti-personnel mines and create conditions for exploitation of blocked resources, setting up of the safe environment for affected population, and incentive for reconstruction, sustainable return and social and economic development in mine affected communities, i.e. municipalities/towns. In the period from 2021 to 2027, affected community will be in focus through the concept of municipality mine action activity, with increased participation of the local community in prioritization and acceptance of the “Land Release” concept results.

In cooperation with and taking as the lead the needs of the local community and municipality/town, prioritization of the different areas within and MSA will be addressed. The problem will then be dealt with in different phases depending on the impact and prioritization of the municipal authorities.

As proposed by the Ministry of Civil Affairs, the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina at their emergency 18th session held April 30th 2020 made the decision to adopt the proposition for the nomination of new members of the Demining Commission. In accordance with Oslo Action Plan, Action 3, two out of three Commission members are female.

6. Detailed implementation plan for the requested timeframe

Mine Action Governance and Management Project

Goals moving forward

- Continuation of the provision of technical assistance and support to BHMAG and the Demining Commission for the formulation of BiH extension request to the demining deadline under the Ottawa Convention.
- Support to the national mine action authorities in drafting Land Release related standards and SOPs.
- Further improvement of the BHMAG information management system and the procurement of IT equipment for the easier daily activities of the operational personnel.

- Continuation on coordinate activities for the Board of Donors sessions and act as a co-chair of the Board.
- Engagement of the mine action advocates promoting implementation of the Ottawa Convention.

Annual Planning and Prioritization: an update of the Country assessment of SHAs in Bosnia and Herzegovina of the problem of landmines in Bosnia and Herzegovina was carried out in 2020 and this research included impact of mines and their socio - economic influence at inhabited places.

Country assessment of SHAs in Bosnia and Herzegovina identified the mine problem in 117 municipalities/towns, i.e. 1,413 affected communities. Areas suspected of or known to contain anti-personnel mines directly affect the safety of 120.760 inhabitants or 3,32% of the total population of Bosnia and Herzegovina (in accordance with the results of the last 2013 Population Census in Bosnia and Herzegovina).

Mine suspected areas (MSAs) are categorized in three levels, high, medium and low impacted communities.³ Division according to the level of benefits is based on humanitarian and development considerations. A priority setting model is shown as Annex to SOPs related to NTS and Land Release.

Mine risk education

Activities of mine/ERW education is continuously conducted through public communication, education of the affected groups of population, and through the liaising mine action with the affected community/municipality. Mine Action Centre BiH conducts a continuous identification and prioritization of affected groups and within them it continuously conducts adequate measures of Mine Risk Education which are gender and age sensitive.

The focus of Mine/ERW Risk Education is the conduct of activities within affected communities/municipalities with large suspect area of II and III category in priority, i.e. it is aimed towards the most affected groups of population, as per the data from the general assessment of mines/ERW, which is in accordance with Action 30 of the Oslo Action Plan.

Mine Action Centre in Bosnia and Herzegovina is authorized for the accreditation of all organizations involved in Mine Risk Education and all the coordination of Mine Risk Education activities, where the accreditations are signed by the Demining Commission in BiH. All the organizations that conduct Mine Risk Education activities deliver monthly reports to BHMAL, where the reports are in accordance with the procedures and registered within BHMAIS database. The Mine Risk Education program has been improving for years now, taking into consideration that all the lessons and good practices are well recorder, and it relies upon several key documents, including Standard for Mine Risk Education in BiH, Standard Operational Procedures BiH, Accreditation Guide for Mine Risk Education organizations BiH and Mine Risk Education Strategy for the period 2009 -2019.

In Mine Action Centre in BiH, all information on accidents are collected, analysed, and sex and age disaggregated in order to get a better understanding how population in affected communities, of different age, gender, and cultural habits, are exposed to the mine/ERW risk and for what reason. Collecting and analysis of sex and age disaggregated information enables the identification of mine accident patterns according to gender and age, and it enables organizations to come up with designs for their Mine Risk Education activities in a manner which takes into consideration the exposure to risk as per gender and other diversity aspects, which is in accordance with Action 29 of the Oslo Action Plan.

Mine Risk Education plays a key role in the conduct of mine action plans for communities/municipalities affected by mines/ERW, where mine risk education projects were realized through emergency and permanent marking, as well as placing the information billboards related to the mine situation. Mine Action Centre BiH and Armed Forces BH, in cooperation with EUFOR, conduct a joint permanent marking project of all suspect locations in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Thus far, 5.621 emergency marking signs were placed. It is planned that 18.910 signs are placed by the end of 2020, thus marking all the suspect areas in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Pertaining to MSAs, Mine Risk Education is integrated within the Land Release concept. Experiences and work at this concept were used to liaise with the local community, which is in accordance with Action 28 of the Oslo Action Plan.

Mine Action Centre BiH information demonstrate that the highest number of accidents occurs in spring and autumn season, during with the agricultural work, collection of firewood, and other raw materials. Information also demonstrates that most new mine/ERW victims were adult men who enter the known mined areas to fulfil their existential needs, i.e. for economic reasons.

Mine Action Centre BiH and the organizations that conduct Mine Risk Education measures shall work directly with the maintenance development and development organizations to identify alternative and sustainable activities necessary for the existence but not exposing population to the mine/ERW risk. The close cooperation between organizations that conduct mine action (including mine risk education) and partners engaged in development would enable the realization of several sustainable development goals, which is in accordance with Action 28 of the Oslo Action Plan.

The measures of mine risk education will be more actively integrated into educational systems and they will be continuously conducted through gender and age sensitive materials, via coordination between BHMIC and the Ministry of Education. Organized by Red Cross Society BiH, "Think mines" competitions are also a continued activity in primary schools.

In cooperation with Armed Forces BH and EUFOR, Mine Action Centre BiH conducts mine risk education courses.

Following the contemporary technology, the application "Design of the Mine Suspected Areas / Mine Awareness Mobile Application" is being made for mobile phones, with the function of mine risk education on the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Based on knowledge of illegal immigration on BiH territory, Mine Action Centre in BiH organized theme meetings on this issue, in cooperation with Border Police BiH, Norwegian People's Aid, International Red Cross Society and the Red Cross Society, in order to preventively take measures of mine/ERW risk education for immigrants. Regional Centres of Mine Action Centre BiH authorized for mine situation in the border areas of BiH have established cooperation with the regional units of the Border Police BiH in order to acquire knowledge on potential routes of immigrants movement in BiH, and reviewed accordingly the status of the mine signs in areas in close proximity to the migrants routes; in situations where warning signs were missing, they were renewed. Mine risk education for migrants is conducted by the Red Cross Society BiH.

Mine Victim Assistance

By the Decision of the 143th Session of the Councils of Ministers held May 23rd 2018, the Coordination Body for mine/cluster munition/ERW victims assistance in Bosnia and Herzegovina has been established as a standing, technical and advisory body of the Ministry of Civil Affairs in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Representatives of bodies and institutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina, its entities and District Brčko were appointed into this coordination body, along with the representatives of the non-government sector, as follows:

Ministry of Civil Affairs in Bosnia and Herzegovina; the organization of the amputees of Republic of Srpska "UDAS"; the Ministry for the Issues of Veterans from Hercegovacko-Neretvanski Canton; Federal Ministry of Labor and Social Policy; Mine Action Centre Bosnia and Herzegovina; Republic of Srpska Ministry of Labor and Social Policy; Ministry For Issues Of The Veterans and Disabled Veterans Of The Defensive-Liberation War; Ministry of Foreign Affairs Bosnia and Herzegovina; Ministry of Labor and Department of War Veterans and Disabled Persons' Protection; Ministry of Health Bosnia and Herzegovina; Federation BiH Red Cross; Red Cross of Republic of Srpska; Red Cross Society Bosnia and Herzegovina; Government of Brčko District Bosnia and Herzegovina – Department for health and other services; non-government organization "Stop Mines"; German humanitarian organization ASB (Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund), Office Sarajevo; Professional Rehabilitation and Employment of Persons with Disabilities Fund, Republic of Srpska; Professional Rehabilitation and Employment of Persons with Disabilities Fund, Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina; Council of Persons with Disabilities of Bosnia and Herzegovina and non-government organization "World Vision".

The members of the Coordination Body perform the following tasks:

- a) Coordination of activities from the area of mine/cluster munition/ERW assistance and ensuring cooperation between authorized state, entity, Brčko District institutions, and the non-government sector in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and international institutions;
- b) Raising awareness about issues and needs of mine victims, and the promotion of mine victims issues within the society, initiating mine victims assistance at domestic and international level;
- c) Assessment of international conventions implementation status from the area of mine victims assistance, which Bosnia and Herzegovina ratified, as well as encouragement of adoption of measures for the improvement of that status and better cooperation with international organizations;
- d) Creation of projects, plans and documents with the aim of improvement of social status of victims, promotion of victims human rights as well as providing assistance to all the actors in the area of mine victims assistance and the follow-up of their implementation;
- e) Participation in the preparation of the report on the status of mine victims in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the participation in the preparation of the report on the implementation of international conventions pertaining to the rights of victims from Article 2 of this Decision.
- f) Issuing recommendations, suggestions and opinions pertaining to laws and bylaws, and projects pertaining to the victims' rights.

(Oslo Action Plan: Actions 33, 34, 35, 37, 38, 39 and 40)

6.1. Prioritization and planning

Analysis of Mine Action Centre BH database and creation of MSAs

Local administration will agree with Mine Action Centre BH on the size and priority of MSA in accordance with humanitarian, developmental and safety needs of municipality and local communities, not neglecting the level of threat for each and every local community. (Oslo Action Plan: Action 23)

Level of threat in a community taken from Country assessment of SHAs in Bosnia and Herzegovina is used for prioritization of MSAs as well as information of previous mine action operations (clearance, technical survey, mine awareness, incidents and similar).

While creating MSA, particular attention is paid to the following:

- Average size of MSA is approximately 2,05 km². The chiefs of regional offices are making a final decision, consulting BH MAC Office. In exceptional cases when the size of the MSA is too large to process and for further conduct of technical methods.
- The MSAs encompass all confrontation lines in order to ensure that a comprehensive picture of contamination due to conflict activities, deployment of the units, minefields etc. is taken into account.
- Particular attention is paid to geographic characteristics of the ground in order to plan the starting points for targeted investigation.
- Mined areas are split if they belong to a whole or one minefield record,
- If possible, encompass entire communities with one MSA, with the exception of cases when there is a mine situation at various geographic sides of a community, belonging to a different context (time) of conflict.
- As an exception, MSA is spread over two or more neighbouring municipalities; in such cases, the activity carrier is the municipality with the greatest part of MSA.

Basic principles in the prioritization procedure

- Priorities reflect the size of the threat and their impact on population and inability to use area due to existence of mines.
- Priorities should enable efficient conduct of mine action in order to accomplish safety for citizens, strategic goals and interests of all levels of authority, from state to municipality level.
- Criteria for choosing a priority should be clear, quantifiable and transparent.
- The priority list should take into account the interests of all local communities.
- Priorities will be verified under the Demining Law in Bosnia and Herzegovina; the public and local communities will be informed about it.

Prioritization procedure

The creation of MSA is conducted by joint effort of Mine Action Centre BH and municipality authorities, within the process of creation or revision of existing municipality plans. In case there is no such plan, the municipality or other interested party will usually initiate a procedure for creation of MSA. The prioritization request should contain explanation on usefulness and need for certain MSA to be processed in accordance with humanitarian, developmental and safety needs of a municipality and local communities. The level of threat for each and every community should not be neglected.

The prioritization model is adjusted to specificity of mine problem in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The model defines criteria for quality measurement of the level of threat and the level of usefulness, including the said levels for all communities within one MSA. Liaising with local community is one of the key principles for setting the MSA priority. The municipalities with greater number of high and medium impact communities will have advantage in a region. Specific attention is focused on the elements of difference in needs and perspectives of women, girls and boys in an attempt to achieve the most inclusive approach, which is all based on complete removal of barriers, and on equal and gender balanced participation in mine actions.

Estimated level of threat

Regarding the level of threat, MSAs will be categorized into three categories: high medium and low risk MSAs. The estimation of level of threat is conducted based on available data which lead to Country assessment of SHAs in Bosnia and Herzegovina. MSAs with higher probability of PROM, large confirmed minefields and high/medium level of impact taken from Country assessment of SHAs in Bosnia and Herzegovina will be categorized as high and medium risk MSAs within one municipality. All other MSAs will

be categorized as low risk. Since one MSA may encompass several impacted communities, the assessment is conducted based on community with highest risk.

SETTING THE RISK LEVEL OF MSA			
HIGH IMPACT	MEDIUM RISK	HIGH RISK	HIGH RISK
MEDIUM IMPACT	LOW RISK	MEDIUM RISK	HIGH RISK
LOW IMPACT	LOW RISK	MEDIUM RISK	MEDIUM RISK
Community level of impact	Unknown minefields – INDIRECT EVIDENCE ONLY	Known and unknown minefields – DIRECT AND INDIRECT EVIDENCE	Known minefields – DIRECT EVIDENCE, PROM MINE EXISTENCE
Probability of minefields existence			

In accordance with Law on demining in BiH, humanitarian demining in Bosnia and Herzegovina will be carried out in accordance with lists of priority tasks which at yearly level are being adopted by entity governments (2018). Priority lists tasks will contain all tasks where there are existent mine records or where CHAs have been identified as well as contamination which blocks sustainable returns or are located up to 500 meters away from inhabited objects. When selecting projects in each affected community, the order of execution of each individual project will be defined according to the level of threat and development priorities. The list of priority tasks will also include all prepared MSAs.

Procedure for development of annual work plan

Operational and financial plan for the implementation of the Mine Action Strategy for the period 2018-2025 is adopted by the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The implementation of the Strategy is characterized by insufficient allocation of funds, the implementation of the project Country assessment of SHAs in Bosnia and Herzegovina ", as well as the COVID 19 pandemic, which will not allow full realization of the set goals. For the beginning of 2021, it is predicted that SHA will amount to approximately 857,000,000 m². From all of the above, we anticipate that we will need two more years to implement the Strategy and clear Bosnia and Herzegovina of mines. At the end of 2020, we will have the first revision of the Strategy based on the results of the Country assessment of SHAs in Bosnia and Herzegovina project and the results achieved so far. We believe that the projected amount of a total of 336.2 million BAM will be sufficient for the implementation of the Strategy.

Mine risk education will be implemented through public information, education of affected population groups and through linking mine action with an affected community. Mine risk education will focus on the priority implementation of activities in endangered communities that have large SHAs and the most affected target population groups. The emergency marking of SHAs will be carried out through non-technical survey operations by BHMACH surveying teams whereby the population will be educated and informed about mine danger at the local community level.

6.2. Finance plan

In accordance with the Demining Law in Bosnia and Herzegovina, funds for the conduct of mine action in Bosnia and Herzegovina will be ensured via donors' sources, budgets of Bosnia and Herzegovina institutions, entity budgets and other sources. In order to fulfil the obligations under Article 5 of the Convention in requested timeframe (six years), the funds totalling 336,2 million BAM are necessary, where the national participation will be 50% and donor' fund the other 50%.

Funds for non-technical survey activities by BHMIC will be ensured from the budgets of Bosnia and Herzegovina institutions, and implemented through operational activities of Mine Action Centre Bosnia and Herzegovina. Budgets of Bosnia and Herzegovina institutions will also ensure funds for technical survey and mine clearance activities, to be implemented by Armed Forces. Entity governments' budgets will ensure funds for technical survey and mine clearance operations, to be implemented by entity civilian protections. Other funding resources from Bosnia and Herzegovina: Brčko District budget, budgets of cantons and municipalities, and budgets of public and private companies.

Funds from traditional donor countries to Bosnia and Herzegovina for technical survey and mine clearance activities will largely (approximately 55%) be implemented via the mediation of International fund for humanitarian demining and victims assistance in SE Europe (ITF - Enhancing Human security), Norwegian People's Aid (NPA), Delegation of European Union in BiH and other international institutions and organizations.

According with Mine Action Strategy in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Country assessment of SHAs in Bosnia and Herzegovina operational plan for period 2021-2027 is shown below in Table 10:

Year	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total
	Area in m ²								
Area at the beginning of the year	967,000,000	895,100,000	803,700,000	693,400,000	567,000,000	421,500,000	265,800,000	13,440,000	-
Cancelled area	58,400,000	75,100,000	92,900,000	107,800,000	124,000,000	132,800,000	111,700,000	11,490,000	817,600,000
Reduced area	12,700,000	15,400,000	16,400,000	17,600,000	20,400,000	21,800,000	18,700,000	18,700,000	141,700,000
Cleared area	0,800,000	0,900,000	0,900,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	0,900,000	1,000,000	7,800,000
Total	71,800,000	91,300,000	110,300,000	126,400,000	145,500,000	155,700,000	131,400,000	134,600,000	967,000,000
Cancellation	81.20%	82.20%	84.20%	85.30%	85.20%	85.30%	85.10%	85.40%	84.50%
Reduction	17.70%	16.80%	14.90%	13.90%	14.00%	14.00%	14.20%	13.90%	14.70%
Clearance	1.10%	1.00%	0.90%	0.80%	0.70%	0.70%	0.70%	0.70%	0.80%

Table 10: Operational plan for period 2021-2027

6.3. Resources and capacities for the realization of the plan

At the moment, there are 26 accredited organizations for mine action in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Five of them are government organizations (Armed Forces, Fed. Administration of CP FBiH, Republic Administration of CP RS, Brčko District Civil Protection and Red Cross Society BiH), seven commercial organizations (all national) and fourteen non-government organizations (11 national and 3 international). Within accredited organizations, 1.200 persons are engaged, all accredited for the conduct of mine action and licensed for work, i.e. 900 deminers and 300 persons accredited for managerial and supervision tasks (team and site leaders, operational officers, quality assurance officers, EDD trainers, dog-handlers, operators etc.). Organizations accredited for mine actions have at their disposal 33 accredited machines (for vegetation removal, ground disturbance and removal of debris), 1.166 metal detectors and 68 accredited explosive detection dogs. Mine Action Centre Bosnia and Herzegovina has at its disposal 44 surveyors, i.e. 22 survey teams for the conduct of non-technical survey (that includes general and systematic survey) and emergency marking, 8 officers for planning non-technical survey operations, 12 inspectors and 28 senior clerks for the conduct of quality control, i.e. technical supervision/inspection. Technical survey and mine clearance, as requested by the investors, are conducted by 3 monitor organizations with 18 monitors.

Resources accredited for technical survey and mine clearance per organization are shown below in Table 11:

ACCREDITED ORGANIZATION		Number of detectors	Number of dogs	Number of machines
Government organizations	ARMED FORCES	257	22	5
	FED.ADMINISTRATION CP FBIH	109	4	5
	REPUB.ADMINISTRATION CP RS	45	4	5
	CIVIL PROTECTION BRČKO DISTRIKT	7	0	0
	DRUŠTVO CRVENOG KRIŽA/KRSTA U BiH	0	0	0
	DEMIRA	42	2	1
	IN DEMINING	35	2	1
Non-government organizations	EKO DEM	22	0	1
	CENTAR ZA OBUKU PASA	21	2	0
	NPA	191	13	5
	PAZI MINE	35	0	1
	POSAVINA BEZ MINA	0	0	0
	PRO VITA	19	0	1
	STOP MINES	116	4	2
	UEM	27	2	1
	TRENING TIM	0	0	0
	MAG	52	2	0
	Commercial organizations	DETEKTOR	29	2
EKSPLORING		5	0	0
MINEMON		10	0	0
TROTIL		7	0	0
POINT		26	2	1
N&N IVŠA		58	3	2
UEM d.o.o		30	2	1
CHR		23	2	0
TOTAL		1,166	68	33

Table 11: Review of accredited resources

Resource mobilization:

In order to address the issues concerning the resources required to address the remaining contamination. It is the expectation that the project, in particular the project on Governance will provide increased transparency to our partners and will build confidence in the BHMAs work.

In Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2002, a Board of Donors mechanism was established based on Demining Law (Article 15.), which defined the role of the international organizations, donors and national institutions authorized for the conduct of mine action. Ministry of Civil Affairs is authorized for the coordination with the Board of Donors, and with the assistance of UNDP.

The BHMAs and the Demining Commission will also strive to increase its interaction with the donor community to ensure that partners are kept informed of progress in implementation of plans highlighted in this request.

In addition to the steps taken above, it is Bosnia and Herzegovina's intention to continue efforts to bring the challenges faced by Bosnia and Herzegovina to the international attention through the continued participation at international meetings and with donors and partners on the margins of these meetings (e.g. intersessional meetings and Meetings of the States Parties of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention and Meetings of the States Parties of the Cluster Munitions Convention).

In addition to these measures the BHMIC is considering its participation in the individualized approach of the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance.

6.4. Factors that might put the implementation plan at risk

Circumstances that might put implementation of the plan at risk and thus present as a threat definitely relate to potential loss of interest of traditional donors in Bosnia and Herzegovina, which may result in reduced financial support for mine action. Continuous funding of the operational activities is the basic precondition for the realization of the set goals within the requested timeframe. In 2017, Mine Action Centre Bosnia and Herzegovina cooperated with GICHD and created the Mine Action Strategy in Bosnia and Herzegovina 2018-2025. After it is confirmed by the Demining Commission in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Strategy is adopted by Council of Ministers. The adopted document encompasses strategic and operational aim related to the plan of mobilizing finance resources with annual sums of expected funds and explained manners to keep traditional and attract new donors.

Similar to the rest of the world, Bosnia and Herzegovina was caught in COVID-19 pandemic which caused either a cessation of or hindrance to the work of Bosnia and Herzegovina institutions. This reflected onto the process of mine action conduct in Bosnia and Herzegovina in the period from March to June 2020, since Mine Action Centre BiH worked with reduced capacities as well. It also caused cessation or serious deceleration of work that companies conduct on the ground. After appointment of the Demining Commission in BiH (April 30 2020), all companies that submitted request were accredited and ground activities continued.

Glossary:

Mine Action Centre BiH – BHMAC established by the Decision of the Council of Ministers, based on the Demining Law in BiH (Official Gazette BiH, No: 5/02) as the expert body of the Demining Commission in BiH;

Quality control (CC) – is a part of quality management, with the goal of fulfilling the request for quality (ISO 9000: 2000). Quality control relates to the inspection of the final product. In the case of humanitarian demining, the final product is the cleared area;

Quality Assurance (QA) – is a part of quality management, with the goal of building trust that conditions set for quality will be met (ISO 9000:2000). The purpose of quality assurance in humanitarian demining is the confirmation that managerial and operational procedures are applied properly, and that prescribed precondition can be met safely, efficiently and effectively. Internal quality assurance is conducted by the organization itself, while Mine Action Centre Bosnia and Herzegovina conducts external control;

Mine – is explosive device capable of killing, placed onto or under the surface of the ground or any other surface, with the purpose to explode due to pressure, proximity or contact with a person or a vehicle, with the ultimate goal of causing human victims and damage of property;

Mine suspected area (MSA) - Area that consists of SHA and CHA of one or more mine impacted communities covered in whole or in part, and which is chosen to be as one logical whole is treated through the "Land Release"; within its NMAS, Bosnia and Herzegovina defined that CHAs and SHAs should be processed together due to the nature of their contamination, large number of small mine fields or groups of mines with unknown layout within a SHA.

Explosive remnants of war (ERW) – are abandoned explosives (OES) and (UXO);

Country assessment of SHAs in Bosnia and Herzegovina covers the mine impact assessment process in order to determine their socio-economic impact on populated areas, endangered communities and updating systematic survey that identifies, records and processes data on SHAs as sources of risk.

Non-technical survey (NTS) – Activity for gathering and analysis of presence, type and layout of mines without the use of technical methods. Although non-technical methods are used in non-technical survey, there is a strong connection with technical methods. Non-technical survey defines the areas to be cancelled, reduced and cleared;

Confirmed hazardous area (CHA) – An area where the presence of mine/ERW contamination has been confirmed on the basis of direct evidence of the presence of mines/ERW;

Suspected Hazardous Area (SHA) is an area where there is reasonable suspicion of mine/ERW contamination on the basis of indirect evidence of the presence of mine/ERW;

Technical survey (TS) – The process of gathering and analysing information on existence, type and layout of mines, used to clarify whether the contamination is present or not.

Acronyms

APMBC	„Anti-personnel Mine Ban Convention “
AP	Anti-personnel mine
AT	Anti-tank mine
BHMAC	Mine Action Centre BiH
EOD	Explosive ordnance disposal
ERW	Explosive remnants from war
EUFOR	European Union Forces
GICHD	Geneva International Centre for humanitarian demining
GMAP	Gender mine action program
IMAS	International standards
LIS	Landmine impact survey
MRE	Mine risk education
MSA	Mine suspected area
NVO	Non-government organizations
NMAS	National standards for mine action
NTS	Non-technical survey
SOP	Standard operational procedures
SOPO	Sumnjiva opasna površina (SHA -suspect hazardous area)
POPO	Potvrđena opasna površina (CHA – confirmed hazardous area)
MVA	Mine victims assistance
TS	Technical survey
UN	United Nations

ANNEX 1

TYPES OF ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

- PROM - 1 Anti-personnel bounding fragmentation mine, designed to be buried into the ground with the fuse above the ground surface. While its activation, the steel body breaks and fragments have a killing radius in 50 m diameter, while the hazard radius is up to 100 m. Due to its characteristic, this mine represents the single largest long-term threat for people;
- PMA 1 Anti-personnel anti-magnet pressure mine, activated with approximately 3 kg of pressure. It may be buried into the ground at 3-5 cm depth. There is often an underneath TNT charge to elevate the killing factor;
- PMA 2 Anti-personnel anti-magnet pressure mine, mainly laid on the surface and hidden by vegetation. On activation, the explosive wave damages the lower part of pressuring leg while the shock wave damages the other leg too;
- PMR 2A Anti-personnel fragmentation mine activated by tripwire. Mine is masked with vegetation and the tripwire itself is hard to notice. Fragments have a 40 m kill radius in diameter, while the hazard radius is up to 100 m in diameter;
- PMA 3 Anti-personnel blast resistant minimum metal mine, activated by pressure onto the upper part of the mine creating a tilt in any direction. The body of the mine is cylindrical, with upper and lower parts connected in the centre by the circular rubber cover. The mine is waterproof and often found on the river banks, remaining operational long after it has been laid.
- MRUD Anti-personnel directional fragmentation mine with plastic body shaped in arch and designed to fragment in a certain direction.

No.	MSA ID	Entity	MSA Name	Number of projects CHA	CHA m ²	SHA m ²	CHA+SHA u m ²	LONGITUDE	LATITUDE	Priority
469	80039	Federacija BiH	Komar	3	104,358	1,619,795	1,724,153	17.507234	44.188387	MEDIUM
470	80040	Federacija BiH	Gornji Vakuf / Uskoplje	1	3,854	1,396,072	1,399,926	17.509746	43.970089	HIGH
471	80041	Federacija BiH	Ploca	1	33,899	2,659,002	2,692,901	17.523932	43.946489	HIGH
472	80042	Federacija BiH	Galecnica	2	63,924	1,953,741	2,017,665	17.530996	43.937254	HIGH
473	80043	Federacija BiH	Vaganjac 1	1	44,138	2,305,948	2,350,086	17.513654	43.891987	HIGH
474	80044	Federacija BiH	Vaganjac 2	6	226,093	2,271,908	2,498,001	17.543868	43.896566	HIGH
475	80045	Federacija BiH	Zdrimci	3	46,110	2,495,682	2,541,792	17.658609	43.903872	HIGH
476	80046	Federacija BiH	Mackovac	3	56,507	2,146,393	2,202,900	17.597079	43.916498	HIGH
477	80047	Federacija BiH	Voljevac - Metlika	6	121,414	1,861,085	1,982,499	17.638980	43.877269	HIGH
478	80048	Federacija BiH	Voljevac - Glibe	4	89,796	1,909,121	1,998,917	17.652085	43.857916	HIGH
479	80049	Federacija BiH	Hrasnica	0	0	448,092	448,092	17.546335	43.977101	HIGH
480	80050	Federacija BiH	Fojnica	1	66,384	607,433	673,817	17.989262	43.992346	MEDIUM
481	80052	Federacija BiH	Vlasinje - Bospelj	1	6,918	1,693,251	1,700,169	17.321307	44.437945	HIGH
482	80053	Federacija BiH	Gola planina 1	0	0	2,383,658	2,383,658	17.237577	44.390532	HIGH
483	80054	Federacija BiH	Gola planina 2	1	45,441	2,174,097	2,219,538	17.228336	44.378901	HIGH
484	80055	Federacija BiH	Mile	0	0	1,296,304	1,296,304	17.207666	44.357187	HIGH
485	80056	Federacija BiH	Jajce - Kamenica	3	2,729	2,057,533	2,060,262	17.278316	44.322306	HIGH
486	80057	Federacija BiH	Grdovo - Brvanci	0	0	1,355,724	1,355,724	17.306839	44.311916	HIGH
487	80058	Federacija BiH	Ostrik	1	4,091	1,919,620	1,923,711	18.168775	43.903750	HIGH
488	80059	Federacija BiH	Gunjista	0	0	1,970,621	1,970,621	18.103327	43.965176	LOW
TOTAL:				799	20,747,593	945,938,493	966,686,086			

ANNEX 3**MSA IN PROGRESS**

ID	Mine suspected area MSA	Municipality	RO	Area /m ² /
5	Zlosela	Kupres	Mostar	11,183,536
7	Donji Malovan	Kupres	Mostar	5,303,116
35	Ljubljénica	Berkovici	RK Pale	1,549,746
8	Olovske Luke	Olovo	Sarajevo	7,775,564
43	Nakopi	Gorazde	Sarajevo	2,694,011
59	Trusina	Konjic	Sarajevo	1,262,260
67	Matijasevo brdo	Novi Grad Sarajevo	Sarajevo	267,648
32	Gojcin	Kalesija	Tuzla	2,376,605
55	Debelo brdo	Zepce	Tuzla	783,725
60	Orahovica	Lukavac	Tuzla	2,122,397
				35,318,608

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Council of Ministers



Bosnia and Herzegovina

Mine Action Strategy

2018 – 2025

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List of abbreviations

APMBC	The Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction
AP	Anti-personnel
AT	Anti-tank
BHMAC	Mine Action Centre Bosnia and Herzegovina
BiH	Bosnia and Herzegovina
CCM	The Convention on Cluster Munitions
CCW	The Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons
CHA	Confirmed hazardous area
CPDBH	Council for persons with disabilities Bosnia and Herzegovina
CRPD	Convention of the rights of the disabled people
EOD	Explosive ordnance disposal
ERW	Explosive remnants of war
EU	European Union
EUFOR	European Union Force
FBiH	Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina
GFAP	The General Framework Agreement for Peace
GICHD	Geneva International Centre for humanitarian demining
GPMD	Gender Guidelines for Mine Action Programme
HI	Handicap International
IFOR	Implementation Force in BH
IMAS	International Standards for Mine Action
IM	Information Management
IEBL	The Inter-Entity Boundary Line
LIS	Landmine impact
MCP	Ministry of Civil Affairs BH
MO	Ministry of Defence BH
MHRRBH	Ministry for Human Rights and Refugees of BH
MA Measures	Mine Awareness measures
NGO	Non-government Organisation
NMAS	National Standards for Mine Action in BH
NPA	Norwegian People's Aid
NTI	Non-technical survey
PIC	Peace Implementation Council
PWD	Persons with disabilities

RS	Republic of Srpska
SADD	Gender and gender diversity Analysis
SHA	Suspect hazardous area
CHA	Confirmed hazardous area
SOP	Standard operational procedures
TI	Technical survey
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNMAC	United Nations Mine Action Centre
VA	Victim assistance

Summary

Mine Action Strategy in Bosnia and Herzegovina (hereinafter: The Strategy) represents a vision, a mission, strategic and operational goals of mine action in Bosnia and Herzegovina for the period 2018 – 2025. The ultimate state as the result of The Strategy are implemented obligations taken upon by Bosnia and Herzegovina in accordance with the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction.

The vision

Bosnia and Herzegovina free of mines and explosive remnants of war, in which both underage and adult females and males would conduct activities necessary for living without the security hazard, and where the mine and ERW victims would be integrated into society, fully indulging their rights.

The Mission

To develop an effective and efficient mine action programme in BiH that will enable safe use of land and satisfy the needs of contaminated communities through well-coordinated and efficiently distributed survey and clearance tasks, and through the mine awareness measures and mine/ERW victim assistance.

The Strategic Goals

The Strategy predicts five strategic goals; for each strategic goal, there are several operational goals set, starting points, indications and targeted conditions as the indicators of achieved operational goals.

1. Procedures of quality information management ensure the collection, storage, analysis and dissemination of relevant information, as well as their use of effective and efficient planning, priority setting, tasking and the conduct of mine action.
2. Mine action programme in BH is promoted on both national and international level to increase its visibility and improve liability, commitment and support of the state.
3. The scope and the influence of the mine/ERW contamination is precise and confirmed; the problem is being resolved in accordance with the Mine Action Standard BH, ensuring the land release to the contaminated communities for use.
4. Safe behaviour is promoted via Mine Awareness measures which are gender and diversity sensitive to diminish the number of accidents caused by mines /ERW, and support safe and sustainable activities necessary for living.
5. All mine/ERW victims participate in the society on the same grounds as others; their needs were identified and answered to, and their existential conditions enhances via the assistance based on rights and which respects diversity.

To ensure BH timely fulfilment of its obligations regarding the clearance of mines/ERW, the State will take upon itself the timely measures and activities related to the extension of the deadline set for the destruction of anti-personnel mines, as per the Article 5 of Ottawa Convention, and it will ensure the compliance to newly adopted standard for mine action and standard operational procedures in BH. Bosnia and Herzegovina will additionally ensure the complete conduct of the land release process for use, which will result in more efficient survey

and clearance operations. Mine Action Centre Bosnia and Herzegovina is committing to quality information management where all relevant information will be collected, stored, analysed and disseminated, to be used for effective and efficient planning, priority setting, tasking and the conduct of mine action.

The sustainability principle is of key importance in all that; it is of specific importance for the operational goals that relate to mine awareness and mine/ERW victim assistance, as well as to integration of mine awareness measures into educational systems, as well as the integration of mine/ERW assistance victims into wider mechanisms for the protection of disabled persons, their health and other protection, having in mind that these activities will continue long after the mine/ERW clearance obligations are completed in accordance with above mentioned two conventions.

Bosnia and Herzegovina will promote its mine action programme both within the country and on the international level, trying to improve the transparency and visibility of the programme; it will also promote higher liability, commitment and state support (including the financial support as well). Bosnia and Herzegovina will create a plan for collection of financial funds from both national and international financing sources, with precise sums planned annually. It will create action plans for the realisation of strategic goals set in this Strategy, with the assessment of necessary financial means, which will alleviate the conduct of the Strategy itself. The realisation of the Strategy will be continuously followed-up and revised, to ensure its continuous relevance, which will further enable the identification of advantages and deficiencies of the programme, and enable BHMAC and its partners to resolve problems, improve effect, upgrade the accomplished success and adjust the Strategy to changeable circumstances.

Introduction

The Strategy of mine action in Bosnia and Herzegovina (hereinafter: The Strategy) presents the vision, the mission, the strategic and the operational goals of the mine action programme in Bosnia and Herzegovina for the period 2018 – 2025. The Strategy contains the following key elements: summarised display of causes and the scope of mine/ERW problems, a summarised display of the key humanitarian, social-economic and ecological impact of mines/ERW; description of the capacities and key stakeholders, and a short display of key achievements. Certain advantages and deficiencies of the programme are also briefly displayed, along with possibilities, threats and risks.

After that, the gender and diversity aspects in mine action were elaborated along with the link between mine action and development, as the area of strategic importance for mine action programme. The vision and the mission of the Strategy were defined before the definition of five strategic goals and follow-up operational goals, starting points, targeted conditions and indicators. The Strategy briefly overviews the management of the residual contamination, ending in key obligations in the sense of follow-up, evaluation and revisioning of the Strategy.

Bosnia and Herzegovina is extremely grateful to all the donors who generously supported mine action programs for years, including United States of America, Germany, Norway, Switzerland, Canada, Slovenia, Japan, Czech Republic, Turkey, Italy, Ireland, European Union and UNDP.

Methodology

In accordance with the good international practice, the Strategy has been created through the participatory process that encompassed a whole array of national and international actors. Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining has helped the entire process through their direct cooperation with BHMIC.

BHMIC and GICHD had organised and held the first workshop for the creation of the Strategy in November 2016, with participation of all relevant actors. The main goals of this workshop were as follows:

1. To precise the scope, nature and mine impact
2. To identify key advantages, deficiencies, possibilities and threats related to the mine action programme.
3. To precise the key stakeholders, their roles, influence, capacities and constraints.
4. To precise and conciliate the vision, the mission, strategic and operational goals of the mine action programme
5. To define desirable results of mine action programme
6. To explain the way the results will be achieved

In February 2017, having realised the need for the continuation of the consultations, BHMIC and GICHD organised working sessions for groups for each of every four strategic goals. During the session, the relevant actors considered the represented draft of strategic and operational goals, starting points, indicators and targeted states. The strategic document created after that has been delivered to all actors for their comment before being forwarded to the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina / Council of Ministers for adoption. The strategic planning workshop programme is attached as Annex I, while you will find the list of its participants in Annex II.

The country context

Situated in the West Balkans region, and with approximately 3,8 residents, Bosnia and Herzegovina borders with Croatia on its north, west and south, with Serbia on east, and Montenegro on the south; it has its access to the Adriatic Sea in the length of approximately 20 kilometres. As for the health system, education and income, Bosnia and Herzegovina is ranked 81 out of 188 countries as per UN index of human development for 2016.¹ Gross national income per capita in 2016 in Bosnia and Herzegovina was 10.091 US dollars.²



¹ UNDP, Report on human development for 2016: <http://hdr.undp.org/en/countries/profiles/BIH>

² *Ibid.*

Bosnia and Herzegovina is extremely contaminated with anti-personnel landmines as well as with cluster ammunition,³ that remained mainly from the conflict from 1992 to 1995, which was related to the breakup of Yugoslavia. Most minefields are located along the Inter-entity Boundary Line/confrontation line⁴ of two entities formed by a political decision of BiH: Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (FBiH) and Republic of Srpska (RS). The General Framework Agreement for Peace, also known as the Dayton Agreement, put an end to the war in December 1995. Annex 4 to the General Framework Agreement is presenting the new Constitution of Bosnia and Herzegovina, that confirms the continuity of a state headed by the Presidency, consisting of three members (a Bosniack, a Croat, and a Serb), while the Council of Ministers has the jurisdiction over the joint institutions. Both entity government were approved. Each entity has its own constitution although they are assymetric: according to the RS Constitution, the power in RS is centralised, with the government on the entity level, while the municipalities are responsible for providing service on local level. Unlike RS, the Constitution of FBiH gives significant jurisdiction to cantons and municipalities. Apart from that, there is District Brčko, established via the arbitrage procedure initiated by the High Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The BiH Government is divided into legislative, executive and judicial powers. Parliamentary Assembly of BiH is a legislative body consisting of House of Peoplea and House of Representatives. BiH Presidency consists of three members representing three nations in BiH (Bosniack, Croat, and Serb). The three members rotate as Chairs every eight months. Presidency is choosing the Chairman of the Council of Minister who is appointed by the Parliamentary Assembly of BiH. Council of ministers is an executive body with four years term of office.⁵

Distribution and contamination impact

Based on information by warring factions, and according to first BiH estimations, the area contaminated by mines/ERW stretched over 4.200 km² (8,2 out of the total BiH territory), with 19.057 minefields.⁶ Handicap International (HI) conducted a Landmine Impact Survey in BiH during 2002 – 2003 having identified 1.480 affected communities. General assessment of the mine situation in BiH in 2015 has identified 1.369 affected communities under the contamination by mines/ERW with a total of 517.000 affected inhabitants or 14% out of total number of BiH residents. Out of the total number of affected communities, 111 or 18% were categorised as high impact communities. The same general assessment from 2015 had identified 60 communities contaminated by cluster ammunition, out of which 50% of communities has a combine contamination by mines/ERW and cluster ammunition.

Criterion for defining the setting of the impact level on a community by mines/ERW has been calculated based on the estimated number of inhabitants, preliminary results from the 2013 census, the size of the suspect hazardous area as well as the size of the affected community.

Most communities with areas contaminated by mines/ERW are in rural areas. BHMAC estimates that inhabitants of urban areas have relatively safe life, economically and socially, if compared with rural population that economically depends on the access to areas which might be

³ International mine action standard (IMAS) 04.10 Glossary of terms in mine action, definitions and abbreviations: ERW is a hazardous unexploded ordnance (UXO) and abandoned explosive devices (AEDs). (*Protocol V of Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons*). ERW also encompass cluster ammunition.

⁴ Confrontation line is 1.100 km long and up to 4 km wide.

⁵ <http://ipacivilprotection.eu/bosnia.html#12>

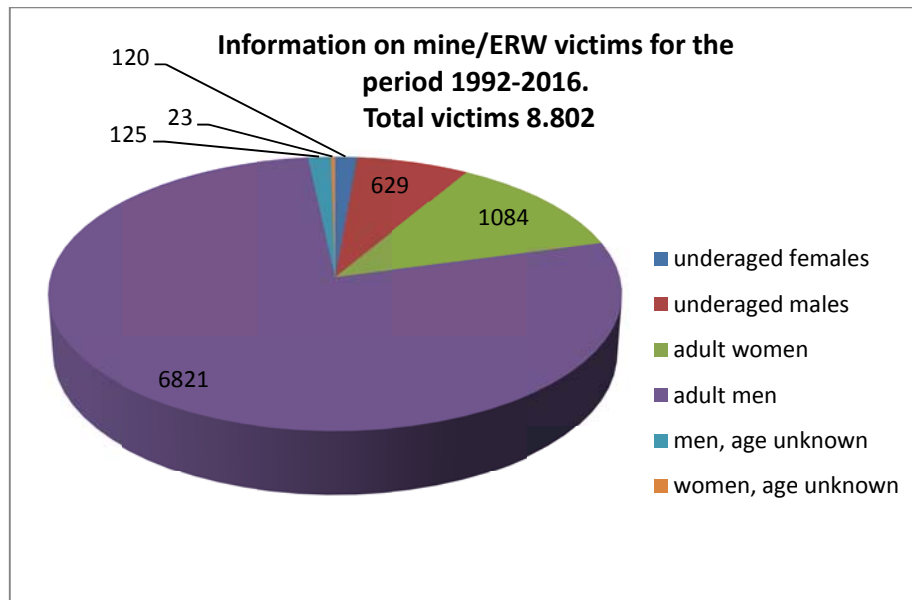
⁶ Request of BiH for the deadline extension as per Article 5 of the Ottawa Convention, June 2008.

contaminated by mines/ERW. The analysis of accidents caused by mines in BiH indicates that more economically affected persons are more influenced to the mine/ERW contaminated areas, since they often consciously enter the contaminated areas for the fulfilment of their existential needs.

According to the data from May 2017, the residual areas suspect on mines/ERW are estimated to 1.091 km², out of which there is 60 % of land covered with forest.

Analysis of information about mine/ERW victims in BiH shows that the patterns of accidents are greatly seasonal in nature, where most accidents occur in autumn or spring, during the current agricultural work as well as collection of firewood. The second greatest cause for the accidents that happen is the collection of raw materials with economic value.

The analysis of information about mine/ERW victims indicated a highly gender-age defined pattern where adult men consistently present the most affected group of direct victims. In the period of 1992 – 2016, there has been a total of 8.802 mine/ERW victims registered in BiH, where 78% of all the known victims were adult males. The highest number of fatalities is provoked by the explosion of the anti-personnel fragmentation bouncing mine PROM-1, produced in former Yugoslavia.⁷

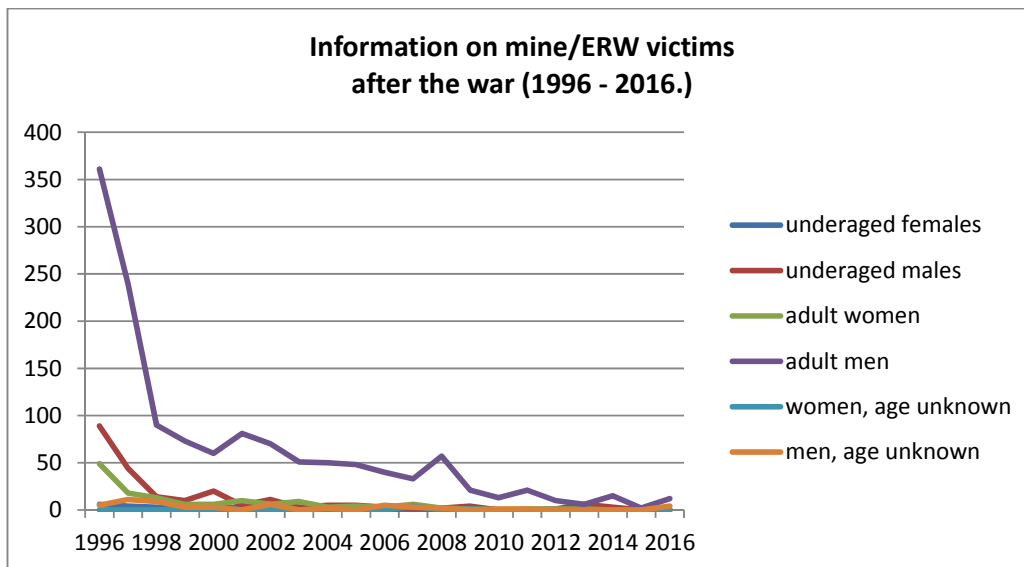


During the war (1992 – 1995.), a total of 7.000 mine/ERW victims were registered in BiH, out of which 945 adult females, 98 underaged females, 402 underaged men, 5.468 adult men, 17 females, and 70 males of unknown age.

⁷ Fragmentation bounding type of mine PROM-1 has a killing radius within 22 metres. Generally, it is equipped with UPROM-1 and UPMR-3 fuse. Once the trigger mechanism is started, one or two seconds later, a pyrotechnic composite will light up and activates the explosive in the mine. The intention of this time delay is for a target to exit from upwards trajectory, enabling the maximum speed of fragmentation. A wire attached to the ground defines the height where the explosion happens. PROM-1 might have a visible tripwire or a prolonged fuse mechanism. The lot of metal content in the mine makes it easier to detect PROM-1 with a manual mine detector.

<https://www.militaryperiscope.com/mdb-smpl/weapons/landmine/antipers/w0004529.shtml>

During the post-war period (1996 – 2016) a total of 1.802 mine/ERW victims were registered in BiH, out of which 139 adult females, 22 underaged females, 227 underaged men, 1.353 adult men, and 6 female and 55 males of unknown age. Adult men are still the group with highest numbers since they still constitute 75% of all the registered victims. The graph in the text below indicates a sudden decrease in numbers of victims in the years after the war ended, with 508 victims at the top of the curve in 1996 (information disaggregated by age and gender are not available) towards a total of 8 victims in 2016 (seven adult and one underaged male). In 2008, there happened an inexplicable increase in the number of mine victims, and it repeated in 2016, with 16 male victims as comparison to 2 male victims in.⁸ Analysis of mine victim information conducted by BHMIC indicates that many accidents occur when male persons enter the known contaminated areas because of the existential needs. Although it is important to note that adult males constitute a large majority of mine/ERW victims, it is also important to know that whenever an accident occur with a fatal outcome for or severe injuries to the bread winner, other family members (who are sometimes referred to as “indirect victims”) are generally greatly affected, considering the fact that the responsibilities for bringing the bread and taking care of the family changes to great extent. It is also important to understand the psychological and social consequences for mine survivors and the affected family members, having to take care that their needs are encompassed into the mine victim assistance services.



Early mine response and Mine Action Programme in BiH

Mine action in BiH started very soon after the end of the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina in the end of 1995, when Dayton Peace Agreement came into force⁹ and put a stop to three years of intensive fighting. In accordance with the General Framework Agreement for Peace, multilateral military implementation force (IFOR) were deployed¹⁰ – primarily with their military mandate (their secondary force was follow-up of the landmine clearance operations conducted by entity

⁸ Information on Mine/ERW Victim assistance for the period 1996 - 2016, BHMIC, April 2017.

⁹ GFAP, <https://www.osce.org/bih/126173?download=true>

¹⁰ After one year, Stabilisation Forces (SFOR) came instead of IFOR, while EUFOR succeeded SFOR in December 2004.

armies). At the very beginning, there were many stakeholders in many initiatives, including demining that was partially conducted by three entity armies under the supervision of IFOR. Due to the fear of the contamination distribution of mines/ERW, and aware of limited national funds necessary for resolving this problem, the Council of Ministers in BiH asked United Nations (UN) for help in the demining activities. After that, United Nations Mine Action Centre (UNMAC) has been established with jurisdiction to coordinate the mine action process.

US State Department engaged RONCO Company as a support to UNMAC in establishing three regional centres, in deminers training as well as introduction of mines and explosive dogs. Norwegian People's Aid has also established an extensive demining and training programme.

In 1997, European Commission has provided the equipment as well as the training for deminers and OED teams, while the US Army conducted the training in humanitarian demining for the members of entity armies. Various activities resulted in a rapid increase in number of deminers trained in humanitarian demining. There was not a single deminer at the beginning of 1996, all the way to 1998, when entity armies conducted most of the training, when over 1.200 deminers got their basic qualifications. Many international donors and agencies then promoted the idea for the demining market; in 1996, The World Bank has initiated an intervention mine clearance project to assist humanitarian demining, while the USA via RONCO Company assisted in establishing three BiH companies at the end of 1996.

After the General Framework Agreement for Peace, there was a Peace Implementation Conference in London in December 1995, that resulted in establishment of Peace Implementation Council (PIC), consisting of 55 countries and agencies. By the end of 1996, PIC pointed out the request of authorised institutions of BiH for the following:

1. Establishment of a state institution which will channel the donor funds towards the entity mine action centres
2. Management of the central data base and ability for mapping
3. Introduction of the mine clearance standard.

In accordance with that, and in January 1996, the Council of Ministers appointed three-member Demining Commission in BiH. In October 1997, the State Government signed the agreement with the Board of Donors for the establishment of Mine Action Centre BiH (BHMAL), that would take over the coordinating role from UNMAC. BHMAL was formed in 1998; all BHMAL employees have the status of civil servants since the beginning, while the programme was funded through the Board of Donors coordination established in 1998.

BHMAL has its headquarters in Sarajevo and two entity offices: Office BHMAL Sarajevo and Office BHMAL Banja Luka, along with eight regional offices.¹¹ Offices in Sarajevo and Banja Luka conduct the coordination of eight regional offices operations, with their focus on planning, survey and quality assurance/quality control.

Demining Law in Bosnia and Herzegovina from 2002

To conduct the long-term task of demining in Bosnia and Herzegovina, a Demining Commission in BiH has been founded as a central body for demining affairs, by the decision of the Council of Ministers which defines its purview and manners of financing. The Commission is within the Ministry for Civil Affairs and Communications, responsible for its work to this ministry.

¹¹ Regional BHMAL offices are in Sarajevo, Pale, Travnik, Mostar, Banja Luka, Tuzla and Brčko.

Demining Commission in BiH consists of three members from the three constitutive nations in BiH, from the echelon of government officials from three ministries in BiH: Ministry for Civil Affairs BiH, Ministry of Security BiH and Ministry of Defence BiH. The three representatives have various jurisdictions in their ministries, and they meet occasionally as Demining Commission members.¹² Jurisdiction of the Demining Commission in BiH towards BHMACH and in accordance with the Demining Law from 2002 have been listed in Annex III.

The procedure of amendments to the Demining Law has started at the end 2016 through the Council of Ministers BiH Working Group BiH („Official Gazette BiH “, No 70/16). This working group has been established as an interim working body of the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Representatives of relevant State and Entities institutions (Ministry for Civil Affairs BiH – Demining Commission in BiH, Mine Action Centre BiH, Ministry for Civil Affairs BiH, Ministry of Defence BiH, Federal Administration of Civil Protection and Republic Administration of Civil Protection (Republic of Srpska). The working group was tasked to make a draft on the Law on Amendments to the Demining Law in Bosnia and Herzegovina. At the suggestion of this Working group, the Council of Ministers defined the Suggestion of the Law on Amendments to the Demining Law in BiH on their 120-session held September 11, 2017.

Mine Action Strategies BiH

The first Mine Action Strategy BiH covered the period 2002 – 2009. During the Strategy’s first revision, it has been concluded that strategic goals were over optimistic. Consequently, a more realistic goal was proposed: „the country free of mines by 2009“. However, it soon became obvious that this goal was not a realistic one either, and that Bosnia and Herzegovina should submit a request for the extension of the deadline set for destruction of anti-personnel mines, according to Article 5 of the Ottawa Convention. For this reason, the creation of the second Mine Action Strategy BiH for the period 2009 – 2019 was related with the first request for the extension of the deadline in accordance with Article 5 of the Ottawa Convention. The Council of Ministers approved the Mine Action Strategy BiH for the period 2009 – 2019 in 2008.

BHMACH conducted the first of the three planned Strategy revisions during the period 2012 – 2013 (the second and the third revisions were supposed to be conducted in 2015. i.e. 2017). During the 2012 revision, it has been ascertained that the lack of finance has been one of the key reasons for slow progress of BiH towards accomplishment of its strategic goals in the domain of clearance. The conclusions from 2012. were forwarded to the Demining Commission in BiH in March 2013, though the Council of Ministers never officially adopted them. The Demining Commission in BiH accepted the results of the second revision from 2015, in March of 2016. However, the Council of Ministers did not approve them either. By coming to force of this Strategy, the Strategy for the period 2009 – 2019 is no longer effective.

¹² UN, Mine Action Governance and Management Assessment for Bosnia and Herzegovina for a Mine-Free generation, June 2015.

Continuous advancement

Mine Action Programme BiH is one of the longest in the world in the terms of duration. Since it was established in 1997, it consolidated significant national experiences in relation to land release through technical survey and clearance, and drastically decreased the number of accidents caused by mines/ERW.

However, it is no secret that the programme has been encountering many challenges which seriously harmed its reputation, both in international community and in BiH. Necessary steps were taken towards the resolution of a certain number of challenges, and efforts were made into a Draft on the Law on Amendments to the Demining Law in Bosnia and Herzegovina from 2002, revision of standards and updating of standard operational procedures (SOP), which means that mine action programme is in a good position to earn back the donors trust and significantly improve the efficiency of the programme.

Mine Action Programme BiH is devoted to quality management¹³ and to the principle of continuous advancement; through those factors, efforts will be made for problems solving in a constructive and transparent manner, with most adequate solutions.

Although several assessments and evaluations of mine action programme were conducted in the past few years, the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina conducted the first mine action programme audit in 2016, and through the Audit Office of the Institutions of BiH. At the end of the revision, a document was created named *“Performance Audit Report: Efficiency of the Demining System in Bosnia and Herzegovina.”*¹⁴ The audit report noted several serious challenges and presented the audit’s findings relating to efficiency and effectiveness. Mine Action Programme BiH resolves these challenges for the sake of promoting more efficient and effective mine action.

Obligations under international conventions

BiH is a contracting party to several international conventions and treaties, having committed to fulfil all its obligations in a manner which is fully effective and efficient. Namely, these are the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction, the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) that prohibits the use, transfer, and stockpiling of cluster bombs, Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. BiH is obliged to conduct the Maputo Action Plan for the implementation of obligations arising from Ottawa Convention and Action Plan Dubrovnik for the implementation of obligations arising from the Convention on Cluster Munitions. Relevant actions from these action plans are mentioned throughout this Strategy.

¹³ 'Quality Management' means 'coordinated activities to direct and control an organisation about quality, International organisation for standardisation (ISO) 9000:2005 and International Mine Action Standard (IMAS) 04.10.

¹⁴ Performance audit: Effectiveness of demining system in Bosnia and Herzegovina:
http://www.revizija.gov.ba/revizioni_izvjestaji/revizija_ucinka/lzvjestaji2016/?id=5046

The Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction

After BiH ratified the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction in 1998, the Convention came into force in March 1999, and set March 1 2009 as the deadline for registering and destruction of all antipersonnel mines on mined area in its own jurisdiction. In its first report delivered in February 2000 in accordance with Article 7 of the Convention (Transparency measures), BiH reported to have completed destructions of all antipersonnel mines in its ownership or possession or jurisdiction or control.

In March 2008, BiH submitted for the first time the request for the extension of this deadline; the BiH request was approved on the Ninth Meeting of the State Signatories, having set March 1 as the new deadline. In accordance with Article 5 of the Convention (and in accordance with the 10-years extension countries signatories to the Convention approved in 2008), BiH is obligated to destroy all the antipersonnel mines as soon as possible, and no later than March 1 2019. However, BiH is not able to fulfil all its obligations arising from Article 5 by that deadline. Therefore, BiH will create a new request for extension of this deadline and make sure it is submitted to the Committee on Article 5 Implementation no later than March 31 2018.

Convention on Cluster Munition

The Convention on Cluster Munition has been signed by BiH in December 2008, ratified in September 2010, and it came into force in March 2011. In August 2011, BiH delivered its first report arising from Article 7 of the Convention (Transparency measures) and it has been delivering annual reports in accordance to the obligations from the Convention ever since. For Bosnia and Herzegovina, the deadline arising from Article 4. (1)¹⁵ of the Convention is March 1, 2021; the key actors believe BiH can fulfil this obligation by the end of the deadline.

The Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons

Bosnia and Herzegovina ratified the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons in September 1993; as for the Amended Protocol II and Protocol V were ratified in September 2000, i.e. November 2007. BiH delivered its annual reports in accordance with Paragraph 5 of the Decision on Compliance, adopted on the Third Review Conference, held in 2012, and then in 2015 and 2016.

The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

BiH became the contracting party to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol after having signed the Convention in 2009 and ratifying it in March 2010. BiH delivered the report on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in March 2013.¹⁶ Both entities in BiH have created their strategies for improvement of the conditions for persons with disability.

¹⁵ Article 4. (1) Convention of Cluster Munition: *Each State Party undertakes to clear and destroy, or ensure the clearance and destruction of, cluster munition remnants located in cluster munition contaminated areas under its jurisdiction or control...*

¹⁶ See <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/G15/078/21/PDF/G1507821.pdf?OpenElement>

Mine Action Programme in BH: advantages, deficiencies, options and threats

At the Strategic Planning Workshop for relevant actors, held in November 2016, and on the meetings for confirming the strategic goals, held in February 2017, the actors have conducted a series of context analyses, including SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats), PESTEL (political, economic social, technological, environmental, and legal factors) as well as analysis of stakeholders. The actors have also identified a certain number of programme's advantages and capabilities; the programme can upgrade its advantages to resolve its deficiencies. For example, the fact is that the programme is national, combining considerable national experiences and expertise, thus presenting an advantage which would upgrade to raise international and national mine awareness and achievements in resolving of this problem. This Strategy may also be a powerful instrument for raising the awareness about the programme as well as mobilising financial means, because it contains visions and strategic and operational goals of the programme clearly highlighted for both international and national stakeholders.

The greatest threat and risk for the programme relate to the loss of donors' interest and decreasing financial support. Perceiving that **continuous financing is the precondition for the realisation of all the strategic goals** and achievement of all operational goals, the Strategy also encompasses the strategic goal related to communication and the operational goal related to the creation of the plan for mobilising financial resources, with annual amounts of expected funds, and the explanation of the way to attract new donors.

At the Strategic Planning Workshop held in November 2016 as well as at the session of working groups for confirmation of strategic goals, held in February 2017, the actors have identified several issues with negative influence for the programme, as well as potential future risks; the key influences and risks are detailed in Annex IV.¹⁷ All issues raised have been encompassed by strategic and operational goals, with the expectation that deficiencies and threats will be dealt with in the best manner possible through the realisation of the Strategy.

Strategically important intersectoral issues

Mine Action and Sustainable development

Since the beginning of 2016, the 2030 Agenda with its 17 goals of sustainable development and 169 targets shape the efforts in the direction of global development and policy making.¹⁸ The focus of the Agenda is that the sustainable development shall be participatory, inclusive and without discrimination.

During the phase of rehabilitation and stabilisation of BiH after the Dayton Peace Agreement signing at the end of 1995, mine action was elementally focused onto current humanitarian goals as well as the decrease of the number of accidents caused by mines/ERW, i.e. onto goals that had no focus on development. Now as BiH is setting the path towards sustainable development, mine action should be perceived as something that not only remove hazard to decrease accidents and fear, but something that enables and speeds up the wider sustainable development.

¹⁷ The participants were divided into working groups, tasked with analysing a context using the SWOT or PESTEL analysis and analyses of interested parties.

¹⁸ Sustainable development goals: <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/development-agenda/>

BiH is committed to fulfilling the sustainable development goals (hereinafter SDGs), recognising and promoting the links between them (SDGs). After that, land release for use will become tightly related to SDGs, because some of the minefield in BiH have social, economic, humanitarian, commercial and ecological impact. Through mine action programme in BiH, efforts will be made to better understand the influences and possibilities brought by clearance in the sense of enabling both development and contribution to fulfilment of the SDGs. BHMAC and participatory organisations included in mine action will collect, analyse and deliver relevant information, including liaising of mine action and SDGs to raise mine awareness both in-country and internationally, thus giving the contribution to the mobilisation of financial means for mine action programme.

GICHD and UNDP have initiated the creation of the study in 2017 which explores the links between mine action, sustainable development and 17 SDGs. The study identified numerous links between mine action and several SDGs, many of them relevant for mine action programme in BiH.

According to the study, land release process can remove blockades and enabling access to a whole spectre of basic social services, including health services (SDG 3), education (SDG 4) and clean water and sanitation (SDG 6). Additionally, the access to economic and natural resources strengthen the existence and builds the resistance in former affected communities, which will relieve communities of poverty and hunger (SDGs 1 and 2). Gender sensitive mine action will also promote equality (SDG 5) through empowerment of adult women and underaged girls through assistance, operations and employment options. Economy may start to grow along with mine action that will offer decent work and basic skills relevant to several vocations and sectors (SDG 8); infrastructure can be rebuilt (SDG 9) while modern energy may become a public good for all (SDG 7). In urban post-war environments, removal of mines and explosive devices is a precondition for the rebuilding of the affordable housing or transport infrastructure (SDG 11). A full list of potential mine action contribution to the accomplishment of the SDGs can be found in Annex V.



Photo 1: Global sustainable development goals, UN

Gender and diversity

BiH perceives the impact mine and ERW contamination may have on adult and underaged female and male persons, due to their roles and responsibilities, and they might have specific and different needs and priorities. Therefore, mine action and assistance, especially mine awareness and mine victim assistance, should reflect various needs of various age and gender

groups through targeted planning for activities to be efficient and impartial, with sustainable results.

Under the leadership of BHMACH, relevant actors will include gender and diversity into all phases of planning, realisation and follow-up of all mine activities, thus ensuring that all the information about accidents that were caused by mines/ERW are gathered and analysed in a gender- and age-disaggregated data that enables detailed reporting and efficient steering of activities and assistance. Furthermore, BiH accepts the activities from Mine Action Plans Maputo and Dubrovnik, which are gender sensitive and appreciative of diversity; BiH fulfils its reporting obligations in the sense of delivering gender and age disaggregated data. Gender sensitive mine action will also contribute to the realisation of SDG 5 which relates to gender equality, by incorporating gender aspects into all operations and guaranteeing employment without discrimination.

This Strategy considered and supported the Law on Gender Equality in BiH from 2003.¹⁹ Article 1. of the Law on Gender Equality in BiH states: „*This Law governs, promotes and protects the equal treatment of the genders and guarantees equality of opportunity for all in both the public and the private domain, and prohibits direct and indirect discrimination on the grounds of gender.*“ Law on Gender Equality in BiH enacts that equal representation of men and women exists when the percentage of either gender in bodies at all levels in BiH (state, entity, cantonal and municipality level) is at least 40%.²⁰ This Strategy also considered the Gender Equality Action Plan from 2007.

In past years, several guidelines were created for the efficient insertion of gender issues into mine action, among them Gender Guidelines for Mine Action Programmes (GMAP) and UN Gender Guidelines for Mine Action Programmes.²¹ These may be useful references for the stakeholders in mine action to ensure mine action that takes into consideration gender and age.

¹⁹ Law on Gender Equality in BiH (Official Gazette BiH, No: 32/10): http://arsbih.gov.ba/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/GEL_32_10_E.pdf

²⁰ It relates to legislative, executive and judicial power, political parties, legal entities with public authorisation and others, who act under the jurisdiction of the state, entity, canton, city and municipality, and it also relates to the appointments into delegations and international organisations or bodies.

²¹ GMAP www.gmap.ch, UN Gender Guidelines for Mine Action Programs http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/womens-empowerment/gender_and_cpr/gender_guidelinesformineactionprogrammes/

Strategic orientation 2018-2025

The Strategy presents vision, mission, strategic and operational goals in mine action programme BiH for the period 2018 – 2025. The ultimate situation resulting from the Strategy: fulfilled obligations of BiH in relation to survey and clearance in accordance to Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction is.

Vision

BiH without mines and explosive remnants of war, where underaged and adult female and male persons will be able to conduct activities necessary for life and without a threat to their own safety, and where the victims of mines and explosive remnants from the war would be fully integrated into society, fully enjoying their rights.

Mission

To develop an effective and efficient national mine action programme which will enable safe and productive use of land and satisfy the needs of affected communities through well-coordinated and efficient tasking in survey, clearance, mine awareness and mine victim assistance.

Key principles and assumptions

This Strategy relies on three key principles:

- liability
- continuous advancement
- transparency

Through mine action programme BiH, all these principles represent the forefront for planning, conduct, monitoring and follow-up. Mine action programme will continuously enable the compliance to these principles through quality information management and regular coordination with internal and external actors, including government institutions and international donors.

Strategy is based on the following basic assumptions:

- level of financing from international resources will remain the same (or become higher)
- the increase of the level of financing by national resources
- existing number of organisations engaged in mine action will remain the same
- operations will be conducted in accordance with standards for mine action BiH and standard operational procedures BiH, which are all in compliance with Bosnia and Herzegovina Mine Action Standards
- land release process of returning the land to use will be promoted and fully implemented
- BiH will deliver the request for the extension of the deadline regarding Article 5 in a timely manner for the approval of signatory states.

Strategic goals

Five strategic goals have been by this Strategy; each strategic goal has several operational goals, starting points, indicators and target conditions.

1. Procedures of quality information management ensure collecting, storage, analysis, dissemination of relevant information and their use for effective and efficient planning, setting priorities, tasking, and conduct of mine action.
2. Mine action programme BiH is promoted both nationally and internationally to improve transparency, increase visibility, and to further improve liability, commitment and state support.
3. The size and impact of mine/ERW contamination problem are precise and confirmed; the problem is resolving in accordance with the mine action standards in BiH, ensuring that safe areas are returned to affected communities to use.
4. Safe practice is promoted through mine awareness measures which are gender and diversity sensitive, all to decrease the number of accidents caused by mines/ERW and support safe and sustainable activities necessary for living.
5. All mine/ERW victims participate within the society on the same basis as others; their needs have been identified and answered, and their existential conditions enhanced through assistance which is based on the rights and diversity sensitive.

Information management

Efficient information management with clear reporting systems, quality coordination and cooperation with relevant stakeholders of the activities are very significant for the realisation of all strategic goals, and for achievement of all operational goals set in this Strategy.

Quality information management in mine action ensures that actors know how to use information in every moment to make operational and strategic evidence-based decisions. This is achievable providing the programme has at its disposal enough technical personnel, updated and relevant standards, tools and processes for gathering, storage, analysis and dissemination of accurate, timely and relevant information.

Based on international estimations, GICHD emphasised that improvement of the quality of information available to an organisation is not merely an issue of purchasing a better database software – it requires comprehensive reviewing of the position of information management unit within an organisation, of the process that unit established and conducted; it requires the level of clarity in deciding subjects' requests for information, as well as understanding and defining those requests. GICHD divides the capacity for information management into four components:

1. **Relevance of data:** do data collected and stored enable the creation of relevant, timely and accurate information?
2. **Processes:** are there adequate national standards for mine action and standard operational procedures which adequately support the organisational processes?
3. **Organisation:** is the link (cooperation/communication) between units for information management and other units in organisation adequate?
4. **Resources:** does the information management unit has access to sustainable technological and human resources?

In March 2016, GICHD conducted the evaluation of the information management capacity in BHMACH in accordance with four research directions stated in the text above. The evaluation results represent a starting point for the chapter of this Strategy that deals with information management. Some of the challenges were recognised and recommendations were provided in the report on evaluation findings. During 2018, there will be a workshop for stakeholders in information management, where plans for the implementation of those recommendations will be made. BHMACH commits to conduct the Working plan to ensure its own information management unit integration into both the organisation and the standard operational procedures in a quality manner; the unit will also be manned with adequate personnel and capable of enabling quality data and information management.

Strategic goal 1: Information management	Quality standards, tools and processes of information management ensure that relevant information is collected, stored, analysed, disseminated and used for effective and efficient planning, setting priorities, tasking and conduct of mine action/creation of application with update information on mine suspect hazardous areas, and that information will be available to all interested parties.		
Operational goals	Starting point	Indicators²²	Target state
1. By the end of 2018, BHMACH will start to revise and conduct mine action standards BiH, standard operational procedures BiH, and will coordinate processes with all the partners.	Point ²³ : 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Existence and enforcement of information management standard BiH and SOPs for information management, which encompass all information management processes – Integrity of SOPs for information management and their compliance with standard for information management BiH – Compliance and reviews of data 	4 or 5 points for each indicator

²² As for capacity development for information management, GICHD highlighted 8-11 indicators for each category. Three most important and most relevant indicators are highlighted here.

²³ Points on a scale from 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest) according to the GICHD Framework for capacity development in information management.

		flow/reporting towards outside organisations	
2. BHMAC will define organisational structures that support integration of information management within and between organisations by the end of 2018.	Points: 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Level of awareness of strategic / operational personnel about their role in defining the activities in IM - The level of procedural integration of the IM Department into operational departments - Scope in which the organisation has a proactive role in coordinating IM 	4 or 5 points for each indicator
3. BHMAC will adequately man and train personnel in IM Department by the end of 2019.	Points: 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Existence of Assistant for every important function in IM Department - Qualifications and level of training of personnel employed in IM Department - Up-to-date hardware, software and operational systems 	4 or 5 points for each indicator
4. By the end of 2019, collecting, storing, analysing and updating of all data necessary for mine action will commence. BHMAC will disseminate them regularly.	Points: 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Level of product use and level of information management outcome - Satisfaction with IM products - Existence and follow-up of quality defined indicators of result/effect 	4 or 5 points for each indicator

State responsibility and communications

Under the leadership of Ministry of Civil Affairs and the Demining Commission in BiH, the mine action programme BiH will be promoted both in country and on the international level, through regular meetings with donors and other key actors, held in BiH, as well as through participation in international conferences and meetings. Another key area through which the programme will be promoted is the exchange of results and achievements, especially those that relate to the methodology of land release, which promotes development and sustainable life. Demining Commission in BiH, BHM MAC and other partners will continue to ensure the marking of the International Mine Awareness Day on April 4 through mine awareness campaigns. The visibility of mine action programme will be continuously enhanced between the relevant entity ministries and Brčko District BiH, and international donors. It will promote links between mine action programmes and wider development, as well as explore partnerships for easier achievement of sustainable results. The programme will expand these possibilities to raise awareness and promote financial sustainability with the completion of clearance in 2025 as the goal.

BHM MAC will ensure the availability of accurate, updated and analysed information that will be provided to donors and other interested parties; this will make achievements known while relevant levels will be familiarised with the challenges. Furthermore, BHM MAC will ensure that the web page is actively used through the publication of information on current affairs and mine action, taking into consideration their availability. BHM MAC will also ensure that documents, including mine action standards and standard operational procedures BiH are published on its web page.

Although the government continuously supported mine action programme financially, it did not fulfil the finance plan from BH source (Strategy for the period 2009 – 2019). Sustainable financing is an important precondition for the realisation of all strategic and operational goals. Having that in mind and having understood that the mobilisation of financial means is the key challenge that presents a potential obstacle for the sustainability of the mine action programme, Demining Commission in BH will create a realistic plan for the mobilisation of funds. The stated plan will present a clear assessment of funds flow to promote the state's commitment to the programme and its sustainability. The mobilisation of the means will be conducted in continuity from BiH sources, to hold on to current donors as well as to attract new ones.

Strategic goal 2: State responsibility and communication		Mine action programme BiH is promoted in country and on the international scene to increase its transparency and visibility, and to enhance higher level of state responsibility, commitment and support.		
Operational goals		Starting points	Indicators	Target state
1.	Demining Commission in BiH will create the plan for mobilisation of means for mine action programme by the middle of 2018, and the Council of Ministers will adopt it. It will consist of clear assessment of funds flow from national sources for the	In 2017, there was no plan for the mobilisation of financial means	Existence of approved plan for the mobilisation of means	Created and adopted plan for the mobilisation of financial means by the middle of 2018.

	Strategy for period 2018.-2025.			
2.	Demining Commission in BiH and BHMACH will organise annual events related to International Awareness Day marked every April 4. as well to all other important dates which are marked	One event organised in cooperation with partners in 2016	Number of organised events related to April 4; they are reported during the entire period the Strategy covers	Annual events related to April 4 are held and the public is familiar with them (total of eight events)
3.	BiH will actively participate in major international conferences related to mine action ²⁴ to exchange updated information on key achievements and remaining challenge	BiH participated in 10 international events in 2016.	Number of events were BiH was presented Number of presentation and/or statements given at sessions/meetings	BiH actively participates in at least five international sessions/meetings annually ²⁵
4.	Ministry of Civil Affairs BiH will reintroduce the Board of Donors meetings, organising the meetings twice a year, and providing the minutes from these meetings	One Board of Donors meeting held in 2016.	Number of BOD meeting organised at annual level Number of minutes made from the BOD meetings, forwarded to all relevant partners	At least two BOD meetings organised annually Records from BOD meetings created and delivered

²⁴ Meetings of states signatories to the Ottawa Convention and Convention on Cluster Munition, and inter-session meetings of the Board of Directors for implementation of Ottawa Convention and Convention on Cluster Munition, and International Meetings of National Mine Action Programme Directors and United Nations Advisers (NDM-UN)

²⁵ Meetings numbered in footnote 24.

Survey and clearance

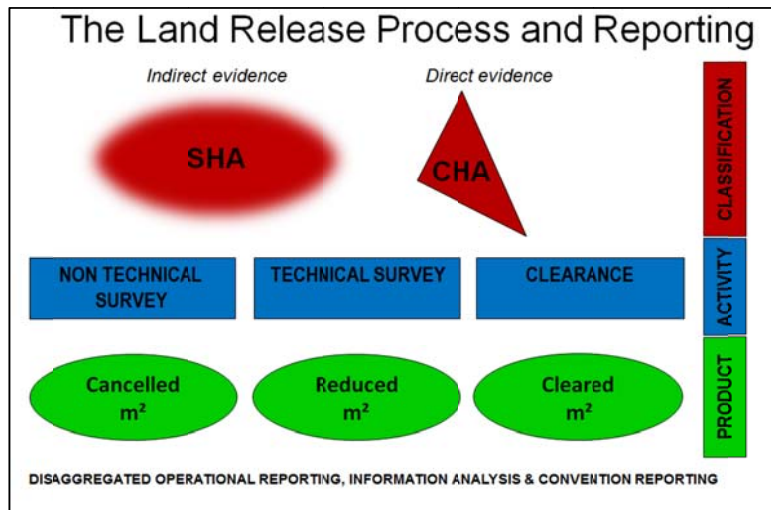
According to information gathered by the mid-2017, total of twenty-six organisations were accredited for the conduct of technical survey and mine clearance operations in BiH; out of that number, there are five government organisations (Armed Forces BiH, Federal Administration for Civil Protection, Republic of Srpska Administration for Civil Protections, Brčko District Civil Protection and International Red Cross BiH), nine commercial organisations (eight national and one international). These organisations currently employ a total of 1.328 deminers and other operational staff accredited for the conduct of mine activities.²⁶ Several organisations actively participate in mine action programme BiH since 1996, having acquired a significant experience. Civil Protection, Armed Forces and NPA have teams for technical survey and clearance of areas contaminated with residual cluster munition.

The focus of the goal that relates to survey and clearance is the promotion and full enforcement of the land release process. In international mine action standards (IMAS), the land release is defined as „*The term “Land Release” describes the process of applying all reasonable effort to identify, define, and remove all presence and suspicion of mines/ERW through non-technical survey, technical survey and/or clearance. The criteria for “all reasonable effort” shall be defined by the NMAA*”.²⁷ The land release is the process of evidence-based decision making, which enables reliable defining of the areas where additional technical survey is needed and where it is not. It implies the identification of suspect and confirmed hazardous areas, cancellation of the area through non-technical survey (NTI), reduction of the area through technical survey (TS) and clearance of areas contaminated with mines/ERW. The land release process should result in reports containing disaggregated information, thus providing the distinction between operations (NTS, TS and clearance) and their results (cancelled, reduced, cleared). The graph in the text below shows the land release process.²⁸

²⁶ 900 deminers and 428 persons authorised for the conduct and follow-up (team leaders, site leaders, administrators in the Sector for operations, officers for quality assurance, mine detection dogs’ instructors, accredited organisations etc), information by BHMACH, March 2017.

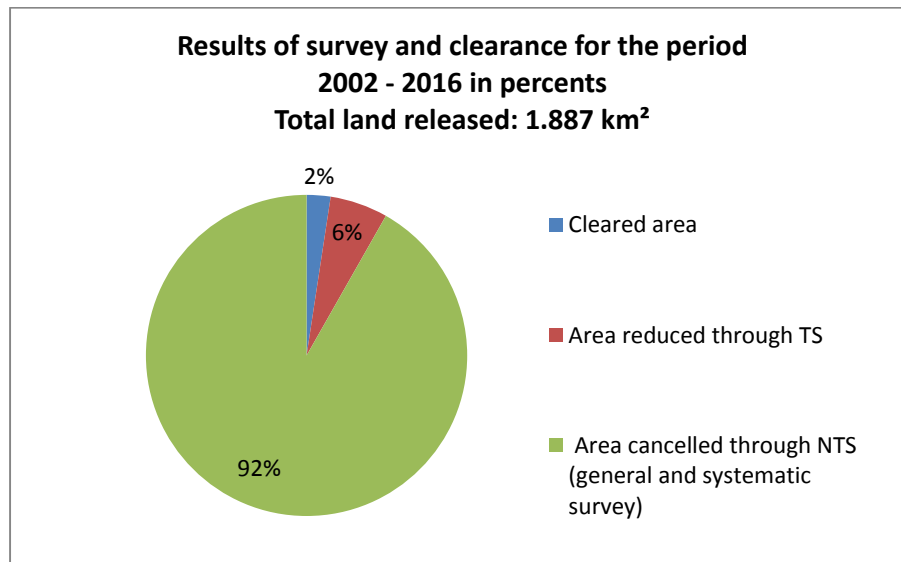
²⁷ International mine action standard IMAS 07.11 Land Release, march 2013:
<https://www.mineactionstandards.org/fileadmin/MAS/documents/imas-international-standards/english/series-07/IMAS-07-11-Ed1-Am3.pdf>

²⁸ Land Release process, GICHD



Graph 2. Land Release process, GICHD

Mine action programme in BiH, under the management of BHMACH, is the originator of the land release. In regard of cancellation through nontechnical survey operations, the graph in further text²⁹ shows the percentages of nontechnical, technical survey and clearance for 2002 – 2016. It shows that non-technical survey operations that led to the cancellation of previously suspect areas form 92% of the total of land released in the same period (1.887 km²).

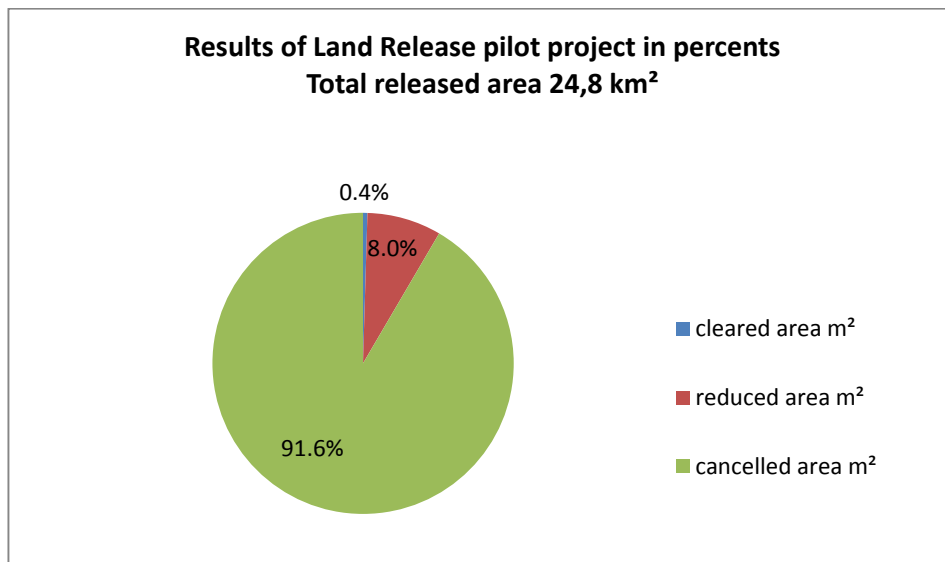


Given the fact that it became clearer that survey operations based on the evidence that the area is mined were of crucial importance for operational effectiveness, European Union in cooperation with BHMACH started its pilot project “Land Release” in 2012. The project’s aim is to promote the effective nontechnical survey which will result in either the cancellation of previously suspect areas in case there is no evidence of existing of the mines/explosive devices or the

²⁹ Information on BHMACH technical survey and clearance, May 2017

confirmation of hazardous areas due to the existence of such evidence. This process enables efficient tasking in technical survey for follow-up, and deploys the funds for clearance towards contaminated areas only. Within this project in 2014 and 2015, BHM MAC created three chapters of the new standard: chapter non-technical survey, chapter technical survey and chapter land release, which comply with the mine action standard IMAS 07.11 Land Release. In the beginning of 2016, these chapters were approved by the Demining Commission in BiH. Also, two sets of instructions were approved by the Demining Commission in BiH, on quality assurance and control, along with the new NTS SOP which was adopted in April 2018.

Preliminary results of the six completed tasks within the EU “Land Release” project show that organisations cancelled 91,6% of the total released land (24,8 km²) through NTS, reduced 8 % of the area through TS operations³⁰ and cleared 0,4 % of the area.³¹ If we assume that these six tasks may represent the major part of the residual suspect hazardous areas in BiH, it is possible to predict that a smaller part of residual suspect hazardous areas is contaminated. Therefore, it will be necessary to deploy clearance funds towards a relatively small area.



The Land Release approach will be fully implemented in BiH during this strategic period and there is a consensus that its full implementation is the solution for greater operational effectiveness. BHM MAC committed to clear and specify the mine/ERW contamination problem through the conduct of non-technical and technical survey operations, and clearance. BHM MAC will ensure compliance with the principles of land release by all organisations accredited for technical clearance and clearance through a quality system of quality management and compliance with the recently revised BHM MAC standard and standard operational procedures for land release.³² BHM MAC will also ensure that information management processes enable the collection, storage and analysis of accurate and updated data on survey and clearance. This will also ensure that information management processes enable collecting, storing and analysis of accurate and updated information on survey and clearance. This will further facilitate the

³⁰ Out of 8%, 14% are ‘physically treated search lanes’ for which technical tools are deployed to determine the level of threat.

³¹ Results of BHM MAC pilot project „Land Release “, April 2017.

³² In compliance with the newest international Land Release standard.

operational planning and deciding, providing for consistent and clear reporting on the results of technical survey and clearance. It also encompasses reporting according to the obligations arising from international conventions. BHM MAC also took upon itself the obligation to organise technical working group meetings twice a year, to enhance coordination, exchange information, and transparency.

BHM MAC will continue to plan the technical survey and clearance operations in direct cooperation with municipalities and committed coordinators of mine action at cantonal and municipality level. Municipality mine action plans will be created, reflecting local needs and priorities, all to ensure sustainable results of mine actions.

Strategic goal 3: Survey and clearance		The size and the impact ³³ of mines/ERW contamination problem are specified and confirmed; the problem is solved in accordance with international/BiH standard, making sure that the safe area is released to the affected communities for use.		
Operational goals		Starting points	Indicators	Target condition
1.	Size and impact of mine/ERW contamination will be specified by the end of 2019 through non-technical survey operations in accordance with BiH standard ³⁴	In May 2017, there are 1.091 km ² of suspect hazardous area in the national database	Number and km ² of suspect hazardous areas Number and km ² of confirmed hazardous areas	Suspect hazardous areas are specified and marked through non-technical survey by 2019.
2.	Since January 2018, all standards and SOPs BiH for survey and clearance will be conducted by BHM MAC, through the system of quality management, and it will be conducted by all other actors to ensure greater operational effectiveness and better quality.	Three chapters of the mine action standard BiH (land release, NTS and TS) approved in January 2016. SOPs for NTS and quality control/assurance adopted in 2018. BHM MAC Guidelines	Number of actors (organisations and donors) committed to the conduct of standard and SOPs BiH for land release Number of discrepancies reported through the processes of	All survey and clearance operations comply with the SOPs Decreased number of discrepancies reported via quality control/assurance processes

³³ Communities affected by mines/ERW are defined by high, medium and low impact. The level of impact is defined by the number of residents, size of the community, contaminated area and the number of accidents.

³⁴ Maputo Action Plan, Measure 8: *Each State Party with ongoing mine clearance obligations will undertake all reasonable efforts to quantify and qualify its remaining implementation challenge as soon as possible, and report this information through its Article 7 transparency report by 30 April 2015 and annually thereafter. This information should identify the precise perimeters and locations, to the extent possible, of all areas under its jurisdiction or control that contain anti-personnel mines and therefore require clearance, and that are suspected to contain anti-personnel mines and therefore require further survey. This information is to be incorporated into national demining plans and relevant broader development and reconstruction plans.*

		for quality control approved by Demining Commission in BiH in 2017. Number of discrepancies reported via the quality control/assurance processes	quality control/assurance	annually
3.	Overall effectiveness and efficiency will be improved by 2020 through survey and clearance operation, in accordance with principles/standard for mine action "land release" ³⁵	20,75 km ² cancelled through NTS in 2017 8,33 km ² reduced through TS in 2017. 0,83 km ² cleared in 2017. 25 cleared per ha ³⁶ in 2017 11,89 items of cluster munition cleared per ha in 2017	Number of km ² cancelled annually through NTS Number of km ² reduced annually through TS Number of km ² cleared annually Number of mines per ha cleared each year Number of cluster munition items cleared each year	100 km ² cancelled annually through NTS 10 km ² reduced annually through TS 3 km ² cleared annually Greater number of mines cleared per ha each year Greater number of cluster munition items cleared per ha each year

³⁵ Maputo Action Plan, Action 9: *Each State Party with ongoing mine clearance obligations will ensure as soon as possible that the most relevant land-release standards, policies and methodologies, in line with the United Nations' International Mine Action Standards, are in place and applied for the full and expedient implementation of this aspect of the Convention. These land release methodologies will be evidence-based, accountable and acceptable to local communities, including through the participation of affected communities, including women, girls, boys and men, in the process.*

³⁶ 1 hectare=10 000 m²

4.	By March 2021, BiH will fulfil its obligations to clear, destroy or ensure clearance and destruction of all residual cluster munition, as per Article 4 of the Cluster Munition Convention	January 2017: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1.12 km² of CHA contaminated by residual cluster munition • 7.30 km² of SHA suspected to contain residual cluster munition³⁷ 	State's Declaration on Compliance after fulfilling all obligations as per Article 4.	BiH gave a statement on completion of all obligations as per Article 4 of the Convention by March 2021.
5.	After BiH delivered a timely request for the extension of deadline as per Article 5 in March 2018, it fulfils its obligations as per Article 5 of Ottawa Convention, which relate to registering and destruction of all AP mines in mined area by 2025.	In May 2017, there are 1.091 km ² of SHA/CHA containing AP mines in the national database	Declaration on fulfilling all the obligations as per Article 5	In 2025, BiH declares that it has fulfilled all its obligations as per Article 5 of the Ottawa Convention.

Mine Awareness

BHMAC is authorised for accrediting all the organisations included in mine awareness, and for coordinating all mine awareness activities³⁸. BHMAC responsibilities are detailed in Annex VI. Mine awareness programme relies on several key documents, including the Mine Awareness Standard in BiH, standard operational procedures and Guidelines for accreditation for mine awareness organisations. Mine awareness activities also rely on the Mine Awareness Sub-Strategy for the period 2009 – 2019, with one strategic and five operational goals.

Mine awareness programme in BiH has been enhanced through the years based on in-country experiences, and taking into consideration that all lessons learned and good practices are documented. BiH will continue to use available resources (financial, human, material and technical) efficiently and effectively, for activities and projects on raising mine awareness to be continuous as well. BHMAC and other relevant actors will promote information exchange and raising mine awareness through the direct cooperation with the media.

³⁷ Out of the total area suspected of residual cluster munition contamination, 2,7 km² is the result of individually fired submunition KB-1 from modified AK-47 rifles. When used in this manner, and according to the Convention on Cluster Munition, individual items of submunition of KB-1 type are not defined as cluster munition. Therefore, strictly speaking, these 2,7 km² of contaminated area does not fall under the clearance obligation according to Article 4. of the Convention on Cluster Munition. The definition of cluster munition from Article 2. of the Convention relates to „conventional munition designed to scatter or release explosive submunition. “Definition of cluster munition from Article 2. Convention on Cluster Munition relates to „conventional munition designed to scatter or release explosive submunition. “

³⁸ Demining Commission in BiH is authorised to sign all accreditation documents.

Mine awareness measures are conducted through mine awareness activities, and they encompass dissemination of information, mine awareness and liaising with local communities and municipalities contaminated with mines. BiH is obliged to ensure that all accident data are collected and analysed, gender and age disaggregated data, to get a better understanding of how the residents of different age, gender and cultural habits in contaminated communities exposed to mines/ERW and why. Collection and analysis of gender and age disaggregated data enables³⁹ the identification of the mine accident patterns related to gender and age. It further enables organisations to conceive their mine awareness activities in a manner that will take into consideration the exposure to risk according to gender and other differences. This reflects the obligations of BiH as the signatory and state party to the Ottawa Convention and Convention on Cluster Munition, and regarding the mine awareness activities related to the mine risk; the activities are gender and age sensitive.

BHMAC information shows that the largest number of accidents occur during spring and winter, due to agricultural works and collection of firewood and other raw materials. Information also shows that most new mine/ERW victims are adult males who enter known mined areas due to existential needs and economic reasons. BHMAC and mine awareness organisations will work directly with the stakeholders of development and development organisations to identify alternative and sustainable activities necessary for the existence, and not exposing them to further mine/ERW risks. A closer cooperation between organisations that conduct mine action (including the mine awareness measures) and partners included in development would enable the realisation of several sustainable development goals.

Maintenance of the thorough quality assurance system will be a priority, along with the revision of the Mine Awareness Standard and BHMAC standard operational procedures for mine awareness. Priority will also be their adoption by the government and further implementation by all the organisations conducting mine awareness, which would then result in efficient and effective activities with sustainable results. BHMAC will reintroduce the practice of holding two mine awareness working group meetings annually, to ensure coordination with relevant partners and to facilitate a platform for information exchange and discussion about key events and challenges.

Under the leadership of Ministries for Education⁴⁰, BHMAC and the Demining Commission BiH, Bosnia and Herzegovina is obliged to integrate gender-age sensitive mine awareness measures into educational systems, to promote effective and sustainable mine awareness activities targeted at underaged persons.

³⁹ Gender and age disaggregated data implies the difference between female and male persons from various age groups: adult and underage females, adult and underage males. Adult persons are 18 years of age and up.

⁴⁰ Ministries for education exist on entity levels (FBiH and RS), cantonal levels, and District of Brčko. There is no Ministry of Education on the state level, i.e. within the Council of Ministers BiH.

Strategic goal 4:		Safe behaviour is promoted through gender and age sensitive mine awareness measures that take into consideration differences in age to decrease the number of accidents caused by mines/ERW and to support safe and sustainable activities necessary for existence. ^{41 42}		
Mine Awareness				
Operational goals		Starting Point	Indicators	Target state
1.	By the middle of 2018 and under BHMALC leadership, there will be revision, updating and forwarding for approval of the Mine Awareness Standard and mine awareness standard operational procedures.	Mine Awareness Standard BiH is created in 2002. Mine awareness standard operational procedures for mine awareness in BiH were created in 2006.	Existence of revised and updated Mine Awareness Standard in BiH Existence of revised and updated mine awareness standard operational procedures in BiH	MA Standard in BiH, revised and updated by the middle of 2018 and approved by the Demining Commission in BiH Mine awareness SOP's in BiH revised and updated by the middle of 2018 and approved by the Demining Commission in BiH
2.	Since January 2018, under BHMALC leadership, there will be a continuous identification and prioritisation of affected groups. Within these, there	Number of users of MA measures in 2016 (gender and age disaggregated)	Number of users of MA measures annually (gender and age disaggregated)	Continuous identification of all affected group and continuous conduct of MA measures

⁴¹ Maputo Action Plan, Action 10: *Each State Party that has reported mined areas under its jurisdiction or control will provide mine risk reduction and education programmes, as part of broader risk assessment and reduction activities targeting the most at-risk populations. These programmes shall be age-appropriate and gender-sensitive, coherent with applicable national and international standards, tailored to the needs of mine-affected communities and integrated into ongoing mine action activities, namely data gathering, clearance and victim assistance as appropriate.* Maputo Action Plan with guidelines for the implementation of Ottawa Convention obligations for the period 2014 – 2019:

<http://www.maputoreviewconference.org/fileadmin/APMBC-RC3/3RC-Maputo-action-plan-adopted-27Jun2014.pdf>

⁴² Action Plan Dubrovnik, Action 3.2: „Protect people from harm “

Affected States parties will, as soon as areas under its jurisdiction or control are known to be affected, take all feasible steps to prevent civilian casualties by immediately developing and providing targeted and focused age, gender and ethnic sensitive risk reduction, education programmes that are based primarily on an assessment of need and vulnerability and an understanding of risk-taking behaviour. Action Plan Dubrovnik with guidelines for successful fulfilment of obligations under the Convention on Cluster Munition for the period 2015–2020: <http://www.clusterconvention.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/The-Dubrovnik-Action-Plan.pdf>

	will be a continuous conduct of adequate MA measures which are gender and age sensitive, under the leadership of BHMAC	Children and adolescents: 31.976 Adult persons (male and female): 824		
4.	BHMAC will ensure efficient coordination of MA activities through the working group meetings with all relevant stakeholder, which will be held twice a year (or more often if need be)	The number of MA working group meetings held in 2017	The number of MA working group meetings held within one year, with minutes distributed after the meeting	BHMAC conducts efficient coordination of MA measures through at least two annual meetings of the coordination working group. Minutes are made and distributed after the meeting
5.	By 2020, MA measures will be integrated into 13 educational systems, with continuous conduct through gender and age sensitive materials, through coordination between BHMAC and Ministry of Education	In 2017 there is no obligation of integrating MA measures into educational plans and curriculums	Annual number of educational systems which integrate MA measures Indicator of MA materials? Number of schools that accept and use appropriate MA materials	MA measures integrated into 13 ⁴³ educational systems in BiH by 2020.

Mine victim assistance

There are 8.802 registered persons in BiH (120 underaged females, 1.084 adult females, 629 underaged males, 6.821 adult males, 125 men of unknown age and 23 females of unknown age) who lost their life or who were injured in accidents caused by mines/ERW in the period between

⁴³ Total number of ministries for education in BiH

1992 and 2017. BiH is obliged to provide adequate assistance to the mine/ERW victims⁴⁴ being a state signatory of the Ottawa Convention, Convention on Cluster Munition and Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons. In the Convention on Cluster Munitions that prohibits the use, transfer, and stockpiling of cluster bombs, “*Cluster munition victims*” means all persons who have been killed or suffered physical or psychological injury, economic loss, social marginalisation or substantial impairment of the realisation of their rights caused by use of cluster munitions. They include those persons directly affected by cluster munitions as well as their affected families and communities.⁴⁵ As a state signatory of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, BiH is obliged to provide assistance to persons with permanent consequences. The term “survivor” relates both to underaged and adult females and males who survived an accident caused by mines/ERW, while the ‘indirect victims’ are the family members of persons who lost their lives or who were injured in mine accidents.⁴⁶

In Article 6.3 of the Ottawa Convention, there is a short review on mine victim assistance, where it is said that “*Each State Party in a position to do so shall provide assistance for the care and rehabilitation, and social and economic reintegration, of mine victims and for mine awareness programmes.*” Chapter IV of Maputo Action Plan is dedicated to mine victim assistance and comprises of seven appropriate actions.⁴⁷ Key principles that are the basis for these actions relate to impartiality, equal participation of mine/ERW victims in society and integration of mine victim assistance into wider politics, plans and state legislature relating to disability to ensure sustainability. Action 4 from Action Plan Dubrovnik for the implementation of the obligations arising from the Convention on Cluster Munitions is dedicated to mine/ERW victim assistance, and it anticipates four appropriate actions.⁴⁸ Long-term solution that will guarantee the right of mine/ERW victims and take into the consideration their needs may be ensured only through the application of dual approach to mine/ERW victim assistance, along with specific and wider efforts that will contribute to the realisation of obligations towards victim assistance. It is exactly what integrated approach to mine victims implies.⁴⁹ This Strategy supports the key principle that specific efforts in mine/ERW victim assistance short-term solutions, and they should be applied until the mine victim assistance is efficiently integrated in wider sectors and frameworks.⁵⁰

At the BiH level, the Ministry of Civil Affairs has the jurisdiction over the coordination of all the aspect of health protection, education, sport and culture. Various institutions play various roles in the domain of social assistance, (including victim assistance) in Bosnia and Herzegovina, on state, entity and cantonal level. Social protection is under the jurisdiction of entity government. Law on Principles of Social Protection differentiates civil and war victims with disability; assistance to both categories is arranged through several this Law regulations.⁵¹ Furthermore, the Law on Principles of Social Protection differentiates the civilian and military victims of war. Protection and care for mine/ERW victims are defined by the Law on Principles of Social Protection, Protection of Civil Victims of War, and Protection of Families with Children. Civilian

⁴⁴ All references concerning victims, survivors, other persons with disabilities, indirect victims and other persons in affected group are gender and age sensitive, i.e. they relate to both adult and underaged females and males.

⁴⁵ Convention on Cluster Munition, Article 2. Definition

⁴⁶ The CCM Coordinators for 2016 and 2017 on Victim Assistance and international Cooperation and Assistance, *Guidance on an Integrated Approach to Victim Assistance*, (2016)

⁴⁷ Maputo Action Plan, Action IV, Victim assistance

⁴⁸ Action Plan Dubrovnik, Action 4.1, Strengthen national capacities, Action 4.2. Increase the involvement of victims, Action 4.3. Share information, Action 4.4. Provide support, assist and cooperate

⁴⁹ The CCM Coordinators for 2016 and 2017 on Victim Assistance and international Cooperation and Assistance, *Guidance on an Integrated Approach to Victim Assistance*, (2016)

⁵⁰ Convention on Cluster Munition, Article 5, Para 2. (c)

⁵¹ Law on Principles of Social Protection, Protection of Civil Victims of War, and Protection of Families with Children (“Official Gazette of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina”, no. 36/99, 36/99, 54/04, 39/06 and 14/09)

casualties are defined as persons with bodily harm due to injury related to the war events (bombing, street fights, explosions of war materials, random bullet etc.) which resulted in bodily harm, physical or psychological damage or significant deterioration of health conditions. The precondition for indulging rights to assistance according to the Law in FBiH and RS is a bodily harm of at least 60% or permanent bodily disfunction.

BiH Council for Persons with Disabilities, formed 2010, has the jurisdiction for the implementation and follow-up of the Convention of the rights for Persons with Disabilities.⁵² The Council consists of 20 members: 10 of them represent all the levels of authority (state, entity and Brčko District) while other 10 members represent the organisations of persons with disability of social interest in entities and Brčko District.⁵³

BHMAC authority in the domain of victim assistance relate to management of the central BHMAC database that also contains data on mine/ERW victims, in accordance with the Demining Law from 2002. BHMAC will ensure further collection, storing, analysis and distribution of data on accidents caused by mines/ERW, gender and age disaggregated, all to enable the updated view of the number of victims and accurate understanding of all affected groups. Apart from that and having considered the significance of integration of victim assistance into wider plans, politics and structures on state and entity levels to ensure sustainable support to survivors, the Demining Commission in BiH and BHMAC will take account of distribution of the victims' information to the relevant ministries, and that information on victims are integrated into wider plans and systems on state and entity level.

As a permanent working body, Bosnia and Herzegovina Coordination Body for mine/cluster munition/ERW victim assistance will be established and organised on formal-legal basis, and all the relevant actors will participate in its work to enhance coordination. It is expected that the Council's work in advocacy result in integration of victim assistance into relevant mechanisms of coordination, including health and social protection, disability, education and poverty reduction. The Coordination Body will make efforts to raise awareness in all respective ministries with jurisdiction over the mine assistance in BiH, in accordance to obligations arising from internal (state) legislature and international conventions. The Decision on establishment of the Coordination Body has been forwarded for adoption to the Council of Ministers, and a feedback is expected as soon as possible.

Strategic goal 5: Victim assistance	Mine/ERW victims have access to gender and age sensitive services which respect diversity. Through them, they indulge their rights and possibilities that ease their inclusion into society on the principle of equality with others.		
Operational goals	Starting points	Indicators	Target state

⁵² Initial BiH report on the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disability, March 5, 2013

⁵³ *Ibid.*

1.	Since 2018, Coordination Body for victim assistance on the state level is established formally and legally and meets twice a year or more frequently, if need be; all relevant actors participate in meetings ⁵⁴	In 2017, a preparatory meeting was organised of the Coordination Body for Victim assistance	Number of annual meetings of the Coordination Body for Victim assistance	At least two meetings of the National Coordination Body for mine victim assistance annually, with minutes made and distributed after the meeting
2.	By 2019, the Coordination body for victim assistance will be represented in the BiH Council for Persons with Disabilities and authorised to ensure the rights of survivor victims are recognised and integrated into wider plans of assistance for persons with disability.	In 2017, there is no representative of the Coordination Body for Victim assistance within the Council for Persons with disabilities in BiH	State Coordination Body for Victim assistance is officially introduced to the Council for persons with Disabilities in BiH	In 2018, National Coordination Body for victim assistance is officially introduced to the Council for Persons with Disability in BiH
3.	After the advocacy work of the Coordination Body for Victim assistance, victim assistance will be integrated into the programmes of relevant coordination mechanisms in the sectors of health and social protection, and in the domains of poverty reductions and coordination of assistance to persons with disability on the level of ministries (Ministry of Civil Affairs, Ministry for Human Rights and Refugees) and other relevant departments of Brčko District, entity and cantonal ministries, in order to ensure efficient coordination and information exchange.	In 2017, victim assistance is not integrated in the work programmes	The number of Coordination mechanism which encompass victim assistance in their programmes Formal legal acceptance of the wide definition of victim from the Convention on Cluster Munition	Victim assistance is integrated into coordination mechanisms of work programmes by 2019.

⁵⁴ Including members of the Council for Persons with Disabilities, national organisations that provide victim assistance, Demining Commission in BiH and relevant ministries.

4.	BHMAC will continuously collect and analyse all mine/ERW victims, gender and age disaggregated, and forward them to relevant ministries to ensure their integration into wider systems of information about persons with disabilities.	Situation as of January 2017.	The number of systems on the state level with information on injuries and/or disabilities, including information on mine/ERW victims disaggregated by gender and age	Since January 2018, information on mine/ERW victims disaggregated by gender and age are being integrated into wider information systems on injuries and disability
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Management of residual contamination

It is expected that BiH by 2025 arrives to the completion phase in identification and clearance of all known contaminated areas. In that occurrence, it will change to the phase with focus on proactive survey and clearance operations to the phase of resolving residual mine/ERW contamination in which it will use an adequate reactive response to mitigate the residual contamination.⁵⁵ As BiH progresses towards this transition, the planning of sustainable management of residual contaminations will become more significant, and it will require higher strategic status. This process is often characterised by transition from survey and clearance programmes mainly financed from international sources to the context where the jurisdiction is transitioned to existing state structures, while the operations are financed out of state budget.

Several national actors have significant role in mine action BiH, and they are of crucial significance for the successful identification and clearance of mines/ERW. Considering its technical capacities, BiH is in a good position to effectively and efficiently manage with its long-term issue of residual contamination using its own capacities. However, it is important that relevant actors initiate the process of planning of the residual contamination management before BiH fulfils its obligations arising from Article 5 i.e. Article 3 of the two major conventions. These actors should consider a whole set of issues, including future management and the location of mine action database on the state level. BiH is obliged to create a strategy for management of residual contamination through the participation of all the relevant factors by the year of 2022. The active participation of Armed Forces BiH and Administrations for Civil Protection from entities and Brčko District will be highly significant, since it is assumed their role would be bigger in resolving the issue of residual contamination.

Implementation of the BH Strategy

Under the leadership of the Demining Commission in BiH that operates within the Ministry of Civil Affairs and in direct cooperation with BHMAC, BiH will ensure a complete implementation of this Strategy. BHMAC will lead in creation of action plans with appropriate assessment of necessary financial means and achievement of the five strategic goals, with the focus on the operationalisation of strategic goals.

⁵⁵ Residual contamination in this context relates to mine/ERW contamination found after all reasonable efforts made to identify and treat all suspect areas.

Follow-up, revision and evaluation of BH Strategy

Follow-up of the implementation of the Strategy and its revision provides the ability to better comprehend the achievements and challenges, to enable the adjustment of the direction and the structure of the programme, and to improve future versions of the Strategy. Follow-up of the implementation of the Strategy represents the continuous function which uses the systematic collection of information on indicators, to provide key actors with information of achieved progress and operational goals, measured through the starting points and target states and indicators of achievement of the operational goals set in the Strategy.

In direct cooperation with relevant actors, BHMACH is responsible for the follow-up of the implementation of this Strategy. Preconditions for the follow-up are efficient information management with clear criteria for collection, storage, analysis and dissemination of information, reporting systems, quality coordination, and cooperation with relevant actors. The follow-up will enable the identification of advantages and deficiencies of the mine action programme in BiH, and it will enable both BHMACH and partners to resolve problems, improve activities, upgrade achieved success, and to adjust to changeable circumstances.

BHMACH and the Demining Commission in BiH will ask for the first revision of the Strategy in 2020, and then in 2023, to consider the achieved progress and adjust the Strategy to all possible changes in this context if need be, and to ensure its continuous relevance. In case of significant contextual changes, revision can be asked for prior to 2020 for Strategy to remain relevant.

Annexes

Annex I: Programme of the workshop for strategic planning in mine action in BiH and priority setting, held November 2016.

Day 1: Monday 7 November				
Time	Session	Content	Responsible	Method
09.45 – 10.00	Participant registration	Registration of all workshop participants	Workshop participants	
10.00 – 10.40	Opening session	Formal opening of the workshop and welcome	Demining Commission BHMACH	
10.40 – 11.00	Introduction to the workshop	Workshop overview, objectives and goals	Ms. Åsa Massleberg, GICHD Advisor Strategic Management	
11.00 – 12.00	Introduction to BiH's national mine action programme	Brief history, key achievements main challenges and way ahead	Mr Tarik, BHMACH	Presentation
12.00 – 12.20			The Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina	Presentation
12.20 – 13.20	Lunch			
13.20 – 14.00	Introduction to BiH's national mine action programme	Brief history, key achievements main challenges and way ahead	The Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina Civil Protection Norwegian People's Aid (NPA)	Presentation
14.00 – 14.30	Introduction to BiH's national mine action programme	Questions and answers General discussions	All participants	Discussions
14.30 – 15.00	Introduction to Strategic Planning	Presentation of good practices and lessons learnt in strategic planning processes globally	Ms. Åsa Massleberg, GICHD Advisor Strategic Management	Presentation

15.00 – 15.15	Coffee Break			
15.15 – 15.45	Mainstreaming operational efficiency in strategic planning	Operational efficiency and key land release principles, Land Release IMAS 07.11	Ms. Helen Gray, GICHD Advisor Operational Efficiency	Presentation
15.45 – 16.00	Wrap-up of day 1	Summary of the day Questions & answers	Ms. Åsa Massleberg, GICHD Advisor Strategic Management	

Day 2: Tuesday 8 November				
Time	Session	Content	Responsible	Exercises
09.00 – 09.15	Recap	Key points from Day 1	Ms Åsa Massleberg, GICHD Advisor Strategic Management	
09.15 – 09.45	Mainstreaming information management in strategic planning	Key IM principles IM and strategic planning	Ms Anne-Li Nauclér, GICHD Advisor, Information Management	
09.45 – 10.15	Mainstreaming gender and diversity in strategic planning	Presentation of key gender and diversity issues	Ms Arianna Calza-Bini, GMAP Director	
10.15 – 10.30	Coffee Break			
10.30 – 10.45	Understanding the context: introduction	Introduction to context analysis tools	Ms. Åsa Massleberg, GICHD Advisor Strategic Management	
10.45 – 12.30	Context Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholder analysis, Strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT) analysis PESTLE 	Participants work in groups using different context analysis tools	
12.30 – 13.30	Lunch			
13.30 – 15.00	Context Analysis	Group work, continued Group presentations and discussions Questions & answers Discussions	Workshop participants	
15.00 – 15.15	Coffee Break			

15.15 – 16.00	Review of the day and overview of tomorrow's programme	Feedback/questions from participants	GICHD	
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Day 3: Wednesday 9 November

Time	Session	Content	Responsible	Method
09.00 – 09.15	Recap	Key points from Day 2	GICHD	Presentation
09.15 – 09.45	BiH 2009–2019 national strategy	Key aspects of current strategy evaluation feedback: limitations and challenges	BHMAC Ms. Åsa Massleberg, GICHD Advisor Strategic Management	Presentations
09.45 – 10.00	Vision, mission, and objectives	How do vision, mission, objectives and outcomes differ?	Ms. Åsa Massleberg, GICHD Advisor Strategic Management	Presentation
10.00 – 10.30		Define and agree upon vision, mission and time-line for the national mine action strategy	Divide participants into groups, each group suggests a vision, mission and time-line	Group work
10.30 – 10.45	Coffee Break			
10.45 – 12.30	Vision, mission and time-line	Group presentations on vision, mission and time-line. Feedback and discussions. Agree on vision and mission	Each group presents a suggested vision, mission and time-line.	Group work
12.30 – 13.30	Lunch			

13.30 – 14.45	Strategy structure	Discuss and agree on proposed strategy structure.	BHMAC Ms. Åsa Massleberg, GICHD Advisor Strategic Management Workshop participants	Presentations Group discussions
14.45 – 15.15	Strategy structure	Enabling strategy monitoring and evaluation (M&E) Baselines, targets, indicators, outcomes, objectives	Ms. Åsa Massleberg, GICHD Advisor Strategic Management	Presentation
15.15 – 15.30	Coffee Break			
15.30 – 16.00	Review of the day/overview of tomorrow's programme	Participant feedback; requests and suggestions	GICHD Workshop participants	
Day 4: Thursday 10 November				
Time	Session	Content	Responsible	Method
09.00 - 09.15	Recap	Key points from Day 3	GICHD	
09.15 – 10.30	Drafting strategy sections	Participants are divided into working groups, covering each strategy section, based on their experience and expertise	For each strategy section, each working group is tasked to develop: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective • Outcomes • Targets • Indicators • Baseline 	Group work
10.30 – 10.45	Coffee Break			

10.45 – 12.30	Drafting strategy Sections	As above.	As above.	Group work
12.30 – 13.30	Lunch			
13.30 – 15.00	Group work presentations	Group work presentations Questions and answers Group discussions	Each group presents on the above, Feedback from workshop participants.	Group presentations
15.00 – 15.15	Coffee Break			
15.15 – 15.45	Monitoring and reviewing the national strategy	Key aspects of the monitoring and reviewing phases. Future and action points	BHMAC GICHD	Presentations
15.45 – 16.15	Way ahead: finalising and approving the national strategy	Agree on next steps, define roles and responsibilities.	BHMAC GICHD	Presentations

Annex II: List of participants in the workshop for strategic planning in mine action and priority setting, held November 2016.

No.	Name	Surname	Organisation	Function
1	Ilija	Mikić	Armed Forces BiH	Quality assurance officer in demining
2	Refik	Fazlić	Armed Forces BiH	Colonel, Chief of office for removal of UXO
3	Branka	Vitković	BHMAC	Senior assistant for mine awareness
4	Esher	Sadagić	BHMAC	Senior assistance for mine victim assistance
5	Goran	Ždrale	BHMAC	Senior assistant for analysis and reporting
6	Ivana	Radonjić	BHMAC	Assistant, translator
7	Muvedeta	Tuno	BHMAC	Senior technical assistant for projects
8	Ranko	Banjac	BHMAC	Chief of Quality Control
9	Tarik	Šerak	BHMAC	Chief of the Department for MA Management
10	Viktor	Filipović	BHMAC	Assistant chief
11	Zdravko	Jonjić	BHMAC	Assistant Director for operations
12	Željko	Đogo	BHMAC	Senior technical assistant for analysis and reporting
13	Tatjana	Bojinović	BHMAC Banja Luka	Chief of office for Quality Assurance
14	Nebojša	Stjepanović	Civil Protection Brčko District	Chief of the unit for demining and EOD
15	Blažen	Kovač	Demining Commission in BiH	Member
16	Sead	Muratović	Eco-Sport Group Sarajevo	President
17	Melchior	Opielewicz	EUFOR	Chief of Department for Mine Action
18	Željko	Kalinić	EUFOR	Chief of ground operations

19	Enes	Dolić	Federal Administration of Civil Protection	Chief of demining sector, chief of demining operations in FBiH
20	Murat	Baručija	Federal Administration of Civil Protection	Chief of the organisational unit for demining and destruction of UXO
21	Mustafa	Kadribegović	Federal Administration of Civil Protection	Technical assistant for planning and the conduct of operations
22	Saša	Sarić	Genesis	Coordinator of mine awareness project
23	Zorica	Lučić	ICRC	Responsible for liaising with RCSBiH - ICRC
24	Gregor	Sančanin	ITF	Chief of Implementation Office for BiH
25	Marija	Trlin	Mine Detection Dogs Centre BiH (MDDC)	Officer for public relations/project management
26	Milenko	Tomić	Ministry of Defence BiH	Senior technical assistant for civilian and military cooperation
27	Darvin	Lisica	NPA	Regional Director for South-East Europe
28	Svjetlana	Pavlović	Posavina bez mina	Director
29	Snježana	Kovač	Red Cross Republic of Srpska	Coordinator of mine awareness programme
30	Senadin	Kumro	Red Cross Federation BiH	Coordinator of MA, SALW and DPP programmes
31	Ivana	Grujić	Red Cross Society BiH	Coordinator of the humanitarian demining issues
32	Milisav	Pantić	Republic Administration of Civilian Protection RS	Senior technical assistant for planning and reporting
33	Željko	Volaš	UDAS	President

Annex III: Tasks of the Demining Commission in BiH and BHMAL, in accordance to the Demining Law in BiH from 2002

Basic tasks of the Demining Commission in BiH, according to the Demining Law in BiH, encompass the following:

1. Presentation of Bosnia and Herzegovina at conferences related to mine action,
2. Approval of standards and proposing candidates for leading functions in BHMAL,
3. Approval of internal regulations for the work of BHMAL,
4. Improvement of cooperation between FBiH and RS,
5. Submission of regular reports to the Council of Ministers BiH,
6. Regular reporting to the Board of Donors about the mine action programme.

BHMAL conducts following tasks, in accordance to Demining Law in BiH:

1. To maintain and run the central minefield database and capacities for mapping,
2. To suggest technical and safety standards as well as quality assurance standards of the completed demining operations, and to suggest certificates for the approval to the Commission,
3. To review qualifications evidence of international and national organisations during their accreditation,
4. To propose training standards for the approval of the Commission, and the follow-up and report on their conduct,
5. To prepare propositions for tasks on demining of the areas on Inter-Entity Confrontation Line, for the approval of the Commission,
6. To prepare work plans and budgets for its activities, as well as reports and calculations, for the approval of the Demining Commission in BiH and forward to the Board of Donors.

Annex IV: Key risks for the programme (as identified by the participants of the workshop for strategic planning, held in Sarajevo, November 2016)

- Diminished donor interest,
- Limited financial means,
- Previous problems in BHMAC management and negative publicity,
- Absence of quality information management process,
- Diminished operational effectiveness
- Limited conduct of Land Release process

Annex V: Expected contribution of mine actions in achievement of the sustainable development goals⁵⁶



⁵⁶ GICHD-UNDP, *Leaving no one behind: Mine Action and the Sustainable Development Goals*, February 2017.

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



- Land release promotes safe and equitable access to drinking water and sanitation previously denied to communities.

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



- Land release permits development of power infrastructure, making energy services accessible for previously affected communities.

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



- Land release enables safe access to natural resources, promoting economic growth and sustainable tourism.
- Mine action provides decent work and transversal skills for affected communities, including youth.

9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



- The removal of explosive hazards fosters industrialisation and the development of sustainable and resilient infrastructure.
- Mine-free roads provide access to transportation systems, integrating enterprises into value chains and markets.

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



- Handing over released land to beneficiaries, particularly the poor, generates income growth, reducing inequalities and promoting inclusion of all, particularly survivors.
- Through international cooperation, mine action donors support countries where need is greatest, addressing inequalities between countries.

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



- Re-establishing safe access to housing and basic services for all, mine action contributes to the reconstruction of safe and inclusive cities and human settlements.
- Environmentally-sensitive mine clearance contributes to the protection and safeguarding of cultural and natural heritage.

12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



- Safe access to previously denied natural resources enables their sustainable and efficient management and use.

Annex VI: BHMAC responsibilities regarding the Mine Awareness measures (taken from the Mine Awareness Standard in BiH)

Chapter II

RESPONSIBILITIES AND COMPETENCES

BHMAC has following responsibilities and competences:

1. To conduct accreditations of organisations, and certification of their operations, in accordance with the Guideline for accreditation of MA organisations,
2. To manage, coordinate and monitor collection of information and assessment of needs in accordance with the Standard, and to ensure transparency of needs for MA,
3. To establish database of information collected within the assessment of needs for MA, information on conducted control over the MA activities and information obtained through coordination, as a part of the BHMAC database for mine action. Additionally, it ensures the availability of information to all stakeholders,
4. To exchange gathered information with relevant organisations from other sectors (health, educations, transport, informing etc.),
5. To ensure stakeholders the access to the evaluation reports,
6. To ensure that national needs assessment for MA needs contains information on planned activities and strategies of other organisations,
7. To create a tutorial/guideline for conducting a needs assessment,
8. To distribute the result of the assessment to other relevant organisations,
9. To prepare a national plan for MA as a part of the national plan for mine action,
10. To coordinate with MA and other organisations included in mine actions in the preparation of the national plan, to avoid duplication of activities and unnecessary expenditures,
11. To ensure information and resources to assist planning;
12. To coordinate with organisations from other sectors (e.g. education, informing etc.) in planning the mine action, including MA,
13. To approve plans of organisations within the continuous process of certification of MA operations,
14. To ensure the implementation of MA projects in accordance with needs and priorities set in the phase of assessment and planning,
15. To establish operational mechanism of control over the implementation of MA activities on the state level,
16. To conduct monitoring over the access to affected communities and target groups.

17. To provide technical and advisory assistance to MA organisations, as well as support to the implementation of MA projects, by engaging internal and external resources (technical assistance, professional assistance, media personnel etc.),
18. To assist in coordination between MA organisations and other government agencies and sectors,
19. To ensure collection and analysis of information obtain through control prior to the evaluation process,
20. To oversee the changes within the national context of mine action, and to enable exchange of resulting information,
21. To track changes in general operational environment through collection, analysis and dissemination of information obtained through monitoring of MA and other activities (e.g. mine victim assistance),
22. To encourage MA organisation to conduct the evaluations of their own MA projects,
23. To conduct evaluation of the national MA programme and activities as a part of national mine action plan,
24. To encourage information exchange between MA organisations and other relevant stakeholders, and to gather and disseminate evaluation results as 'lessons learned',
25. To ensure planning and taking actions according to findings and results of evaluation.

Financial Plan for Implementation
of Bosnia and Herzegovina
Mine Action Strategy
2018-2025

Implementation of Mine Action Strategy 2009-2019 over the past nine years of its implementation, characterizes the amount of funds collected and spent at 50% of the planned level. Collecting and spending funds by the donors remained at about the same level throughout the whole period, which proved to be very good because there was no increase in the amount of collection, allocation and spending of resources from local sources. Table 1 shows the amount of collected and spent funds per year of implementation of the Strategy.

Year of implementation	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	TOTAL
BiH sources (mil. KM)	26.59	30.78	20.12	16.88	16.73	21.48	19.51	18.97	171.06
Donors (mil. KM)	29.47	27.05	20.53	16.63	18.77	20.49	15.63	14.76	163.33
Total funds provided (mil. KM)	56.06	57.83	40.65	33.51	35.50	41.97	35.14	33.73	334.39

Table 1. Financial review of mine action 2009-2016

In 2017, a total of 32 million KM was spent. The average amount of 40.71 million KM per year tells us that this is the volume of funds that can be expected in the next eight years, as foreseen in the new Mine Action Strategy for the period 2018-2025. Through the realization of the new Strategy, Bosnia and Herzegovina will meet the requirements of the Ottawa Convention.

Over the past nine years of Mine Action Strategy 2009-2019 implementation, similar to the financial one, it is also characterized implementation of the Operational Plan with the difference that in the last three years there has been a fall in operations of land release to the final beneficiaries (Land Release). This proves that not just financial funds and their inadequate amount of collection is the only reason for insufficient implementation of mine action activities, but the fall of the efficiency of non-technical and technical methods.

	2009- beginning	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018 - beginning	TOTAL
Suspected area SHA /km ² /	1.555	494 km²								1.061	
Clearance km ²	1.94	2.35	3.13	1.3	1.89	1.85	1.64	1.33	0.83		16.26
Technical survey km ²	10.8	9.39	9.56	7.46	9.17	10.12	8.39	10.39	8.33		83.61
TOTAL km ²	12.74	11.74	12.69	8.76	11.06	11.97	10.03	11.72	9.16		99.87

Table 2. Operational review of mine action 2009-2017

Table 2 shows the implementation of operational plans for the last nine years. Total of released land is 494 km², total of canceled land (NTS) is 394.13 km². Total of technical methods (clearance + technical survey) is 99.87 km² and the ratio of NTS - TS method is 80% - 20%.

The Demining Commission in BiH and the BiH Mine Action Center in cooperation with the Delegation of the European Union to Bosnia and Herzegovina launched the Land release IPA 2011 project in order to try to find a more efficient and more effective way of using operational and financial resources as well as harmonizing national standards with International Standards for Humanitarian Demining (IMAS). The project was implemented from 2012 to 2015. Five pilot projects were implemented in different geographical, climatic and mined areas in Bosnia and Herzegovina. After the pilot projects that showed good results, we continued with the implementation of the new methodology. So far, 11 MSPs have completed with the total area of 42.8 km². There are 10 MSPs on going and totaling 42 km². The results of finished MSPs are presented in Table 3 and they indicate that the new

<i>Mine suspected area MSP</i>	<i>SHA / m2/</i>	<i>Cancelled /m2/</i>	<i>Number of found and destroyed mines</i>	<i>Cleared /m2/</i>	<i>Reduced /m2/</i>	<i>Physically treated /investigation paths m2/</i>	<i>Land released /m2/</i>	<i>Number of mines /ha</i>
Podvelež	5,990,000	5,675,011	23	8,660	190,631	44,876	5,990,000	27
Kupres	9,410,000	9,294,082	18	32,992	206,770	17,018	9,410,000	5
Avramovina	1,310,000	852,235	32	20,002	297,845	30,063	1,310,000	16
Tursanovo Brdo	1,550,000	1,243,770	46	12,894	274,629	40,765	1,550,000	36
Vlasic 1	2,500,000	2,000,738	258	23,881	211,267	24,768	2,500,000	108
Brezicani	3,380,000	2,726,101	36	3,173	651,187	72,234	3,380,000	113
Lukavica	6,770,000	2,291,617	40	9,366	305,056	53,133	6,770,000	43
Praca	2,141,221	1,746,520	132	26,959	381,791	53,638	2,141,221	49
Velika Dreznica - Suicka poljana	3,900,000	3,524,686	380	45,393	515,149	121,776	3,900,000	84
Mitrici	2,039,000	1,730,631	66	40,814	322,262	50,476	2,039,000	16
Josanica - Turija	3,798,741	3,552,931	113	18,301	229,565	61,238	3,798,741	62
TOTAL	42,788,962	34,638,322	1144	242,432	3,586,153	569,985	42,788,962	47

Table 3. Review of finished MSPs

methodology is more efficient considering that the ratio of non-technical and technical methods is 91% to 9%, as the number of found mines per hectare which now averages in 47. On the basis of these assumptions and the fact that in the new Mine Action Strategy 2018-2025 this new methodology will be the basis for the implementation of the strategic objective 3, the projection of the necessary financial resources has been made to fulfill it. The years of 2016, 2017 and 2018 are transitional years for introducing new methodology and they are characterized by implementation of the operations in these two ways, the old 'traditional' and 'new'.

In March 2019 expires the deadline for the second extension of the Ottawa Convention that Bosnia and Herzegovina received in 2008. The Demining Commission in BiH has decided in 2017 to start drafting the Request for the extension of Bosnia and Herzegovina's timeframe under the Ottawa Convention, provisionally for two years over 2019-2021. For these purposes, the operational and financial plan for 2019 and 2020 were made (Table 4 and Table 5)

LAND RELEASE		2019	2020	TOTAL (square meters)
ACTIVITY	IMPLEMENTER			
Cancelled area-non-technical survey	BHMAC	82.000.000	97.000.000	179.000.000
Cancelled area-non-technical survey	BHMAC,AFBH,NPA	30.000.000		30.000.000
Reduced area-tehnical survey	Accredited organizations	13.000.000	13.000.000	26.000.000
Cleared area-mine clearance	Accredited organizations	1.000.000	1.000.000	8.400.000
TOTAL		126.000.000	111.000.000	237.000.000
NON TEHNICAL SURVEY AND MARKING SHA (square meters)/No.signs		2019	2020	TOTAL (square meters)/ No.signs
ACTIVITY	IMPLEMENTER			
Survey SHA	BHMAC	131.600.000	131.600.000	263.200.000
Urgent marking	BHMAC	9.000	9.000	18.000

Table 4. Operational plan for two years Extension request 2019-2020

LAND RELEASE		2019	2020	TOTAL (million BAM)
ACTIVITY	IMPLEMENTER			
Cancelled area-non-tehcnical survey	BHMAC	2.950.000	2.950.000	5.900.000
Cancelled area-non-tehcnical survey	BHMAC,AFBH,NPA	1.760.000		1.760.000
Reduced area-tehcnical survey	Accredited organizations	28.600.000	28.600.000	57.200.000
Cleared area-mine clearance	Accredited organizations	4.200.000	4.200.000	8.400.000
TOTAL		37.510.000	37.750.000	73.260.000
NON TEHNCIAL SURVEY AND MARKING SHA (million BAM)		2019	2020	TOTAL (million BAM)
ACTIVITY	IMPLEMENTER			
Processed SHA-non tehcnical survey	BHMAC	2.950.000	2.950.000	5.900.000
Urgent marking	BHMAC	50.000	50.000	100.000
TOTAL		3.000.000	3.000.000	6.000.000
GRAND TOTAL		40.510.000	38.750.000	79.260.000

Table 5. Financial plan for two year Extension request 2019-2020

After this temporary Extension request, Bosnia and Herzegovina will submit a Request for a Final Extension which would define the deadline for the mine problem to be resolved. According to operational and financial indicators, this could be 2025, as anticipated by the new Mine Action Strategy 2018-2025. Since 2020, full implementation of the new land release methodology is expected, so it is expected that the share of technical methods will be further reduced compared to non-technical to the level of 7-8%.

Based on all of the foregoing, it has been created the financial plan which envisages a budget of around 336.2 million KM (Table 6) for the implementation of the new Mine Action Strategy 2018-2025.

At the beginning of the year	SHA /km ² /	SHA reduction SOPO /km ² /	Period 2021-2025 cca 8% for technical methods /km ² /	Average price for technical method /KM/	MRE/LMVA /mil.KM/	Funds required /mil.KM/	BHMAC funds /mil.KM/	TOTAL /mil.KM/
2018	1061	112		4.2/2.2	3	35.5	5.9	41.4
2019	949	126		4.2/2.2	3	34.61	5.9	40.51
2020	823	111	11.392	4.2/2.2	3	32.85	5.9	38.75
2021	712	142.4	11.392	3.0	3	37.2	5.9	43.1
2022	569.6	142.4	11.392	3.0	3	37.2	5.9	43.1
2023	427.2	142.4	11.392	3.0	3	37.2	5.9	43.1
2024	284.8	142.4	11.392	3.0	3	37.2	5.9	43.1
2025	142.4	142.4	11.392	3.0	3	37.2	5.9	43.1
TOTAL						289.0	47.2	336.2

Table 6. Status of SHA at the beginning of 2018 and assumptions for reduction by 2025
with a financial plan for realization



D R A F T
DEMINING PLAN IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA
FOR 2020

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1. GENERAL ASSESSMENT OF MINE SUSPECT AREAS

General assessment of mine suspect areas in BiH is a process of data collection, processing and analysis, in order to improve efficiency of mine action in Bosnia and Herzegovina through improved general assessment of mine/ERW/cluster munition threat and its influence in mine affected communities.

1.1. Social and economic impact

Based on the preliminary results of “General Assessment of Mine Suspect Areas in Bosnia and Herzegovina” in 2020, 1,413 mine affected communities were identified.

- 981 low affected communities with 338.872 residents or 9.31% out of the total number of residents in BiH
- 193 medium affected communities with 82.775 residents or 2.27% out of the total number of residents in BiH
- 239 highly affected communities with 403.406 residents or 11.09% out of total number of residents in BiH

Locations contaminated with mine/ERW/cluster munition affect the safety of 825.053 residents or 22.68 % out of total number of residents in BiH. Out of that number, 120.760 residents or approximately 3.32% are directly affected.

1.2. The nature of minefields and the size of suspect area

In Mine Action Centre Bosnia and Herzegovina database, there are 15.210 minefield records in operational use. Minefields in Bosnia and Herzegovina are characterized by relatively small number of mines. They are often placed both in groups and as individual mines of unknown layout. The problem is presented in the quality of minefield records, according to which the exact location, shape and mine layout on the ground often cannot be determined. Through the comparison of results from systematic survey and mine impact, conditions are created for detailed and accurate classification of suspect area in relation to the category of priority and classification of mine affected communities. The size of the suspect hazardous area¹ and its reduction is followed through

¹Suspect hazardous area relates to the area where there is reasonable doubt for contamination, based on indirect evidence of mine existence.

systematic survey². According to assessments conducted in January 2020, suspect hazardous area in Bosnia and Herzegovina is 965,26 km² which represents 1,88% in relation to the total area of BiH.

Administrative level	Total suspect area	Mine suspect area (category priority/km2)			Cluster munition suspect area (km ²)
		I kategorija	II kategorija	III kategorija	
UNSKO SANSKI CANTON	96.26	40.47	37.51	17.91	0.07
POSAVSKI CANTON	15.53	3.95	9.71	1.86	0.00
TUZLANSKI CANTON	80.16	16.31	18.57	45.28	0.41
ZENICKO-DOBOJSKI CANTON	112.69	25.51	13.08	74.09	0.41
BOSANSKO-PODRINJSKI CANTON	46.82	5.01	8.79	33.02	0.00
SREDNJEBOŠANSKI CANTON	113.10	24.82	39.49	48.79	0.48
HERCEGOVACKO-NERETVANSKI CANTON	149.87	11.62	25.90	112.34	0.04
ZAPADNOHERCEGOVACKI CANTON	0.82	0.00	0.00	0.82	0.00
SARAJEVSKI CANTON	58.04	10.71	12.74	34.95	0.22
CANTON 10	79.27	10.48	12.82	55.97	0.18
FEDERATION BiH	752.56	148.89	178.62	425.05	1.82
BRCKO DISTRIKT	13.11	0.95	9.45	2.72	0.00
REPUBLIC OF SRPSKA	199.59	62.32	71.35	65.91	0.49
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA	965.26	212.16	259.42	493.68	2.31

Table 1: The size of the suspect area January 2020

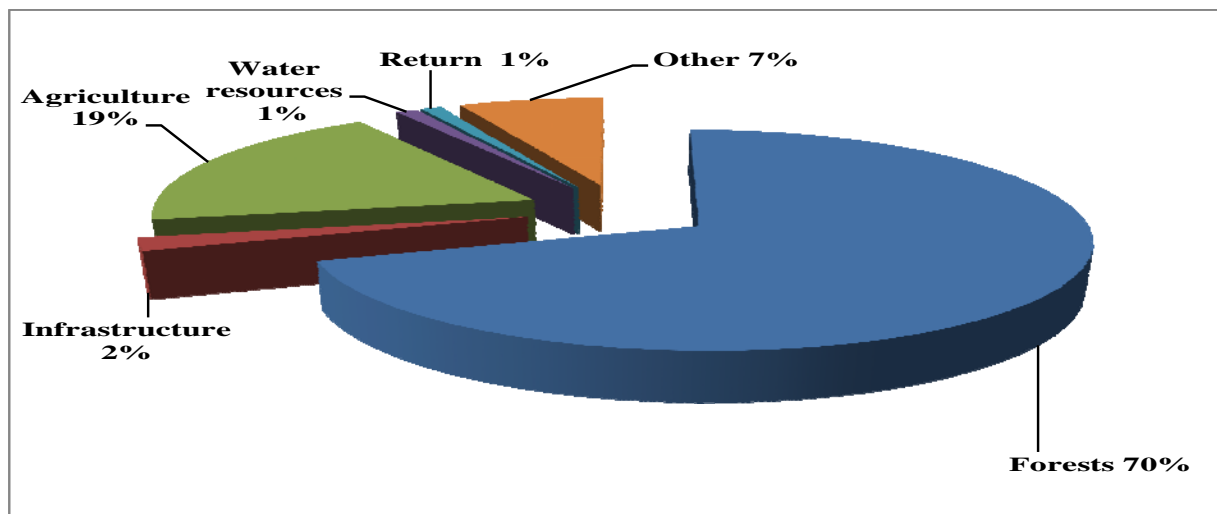


Chart 1: Suspect area as per intentional use

² Sistematic survey is an analytic procedure used to conduct the assessment of the suspect area that has been caught in combat activities of warring fractions. Systematic survey represents a part of general assessment of mine action in BiH, and at the same time it presents a tool for measuring the suspect area in BiH.

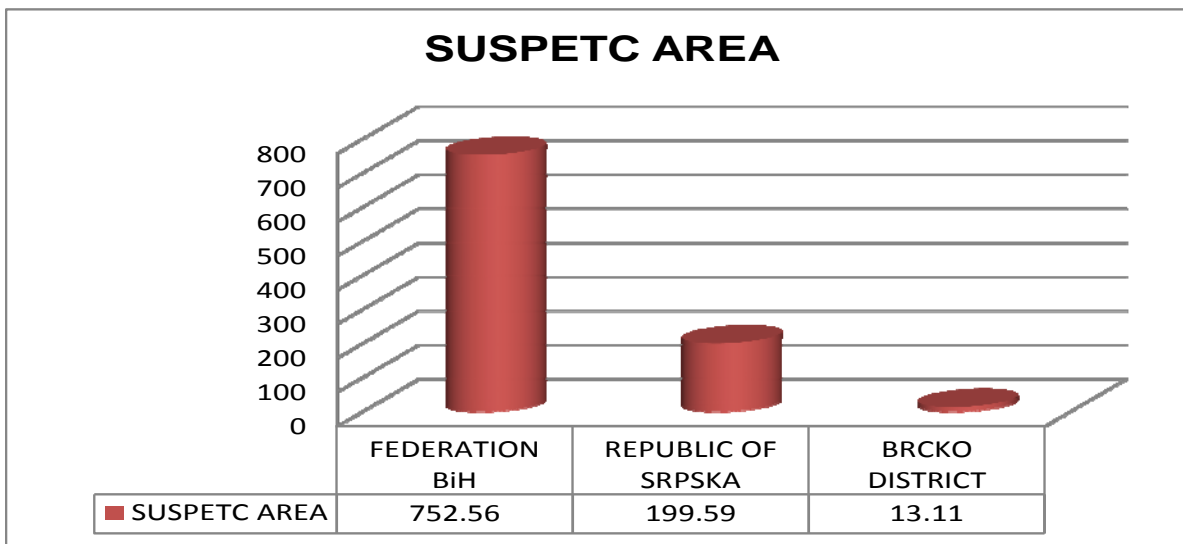


Chart 2: Suspect hazardous area, January 2020

1.3. Mine victims

In 2019, 2 demining accidents were registered in BiH, with 2 deminers killed and 2 deminers injured. In the demining accident that occurred June 25 2019, location Nekopi near Goražde (organization “MAG”) 2 deminers were injured. In the demining accident that occurred on August 25th 2019, location Donji Mušići, Kupres (Association “Pazi Mine”), 2 deminers were killed and two of them were injured.

Since 1992, there were 8.386 mine/ERW/cluster munition victims in BiH. During the war period (1992 – 1995) there were 6.354 mine victims, while there were 1766 mine victims after the war, out of them 617 fatalities and 802 injured. For 347 persons, it is not known the exact year of their accident. Out of the total victims’ number, 232 persons were victims of cluster munition, out of which there were 43 fatalities. Out of total number of victims in afterwar period, 185 victims were female or 10%, 250 victims were children or 14%. During humanitarian demining operations in BiH, there were 133 deminers victims, out of which 53 of them fatalities.

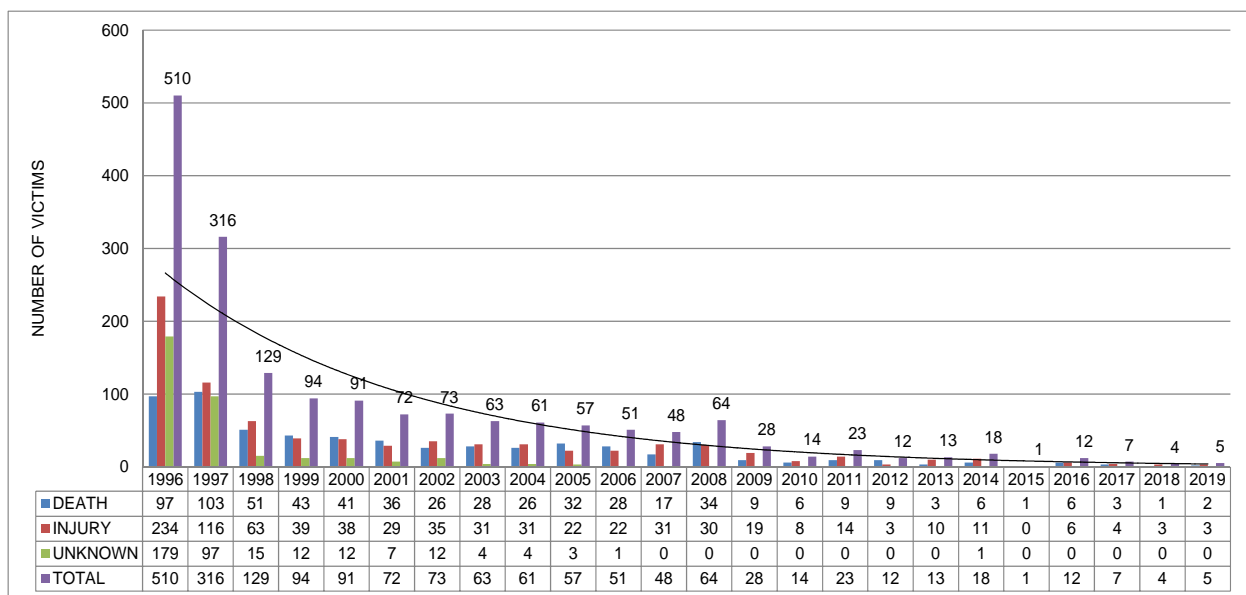


Chart 3: Mine/ERW/cluster munition victims from 1996 to 2019

2. REALIZATION OF STRATEGIC AND OPERATIONAL GOALS

2.1. Concept

Land release is the basic concept in resolving the mine issue. This concept is promoted in international standards for mine action – IMAS. Bosnia and Herzegovina committed to the application of this concept in resolving the mine issue. In the period from 2013 to 2016, Mine Action Centre in Bosnia and Herzegovina conducted the project “Land Release IPA 2011”, with a focus to define a new method in approaching mine suspect and risk area through targeted and systematic searches. This concept has been integrated in mine action in 2016 and consists an integral part of operational plans on all levels in Mine Action Centre BiH.

At its 175. Session held August 5th 2019, the Council of Ministers BiH took a decision to adopt the Mine Action Strategy for the period 2018 – 2025. With the adoption of the Strategy, the Land Release concept has been adopted as a norm for the implementation of strategic goal 3. (The size and the impact of contamination problem caused by mines/ERW/cluster munition has been defined and confirmed; the issue is being resolved in accordance with mine action standards in BiH, where land release of safe areas is ensured for return to contaminated communities for use). Using this approach, technical survey and clearance is conducted more efficiently. In comparison with previous approaches, the significant difference in this approach is setting focus onto nontechnical survey methods.

As per this approach, the focus in resolving the mine issue is shifted onto nontechnical survey process (NTS) which is used for collecting and analysis of all information about mines, and without the use of technical methods. Technical survey (TS) is used for checkup and confirmation of information collected through nontechnical survey (NTS), as well as for precise definition of mined areas borders. Clearance removes mines/ERW/cluster munition from areas that are defined through NTS and TS processes.

Mine action in Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2020 will continue to focus onto affected communities and their needs. Risk reduction from mines and their social and economic impact will be resolved through integrated approach to mine action at all levels of affected communities, and through the new concept, by forming the mine suspect areas (MSA), and with the aim to eliminate risk or reduce it to acceptable level, in order to create conditions for use of certain resources, to enable reconstruction and sustainable return. Priority setting is also adapting to this method of problem solving. The balance of Demining plan for 2020 and the set concept will be ensured through the coordinated work of government demining organizations as well as non-government organizations-

3. HUMANITARIAN DEMINING OPERATIONS

3.1. Nontechnical survey³

Humanitarian demining operations encompass: nontechnical survey, technical survey, mine clearance, marking, preparation of maps and creating projects.

In 2020, nontechnical survey will be a routine activity of Mine Action Centre BiH, and within its frame the mine situation will be constantly assessed. This mine situation assessment will be conducted through visits to suspect areas and more precise identification of the risk level. Terrain activities of systematic survey (nontechnical survey) will be coordinated with collection and processing of the data on the ground, which will be conducted as a part of nontechnical survey, and in order to control it prior to public tenders for demining jobs, i.e. for opening of humanitarian demining operations tasks. Also, more precise and smaller suspect areas through nontechnical survey will be conducted as a result of assessment of certain areas outside nontechnical survey in smaller

³ Nontechnical survey is an activity for collecting and analysing information on presence, type and layout of mines without the use of technical methods. Although nontechnical survey use no technical methods, there is a close connection between technical and nontechnical survey. Nontechnical survey (NS) defines areas that will be technically surveyed. In nontechnical survey, all information collected through technical survey are analysed and decisions are made about further activities. Systematic survey is shaped into mine suspect areas (MSA) and it is a subject of nontechnical survey.

scale (reduced area), during resurvey, along with the assessment that follows nontechnical survey in this new land release concept.

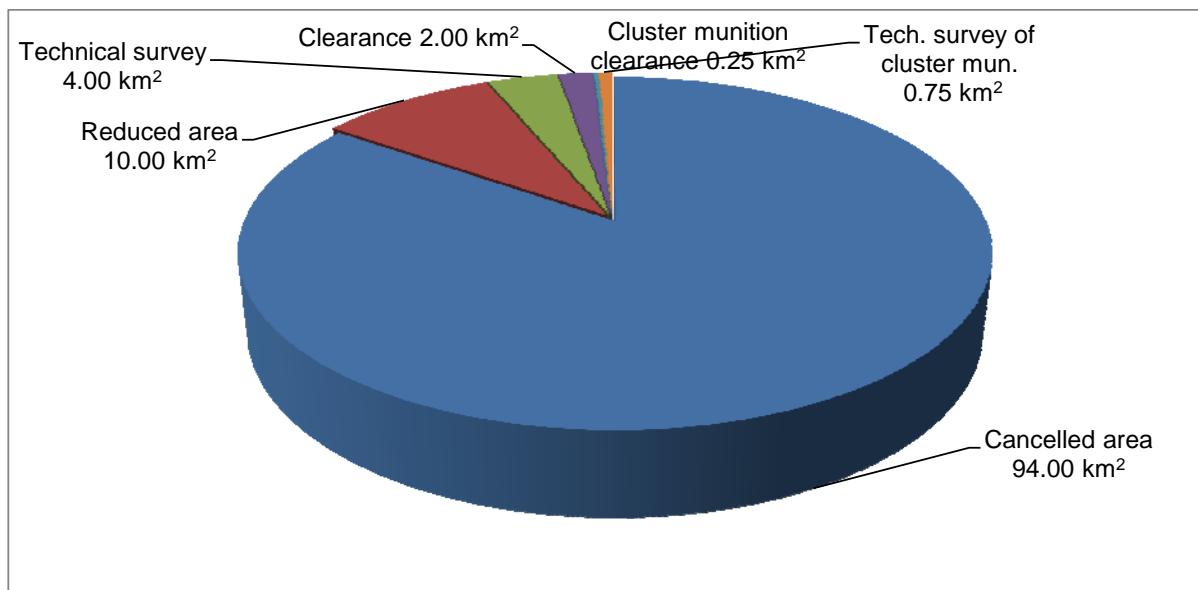


Chart 4: Planned structure of reduced area in 2020

Cabcelled area	94.00	Nontechnical methods
Reduced area	10.00	
Technical survey	4.00	Technical methods metode
Clearance	2.00	
Cluster munition clearabce	0.25	
Technical survey of cluster munition	0.75	
Total	111.00	

Table 2: Suspect hazardous area reduction in 2020

Nontechnical survey of the minefield areas will remain the basic activity for Mine Action Centre BiH in 2020. As such, NTS produces a detailed assessment of risk, analysis of available data, collecting and processing information from the ground, performing necessary measurements and defining the borders of the risk areas, reduction of suspect area, assessment of social and economic impact of mines, and potential use of demining operations. Based on nontechnical survey results, project documentation is created for other humanitarian demining operations (targeted investigations, technical survey, mine clearance, permanent marking), preparation of priority suggestions and the operational plan.

Full attention will be paid to the priority list, and in relation to that, following instructions should be followed:

- For the priority list in 2020 in BiH, it is necessary to prepare projects of 110 km² area, 60 km² for Federation, 36 km² in Republic of Srpska and 14 km² for District Brčko.
- The priority list will include: all projects with identified minefield records or confirmed information exists on mining, but they are not within MSAs.
- Projects that are obstacle to sustainable return (water supply, roads etc.) or projects located up to 500 m from inhabited objects; this also applies to projects which are not within MSAs.
- During the selection of projects, it is necessary for every affected community to define the sequence of work priority for each and every project, in accordance with the level of threat and the level of usability.
- The priority list will also contain all MSAs prepared so far but not yet realized.

3.2. Technical survey and mine clearance

Technical survey and mine clearance operations will be conducted by accredited demining organizations, based on Demining plan in BiH for 2020. The distribution of areas for humanitarian demining operation has been carried out according to administrative regions in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and adjusted to the size of their suspect area and planned levels of humanitarian demining operations per affected communities.

Technical survey and clearance will be conducted via two methods:

1. Through targeted⁴ and systematic investigations⁵ within Land Release concept.
2. As individual projects or groups of projects used to eliminate high risk locations, or enable the use of certain natural and economic resources.

All locations scheduled for humanitarian demining operations were processed through nontechnical survey projects, with detailed information on location, suggested humanitarian demining methods, as well as deadlines set by the dynamic plan.

⁴ Targeted investigation is the activity of finding indications of mines based on location-defined evidence on mine existence in suspect hazardous area and confirmed hazardous area, using technical methods

⁵ Systematic investigation is the activity of finding indications of mines based on evidence on mine existence which are not location-defined in suspect hazardous area and confirmed hazardous area, using technical methods.

3.3. Marking of the suspect hazardous area

Marking of the suspect hazardous area in 2020 is presented by permanent and emergency marking, as measures of risk reduction. Marking of the suspect hazardous area is conducted by municipalities, mine action organizations and other organizations, in accordance with prescribed Standing Operational Procedures. Emergency marking is an integral part of humanitarian demining operations and a part of mine risk education. In 2020, the plan is to conduct emergency marking operations with 18,910 mine warning signs. Emergency marking will be conducted through general survey operations – nontechnical survey conducted by Mine Action Centre BiH survey teams, Armed Forces BH, as well as through the realization of projects by accredited demining organizations and mine risk education organizations, where residents will be educated and informed about the mine threat in their area.

Permanent marking of the suspect hazardous area is a part of humanitarian demining operations that is conducted as a follow-up activity with clearance and technical survey, and as individual activity within mine risk education, in order to reduce risk in suspect areas of second and third category priority. It is planned in 2020 to conduct permanent marking operations with 1.500 signs, with focus on second category priority.

EMERGENCY MARKING (NUMBER OF SIGNS)							
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA		FEDERATION OF BIH		REPUBLIC OF SRPSKA		BRCKO DISTRICT	
Survey teams of BHMIC and AFBH	18,910	14,270	75,46%	4,095	21,65%	1,210	6,39%
PERMANENT MARKING (NUMBER OF SIGNS)							
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA		FEDERATION OF BIH		REPUBLIC OF SRPSKA		BRCKO DISTRICT	
TOTAL	1500	975	65%	450	30%	75	5%

Table 3: Schedule for emergency and permanent marking in administrative Units and BHMIC Regional Offices in 2020

4. MINE RISK EDUCATION

During 2020, mine risk education will be realized through public dissemination, education of affected and other groups of people, as well as through liaising of mine action and affected communities. Tasks to be realized through mine risk education in 2020 arise from strategic and operational goals set by the Strategy for Mine Risk Education 2018 – 2025.

The focus of mine risk education organizations, community service organizations and citizens associations who are involved in mine risk education will conduct priority activities in communities

with large suspect area and most affected targeted groups of people. Specific stress will be given to raising mine awareness in large groups of immigrants in transit through Bosnia and Herzegovina, since their specific manner of movement makes them especially susceptible to mine threat. Apart from Mine Action Centre BiH survey teams, it will be necessary to engage accredited demining organizations and mine risk education organizations. Activities will be coordinated through the existing coordinating system, i.e. technical working groups, in order to enable information exchange, assessments of needs and avoidance in overlapping activities. The focus of mine risk education is also on liaising with community through the new concept of resolving mine situation in BiH.

The knowledge for planning and better management of the program will be gained through specialized training of organizations and individuals for the realization of the program and mine risk education projects through courses, seminars and symposiums, and through the development of new educational material. Due to the need for more mine risk education inspectors in 2020, two courses were planned for said inspectors with 50 attendees from different organizations dealing with mine risk education. The main goal of quality assurance in mine risk education in 2020 will be permanent follow-up of quality assurance systems in organizations that conduct mine risk education. The goal also implies grading of their work's quality. Specific attention will be paid to Mine Action Centre BiH internal control, in order to improve the quality of creation of individual projects, Land Release projects as well as mine risk education projects, with the aim of integrating them into a unique process.

Priority in public dissemination in 2020 will be conveyed by local media, aimed at problems of population in affected communities, and able to significantly contribute to risk reduction.

5. MINE VICTIMS ASSISTANCE

The Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina, at their 143. Session held 23rd May 2018, passed a decision on founding of the Mine Victims Assistance Coordination Body for Bosnia and Herzegovina, for assisting mine/ERW/cluster munition victims. It is formed as a standing technical and advisory body under the Ministry of Civil Affairs in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Among the tasks of the Coordination body is the coordination with all organizations and institutions involved in mine victims assistance. The Coordination group gathers all active participants in the field of mine victims assistance. Through fulfilment of this aim, it is expected that mine victims in BiH will finally be recognized in all social structures of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

By forming the coordination flow, the information about mine victims will be better and easily available. In accordance with that, it will be easier to transparently distribute help to the ones

in need. It is to be expected that the extent of donor funds, and funds from the government sector, will be decreased. It is also to be expected a better final effect in targeted groups of mine victims. By establishing the mechanism for exchange of information about mine victims, existing information will be supplemented, creating a complete picture of mine victims situation in BiH as well as the impact of mine victims assistance program.

In 2020, there will be efforts through various programs to improve psychological and social assistance to mine victims; efforts will also be made to economically empower mine victims and their families. Furthermore, efforts will be made to widen and guarantee medical rehabilitation, as well as quality orthopedic aids. Long term financial support to mine victims programs and projects will present a great challenge, and great significance will be given to increased mine victims involvement into the process of decision making both internationally and nationally.

Mine Victims Assistance Activity Plan for 2020													
Serial	Activity	Month											
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	Coordination working group for MVA works at full capacity after its appointment												
2	Participation is planned at several seminars dealing with MVA projects												
3	The plan is to urgently develop rules of procedure for the group, and the forming of working bodies for specific areas in MVA process												
4	Development of quarterly reports on mine victims												
5	Collection of data for reporting in accordance with Chapter 7 ICBL of Mine Ban Convention												
6	Collection of data for reporting in accordance with IPAP - NATO Bruxelles												
7	Report on implementation - for mine victims (Ottawa Convention)												
8	Preparation of cluster munition report												
9	Reporting as per Article H of cluster munition victims assistance												
10	Reports and data analysis on mine victims for third persons												
11	Implementation of the activities from the operational plan												
12	Creation of activity report for 2020i												
13	Streamlining and publishing of the operational plan for 2020												
14	Analysis of data from the local community and storing the daid data into the mine victims database												
15	Collection of data for the creation of plan for 2020												
16	Creation of the work plan for 2020												
17	Entry of new incidents into the BHM MAC database												
18	entry of new victims into the BHM MAC database												
19	Updating of existing information on incidents and mine victims												
20	Following legislation and collecting dana on existing and new laws and provisionsodredbama												
21	Preparation of mine victims dana for the needs of BHM MAC website												
22	Maintenance of the mine victims information system												
23	BHM MAC activities necessary for the realization of EU projects for mine victims assistance												

Table 4: Mine Victims Action Plan 2020

6. REVIEW OF AVAILABLE RESOURCES FOR HUMANITARIAN DEMINING

Rb	ORGANIZATION	MACHINES	NO OF EDDs PREGA	DETECTORS
1	"Minemon" d.o.o. Pale	0	0	10
2	"Trotil" d.o.o. Sarajevo	0	0	7
3	"POINT" d.o.o.	1	2	26
4	DETEKTOR	1	2	29
5	CHR	0	2	23
6	EKSPLORING	0	0	5
7	N&N IVSA	2	3	58
8	UEM d.o.o.	1	2	30
9	IN DEMINING	1	2	35
10	Centar za obuku pasa za otkrivanje mina	0	2	21
11	NGO POSAVINA BEZ MINA Brčko DC BiH	0	0	0
12	NGO PRO VITA	1	0	19
13	NGO STOP MINES	2	4	116
14	NORWEGIAN PEOPLES AID (NPA)	5	13	191
15	UDRUŽENJE ZA ELIMINACIJU MINA UEM	1	2	27
16	UG DEMIRA	1	2	42
17	UG EKO DEM	1	0	22
18	Udruga "Pazi mine" Vitez	1	0	35
19	MAG	0	2	52
20	Udruženje za obuku pasa "Trening Tim"	0	0	0
21	Federal Civilian Protection	5	4	109
22	Brčko District Civilian Protection	0	0	7
23	Red Cross Society BiH	0	0	0
24	Armed Forces BH	5	22	257
25	Republic of Srpska Civilian Protection	5	4	45
TOTAL		33	68	1166

Table 5: Review of accredited organizations with available material and technical resources

Currently there are 25 accredited organizations for mine action, out of them 8 commercial companies, 12 non-government and 5 government organizations for mine action (Armed Forces BH, Federal Department of Civilian Protection, Republic Administration of Civil Protection of the Republic of Srpska, Brčko District Civilian Protection and Red Cross Society BiH). In accredited organizations, there are currently approximately 1.200 engaged persons who possess accreditation for deminer activities, as well as their working licenses. This number included 850 trained deminers and 350 persons authorized for the conduct of managerial and supervisory tasks (team leaders, site leaders, operations officers, quality assurance officers, EDD trainers, dog handlers, operators etc.). Technical capacities available at the moment will increase the deminers productivity, decrease the cost of demining and most importantly, improve safety and reliability of the demining process itself.

Machines or EDDs will be engaged in technical surveys, depending on the configuration and conditions on the ground.

Based on currently available resources, it is possible to conduct humanitarian demining operations on an area of approximate size of 42 km².

Resources	Clearance m ²	Technical survey m ²	TOTAL m ²
Machines	1,500,000	30,000,000	30,000,000
EDDs	1,256,640	2,932,160	4,188,800
Deminers	2,376,000	5,544,000	7,920,000
TOTAL	5,132,640	38,476,160	42,108,800

Table 6: Review of productivity with resources available for 2020

This is a transition period where both classical approach (technical survey and clearance according to Standard for mine and UXO removal in BiH) and land release approach (technical survey and clearance according to Mine Action Standard in BiH – Land Release concept) are used, the resources of demining organizations stated above will be engaged with both concepts, in accordance with the shown interest from the donors.

During 2020, Department for management of MA will conduct training of the inspectors in order to improve technical supervision, participate in training of personnel within demining, monitoring and mine risk education organizations, participate in the work of technical working groups of demining community in BiH, and conduct testing of persons authorized for the conduct or management of mine action activities.

The following is expected during 2020: development of missing chapters of the Standard and SOP, as well as amendments of the existing ones. Mine Action Centre BiH has 44 surveyors, i.e. 22 survey teams for nontechnical survey, general and systematic survey, emergency marking; it further has 8 senior administrative assistants for planning of general survey operations, 12 inspectors and 28 senior administrative assistants for quality control, i.e. for the conduct of technical supervisions/inspections.

In 2020, the project “A Comprehensive Assessment of the Suspect Area for existence of mine and cluster munition threat in Bosnia and Herzegovina 2018-2019” continues with the aim of evidence-based defining of the suspect area containing mine threat. In this project, 9 BHMALC survey teams are engaged along with 3 NPA survey teams and 2 Armed Forces BH survey teams.

Due to participation in the conduct of the stated project, the decrease is expected in the realization of basic tasks defined by this Plan in the part that relates to nontechnical survey operations, i.e. preparations of new projects.

7. TRAINING, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Project 1. – Training of employees in Mine Action in BiH

Aim: Ensure specialized education of existing and new personnel in BiH in the area of mine action.

Activities:

1. Approval, supervision and recording of additional training by accredited organizations for approximately 1100 deminers – participants.

Deadline: January – December 2020

Number of tasks: 30

2. Approval, supervision and recording of training by accredited organizations and BHMAC.

Deadline: January – December 2020

Number of tasks: 20

Project 2. – Research and development

Aim: - Maintain and establish technical cooperation with adequate national and international institutions and individuals in order to improve mine action in BiH, and technical improvement of personnel in accordance with the development of MA and new scientific and technological achievements.

Activities:

1. Organization of training with the topic of deminers accident investigation and quality control management in MA, in cooperation with GICHD, AF BH and NGO “MAG International”.

Deadline: May – June 2020

Number of tasks: 2

2. Encourage cooperation of BHMAC, Armed Forces BH and Civilian Protections with other organizations and countries which are dealing with mine issue, all in order to promote knowledge and experiences from BiH.

Deadline: January – December 2020

Number of tasks: 4

8. COMMUNICATION AND ADVOCACY IN MINE ACTION

Considering fundamental aims and tasks of Mine Action Centre in BiH and legislature which enables legal and timely conduct of mine action, as well as faster and more efficient way of the Mine Action Centre itself. In cooperation with all subjects involved in this area, BHMAL will assume a sequence of activities to inform and increase the level of understanding in citizens and donors in mine action process, and improve the image of both BHMAL and MA system in public, and its position in the society.

Led by set strategic goals, communications and public relations activities that will be the focus of Mine Action Centre in BiH during 2020 will be communication and advocacy, which will include:

Information dissemination to increase the level of understanding and interest in citizens in mine actions in BiH, as well as raising awareness and trust of national and international actors; promotion of Mine Action Centre in BiH and its activities to inform the public of institution's working results, promotion of achievement in mine action; consultations with relevant institutions and organizations involved in mine action process and responsible for the implementation of Ottawa Convention, all in order to improve the work of the Centre and to advocate the principles of Ottawa convention

Informative activities:

Regular update of the site www.bhmal.org

Presence at national and international conferences with the topic of mine action,

Media appearances as a tool of adequate answering to requests and questions presented by national and local media, which includes guest appearances, media conferences, and timely and accurate publishing of articles and announcements of news in mine action,

Presentations of the work of the Centre and of results in mine action to both national and international public,

Ongoing and systematic follow-up of public opinion, and analysis of printed and electronic media/press clipping,

Adequate featuring of April 4th, International Mine Awareness Day, as an opportunity to increase awareness about mine threat and the necessity to continuously setting aside resources for the resolvment of this long-term problem.

Continuous cooperation with Mine Action Centers in both region and the world, to exchange experiences and improve cooperation in this area.

9. FINANCING

The Article 18. of the Demining Law in BiH prescribes: “The resources for the implementation of Demining Plan are ensured from the donors’ resources, Bosnia and Herzegovina budget and Entities’ budgets, as well as from other resources.”

LAND RELEASE (1 million km)		2020
Activity	Implementing agency	
Cancelled area - nontechnical survey	BHMAC	2,950,000
Reduced area - technical survey	Accredited organizations	28,600,000
Cleared area - mine clearance	Accredited organizations	4,200,000
Total		35,750,000
NONTECHNICAL SURVEY AND MARKING (1 million km)		2020
Activity	Implementing agency	
Processed SHA - nontechnical survey	BHMAC	2,950,000
Emergency marking	BHMAC	50,000
Total		3,000,000
Grand total		38,750,000

Table 7: Necessary funding for 2020

The expenses of Mine Action Centre in BiH that amount to BAM **5.945.000** were not included in the total sum of necessary funding, and will be spent through two programs, planning and project making in mine action and quality assurance in mine action. It is planned that BAM 3.567.000 is spent for the first program, and BAM **2.378.000** for the other program. Total necessary financial funds for 2020 are BAM **38.750.000**

According to information gathered from main actors in mine action in BiH, the total planned funds are BAM **37.624.101** as follows:

Sources from BiH

For the needs for Mine Action Centre BiH, the budget of BiH institutions will provide BAM **5.945.000**.

Out of the BIH institutions budget for mine action, and through the budget of Ministry of Defense and Armed Forces BH, approximately BAM **4.500.000** will be secured.

Out of the budget of the Federal Government BiH and through the budget of Federal Department of Civilian Protection, approximately BAM **6.000.000** will be secured.

Out of the budget of government of Republic of Srpska for mine action, and through the budget of Republic Administration of Civil Protection of the Republic of Srpska, approximately BAM **3.000.000** will be secured.

Out of the budget of Brčko District government for mine action, approximately BAM 1.000.000 is secured.

Total planned funding by institution will be approximately: BAM 20.445.000

Donors resources

Through the mediation of ITF (International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance in S/E Europe – Enhancing Human Security) approximately BAM 8.500.000 has been planned for mine action.

Through the mediation of NGO NPA, BAM **4.500.000** are planned for spending.

Total planned funds should be approximately BAM 13.000.000.

As for other donors' resources for the realization of the Operational plan, it is estimated to provide additional BAM **3.500.000** (individual donor countries, EU, UNDP, ICRC etc.).

It is planned that all the sources combined should secure BAM **36.945.000**, which is not sufficient for the conduct of this plan, therefore it is necessary to ensure additional BAM **1.805.000**.

10. CLUSTER MUNITION

In the period from 01.01.2011 to 30.06.2011, NPA implemented the first phase of the general survey of areas contaminated with cluster munition in Bosnia and Herzegovina, which as a result provided the general assessment of the situation with remained cluster munitions, as follows: (1) threat assessment from remained cluster munition and (2) its social, economic and environmental impact in Bosnia and Herzegovina. General assessment of the remained cluster munition situation is

the basis for strategic planning and measurement of success in the implementation of Mine Ban Convention ratified by Bosnia and Herzegovina on August 25th 2010, having committed to obligations and deadlines prescribed by the Convention. Through the realization of the first phase of general survey, the immediate aim of Norwegian People's Aid in Bosnia and Herzegovina has been achieved – to assist government authorities in fulfilling their obligations undertaken by the ratification of the Mine Ban Convention.

In 2020, NPA (Norwegian Peoples Aid), Armed Forces Bosnia and Herzegovina and Federal Department of Civilian Protection intend to conduct operations at the area of 14 municipalities: Travnik, Kladanj, Zavidovići, Tešanj, Zenica, Sapna, Kalesija, Gradačac, Glamoč, Bosansko Grahovo, Han Pijesak, Bratunac, and Krupa na Uni, Brod. Current size of cluster munition suspect area is 2,31 km².

Red	Entitet	SurveyID	Opština	Lokacija	Površina u m ²	Nivo ugroženosti zajednice	Lokalna zajednica
1	FED	10066	Travnik	Travnik - Grad	12,626	Visoki	Travnik
2	FED	10422	Kladanj	Zorin potok	13,963	Niski	Vitalj (Javor)
3	FED	10617	Zavidovići	Ribnica	37,270	Srednji	Ribnica
4	FED	10618	Zavidovići	Ribnica 2	15,111	Srednji	Ribnica
5	FED	11065	Tešanj	Školjica Brdo	49,841	Visoki	Tešanj
6	FED	11071	Zenica	Smetovi	42,605	Srednji	Vranovići
7	FED	11075	Zavidovići	Novo naselje	37,931	Srednji	Novo naselje
8	FED	11099	Sapna	Sapna	13,052	Srednji	Sapna
9	FED	11101	Kalesija	Tojšići	5,299	Srednji	Tojšići
10	FED	11102	Gradačac	Mionica	8,356	Srednji	Mionica
11	FED	9508	Glamoč	Paljenica	58,099	Srednji	Korićina
12	FED	11114	Bosansko Grahovo	Lugarnica 3 A	15,140	Srednji	Gornje Peulje
13	RS	4208	Han Pijesak	Japaga	154,082	Visoki	Japaga
14	RS	4282	Bratunac	Zaseok Krke-nastavak	41,306	Niski	Pobudje
15	RS	4409	Krupa na Uni	Rejon Grabovac	8,190	Visoki	Donji Petrovići, Krupa na Uni
16	RS	4694	Brod	Novo Selo-nastavak 1	95,497	Visoki	Novo Selo, Brod
17	RS	4696	Brod	Novo Selo-nastavak 2	98,352	Visoki	Novo Selo, Brod

Table 8: Projects reserved for cluster munition in 2020

11. GROUPING OF SUSPECT HAZARDOUS AREAS INTO MINE SUSPECT AREAS (MSA)

The process of land release is based on collection and analysis of all information about mining, having in mind all the relevant information related to the wider area, such as methods of warfare, course or warring activities, most frequently used mines, common methods of laying mines and similar. For the reason of the implementation of land release process, wider area will be defined,

which can be treated as a logical whole from the viewpoint of this issue – MSA. This area encompasses one or more mine contaminated communities.

With the support of authorized representatives from municipalities (local communities), BHMIC performs the grouping of suspect areas at the territory of the subject municipality into logical wholes of individual MSAs and defines priority, i.e. the sequence of performance and release of the MSAs. In cases of manifested needs for urgent resolution of smaller areas, the said areas can be excluded from already defined MSAs, and treated through the process of land release.

Red.	Entitet	MSP-Id	Naziv MSP	Površina u m ²	Status	Opština
1	FED	6	Bili potok	2,667,184	Rezervisano	Kupres
2	FED	10	Jelačići	5,910,597	Rezervisano	Kladanj
3	FED	14	Vožuća	3,087,809	Rezervisano	Zavidovići
4	FED	15	Cavas	2,538,314	Rezervisano	Ravno
5	FED	33	NP Una	3,528,587	Rezervisano	Bihac
6	FED	41	Veseoski podovi	123,089	Rezervisano	Bugojno
7	FED	42	Kozlovac	2,072,082	Rezervisano	Ilijas
8	FED	45	Bijelo Bučje	2,743,747	Rezervisano	Travnik
9	FED	47	Radoč	1,053,617	Rezervisano	Bužim
10	FED	48	Drenova Glavica	360,308	Rezervisano	Bosanska Krupa
11	FED	49	Donji Ulišnjak	1,156,306	Rezervisano	Maglaj
12	FED	51	Orahovica Jug	1,034,316	Rezervisano	Lukavac
13	FED	54	Vlajčići	1,910,420	Rezervisano	Visoko
14	FED	61	Lukavica Rijeka - Stanić Rijeka	365,123	Rezervisano	Doboj-Istok
15	FED	70	Milino selo	1,433,051	Rezervisano	Lukavac

Table 9: MSA projects reserved in 2020

The release of the land for use will be fully implemented in BiH during this strategic period, and there is a general consensus that its full implementation is a solution for higher operational efficiency. BHMIC committed to elaborate and specify the issue of mine/ERW contamination through the conduct of nontechnical survey, technical survey and clearance operations. BHMIC will ensure that all organizations accredited for technical survey and clearance comply with the principles of land release for use through the quality system of quality management, and comply as well with the recently revised Standard and Standing Operational Procedures of BHMIC for land release. Furthermore, BHMIC will ensure that information management processes enable collection, storage and analysis of accurate and updated information on survey and clearance, which will in return facilitate the operational planning and decision making, and enable consistent and transparent reporting on the results of technical survey and clearance. This also encompasses recording regarding the commitments arising from the international conventions. BHMIC also committed to organize

semiannual technical group meetings in order to enhance coordination, information exchange and transparency.

BHMAC will continue to plan the operation of technical survey and clearance in direct cooperation with municipalities and committed mine action coordinators at cantonal and municipality level. Municipality mine action plans will be created that will reflect local needs and priorities in order to ensure the sustainable results of mine action.

Red.	Entitet	MSP-Id	Naziv MSP	Povrsina u m ²	Status	Opština
1	FED	5	Zlosela	11,700,000	U toku CI i SI	Kupres
2	FED	7	Donji Malovan	5,311,753	U toku CI i SI	Kupres
3	FED	8	Olovske Luke - Petrovi?i	7,770,000	U toku CI i SI	Olovo
4	FED	32	Goj?in	2,380,837	U toku CI i SI	Kalesija
5	FED	36	Vlaši? 3	2,229,002	U toku CI i SI	Travnik
6	FED	53	Hodovo	2,038,187	U toku CI i SI	Stolac
7	FED	60	Orahovica	2,129,152	U toku CI i SI	Lukavac
8	FED	67	Matijaševo brdo	268,101	U toku CI i SI	Sarajevo-Novii Grad
9	RS	13	Zborište - Kruš?ik	825,665	U toku CI i SI	Brod
10	RS	18	Koprivna	2,613,254	U toku CI i SI	Oštra Luka
11	RS	25	Ljubljénica	1,551,765	U toku CI i SI	Berkovici
12	RS	27	Crni Vrh - Šibovi	904,842	U toku CI i SI	Mrkonjić Grad
13	RS	35	Isto?ni Stari Grad	478,507	U toku CI i SI	Isto?ni Stari Grad

Table 10: Ongoing MSA projects in 2020