

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 BHMACH.

BHMACH 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, BHMACH 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>

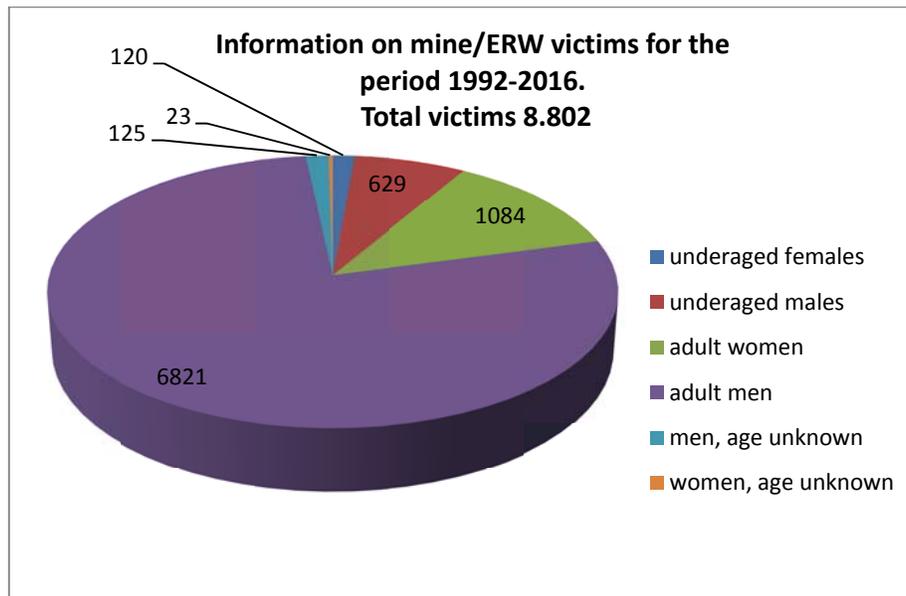
⁶ Request of BiH for the deadline extension as per Article 5 of the Ottawa Convention, June 2008.

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

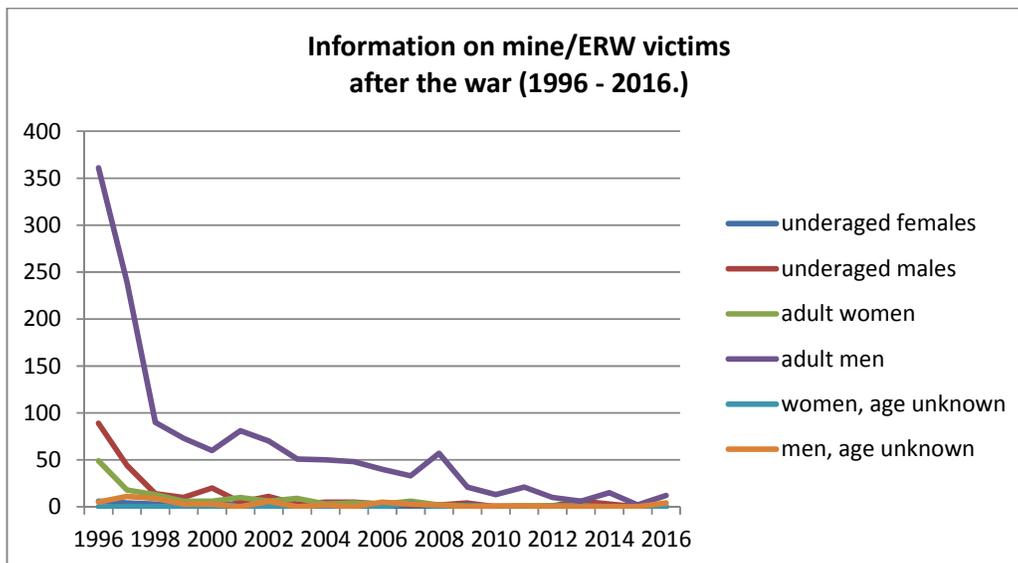


During the war (1992 – 1995.), a total of 7.000 mine/ERW victims were registered in BiH, out of which 945 adult females, 98 underaged females, 402 underaged men, 5.468 adult men, 17 females, and 70 males of unknown age.

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

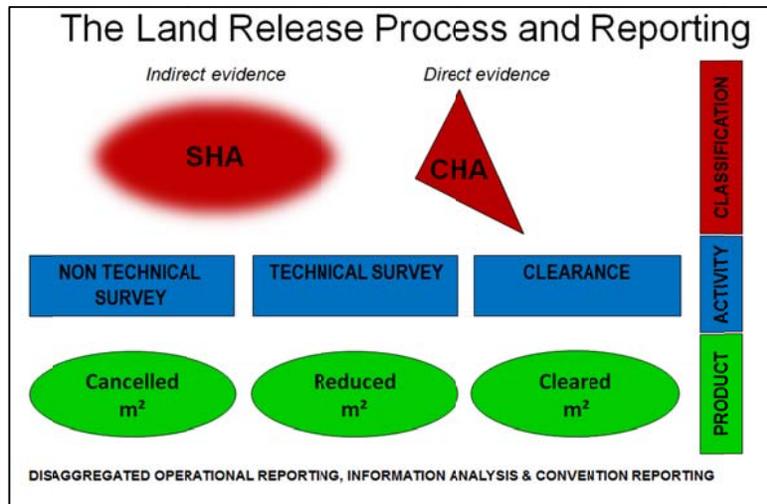
According to information gathered by the mid-2017, total of twenty-six organisations were accredited for the conduct of technical survey and mine clearance operations in BiH; out of that number, there are five government organisations (Armed Forces BiH, Federal Administration for Civil Protection, Republic 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.

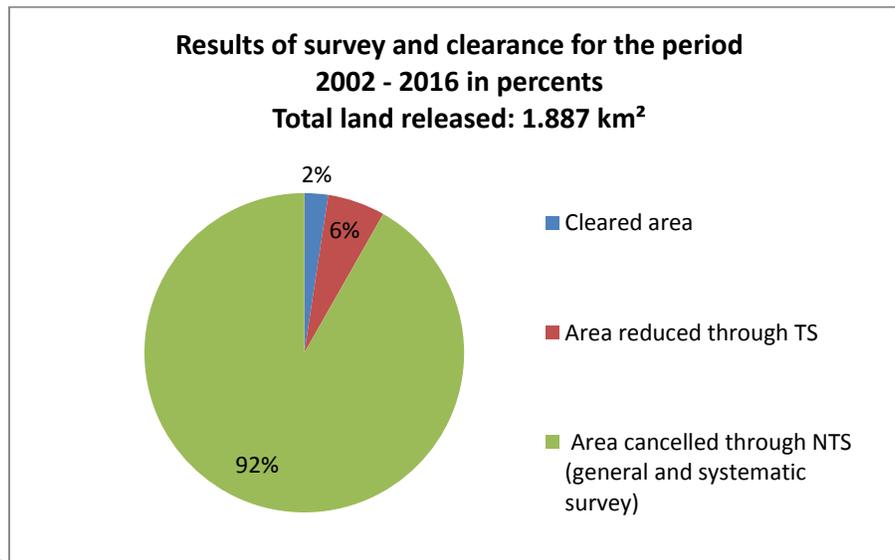
²⁷ International mine action standard IMAS 07.11 Land Release, march 2013:
<https://www.mineactionstandards.org/fileadmin/MAS/documents/imas-international-standards/english/series-07/IMAS-07-11-Ed1-Am3.pdf>

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).

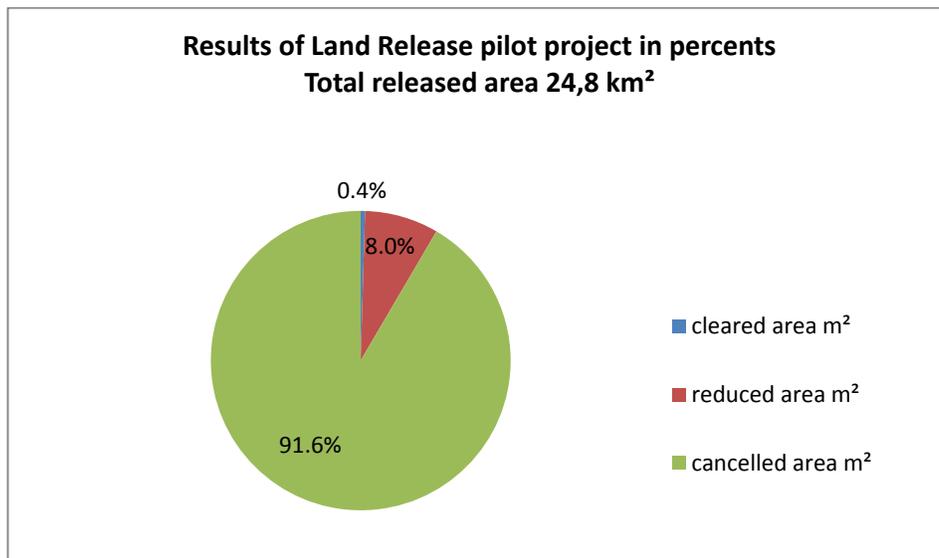


Given the fact that it became clearer that survey operations based on the evidence that the area is mined were of crucial importance for operational effectiveness, European Union in cooperation with BHMACH started its pilot project “Land Release” in 2012. The project’s aim is to promote the effective 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 Nauc�ler, 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 BHMAC, 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 BHMAC,
3. Approval of internal regulations for the work of BHMAC,
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.

BHMAC 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-technical 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 TECHNICAL 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