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PERMANENT MISSION OF THAILAND
GENEVA

The Permanent Mission of Thailand to the United Nations and other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction Implementation Support Unit (ISU) and has the honour to transmit herewith Thailand's request for an extension of the deadline for completing the destruction of antipersonnel mines in mined areas in accordance with Article 5, paragraph 1 of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Antipersonnel Mines and on Their Destruction.

In this regard, the Permanent Mission has further the honour to request the ISU to forward this document to the Committee for Article 5 Implementation, with whom Thailand will continue to work closely on this matter, for their consideration.

The Permanent Mission of Thailand to the United Nations and other International Organizations in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction Implementation Support Unit the assurances of its high consideration.

Geneva, // September B.E. 2560 (2017) N



Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of
Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction Implementation Support Unit,
GENEVA.



Kingdom of Thailand

**Request for an extension of the deadline for completing the destruction
of antipersonnel mines in mined areas in accordance with Article 5, paragraph 1
of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer
of Antipersonnel Mines and on Their Destruction**

Submitted to the Chair of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation

Date 8 August 2017

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¹ Available data shown until 31 July 2017

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

Most landmines are remnants from Cambodia's internal conflict which spilled over the border (1970s – 1990s) and the Communist insurgency in the region (1960s – 1980s). The areas most contaminated with landmines areas are along Thailand's borders with its neighboring countries, especially, the Thai-Cambodian border.

As one of the earliest members of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Antipersonnel Mines and on Their Destruction (since 1 May 1999), Thailand established the Thailand Mine Action Centre (TMAC) under the Ministry of Defense to spearhead mine action in the country. Three Non-Government Organizations, (NGOs), the Norwegian People's Aid (NPA), the Thai Civilian Deminers Association (TDA), and Peace Road Organization Foundation (PRO) also operate in Thailand under the supervision of TMAC.

PROGRESS MADE

The initial Landmine Impact Survey carried out in Thailand identified a total of 2,556,700,000 square meters of suspected area to be addressed. The survey results were later found to lack precision and grossly overestimated the magnitude of the actual contaminated area.

During the 2000s, Thailand relied heavily on traditional methods, namely physical clearance. Such techniques were later deemed to be time and resource consuming if not done in combination with other techniques. Between 2001 and December 31, 2008, Thailand had released 2,028,350,000 square meters, representing 80 percent of the original reported challenge. At the end of Thailand's first extension, Thailand's remaining challenge was 528,350,000 square meters.

Due to various circumstances, including the magnitude of the challenge, Thailand requested an extension of its deadline and submitted its first extension request to the Eighth Meeting of the States Parties in 2008, which subsequently extended the deadline for completion by nine and a half years, 1 May 2009 until 1 November 2018. Since the period of its first extension request submitted in 2008 until 31 December 2016, Thailand had released 154,836,328 square meters. The latest statistics available up until 31 July 2017 shows that Thailand has released 167,713,524 square meters, leaving a total of square meters 409, 727,979 square meters to address, or 16.03 percent of the original reported challenge.

This progress has been made possible by the strengthening of operations in the following five areas:
Establishment of a high level national mechanism

1. Shift in Land Release Methodology

From 2000 – 2011, Thailand invested heavily on physical survey and clearance as the primary way to release suspected areas. Using this method Thailand released an average of 2,419,856 square meters per year, nearly entirely from clearance. Beginning in 2007 – 2008, TMAC introduced Locating Minefield Procedure (LMP)² as a new method in its arsenal. LMP yield very positive results and was the beginning of Non-Technical Survey (NTS) in Thailand. From 2012 onwards, progress was greatly enhanced, with an average of 30,000,000 square meters being released per year, nearly entirely via a new approach known as “Land Release” (LR), with heightened reliance on NTS.

2. The Pilot Project

Since January 2016, TMAC and NPA have collaborated on a “Pilot Project” to resurvey suspected contaminated areas considered to have been previously overestimated by the LIS conducted in early 2000s. The initial results of the project indicated that many suspected areas are in fact mine-free. A comprehensive analysis of the findings to date indicates that only around 0.22 – 13.5 percent of the suspected areas are actually contaminated. Therefore, Thailand can foresee cancelling 86.5 percent of the remaining suspected areas, bringing Thailand much closer to mine-free status. The Pilot Project will continue in the coming years, and its progress and estimated date of completion will be updated.

3. Strengthened Community Engagement

TMAC places importance in building strong relations with the local population and authorities. This not only supports the on-going NTS efforts but also assists in raising awareness of the hazards of landmines, a core obligation of the Convention. Statistics show a steady decrease in landmine accidents in recent years.

4. Impact of Clearance on Socio-economic Development

The LIS reported that the presence of landmines and UXO resulted in blocked access to, or restricted use of four major resources: forest, cropland, pasture, and water. Thus, it was recognized that the important socio-economic dimension will be increasingly taken into account along with the humanitarian impact. Thailand sees mine action as truly a humanitarian initiative. All lands being released Thailand takes into account how such land can be put to productive use and improve the livelihoods of the local community.

5. Strong Commitment towards Mine Risk Education (MRE) and Victim Assistance (VA)

Thailand has demonstrated that an inter-disciplinary community-based approach to mine action can yield dividends that transcend the technical aspects of demining. Thailand has given high priority to promote

² Thailand's Revised Extension Request Received 2 October 2008: “The purpose of the (LMP) procedure was as follows: a) To record, mark and gather sufficient mine information in order to help plan effective future demining operations, b) To recheck the suspected mine/UXO contaminated areas as identified by the LIS in order to be more precise and clear, c) To increase the area of safe land for people to maximize benefits and to reduce the hazards of uncleared land, d) To use as a template for other dangerous areas all over the country”.

Mine Risk Education (MRE) to reduce the risk of injury from mines and unexploded ordnance by raising awareness and promoting behavioral changes through public-information campaigns, education and training, and liaison with communities. Thailand has adopted a holistic and integrated approach to Victim Assistance (VA), with comprehensive measures that closely corresponds with obligations under the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and integrated into the broader legal framework, national plans and programs for persons with disabilities in general. In 2016, Thailand was a Member and Chair of the Committee on Victim Assistance under the Convention.

6. Capacity Building and Strengthened Cooperation at the National Level

Mine clearance and humanitarian mine action are high on the agenda of the Royal Thai Government, with emphasis on direction, funding, and capacity building. Thailand recognizes the importance of focusing on the task of building closer relations with partners and counterparts, as well as supporting related agencies in capacity building.

7. Enhanced International Cooperation

Thailand has supported closer cooperation among States Parties, which has helped create better mutual understanding, reconciliation, as well as foster sustainable development in the bilateral and regional contexts. On the bilateral level, Thailand has and will continue to push for more robust consultation mechanisms on border issues, which includes further engagement with Mine Action Centers and related bodies from neighboring countries. At the regional level, Thailand has supported and participated in a number of joint exercises under the ASEAN Framework.

8. Better Information Management

Before 2015, progress reports were submitted and collated at a national level that did not allow disaggregation by Province. Thailand continues to support the continued improvement of its information management system, using national standards.

THE REMAINING CHALLENGE AND PLAN OF WORK

Thailand's first extension for completion will expire on 1 November 2018. In order to fulfill its Article 5 obligations, Thailand is requesting a second extension of 5 years, from 1 November 2018 – 31 December 2023.

Thailand's Annual Land Milestones Towards Completion					
Outputs	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Size (Sq.m)	72,120,000	72,060,000	73,230,000	74,540,000	66,860,000

The Plan of Work has been developed in 2 Phases. Phase one will be carried out from January 2017 leading up to Thailand's deadline of 1 November 2018 and Phase 2 will be carried out during the second extension period of 5 years as follows:

Phase 1:

During this phase, Thailand aims to release a total of 63,796,040 square meters of the suspected contaminated area, resulting in a remaining challenge of 358,809,132 square meters to be addressed during the extension period. As of 31 July 2017, Thailand has addressed 12,877,196 square meters, reducing its remaining challenge from 422,605,172 square meters to 409,727,976 square meters, 16.03 percent of the original challenge. This results in a plan to address 50,918,844 square meters during the period of August 2017 – October 2018. During this phase, Thailand will also start to prepare for the second extension period so as to ensure continuation of work. Thailand plans to submit an updated work plan to States Parties, through its Annual Article 7 Report in 2019, after Phase 1 is complete.

Phase 2:

Phase 2 will focus on areas which are pending survey, undergoing demarcation, or involved in border related security issues. Thailand refers to these areas as Area to be Demarcated (AD)^{3 4} - These areas cover 358,809,132 square meters in 12 Provinces bordering 3 countries (Cambodia, Lao PDR, and Myanmar). Thailand has come up with a comprehensive strategy to expedite work in the challenging Ads. Thus also includes an enhance diplomatic engagement with neighboring countries which could lead to joint operations, an internal reshuffling of staff, and the possible introduction of civilian deminers.

Thailand estimates that the work during the extension period will require a total of 1,208,601,183 Thai Baht with 125,000,000 anticipated from sources other than the Government. In support of this work TMAC and the Government of Thailand will also give priority to the following areas:

AD Strategy Highlights

In preparation for Phase 2, TMAC will gradually reshuffles its staff to meet the demands of more NTS as shown in the comparison chart below. Overall, staff will be reallocated to expand the NTS team.

³ The use of the term Area to be Demarcated (AD) in this Request as well as the demining operations to be conducted in implementing Thailand's obligations under this Convention shall be without prejudice to Thailand's rights and duties with regard to the land boundary under international law.

⁴ See Chapter IV and V for more information on AD

Establishment of a High Level National Committee

In May 2017, Thailand established the National Committee for Mine Action, chaired by the Prime Minister of Thailand, to foster policy direction and pull together all necessary assets to expedite efforts towards Thailand's strong commitment to meeting the obligations under the Convention. The Committee meets on an annual basis.

Improving Efficiency of Land Release

Each of TMAC's field team comprises of a survey team and clearance team. In the past, after the survey team completes its survey, it will wait for the clearance team to finish clearance before both teams move to a new location. This method is inefficient as one team has to wait for the other. Therefore, TMAC will start employing a new method that sees the survey team move to survey another nearby site while the clearance team completes clearance in the previous one. Such continuous flow of work will help save cost and yield quicker results.

Introduction of Civilian Deminers

Thailand has always been unique in the sense that nearly all demining work, including funding in the country are from military. Only a small fraction is done by civilians from Thai Civilian Deminer Association (TDA). However, the right to destroy mines and related ordnances still is solely military. This might see some changes in the coming years due to the complications and related security concerns that military personnel pose when entering the border area. To be able to work in these complicated areas during the period of the extension, TMAC plans to start training a new batch of civilian deminers since civilians have easier access to border areas to carry out demining with less complications. TMAC therefore plans to work even closer with the two main Mine Action NGOs in Thailand, TDA and NPA.

Supporting Joint Operations

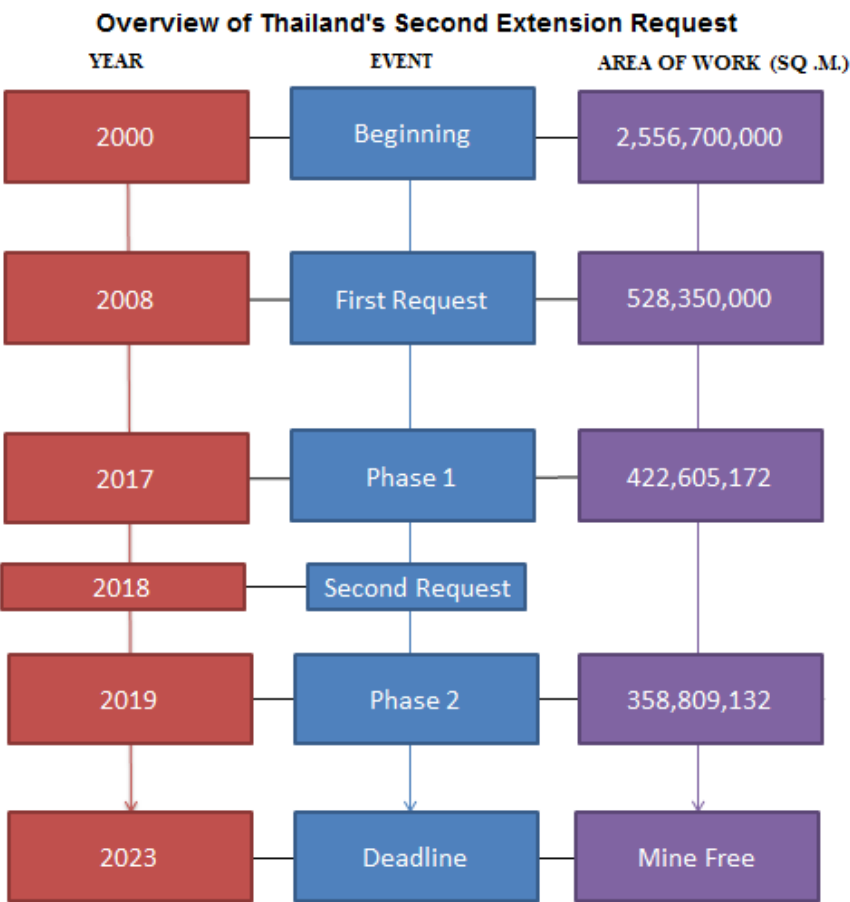
Thailand has been continuously assessing the possibility of a joint operation with neighbouring countries. The idea has been on the bilateral discussion table, most recently with Cambodia, and comes from a shared view that demining is a humanitarian initiative that both countries can mutually benefit from returning safe land for livelihood and economic development.

Joint operations, however, do not denote two demining teams from different nationalities mixing with each other to work in a location in one country. Such formulation would be complicate to manage and could produce security and international law-related concerns. Therefore, a joint operation denotes two demining teams from neighboring countries working in their own territory but in parallel with each other along the border line. There would be regular information, expertise, and progress sharing to expedite work for both countries. A joint secretariat would be set up to facilitate cross communication.

Thailand believes that pilot joint operations between two NPA teams would be a good start, since NPA works in many counties with common mine problems with Thailand.

Potential Risk Factors Towards the Completion

Thailand projects two possible risks which could hinder completion of the work plan outlined in this request. First is the uncertainty regarding access to certain areas in the border areas, many of which are subject to pending survey and demarcation, plus talks between Thailand and its neighbors; second are factors or causes that are beyond control of the demining teams, such as natural disasters and bad weather conditions.



INTRODUCTION

Thailand is one of the earliest members of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Antipersonnel Mines and on Their Destruction, ratifying the Convention on 27 November 1998 and having it entered into force on 1 May 1999.

ORIGINS OF THE ARTICLE 5 IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGE

The contaminated areas in Thailand at that time were predominantly Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) such as Landmines and Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) from two main causes: (1) Cambodia's Internal Conflict, which spilled over the borders to Thailand in the 1970s to early 1990s, and (2) the Communist Insurgency Conflicts (1965 – 1981). With the support of the Norwegian People's Aid (NPA), Thailand started conducting the Landmine Impact Survey (LIS) from May 2000 to June 2001. The survey reported a total landmine contaminated area of 2,556,700,000 square meters, containing 933 mine and UXO contaminated sites, impacting 530 communities (With 69 being severely impacted) in 27 of Thailand's 76 provinces, and affecting a total of 503,682 persons. The most seriously affected areas were along the border with Cambodia. (*Annex 1: Origins of Thailand's Landmine Challenges*)

Shortly after ratifying the Convention, the Royal Thai Government established the National Mine Action Committee (NMAC), comprising all concerned Ministries and Departments, to provide policy guidance and to monitor the implementation of the obligations set forth by the Convention.

The Thailand Mine Action Center (TMAC) was subsequently established by NMAC in January 1999, under the supervision of the Supreme Command Headquarters of the Ministry of Defense, with a mandate to act as the main agency for Mine Action in Thailand, which includes mine clearance promoting mine risk awareness, and victim assistance. (*Annex 2: Thailand's Demining Structure*)



Yellow dots on map show approximate location of contamination sites as reported by the LIS

During the early years of Thailand's demining efforts, the country relied heavily on the traditional methods, namely physical survey and clearance⁵. Such techniques were later deemed to be time and resource consuming if not done in combination with other techniques.

Realizing the limitations of the traditional methods, TMAC shifted towards a more effective method, namely Locating Minefield Procedure (LMP), which later developed into the Land Release (LR) method that uses a combination of many methods, especially the Non-Technical Survey (NTS). Since then, Thailand has made significant progress, but faces several obstacles in its efforts and determination to become a mine-free country.

⁵ Methods are further elaborated in *III. Progress Since the First Extension and Current Status*

CIRCUMSTANCES THAT HAVE IMPEDED COMPLIANCE

A number of persisting and emerging challenges have disrupted Thailand's intention to complete the work plan by 1 November 2018, many of which remain similar to what Thailand faced prior to 2008.

The methods of survey

LIS, though perceived as credible and internationally accepted methods, proved to lack precision and led to a gross overestimation of the magnitude of the actual mine area. This caused the demining team to waste valuable resources and time in areas which had no contamination. LMP was introduced right before the extension request was submitted and yielded promising results. However, Thailand needed more time to continue work.

Border challenges

Those areas which are yet to be demined are mostly located along the border between Thailand and its neighboring countries. Thailand refers to these complicated border areas as Area to be Demarcated (AD)⁶. Pending survey and demarcation of land boundaries with neighboring countries, as well as safety and security concerns in border areas, remain key obstacles to the demining progress in recent years. AD is construed as border areas which are pending survey and demarcation to be jointly conducted by Thailand and its respective neighbors under the relevant mechanism and framework. Access to those areas is considered restricted for safety and security concerns. For example, the contaminated areas along Thailand's border with Lao PDR are mainly located farther inland in dense mountainous forests and have difficulty of access, yet demarcation is nearly complete and there are no security related concerns. Along the border with Myanmar, however, ethnic conflict as well as operations of drug smuggling networks have raised safety concerns to mine action teams.

Additionally, the pending survey and demarcation of boundary between Thailand and Cambodia has delayed TMAC's access to some border areas due to security concerns. With regards to Thailand's border with Malaysia, there are no border-related problems, and the total clearance is expected to be achieved by the end of 2018.

Geographical constraints

Many remaining contaminated zones are difficult to reach due to severe environmental circumstances, particularly tropical jungle or rough terrains such as steep inclines, ditches and culverts. Some provinces are also faced with harsh rainfall during monsoon season. This makes the movement

⁶ The use of the term AD in this Request as well as the demining operations to be conducted in implementing Thailand's obligations under this Convention shall be without prejudice to Thailand's rights and duties with regard to the land boundary under international law.

of individual deminers or mechanical equipment difficult and even dangerous. Humidity and heat, as well as virulent tropical diseases, pose health threats that further complicate deminers' work. As such, the average working time for clearance in these areas can take up to twice as long as other places.



Moreover, many minefields have limited access due to environmental factors such as mountainous regions, tropical jungles, and disease-prone areas. Weather conditions such as landslides also cause landmines to be relocated.



Financial constraints

In the early years since the first extension request was submitted in 2008, demining efforts by TMAC did not reach peak efficiency due to limitations in the budget allocated to Mine Action. External support was also relatively limited. Thailand therefore remains open to any foreign support, especially for related equipment and training for our staff.

Unforeseen pressing circumstances

The challenge of finite resources in mine clearance was amplified by a number of contingencies and emergency situations. For instance, the severest flood in five decades affected three quarters of the country from July 2011 to January 2012. The government was compelled to direct attention and resources to flood mitigation, relief efforts, and the subsequent rebuilding of infrastructure.

Political Circumstances

In the 2008 extension request, political instability was pointed out as a low risk factor towards the completion of Thailand's land release work. However, Thai politics underwent several rounds of cabinet reshuffles, early elections, and changes in the government, which impacted public administration and continuity of public policy.

Socio-economic impact of Landmine Contamination in Thailand

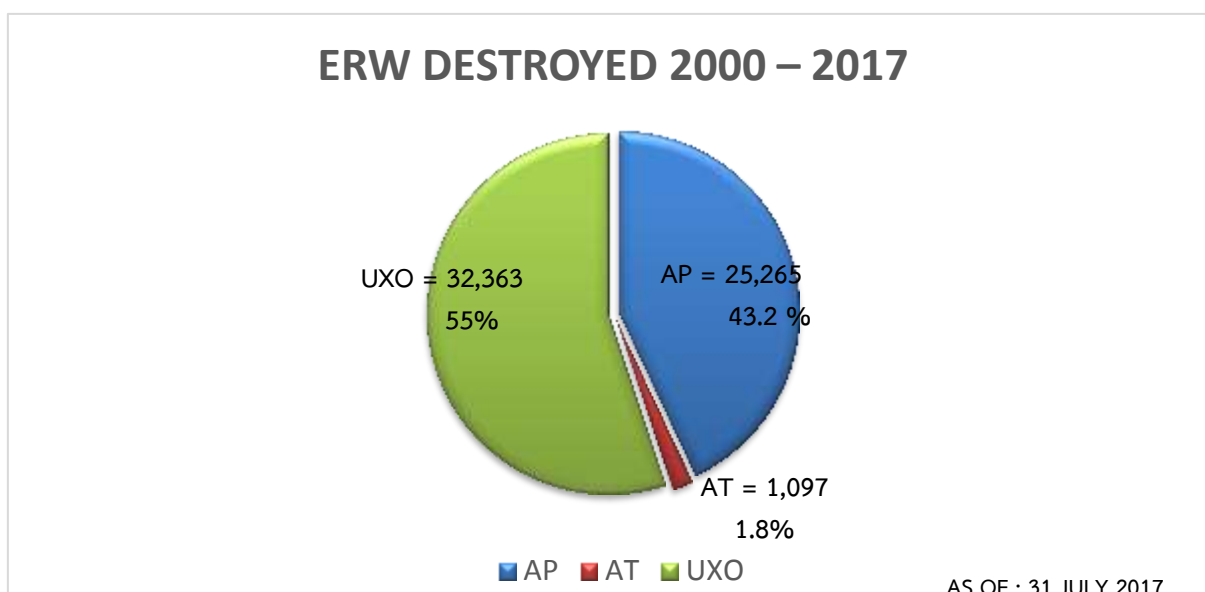
The LIS reported that the presence of landmines and UXO resulted in blocked access to, or restricted use of four major resources: forest, cropland, pasture, and water. Forest area was the resource most frequently reported to be affected by the presence of mines because most of the armed conflicts took place in the forested border areas. Thus, it was recognized that the important socio-economic dimension will be increasingly taken into account along with the humanitarian impact.

NATURE AND EXTENT OF PROGRESS MADE
BEGINNING OF THAILAND'S CHALLENGE UNTIL FIRST EXTENSION
(2000 – 2008)

Since entry into force until the time in which Thailand submitted its first extension request in 2008, a total of 2,028,350,000 square meters had been declared mine-free. Of this number, 56,130,000 square meters were released by traditional methods and 1,972,220,000 square meters were released by Locating Minefield Procedure (LMP). Thailand was left with 528,350,000 square meters needing work during the period of the first extension. Up until December 2008, Thailand had addressed a total of 2,028,350,000 square meters. Of this number, 56,130,000 square meters were released by traditional methods and 1,972,220,000 square meters were released by the Locating Minefield Procedure (LMP). This left Thailand with 528,350,000 square meters remaining to cover at the time of its first extension request.

Table: Progress towards Thailand's Article 5 Challenge, 2000-2008

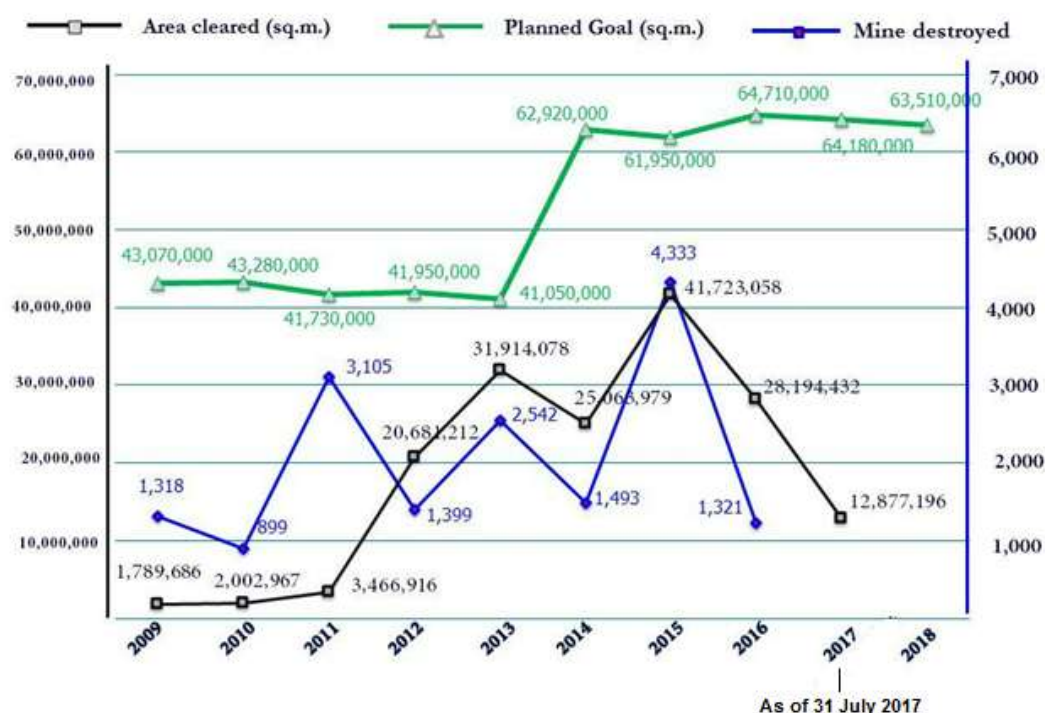
Original Challenge (sq.m)	Amount of Area addressed during 2000-2008 (sq.m)			Challenge remaining at the end of 2008 (sq.m)
	Released using Locating Minefield Procedure ⁷	Cleared	Total	
2,556,700,000	1,972,220,000	56,130,000	2,028,350,000	528,350,000



⁷ Locating Minefield Procedure (LMP) is a form of survey that uses a combination of many methods, especially Non-Technical Survey (NTS).

**NATURE AND EXTENT OF PROGRESS MADE
FIRST EXTENSION REQUEST (2008 - 2018)⁸
QUANTITATIVE ASPECTS**

Table: Overview of Progress Made since 2009



On 2 October 2008, Thailand submitted the final version of its request for an extension of nine and a half years until 1 November 2018 to the President of the Eighth Meeting of the States Parties. The request was subsequently granted at the Eighth Meeting of States Parties.

Since the period of its first extension request submitted in 2008 until 31 December 2016, Thailand had released 154,836,328 square meters. The latest statistics available up until 31 July 2017 shows that Thailand has released 167,713,524 square meters, leaving a total of square meters 409, 727,976 square meters to address, or 16.03 percent of the original reported challenge.

During this same period, Thailand/ added an additional 49,091,500 square meters to its numbers due to suspicion of contamination in newly discovered areas, 234,257 square meters were later deducted due to a database error. During 2008-2016 through survey efforts and its community engagement, Thailand identified an additional 49,091,500 square meters of previously unknown mined area.

⁸ Available data shown until 31 July 2017

Although similar in composition, the varying capabilities of each HMAU are due to many factors, most notably the varying levels of difficulties in access to survey and demine that each HMAU faces. For instance, the planned productivity rate of HMAU1 is far less than other HMAUs due to

- 1) Sa Kaeo Province being bordered by Cambodia which still remains the most complicated AD
- 2) The mountainous terrain of Sa Kaeo poses challenges to the team
- 3) Some of HMAU1 staff were relocated temporary to help HMAU TMAC in Yala province to speed up work to be able to meet the 2018 deadline and
- 4) Thailand lacks the proper equipment to access harsh terrain.

Table: Overall Annual Progress in Addressing Thailand's Remaining Challenge, 2008-2016

Year	Goal	Nontechnical Survey (Cancelled)	Technical Survey (Reduced)	Clearance (Cleared)	Pilot Project (Survey)	Total Area Addressed (sq.m)	New Surveyed Area	Remaining Challenge	Mines Destroyed
2008								<u>528,350,000</u>	
2009	43,070,000			1,789,686		<u>1,789,686</u>	<u>23,316,574</u>	<u>549,876,888</u>	1,318
2010	43,280,000		38,690	1,964,277		<u>2,002,967</u>		<u>547,873,921</u>	899
2011	41,730,000		742,804	2,724,112		<u>3,466,916</u>	<u>1,488,294</u>	<u>545,895,299</u>	3,105
2012	41,950,000	20,392,232		288,980		<u>20,681,212</u>	- 234,257	<u>524,979,830</u>	1,399
2013	41,050,000	31,606,125		307,953		<u>31,914,078</u>	<u>3,692,901</u>	<u>496,758,653</u>	2,542
2014	62,920,000	24,835,068		228,911		<u>25,063,979</u>	<u>2'562'229</u>	<u>474,256,894</u>	1,493
2015	61,950,000	27,423,538	12,251,858	2,047,662		<u>41,723,058</u>	<u>18,202,688</u>	<u>450,736,524</u>	4'333
2016	64,710,000	20,979,376	71,537	394,238	6,749,281	<u>28,194,432</u>	<u>63,080</u>	<u>422,605,172</u>	1,321
Total	400,660,000	125,236,339	13,104,889	9,745,819	6,749,281	<u>154,836,328</u>	<u>49,560,023</u>	<u>422,605,172</u>	16,410

* During 2008 - 2009, TMAC found an additional 23,316,574 sq. m. of contaminated land

* During 2009 - 2016, TMAC found an additional 25,774,926 sq.m. of contaminated land

*In 2012, 234,257 sq. m. were deducted from the newly discovered area added in 2011 due to an error in the database registry

*Due to technical challenges in information management, before 2015, disaggregated data by Province was not available

Table: Annual Progress by Province (2015-2016)

Year		Provinces	Planned Goal (sq. m.)	Actual result (sq. m.)				Total
				Clearance	Technical survey	Non-technical survey	Pilot project (NPA)	
2015	Northern Region	Tak	61,950,000	47,534		9,652,098		9,699,632
		Chiang Mai				3,354,380		3,354,380
		Mae Hong Son				5,433,500		5,433,500
		Phayao			2,499,917			2,499,917
		Nan				2,653,871		2,653,871
	Northeast Region	Ubon Ratchathani		109,606	1,979,010	2,124,816		4,213,432
		Surin		958,001	5,716,890	1,856,607		8,531,498
		Sa kaeo		400,426	897,662			1,298,088
	Eastern Region	Trat		532,095	1,158,379	2,348,266		4,038,740
2015 Total			61,950,000	2,047,662	12,251,858	27,423,538		41,723,058

Year		Provinces	Planned Goal (sq. m.)	Actual result (sq. m.)				Total
				Clearance	Technical survey	Non-technical survey	Pilot project (NPA)	
2016	Northern Region	Chiang Rai	64,710,000			920,297		920,297
		Chiang Mai				9,879,650		9,879,650
	Northeast Region	Ubon Ratchathani				7,580,562		7,580,562
		Surin		246,671		6,812,294		7,059,165
	Eastern Region	Sa kaeo		4,193	71,537	472,665		548,395
		Chanthaburi		65,750		383,243		448,993
		Trat		77,624		1,679,746		1,757,370
2016 Total			64,710,000	394,238	71,537	20,979,376	6,749,281	28,194,432

Table: Annual Progress by Province (2017 – 31 July 2017)

Year		Provinces	Planned Goal (sq. m.)	Actual result (sq. m.)				Total
				Clearance	Technical survey	Non-technical survey	Pilot project (NPA)	
2017	Northern Region	Ubon Ratchathani	64,180,000	146,008	2,814,574	9,916,640		12,877,396
		Sisaket						
		Surin						
	Eastern Region	Sa Kaeo						
		Chanthaburi						
		Trat						
	Southern Region	Yala						
2017 Total			64,180,000	146,008	2,814,574	9,916,640		12,877,396

*Disaggregated data by province is not yet available for 2017

Mines Destroyed

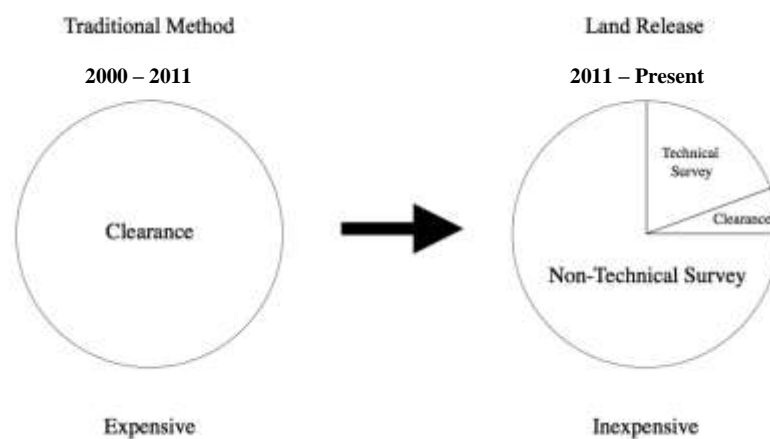
Type	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total
APM. M14	303	70	115	66	116	511	1,553	316	3,050
APM. M16	3				48				51
APM. M16 A1	6	3	48	56	33		29	153	328
APM. M16 A2					1	68	84		153
APM. M18 A1									-
APM. M26				1					1
APM. MBBSB				63		1			64
APM. MBV 78 A2			29			8	92	1	130
APM. MD82 B			23	126	32		25	5	211
APM. MD82 D									-
APM. MDH 10			1				1		2
APM. MN79	4	7	186	219	46		745		1,207
APM. OZM 2D							1		1
APM. OZM3		3							3

APM. P40	8					1		1	10
APM. PMD							27		27
APM. PMD 6				3	1				4
APM. PMD 6M	187	31	572		614	43	422	24	1,893
APM. PMN	43	485	1,065	237	1,093	195	439	38	3,595
APM. PMN2								4	4
APM. POMZ	43	2	15	9	17	31	23	43	183
APM. POMZ2		3	33	5	39	27	40		147
APM. POMZ 2B			100	23			20		143
APM. PPM 2							1		1
APM. TYPE 58									-
APM. TYPE 66						1			1
APM. TYPE 69	381	137	611	443	333	291	485	319	3,000
APM. TYPE 72	340	92	307	148	169	316	346	327	2,045
ATM. M6 A2		55							55
ATM. TM46		4							4
ATM. TM57		3							3
ATM. TYPE 59		4							4
Total	1,318	899	3,105	1,399	2,542	1,493	4,333	1,231	16,320

NATURE AND EXTENT OF PROGRESS MADE
FIRST EXTENSION REQUEST (2008 - 2018)⁹
QUALITATIVE ASPECTS

Despite the various challenges Thailand has faced in working towards total landmine clearance by the end of 2018, significant progress has been made. This can be categorized into eight key areas: 1) Shift in Methodology, 2) The Pilot Project, 3) Strengthened Community Engagement, 4) Impact of Clearance on Socio-economic Development, 5) Strong Commitment Towards MRE and VA, 6) Capacity Building and Strengthened Cooperation at the National Level, 7) Enhanced International Cooperation, and 8) Better Information Management.

SHIFT IN METHODOLOGY



During 2000 – 2011 Thailand invested heavily on clearance as the single way to cancel suspected areas. Previously, Thailand did not invest in gathering information about suspected areas to confirm the likelihood of contamination. Therefore, any area that was suspected to be contaminated regardless of the accuracy of evidence had to be investigated by deminers. This is known as the traditional method which led to the utilization of resources on areas containing no hazards and delay in clearance of real hazardous areas.

Beginning in 2007 – 2008, TMAC introduced LMP as a new method in its arsenal. LMP yielded very positive results and was the beginning of Non-Technical Survey (NTS) in Thailand. From 2011 onwards, NTS became the internationally adopted method which later evolved into Land Release (LR). The collection of information allowed Thailand to determine whether the area should be inspected by deminers or to be cancelled due to the lack of evidence. As a result, NTS and LR allowed

⁹ Available data shown until 31 July 2017

Thailand to cancel enormous amounts of suspected areas with confidence in a shorter time, without the need for total reliance on physical inspection.

NTS and LR activities in Thailand have included the followings: a few short site visits, meetings with a wide range of stakeholders, and reassessment of military and historical records. TMAC has worked in cooperation with various counterparts, including local communities in collecting and reassessing essential information in order to make informed decisions on clearance and LR.

Since January 2016, TMAC and NPA have collaborated on a “Pilot Project”¹⁰ to resurvey suspected contaminated areas considered to be grossly overestimated by the LIS that was conducted in early 2000s. The initial results of the project indicated that many areas suspected to be contaminated are in fact mine-free. A more in-depth discussion on the Pilot Project is provided below.

TMAC is also in the process of updating the National Mine Action Standard (NMAS) to be in line with the latest version of International Mine Action Standard (IMAS), this is expected to be completed during Phase 2.

THE PILOT PROJECT

In order to form the hypothesis and estimate the level of mine contamination in the area, NPA was invited to carry out a “Pilot Project” to survey the area suspected to contain mines. Previously, NPA had been in collaboration with TMAC’s HMAU 4 in one of the heaviest contaminated areas, and the result showed that only 0.22 percent of the area once suspected contained mines, that is, only 47,534 square meters out of 21,141,383 square meters were actually contaminated.

From 2017 and into the extension period, the Pilot Project will continue and be mainstreamed into TMAC’s overall Land Release plans. It is forecasted that no more than 13.5 percent of the suspected areas resurveyed will have contamination, meaning more than 86.5 percent of the suspected areas could be cancelled. The table below demonstrates the extent if the Pilot Project results are accurate and applied nationwide in all remaining ADs, only 48,439,232 square meters will remain for clearance (*Annex 4: Result of the Pilot Project*).

Year	Projected Remaining Area Sq. Km	Operational Plan with Pilot Project Sq. Km	NTS 86.5% Sq. Km	TS&Clr 13.5% Sq. Km
2019	358.81	72.12	62.38	9.74
2020	286.69	72.06	62.33	9.73
2021	214.63	73.23	63.34	9.89
2022	141.40	74.54	64.48	10.06
2023	66.86	66.86	57.83	9.03

¹⁰ See next section for more information, and annex for extensive data.

STRENGTHENED COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

TMAC has given much importance to building strong relations with the primary land users in affected areas, the local population, and local authorities from the provincial levels to the sub-district levels.

This not only supports the on-going NTS efforts but also aims to raise awareness of the hazards of landmines in those areas. In recent years, more locals have approached TMAC with new information to confirm contamination in suspected areas as well as to confirm non-presence of UXOs in others.

In 2015, TMAC first approached the provincial governors to seek full cooperation from the top down to the local community living in or near the contaminated areas. As a result, in 2016, the Chief Executive of the Sub District Administration Organization (SAO) became actively involved in Mine Action, which accelerated the process of information gathering, the essential part for the NTS process. The SAO also supports TMAC in the NTS Training by providing facilities and field support.

Moreover, TMAC has worked with relevant Ministries and other agencies concerned towards raising awareness on Quality Management (QM), Quality Control (QC), and Quality Assurance (QA). Local participation, especially in sub district and village level, has been fully incorporated into the main stages of the process of releasing land. Also, the communities are invited to relevant briefings and area inspection accompanied by officials.

IMPACT OF CLEARANCE ON SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Two examples that Thailand is proud of include 1) Chong Jom, Surin Province in Eastern Thailand is an area that has always been a strategic pass between Thais and Cambodians. During the conflict in the past, both sides laid landmines to cut off access. Later on locals of both counties demanded that the pass be opened once again for trade and leisure. Therefore, TMAC, with the help of TDA put such area as a high priority area to clear mines. The area had an initial SHA of 503,096 square meters. Today, the area is a lively border crossing and market that sees locals from both sides crossing daily. The development of a paved road also facilitated trade and investment in the area. Locals started moving back in and a community blossomed. All of this would have not been possible with the presence of landmines.



Development of a border pass between Thailand and Cambodia



Development of a main road for cars and trucks to cross the border



Locals can now go into the forest to harvest wild produce such as mushrooms

2) An example of how this success transcends borders was in 2016. TMAC, NPA, and the local governing body of Dom Pradit District, Ubon Ratchathani Province paid a visit to the Cambodian Mine Action Center (CMAC). Thailand donated prosthetic legs to CMAC's VA cause and discussed related matters to enhance VA and MRE between the two countries. Later in the year, CMAC visited Dom Pradit District where a brief course on economical prosthetic leg making was shared.



TMAC and CMAC Director General discussed Mine Action cooperation



Donation of Prosthetic Legs made from sustainable material and efficient methods

STRONG COMMITMENT TOWARDS MRE AND VA

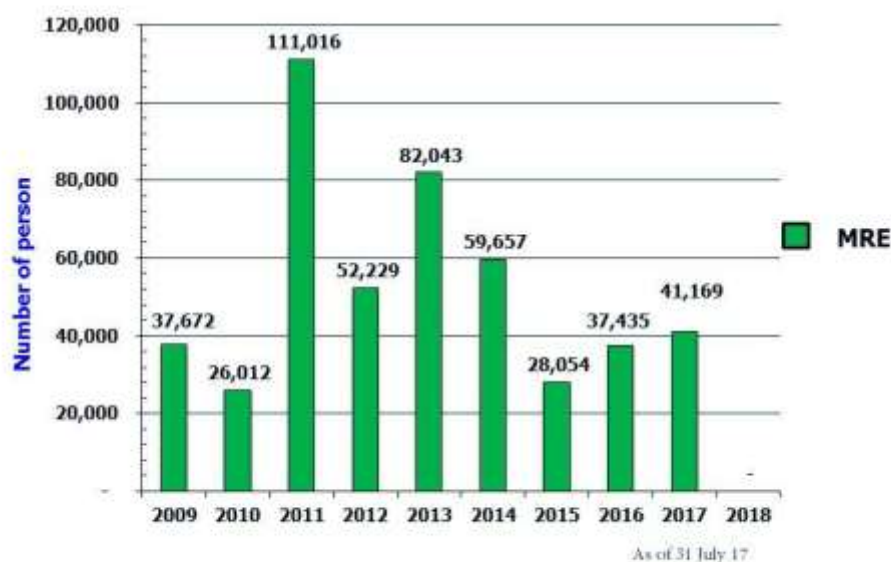
Mine Action has historically been a very technical field of expertise, however, it is moving toward a more inter-disciplinary approach to relieve the impact of landmines and UXO on communities. The Mine Ban Treaty clearly sees the need to put obligations on countries beyond ending the use, production, stockpiling and transfer of antipersonnel mines and clearing affected areas, by placing the need for mine awareness and risk reduction education and victim assistance at the heart of the document. The Mine Ban Treaty is after all a humanitarian document. Thailand was early to realize this and has year after year boosted its activities in Mine Risk Education (MRE) and Victim Assistance (VA). Thailand has also demonstrated that an inter-disciplinary community-based approach to mine action can yield dividends that transcend the technical aspects of demining. This

has opened the door to many more people with disabilities and has helped many others from becoming victims.

Thailand has given high priority to promote **MRE** to reduce the risk of injury from mines and unexploded ordnance by raising awareness and promoting behavioural change through public-information campaigns, education and training, and liaison with communities. TMAC units aim to use every opportunity available to conduct MRE, for example, temple fairs or local gatherings. These activities would ensure that communities are aware of the risks from mines, unexploded ordnance and/or abandoned munitions and are encouraged to behave in ways that reduce the risk to people, property and the environment.

The Psychology Battalion of the Army Special Warfare Unit, with the support of relevant NGOs, has conducted regular MRE for the local communities in contaminated areas. Although not the only factor, MRE has contributed to a major decrease in landmine victims in the past several years. The statistics show that most victims continue to be male adults due to their way of life that includes many being hunters and gatherers. The number of youth victims that are youths seem to decrease due to many MRE programs in schools that have systematically been incorporated into the local education curriculum. Thailand aims to reach at least 30,000 yearly through MRE programs.

Mine Risk Education : MRE



As for **VA**, Thailand has adopted a holistic and integrated approach. Victim assistance measures in Thailand are comprehensive, which closely corresponds with the obligations under the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), being a long-term process encompassing many aspects of the lives of those victims. Services for landmine victims are integrated into the broader

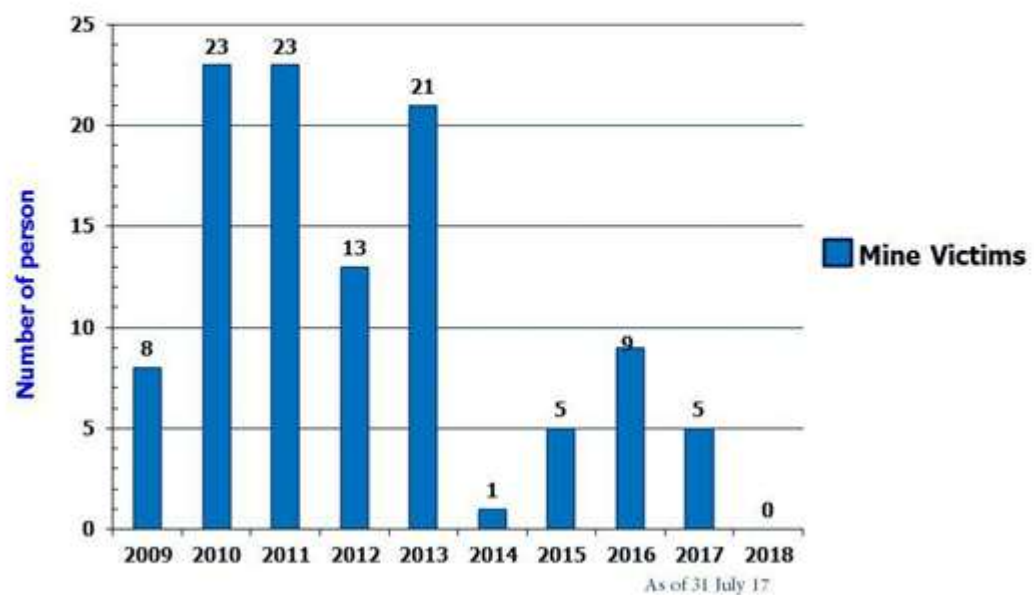
legal framework, national plans and programs for persons with disabilities in general. For instance, Thailand has introduced a universal health-care coverage scheme since 2002. The scheme covers treatment and rehabilitation, including prosthesis for persons with disabilities and those affected by mine related incidents. Moreover, the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security, has been working to ensure that people with disabilities are entitled to equal opportunities and rights are protected. Currently, all persons with disability receive monthly support payment of 800 Baht per person. The Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare and the Ministry of Agriculture has supported victims to restart their livelihoods with vocational training and agricultural incentive, such as provision of seeds and livestock. In 2016, Thailand was a Member and Chair of the Committee on Victim Assistance under the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention. During its term, Thailand had worked with partners in different Conventions that contain related provisions on victim assistance, in particular the Convention on Cluster Munitions and the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons, and launched the Guidance on Victim Assistance Reporting at the 15th Meeting of the State Parties in Santiago, Chile.

One recent case to showcase Thailand's synchronized and comprehensive VA strategy was in early 2017. A deminer of HMAU 2 in Bo Rai District, Trat Province, encountered a slight accident near a stream with contamination. The team immediately called the National Institute of Emergency Medicine under the Ministry of Public Health's hotline. Emergency respondents arrived at the scene in a matter of minutes and took the deminer to the hospital to recover safely.



The National Institute of Emergency Medicine's 1669 hotline responded immediately and professionally to the call

Mine Victims



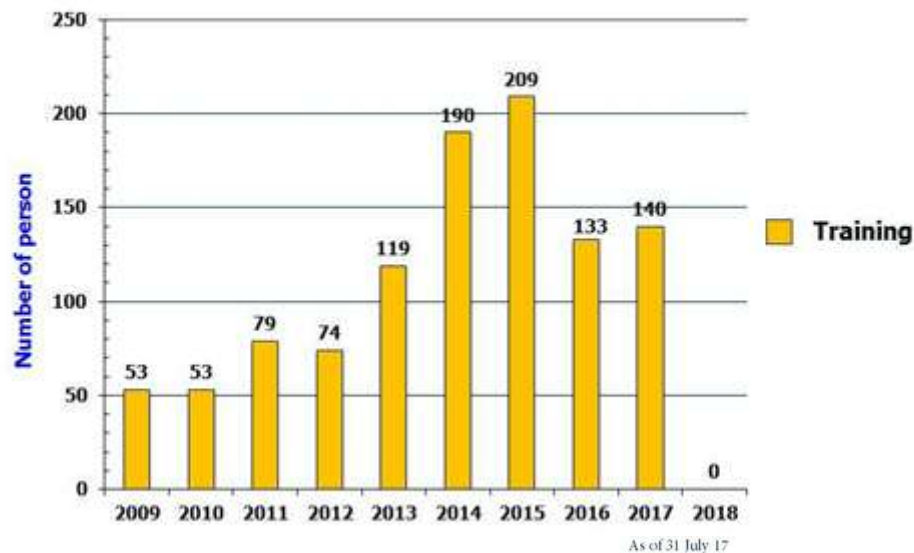
CAPACITY BUILDING AND STRENGTHENED COOPERATION AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

Thailand recognizes the importance of building closer relations with partners and counterparts, as well as supporting others in capacity building. This will enable all relevant agencies, including TMAC and NGOs, to work together to achieve the common objective of a country free of landmines.

TMAC has co-organized several trainings with its partners, including 4 workshops on EOD level 1 and 2 with the United States Pacific Command (USPACOM) for a total of 53 participants, and 2 NTS courses with NPA and the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) for a total of 26 participants. These events have helped develop the capability and efficiency of personnel responsible for resurveying operations. Other government agencies also played a crucial part.

For instance, the National Institute of Emergency Medicine under the Ministry of Public Health organized a first aid course, while the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security organized a workshop on the rights of persons with disabilities. These concerted efforts resulted in a successful resurveying campaign in Ubon Ratchathani province due to the enhanced relationships and understanding within the local community.

Training



ENHANCED INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Thailand supports closer cooperation among States Parties, which will create better mutual understanding, reconciliation, as well as foster sustainable development in the bilateral and regional contexts.

On the **bilateral level**, Thailand has and will continue to push for more robust consultation mechanisms on border issues, which include further engagement with Mine Action Centers and bodies from neighboring countries. TMAC has continuously approached several competent agencies of neighboring countries, especially the Cambodian Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority (CMAA) and other agencies such as the Cambodian Mine Action Center (CMAC). The two discussing the possibility for joint operations. Thailand's priorities are on (a) Special Economic Zones and (b) 7 permanent joint border checkpoints and 7 temporary joint border checkpoints to promote (i) enhanced border-crossing performance; (ii) infrastructure and operating costs reduction; and (iii) compliance with international conventions such as the Kyoto Convention on relating to the simplification of customs procedures and the harmonization of border controls.

At the **regional level**, a joint exercise under the ASEAN Defense Ministerial Meeting (ADMM) and ADMM Plus framework was organized in Pune, India in 2016. A Humanitarian Mine Action (HMA) Group was then established to advance further cooperation, namely to promote cooperation among member countries in recovery from the aftermath of bombs, mines, and explosives left over from wars and conflicts.

TMAC has also pursued the aim of becoming an ASEAN Centre of Excellence in mine action with 5 major focuses: (a) regional EOD training center in cooperation with USPACOM (b) center for

NTS training in cooperation with GICHD and NPA (c) facilitation center for information management for NGOs (d) ASEAN dog hospital and (e) prosthesis production and education center.

BETTER INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

Thailand has continued to strengthen its information management system. Initially, reports from operators were submitted in different formats and with incomplete information. For this reason progress reports were submitted and collated at a national level that did not allow disaggregation by Province. Since then, Thailand has built capacity of its information management team, systems and processes to enable more precise information on survey and clearance operations to be collected and displayed since 2015. Thailand continues to support the continued improvement of its information management system, using national standards.

THE REMAINING CHALLENGE

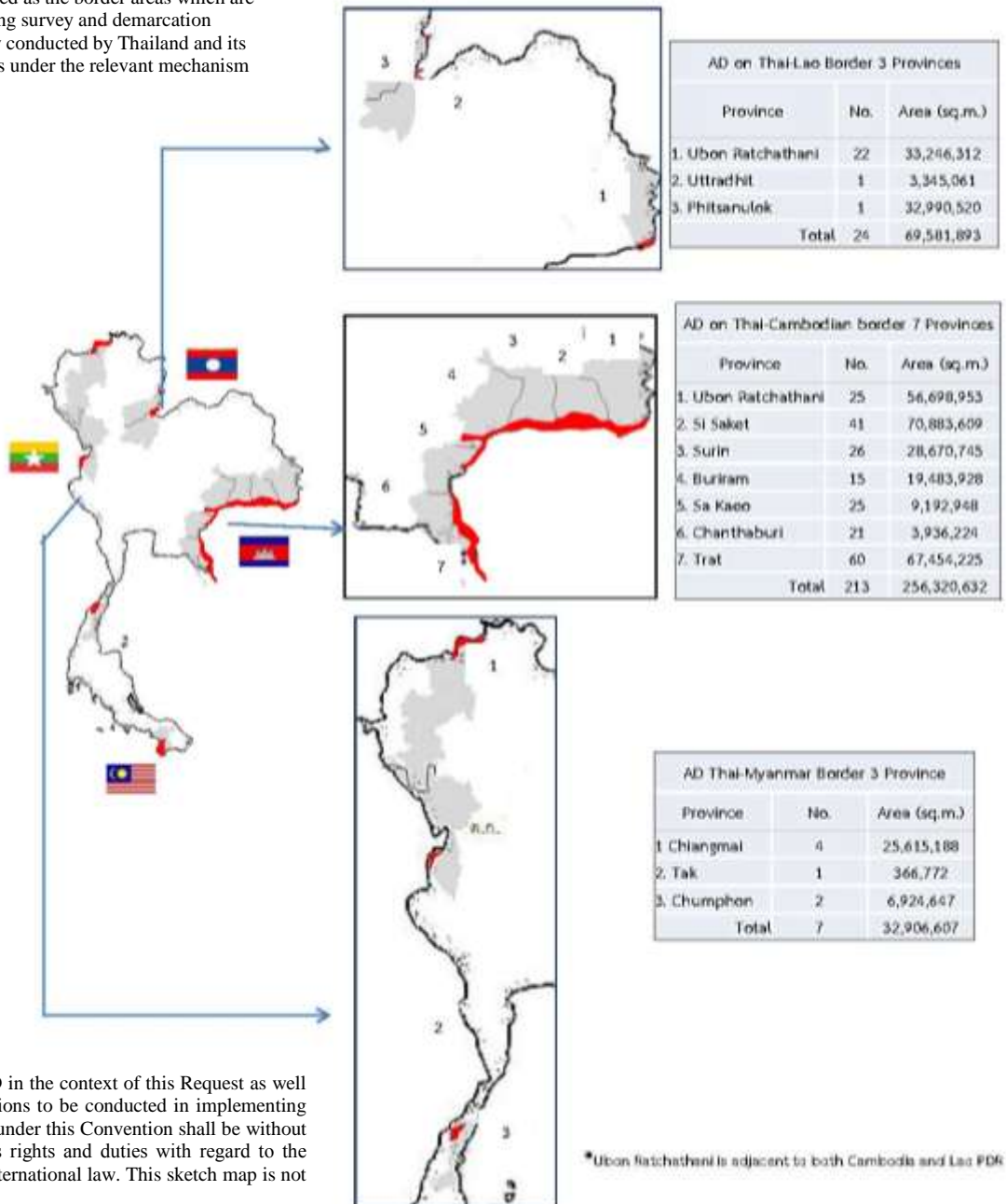
Province	Number of contaminated Districts	Number of areas suspected to contain anti-personnel mines	Total amount of area known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines (square meters)	Amount of area suspected to contain anti-personnel mines to be addressed in Phase 1 (square meters)	Amount of area suspected to contain anti-personnel mines to be addressed in Phase 2 (square meters)
Sa Kaeo	4	25	9,559,798	366,850	9,192,948
Trat	3	72	86,653,376	19,199,151	67,454,225
Chanthaburi	2	21	4,691,044	75,4820	3,936,224
Buri-ram	2	15	19,483,928		19,483,928
Surin	4	32	30,540,079	1,869,334	2,867,0745
Si Sa ket	3	54	88,865,408	17,981,799	70,883,609
Ubon Ratchathani	4	71	112,424,212	22,478,947	89,945,265
Uttaradit	1	1	3,345,061		334,5061
Phitsanulok	1	1	32,990,520		32,990,520
Tak	1	1	366,772		366,772
Chiangmai	2	4	25,615,188		2,561,5188
Chumphon	1	2	6,924,647		6,924,647
Yala	2	6	1,145,139	1,145,139	
Total	30	305	422,605,172	63,796,040	358,809,132

COMPLICATED BY BORDER ISSUES (AD)

The difficulty to access areas to be demined mostly relates to ADs. Currently, the remaining areas to be demined, including the ADs, cover 358,890,132 square meters in 12 Provinces and border 3 countries, (Cambodia, Laos, and Myanmar). Thailand works closely with all three neighboring countries to expedite the boundary survey and demarcation process while enjoying excellent ties with all of them. (*Annex 6: Thailand's Border*)

SUSPECTED HAZARDOUS AREA : SHA
 Classified as Area to be Demarcated : AD
 12 Provinces*/ 244 Areas/ 358,809,132 sq. m.

AD shall be construed as the border areas which are subject to the pending survey and demarcation process to be jointly conducted by Thailand and its respective neighbors under the relevant mechanism and framework.



The use of the term AD in the context of this Request as well as the demining operations to be conducted in implementing Thailand's obligations under this Convention shall be without prejudice to Thailand's rights and duties with regard to the land boundary under international law. This sketch map is not to scale.

Thai - Myanmar Border

This area involves three provinces (Chiang Mai, Tak, and Chumphon), a total of 7 Suspected Hazard Areas (SHAs) or 32,900,000 square meters. In 2014, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand invited 15 delegates from Myanmar to observe training on demining in Thailand. During the official visit to Thailand of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Leader of the National League for Democracy,

Thailand proposed an aid package to support Myanmar's demining efforts with an emphasis on victim assistance and mine risk education. ADs are located in Chumphon province in the South of Thailand and will further be discussed by the two countries.

On the Thai-Myanmar boundary demarcation, the two countries concluded in 1991 the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand and the Government of the Union of Myanmar relating to the Fixed Boundary on the Mae Sai-Nam Ruak Rivers Sector. Thailand and Myanmar are also negotiating an MOU on the Survey and Demarcation of the entire stretch of common boundary and will meet at the 9th Meeting of the Thailand-Myanmar Joint Boundary Committee in mid-2017 to expedite the process. Meanwhile, the Joint Technical Committee on River Boundary and Joint Committee Relating to Fixed Boundary on the Mae Sai-Nam Ruak Rivers Sector, along with sub-Committees under the JBC, held their meetings in January 2017, and the Meetings of Joint Technical Survey Committee and Senior Officials were held March 2017.

Thai - Lao Border

Three provinces are involved (Uttaradit, Phitsanulok, and Ubon Ratchathani), a total of 24 SHAs or 69,600,000 square meters. TMAC has requested to include the issue of demining in the Areas to be Demarcated in the Thai-Lao General Border Committee (GBC) meeting. In 2015-2016, TMAC in cooperation with the USPACOM, hosted the EOD level 1 training for 36 officers from the National Regulatory Authority for UXO/Mine Action Sector in Laos (UXO-NRA Laos) and Lao National Unexploded Ordnance Programme (UXO LAO). TMAC and USPACOM plan to continue the trainings, both before and after demarcation, into the future as part of a collaborative agenda in confidence building.

Both countries have completed 96 percent of the land boundary demarcation, with 210 boundary pillars installed. The 11th Meeting of the Thai-Lao Joint Boundary Commission will be held in the second half of 2017 to accelerate the demarcation process of the remaining section of land boundary.

Thai - Cambodian Border

Seven provinces are involved (Ubon Ratchathani, Surin, Buriram, Sisa Ket, Sa Kaeo, Chanthaburi and Trat), a total of 213 SHAs or 256,300,000 square meters. Within the framework of the Thai-Cambodian General Border Committee, the two countries agreed to support joint operation on demining between TMAC and CMAC, and the Thai side proposed cooperation on demining in Special Economic Zones (SEZs) along the Thai-Cambodian border for the successful implementation of SEZ development

Other areas

Under the responsibility of Humanitarian Mine Action Units HMAU TMAC, the border with Malaysia in the southern region, namely, Yala Province, has no ADs and is projected to be finished within 2018.



PLAN OF WORK: PHASE I AND PHASE II

Thailand's first extension for completion will expire on 1 November 2018. Thailand has roughly a year left to work until that deadline. This phase is called **Phase 1**. Thailand plans to complete all areas that are not complicated areas located along the border (AD) by the end of Phase 1. Thailand plans to submit an updated work plan after Phase 1 is complete. By reflecting back, Thailand will be able to better plan for work ahead and also reassure the States Parties of its commitment to rid its soil of landmines.

Phase 2 is the time request in this document for a 5-year extension period (from 1 November 2018 until 31 October 2023) and work will be conducted in the most difficult areas which are located along the Thai border (AD). The request has taken into account the reality of the situation, the capabilities of TMAC and its counterparts, as well as the need for consultations with all stakeholders, including various government agencies, local communities and neighboring countries.

Summarized Plan of Work: 2017 - 2023

No.	Province	Summarized Plan Of Work: 2017 - 2023						
		2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<u>Northern Region</u>		Phase 1		Phase 2				
1	Tak				↔			
2	Chiangmai			↔				
3	Uttradhit			↔				
4	Phitsanulok			↔				
<u>Northeastern Region</u>								
5	Ubon Ratchathani	↔		↔				
6	Si Sa Ket	↔		↔				
7	Surin	↔		↔				
8	Buri Ram			↔				
<u>Eastern Region</u>								
9	Trat	↔		↔				
10	Chanthaburi	↔		↔				
11	Sa Kaeo	↔		↔				
<u>Southern Region</u>								

12	Chumphon							
13	Yala							

Thailand's Annual Land Milestones Towards Completion: Phase 1 and 2			
Outputs	Phase 1	Phase 2	Total
Size (Sq.m)	63,796,040	358,809,132	422,695,172

PHASE 1: JANUARY 2017 – 31 OCTOBER 2018

During this phase, Thailand aims to release a total of 63,796,040 square meters of the suspected contaminated area, resulting in a remaining challenge of 358,809,132 square meters to be addressed during the extension period. As of 31 July 2017, Thailand has addressed 12,877,196 square meters, reducing its remaining challenge from 422,605,172 square meters to 409,727,976 square meters, 16 percent of its original challenge (2,556,700,000 square meters). During August 2017 – October 2018, Thailand aims to address the outstanding 50,918,844 square meters of Phase 1. During this phase, Thailand will also start to prepare for the second extension period so that there will be proper continuation. Thailand plans to submit an updated work plan to States Parties, through its Annual Article 7 Report in 2019, after Phase 1 is complete.

Manpower

No.	Organization	Amount (person)			Mine detection dog	Mine detector
		Male	Female	Total		
1	TMAC	178	19	197	8	39
2	HMAU 1	80	-	80	5	18
3	HMAU 2	84	-	84	5	35
4	HMAU 3	86	-	86	4	29
5	HMAU 4	80	-	80	5	20
Total TMAC		433	19	452	27	141
6	NPA	9	9	18	-	26
7	TDA	20	4	24	-	12
8	PRO	25	5	30	-	N/A
Total NGOs		54	18	72	-	38
Total		487	37	524	27	179

*At present, PRO has suspended its operations as it waits for adequate funding

Operational Plan and Budget : Phase 1 (2017-2018)

Responsible Unit	Province	2017	2018	Total	Remark
HMAU-1	Sa Kaeo	366,850		366,850	
Total H1 Planned Reduction		366,850		366,850	
Method		TS+Clr	MRE+VA		
Budget		9,758,210	8,000,000	17,758,210	
HMAU-2	Trat	9,406,834	9,792,317	19,199,151	Supported by NPA and TDA
	Chanthaburi	754,820		754,820	
Total H2 Planned Reduction		10,161,654	9,792,317	19,953,971	
Method		NTS+TS+Clr	NTS+TS+Clr		
Budget		45,320,977	43,673,734	88,994,711	
HMAU-3	Buri-Ram				Supported by NPA and TDA
	Surin	1,824,928	44,406	1,869,334	
	Si Sa ket	16,626,580	1,355,219	17,981,799	
	Ubon Ratchathani	5,206,134	17,272,813	22,478,947	
Total H3 Planned Reduction		23,657,642	18,672,438	42,330,080	
Method		NTS+TS+Clr	NTS+TS+Clr		
Budget		105,513,083	83,279,073	188,792,157	
HMAU-4	Uttaradit				MRE/VA Activities only
	Phitsanulok				
	Tak				
	Chiang Mai				
Total H4 Planned Reduction					
Method		MRE+VA	MRE+VA		
Budget		8,000,000	8,000,000	16,000,000	
HMAU-TMAC	Yala	558,443	586,696	1,145,139	
	Chumphon				
Total H-TMAC Planned Reduction		558,443	586,696	1,145,139	
Method		NTS+TS	NTS+TS		
Budget		18,568,230	19,507,642	38,075,872	
Equipment/Training		15,000,000	15,000,000	30,000,000	
Budget/year		202,160,499	177,460,449	379,620,949	

NPA Planned Reduction		16,626,580	20,000,000	36,626,580	Support HMAU-2,3
Method		NTS+TS	NTS+TS		
Budget		1,500,000	14,000,000	25,500,000	
TDA Planned Reduction		5,047,781	5,000,000	10,047,781	Support HMAU-2,3
Method		TS+Clr	TS+Clr		
Budget		11,500,000	11,500,000	23,000,000	
Budget/year		23,000,000	25,500,000	48,500,000	

Grand TOTAL	Area Reduced	34,744,589	29,051,451	63,796,040	
	Equipment /Training	15,000,000	15,000,000	30,000,000	
	Budget/year	236,905,089	206,511,900	443,416,989	

PHASE 2: 1 NOVEMBER 2018 – 31 OCTOBER 2023

Phase 2 is the time request in this document for a 5-year extension period. During this phase Thailand aims to complete its remaining Article 5 Challenge of 358,809,132 square meters. This work will be conducted in the most difficult areas which are located along the Thai border (AD). The request has taken into account the reality of the situation, the capabilities of TMAC and its counterparts, as well as the need for consultations with all stakeholders, including various government agencies, local communities and neighboring countries. The chart below shows an overview of TMAC's plan of work for the extension period, a more comprehensive plan and budget can be found in the next section.

Thailand has come up with a comprehensive strategy to expedite work in the challenging ADs that sees work being prioritized from the easiest areas and areas necessity for livelihood and economic development. As for harder ADs, Thailand will use all possible mechanisms such as diplomatic mechanisms, to help gain access for demining. Details on the strategies are provided in the sections to come.

Responsible Unit	Province	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total	Remark
HMAU-1	Sa Kaeo	2,024,780	2,890,174	1,860,964	1,287,705	1,129,325	9,192,948	
Total H1 Planned Reduction		2,024,780	2,890,174	1,860,964	1,287,705	1,129,325	9,192,948	
Method		TS+Clr	TS+Clr	TS+Clr	TS+Clr	TS+Clr		
Budget		8,291,474	11,835,263	7,620,648	5,273,152	4,624,586	37,645,122	
HMAU-2	Trat	14,224,792	13,529,093	13,415,392	11,565,768	14,719,180	67,454,225	Supported by NPA and TDA
	Chanthaburi	856,272	318,916	1,500,000	1,261,036	-	3,936,224	
Total H2 Planned Reduction		15,081,064	13,848,009	14,915,392	12,826,804	14,719,180	71,390,449	
Method		NTS+TS+Clr	NTS+TS+Clr	NTS+TS+Clr	NTS+TS+Clr	NTS+TS+Clr		
Budget		35,138,879	32,265,861	34,752,863	29,886,453	34,295,689	166,339,746	
HMAU-3	Buri-Ram	3,651,365	2,589,063	2,109,485	3,994,847	7,139,168	19,483,928	Supported by NPA and TDA
	Surin	5,808,238	5,904,352	4,329,843	6,735,946	5,892,366	28,670,745	
	Si Sa ket	14,587,381	16,688,454	13,563,638	14,490,476	11,553,660	70,883,609	
	Ubon Ratchathani	16,681,957	17,287,185	19,839,000	21,700,951	14,436,172	89,945,265	
Total H3 Planned Reduction		40,728,941	42,469,054	39,841,966	46,922,220	39,021,366	208,983,547	
Method		NTS+TS+Clr	NTS+TS+Clr	NTS+TS+Clr	NTS+TS+Clr	NTS+TS+Clr		
Budget		132,776,348	138,449,116	129,884,809	152,966,437	127,209,653	681,286,363	
HMAU-4	Uttaradit	3,000,000	345,061				3,345,061	
	Phitsanulok	11,000,000	5,500,000	6,000,000	5,500,000	4,990,520	32,990,520	
	Tak		366,772				366,772	
	Chiang Mai		6,000,000	4,615,188	8,000,000	7,000,000	25,615,188	

Total H4 Planned Reduction		14,000,000	12,211,833	10,615,188	13,500,000	11,990,520	62,317,541	
Method		NTS+TS	NTS+TS	NTS+TS	NTS+TS	NTS+TS		
Budget		16,800,000	14,654,200	12,738,226	16,200,000	14,388,624	74,781,049	
HMAU-TMAC	Yala							
	Chumphon	281,697	642,950	6,000,000			6,924,647	
Total H-TMAC Planned Reduction		281,697	642,950	6,000,000			6,924,647	
Method		NTS+TS	NTS+TS	NTS+TS				
Budget		1,873,285	4,275,618	39,900,000			46,048,903	
TOTAL Area Reduced		72,116,482	72,062,020	73,233,510	74,536,729	66,860,391	358,809,132	
Equipment /Training		15,000,000	15,000,000	15,000,000	15,000,000	15,000,000	75,000,000	
Budget/year		194,879,986	201,480,057	224,896,546	204,326,042	180,518,552	1,006,101,183	

NPA Planned Reduction		20,000,000	20,000,000	20,000,000	20,000,000	20,000,000	100,000,000	Support HMAU- 2,3
Method		NTS+TS	NTS+TS	NTS+TS	NTS+TS	NTS+TS		
Budget		14,000,000	14,000,000	14,000,000	14,000,000	14,000,000	70,000,000	
TDA Planned Reduction		5,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000	25,000,000	Support HMAU- 2,3
Method		TS+Clr	TS+Clr	TS+Clr	TS+Clr	TS+Clr		
Budget		11,500,000	11,500,000	11,500,000	11,500,000	11,500,000	57,500,000	
Budget/year		25,500,000	25,500,000	25,500,000	25,500,000	25,500,000	127,500,000	

Grand TOTAL	Area Reduced	72,116,482	72,062,020	73,233,510	74,536,729	66,860,391	358,809,132	
	Equipment/ Training	15,000,000	15,000,000	15,000,000	15,000,000	15,000,000	75,000,000	
	Budget/year	235,379,986	241,980,057	265,396,546	244,826,042	221,018,552	1,208,601,183	

Capacity building and Support Request

As Thailand moves towards more intensive LR activities, the heightened need for trained personnel on NTS is a necessity. Thailand therefore plans to organize more trainings on NTS in the upcoming years. For instance, Thailand has approached the Marine Force Pacific (MARFORPAC) and Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) for continued support on NTS training, as well as on EOD, both level 1 and 2.

In additional, Thailand plans to bring in new technology such as drones and robots to help survey hard to access areas near the border. However, Thailand has yet to acquire such technologies and

know-how. As such technologies become more commonly introduced through demining operations around the world; Thailand would like to further explore such options.

For the period of the second extension request, the areas that remain are hard to access. Thailand would appreciate training and technological support from States and NGOs in order to help build and enhance the necessary capacity and expertise to enter and work in those areas with greater ease. For instance, All Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) would highly benefit work in ADs. Thailand remains open and welcomes any kind of support towards Mine Action work.

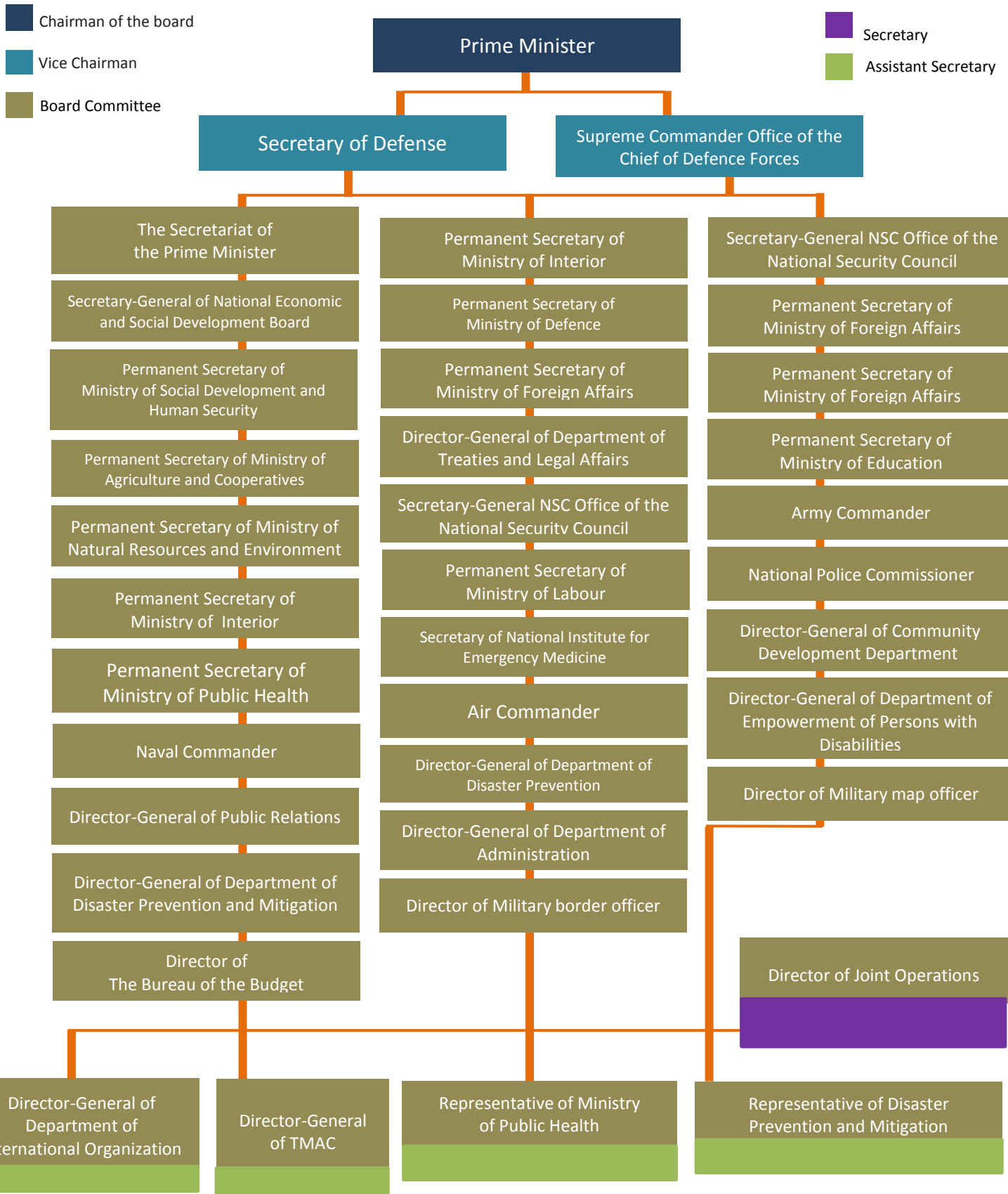
Joint Operations

Thailand has been continuously assessing the possibility of a joint operation with neighboring countries. The idea has been on the bilateral discussion table, most recently with Cambodia, and comes from a shared view that demining is a humanitarian initiative that both countries can mutually benefit from returning safe land for livelihood and economic development.

Joint operations however, do not denote two demining teams from different nationalities mixing with each other to work in a location in one country. Such formulation would be complicate to manage and could produce security and international law-related concerns. Therefore, a joint operation denotes two demining teams from neighboring countries working in their own territory but in parallel with each other along the border line. There would be regular information, expertise, and progress sharing to expedite work for both countries. A joint secretariat would be set up to facilitate cross communication. Thailand believes that a pilot joint operation between two NPA teams would be a good start, since NPA works in many counties with common mine problems with Thailand.

Establishment of a High Level National Committee

In May 2017, Thailand established the National Committee for Mine Action, chaired by the Prime Minister of Thailand, to foster policy direction and pull together all necessary assets to expedite efforts towards Thailand's strong commitment to meeting the obligations under the Convention. The Committee meets on an annual basis.

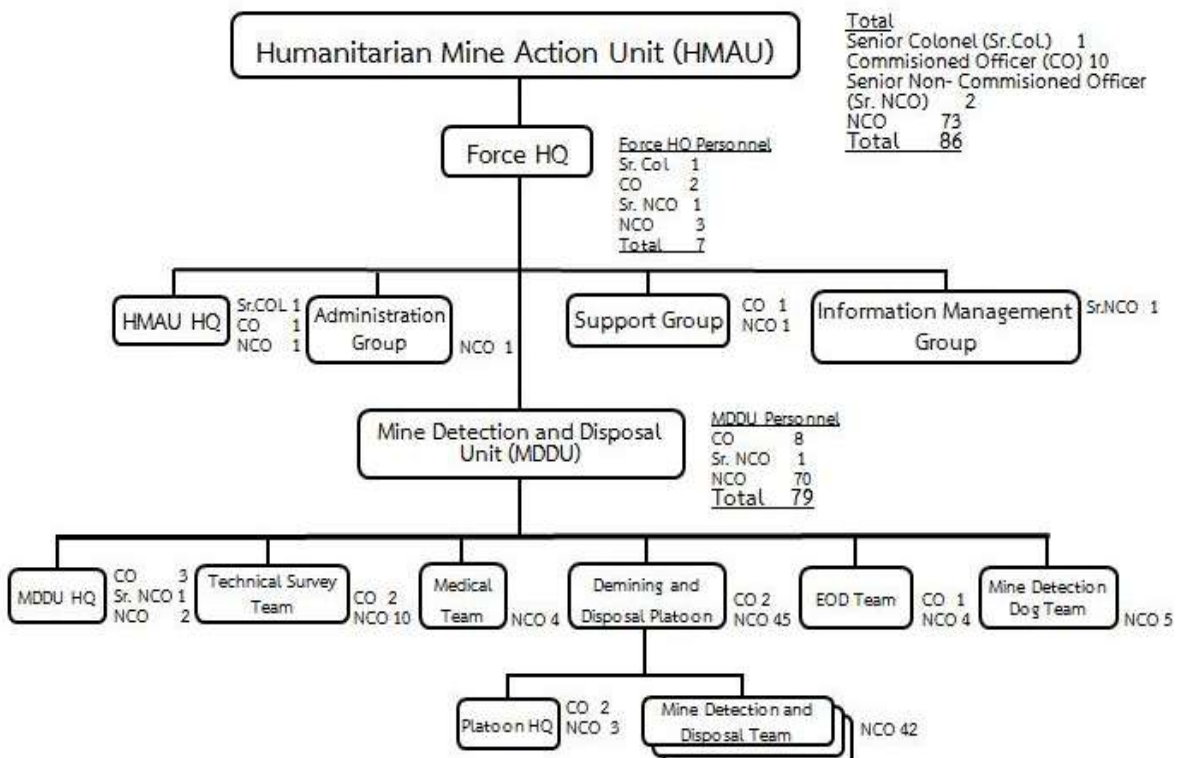


Reshuffling of Personnel

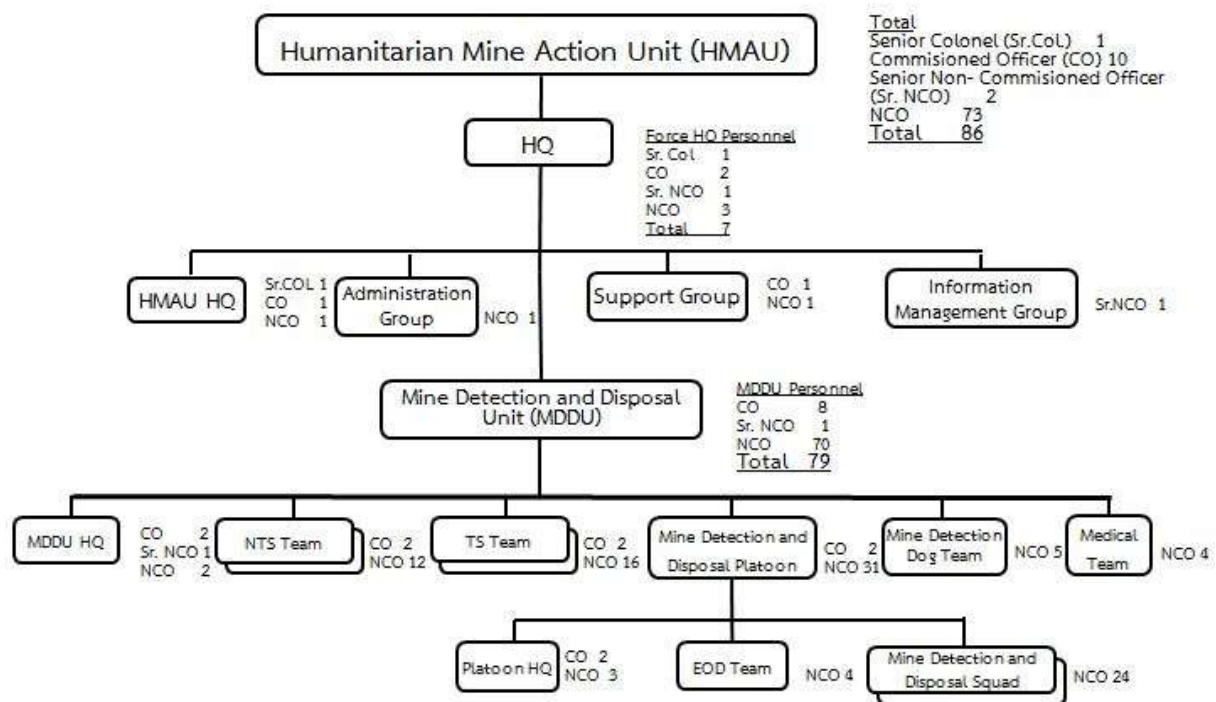
Although similar in composition, the varying capabilities of each HMAU are due to many factors, most notably the varying levels of difficulties in access to survey and demine that each HMAU faces. For instance, the planned productivity rate of HMAU1 is far less than other HMAUs due to 1) Sa Kaeo Province being bordered by Cambodia which still remains the most complicated AD 2) The mountainous terrain of Sa Kaeo poses challenges to the team 3) Some of HMAU1 staff were relocated temporary to help HMAU TMAC in Yala province to speed up work to be able to meet the 2018 deadline and 4) Thailand lacks the proper equipment to access harsh terrain. When Yala province is completed, HMAU TMAC will move to Chumphon Province during phase 2

Furthermore, in preparation for Phase 2, TMAC will gradually reshuffle its staff to meet the demands of more NTS as shown in the comparison chart below. Overall, staff will be relocated to expand the NTS team.

Traditional TMAC organizational structure



New TMAC Organizational Structure



More Efficient Work Method

Each of TMAC's field team comprises of a survey team and clearance team. In the past, after the survey team completes its survey, it will wait for the clearance team to finish clearance before both teams move to a new location. This method is inefficient as one team has to wait for the other. Therefore, TMAC will start employing a new method that sees the survey team move to survey another nearby site while the clearance team completes clearance in the previous one. Such continuous flow of work will help save cost and yield quicker results.

Methodology	Area per Peson per Day (sq.m.)	Working Day (Day)	Person per Team (Person)	Exjpense per sq.m. per personnel (Baht)	Annual Budget (Baht)
NTS	1,000	200	6	3	3,600,000.00
TS	654	200	7	6.65	6,088,740.00
Clr	170	200	7	6.65	1,582,700.00

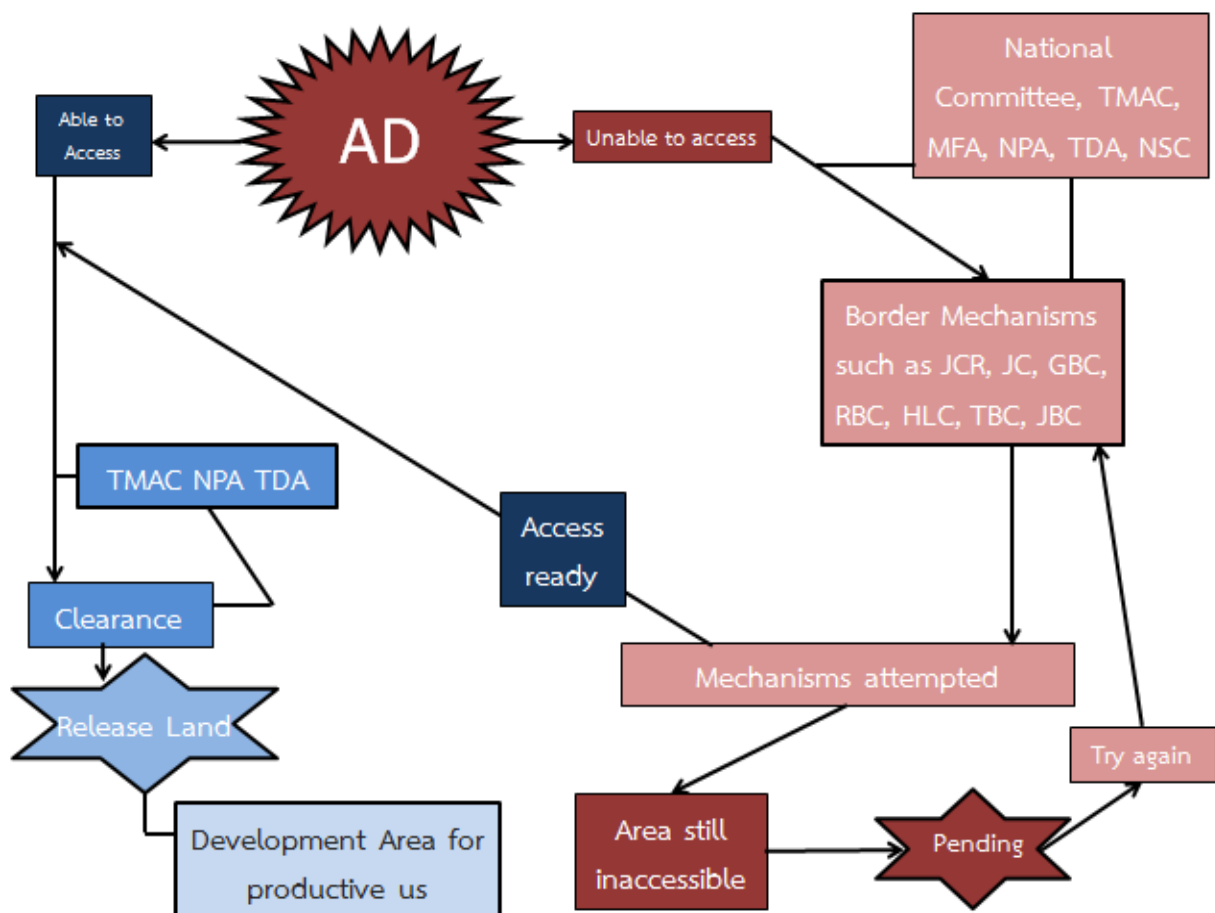
Introduction of Civilian Deminers

Thailand has always been unique in the sense that nearly all demining work, including funding in the country are from military. Only a small fraction is done by civilians from Thai Civilian Deminer

Association (TDA). However, the right to destroy mines and related ordnances still is solely military. This might see some changes in the coming years due to the complications and related security concerns that military personnel pose when entering the border area. To be able to work in these complicated areas during the period of the extension, TMAC plans to start training a new batch of civilian deminers since civilians have easier access to border areas to carry out demining with less complications. TMAC therefore plans to work even closer with the two main Mine Action NGOs in Thailand, TDA and NPA.

AD Master Plan

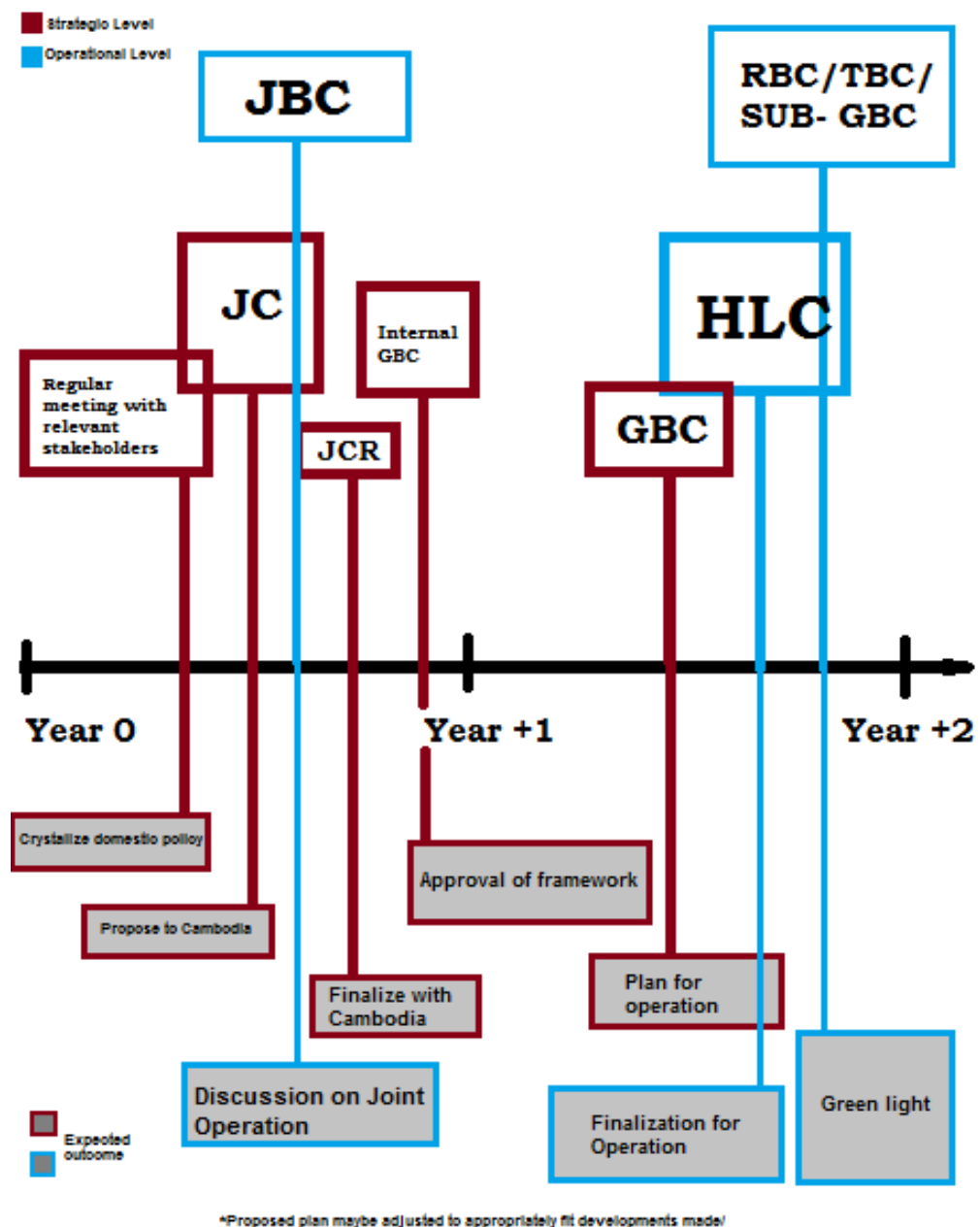
Thailand's plan to tackle ADs can be summarized by the chart below. Thailand will divide ADs into (1) areas that can be accessed immediately and (2) complicated areas that need to go through mechanisms to pave way for access. Work will begin with (1) first, such as the areas bordering Laos, which are all demarcated with no security related concerns. The areas with Cambodia will likely be in the later stages since demarcation and discussions are still on going. For (2), Thailand will determine in consultation with all relevant agencies to consider using the most appropriate mechanisms to work towards entering those areas. Thailand looks to submit a detailed plan of which areas to be accessed at the end of Phase 1, when all necessary consultations, both domestic and with our neighbors are completed.



JC: Joint Commission
 JBC: Joint Boundary Commission between Thailand and Cambodia
 GBC: General Border Committee
 BPKC: Border Peacekeeping Committee between Thailand and Cambodia
 RBC: Border Committee
 JCR: Joint Cabinet Retreat
 HLC: High Level Committee
 SUB-GBC: Sub General Border Committee

AD Draft Strategy for areas with Cambodia

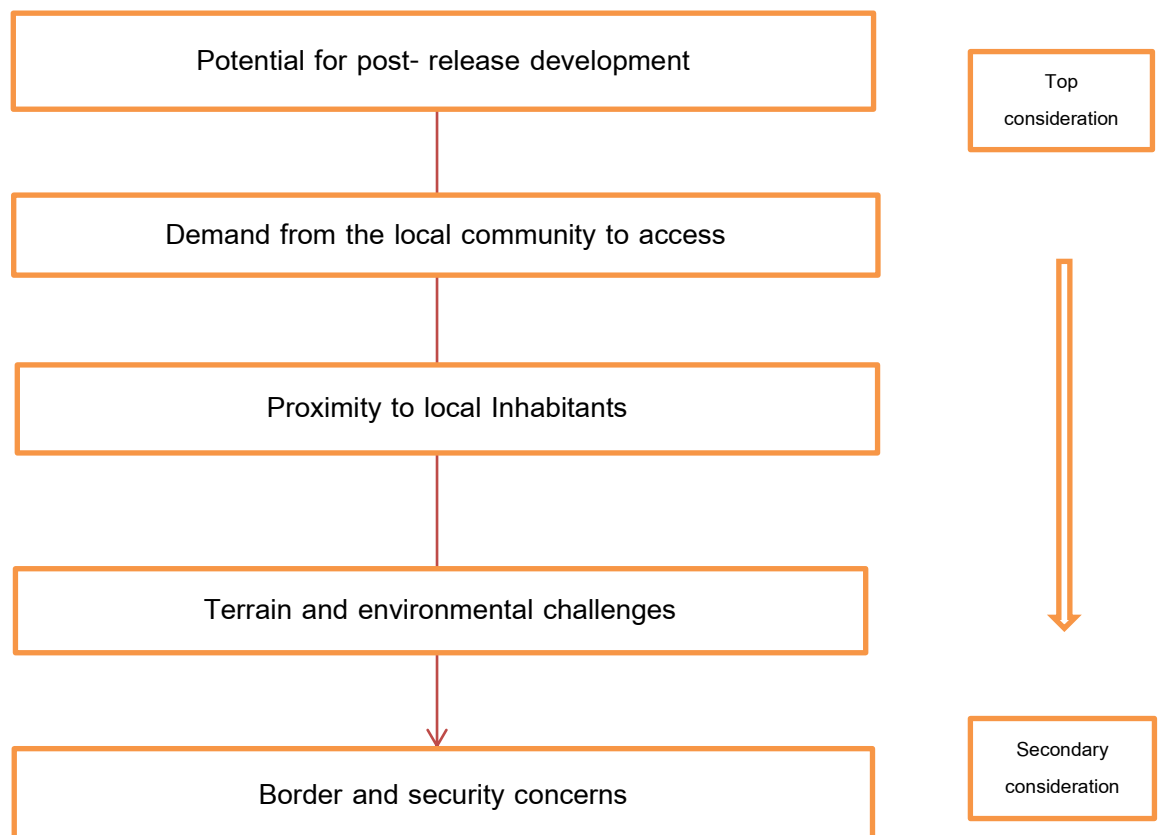
Most of the ADs are with Cambodia. Therefore, Thailand has put extra effort to come up with a detailed plan to work with Cambodia to enter those areas.



JC: Joint Commission
JBC: Joint Boundary Commission between Thailand and Cambodia
GBC: General Border Committee
BPKC: Border Peacekeeping Committee between Thailand and Cambodia
RBC: Border Committee
JCR: Joint Cabinet Retreat
HLC: High Level Committee
SUB-GBC: Sub General Border Committee

Prioritizing ADs

Due to the limited resources and challenges in AD access, Thailand needs to prioritize its works in AD. This will allow Thailand to complete easier areas while waiting for other mechanisms to pave way for access in more difficult ADs. Thailand uses the following factors to determine prioritizing AD work. Areas that fit most factors will be dealt with first. Due to the ongoing consultations, Thailand is not able to submit with this document a detailed plan of this prioritizing of ADs. Thailand plans to submit a more detailed plan that goes into specific areas at the end of Phase 1 when all consultations are completed.



POTENTIAL RISK FACTORS TOWARDS COMPLETION FOR THE REQUESTED EXTENSION PERIOD

Pending process of boundary survey and demarcation: While Thailand is committed to expediting boundary demarcation with its neighboring countries, such process rests upon political factors of neighboring countries which always have degrees of uncertainties. Unclear boundary line inevitably poses difficulty to access some border areas for safety or security concerns. The success will also depend on our neighbors' views, policy, and willingness to cooperate on humanitarian grounds, which is the factor beyond Thailand's control.

Unforeseen Circumstances and force majeure: causes that are outside the control of the parties involved that could not be evaded through the exercise of due care, such as natural disasters, change in terrain, political uncertainties, and major budget cuts due to the need for urgent reallocation of funds.

ANNEXES

1. Origins of Thailand's Landmine Challenge

Landmine contaminated areas in Thailand are mostly found along Thailand's borders, especially the borders with Cambodia. The two main causes of landmine and unexploded ordnance (UXO) contamination in Thailand are **(1)** Cambodia's internal conflict which spilled over to Thai-Cambodian border area in 1970s – early 1990s and **(2)** the 1965-1981 conflict between the Thai government and communist insurgents, especially in northern Thailand. Millions of explosive remnants remain in these areas despite the conflicts ending, threatening the peace and security of the communities in the affected areas. To date, thousands have been injured or killed by these explosive remnants.

2. Thailand's Demining Structure

No.	Organization	Amount (person)			Mine detection dog	Mine detector
		Male	Female	Total		
1	TMAC	178	19	197	8	39
2	HMAU 1	80	-	80	5	18
3	HMAU 2	84	-	84	5	35
4	HMAU 3	86	-	86	4	29
5	HMAU 4	80	-	80	5	20
Total TMAC		433	19	452	27	141
6	NPA	9	9	18	-	26
7	TDA	20	4	24	-	12
8	PRO	25	5	30	-	N/A
Total NGOs		54	18	72	-	38
Total		487	37	524	27	179

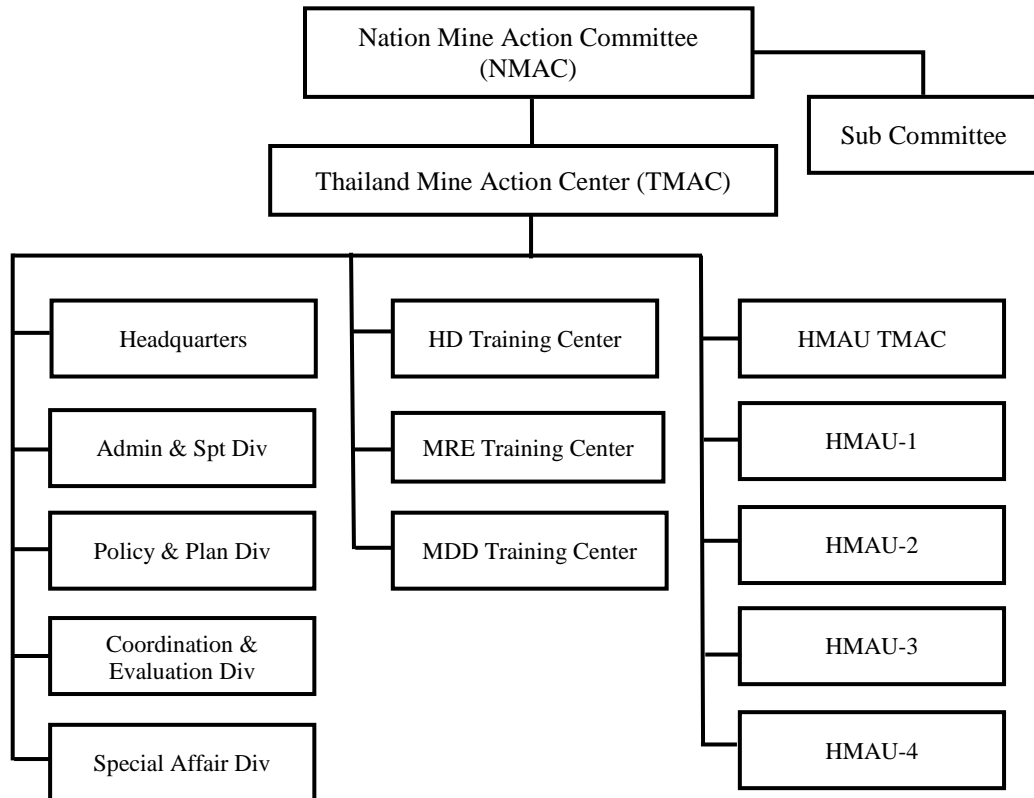
*At present, PRO has suspended its operations as it waits for adequate funding

TMAC operates under the authority of the Supreme Command Headquarters of the Ministry of Defence. Five Humanitarian Mine Action Units (HMAU) were established to conduct demining operations and cooperate with other local organizations in conducting MRE and victim assistance

- **HMAU-1** Burapha Task Force, responsible for Sakeo province
- **HMAU-2** Chantaburi Marine Task Force, responsible for Chantaburi and Trat provinces
- **HMAU-3** Suranaree Task Force, responsible for Buriram, Surin, Si Saket and Ubon Ratchatani provinces
- **HMAU-4** Phamuang Task Force, responsible for Phitsanulok, Phetchabun, Uttaradit, Nan and Phayao provinces.
- **HMAU TMAC** which was established in 2016 using personnel from TMAC Headquarters is responsible for the work in the southern provinces (Chumphon and Yala). Each HMAU has approximately 100 personnel and complimented by 27 demining dogs.
- Personnel from Government and Non-Governmental Sector in Thailand and mine detectors

TMAC also has three training schools (1) Humanitarian Demining Training School, Ratchaburi province (2) Mine Risk Education Training School, Lopburi province and (3) Mine Detection Dog Training School, Nakhorn Ratchasima province.

ORGANIZATION OF TMAC



TMAC's work is supported by a number of non-governmental organizations, including Norwegians People's Aid (NPA), and Thai Civilian Deminer Association (TDA).

3. Landscape and climate challenges



Minefield in Harsh Terrain in Sa Kaeo Province



Minefield in Harsh Terrain in Surin Province



Dense Forest in Trat Province



Mountainous Terrain in Mae Hong Son Province



Severe Weather in Chanthaburi Province



Flooded Area in Trat Province



4. Result of the Pilot Project

The first phase of the Pilot Project took place in Ubon Ratchathani province (the most heavily contaminated province) using the Evidence Based Survey (EBS), as part of NTS, to locate CHAs. The 8-month resurvey enabled TMAC to release 8,000,000 square meters (14 SHAs) from the total of 119,000,000 square meters (72 SHAs) and discovered 800,000 square meters CHAs. The results revealed that only 10 per cent of the suspected areas actually contained landmines. Moreover, an earlier attempt to resurvey in 2013-2015 led by NPA in the areas in Northeastern Thailand, showed that only 0.22 percent of all suspected land actually contained landmines. Therefore, with the experiences to date with the resurveying, TMAC has estimated that once completed nationwide, no more than 30 percent of the suspected areas in record now will actually be contaminated. Thailand will keep the Committee updated on its progress.

Annex 4: Summary of Establishing a Baseline of Mine/ERW Contamination in Thailand Project

A: Summary of Project Information (excerpted from the Project Document)

1. General

Vast areas along the Thai - Cambodian border are severely contaminated by landmines and ERW. Mine action resources are scarce in Thailand and it has proven inefficient to deploy these resources effectively because of a lack of a detailed evidence based survey. Past survey efforts have in part identified the larger areas that could be contaminated but these areas are inflated and fail to represent a realistic scope of contamination. The landmine problem in Thailand thus has remained poorly defined.

2. Problem statement

Past survey efforts have defined only parts of the mine/ERW problem. Typically, existing minefield records tend to be inaccurate and inflated. Worse, yet unknown minefields have surfaced along the Cambodian border. Effective employment of scarce mine action resources for clearance of mine suspected areas is hampered and made more costly because mine action resources are tasked to clear land that is actually free of contamination. Ad-hoc mine action activities in vastly inflated polygons is an ineffective use of scarce mine action resources.

Efforts to systematically and effectively release mine-contaminated land rely on a credible baseline survey that will deliver a much higher resolution of true contamination and facilitate more effective addressing of the follow-on requirement for release of land.

A baseline survey will clarify the extent of contamination. In the absence of an accurate baseline survey the extent of the mine/ERW contamination will remain erroneous and provide unreliable data for resource mobilisation.

Past survey efforts have included a Landmine Impact Survey (LIS) and degrees of non-technical survey. The LIS initially identified 2,557 km² as SHAs. Subsequent national and international survey efforts over the years has justified cancellation of around 2,000 km², leaving approximately 528.2 km² of mine suspected land. While this is good, there is reason to believe that most of the remaining suspected areas are also hugely inflated.

3. Creating the baseline

A baseline survey is in effect an evidence-based non-technical survey (NTS) that may be enhanced with components of technical survey (TS) to provide greater accuracy where necessary. The survey will free up land where fear from mines/ERW currently impedes cultivation and other development/business initiatives. More specifically the survey will:

- ⇒ Define accurate CHA boundaries of all contaminated areas in Thailand
- ⇒ Enable effective planning of follow-on mine action activities after the survey
- ⇒ Reduce the follow-on requirement considerably
- ⇒ Steer development and industrial initiatives into areas that are mine free
- ⇒ Enable effective definition of requirements for mine action support at national and local levels and the type of assets/capacities required for best overall efficiency
- ⇒ Establish a credible national baseline defining the scope of mine, and ERW contamination

Key to building a successful baseline is a robust evidence-based survey methodology, a systematic information gathering/assessment process, well-trained survey teams and appropriate levels of quality assurance. The methodology is described in detail in NPAs document *"A guide to Non-Technical Survey"*, which will be the framework for designing and implementing the survey.

A priority has been given to completing the survey in Ubonratchathani province bordering both Lao PDR and Cambodia. This province has five suspected-hazardous districts and a total population of 1,844,669.

4. The survey process

TMAC/NPA has invested into developing improved methodology for conduct of more accurate survey and higher overall land release rates. The survey methodology is evidence based and combines non-technical and technical efforts to achieve the best results.

Non-technical Survey (NTS) is first step in the process. NTS is one of the most important, and also challenging, activities in the overall land release process. NTS is used to identify, as accurately as possible, those areas that require follow-on technical survey and/or clearance. The NTS will also re-survey areas previously recorded as hazardous, to determine if the information and evidence is still valid or if all or parts of it may be cancelled. Information gathered during NTS assists the overall national planning and prioritization process. The NTS provides vital information that will assist TMAC with the planning of follow-on Technical Survey (TS) and Clearance operations to ensure that all survey/clearance resources are applied efficiently and effectively within prioritised tasks.

The NTS process can be divided into eight main steps. These steps may require various degrees of attention. For example, not all steps are applicable when operating in restricted areas, minefields with minefield records or where village meetings cannot be undertaken.



Figure illustrating principle elements of the baseline survey

5. Objectives

The main objective is to establish a survey capacity and conduct systematic survey of all potentially mined areas along the Thai – Cambodian border over a period of 24 months. At least three survey teams will be required. The emphasis in 2016 will be on completing Ubonratchathani province in the HMAU-3 area of responsibility. Remaining SHAs will tentatively be addressed in 2017. At the beginning, the survey will combine NTS and TS capacities to increase land cancellation rates and more narrowly define CHAs. It will further ensure that future technical survey and clearance resources are targeted towards the areas that are actually mined as opposed to clearing a large portion of mine free land.

Objective	Activities
Objective 1 Establish a capacity of 3 NTS teams, supported with a TS component	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up and train teams • Assess past survey information/reports • Finalise survey concept and survey plan for all 3 teams • Prepare for deployment of 3 combined survey teams
Objective 2 Survey all areas on the Cambodian border	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deploy all teams for systematic NTS • Systematically survey all areas under HMAU-3 responsibility • Survey other areas of high priority when required • Survey all remaining mine suspected areas when the survey in HMAU-3 is completed
Objective 3 Effective monitoring of progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On-going Quality Control of the three teams • On-going assessment of the security situation prior to deployment of teams • On-going talks with TMAC and HMAU-3 about progress and alternative deployment plans if the security situation prevents safe survey work in certain areas

B: Summary of Preliminary Survey Results¹

The project started on 1 January 2016, when NPA worked in joint-operations with the HMAU3, conducting a pilot baseline survey in the Ubonratchathani province. Throughout year 2106, the joint teams were able to survey 18 existing suspected hazardous areas (SHAs) close to communities, but not areas close to the border because of security concerns and as those areas are areas to be demarcated with neighbouring countries first (AD). Meanwhile, 11 new identified SHAs/suspected hazardous spots in addition to the existing SHAs were identified. Out of 11 new SHAs/suspected hazardous spots, 9 of them are confirmed hazardous areas. In total, NPA-HMAU3 survey teams conducted survey of 29 SHAs/suspected hazardous spots, on approximately 16,578,389 m² in 2016.

Preliminary Survey Results	m ²	%
Define CHA (including new found CHAs)	2,213,197	13.51
From existing SHAs	2,056,279	12.55
From new found	156,918	0.96
Areas without Evidence ² (In the process of categorizing this as Cancellation/ the Cancelled Areas with Restriction: CAWR.)	4,027,868	24.58
Cancellation by NTS	10,163,208	62.03
Total 16,383,880 (18 SHAs+9 new SHAs, which becoming CHAs later)	16,404,273 (100%)	100.12%* (16,383,880)

* If the 18 existing SHAs (16,383,880 m²) is considered 100%, when new found CHAs are added, the total will be more than 100%, (100.12%). This is also to show that the size of new found hazardous areas is relatively small, only 0.12%, comparing to the existing surveyed tasks.

C: NPA-HMAU 4 Part Completion Initiative (Pilot Land Release project in 2013-2015)

For the areas along Thai-Myanmar and Thai-Laos borders, NPA-HMAU 4's the "Part-Completion Initiative", a land release pilot project, was carried out in 2013-2015 in the Northern region. The result

¹ As of March 2017, the results are considered as preliminary results because completion survey reports have not yet been officially submitted to the Thailand Mine Action Center, in accordance to the Thailand National Mine Action Standards' requirements. There is a possibility of some slightly changes in figures, but it will not affect the overall interpretation and conclusion of the findings.

² According to the Article 5 of Mine Ban Treaty, each State Party shall make every effort to identify all areas under its jurisdiction or control in which anti-personnel mines are known or suspected to be emplaced and shall ensure as soon as possible that all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control are perimeter-marked, monitored and protected by fencing or other means, to ensure the effective exclusion of civilians, until all anti-personnel mines contained therein have been destroyed. The 'Areas without Evidence' from this survey results are the areas where no evidence of mines or threats was found. It should be cancelled according to the International Mine Action Standards. It's also no obligation stated in the treaty, after all reasonable efforts have been made and there is no known mines in the areas. However, TMAC, NPA and HMAU 3 are discussing how to eliminate fear from stakeholders and categorize these areas with full acceptance of all stakeholders in the country.

was that 99.78% of SHAs were cancelled, when 0.22% of SHAs containing landmines or unexploded ordnance (UXO) were cleared. Details of land release results can be found in the table below.

No	Task	Location	Cancelled Area m ²	Clearance m ²	Total Area m ²	Devices Found
1	713_01	Ban Nhong Luang Village, Nhong Luang Sub-district, Umphang District, Tak Province	4,411,153	0	4,411,153	AP = 13
2	997_01	Ban Nhong Luang Village, Umphang Sub-district, Umphang District, Tak Province	0	6,117	6,117	AP = 15
3	724_01	Ban Klor Tor Village, Mae Chan Sub-District, Umphang District, Tak Province	5,240,945	0	5,240,945	AP = 43, UXO = 3
	724_01/01	Ban Klor Tor Village, Mae Chan Sub-district, Umphang District, Tak Province	0	41,417	41,417	AP = 52, UXO = 6
4	813_01	Ban Hual Fan Village, Khun Yuam Sub-District, Khun Yuam District, Mae Hong Son Province	5,433,500	0	5,433,500	
5	774_01	Ban Na Mon Village, Muang Haeng Sub District, Wiang Haeng District, Chiangmai Province	3,354,380	0	3,354,380	
6	554_01	Ban Rom Klao Village, Namphang, Mae Charim Sub-District, Nan Province	2,653,871	0	2,653,871	AP = 1
		Total m²	21,093,849	47,534	21,141,383	AP = 124, UXO = 9

D: Discussion/conclusion

The preliminary survey results identified the realistic scope of the landmine problem of the Ubonratchathani province as well as reliably a projection of the whole country's problem. The rough estimation of remaining confirmed hazardous areas (CHA) of Thailand may be about 13.5% of the existing SHAs. The findings also showed that there are some new identified confirmed hazardous areas located outside the existing suspected hazardous areas in present TMAC database, but the size is very small, 156,918 m² or around 0.1% of surveyed areas.

For the areas along Thai-Myanmar and Thai-Laos borders, NPA-HMAU 4's the "Part-Completion Initiative", a land release pilot project, carried out in 2013-2015 in the Northern region. The result was that 99.78% of SHAs were cancelled, when 0.22% of SHAs containing landmines or unexploded ordnance (UXO) were cleared.

The findings clearly indicate that Thailand has a much smaller landmine problem than what was originally perceived. A complete evidence based survey in Thailand is likely to justify cancellation of as much as 80 - 90% of the remaining mine suspected areas, and in the areas bordering Myanmar and Lao PDR even up to 95 - 99% cancellation. Assuming this holds through for all current suspected hazardous areas it can be calculated with a fairly high probability that Thailand will be left with only around 40 km² of confirmed hazardous areas.

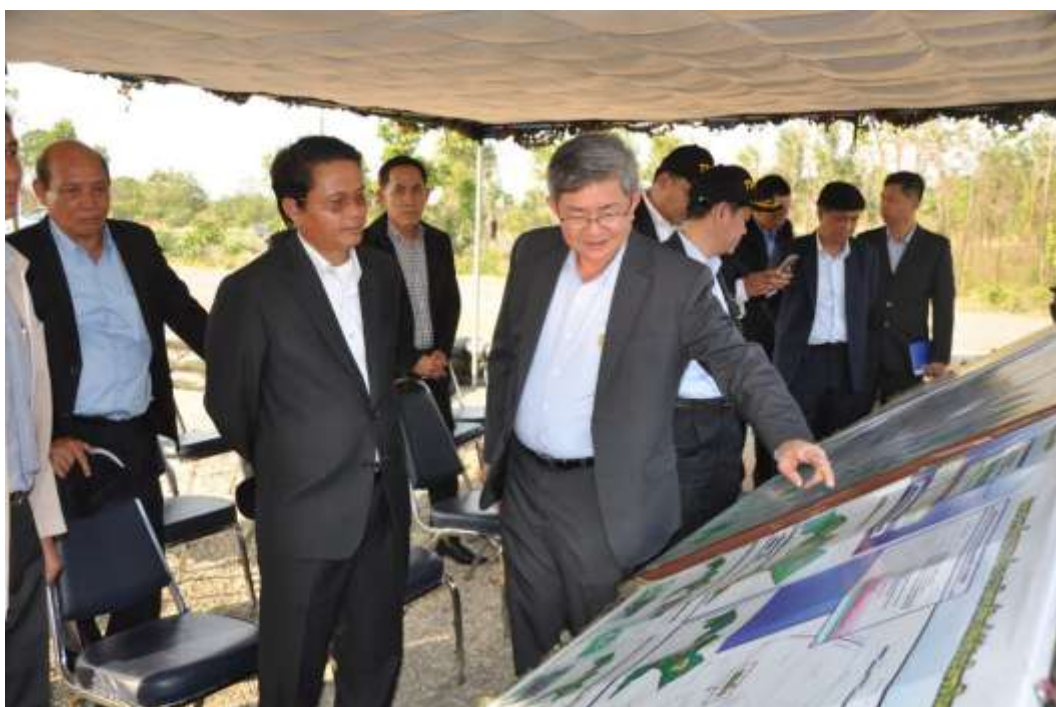
Based on existing data for TS and clearance operations in Thailand it is further calculated that the CHAs that are created from the pilot baseline survey might only need approximately 3 - 5 % of full clearance while the rest of the CHA will be released through TS. The amount of TS required for a CHA is in average estimated to be around 5 - 7%. This will bring the total need for TS and clearance down to around 8 - 12% of 40 km² or between 3,2 - 4,8 km² for the whole of Thailand's remaining landmine problem.

5. Activities and International Cooperation

CMAC Delegates visited TMAC to discuss possible cooperation 2-5 August 2016



Discussion on possible coordinated demining



TMAC visited to NRA Laos 18-22 July 2016



TMAC Director General attended the 15th Meeting of States Parties



Discussion during 15 MSP with Representatives from CMAA



NTS Training Cooperation with NPA and Local Official in Ubon Ratchathani



Discussion with Provincial Governor whose Province is affected by landmines



Vietnamese National Mine Action Center visited TMAC HQ



EOD Training with MARFORPAC

20 March – 9 April 2017



EOD Course with Personnel from Lao PDR and MARFORPAC
during 17 April – 6 May 2016



GICHD Official Visit to Thailand
during 13 – 15 December 2015



ISU's visit to TMAC to provide advice for Thailand's upcoming Extension Request
during 13-15 March 2017



6. Thailand's Border



The Borders of Thailand

Total border length along Thailand's territory and the neighbor countries is 5,656 km. with 31 provinces

Cambodia – territory 798 km. along 7 provinces

Laos - territory 1,810 km. along 12 provinces

Myanmar - territory 2,401 km. along 10 provinces

Malaysia - territory 647 km. along 4 provinces

**7. TMAC workshop with all relevant agencies to crystalize master plan for extension request,
Chai Nat Provinces, 1 – 4 August 2017**

