



**MoND Turkish Mine Action Center**  
**Meeting of the Convention on APMBC**  
**(15-19 November 2021)**



# Turkish Mine Action Center



**Speaker** : Maj. Şamil KOPTEKİN

**Duration** : **10 min.**

**Presentation Order :** Executive Summary of the **Extension Request**

- History of the Mine Action in Turkey
- Progress Made
- Current Situation
- Impeding Circumstances
- Activities to be Undertaken Over the Course of Initial Extension Period (2022-2025)
- Humanitarian, Social, Economic, and Environmental Implications of the Period (2022-2025)
- Remarks



# History of the Mine Action in Turkey



- Turkey became a party to Ottawa Convention on **1 March 2004**,
- Turkey ratified the Amended 2nd protocol of CCW on **2 March 2005**,
- Destruction of stockpile APMs were completed **by 2011** (Article 4 of the Convention ),
- Initial deadline to fulfill commitment under Article 5 of the Convention has been extended until **1 March 2022** for Turkey,





# Progress Made

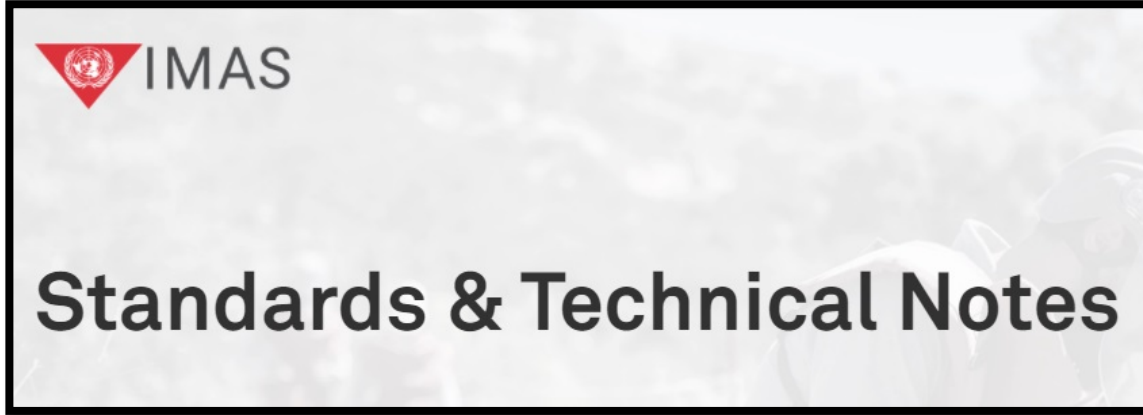


- The Turkish Mine Action Centre (TURMAC) **was established in 2015** by the Law 6586,
- A total of **167 mined areas** measuring **28,5 million** square meters were addressed with a total of **138.140** anti-personnel mines and **1.782** other explosive items having been identified and destroyed,
- The total remaining area to be addressed has been reduced from **172** million square meters to **143,5 million square meters** over the period of **2014–2021**,





# Progress Made



## Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA)

- TURMAC has issued “44 National Mine Action Standards (NMA) within the frame of IMAS and 7 Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)” which are to be updated regularly and when needed,
- 32 manual demining teams and 2 machines and 6 Mine Detection Dogs (MDD) operating at the moment. 8 additional manual demining teams, 14 MDDs and 6 machines are projected in 2022,
- The IMSMA (V.6) system was established in 2018 and it has been fully operational, it contains all up-to-date minefield and mine victim data and is used for all reporting and documentation including GIS.

# Progress Made



- **MDD training and accreditation sites** have been constructed and **6 MDDs** were accredited in 2021,
- **Accreditation site for mechanical demining tools** was constructed in 2020 and first tool was accredited according to international standards,



# Progress Made



- TURMAC has developed and published an evidence-based, costed and time bound **“National Strategic Plan for Mine Action”** in Turkey which covers **2020-2025**,
- In coordination with **Ministry of Family and Social Services** TURMAC has supplied various types of assistance (health, education, food, etc.) to **mine victims**,





# Current Situation



- Minefields that were installed as a part of its **Defence Policy (borders and military posts' security)** in the past are now obsolete due to **Integrated Border Management (IBM)** system which has been constructed throughout borders.



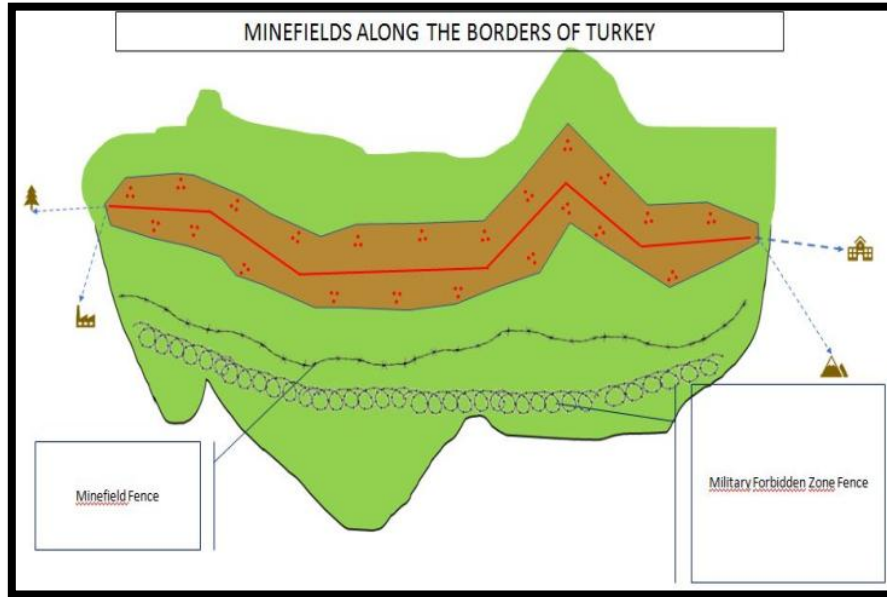


# Current Situation



- After seven (7) years of implementation (2014-2021) following the submission and approval of its first extension request, Turkey is not in a position to declare completion of its **Article 5 obligations** by the deadline.

# Impeding Circumstances



- Circumstances which **impede** the ability of Turkey to address all the APMs in mined areas are;
  - Persistence of **terrorist threat in the vicinity of Turkey's** border areas for humanitarian demining,
  - **Covid-19** pandemic that effected the Mine Action activities in terms of tender, procurement, travel, etc.
  - **Topographical challenges** particularly on the east and south-east region of Turkey,
  - **Instability** along the borders with countries such as **Syria and Iraq,**



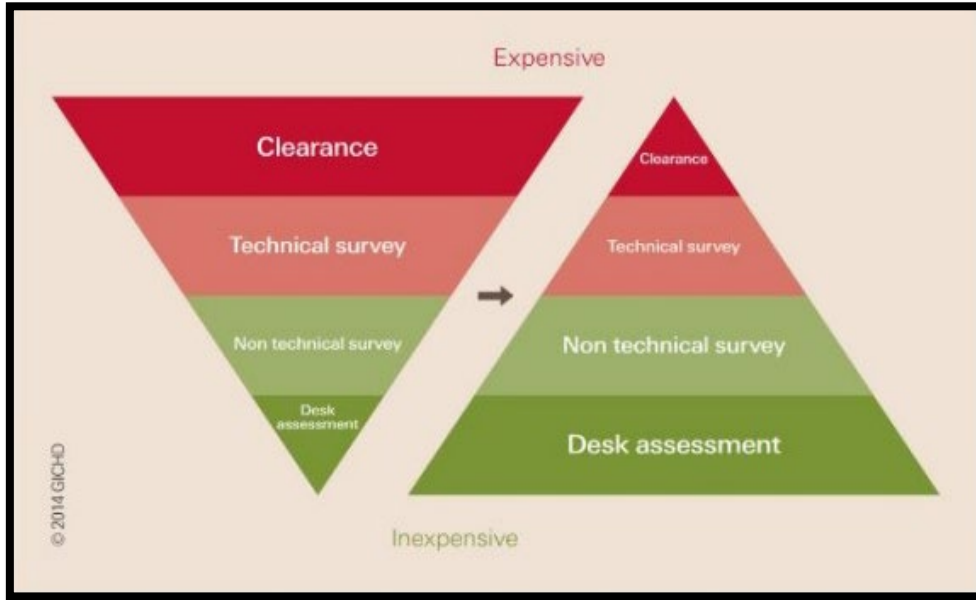
# Activities to be Undertaken Over the Course of Initial Extension Period (2022-2025)



- In order to fulfil its obligations in the context of **Article 5**, Turkey requests **an initial extension request** starting from **1<sup>st</sup> of March 2022 until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025**.

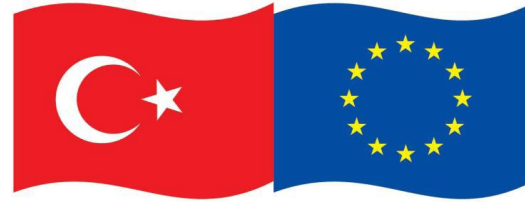


# Activities to be Undertaken Over the Course of Initial Extension Period (2022-2025)



- During this **three-year** period, **Turkey is going to:**
  - Carry out **Non-Technical Survey** of mined areas remaining to be addressed in the context of Article 5;
  - Prepare a comprehensive and realistic clearance programme for 3692 mined areas in pursuit of NTS project
  - Continue its **EORE** and **clearance efforts**;

# Activities to be Undertaken Over the Course of Initial Extension Period (2022-2025)



IPA II (2014-2020)

- Demining is funded by EU under IPA II (18.5 million €),
- Demining is planned in 4 provinces **covering 96 minefields (4.2 million square meters)** IOT find and destroy **88.500** mines,
- Project will be managed by UNDP and conducted by commercial contractors.

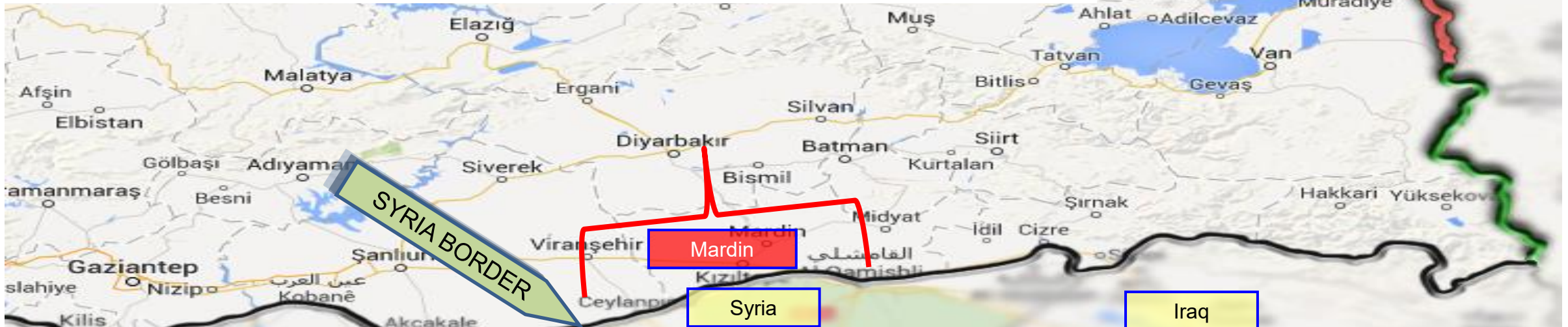




# Activities to be Undertaken Over the Course of Initial Extension Period (2022-2025)



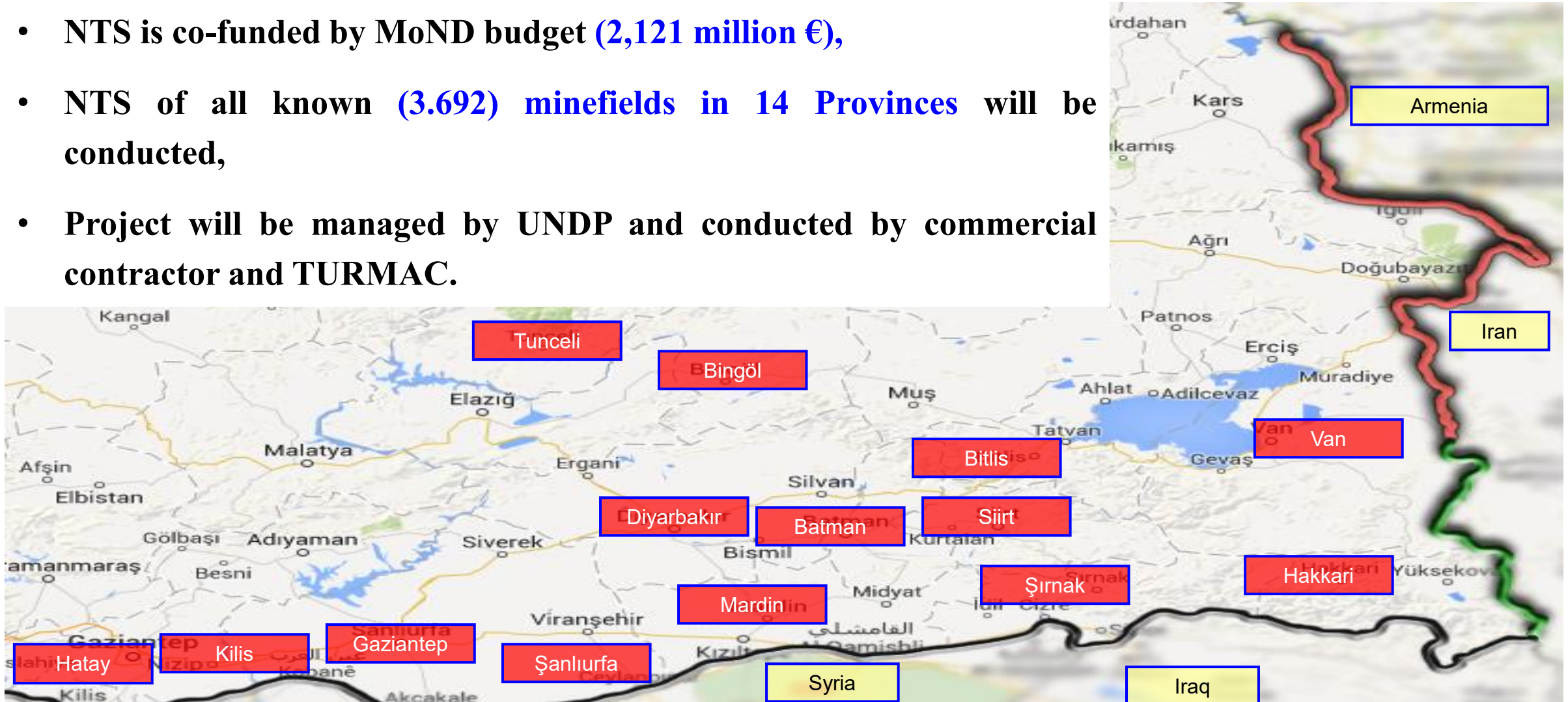
- Demining is funded by MoND budget,
- Demining is planned in Mardin province covering 44 minefields IOT find and destroy 13880 mines,
- Project will be managed by TURMAC and conducted by commercial contractor.





# Activities to be Undertaken Over the Course of Initial Extension Period (2022-2025)

- NTS is co-funded by MoND budget (2,121 million €),
- NTS of all known (3.692) minefields in 14 Provinces will be conducted,
- Project will be managed by UNDP and conducted by commercial contractor and TURMAC.



# Activities to be Undertaken Over the Course of Initial Extension Period (2022-2025)



- In addition to the abovementioned projects, during this **three-year** period;
  - Mine clearance activities will **continue** by means of **military units**,
  - **6 domestically produced** demining equipment will be procured/deployed in 2022





# Activities to be Undertaken Over the Course of Initial Extension Period (2022-2025)



- TURMAC “**National Explosive Ordnance Risk Education Plan**” (NEOREP), as a part of its Strategic Mine Action Plan (2020-2025) has three courses of actions which are aimed to be conducted simultaneously during **2021-2023**.



- i. NTS teams will conduct **EORE** in 14 provinces,
- ii. Selected and accredited CSOs will deliver **EORE** in 3 provinces,
- iii. Turkish Gendarmerie Command will carry on **EORE** 11 provinces.





# Humanitarian, Social, Economic and Environmental Implications of the Period (2022-2025)



- Considerable part of mined areas along the borders consists of **arable land**,
- Construction of a **modern and humanitarian** solution in replacement to **mined areas** continues to support the **Integrated Border Management** policy of Turkey.

## Remarks



- **Turkey** worked in close coordination with the Implementation Support Unit and the Committee on Article 5 Implementation to finalize and submit its **extension request** in terms of **Article 5**.

