

S1. Ladies and Gentlemen! First of all, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the President of the Convention and the ISU for organizing the Twentieth Meeting of States Parties, where I have an opportunity to share the progress made and challenges faced by Tajikistan in its fulfillment of Article 5 obligations.

S2. I would like to bring the updates on the progress made by our country since the recent Extension request by October 2022 to your attention. In 2019 during the Oslo Review Conference the second Extension Request until December 2025 submitted by Tajikistan was accepted by State Parties. At that moment the contamination in Tajikistan was 195 areas with the total size of 8,848,210 m². As of October 2022, the progress made 75 areas released covering 4 969 292 square meters; as the result 15,107 Anti-Personnel mines and other explosive devices destroyed.

S3. This map illustrates the remaining challenge as of October 2022, where orange triangles show the SHA and the red ones – CHA. It total, according to the available data, the contamination makes 156 hazard areas with the size of 8365217 sq.m., where 24 are the SHA with the size of 1 255 000 sq.m., and 132 are the CHA with the size of 7 110 217 sq.m.

S4. Here you can see the table demonstrating projection milestones of the number of areas and the size of mined area to be addressed annually to achieve completion.

S5. Taking into account the inaccessibility of minefields and the mountainous terrain of Tajikistan, and according to the latest Extension Request to fulfill the obligations under the Ottawa Convention and reach the complete clearance of the country by the end of 2025, it is required to add 7 more demining teams to Tajikistan Humanitarian Mine Action Program. As seen from this slide, if we move ahead with the same financial and technical capacity that we have today, we will accomplish the land release operations by end 2030.

S6. Main challenges faced by Tajikistan in the land release operations are listed on this slide. From them I would like to highlight the issue with the lack of minefield records - a number of minefields are identified without minefield records during the NTS.

Another serious challenge is caused by previously unknown mined areas that have been found during 2019-2022, among them 31 minefields registered with 2.5 mln sq.m., in our country.

Also, taking into account the approaching deadline of our extension request by 2025, there is still a significant shortage in funding of Tajikistan mine action programme.

S7. In 2023 NTS will be conducted to complete the survey of the remaining 16 MF Records (24 SHA with total area of 1 255 000 sq.meters).

Moreover, it is planned to conduct re-survey of 28 minefields which are hard to reach/changed location due to weather phenomena/etc. (total area – 1 639 941 sq.meters).

S8. Priorities for external assistance to fulfil the Article 5 obligations include additional funding to support the survey and demining operations; Equipment including Metal detectors, deminer's and EOD toolkits, PPEs, cross-country vehicles, communications devices, medical supplies, etc.;

S9. MRE sessions for teachers, schoolchildren and community members of mine risk areas located within Tajikistan are conducted every year to distribute relevant information and knowledge among at-risk population residing close to contaminated areas, which significantly reduces the risk of injury or death from a landmine/UXO explosion. Here you can see the statistics of MRE activities coverage in the country for the period of 2019-2022.

S10. In the forthcoming years it is planned to continue MRE activities with the broad coverage of target communities to ensure the raised awareness and reduction of the number of victims. More details are shown on this slide.

S11. Recognizing that the capacity and the funding support must be increased, the Government of Tajikistan is ready to provide the personnel needed for additional teams through the military authorities as their contribution to meeting the country's obligations in front of the Ottawa Convention.

On behalf of the Republic of Tajikistan, I would like to thank our current donors, US Department of State, OSCE, Norway and our partners FSD, NPA, GICHD, ISU, ICRC for their valuable contribution to the Tajikistan Mine Action Programme. And I would like to urge the international donor community to render support to Tajikistan Mine Action Programme to make our country mine-free and by doing this to improve the lives of our people and help the economy of Tajikistan grow. Thank you for your attention!



Tajikistan progress in the implementation of Article 5

Twentieth Meeting of the States Parties, Geneva, 21-25 November, 2022

Presenter: TNMAC Director

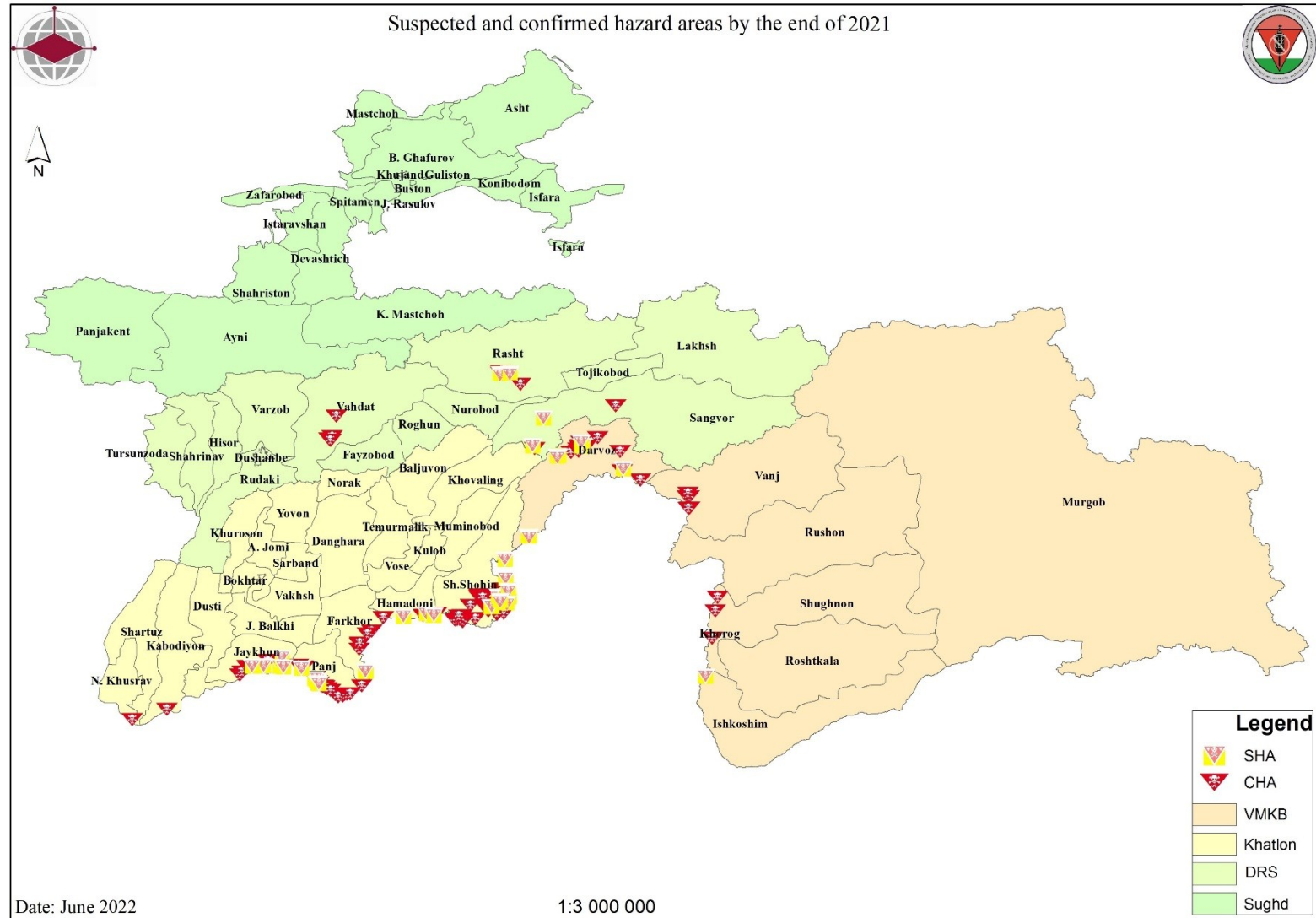
Muhabbat Ibrohimzoda

Progress made since the last extension request

Province	District	Cancelled area (m ²)	Reduced area (m ²)	Cleared area (m ²)	Total area released (m ²)	Number of AP Mines destroyed	Number of other explosive remnants of war	Number of areas released
Badakhshon (VMKB)	Darvoz	694509	456541	259 351	1410401	156	1130	18
	Ishqoshim	25000	0	0	25000	0	0	1
	Total	719509	456541	259351	1435401	156	1130	19
Khatlon	Sh.Shohin	565188	529603	1 093 212	2188003	10812	277	25
	Panj	118000	309017	530 101	957118	2613	34	26
	Khovaling	35800	77504	16 497	129801	1	0	3
	Total	718988	916124	1639810	3274922	13426	311	54
DRS	Sangvor	0	45037	6 345	51382	0	0	1
	Rast	0	17500	190087	207587	84	0	1
	Total	0	62537	196432	258969	84	0	2
General Total		1 438 497	1 435 202	2 095 593	4 969 292	13 666	1 441	75

Remaining Challenge

- 24 Suspected Hazardous Areas measuring 1,255,000 square meters;
- 132 Confirmed Hazardous Areas measuring 7,110,217 square meters;
- Total remaining 156 Hazardous Areas measuring 8,365,217 square meters.

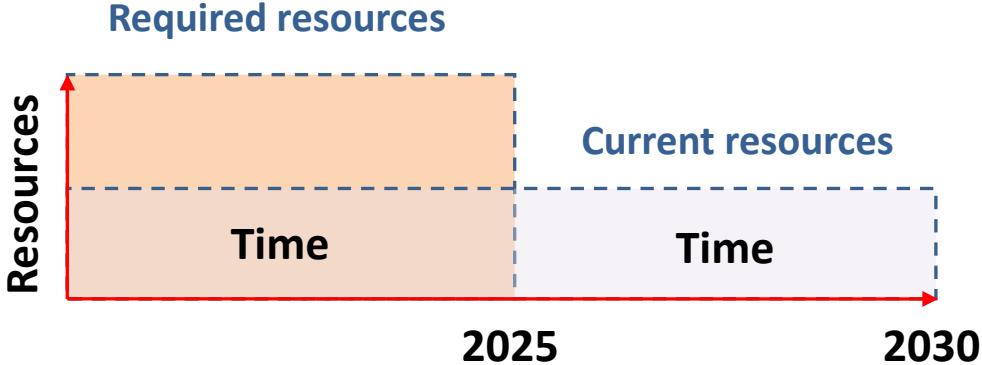
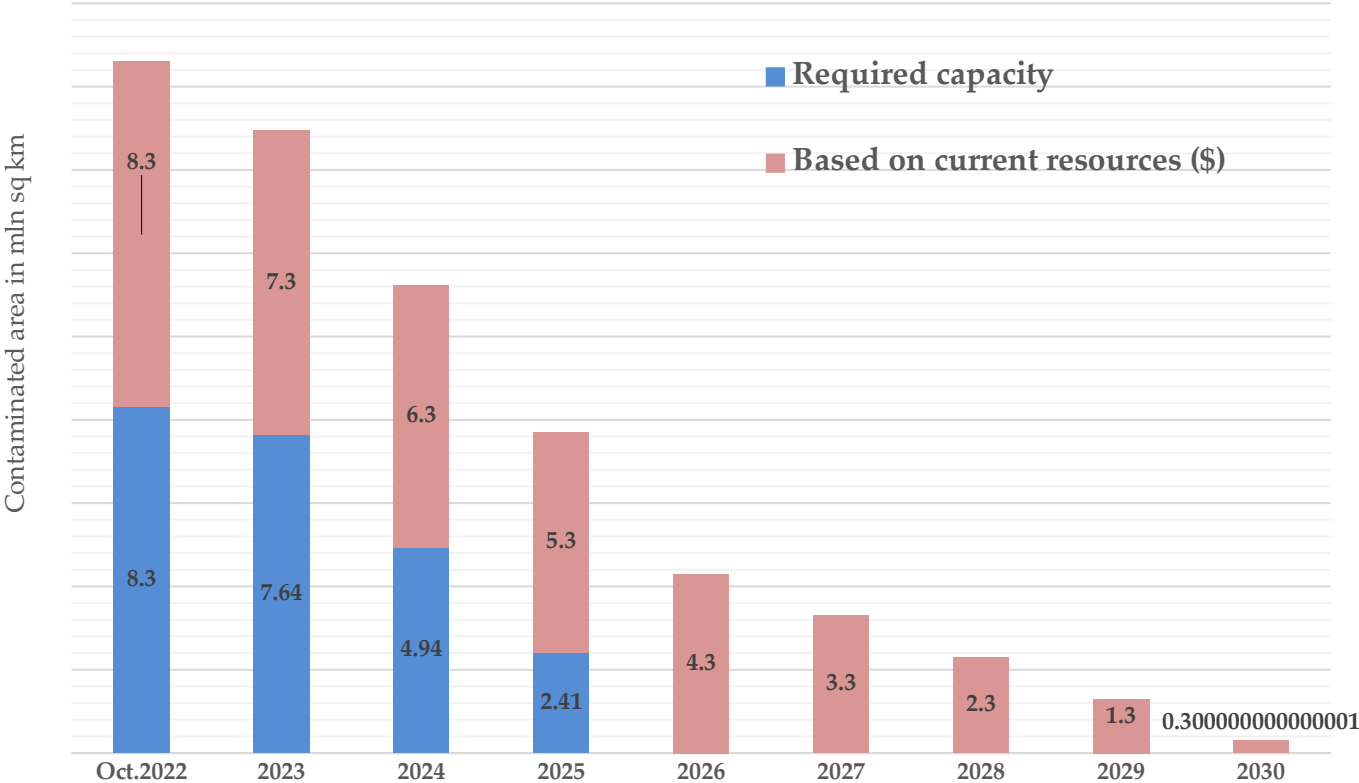


Expected Milestones

Years	Targets	Province			Total # of areas	Total area (m ²)
		Badakhshon (VMKB)	Khatlon	DRS		
as of October 2022	# of areas	0	5	1	6	
	area (m ²)	0	481 868	179 763		661 631
2023	# of areas	7	59	1	67	
	area (m ²)	703 919	1 953 883	50 000		2 707 802
2024	# of areas	9	49	0	58	
	area (m ²)	899 800	1 640 181	0		2 539 981
2025	# of areas	8	16	1	25	
	area (m ²)	1 363 119	992 684	100 000		2 455 803
2022-2025	# of areas	24	129	3	156	
	area (m²)	2 966 838	5 068 616	329 763		8 365 217

Expected Milestones

Land release projections based on required versus current capacity



Circumstances impeding completion

- Insufficient/limited funding;
- Difficult terrain/Weather conditions/
Natural disasters/High vegetation;
- Unavailability of minefield records;
- Previously unknown new mined areas;
- Security situation on the border.



Activities to be carried out

- In 2023 NTS/TS will be conducted to complete the survey of the remaining 16 MF Records (24 SHA with total area of 1 255 000 sq.meters).

District by district approach:

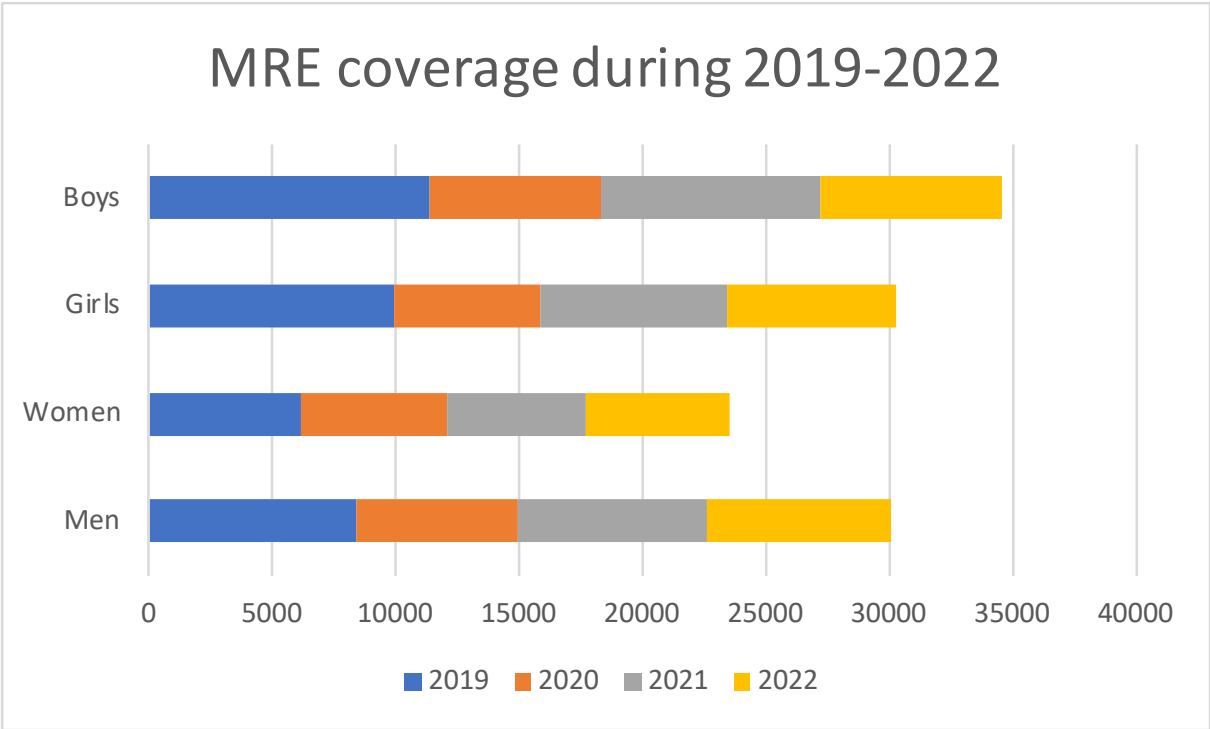
- By the end of 2022, according to the Annual Land Release Operation Plan, Rasht district will be announced a Mine Free district after the clearance of 2 minefields;
- In 2023, according to the preliminary Annual Land Release Operation Plan for 2023, Sangvor district will be announced Mine Free district after the clearance of 2 minefields;
- In 2023, land release operations on the areas, suspended in 2022 due to the end of the operational season, will continue;
- Prioritizing the land release operations based on the following aspects:
 - Duration of the operational season (ex. in Central region - from June to September);
 - Close distance of settlements to hazard areas;
 - Requests for clearance from the Government and local authorities;
- Conducting re-survey of 28 minefields which are hard to reach/changed location due to weather phenomena/etc. (total area – 1 639 941 sq.meters).

Priorities for external assistance in the fulfilment of Article 5 obligations

- Additional funding to support survey and demining operations;
- Equipment (mine detection equipment; EOD toolkits; operations and ambulance vehicles; PPEs; communication devices; etc.)
- Capacity development through provision of trainings in survey, information management, quality management, priority setting, risk assessment, post-clearance assessment;
- Expertise and technical support in completion of baseline survey;
- Involvement of qualified specialist for mechanical demining machine technical maintenance;

Mine Risk Education and Reduction since the beginning of the extension period

	2019	2020	2021	2022
Men	8381	6579	7691	7408
Women	6140	5911	5690	5813
Girls	9898	5940	7584	6880
Boys	11377	6929	8940	7279



Mine Risk Education and Reduction efforts to be taken

- Develop and print MRE materials for further distribution among adults and children of communities residing close to contaminated areas;
- Produce warning boards/signs to be installed in contaminated areas;
- Conduct MRE sessions with teachers and representatives of communities located close to contaminated areas;
- Maintain cooperation with Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan to disseminate safe messages and raise awareness about risk of explosive ordnance;
- Conduct monitoring of MRE activities performed in target areas, including those conducted in collaboration with Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan.

Thank you for your attention!

