



**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AND
OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
G E N E V A**

No. 49/22

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Croatia to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Croatia transmits to the Secretariat of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention the Mine Action Revised Work Plan for meeting the obligations in accordance with the Article 5 of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction for 2022-2026.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Croatia to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretariat of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention the assurances of its highest consideration.



Geneva, 09 May 2022

**Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention Secretariat
United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (Geneva Branch)
Palais des Nations
1211 Geneva 10
Switzerland**



REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

MINE ACTION REVISED WORK PLAN

for meeting the
Article 5 obligations of the
Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling,
Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on
their Destruction

2022 – 2026

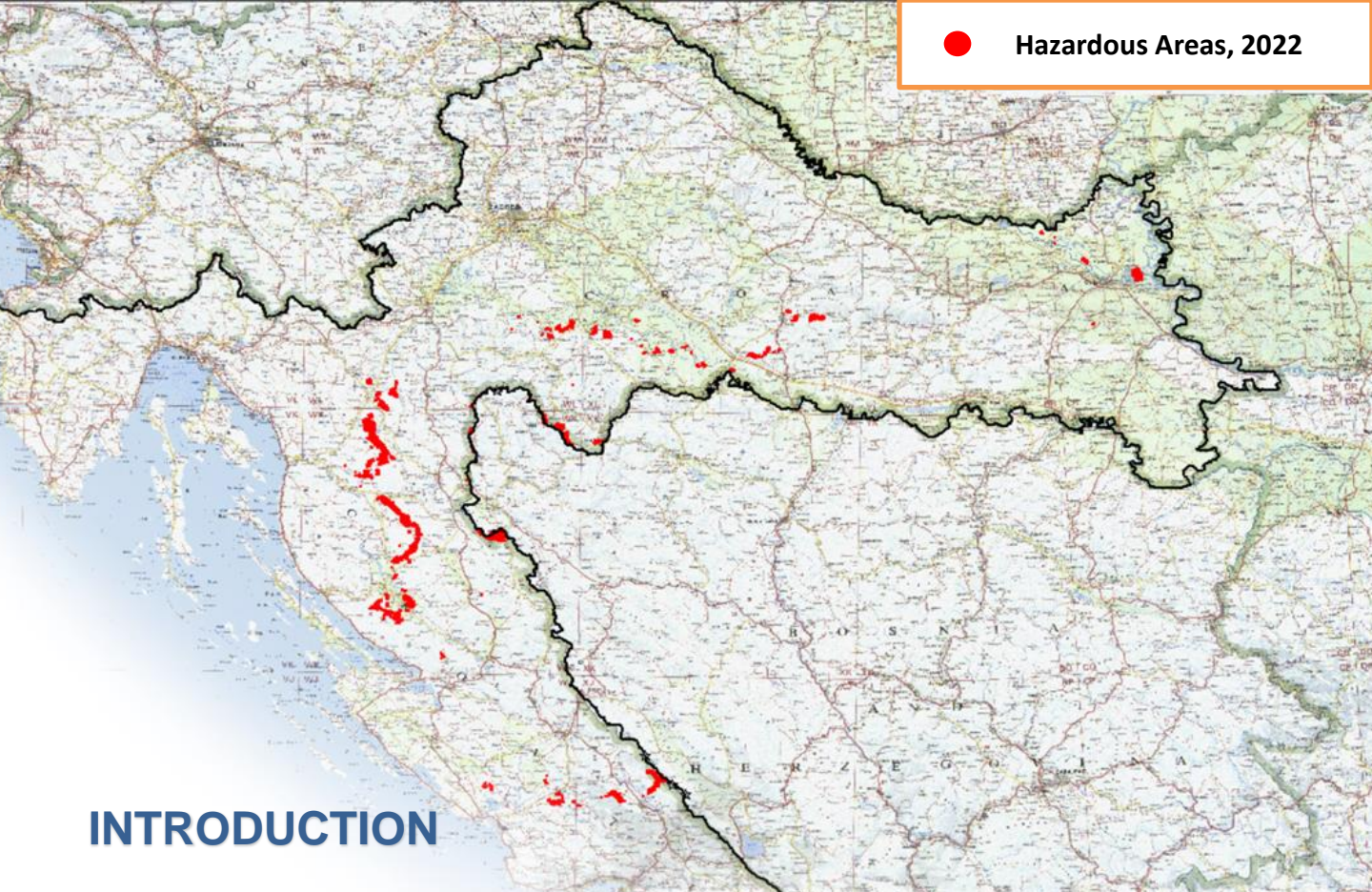
April, 2022



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INTRODUCTION

This document focuses on presenting the main updates of the Work plan 2020-2026 regarding the Article 5.1 obligations of the Convention on Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction (hereinafter: the Convention) and is being submitted on the basis of the Decision by the States Parties to approve the 2nd request of the Republic of Croatia for extension of the deadline for completing the stated obligations by 1st March 2026.

These updates should be considered as milestones for the comparison with the previous Work plan 2020-2026 and have been developed by the Civil Protection Directorate (CPD) of the Ministry of the Interior (MoI) in collaboration with the Ministry of Defense (MoD), harmonized with the updated National Mine Action Program of the Republic of Croatia for the period until 2026.

In accordance with the paragraph (iii) of the Decision on the request, this Plan contains an updated, detailed list of all known and suspected areas contaminated with mines (Anti-personnel mines), in accordance with the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) terminology, with annual projections of the land release of the established hazardous areas (hereinafter: HAs) during the remaining period covered by the request along with a revised financial forecast. The plan also contains a two year review of the other activities of the Croatian mine action system highlighting the key aspects of Victim Assistance, Risk Education and International Cooperation.

In the period since the adoption of the Decision of the States Parties, the Republic of Croatia had submitted annual reports in accordance with Article 7 of the Convention (for 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021) where all of the relevant Mine Action updates have been presented on an annual basis and in more detailed view, while this document should be regarded as an executive summary for the Mine Action community and respectable ISU, containing key elements and main changes in the Plan.

All other elements, previously elaborated in the original Work plan 2020-2026, and in line with the Oslo Action Plan, which have not been updated in this document, can be regarded as unchanged.





2020-2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

LAND RELEASE



Land released:
106.12 km²
(106.162.486 m²)

By clearance: 83.34 km²
(83.351.239 m²,
159 demining projects)

By survey: 23.09 km²
(23.122.178 m²,
60 survey projects)

During 2020-2021 there was 1.081.052 m² included by Non-technical survey (13 procedures)

ERW found and destroyed by Mine Action authorities on HA:
6.097 AP mines, 541 AT mines, 4857 UXOs

In addition, an area of 1.059.520 m² under the authority of the Ministry of Defense (military areas) was searched and cleared with 88 AP mines that were found and destroyed along with 1512 pieces of UXOs eliminated as well.

- Manual
- Machine+Manual
- MDD+Manual
- Machine+Manual+MDD

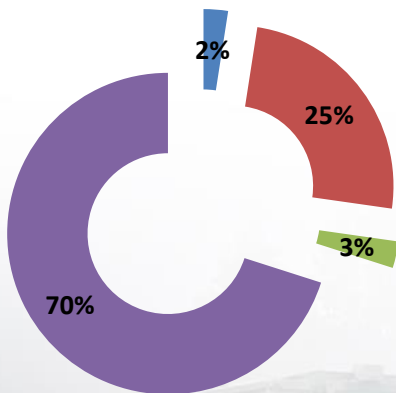


Figure 1. Combined methods of clearance used in the 2020-2021 period

In addition, the Police departments have, during the course of 2020-2021, as a part of their regular activities, counter explosive unit (EOD) activities and public campaign "Less arms, less tragedies" (where the citizens are being educated as a part of EORE activities and in the same time encouraged to turn in their ERW and SALW leftovers from the Homeland War without legal penalty) collected and destroyed 431 AP and 65 AV landmines with different 13.374 pieces of UXO's. This includes air bombs, naval bombs, hand grenades, cluster bombs, artillery shells (20 mm and larger), mortar shells in addition to other ERW such as different types of explosives (968 kg) and SALW ammunition (up to 14.5 mm – 874.814 pieces). The Police department will continue to implement these programs and activities in the future. The weapons and ordinances collected by the Police department were transported and destroyed at Croatia's military facilities.

Before August, 2020, the Civil Protection Directorate - CROMAC authorities conducted final quality control operations which were done after the clearance of the remaining 0.033 km² of CMR contaminated areas.

As of 1 August 2020 the Republic of Croatia is declared free of all known CMR contaminated areas.



LAND RELEASE

Table 1. Accomplished vs. planned in the Revised work plan 2020-2026

	Planned Land release by clearance, survey cancellation / reduced by Civil Protection Directorate for the 2020 – 2022 (km ²)			Accomplished Land release by clearance, survey cancellation / reduced by Civil Protection Directorate for the 2020 – 2022 (km ²)			Difference ratio (%)
	2020	2021	TOTAL	2020	2021	TOTAL	
Clearance	51,1	39,1	90,2	49,24	34,1	83,35	-8%
TS	5,0	7,6	12,6	7,22	5,0	12,22	-3%
NTS	9,0	6,2	15,2	4,16	6,7	10,86	-29%
SUBTOTAL (CPD)	65,1	52,9	118	60,32*	45,03*	105,35	-11%
Land release MoD	5,0	5,4	10,4	0,41	0,64	1,05	-90%
TOTAL	70,1	58,6	128,7	60,73	45,67	106,4	-17%

*During 2020 there was 310.931 m² included by NTS

*During 2021 there was 770.121 m² included by NTS

As evident in the previous Table 1., there is a **17% shortfall** difference in the accomplished results in comparison with the planned numbers. This is mostly due to three reasons, firstly COVID-19 impacted clearance and survey operations with the complete shutdown of activities during March, April and May 2020 (from 23 March till 11 May, 55 regular working days in total) and secondly almost 11 km² of cleared land was not included in the results of the 2021 due to the fact there was very bad weather on the project area (*Karlovac Karst project, Velika Kapela mountain*) in the December 2021, so geodetic measurement of the cleared area has been delayed, therefore official Certificate of Land Release will be published in the first quarter of 2022. Finally, the third element reflects known issue of the limited capacities of the Ministry of Defence so planned numbers were not reached, hampering the overall results as well in a great manner.



SOURCES OF FUNDING

The concerning Annual Mine Action Plans were realized using the following funding sources - State Budget funds and EU funds. It is important to mention that, like in the previous reporting years, in 2020-2021, funds acquired for the demining operations from the EU contribution were significant. In the mentioned period the state budget had the biggest financing share with **63,4 %** of the realized funds while EU funds contributed with **36,6 %**.

The total funds invested in mine action activities from 1998-2021 reached approx. **€ 925 mil**, out of which roughly **€183 mil** or almost 20% came from the various EU sources in the respective period.

Figure 2. Funding trendline in the 2020-2021 period

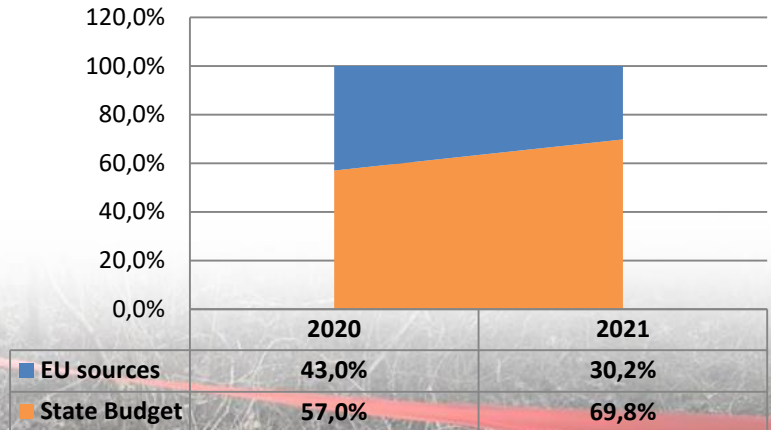
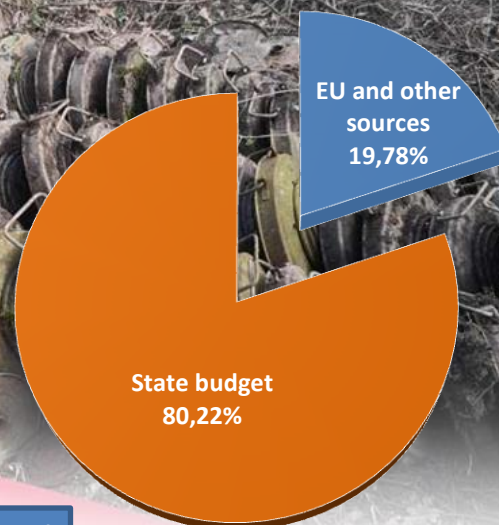


Figure 3. Mine Action funding in 1998-2021



MARKING OF THE HA

Parallel with the implementation of the clearance and survey operations, the control of marking and, if necessary, additional marking of suspected hazardous areas was conducted in order to create a clear boundary between safe and suspected hazardous areas. The locations of mine danger signs are one of the basic elements of the Mine Information System (MIS) that is shown on the maps given to the local authorities, police administration and individuals that have requested maps on the HA situation. On December 31, 2021 the total hazardous area was marked with **8.022 mine warning signs**, which means **over 39 mine warning signs per square kilometer of HA** which is an increase in comparison to 2019 and 37 mine warning signs per square kilometer of HA.

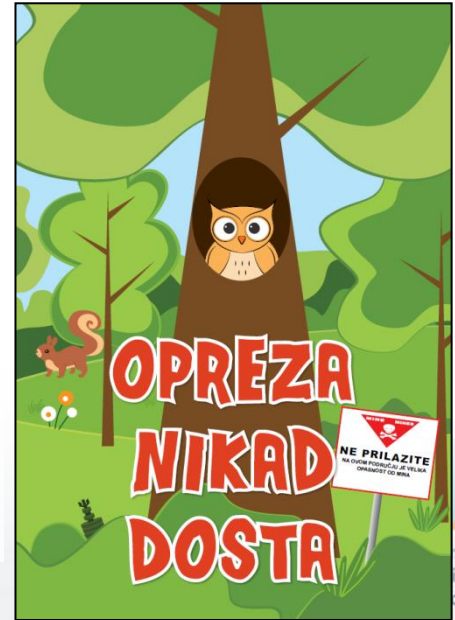




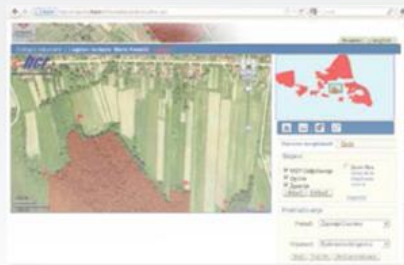
RISK EDUCATION

In 2020-2021, in accordance with the Covid-19 measures, all EORE activities were coordinated within the Civil Protection Directorate (CPD) of the Ministry of Interior, and directly provided or with the support of the National educational center of Civil protection - which is an organizational sector in the CPD. In 2020, a total of **47 mine risk educations** were held in 6 Counties and 22 cities and municipalities, while in 2021 a total of **89 mine risk educations** were held in 5 Counties and 21 cities and municipalities. The EORE activities **involved 8,765 people**, predominately of preschool and school age, as well as the target population of the local inhabitants of municipalities and cities within the hazardous areas. The trainings were conducted by the officers of the Civil Protection Directorate in cooperation with officials of the authorized police precincts. Unfortunately, as a consequence of Covid-19 pandemic EOREs were conducted in a reduced volume in comparison with previous years and with a smaller number of people. The number of activities related to the EORE were done in cooperation with the relevant Police departments through the "Less arms, less tragedy" public campaign, and city and municipal governments and other NGOs as well.

Children picture/ coloring book created for the EORE purposes as part of one of the EU funded projects



OPASNOST OD MINA



<https://misportal.hcr.hr>

MIS portal is a web application that...

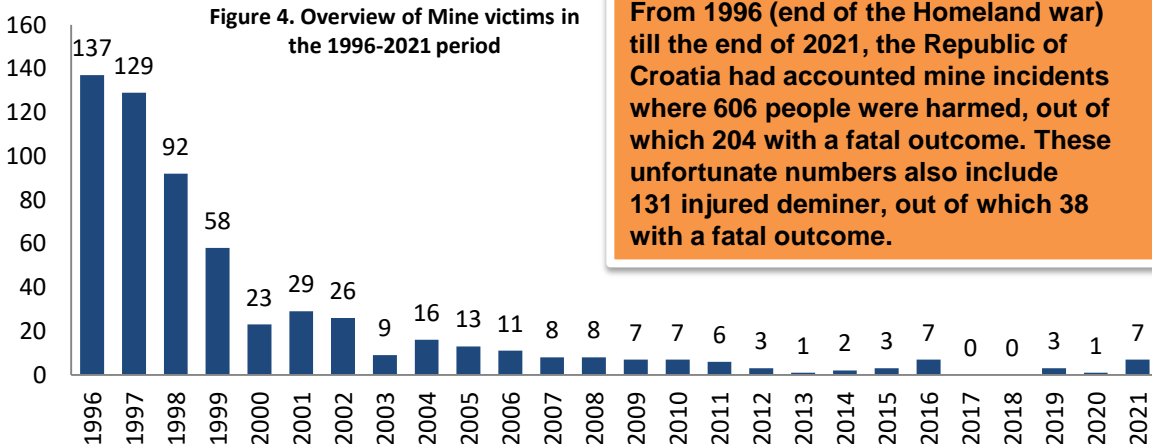


Since 2002, at the initiative of the Croatian Mine Action Centre, April has been marked as the Mine Protection Month.

April is the month we usually spend in our gardens and backyards, cleaning overgrown fields and organizing tree-planting. Therefore, this is a good time to spread the...

MINE INCIDENTS

Unfortunately, even with widely organized MRE activities in the Republic of Croatia, during 2020 there was **1 accounted mine accident** where a civilian activated an AP mine (PMA-2 type) in Karlovac County which caused heavy injuries, while during 2021 we have had **2 accounted mine accidents**, with only one of them recording victims. Mentioned incident occurred in the Karlovac County, when seven illegal migrants were injured after activating PROM-1 bounding fragmentation AP mine in the marked hazardous area, resulting with one fatality, two heavy injuries and four light injuries.



From 1996 (end of the Homeland war) till the end of 2021, the Republic of Croatia had accounted mine incidents where 606 people were harmed, out of which 204 with a fatal outcome. These unfortunate numbers also include 131 injured deminer, out of which 38 with a fatal outcome.



VICTIM ASSISTANCE

Republic of Croatia would like to highlight the Swiss-Croatian Cooperation Programme contribution and a specific project named “**Demining and Socio-Economic Integration**” which is being carried out in the 2017-2023 period. After significant and highly successful demining results, one of the activities that have been finalized in 2021, after a full-scale field survey, was the establishment of a comprehensive EO database, gathering, among other elements, the information about different needs, vulnerabilities and perspectives of women, girls, boys and men from diverse populations and all ages. We can conclude that this field survey was completed with a very good response rate of 82.6% of the available households (data was gathered from **423 EO victims** and **473 EO closest family members**.) The collected data concerned the social status, psycho-physical health, education, etc., and became an integral part of the comprehensive **mine victim database**, together with the analysis base value that will serve in future project activities / VA activities. Further project activities continued in 2021 with the development and implementation of specific VA programs for psychosocial empowerment including counseling and educational activities, and an initiative to improve the social status of EO victims and their families featuring specific workshops and trainings that will continue in 2022. In addition, a **thematic brochure** has been published, which contains all the rights and opportunities available to EO victims in the Republic of Croatia and the manner to exercise them. The project activities will continue in 2022 and 2023, also enabling small scale investment opportunities to EO victims aimed to increase their economic welfare.



Swiss - Croatian
Cooperation Programme

As already known, the Republic of Croatia has a highly developed legal framework relating to the persons with disabilities in realizing their legitimate rights and status. The status and various forms of rights are being realized through over 200 different laws and by-laws. There are 4 basic forms of mine victim assistance in which ministries, institutions, non-governmental sector, a number of organizations and individual initiatives take part in, such as medical care, physical rehabilitation, psychological help and social reintegration and professional and economic rehabilitation. Correspondingly, we have to emphasize the **strong determination** of the Croatian Government and efforts to improve the inclusiveness and support for the EO victims continuously, even 20 years after the Homeland War had ended. This is reflected through the **enhancement of the legal framework** when in July 2021 a new **Law on Civilian Victims of the Homeland War** was officially adopted by the Croatian Parliament. This new Law enables the application for the status of a war-disabled civilian, based on a disability caused by a disease correlating with the Homeland War, due among other things to disabilities caused by explosions of EO left over after the end of war operations. This means the Law will provide the same legal security to civilian victims as is already provided to the Croatian War Veterans, and among others, to EO survivors and families of individuals killed by EO, all with a goal to greatly **improve socioeconomic status** of the victims.



INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE

In the course of 2020-2021, the representatives of the Civil Protection Directorate / CROMAC officials participated at the events regarding the:

- 2nd CCM Review Conference that was held from 25 to 27 November 2020 in virtual format
- CCM Review Conference Side Event: Celebrating Successes and Learning Lessons from CCM Article 4 Completion held on 25 November, 2020 by the NPA
- Intersessional meetings regarding the APMBC that were held in a virtual format from 30 June to 2 July 2020
- The 18MSP regarding the APMBC that took place in a virtual format from 16 to 20 November, 2020
- Study conducted by the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) regarding the clearance of difficult and challenging terrain
- The 2nd part of the Second Review Conference of the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM)
- The 19 MSP regarding the APMBC that took place in a virtual format from 15 to 19 November 2021
- Participation in a bilateral work group of Ukrainian - Croatian experts – on the topic of Croatian experience of peaceful reintegration of the temporarily occupied territories and support for war veterans.
- Organization of the **17th International Symposium MINE ACTION 2021** that took place from June 16th to 18th, 2021 in Croatia, organized by the Croatian Ministry of the Interior and Croatian Mine Action Centre – Centre for Testing, Development and Training LLC in cooperation with the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE Project Coordinator in Ukraine)

In addition, Civil Protection Directorate officials continuously provided thorough support towards the international partners and organizations regarding the APMBC, CCM and CCW Conventions as well as Mine Action review (NPA), Landmine Monitor, EU institutions Mine Action focal points and all other interested foreign Embassies and officials.

During 2020, CROMAC-CRTO Ltd. held training for the representatives of the Turkish Mine Action Centre (TURMAC) on the topic of testing of demining machines. The main goal of the training was to educate TURMAC representatives about the testing and certification processes of demining machines, including the theoretical and practical part of the course. The training was held from 21 to 24 September 2020 in Zagreb and at the training ground polygons of the CROMAC-CRTO Ltd.

CROMAC-CRTO has participated in a NATO Science for Peace and Security Project G5355 "Biological methods (bees) for explosive detection", where it had a managing role. In 2021, the final field trial of the passive method of the project was conducted at the Benkovac Test Site from 30th August to 3rd September. The Project was presented in Bratislava at the NATO EOD Demonstrations and trials.

Representatives of CROMAC-CRTO participated at the NATO EOD Demonstrations and Trials 2021 held in Bratislava between 13th and 14th October. The leading theme of this event was "Technological innovations influencing future EOD and related capabilities" where CROMAC-CRTO was invited to present activities and possibilities for the cooperation in the field of testing new technologies in the Mine Action.

Non-Technical Survey Training Course (EECCA RCP NTS) was held in Karlovac, Croatia, from 8th to 19th November 2021, organized by the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) within the Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia Regional Cooperation Programme. The NTS Training was held in cooperation with the CROMAC-CRTO along with the support from OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine. Under the EECCA RCP framework, mentioned Course gathered 14 participants from 5 countries, representing National Mine Action authorities and other relevant stakeholders in the region, which had an opportunity to share knowledge and experience on land release activities, especially in determining efficient resource allocation during the land release process.



Representatives of CROMAC-CRTO were in an official visit to Ukraine in the period from September 30 – October 3, 2021. The main goal of the visit to Interregional Centre for Humanitarian Demining and Rapid Response of the SES of Ukraine was to exchange experiences in the field of Mine Action while presenting the experiences of the Republic of Croatia in the field of certification and testing of demining machines, personnel protective equipment and dogs used in humanitarian demining operations. In addition, as Ukraine is working very intensively on the establishment and implementation of projects related to Mine risk education, Croatian NGO "Croatia Helps" and the Ukrainian Association "Saperiv of Ukraine" have launched the joint project called "Safe Movement – Mine Education for Children and Youth, Croatia and Ukraine".



REMAINING CHALLENGES

HAZARDOUS AREAS

Hazardous areas in the Republic of Croatia on January 1, 2022 remained on **37 Municipalities/ 7 Counties** and amount to **204.4 km² (136.8 km² CHA, 67.6 km² SHA)**, excluding the MoD areas of an additional **29.5 km²** of HA. Approximate number of AP/AT mines emplaced (Estimate according to number of minefield records in CPD/CROMAC sector database and Annual demining report) on Dec 31, 2021 reached **14.777 mines** (13.856 AP mines and 921 AT mines), excluding the areas under the MoD jurisdiction.

Table 2. Remaining challenges at County/Municipality level and CHA/SHA

COUNTY	No.	Municipalities/Towns known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines	Total amount of area known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines (square meters)	Amount of area known to contain anti-personnel mines(square meters)	Amount of area suspected to contain anti-personnel mines(square meters)
Karlovac County (KA)	1	Cetingrad	1.051.775	1.051.775	0
	2	Josipdol	9.940.434	7.333.095	2.607.339
	3	Plaški	23.014.841	10.630.152	12.384.689
	4	Rakovica	548.042	0	548.042
	5	Saborsko	992.138	168.183	823.955
	6	Tounj	2.591.694	2.591.694	0
Lika-Senj County (LS)	7	Brinje	688.158	399.877	288.281
	8	Donji Lapac	15.015.775	8.415.855	6.599.920
	9	GOSPIĆ	32.186.879	22.276.556	9.910.323
	10	Lovinac	385.232	385.232	0
	11	OTOČAC	21.060.187	16.340.356	4.719.831
	12	Perušić	1.547.678	686.665	861.013
	13	Plitvička Jezera	3.830.284	3.830.284	0
	14	Udbina	1.592.121	460.804	1.131.317
	15	Vrhovine	10.407.700	10.407.700	0
	Osijek-Baranja County (OB)	16	Bilje	9.069.312	9.031.666
17		Darda	223.420	102.348	121.072
18		Jagodnjak	371.638	0	371.638
19		Petlovac	1.390.362	491.243	899.119
20		Šodolovci	7.419	1.476	5.943
21		VALPOVO	41.152	41.152	0
Požega-Slavonija County (PS)	22	PAKRAC	6.288.848	4.432.452	1856396
Split-Dalmacija County (SD)	23	Hrvace	8.592.346	8.586.686	5.660
	24	VRLIKA	9.496.177	6.153.608	3.342.569
Sisak-Moslavina County (SM)	25	Dvor	15.372.081	5.983.109	9.388.972
	26	GLINA	1.906.304	1.089.567	816.737
	27	Gvozd	35.762	35.762	0
	28	Hrvatska Dubica	733.583	359.782	373801
	29	Jasenovac	252.417	252.417	0
	30	NOVSKA	3.817.361	1.690.925	2126436
	31	PETRINJA	5.905.561	3.968.254	1.937.307
	32	SISAK	4.422.376	872.435	3.549.941
	33	Sunja	2.322.655	2.106.289	216.366
	34	Topusko	38.506	38.506	0
	Šibenik-Knin County (ŠK)	35	DRNIŠ	4.205.723	2.942.071
36		Ružić	3.617.273	3.296.949	320.324
37		SKRADIN	1.422.448	330.579	1.091.869
TOTAL			204.385.662	136.785.504	67.600.158



HAZARDOUS AREAS

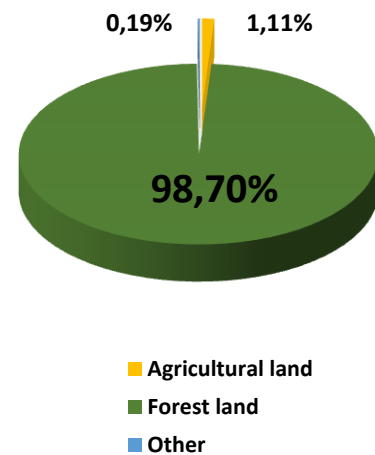
If we look at the Hazardous area land structure at the end of 2021, it can be seen that **1.11%** of the HA were categorized as agricultural areas, **98.7%** as forest areas and the remaining **0.19%** as the other areas (swamp, rocky etc. soils). This means prioritization has changed towards the remaining challenges, so mine action activities and clearance projects have been incorporated in the several last years into various larger and sustainable society efforts. Example of these actions are especially highlighted within the clearance projects that are financed from Cohesion fund, targeting nature protected parks or Nature 2000 areas. Such projects, such as “Naturavita”, “Fearless Velebit” and “Karlovac Karst” have been and are performed within the highest possible EU and National nature protection regulations, e.g. defining the strict time frames when the clearance activities and certain methods are allowed to be performed, so the various species and habitats are not to be aggravated in any means whatsoever. Sustainable development and environmental stewardship are one of the core purposes of these projects and the remaining four year challenge focuses on the protection of forests, incorporating preservation, rehabilitation and development in the ecological and economic sense, as well as improved fire protection and security of the border areas.

Table 3. Remaining challenges at County level and CHA/SHA

COUNTY	HA (m ²)		
	TOTAL	CHA	SHA
KA	38.138.924	21.774.899	16.364.025
LS	86.714.014	63.203.329	23.510.685
OB	11.103.303	9.667.885	1.435.418
PS	6.288.848	4.432.452	1.856.396
SD	18.088.523	14.740.294	3.348.229
SM	34.806.606	16.397.046	18.409.560
ŠK	9.245.444	6.569.599	2.675.845
Total*	204.385.662	136.785.504	67.600.158

* In addition there is 29.5 km² of HA under the responsibility of the MoD

Figure 5. Remaining HA Land Structure



Displayed in the Table 3. the remaining HA of the Republic of Croatia directly influences **183,653 inhabitants** that are endangered by mine risk, which is **16.1%** of the total population in mentioned Counties with HA, or **4.7%** of the total population of the Republic of Croatia (source: Census of 2021).



PLANNED ACTIVITIES

Based on the analysis of the size and structure of HA, existing capacities, previous experience and other relevant factors, the National Mine Action Program has established objectives of:

- Completely remove the mine danger from the territory of the Republic of Croatia by 1 March 2026 at the latest
- Maintain and improve the marking and mine warning system of the entire HA
- Continue to Inform and implement EORE programs for the entire population gravitating towards /living and / or working in the vicinity of HA
- Continue to provide care and rehabilitation, including psycho-social rehabilitation and economic reintegration of all mine and EO victims.
- Advocacy and encouragement of International Cooperation in Humanitarian demining through exchange of Croatian skills, knowledge, experience and equipment used in mine action

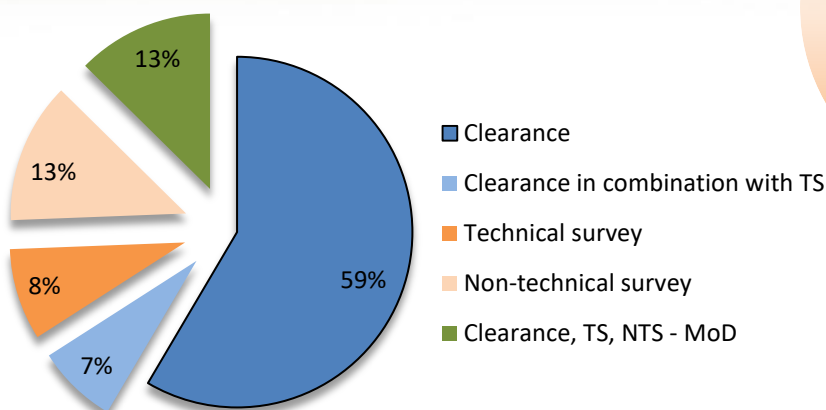
Table 4. Remaining challenges roadmap

No.	Method	Planned km ²	Reduction of HA through clearance, clearance /technical survey, technical and non-technical survey until 2025				
			2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
1	Clearance - km ²	136,8	34,3	34,6	33,1	34,8	0
2	Clearance in combination with TS - km ²	17,4	3,8	8,4	5,2	0	0
3	Technical survey - km ²	19,8	7,8	5,0	5,0	2,0	0
4	Non-technical survey- km ²	30,4	10,0	12,6	7,8	0	0
5	SUBTOTAL (CPD):	204,4	55,9	60,6	51,1	36,8	0
6	Clearance, TS, NTS - MoD - km ²	29,5	7,4	3,1	8,8	10,2	0
7	TOTAL (Croatia)	233,9	63,3	63,7	59,9	47,0	0

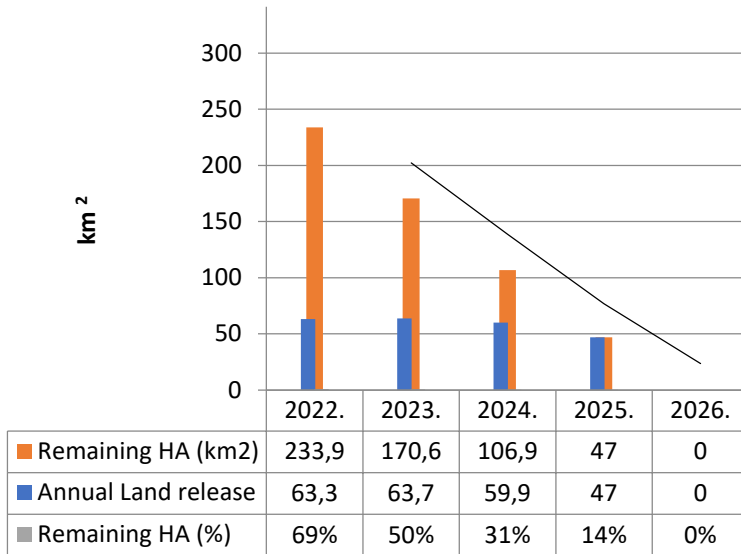


Remaining challenges will be released predominately through clearance activities (59%) based on the amount of CHA, while the remaining areas (SHA) would be reduced or cancelled by the various survey activities. In the case of MoD areas at the moment only clearance is expected.

Figure 6. Reduction of HA through clearance, clearance /technical survey, technical and non-technical survey until 2025



PLANNED ACTIVITIES



In the period of 2022 – 2025, the HA is planned to be reduced by 233.9 km², which includes 204.4 km² recorded in the mine information system of the MoI CPD, and 29.5 km² of HA comprising military sites and structures under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Defense. These activities are planned to be completed by the end of 2025, while in the first quarter of 2026, administrative activities will be conducted regarding the final fulfillment of the obligations.

Figure 7. Land release plan in the 2022-2026 period (km²)

Table 5. Reduction of HA through clearance and survey activities in Counties by the CPD/CROMAC until 2026 (km²)

In accordance with the National Mine Action Plan (NMAP) it is expected that Požeško-Slavonska County will be completely released and free from contamination until the end of 2022. During 2023 it is expected the same for two additional Counties (OB,ŠK), as well as during 2024 (KA, SD). Finally, in 2025 the remaining two Counties will be released, Ličko-senjska and Sisačko-moslavačka which will declare the successful end of operations in line with the 2025 deadline.

County	Planned (Total, km ²)	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Karlovačka (KA)	38,1	19,6	11,5	7	0	0
Ličko-senjska (LS)	86,7	13,6	17,4	24,4	31,3	0
Osječko-baranjska (OB)	11,1	4,0	7,1	0	0	0
Požeško-slavonska (PS)	6,3	6,3	0	0	0	0
Sisačko-moslavačka (SM)	34,8	8,7	9,5	11,1	5,5	0
Splitsko-dalmatinska (SD)	18,1	2,4	7,1	8,6	0	0
Šibensko-kninska (ŠK)	9,3	1,3	8	0	0	0
TOTAL	204,4	55,9	60,6	51,1	36,8	0





RESOURCES AND CAPACITIES NEEDED

Table 6. Capacities overview

RESOURCES	As of 1 st January 2020	As of 1 st January 2022	% Difference
Deminers	534	397	-25,66%
Worksite leaders	147	108	-26,53%
Auxiliary workers	107	67	-37,38%
Mine detection dogs	108	104	-3,70%
Demining Machines	42	43	2,38%

Even though there is a decline in the capacities of the authorized commercial companies (table 5.) in comparison with the end of 2019, the capacities at the beginning of 2022 are still adequate (along with NTS /TS activities that are provided by the CPD/CROMAC officials) to reach the goal of 2025.

Analyzing the achieved efficiency of accredited demining resources, an estimate was made that through mine clearance and technical survey activities, approx. **46,14 km²** of HA may be released per year by the authorized commercial companies.

If the MoD will not be able to carry out demining of its perspective military sites and / or structures solely, in accordance with Article 60, paragraph 2 of the Mine Action Act, so with the prior approval of the Government of the Republic of Croatia, will request the demining of individual perspective military sites and / or structures in accordance with the provisions of the mentioned Law, as has already been implemented in certain cases.

Table 7. Output regarding the Clearance/TS by commercial companies

Current capacities	No.	Daily output	Work days	Total
Deminers	397	400	210	33.348.000
Work site leaders	88	400	210	7.392.000
Mine detection dogs	54	1.000	100	5.400.000
Demining Machines	43	3.500	100	15.050.000
Annual release m ²				46.140.000

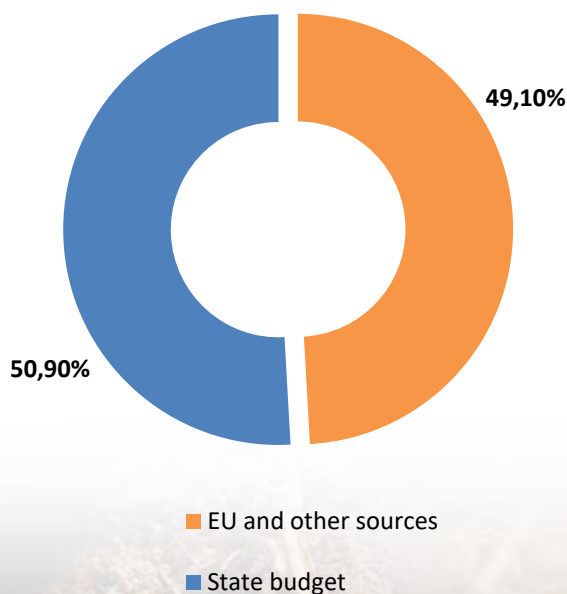




RESOURCES AND CAPACITIES NEEDED

One of the basic preconditions for the successful achievement of the planned goals stated in this document is to secure the sufficient financial resources. In accordance with the remaining structure of HA and the planned annual land release, it is estimated that the total clearance value of the remaining HA is approximately **€ 219 million**. This is all in accordance with the predicted prices of clearance per sq. meter where for the 2022, 2023, 2024 - the price of **€ 1.40 / m²** (€ 1.12 / m² without VAT – based on the average clearance price in recent years) or specifically for 2025, the price of **€ 1.49 / m²** (€ 1.19 / m² without VAT due to predicted difficult remaining terrain was applied as a basis for planning the necessary financial resources in the forthcoming period. Financial resources will be precisely defined in the annual mine action plans, in accordance with the Act on Mine Action, and after the formal adoption of the EU MFF 2021-2027 plan which is expected to continue with the support of the clearance activities in Croatia in a similar contribution (approximately € 108 million) similarly as in the previous MFF 2014-2020 period.

Figure 8. Planned financial resources until 2025



Clearance of military locations and buildings will be carried out by the The MoD Pioneer battalion of the Engineering regiment which is responsible for the clearance of all military facilities, in accordance with the Act on Mine Action. Funds for the implementation of these activities are the responsibility of the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Croatia and are defined in the section of the State Budget of the Ministry of Defense. In terms of timely fulfillment of the obligations of the Republic of Croatia, preparatory meetings were held and the further course of cooperation in the operational activities between the Ministry of Defense and the Ministry of the Interior / Civil protection Directorate was determined. The planned joint activities of the Non-Technical and Technical survey will be aimed at identifying CHA areas where there are irrefragable indicators of the presence of the ERW from the SHA areas, all in order to perform cancellation/reduction of the total mine hazardous area under the responsibility of the Ministry of Defense.



CONCLUSION

Even though there was a 17% underperformance difference in the accomplished two years results, in comparison with the planned numbers, the Republic of Croatia is still firmly on track to completing the Article 5 obligations in time. This has been clearly communicated as a part of the updates to the annual land release outputs, with a strong indication that the current resources are in line with the established milestones, especially in the terms of invaluable EU and Swiss-Croatian Cooperation Programme financial support.

The presented reasons which caused a slight decline in the planned biennial output goals were unpreventable due to COVID-19 pandemic which has impacted clearance and survey operations, as well as very bad weather that postponed almost 11 km² of cleared areas in late 2021 being officially land released. Finally, the third element reflects known issue of the limited capacities of the Ministry of Defense so planned numbers were not reached, hampering the overall results as well in a significant manner.

Nevertheless, Revised Mine Action Work plan 2022-2026 clearly communicates strong national ownership and determination in reaching predefined land release goals, while in the same time ensuring universal adherence, establishing updated assistance to victims, performing consecutive explosive ordinance risk educations and creating new partnerships with a goal of providing assistance and cooperation.

All of the mentioned activities will be continued in the forthcoming period, with special efforts that will be made to fully release the defined hazardous areas by the deadline established within the decision of the States Parties - until the end of 2025.

Finally, the Republic of Croatia has always emphasized the importance of transparency and the open exchange of information as it is regarded as one of the essential pillars on which the Convention's practices, procedures and tradition of partnerships have been built, through both formal means and informal means. Acknowledging this, we have and will continue to present in detail the various activities of Mine Action in the Republic of Croatia on an annual basis in accordance with Article 7 of the Convention.

MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR
CIVIL PROTECTION DIRECTORATE



REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

REVISED
MINE ACTION WORK PLAN
2022-2026

MINE

