



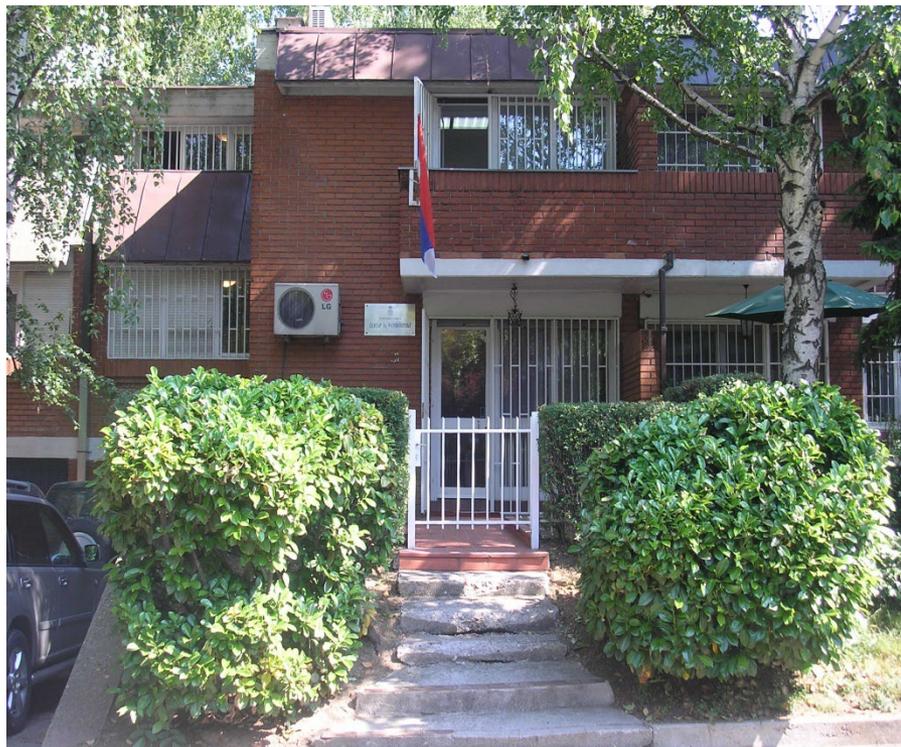
**REPUBLIC OF SERBIA  
MINE ACTION CENTRE**

**PRESENTATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA  
REQUEST FOR AN EXTENSION OF THE DEADLINE  
FOR THE PERIOD  
2023-2025**

**GENEVA, 20-22 JUNE 2022**

# NATIONAL MINE ACTION AUTHORITY

## MINE ACTION CENTRE OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA (SMAC)

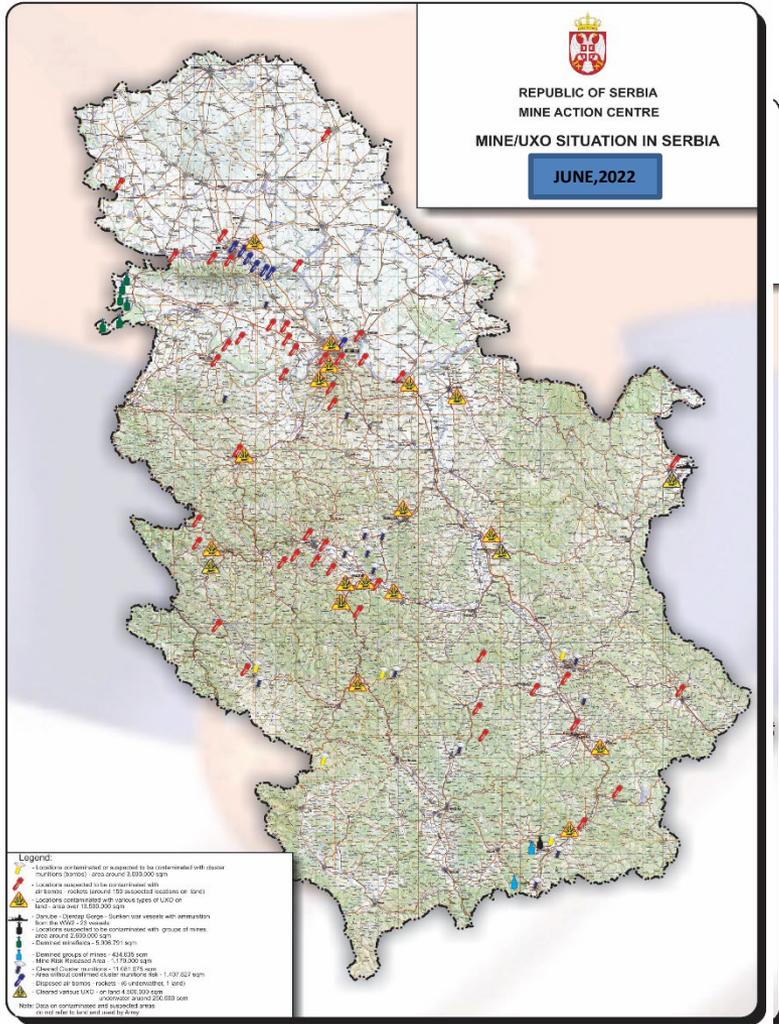


- FOUNDATION OF MINE ACTION CENTRE (SMAC) - 2002
- COMPETENCE OF SMAC
  - ❖ SURVEY
  - ❖ DEVELOPMENT OF HUMANITARIAN DEMINING PROJECTS
  - ❖ FOLLOWING IMPLEMENTATION OF THOSE PROJECTS
  - ❖ QUALITY CONTROL OF DEMINING/CLEARANCE
  - ❖ ISSUING DEMINING/CLEARANCE COMPLETION CERTIFICATE
  - ❖ MINE/CLUSTER MUNITIONS/UXO RISK EDUCATION
  - ❖ ACHIEVING INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION
- DEMINING CONDUCTED BY ACCREDITED SPECIALIZED COMPANIES AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS
- FIRST DEMINING/CLEARANCE OPERATIONS IN 2003
- LEGAL POSITION AND COMPETENCE OF SMAC REGULATED BY LAW ON MINISTRIES
- WORK PLAN AND WORK REPORT ADOPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT ANNUALLY
- DIRECTOR APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNMENT
- FUNDS FOR THE SMAC WORK PROVIDED FROM THE NATIONAL BUDGET
- DEMINING/CLEARANCE OPERATIONS MOSTLY FUNDED BY DONATIONS



*S e r b i a n M i n e A c t i o n C e n t r e*

# OVERALL PROBLEM



➤ **GROUPS OF MINES** 561,800 sqm (plus newly discovered suspect hazardous areas) in Bujanovac



➤ **CLUSTER MUNITIONS** around 1 000 000 sqm (Tutin, Bujanovac, Užice)



➤ **UNEXPLODED ORDNANCE (UXO) ON LAND** around 18 500 000 sqm (Kraljevo, Vranje, Novi Pazar, Leskovac, Kragujevac)



➤ **AIR BOMBS – ROCKETS** around 150 DIFFERENT SUSPECTED LOCATIONS ON LAND

➤ **SUNKEN GERMAN FLEET (WWII) NEAR PRAHOVO PORT**



➤ **UNDER WATER UXO-12 DIFFERENT SUSPECTED LOCATIONS ON SAVA RIVER AND DANUBE RIVER**



# PROGRESS MADE DURING THE PREVIOUS EXTENSION REQUEST 2018 -2022

## 2018

5 projects were implemented resulting in the clearance of 623,020 square metres in 2018 in the Municipality of Bujanovac. The funds for 4 projects have been donated, through ITF Enhancing Human Security, by the US and the Republic of Korea. For one project, funds have been provided by the Republic of Serbia and matched through ITF with the US donation and the donation by the Republic of Korea

## 2019

3 projects were implemented in the Municipality of Bujanovac, addressing a total area of 606.210 square metres. The funds for one project were provided by the Serbian Government which were matched, through ITF, by the US donation and the donation of the Republic of Korea. One project was funded by Japan, with the support of the U.S., through ITF. One project was financed by the Joint Stock Company "Elektromreža Srbije" - Transmission System Maintenance Division, Belgrade.

## 2020

1 project was implemented in the Municipality of Bujanovac, total area of 269.280 sqm. The funds for the project were provided by the Serbian Government which were matched, through ITF, by the US donation.

## 2021

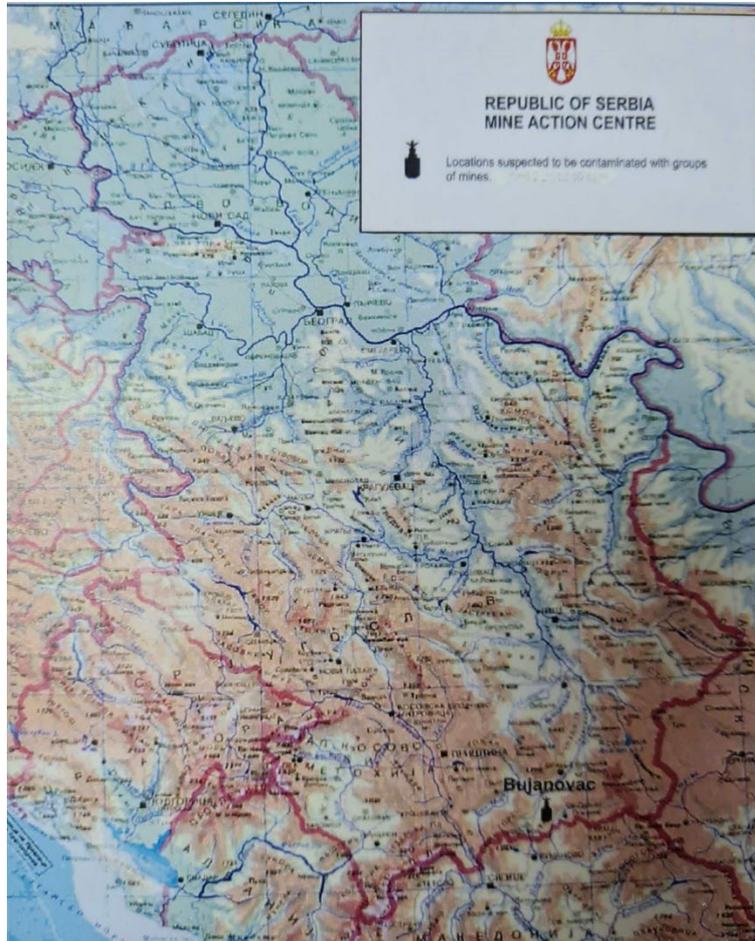
1 project was implemented in the Municipality of Bujanovac, total area of 294.230 square metres. The funds for the project were provided by the Serbian Government which were matched, through ITF, by the US donation and the donation by the Republic of Korea.

**Table: Areas contaminated with anti-personnel mines released during the previous extension request (March 2018 up to March 2022)**

Municipality	Cancelled area (square metres)	Reduced area (square metres)	Cleared area (square metres)	Total area released (square metres)	Number of anti-personnel mines destroyed	Number of other explosive items destroyed
Bujanovac	/	/	1,792,740	1,792,740	61	2,952
<b>Total</b>	/	/	1,792,740	1,792,740	61	2,952



# REMAINING MINE CONTAMINATION IN SERBIA



- **OTTAWA CONVENTION – OBLIGATIONS OF SERBIA (MARCH 2023 DEADLINE)**
- **IN MARCH 2022, SERBIA SUBMITTED AN EXTENSION REQUEST FOR THE PERIOD 2023-2025**
- **GROUPS OF MINES CONTAMINATING AREA OF 561,800 SQM IN THE BUJANOVAC MUNICIPALITY PLUS NEWLY IDENTIFIED SUSPECT HAZARDOUS AREAS**
  - No mine emplacement records
  - Inaccessible terrain during some periods of year
- **MOSTLY HILLY AND MOUNTAINOUS TERRAIN OF IMPORTANCE TO CIVILIANS CONCERNING**
  - Safety
  - Cattle breeding
  - Exploitation of woods
  - Mushroom picking
  - Tobacco production



# EXCLUSION OF CIVILIANS FROM MINED AREAS

✓SHA AND CHA VISIBLY MARKED WITH “STOP UXO” SIGNS IN SERBIAN AND ALBANIAN LANGUAGE



# CHALLENGES



**Unregistered mine contaminated areas (groups of mines):** The remaining mine contaminated areas do not have registries and have not been planted in specific patterns, which aggravates demining efforts, namely survey results are subject to alterations (increase of SHA).



**Climactic conditions:** Contaminated areas are inaccessible during some periods of the year causing operation delays; most of the suspected area is not appropriate for the use of mine detection dogs or machinery.

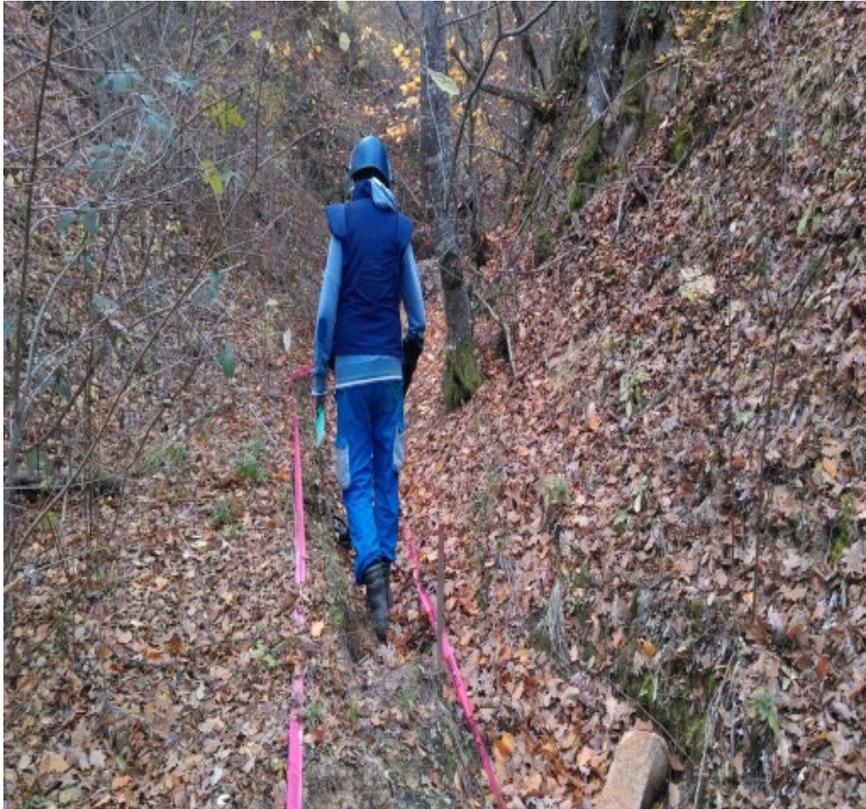


# CHALLENGES

Newly identified mine suspected areas discovered during forest fires in Bujanovac, in October 2019 and in August 2021.



# CHALLENGES



**Finding of donor funds:** due to COVID and redirection of funds for cluster munitions clearance and UXO clearance, funds for mine clearance have been reduced.



# CHALLENGES



**Contamination other than mines:**  
Unexploded cluster munitions, air bombs – rockets and other UXO on land and underwater



-Priority given to:  
residential buildings, ski paths, airport runway, electricity transmission network, factories



# REQUIREMENTS

- SERBIA SEEKING EXTENSION OF DEADLINE FOR THE PERIOD 2023-2025
- SUSPECTED HAZARDOUS AREA IN BUJANOVAC TOTALS 561,800 SQM PLUS NEWLY IDENTIFIED SUSPECT HAZARDOUS AREAS
- PROJECTS FOR CLEARANCE AND TECHNICAL SURVEY DEVELOPED FOR KNOWN AREAS (561,800 SQM) AND WILL BE CARRIED OUT IN 2022 (FUNDS PROVIDED BY SERBIA AND MATCHED THROUGH ITF WITH U.S. AND REPUBLIC OF KOREA DONATIONS)
- NON-TECHNICAL SURVEY PROJECT FOR NEWLY IDENTIFIED SHA DEVELOPED AND WILL BE CARRIED OUT IN 2022-2023 (IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH ITF TO FINDING THE DONORS FUNDS)
- FUNDS NEEDED FOR THE PERIOD 2022-2025 ~3.040.000 EUR
  - National Funds (~ 1.040.000 EUR)
  - Donations through ITF and other available funding sources (~2.000.000 EUR)

**still pending**



# BENEFITS OF DEMINING



- Demining has contributed and will contribute to the safety of local population.
- Conditions for safe exploitation of forest, development of cattle breeding and picking of mushrooms will be created.
- Safe and stable electricity supply will be provided.
- Improvement of interethnic relations in a multi-ethnic environment such as the Municipality of Bujanovac (Serbs, Albanians, Roma)
- Environment protection and protection against fire will be significantly increased.
- Given that the Bujanovac Municipality is the most underdeveloped municipality in Serbia, for the purpose of its development and prevention of migration of its inhabitants due to economic reasons, demining will enable implementation of development projects, such as for example construction of solar plants, development of wood industry, namely exploitation and processing of wood.
- **MINE FREE SERBIA BY 2025** – achievement of a universal goal, significance for the South East Europe region



# QUESTIONS

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!**

## **MINE ACTION CENTRE OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA**

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