

Kingdom of Thailand

Request for an extension of the deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel 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 Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction





Progress made since "2018" (The Second Extension Period)

Region	Cancelled area (sq.m.)	Reduced area (sq.m.)	Cleared area (sq.m.)	Total released area (sq.m.)	Number of AP mines destroyed	Number of other explosive remnants of war
North (Mae Hong Son, Chiang Mai, Phitsanulok, and Nan)	52,232,888	616,309	170	52,849,367	15	31
Northeast (Ubon Ratchathani, Si Sa Ket, Surin, and Buri-Ram)	163,394,987	42,060,006	737,296	206,192,289	32,851	1,931
East (Sa Kaeo, Chantaburi, and Trat)	61,154,965	4,260,307	983,081	66,398,353	9,334	908
South (Chumpon)	2,490,290	627,272	55,958	3,173,520	159	166
<u>TOTAL</u>	279,273,130	47,563,894	1,776,505	328,613,529	42,359	3,036

In **2001**, during the Initial landmine impact survey, mine contaminated area accounts for 2,556,700,000 sq. m. As of **March 2022**, the remaining mine contaminated areas is 36,968,469 sq. m. (**1.45**% of the initial survey).



Our International Partners













Japan



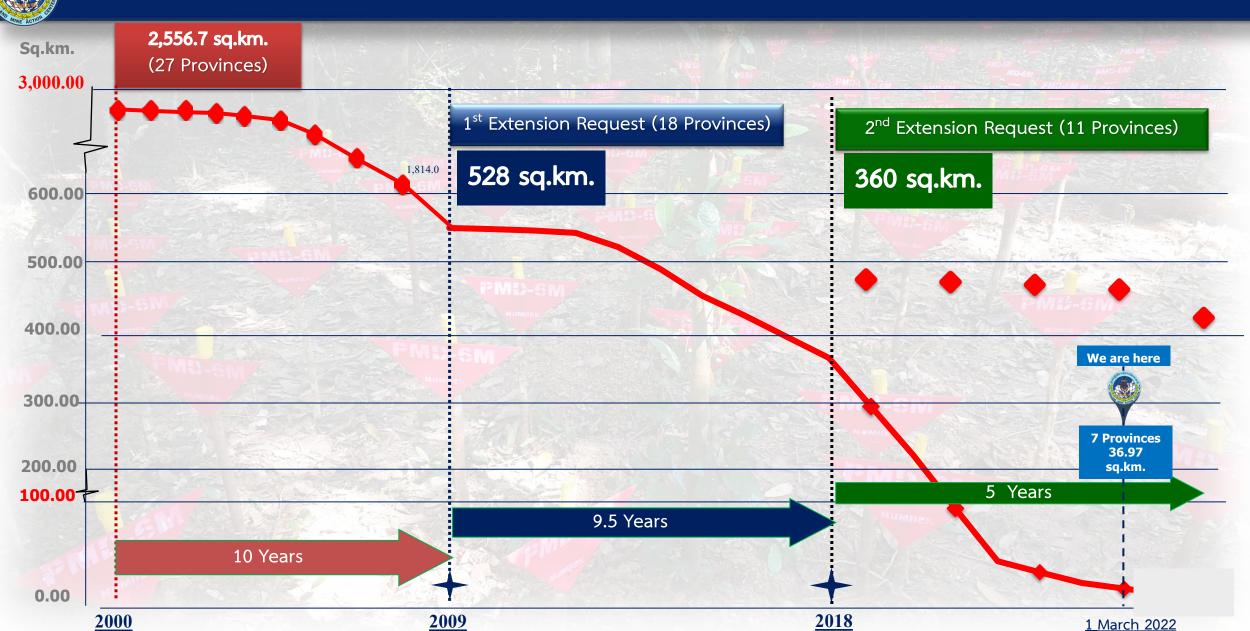




The Norwegian People's Aid

THE ACTION

20 Years of Learning and Development





Remaining Areas by Region as of 31 May 2022



Provinces	SHA	СНА	Total	Estimated year of completion	
		North			
Phitsanulok	1,296,341	-	1,296,341	2022	
		Northeast			
Ubon Ratchathani	-	5,493,075	5,493,075	2025	
Si Saket	1,793,853	4,594,029	6,387,882	2026	
Surin	2,072,000	3,730,712	4,802,712	2025	
Buri-Ram	-	267,275	267,275	2024	
		East			
Sa Kaeo	5,534,862	343,382	5,878,244	2026	
Trat	2,197,477	7,477,151	9,674,628	2026	

Total (sq.m.): 33,800,157 SHA:11,894,533 CHA: 21,905,624

North:

SHA: 1,296,341 sq.m.

Northeast: 16,950,944 sq.m.

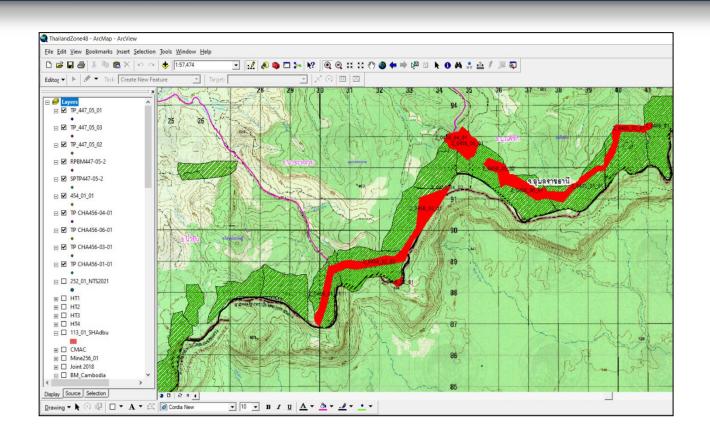
SHA: 2,865,853 sq.m. CHA: 14,040,091 sq.m.

East: 15,552,872 sq.m.

SHA: 7,732,339 sq.m. CHA: 7,820,533 sq.m.



Information Management



ARC GIS containing visual display of data.



Thai Government Funding for Mine Action Operations

Fiscal Year	Personnel (USD)	Operations (USD)	Additional Fund (USD)	Total (USD)
2018	4,762,986.45	2,088,920.98	139,856.12	6,991,763.55
2019	4,932,657.83	2,088,920.98	210,359.72	7,231,938.53
2020	4,932,657.83	2,088,920.98	280,287.79	7,301,866.59
2021	5,235,783.02	2,014,388.60	306,474.84	7,556,646.46
2022	4,862,080.56	1,873,381.40	79,712.23	6,815,174.19
Total	24,726,165.68	10,154,532.93	1,016,690.70	35,897,389.31



2020 Thailand – Cambodia Pilot Project











Circumstances Impending Completion













Thailand is impeded from fulfilling its obligations under Article 5 as originally planned due to 3 major factors;

- 1. High-level of contamination and challenging geographical landscape
- 2. The COVID-19
- 3. Access to the areas along the border



High Density of Contamination and Challenging Landscape

Unusual Landmine Conditions











Ruang Phueng Operation 2020







The COVID -19 Impact













Access to Areas along the Border











Work Plan for the Requested Extension Period (2023-2026)

Three-Year Workplan : Thailand's Annual Land Milestones Towards Completion

Outputs	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3
	(Nov 2023 –	(Nov 2024 –	(Nov 2025 –
	Oct 2024)	Oct 2025)	Dec 2026)
Size (sq.m.)	5,328,050	5,149,998	3,563,339

					AD 3 Ye	ear Plan					
No.	Description	Province	District	Subdistrict	Village	Size	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total	Remarks
	AD										
	84-01/AD	Sa Kaeo	Ta-phraya	Thapsadet	Romsai	342,452			342,452	342,452	
2	84-02/AD	Sa Kaeo	Ta-phraya	Thapsadet	Romsai	930			930	930	
3	11-01/AD	Sa Kaeo	Ta-phraya	Ta-phraya	Thap-siam	101,045			101,045	101,045	
4	11-02/AD	Sa Kaeo	Ta-phraya	Ta-phraya	Thap-siam	182,000			182,000	182,000	
5	55-01/AD	Sa Kaeo	Ta-phraya	Ta-phraya	Khao Lukchang	663,696			663,696	663,696	
6	119-01/AD	Sa Kaeo	Ta-phraya	Ta-phraya	Noen Somboon	859,700		859,700		859,700	
7	6-01/AD	Sa Kaeo	Khoksung	Khoksung	Nong-yakaeo	1,187,905		1,187,905		1,187,905	
8	27-01/AD	Sa Kaeo	Khoksung	Nonmakmun	Nongchan	99,800		99,800		99,800	
9	62-01/AD	Sa Kaeo	Aranyaprathet	Parai	Phu-namkiang	950,542	950,542			950,542	
10	113-01/AD	Sa Kaeo	Aranyaprathet	Parai	Parai	1,490,174	1,490,174			1,490,174	
10	10	Sa Kaeo				5,878,244	2,440,716	2,147,405	1,290,123	5,878,244	
11	227-01/AD	Trat	Khongyai	Hatlek	Hatlek	58,878			58,878	58,878	
12	227-02/AD	Trat	Khongyai	Hatlek	Hatlek	26,253			26,253	26,253	
13	228-01/AD	Trat	Khongyai	Hatlek	Khong-hin	1,421,560		1,421,560		1,421,560	
14	229-01/AD	Trat	Khongyai	Hatlek	Khong-hin	357,452		357,452		357,452	
15	248-01/AD	Trat	Khongyai	Hatlek	Khotsai	418,465	418,465			418,465	
16	248-02/01/AD	Trat	Khongyai	Hatlek	Khotsai	107,930	107,930			107,930	
17	252-01/AD	Trat	Mueangtrat	Chamrak	Chamrak	436,840	436,840			436,840	
7	7	Trat				2,827,378	963,235	1,779,012	85,131	2,827,378	
18	386-01/01/AD	Buri Ram	Bankruat	Bueng Charoen	Saitriphatthana 4	158,403	158,403			158,403	
19	367-02/03/AD	Buri Ram	Lahansai	Nongwang	Phathairumphon	61,244	61,244			61,244	
20	367-02/04/AD	Buri Ram	Lahansai	Nongwang	Phathairumphon	14,041	14,041			14,041	
21	367-02/05/AD	Buri Ram	Lahansai	Nongwang	Phathairumphon	17,122	17,122			17,122	
4	4	Buri Ram				250,810	250,810			250,810	
22	393-03/AD	Surin	Kabchoeng	Ta-kian	Sakonphatthana	291,543		291,543		291,543	
23	413-01/AD	Surin	Kabchoeng	Dan	Dan	22,343		22,343		22,343	
24	413-02/AD	Surin	Kabchoeng	Dan	Chongchok-chon	469,242		469,242		469,242	
25	413-03/AD	Surin	Kabchoeng	Dan	Chongchok-chon	1,072,000	1,072,000	,		1,072,000	
26	395-01/AD	Surin	Phnomdongrak	Bakdai	Thaisantisuk	601,289	601,289			601,289	
5	5	Surin	annas ngruk			2,456,417	1,673,289	783,128		2,456,417	
27	436-01/AD	Si Saket	Kantharalak	Saothongchai	Phumsaron	1,084,066	,,207		1,084,066	1,084,066	
28	436-03/AD	Si Saket	Kantharalak	Saothongchai	Phumsaron	394,232			394,232	394,232	
29	436-04/AD	Si Saket	Kantharalak	Saothongchai	Phumsaron	709,787			709,787	709,787	
30	439-02/01/AD	Si Saket	Kantharalak	Lalai	Ko	109,787		109,349	100,101	109,787	
4	4	Si Saket	- CHOICHE	Lundi		2,297,434		109,349	2,188,085	2,297,434	
_	4 457-01/AD		Nam Yuen	Sons	Nam Yuan			331,104	2,100,085		
31	457-01/AD	Ubon Ratchathani	Ivain Yuen	Song	Nam Yuen	331,104				331,104	
_	_					331,104		331,104		331,104	
31	31	Total				14,041,387	5,328,050	5,149,998	3,563,339	14,041,387	



Thailand's Commitment Towards Fulfilling Art 5 Obligations



Statement of the Delegation of the Kingdom of Thailand by Lt. Gen. Kanit Chomanan,

Director-General of the Thailand Mine Action Center at the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention Intersessional Meetings "Matters related to the mandate of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation" 20 June 2022, Geneva, Switzerland

(Slide 1 – Title)

Mr. Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

I would like to express our sincere appreciation to Mr. Vincent Bodson, Permanent Mission of Belgium, for his continued commitment towards the work of the Article 5 Committee. Our appreciation also extends to members of the Article 5 Committee and the ISU for their invaluable support rendered to all States Parties in paving the way towards a mine-free world.

(Slide 2 -- Progress made since "2018": The Second Extension Period)

Since joining the Convention in 1999, Thailand has been fully committed to implementing our obligations. Stakeholders from all sectors are striving toward a minefree Thailand.

Mine clearance is complex and multifaceted. The mission demands great efforts and strong determination to overcome challenges and obstacles. Thailand's mine clearance efforts have been relatively successful over the past several years with 98% of the mine contaminated areas safely returned to its people. Unfortunately, we cannot declare ourselves mine-free by our deadline in 2023 and have to request for an extension of the deadline for 3 years.

Today, I would like to share with you our lessons, progress, and plans to fulfil Article 5 obligations.

(Slide 3 – Our International Partners)

Mine contaminated areas in Thailand were predominantly results of the past conflicts, which spilled over along the Thai borders. Thailand Mine Action Centre (TMAC) was established shortly after we ratified the Convention, to spearhead mine action in the country, by working with relevant agencies and international partners.

(Slide 4 - 20 Years of Learning and Development)

At the beginning of Thailand's mine action efforts, the total estimated landmine contaminated areas covered 2,556 sq.km. At the time of writing of the extension request, Thailand was left with 36.97 sq.km., which account for just 1.45% of the initial estimated areas, most of which are situated along the Thailand - Cambodia border.

(Slide 5 – Remaining Areas by Region)

During the second extension, Thailand has released at least 323 sq.km. of mine contaminated areas, and has recovered at least 40,014 anti-personnel mines. Four provinces, and the areas along Thailand – Myanmar border, has been declared minefree, while the work along the Thailand – Lao PDR border is almost complete.

(Slide 6 – Information Management)

This progress has been made possible by strengthening operations in the following areas:

First, the effective implementation of the Five-Year Work Plan, which is the roadmap for Thailand's mine action. Phase 1 of the Work Plan focused on non-technical survey in the SHA was completed and we are currently at Phase 2, with the focus on the Technical Survey and Clearance, based on information obtained during Phase 1.

Second, the improvement of Information Management (IM), including by enhancing the capacity of TMAC's IM team, the IM systems, and standardisation of the processes for obtaining information.

(Slide 7 – Thai Government Funding for Mine Action Operations)

Third, continued commitment towards funding by the Thai government, which is the primary source of funding for the humanitarian mine action in Thailand, with the overall spending of approximately USD 38 million during the second extension.

(Slide 8 – 2020 Thailand – Cambodia pilot Project)

Fourth, strengthening international cooperation at all levels. In addition to continued cooperation with Japan, Norway, and the United States, Thailand has also been cooperating with Cambodia through bilateral mechanisms, including the "Pilot Project on Demining Cooperation along the Border of Thailand and Cambodia" in 2020.

In addition, Thailand has also been working towards strengthening community engagement, Mine Risk Education and Victim Assistance. Lastly, in 2019, we have

carried out complete destruction of all stockpiled anti-personnel mines retained for research and training purposes, which has shown our strong commitment towards the spirit of the Convention.

(Slide 9 – Circumstances impending completion)

Thailand's significant progress made during the second extension has been made despite the following challenges:

(Slide 10 -High Density of Contamination and Challenging Landscape)

First, high-level of contamination and challenging geographical landscape. On average, 1 mine per 3.8 square metres was found between 2020 - 2021. Deminers also face extreme geographical landscape, including rough terrains and dense forest. In an effort to overcome this, projects such as the "Ruang Phueng" operation have been introduced by using helicopters to transport the deminers to carry out their operations.

(Slide 11 - COVID - 19 Impact)

Second, for more than 2 years, the pandemic has negatively affected Thailand's demining operations, from travel restrictions to physical contact restrictions, limitation of human resources, reduction in financial support from international partners, as well as a challenge towards the efforts to strengthen cooperation in the areas along the border.

(Slide 12 – Access to areas along the border)

Third, access to the areas along the border. As Thailand's demining operations move closer to the Areas to be Demarcated (ADs) along the border, since November 2020, Thailand's humanitarian mine action operators were occasionally requested to stop their operations. After several unsuccessful attempts to access the areas, Thailand decided to suspend the demining operations in the above-mentioned areas in order to avoid unnecessary misunderstanding. Such areas account for almost *half* of the total remaining areas.

(Slide 13 – Work Plan for the Requested Extension Period)

Despite challenges, Thailand remains fully committed to completing its Article 5 obligations. In the unfortunate case where completion of the mine action operations is not possible during the current timeframe, Thailand intends to continue its efforts during the requested extension period of 3 years under the following work plan:

During the remaining period of the second extension, Thailand believes that we will be able to clear all mine contaminated areas, apart from the ADs along the border.

For the Requested Extension Period, Thailand has also developed the Three-Year Work Plan, which will focus on the remaining 14.31 sq.km. of ADs by strengthening cooperation with our neighbouring country, through bilateral, regional and multilateral mechanisms. Thailand will continue to ensure its neighbour that such demining operations are carried out for humanitarian purposes only and shall be without prejudice to the rights of both parties with regard to land boundary under international law.

(Slide 14 – Closing: Thailand's Commitment Towards Fulfilling Art 5 Obligations)

Last but not least, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our partners who provide invaluable support to Thailand in its efforts to fulfill the Convention's obligations, namely: the governments of Japan, Norway, and the United States; the Marine Corps Forces, Pacific; the HD R&D Program; the Norwegian People's Aid; the Golden West Humanitarian Foundation; and the Thai Civilian Deminer Association.

I would also like to reiterate that Thailand is endeavored towards completing its Three-Year Work Plan by releasing all mine contaminated areas by the end of the requested period. We reaffirm our full commitment towards to the Convention and will continue to cooperate with all parties to fulfill our Article 5 obligations.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Word Count: 1091

Time allocated: 10 min

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