



IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE 5 OF THE ANTI-PERSONNEL MINE BAN CONVENTION SITUATION IN CHAD

1. CHAD AND ARTICLE 5

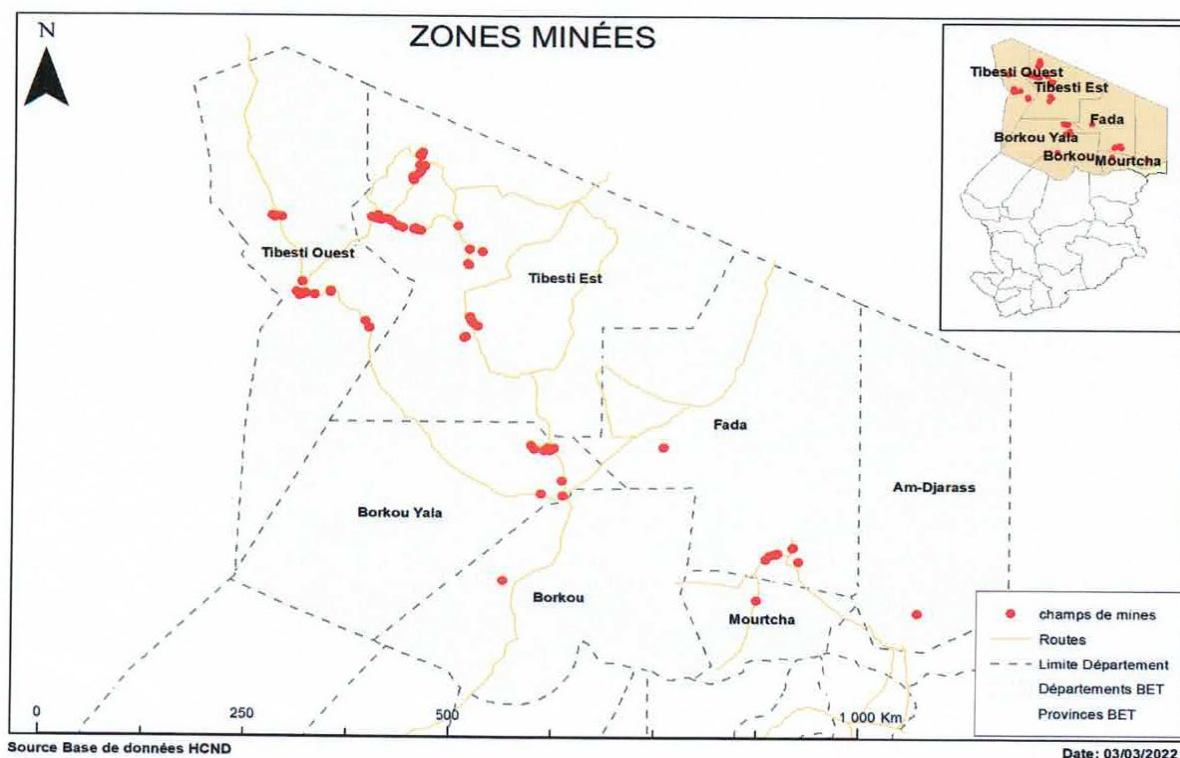
Chad is one of the 33 States Parties to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention that have reported mined areas under its jurisdiction or control under Article 5. At the Fourth Review Conference in 2019, Chad's deadline for clearing mined areas has been extended until **1 January 2025**.

When the Convention entered into force, Chad's understanding of the contamination of its territory by anti-personnel mines came from a landmine impact study which had identified 552 areas containing either anti-personnel mines or a mixture of anti-personnel mines and other explosive remnants of war and covering 1,018 km² throughout Chad's territory to the exception of Tibesti.

Since then, in order to clarify the contamination on its territory, Chad conducted non-technical and technical surveys and undertook a verification and cleaning of its database. Since the submission of its request for extension, these activities continued and made it possible to determine the extent of the mine contamination with the cancellation of more than 2 499 062 m² of previously recorded dangerous areas.

As of 31 December 2021, **120 mined areas** remained in Chad covering an area of **77,615,858 m²** and distributed in 3 provinces in the north of the country as follows: 17 areas in Borkou, 14 in Ennedi and 89 in Tibesti.

| Province | Number of Confirmed Hazardous Areas (CHAs) | Number of Suspected Hazardous Areas (SHAs) | Area CHAs (m ²) | Area SHAs (m ²) |
|----------------------|--|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Borkou | 9 | 8 | 13 491 891 | 2 266 963 |
| Ennedi | 12 | 2 | 18 220 782 | 361 798 |
| Tibesti | 51 | 38 | 24 224 623 | 19 049 801 |
| Total | 72 | 48 | 55 937 296 | 21 678 562 |
| Total ZDC+ZSD | 120 | | 77 615 858 | |



Anti-personnel mines continue to have humanitarian and socio-economic impacts. The presence of such mines hinders access to pasture and water and harms mineral exploration, urbanization and tourism.

Most of these mines were laid between 1983 and 1987 during the Libyan occupation. These mines were laid to control the areas where the Libyan troops were located, and all of people's movements both on foot and in vehicles. Useful and populated areas of the Borkou-Ennedi-Tibesti (BET) have thus been mined, which explains the large number of accidents involving people and animals. These minefields are usually found in mountainous and/or sandy areas.

There is also a **significant presence of explosive remnants of war (ERW)** in Chad, some of which have been reported in large numbers during recent verification missions and technical surveys. **28 dangerous areas with a total area of 255,663,167 m²** were identified in 9 provinces (Borkou, Ennedi, Lac, Ouaddaï, Salamat, Sila, Tibesti, Wadi Fira and Kanem).

ERW contamination forces the Chadian government to take this problem into account in its budget and as a result the removal and destruction of antipersonnel mines must go hand-in-hand with the elimination of these risk factors.

2. REMAINING CHALLENGES

- The real remaining challenge is **funding**. The PRODECO project supported by the European Union for 5 years until the end of 2021 has been closed. At this stage, Chad has no financial visibility for the years to come, which makes it difficult to plan the conduct of various survey and clearance activities over the next few years.
- **The inaccessibility of the province of Tibesti** has often been problematic either for security reasons or disagreements with the local population. This problem remains to be solved and must be the subject of negotiation between the parties before the launch of any initiative in this province.

3. WORK PLAN 2022-2024¹

The 2022-2024 work plan provides for non-technical and technical surveys, as well as marking and clearance activities and is based on the deployment of 9 teams (2 clearance units, composed of 3 teams each, and a third clearance unit composed of 3 teams which could be active if the Chadian government also committed to financing operations directly.)

Annual operational projection (number of areas)

| Province | 2022 | | 2023 | | 2024 | | Total |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | CHA | SHA | CHA | SHA | CHA | SHA | |
| Borkou | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 17 |
| Ennedi | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 14 |
| Tibesti | 3 | 10 | 5 | 13 | 4 | 15 | 50 |
| Subtotal | 10 | 13 | 12 | 17 | 11 | 18 | |
| Total | 23 | | 29 | | 29 | | 81 |

Annual operational projection (area in m2)

| Province | 2022 | | 2023 | | 2024 | | Total |
|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| | CHA | ZSD | CHA | ZSD | CHA | ZSD | |
| Borkou | 4 048 429 | 566 741 | 5 397 407 | 850 111 | 4 048 055 | 850 111 | 15 760 854 |
| Ennedi | 6 194 021 | 352 452 | 6 194 021 | 704 905 | 6 194 021 | 0 | 19 639 420 |
| Tibesti | 6 174 904 | 5 013 106 | 6 174 904 | 6 517 037 | 6 174 904 | 7 519 658 | 37 574 513 |
| Subtotal | 16 417 354 | 5 932 299 | 17 766 332 | 8 072 053 | 16 416 980 | 8 369 769 | |
| Total | 22 349 653 | | 25 838 385 | | 24 786 749 | | 72 974 787 |

From a strategic point of view, the following criteria will be taken into consideration in the implementation:

- Deployment of three teams in each **region of the BET** (Borkou-Ennedi-Tibesti) by targeting in priority the minefields and the mine points which represent a more direct threat on the populations and on the transit routes;
- Regarding **ENNEDI-WEST**, permanent marking of the large Ouadi Doum minefield and securing with a permanent garrison. The teams will clear the remaining minefields in the region and at the same time deal with any threats related to ERW;
- All teams will conduct non-technical surveys of the known hazardous areas recorded in the database in parallel with clearance activities. This activity will certainly lead to the discovery of other dangerous areas;
- Regarding **TIBESTI**, priority will be given to the Zouarké area as an important commercial crossroads, to the towns of Aouzou and Bardai and its surroundings, these localities being the most populated and as a result their communication routes the most used by these populations.

As the work plan has not yet received funding, a realistic projection of activities could certainly only be done from the end of 2022, leaving only two years of activities.

By the 1 January 2025 deadline, the following objectives are considered realistic:

¹ For detailed annual operational planning, see the “Detailed Work Plan for the Implementation of Article 5 of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their destruction” submitted by Chad on 4 May 2022. <https://new.apminebanconvention.org/fileadmin/APMBC-DOCUMENTS/Meetings/2022/20MSP-Chad-Art5-Work-Plan.pdf>

- Clearance of the Borkou region while still taking into account the residual contamination.
- Clearance of the Ennedi-West region except for the Ouadi Doum minefield of 16,435,788 m², for which Chad will have to wait for future funding.
- Release of land and roads in the most populated areas of Tibesti

Risk education:

The preferred strategy will be as participatory as possible with the communities forming relays, members of the communities themselves (such as teachers, village chief, etc.), to deliver the message of mine risk education (MRE); i.e. a community strategy that will make community members more responsible for the risks in areas affected by mines and ERW and that will improve the MRE programme according to the real needs of the population.

In addition, a Quick Response MRE team will be equipped to respond to major emergencies in the field alongside deminers of the National High Commission for Demining (HCND - *Haut-commissariat national de déminage*), collecting data, doing live MRE sessions etc. The MRE department of the HCND will implement its work in coordination with the Operations and Victim Assistance departments of the HCND. Coordination meetings will also be organised with the agencies and partners involved in the mine action in Chad (UNICEF, and the Ministries of Education and Social Action)

Chad can mobilise 9 multitask teams, 2 mechanical demining teams and survey teams to carry out survey and mine clearance activities. The methodologies applied are those required by the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) and the National Mine Action Standards in Chad.

This plan will be implemented by the HCND with the support of international partners who are interested in working in Chad and especially encouraging local initiatives (mine action organisations).

It is important to note that Chad will certainly continue to face the challenges listed even after 2025 like many other countries with a long history of war and contamination by risks of explosion and mines.

In that respect, Chad has set up a Multipurpose Intervention Unit whose main mission is to intervene on isolated ordnance of all types throughout the territory and to take into account the remaining minefields and the residual risk.

4. FINANCING NEEDS

Chad renews its call to the international community to support it in fulfilling its international obligations and ensuring the safety of its communities affected by mines.

The 2022-2024 work plan is currently unfunded. For the continuation of operations in the field, Chad needs the commitment of its government to finance a national project, but also the commitment of international technical and financial partners in the demining sector.

Commitment of the Chadian government:

A contribution of **3,430,693 euros for 2022-2024** for the administrative costs and human resources of the HCND and its provincial centres but no commitment has yet been made on the financing of survey and clearance operations.

External funding required:

12,173,929 euros to guarantee the operability of 9 teams during the 2022-2024 period.

Provisional breakdown of costs by activity (in euros)

| Activité | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | Total |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Mine clearance | 3 395 524 | 2 783 524 | 2 783 524 | 8 962 572 |
| Clearance | 42 400 | 69 600 | 69 600 | 381 600 |
| Non technical survey | 45 593 | 45 593 | 45 593 | 136 778 |
| Technical survey | 8 237 | 18 237 | 18 237 | 54 711 |
| QCA | 54 711 | 54 711 | 54 711 | 164 134 |
| Follow up operations | 54 711 | 54 711 | 54 711 | 164 134 |
| Permanent marking | 600 000 | 600 000 | 600 000 | 1 800 000 |
| Capacity building | 70 000 | 70 000 | 70 000 | 210 000 |
| Risk education and victim assistance | 100,000 | 100,000 | 100,000 | 300 000 |
| Subtotal | 4 581 176 | 3 796 376 | 3 796 376 | 12 173 929 |
| Management/administrative staff | 510,796 | 510,796 | 510,796 | 1,532,388 |
| Running costs HCND/CRD | 487 252 | 487 252 | 487 252 | 1,461,756 |
| Equipment HCND | 376 549 | 30,000 | 30,000 | 436 549 |
| Subtotal | 1 374 597 | 1 028 048 | 1 028 048 | 3 430 693 |
| Total | 5 955,773 | 4 824,424 | 4 824,424 | 15 604 622 |

For any additional information, please contact:

General Brahim Djibrine Brahim, the National Coordinator of the National High Commission for Demining (HCND), djibrinebra08@gmail.com