Afghanistan

Directorate of Mine Action Coordination (DMAC)

Mine Action Programme of Afghanistan (MAPA)

Afghanistan's Request for the Second Extension of the Deadline for Completing the Destruction of Anti-Personnel Mines in Mined Areas, in Accordance with Article 5 of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction.

For the Period of

(April 2025- March 2030)

Submission Date

April 2024

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Background of Explosive Ordnance Contamination in Afghanistan

Afghanistan has been contaminated with Explosive Ordnance (EO) as a result of over four decades of war and continual armed conflicts, starting from 1979 with Russian invasion of Afghanistan. Unfortunately, the armed conflicts continued despite Russian withdrawal from the country and collapse of their backed government in April 1992, followed by internal war between Mujahidin. The periods of warfare and armed conflicts are described below:

a) Russian/Soviet Union invasion (1979-1989)
b) Russian backed regime (1989-1991)
c) Internal war between Mujahidin (1992-1996)
d) Northern alliance against government (1996-September 2001)
e) Post 2001 armed conflicts continued up to August 2021.

To manage the EO contamination problem in Afghanistan, the mine action programme of Afghanistan (MAPA) was established in 1989 by the United Nations.

National Mine Action Authority and Mine Action Structure in Afghanistan

The first deputy of prime minister leads the high commission for disaster management (HCDM), which is an inter-ministerial board where mine action and natural disasters are managed. The state ministry for disaster management is Afghanistan's national disaster management authority (ANDMA), and the secretariat for HCDM. The Directorate of Mine Action Coordination (DMAC) is one of the directorates of ANDMA responsible of leading and coordination of mine action programme in Afghanistan.
The United Nations Mine Action Services (UNMAS) provides technical support to DMAC and MAPA through mine action technical cell (MATC) and technical and programme management support to the mine action programme of Afghanistan (MAPA).

Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC)

Since the signing and ratification of ABMBC by the government of Afghanistan in 2003, Afghanistan remained committed to comply with all related articles of the convention during the different political eras. To comply with its Article 5 obligations, the national mine action authority in consultation with the mine action programme of Afghanistan (MAPA) and UNMAS, is seeking a five-year extension of the Article 5 deadline. In this period Afghanistan will make tireless efforts to complete the nationwide survey in order to understand and record the real scope of explosive ordnance (EO) problem in this country and to clear the remaining known EO contamination including conventional and improvised anti-personnel mine (APM), provided that each single community in Afghanistan is now accessible to be assessed, surveyed and released from the EO contamination by the MAPA.

This document explains the nature and extent of the original Article 5 challenges, demonstrates progress made, factors impeded achieving the previous Article 5 deadlines, explains the impact and implications of the remaining hazards and clearly sets out the plan and budget needed to complete survey and clearance of anti-personnel mine (APM) within a five-year timeframe between April 2025 – March 2030.

Factors Impeded Afghanistan in not Achieving the Article 5 Obligations

The following factors impeded the mine action programme of Afghanistan in not achieving its Article 5 obligation during the extended deadline (April 2013-March 2023):

a) **Armed conflicts:** Continuation of the armed conflicts during the major part of the previous Article 5 extension request (March 2013 – August 2021), resulted in further EO contamination including improvised mines. Armed conflicts also restricted MAPA's access to most of the EO affected communities, especially in remote areas.

b) **Under funding:** The programme did not receive required budget forecasted based on the multi-year work-plan (MYWP) developed as part of the extension request. In addition, the survey continued throughout the timeline of extension request and additional EO contaminated areas were added to the MYWP.

c) **Lack of records of the EO contaminated areas:** Due to lack of access and continuation of war, the programme could not provide a comprehensive picture of the EO contamination as part of the previous extension request. A progressive survey continued since then that captured legacy contamination (pre-2001) as well as new contaminations (post-2001) that resulted in additional impediment to the MYWP of the previous extension request.

d) **Inadequate mine action capacity:** Inadequate and limited mine action capacity (trained staff and required equipment) to address the improvised mines (IMs) the clearance of which became a humanitarian priority. However, in later stages of previous extension request the programme with international support managed to build the capacity to address IM contamination.

e) **Insecurity:** Due to active hostilities and insecurity, most of the rural areas were inaccessible during the major part of the extension request. Therefore, mine action teams could not proceed most of those impacted communities.

f) **Presence of anti-vehicle mines (AVM) and ERW including cluster munitions:** Due to the presence of many high priority AVM and ERW contaminated areas, MAPA was unable to focus only on APM clearance. Some of the mine action resources also had to be allocated for addressing the AVM and ERW problems.

MAPA Achievements as Part of Previous Extension Request

As part of the mine and ERW impact free community survey (MEIFCS) nationwide survey conducted between April 2013- March 2023 in total 19,846 accessible communities located in 208 districts, have been surveyed with following achievements:

1) Survey and recording 4,991 hazards, covering 453.3 Sq Km area, not surveyed before.
2) Cancellation of 1,100 hazards covering 174 Sq Km area from the previously surveyed areas.
3) Resurveyed 1,667 hazards, resulted in 27 Sq Km decrease in size of the hazards.
4) Recorded 1,115 EO civilian victims.

Annual plans were developed and a five-year National Mine Action Strategic Plan(NMASP) was also developed. A dedicated committee has been established consisting of representatives from DMAC departments, UNMAS and the IPs led by DMAC planning and programme department reviewing and updating the work plan and regularly communicating the changes to all stakeholders.

Since April 2013 there was 9 humanitarian mine action mine action organizations and 21 commercial demining companies involved in land release operation in 33 out of 34 provinces of the country. The programme through humanitarian demining, firing ranges clearance and commercial demining managed to release 2,618.4 Sq Km hazardous area. EORE Training of Trainers (ToT) were also provided to around 24,000 teachers in the schools, and EORE messages were included in the school curriculum to mainstream the EORE and enhance awareness among young children about the risk of EO.

Quality Management

In order to manage the quality of mine action activities throughout the country, MAPA conducted a total of 28,299 [1]external QA/QC visits that covered 724 mine action projects implemented by the national and international humanitarian and commercial organizations throughout Afghanistan, since April 2013.

The programme also developed its capacity in survey and disposal of improvised mines (IM) during this period, and 1059 MAPA personnel have been trained in IM survey, clearance and QM.

The socioeconomic impacts of mine action services have been evaluated, the results shared with all mine action stakeholders and appropriate decision made during this period. As part of the socio-economic impact evaluation, DMAC conducted the mine action livelihood survey to collect data and information about the positive changes in lives and livelihoods of people after the release of their land from EO contamination.

Civilian Casualties

Despite all the progress that MAPA had toward ending the EO threat, unfortunately Afghan civilians suffered the loss/injury of their family members and the damage incurred to their properties. The humanitarian impact in terms of deaths and injuries was considerable. The DMAC database holds records of 42,596 casualties (10,647 Killed and 31,949 injured) due to mines, ERW, IM and CM since 1979, though it is most probable that the number of EO victims will be higher than this due to difficulties in reporting.

Remaining Known EO Contamination

Type of EO	# of CHAs	Size of CHAs Sq km	# of SHAs	Size of SHAs Sq Km	Total of area known and suspected to contain EO Sq km
APM,IM	3,103	159.6	66	16.69	176.3
AVM	921	153.1	94	19.3	172.4
ERW	466	165.7	2	0.02	165.7
CM	15	9.28	0	0	9.28
G. Total	**4,505**	**487.7**	**162**	**36**	**523.76**

MAPA plans to complete the nationwide village by village survey in the remaining 183 districts within 3 years, starting from April 2025. In addition, 38 firing/training ranges with a total size of 632.1 Sq km are also subject to resurvey.

[1] All figures have been taken from the information management system for mine action (IMSMA).

Survey Multi-Year Work Plan

A nationwide survey is planned over 3 years using 54 quick response teams (QRT), followed by a reduced number of teams to respond to spot tasks, confirmation assessments, and provision of EORE.

Year	No of Survey/EOD teams	Cost in Million USD
1404 (2025-26)	54	3.5
1405 (2026-27)	54	3.5
1406 (2027-28)	54	3.5
1407 (2028-29)	14	1.0
1408 (2029-30)	14	1.0
Total cost	**190**	**12.5**

The survey will cover 183 districts across 29 provinces of Afghanistan.

Year	No of Province	No of District	No of Gazetteer Communities	No of non-Gazetteer communities	# of total communities
1404 (Apr 2025 - Mar 2026)	12	67	4,865	2,433	7,298
1405 (Apr 2026 - Mar 2027)	10	53	4,149	2,075	6,224
1406 (Apr 2027 - Mar 2028)	10	63	3,812	1,906	5,718
Total		183	12,826	6,414	19,240

Required Capacity

An average of 358 mine action teams[2] are operational within Afghanistan, and the MYWP estimates a requirement for 472 teams, leaving a gap of 114 teams. The estimated budget over a five-year period is $255.9M.

Land Release Prioritization

MAPA uses impact indicators with an assigned numeric values from a prioritization matrix (Annex B) to classify each hazard. Based on the classification the percentage of hazards in each category are:

1) 1-10 Low Impact – 2.24%
2) 11-18 Medium Impact – 52.5%
3) 19-27 High Impact – 42.4%
4) Above 27 Very High Impact – 2.9$

[2] Clearance, quick response including survey, EORE and VA.

Assumptions

Afghanistan plan for addressing the EO problem during the requested Article 5 extension (2025-2030) is based on the assumption that the security situations throughout Afghanistan will remain stable and improve. Presently, all the affected communities in very remote areas are accessible from the security point of view. The summary of assumptions:

a) Continuation of improved security and sustainable access of the mine action teams throughout Afghanistan.
b) High possibility of recording new hazards as a result of nationwide survey, which could affect the work plan.
c) Adequate financial support and funding throughout the duration of extension request.
d) As a humanitarian mine action programme, the MAPA is seen from a humanitarian perspective, not from the political lens.
e) In addition to international financial support, the programme will receive funds from national budget.

Risk Factors:

The risks that are likely to be encountered are as follow:

1) **The Overall Political and Economic Situation:** The plan assumes that the political and economic situations evolve in favour of the mien action programme in Afghanistan.

2) **Security Situation in the Region:** Although security situation is improved in Afghanistan, but recent conflicts in the region including security incidents in neighbouring countries may affect Afghanistan. Security deterioration in the region may be followed by reduction in international financial support, logistical issues and access to international community, etc.

3) **Funding:** Unfortunately, the long-lasting war and hostilities have significantly affected the economic infrastructure in Afghanistan, therefore, similar to other sectors, the humanitarian mine action also depends on international financial support. Lack or inadequate funding will definitely affect the survey and clearance work plan.

4) **Weather:** Afghanistan is a mountainous country and the snowfall and cold winter especially in central highland, north, north-east and parts of eastern (Nuristan) and south-eastern regions affect mine action operations during the winter season. However, the MAPA will consider seasonal deployments in planning mine action operations in different regions.

5) **Terrains and Jungles:** Minefields in some parts of south-east, north-east and central highland are located in mountainous areas with jungles (Zazi Aryoub – Paktya province), thick vegetation and sloping areas. These factors are regularly analysed using IMS/GIS and required preparations will be considered by the programme when planning mine action operations.

Glossary of Acronyms and Abbreviations

ACAP-III	Afghan Civilian Assistance Programme-3
IM	Improvised Mine
ALIS	Afghanistan Landmine Impact Survey
AMAS	Afghanistan Mine Action Standards
ANDMA	Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority
ANSA	Afghanistan National Standards Authority
APM	Anti-Personnel Mine
AREA	Agency for Rehabilitation and Energy Conservation in Afghanistan
ATC	Afghan Technical Consultants
AVM	Anti-Vehicle Mine
BF	Battlefield
BSC	Balanced Scorecard
CCM	Convention on Cluster Munitions
CCW	Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons
CHA	Confirmed Hazardous Areas
DAFA	Demining Agency for Afghanistan
DMAC	Directorate of Mine Action Coordination
DQC	Data Quality Check
EO	Explosive Ordnance
EOD	Explosive Ordnance Disposal
EORE	Explosive Ordnance Risk Education
ERW	Explosive Remnants of War
FR	Firing/Training ranges used for military purposes, contaminated with EO
GICHD	Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining
HALO	Hazardous Area Life-support Organization
HCDM	High Commission for Disaster Management
IDPs	Internally Displaced Persons
IED	Improvised Explosive Device
IMAS	International Mine Action Standards
IMSMA	Information Management System for Mine Action
IP	Implementing Partner

ISAF	International Security Assistance Force
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
LIAT	Landmine Impact Assessment Team
LSP	Landmine Safety Programme
MALS	Mine Action Livelihood Survey
MAPA	Mine Action Programme of Afghanistan
MATC	Mine Action Technical Cell
MCPA	Mine Clearance and Planning Agency
MDC	Mine Detection Centre
MDD	Mine Detection Dog
MEIFCS	Mine/ERW Impact Free Community Survey
MF	Minefield
MoD	Ministry of Defence
MoE	Ministry of Education
MoI	Ministry of Interior
MoLSAMD	Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs, Martyrs and Disabled
MoPH	Ministry of Public Health
MYWP	Multi-year Work Plan
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
NCR	Nonconformity
NMASP	National Mine Action Strategic Plan
NSC	National Security Council
NSIA	National Statistics and Information Authority
OMAR	Organisation for Mine Clearance and Afghan Rehabilitation
P3M3	Portfolio, Programme, and Project Management Maturity Model
PDIA	Post Demining Impact Assessment
PPIED	Pressure Plate Improvised Mine
PPSP	Project and Partner Selection Panel
QA	Quality Assurance
QC	Quality Control
QM	Quality Management
QRT	Quick Response Teams

RS	Resolute Support
SDA	Sterling Demining Afghanistan
SHA	Suspected Hazard Area
SOPs	Standard Operating Procedures
SWPs	Standard Working Procedures
TAPI	Turkmenistan–Afghanistan–Pakistan–India (Natural gas pipeline project)
TCN	Troops Contributing Nation
TWG	Technical Working Group
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNMACA	United Nations Mine Action Centre for Afghanistan
UNMAS	United Nations Mine Action Service
UXO	Unexploded Ordnance
VA	Victim Assistance
VTF	Voluntary Trust Fund
WAD	Weapons and Ammunition Destruction/Disposal

Contents

Chapter One

OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRAMME

1. BACKGROUND OF EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE CONTAMINATION

Afghanistan has been contaminated with Explosive Ordnance (EO) as a result of over four decades of war and continual armed conflicts, starting from 1979 with Russian invasion of Afghanistan. Unfortunately, the armed conflicts continued despite Russian withdrawal from the country and collapse of their backed government in 1991, followed by internal war between Mujahidin. The periods of warfare and armed conflicts are described below:

f) Russian/Soviet Union invasion (1979-1988)
g) Russian backed regime (1989-1991)
h) Internal war between Mujahidin (1992-1996)
i) Northern alliance against government (1996-September 2001)
j) Post 2001 armed conflicts continued up to August 2021.

In spite of several changes in political arenas and in government systems, the armed conflicts and hostilities did not stop and resulted in widespread EO contamination throughout Afghanistan. The EO contamination resulted in loss of thousands of civilians' lives, limbs and properties, created blockages to the livelihood and socioeconomic activities, affected safe movement of people, impeded rehabilitation, development interventions, and damaged infrastructure. Wars and presence of EO forced millions of civilians to leave their communities and properties and refuge to neighbouring and other countries in the world, and internally displaced in relatively safe areas within Afghanistan.

To manage the EO contamination problem in Afghanistan, the mine action programme of Afghanistan (MAPA) was established in 1989 by the United Nation.

MAPA VISION

An Afghanistan free from explosive ordnance where men, women, boys and girls live in a safe environment conducive to sustainable development and where EO victims are fully integrated into society and have their rights and needs recognised and fulfilled.

MAPA MISSION

To ensure an effective and efficient national mine action programme that protects civilians, enables the safe and productive use of land, and addresses the needs of EO victims through gender and diversity sensitive well-coordinated integrated and inter-sectorial activities aligned with international and national mine action standards and legal frameworks, and promoting convention obligations.

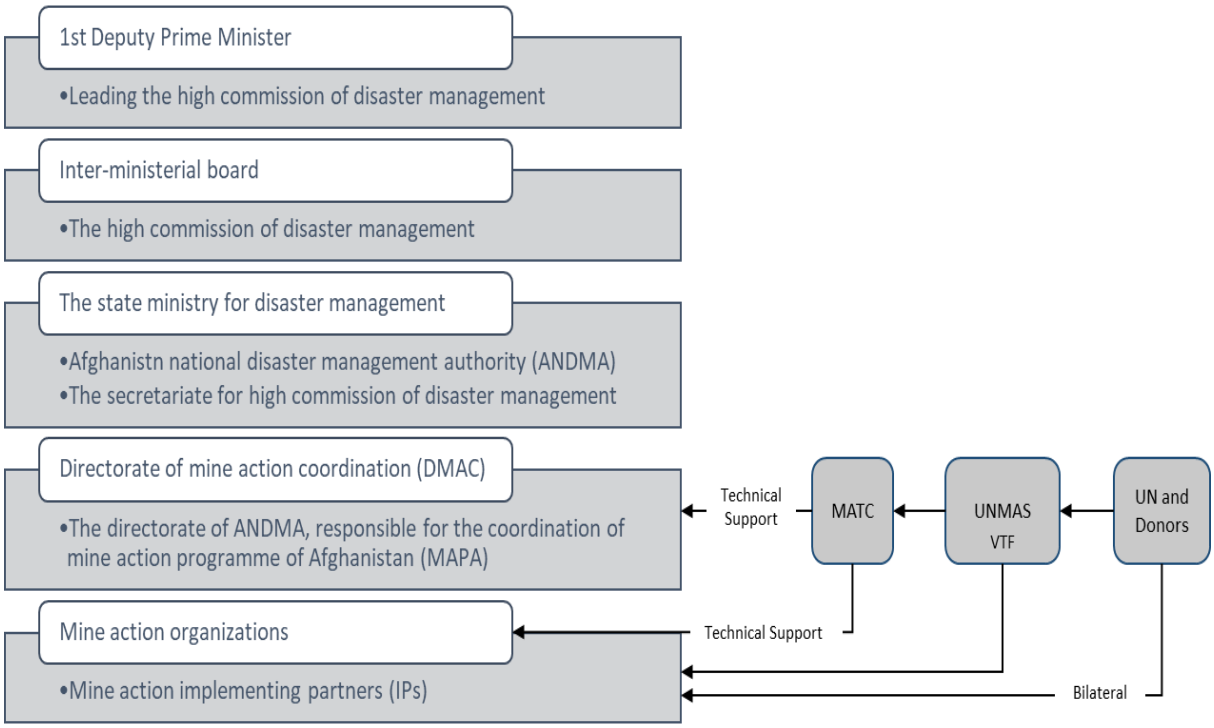
1.1 Mine Action Structure in Afghanistan

The first deputy of prime minister leads the high commission for disaster management (HCDM), which is an inter-ministerial board where mine action and natural disasters are managed. The state ministry for disaster management is Afghanistan's national disaster management authority (ANDMA), and the

secretariat for HCDM. The Directorate of Mine Action Coordination (DMAC) is one of the directorates of ANDMA responsible of leading and coordination of mine action programme in Afghanistan.
The United Nations Mine Action Services (UNMAS) provides technical support to DMAC and MAPA through mine action technical cell (MATC) and technical and programme management support to the mine action programme of Afghanistan (MAPA).
Financial support of the international community/donors, and technical support of the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) played a crucial role in success of the mine action programme of Afghanistan.

Under the coordination of DMAC, over 33 accredited national and international mine action organizations are delivering mine action services in Afghanistan. 25 out of 33 are humanitarian mine action NGOs (non-governmental organizations) including 11 specialized in explosive ordnance risk education (EORE) and victim assistance (VA). There are 8 national accredited private demining companies mainly implementing survey and clearance in support of development projects in Afghanistan. However, their number and capacities are subject to changes based on the scope and availability of development opportunities in the country.

The below figure illustrates national mine action authority and mine action structure in Afghanistan:



1.2 Mine action Programme of Afghanistan (MAPA)

Mine Action Programme of Afghanistan (MAPA) is the oldest civilian and one of the largest mine action programme in the world, established in 1989 and is managed/coordinated by the Directorate of Mine Action Coordination (DMAC). DMAC leads the MAPA and works in close partnership with national and international organizations that provide a range of services designed to minimize and eliminate the impact of Explosive Ordnance (EO).

33 accredited humanitarian mine action organizations and commercial demining companies are eligible to conduct mine action activities in Afghanistan. The list of accredited mine action organizations is available at annex A to this document, as well as at www.dmac.gov.af.

1.3 Directorate of Mine Action Coordination (DMAC)

The Directorate of Mine Action Coordination (DMAC) originally established in 1988 as the department of mine clearance (DMC) within the structure of Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA). The purpose of establishing DMC was to manage the problem of landmine problem in Afghanistan. Before transition of mine action responsibility to the national ownership in 2018, DMC has been changed to the directorate of mine action coordination. DMAC operates as the operational arm of the National Mine Action Authority in Afghanistan.

The activities carried out by DMAC include but are not limited to the following:

a) Coordinates, monitors, oversees and regulates the work of the Mine Action Programme of Afghanistan (MAPA).
b) Serves as a mine action point of contact within the Government system and for the international mine action stakeholders.
c) Leads the national mine action planning and prioritization system.
d) Mobilizes resources for the programme at national and international levels.
e) Reports on the implementation of Mine Action related conventions to which Afghanistan is signatory, including the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC) and Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM), and Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons(CCW).
f) Ensures that the quality of mine action services in Afghanistan is in line with the national and international mine action standards.
g) Owns and manages the National Mine Action Database – (Information Management System for Mine Action – IMSMA), renovate pilot projects to benefit the entire sector.
h) Accredit mine action organizations including technical and operational aspects and capacities of the mine action programme.
i) Leads and ensures the implementation of Afghanistan national mine action standards (AMAS).
j) Certify and validates all mine action related reports before entry into IMSMA.
k) Leads the implementation of Post Land Release Impact Assessment and Landmine and Livelihood Evaluation to measure the impact of mine action services on the lives and livelihoods of the beneficiaries.
l) Facilitates communications of mine action organizations with relevant government departments and provide required support to the MAPA.
m) Advocates for banning the use of landmines and cluster munitions and for promoting the rights and persons with disabilities.
n) Represents the Mine Action Programme of Afghanistan in mine action related meetings, conferences and symposiums at national and international levels.

Although DMAC maintained its neutrality, humanitarian objectives and continues to support humanitarian assistance, and support MAPA to reduce the impact of EO on civilians, but unfortunately some of the above listed functions, especially in relation to DMAC's participation

in international fora, communications with international community and donors became significantly limited due to the political changes of August 2021, in Afghanistan.

Note: Since the political changes in Afghanistan, the main donors to DMAC have suspended their support to this office. DMAC made efforts to maintain its crucial functions of coordination, planning and prioritization, information management system (IMSMA), accreditation of mine action organizations, monitoring of mine action projects/activities (to the extent possible with limited resources). Luckily, UNMAS resumed supporting DMAC and the MAPA through a technical cell (Mine Action Technical Cell-MATC) comprised of contracted national technical staff with strong mine action technical background of previously working with UNMAS, DMAC and the mine action organizations. MATC is accommodated in an office adjacent to the DMAC office and established 4 regional offices in (central area, north/north-east area, eastern/south-east area, south/western area) with the main purpose of overseeing and monitoring of mine action projects and activities in the field, in coordination with DMAC.

1.4 Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention

The Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention entered into force in March 1999. The government of Afghanistan has signed and became a member state of this convention in March 2003, and based on its Article 5 deadline, the state party to the convention should clear its APM contamination in a 10 years' period. As an active state party, Afghanistan also made commitment to clear all its APM contaminated areas by March 2013, but due to many constrains, did not achieve the deadline. Therefore, a 10-year extension request of APMBC Article 5 has been prepared and submitted to the state parties, which was kindly approved by the state parties to the convention. Based on the extension request, Afghanistan showed its commitment to clear all known APM hazards by March 2023, including clearance of high priority areas contaminated with other types of EO, such as ERW and AVM.

In addition, considering the humanitarian impact of improvised explosive devices (improvised mines - IM), including civilian accidents and blockages to humanitarian access, their clearance turned to a humanitarian priority throughout the duration of the Article 5 extension request. Clearance of high priority IM required resources and thus posed additional challenge on Afghanistan and mine action programme in this country.

The APM contamination in Afghanistan includes conventional mines and the improvised mines, the later classified as improvised mines(IM) which resulted in civilian casualties, blockages to the livelihood and socioeconomic activities of the affected communities.

Due to the continuation of armed conflicts throughout the major part of the extension request (2013-2021), and other constraints as detailed below, Afghanistan could not achieve its Article 5 obligations, and required to submit another request for extension.

Considering the political changes of August 2021 in Afghanistan, with possible complexity in institutional arrangement of the mine action sector, the embassy and permanent mission of Afghanistan in Geneva/Switzerland has prepared and submitted a provisional article 5 extension request for an interim period of 2 years (up to March 2025), with a commitment that the mine action

programme will submit another extension request with comprehensive analysis of data and a multi-year work-plan.

A. Factors Impeded Achievement of Article 5 Planned Target

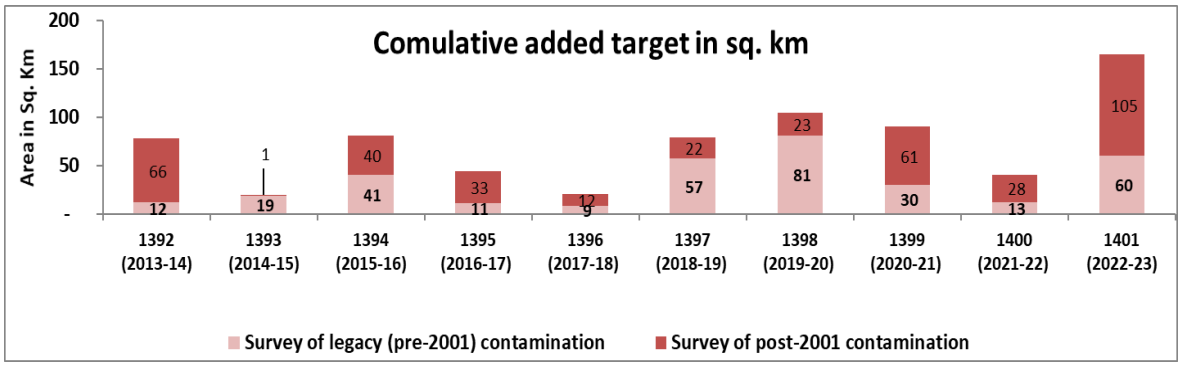
The initial target set in Article 5 extension request developed in 2012, was to clear a total of 532 Sq Km recorded EO contamination within 10 years. However, the set target at the beginning of Article 5 extended deadline (01 April 2013) made a total of 521.3 Sq Km of the recorded EO contamination to be cleared/released. Although the programme managed to clear/release 775 Sq Km since April 2013 up to 31 March 2023 which makes 146 % (46% over achievement) of the initial target in terms of the number and size of EO contamination. However, in terms of the clearance of originally planned target, the programme managed to clear/release 277 Sq Km which makes 52% progress (48% lower achievement).

Continuation of armed conflicts during the major part of extension request (between April 2013 - August 2021) resulted in additional EO contamination including ERW and improvised mines. In order for the programme to understand the scope of EO problem resulted from the armed conflicts, the programme continued to undertake village by village survey and assessment. In addition to new contamination, the survey teams recorded areas of legacy contamination left from the previous surveys. In total above 721 Sq Km area, including improvised mines, ERW and legacy contamination have been recorded since April 2013 from different parts of the country.

These newly surveyed areas have been progressively recorded in IMSMA including their impact level and priority for clearance. Based on the humanitarian impact and the priorities of the affected communities, the newly surveyed EO contaminated areas were added to the multi-year work plan and communicated with the state parties on a regular basis. Some of the high impact/priority areas have been addressed.

Despite advocacy efforts made by the MAPA, the programme did not receive adequate funding to release the originally planned and newly surveyed/recorded contaminated areas.

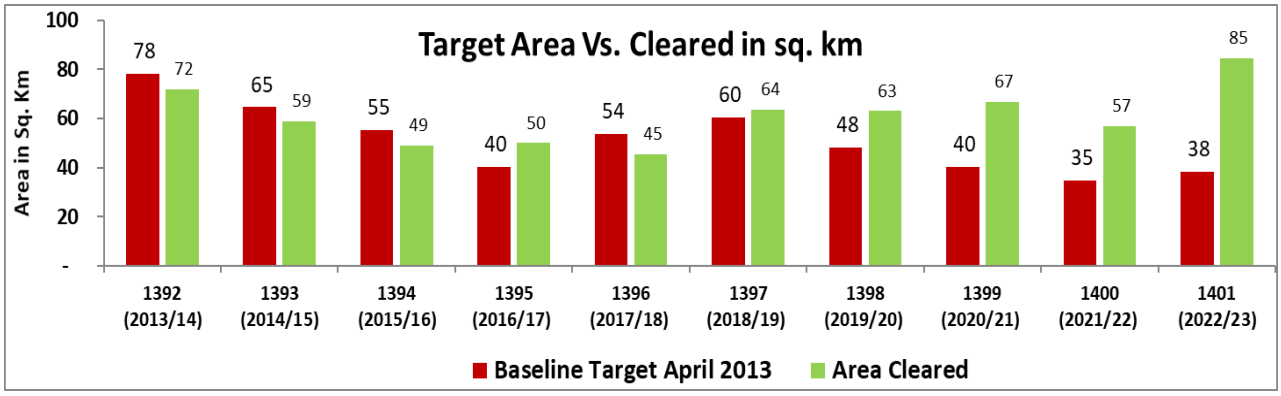
The below graph shows the size of area added to database on annual basis:



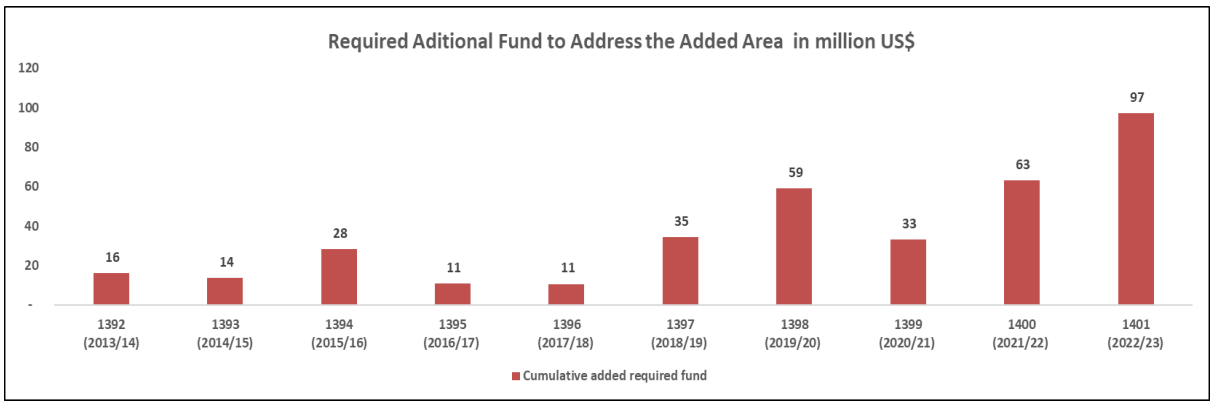
The programme received USD 354 million until March 2023 for survey and clearance operation against the funding requirement of USD 528 million for the 10 years set in extension request to achieve the initial target, which makes a 67 % of the total requirement. Despite, being 33 % under funding, the programme managed to achieve 146 % of the initial target including some of the high impact hazardous areas progressively recorded. The over achievement was the result of tireless efforts made

by the MAPA. Different trials, researches, technical working groups, import and modification of demining machinery, and training programs were undertaken by the programme and resulted in improved operational efficiency and increased productivity rate.

The graph below shows the amount of fund secured against the required fund set initially on annual basis:



Note: No additional funding has been secured to address the newly recorded hazards since April 2013 while the programme progressively adjusted the priorities based on which some of the high impacted newly recorded hazardous areas were also addressed. The graph below shows the amount of fund required for the recorded areas after submission of the extension request in 2012:



The following factors impeded the mine action programme of Afghanistan to achieve its Article 5 extension request's (April 2013-March 2023) planned targets:

g) **Armed conflicts:** Continuation of the armed conflicts during the major part of the previous Article 5 extension request (March 2013 – August 2021), resulted in further EO contamination.

h) **Use of improvised mines:** Use of improvised explosive devices (IEDs) especially victim operated ones employed as part of the armed conflicts, further exacerbated EO contamination in Afghanistan. The clearance of which became humanitarian priority and required additional efforts to provide mine action response to the extent possible.

i) **Under funding:** The programme did not receive required financial support and budget forecasted based on the initial multi-year work-plan (MYWP) developed as part of the extension request. In addition, the survey continued throughout the timeline of extension request and additional EO contaminated areas were added to the MYWP. It is worth mention

that addressing high priority newly surveyed/recorded hazardous areas required additional funding.

j) **Lack of records and maps of mined areas:** The 2012 extension request did not provide a comprehensive picture of the contamination as some of the EO contamination were inaccessible and not captured during the previous surveys to be included in the request. A progressive survey continued since then that captured legacy contamination (pre-2001) as well as new contaminations (post-2001) that resulted an additional burden to the 2012 MBT plan/target that was updated on yearly basis.

k) **Mine Action Capacity:** Limited capacity (trained staff and required equipment) to address the Improvised mines(IMs). However, in later stages of previous extension request the programme could manage to provide IEDD training to the programme personnel.

l) **Insecurity:** Due to active hostilities and armed conflicts most of the rural areas were inaccessible, therefore, mine action intervention was impossible to proceed and cover those areas.

m) **Anti-Vehicle Landmines and ERW including Cluster Munitions:** Due to the presence of many high priority Anti-Vehicle landmine contaminated areas MAPA was unable to focus only on Anti-Personnel landmine clearance. Some of the mine action resources also had to be allocated for addressing the ERW problem including CMs.

Despite maintaining its neutrality and humanitarian objectives, the MAPA especially national mine action organizations witnessed further reduction in funding, after political changes of August 2021 in Afghanistan. This reduction in funding further impeded the progress of MAPA towards achieving its Article 5 targets. In addition to reduction in funding level to the implementing partners, DMAC's international financial and technical support have also been ceased and resulted in significant reduction of its technical staff, who were previously supported by international donors.

Note: Considering the political situation, the embassy and permanent mission of Afghanistan in Geneva in July 2022, prepared and submitted an extension request to the state parties for an interim period of 2 years (March 2023 to March 2025) which was kindly approved. The main purpose of this request for extension of Article 5 timeline is to provide additional time for the situation in Afghanistan to further develop including allowing for more time to understand how the mine action sector will develop in terms of institutional arrangements and continued support from donors.

Based on the duration of interim extension request and considering the current scope of the EO problem in Afghanistan, DMAC in consultation with UNMAS, MATC, mine action organizations and other relevant stakeholders decided to prepare and submit another extension request for 5 years (April 2025 – March 2030). This extension request will mainly focus on nationwide survey in order to understand and record the real extent and scope of the EO problem, as each corner of Afghanistan is now accessible to proceed, conduct survey and record all those hazards which were inaccessible, and not surveyed before. In addition to the countrywide survey, all high priority and impacted EO contaminated areas will be released with main focus on conventional and improvised APM contamination.

CHAPTER TWO
ACHIEVEMENTS SINCE THE EXTENSION REQUEST (APRIL 2013)

2. CONTAMINATION STATUS AS AT 1ST APRIL 2013

2.1 Survey Status – Background

The Mine Action Programme of Afghanistan (MAPA) has made significant and valiant efforts since 1989 to survey the extent of EO contamination. Surveys include the National Survey launched in 1993, followed by general survey implemented from 1994 to 2002, and the Afghanistan Landmine Impact Survey (ALIS) which was implemented as an effort to confirm the extent of EO contamination nationwide shortly after Afghanistan ratified the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention in 2003. Hindrances to accurate understanding of EO problem included lack of information on the size and locations of minefields, lack of access due to insecurity, and armed conflicts. Mine action organizations should be commended specifically ATC, DAFA, DDG, HALO Trust, MCPA, MDC and OMAR for their hard work and consistent delivery of mine action services in difficult circumstances.

Afghanistan considers the results of the ALIS, as of 1 January 2005, to be the most accurate baseline from which progress can be measured. The results of the ALIS indicated that a total of 3,527 APM suspected hazardous areas (SHA)[3] measuring a total of 445.6 Sq Km area, impacted 1,914 communities, and 978 AT/V and ERW SHAs measuring a total of 270 Sq Km, impacted 657 communities. Between 2005-2013 few survey teams named landmine impact assessment teams (LIAT) were established to continue survey and assessment in seven regions of Afghanistan and keep the ALIS data up to date and respond to the local requests through assessment and survey of hazardous areas missed from ALIS.

As of April 2013, it was planned to conduct a village by village survey in all 400 districts (administration units in Afghanistan located in 34 provinces) within two years of the APMBT work plan through a specific survey project called Mine/ERW Impact Free Community survey (MEIFCS). Through this survey, a total of 32,448 communities from gazetteer (1,726 impacted and 30,722 with unknown impact) were planned to be assessed. Beside recording the possible unrecorded hazards from the legacy and post 2001 contamination, it was also decided that the MEIFCS teams to conduct confirmation assessments of all recorded hazardous areas to understand their current situation, aiming that the confirmation assessment should result in 1 of the 3 following outputs, based on new evidence:

1) Cancellation of the hazards, if no evidence of EO found anymore.
2) Confirmation of the presence of hazards with no changes.
3) Resurvey of the hazards with changes in terms of size, type hazards and impact level.
4) Marking of hazards, especially to the accessible sides of hazards to the communities.

[3] During the ALIS survey, the term SHA was considered for recording EO contaminated areas regardless of whether the evidence of EO were direct or indirect. The term CHA was not introduced to the mine action sector.

In addition to survey and resurvey, the MEIFCS teams were cross-trained in EOD in order to remove the immediate threat of EO especially spot ERW, and small size hazards in coordination with DMAC regional offices.

2.2 Contamination level – April 2013

In the previous Article 5 extension request prepared in 2012 based on recorded hazards, Afghanistan made a commitment to release the following recorded hazardous areas during 10 years (2013 – 2023):

1) 3,248 APM hazards covering 257.92 Sq Km area,
2) 1,097 AVM hazards covering 247.07 Sq Km area, and
3) 97 ERW contaminated areas covering 26.88 Sq Km area.

In total, 4,442 hazards covering around 532 Sq Km area making the baseline target of the extension request work plan starting from April 2013. However, as the survey and land release operations were ongoing in 2012, the actual contamination as of 1st April 2013 remained to be 4,488 recorded hazardous areas covering 521.3 Sq Km area including:

1) 3,242 APM hazards covering 256.3 Sq Km area,
2) 1,121 AVM hazards covering 236.2 Sq Km area,
3) 114 ERW hazards covering 23.9 Sq Km area, and
4) 11 CM hazards covering 4.9 Sq Km area.

2.3 Achievement Since April 2013

MAPA with the technical and financial support of international organizations and donors, collaboratively made efforts to deliver required high quality mine action services to the affected communities and the development sector in order to reduce civilian casualties, improve livelihoods and socioeconomic activities of the communities, support safe repatriation of IDPs and returnees. In addition, regular landmine safety programs were held and delivered to the development sector's personnel.

The efficiency and effectiveness of mine action operation has been enhanced through bringing continual improvement in processes and procedures, introducing new technologies, developing new standards and policies.

The programme achievements are detailed below:

2.3.1 Planning and Prioritization Achievements:

Based on the commitment made in the extension request, a dedicated committee has been established consisting of representatives from DMAC departments, UNMAS and the IPs led by DMAC planning and programme department reviewing the work plan once per year, covering below main functions:

a) Review and analyzing the average monthly productivity rates of the land release teams based on recent year actual achievement.
b) Reviewing the hazards impact indicators as well as community impact indicators for the EORE prioritization.
c) Reviewing the mine action projects design criteria based on impact classification, geographical location, EO types, and security consideration (before August 2021).

d) Reviewing the projects accessibility and scope.
e) Updating the multi-year work plan (MYWP) projects to include the newly surveyed hazards and remove hazardous areas cancelled or inaccessible due to security restrictions.
f) Reviewing the percentage of contaminated areas allocation to different assets and methodology of clearance.
g) Updating the projects' cost, considering the average productivity rate, percentage of allocation to different assets and average cost per square meter.
h) Updating the annual work plan as part of the MYWP.

After the review and updating the MYWP, DMAC planning and programme department is following the process as below:

1) Share the updated work plan with the IPs for them to select the priority projects for their bilateral donors for the upcoming year.
2) In consultation with UNMAS select the high impacted projects for funding through a process of Project and Partner Selection Panel (PPSP) for the VTF projects.
3) In consultation with UNMAS and NPA[4] (Sterling International before 2017) select projects for Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for PM/WRA funds.

DMAC produced 9 MAPA annual plans since 2013 that included the goals and objectives set for the related years as well as the targets to be achieved. DMAC with technical support from GICHD and UNMAS and consultation with all mine action stakeholders developed a 5-year National Mine Action Strategic Plan (NMASP) in 2016, the goals and objectives in MAPA annual plans were linked to the NMASP.

The NMASP was based on four strategic goals:

1. Supporting development.
2. Linking with other sectors
3. Five pillars of mine action, including preventive functions of survey, clearance, EORE and advocacy), and responsive functions of victim assistance and advocacy
4. Gender and diversity mainstreaming in mine action

The stated strategic plan has been successfully completed with over 85% goals and objectives achievements by April 2021.

DMAC started to develop the second five years NMASP with technical and financial support of GICHD and consultation with wider stakeholders including the government related ministries. Five main goals have been identified for this NMASP:

1. Lifesaving efforts
2. Victim assistance
3. Support development
4. Gender and diversity mainstreaming and;
5. Advocacy and coordination

This document is drafted, under review and will be officially launched soon.

[4] Norwegian People Aid (NPA) responsible for grant compliance monitoring, it was Sterling International before NPA.

DMAC developed a national mine action standard (AMAS) for the mine action planning and prioritization for the first time in November 2016 for the planning and priority setting at the program level. This AMAS has been reviewed twice and the latest version was released in June 2021. In view of this AMAS, the IPs developed their planning and prioritization SOPs for their internal use.

DMAC monitored the IPs performance through Balanced Scorecard (BSC), on quarterly basis aiming to enhance efficiency and effectiveness in their performance. In addition, another BSC developed for the performance monitoring of DMAC departments with the same objective of improving the performance and enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness within DMAC.

A. Planning - Qualitative Achievements:

The participatory efforts of MAPA planning committee and the follow-up of issues through conduct of 3 to 6 planning technical working group (TWG) meetings on annual basis brought the following improvements and efficiencies to the programme:

1. The clearance productivity rates increased more than 50% resulting in decrease in cost/sqm clearance, for example cost of 1 sqm of APM clearance reduced from USD 1.58 in 2012 gradually to USD 0.79 in 2020 and USD 0.72 in 2023.
2. Development planning and prioritization AMAS as a reference standard to be followed by the MAPA as part of national and project planning and prioritization process.
3. BSC resulted in considerable improvement in IPs performance in terms of quality management, safety, planning, reporting and gender and diversity mainstreaming. For instance, MAPA IPs had 21 demining accidents in 2013, while it decreased to 1 accident in 2020.
4. Development of national mine action strategic plan enabled the programme to integrate MA in a number of national strategic documents such as Afghanistan National Peace and Development Framework, Comprehensive Agricultural Development National Priority Programme, Goal 15 and 16 of the Afghanistan Sustainable Development Goals, and linkages made with a number of sectors to promote the programme.
5. The hazard impact criteria and indicators reviewed on annual basis through which its indicators were polished and decreased from 17 in 2013 to 14 in 2021 and 10 in 2023. The highest value is given to hazards with civilian accidents and humanitarian priorities. An example of the updated hazards impact indicator is attached as annex B to this document.

B. Planning - Quantitative Achievements:

The MAPA planning committee conducted one review of the MBT work plan on annual basis through which the following quantified achievements made to the program:

1. The monthly average productivity rates have been assessed and set for different assets and increased on annual basis, based on different field tests/trail to maintain safety and quality of mine action services. For instance, the average monthly productivity rate in APM hazard was 8,000 sqm for a 10-lane demining team (DT) in 2013, increased to 17,000 sqm in 2020.
2. The cost per sqm has been decreased as compared to the figures set in the extension request 2012. The below table shows the cost per sqm for the main three types of contamination on annual basis since 2013:

Year	Cost per sqm in USD			
	APM	IM	AVM	ERW
2013	1.41	0	0.86	0.14
2014	1.23	0	0.73	0.12
2015	1.23	0	0.73	0.12
2016	1.05	0	0.63	0.15
2017	1.08	0	0.60	0.18
2018	1.07	0	0.47	0.10
2019	0.73	3.4	0.35	0.10
2020	0.73	3	0.35	0.10
2021	0.72	2.4	0.31	0.09
2022	0.72	1.7	0.31	0.09
2023	0.72	1.3	0.25	0.09

3. One AMAS (planning and priority setting) and 7 Standard Working Procedures (SWP) related to planning and programme department, have been either developed or reviewed and amended since 2013.

As shown in above table, the cost per sqm for APM hazards had decrease of 0.69 cent (49%), 1.1 cent (45%) decrease for IM, 0.61 cent (70%) decrease for AVM, and 0.05 cent (36%) decrease for ERW hazards.

2.3.2 Survey Achievements:

As part of the Afghanistan's extension request and to understand the real picture and up to date information on the scope of EO problem in the country, DMAC launched a nationwide Mine/ERW Impact Free Community Survey (MEIFCS) through some of the mine action implementing partners. MEIFECS includes non-technical survey covering EO impacted communities and communities with unknown impact, resurvey of recorded hazardous areas, EOD to remove the immediate threat of spot ERW including response to hotline calls, and delivery of EORE messages to the people at-risk within the affected communities.

The MEIFCS planned to cover 1,726 impacted and 30,722 communities with unknown impact as per the national gazetteer, located in 401 districts of Afghanistan. However, the MEIFCS faced a challenge of increased number of communities not included in national gazetteer. Therefore, the initial planned target has been changed and MEIFCS teams were directed to cover all communities in related districts and record their name and EO impact status. Another main challenge was limitation on MEIFCS EOD operations on sport ERW, as the security forces banned transportation of explosive materials to remote areas, used by MEIFCS as part of EOD operations. The programme could not manage to implement MEIFCS in all 401 districts.

The main reasons for the programme not being able to implement MEIFCS in all 401 districts were:

1) Funding shortfalls,
2) Huge increase in number of villages, had not been recorded in national gazetteer,
3) Lack of access due to armed conflicts and insecurity,
4) Restriction on transportation of explosive by the MEIFCS teams, as required for their EOD operations on spot ERW.

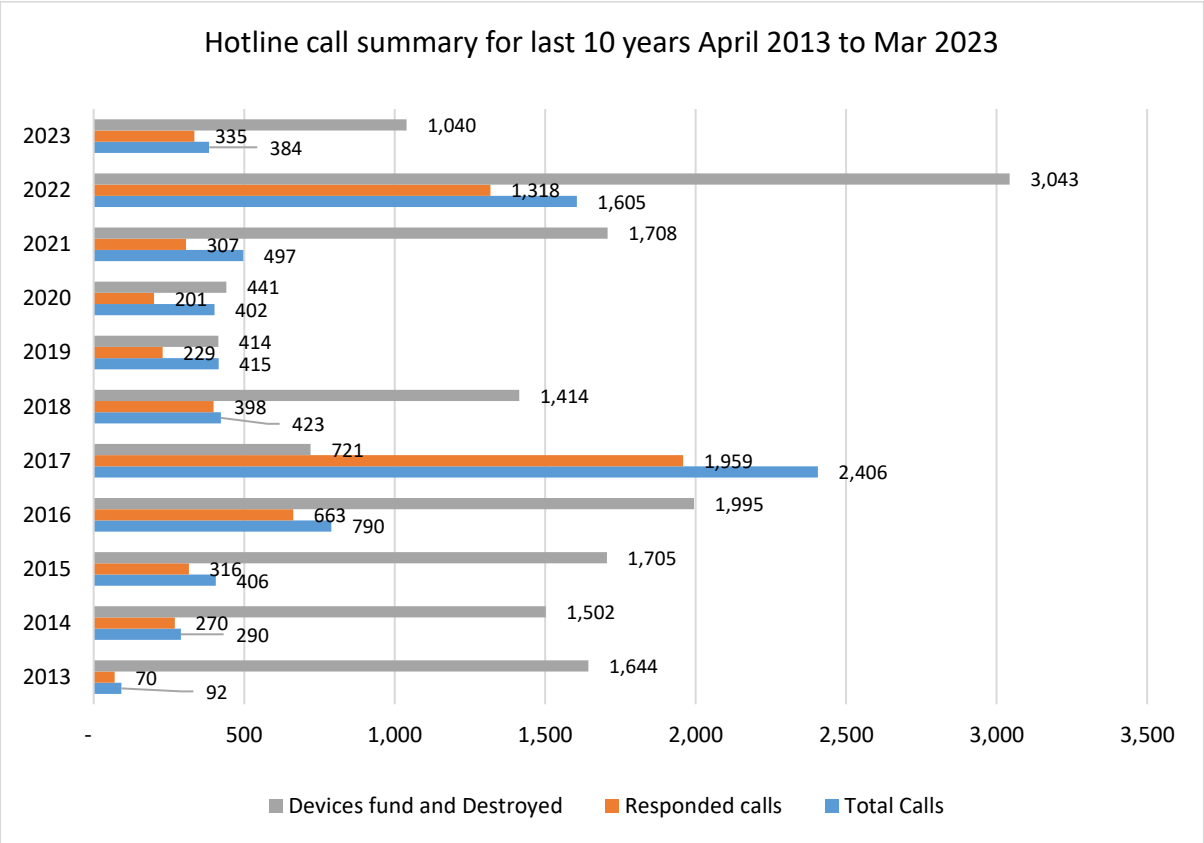
In 2019, DMAC convened a technical workshop to review whether to resume with MEIFCS considering above mentioned restrictions or continue with nationwide survey without EOD component or to implement survey EOD using Quick Response Teams (QRTs). As a result, it was agreed to use Quick Response Teams (QRT) instead of MEIFCS, in order to conduct survey and respond to the urgent needs of the affected communities including responding to hotline calls and local requests.

Unfortunately, due to continuation of armed conflicts until August 2021, most of the districts witnessed hostilities, thus the possibility of additional EO contamination is highly likely in some of the surveyed districts.

Note: Considering the recent political and security changes, each and single corner and community is accessible in Afghanistan, QRTs are able to reach out to all communities throughout the country to survey the remaining districts/communities from the previous surveys.

After the political changes of August 2021 and improvement of access, the QRTs were tasked to conduct village by village survey in partially surveyed districts including those with previously limited access plus district with recent armed conflicts. Through QRTs, the recorded hazards are also subject to resurvey to collect and record update information about their current status.

The chart below shows QRTs' achievements in terms of responding to the hotline calls during the previous extension request and up to 31 March 2023 by year: during this period 79% of the received calls have been responded



A. Nationwide Non-Technical Survey (NTS)

Apart from MEIFCS, MAPA received a list of 185 districts from the Resolute Support (RS)[5] where between 50 – 1,500 military engagements took place. A survey project was launched to assess all these enlisted districts to record any new contamination. The primary focus of the NTS teams was to capture the possible EO contaminated areas as a result of Kinetic operations. There was no exact information about location of the Kinetic operations within those districts, it was therefore decided to conduct a village by village survey including villages registered and covered in national gazetteer and villages not registered.

Between April 2015 - 31 of Jul 2021, the accessible communities in 146 out of 185 districts have been surveyed. The remaining 36 districts were planned to be surveyed during the remaining deadline of the previous extension request (31 March 2023). Due to political changes in August 2021 and improvement in security situation in the country, DMAC in consultation with IPs and UNMAS launched a nationwide survey to cover all those villages and districts remained to be surveyed.

In cumulative achievements of different survey activities undertaken during the previous extension request (Apr 2013 – Mar 2023) are detailed in the quantitative achievement part below:

B. Survey - Quantitative Achievements:

In order to improve survey efficiency, DMAC in consultation with MAPA implementing partners (specialized in survey), UNMAS and technical support of GICHD, made survey improvement efforts, including convening Non-Technical Survey (NTS) training, Technical Survey (TS) training, conducting regular technical and operational review workshops and technical working group (TWG) meetings, regular QA monitoring, and analysis of survey outputs. All these efforts resulted in improved survey activities and outputs, and the following were achieved:

No of districts covered	No of villages from Gazetteer	No of villages out of Gazetteer	Recorded Areas Cancelled in Sqm	Area newly surveyed in Sqm
218	19,846	23,780	174,040,290	453,387,529

Year	Cancellation in Sqm
2013-14	15,378,136
2014-15	16,207,633
2015-16	2,746,259
2016-17	4,88,673
2017-18	3,108,942
2018-19	13,488,801
2019-20	8,106,636

[5] Resolute support was a NATO-led mission to train, advice and assist the Afghan security forces and institutions.

2020-21	8,095,861
2021-22	20,212,827
2022-23	81,906,523

In 2016, DMAC received a request from National Security Council (NSC) for assessment of certain areas in 17 provinces where recent armed conflicts occurred and resulted in civilian accidents. Under the DMAC leadership, IPs have carried out a rapid assessment of enlisted areas. But due to lack of access to reliable informants and to most of those areas, the IPs conducted assessment from possible nearest accessible communities. As a result, 421 Sq Km area was surveyed and reported as possible EO contamination. It is worth mentioning that these possible hazardous areas were entered to IMSMA under the name of initial hazardous area (IHA), subject to further survey and assessment once the security situation improves and the areas become accessible.

By July 2021, 137 IHAs covering 228 Sq Km area have been cancelled as a result of fresh non-technical survey. The remaining IHAs have been cancelled by March 2023, as all those areas have been covered by survey/EOD teams.

Socioeconomic Impact/Benefit of the Mine Action Services:

Most of the civilian accidents occur when people are approaching EO contaminated areas for collecting firewood, farming, tending animals, playing (especially children), and passing by or travelling. Additionally, injuries from EO keep individuals from being able to work, further perpetuating poverty in EO-affected communities.

Part of the socio-economic impact evaluation, DMAC conducted the mine action livelihood survey to collect data and information about the positive changes in lives of people after the release of their land from EO contamination. This survey mainly focuses on the impact of the mine action services on the following aspects:

1) Safety of people after the clearance of EO.
2) Improvement in livelihoods and socio-economic situation of the communities.
3) Current status of EO victims within the communities and society.
4) Rural and community development after land release.
5) Relevance of mine action including land release prioritization.
6) The quality of mine action services based on the feedback of beneficiaries.

As a result of mine action services; it was found that almost 100 % of the areas released from EO are used for:

1) Cultivation of different types of crops, expanding agricultural areas and orchards,
2) Tending animals and increased in number of livestock,
3) Building new and rehabilitation of residential houses and public facilities,
4) Rehabilitation and development of irrigation system,
5) Rehabilitation of old and construction of new roads and routes,
6) Development of safe drinking water network system,

7) Access to education, healthcare facilities and markets, and
8) Safe movement of people and social activities.

The survey also included communities' feedback about the quality of mine action services, in terms of considering their priorities, community liaison and involvement about the progress of works, mine action marking, risk education and handing over of released land. The communities' feedback also includes their views about the significance of mine action services in terms of their contribution to development, improvement in socioeconomic and livelihood activities and supporting repatriation of people to their indigenous communities. This exposes the fact that mine action has been actively involved in supporting safety, development, rehabilitation and enabling meaningful access to resources.

The impact of mine action services and the opportunities created as a result of land release services, are summarized as below:

1) Cultivation of agriculture land, planting fruit-trees and creating orchards, rehabilitation of irrigation systems.
2) Growing livestock, collecting firewood and construction materials.
3) Construction of residential and public buildings.
4) Opening access to schools, healthcare centres, and markets.
5) Repatriation and return of refugees and IDPs.
6) Freedom of movement, sightseeing including historical sites and other leisure activities.
7) Access to pastureland for seasonal Nomads.
8) Building new roads and routes to reduce travel time/expenses, and establishing solar power and small industries.
9) Extension of the power transmission line for electricity, improved access to electricity. This resulted in reduction of fuel and firewood consumption, reduction in pollution and improved environment.
10) Installation of mobile phone antenna/towers on the cleared land, which improves social communication.
11) Establishing network of water pipelines for distribution of safe natural drinking water to the communities.
12) Improvement in feeling safe from EO, and removal of stress.
13) Reduction in civilian casualties following land release operations.
14) Assistance to EO victims and person with disability.

The survey findings are evaluated and well-communicated to the donors to understand the impact of their contribution to the mine action programme, and to the Government of Afghanistan to understand the impact of mine action services as a state party to APMBC, and to the communities and beneficiaries.

Implementation of this survey required female interviewers as well, Afghan women surveyors were included in each survey team to ensure that the views and insights of women and children are noted.

Since April 2013 following mine action livelihoods surveys were conducted:

1) The 1st survey was conducted in 2016, through which 21 communities were surveyed in Bamyan and Samangan provinces.
2) The 2nd survey was conducted in 2017, through which 24 communities were surveyed in Nangarhar and Takhar provinces.
3) The 3rd survey was conducted in 2018, through which 12 communities were surveyed in the south eastern province of Khost.
4) The 4th survey was conducted in 2019, through which 12 communities were surveyed in the center province of Kapisa.
5) The 5th survey was conducted in 2020, through which 12 communities were surveyed in the center province of Parwan.

Due to intensity of armed conflicts, insecurity and lack of access to the rural areas, the livelihood surveys was not conducted in 2021. Despite improvement in security situation, the survey was also not conducted in 2022 and 2023 due to lack of financial support. In consultation with UNMAS, MATC and implementing partners, DMAC plans to conduct this survey in 2024 and continue on annual basis.

As an example the detail of most recent livelihood survey conducted during 2020 is illustrated below: The 2020 mine action livelihood survey was conducted in the central part of the country, in Parwan province, by 2 males and 2 female teams comprised of DMAC and ANDMA staff, in 12 communities located in five districts of Parwan province, as mentioned below:

S.#	Location			Number of Hazard Released		Area Sqm	
	Province	District	Community	MF	BF	MF	BF
1	Parwan	Bagram	Bagram	161	7	4,191,222	961,771
2			Gojurkhel	14	4	302,276	111,840
3			Kharoti	81	0	3,511,523	0
4			Qala-i-Ahmad Khan	84	62	4,054,211	11,630,288
5		Chaharikar	Totumdara-i-Ulya	37	0	1,724,203	0
6		Jabalussaraj	Dih-i- Mir Khan	12	0	354,700	0
7			Jabalussaraj	18	17	392,248	4,980,700
8			Lakar	9	0	647,855	0
9			Tajikan	41	0	1,865,218	0
10		Salang	Bagh-i-Lala	9	0	331,891	0
11			Taghma	12	2	231,642	5,574
12		Shinwari	Mula'ee	14	0	923,942	0
Total				**492**	**92**	**18,530,931**	**17,690,173**

Livelihood Survey Main Finding:

The surveyed communities provided MALS teams evidence-based information on economic benefits of areas released from EO contamination, such as:

1) Cultivation and expansion of agriculture land.
2) Establishment of productive orchards.
3) Growing livestock as expanded areas were available after clearance.
4) Firewood, wild fruits, and construction stones collection.
5) Rehabilitation and construction of irrigation canals.
6) Construction of houses, schools, clinic, and roads to access markets.
7) Development interventions including installation of power transmission line for electricity.

The economic returns from mine action services especially land release (either alone or in combination with follow-on investments) vary widely among communities, but in some cases are extremely high such as extension of the power transmission line on cleared land.

The benefits and other values of land release services were assessed with communities using complementary survey methods that yielded quantitative and qualitative information derived from a range of social groups within communities. The general descriptions suggest that land release contributed to very significant benefits and enabled follow-on investments.

The wide variety of assets freed and created opportunities, following the land release operations in 12 surveyed communities, include:

1) In total 5,050 families with an average household size of seven persons (35,357 individuals) in the 12 villages surveyed directly benefited from mine action services.

2) Over the course of one-year, the 12 communities have harvested 1,261,613 kilograms (kg) cereal crops (wheat, corn, barley); 622,566 kg of various fruits, 916,607 kg various vegetables, 420,538 kg green crops (alfalfa, hay, fodder), 1,212,047 kg dairy products from livestock and 147,120 kg firewood from the released lands. The net value of these equals to USD 1,274,936, which represents economic growth in the local economy.

3) 230 Hectares of barren land was rehabilitated and turned into a fertile agriculture land as a result of released EO contaminated canals in four communities in Parwan province.

4) A green area established where 150 trees have been planted in one community on the released land, this provides ecological green space and a recreational place for villagers.

5) Approximately 8,080 livestock (sheep, goats, cows) are fed in released areas; resulted in improved food security, as more food was produced including meat and dairy.

6) Areas released/cleared on the hillsides, increased access to pasture lands ridding them from the long fallow. Grazing land benefits those with livestock, those who work for livestock owners, and those who use locally-produced livestock products.

7) Construction of gravel road with 12 Km length and 6 m width on the cleared land, which connects Shahrak Muhajirin (refugees' township) Qala-i-Ahmad Khan with the Bagram district centre. This portion of road has improved access to markets, medical facilities, reduced travel time and fuel consumption, all of which have reduced household consumption and improved saving and income. In addition, the neighbouring communities has also benefited from the roads for the transportations of their goods to the markets.

8) Extension of the power transmission line for electricity to Chaharikar city provincial capital of Parwan, improved access to electricity, reduced the need for fuel consumption especially of the power generators, an overall positive environmental effect.

9) Installation of two mobile phone antenna/towers on the released/cleared land, which improves social communications.

10) Construction of four schools on released/cleared land and access to ten schools in 12 communities, provided education facilities for 10,495 students (6,250 boys and 4,245 girls).

11) Construction of a clinic on the released/cleared land in Shahrak Muhajirin (refugees' township) Qala-i-Ahmad Khan village, provided basic health services for the villagers.

12) Construction of 1,950 new houses including 1,500 in Shahrak Muhajirin (refugees' township) on released/cleared land. As the community expanded due the increase of population and settlement of returnees and IDPs, without release of EO contamination, the houses could not have been built.

13) As a result of land release, people have more freedom of movement in all the areas previously contaminated with EO, this area also offered potential for leisure activities.

14) The clearance has enabled the population to farm their lands efficiently and grow enough food to support their families, tend their livestock and to access other facilities without any safety concerns.

15) Firewood and fodder: despite using liquid gas, firewood is still the main cooking fuel in rural areas. The cost of wood is that of the labor to collect it, often the job of men, but it was limited due to EO contamination and become costly. The long period of enforced fallow favored wild growth of trees in fodder especially in hillsides and grazing areas, and has thus provided a rich resource for the communities. Following land release operations in communal areas, all families have access to this resource.

2.3.3 Clearance Achievements:

As general, since April 2013 there was 9 humanitarian mine action mine action organizations and 21 commercial demining companies involved in land release operation in 33 out of 34 provinces of the country. The programme through humanitarian demining, firing ranges clearance and commercial demining managed to release 2,618.4 Sq Km known hazard area that includes 1,992.8 Sq Km area cleared, 449.8 Sq Km area reduced and 175.8 Sq Km area cancelled. The programme managed to locate and destroy 2,692,248 different types of explosive ordnance (EO) including 5,239 IM, 98,843

APM, 5,856 AVM, 1,383,022 ERW and 4,391 CM and 1,194,897 Small Arm Ammunition (SAA) items throughout the country.

The above stated released area covers 279.4 Sq Km AP contaminated area, 20.2 Sq Km IM, 266.2 Sq Km AVM contamination, 193.2 Sq Km ERW, 15.7 Sq Km CM, including 1,641 Sq Km firing ranges and 201.1 Sq Km area released in support of different development projects.

Out of the stated released area, 775 Sq Km released by humanitarian demining operations, 1,641 Sq Km as part of Firing Range project, 0.023 Sq Km in support of TAPI, 1.1 Sq Km in support of Copper Mine national development project, 1.1 Sq Km by the commercial demining companies clearing known recorded hazardous areas plus 200.1 Sq Km area in support of development projects based on their needs regardless of their EO impact.

As result 1,095 communities and 86 districts have been released from the known/recorded hazards, and (3.6 million) individual benefited from the released land. It is worth mentioning that due to continuation of armed conflicts, the possibility of re-contamination in mentioned 86 districts is likely, and therefore, planned to be re-surveyed.

From April 2023 to Dec 2023 (during the current provisional extended Article 5 deadline) the programme has manage to release 130.7 Sq Km known hazard areas that included 41.6 Sq Km area cleared, 0.2 Sq Km area reduced and 88.8 Sq Km area cancelled. MAPA through land release operations managed to locate and destroyed 44,601 different type of explosive ordnance devices including 1169 IM, 2021 APM, 302 AVM, 40371 ERW and 738 CM.

Please refer to Annex E for more details about clearance achievements.

A. Firing Range Clearance Achievements:

In 2001 when the US-led International Security Assistance Forces (ISAF) came to Afghanistan, they established a number of firing/training ranges in many provinces of Afghanistan, for the purpose of using them as part of the military training programs as well as testing their weapons before military operations by their military forces. These firing ranges were not being cleared of the EO after being used.

As a result, several EO accidents happened in FRs and consequently killed and injured civilian people including children. A total of 227 deaths and injuries have been reported from FRs located in different parts of the country. The table below summarizes reported casualties.

DEVICE TYPE	GIRLS		BOYS		WOMEN		MEN		Total
	Killed	Injured	Killed	Injured	Killed	Injured	Killed	Injured	
ERW	11	10	51	89	0	7	18	41	227

DMAC has raised this issue and concern to the National Security Council and related ministries including the ministry of foreign affairs, to communicate and discuss this issue/concern with international military forces. DMAC and UNMAS started advocacy efforts to convince international military forces and ministry of defence to clear all those military firing ranges after being used, to avoid further civilian accidents.

Subsequently, following a detailed discussion in the National Security Council in 2013, it was decided that the NATO mission in Afghanistan to survey and clear all those military firing ranges, where civilian accidents happened, especially the ones not guarded nor controlled by the military/security forces.

At the beginning 240 FRs were reported to be used by the international military forces, contaminated with different munitions, require survey and clearance. However, it was decided that the FRs under the military control will not be included in survey and clearance plan. In total 123 out of 240 FRs were handed over to the Afghan ministry of defence, and were not subject to survey and clearance, the data of which have not been shared with DMAC and UNMAS.

In order to remove the hazards from the FRs not handed over to the Afghan ministry of defense, a demining project was launched by the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), between 2014 – 2018, implemented by Sterling Demining Afghanistan (SDA), an international demining company. During the lifecycle of the project, 68 FRs released from hazards. In addition, 1 out of 4 FRs used by the German forces, and 5 FRs used by the New Zealand forces were also released during 2021 and 2022, in Balkh and Bamyan provinces. The following table shows FR clearance achievements:

Types of contamination	# of FRs Released	# of hazards released	Size of area cleared to contain EO hazard (Sqm)	Reduced area (Sqm)	Cancelled area (Sqm)	Total released area (Sqm)
ERW	74	183	1,202,993,774	436,404,608	1,774,475	1,641,172,857
Total	74	183	1,202,993,774	436,404,608	1,774,475	1,641,172,857

It is worth mention that 38 surveyed FRs are still awaiting clearance located in 15 provinces.

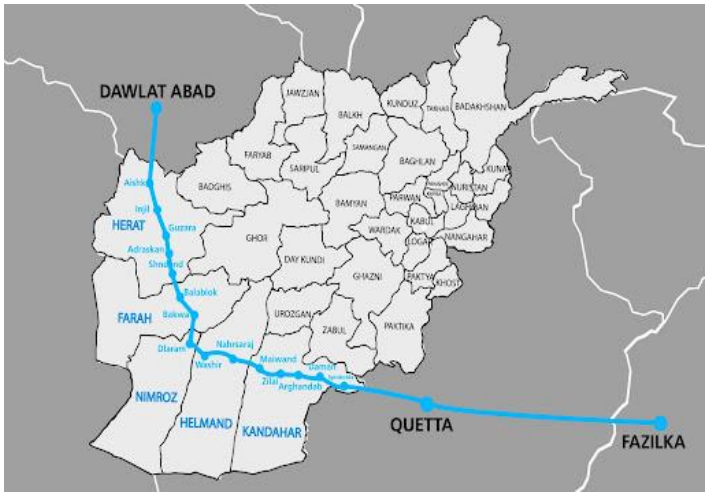
B. TAPI Project:

The Turkmenistan–Afghanistan–Pakistan–India (TAPI) gas pipeline, also known as Trans-Afghanistan Pipeline project is launched in January 2016, which is a natural gas pipeline planned to initiate from Turkmenistan and pass through Afghanistan, Pakistan and reach to India, with at least 816 kilometres of it passing through Afghanistan. The pipeline will pass through Herat, Farah, Nimroz, Helmand and Kandahar provinces in Afghanistan. TAPI pipeline is planned to be constructed alongside the Kandahar–Herat and Kandahar- Spin Boldak Highway, and then making a final pass through Waish town of Spin Boldak district of Kandahar, close to Pakistan's Border. TAPI project is one of the prime economics projects for in the region, which plays an important role in economic development of Afghanistan as well.

As a precursor to development projects, mine action has facilitated the implementation of numerous development projects in the country. From October-December 2017 Mine Detection Centre (MDC), a MAPA implementing partner, in support of the TAPI project carried out a Survey (NTS) of TAPI project with 500m width corridor in Herat, Farah, Nimroz, Helmand and Kandahar provinces. *A total of 61 hazards covering about 91 Sq Km area (28 minefields covering 39.5 Sq Km area, 10 IM minefields covering 11 Sq Km area and 23 battlefields covering 40.5 Sq Km area surveyed by MDC.*

From March to May 2018 MDC and IMs Demining Company (AMDC) a commercial demining company carried out a Technical Survey (TS) of TAPI project route with 44 meters' wide corridor. A total of about 0.023 Sq Km area partially cleared/reduced by TS.

The below map show the TAPI corridor path within Afghanistan:



C. Commercial Companies Supporting Development Projects:

Afghanistan is one of the most heavily contaminated countries with mines, explosive remnants of war (ERW) and other explosive ordinance (EO) in the world. Therefore, demining operations are a high importance because it saves lives and limbs but also because demining is a prerequisite for the implementation of development projects in the country. However, mine action projects in Afghanistan are implemented either by national and international Non- Governmental Organizations but most of the development projects have been implementing by commercial demining companies throughout the country.

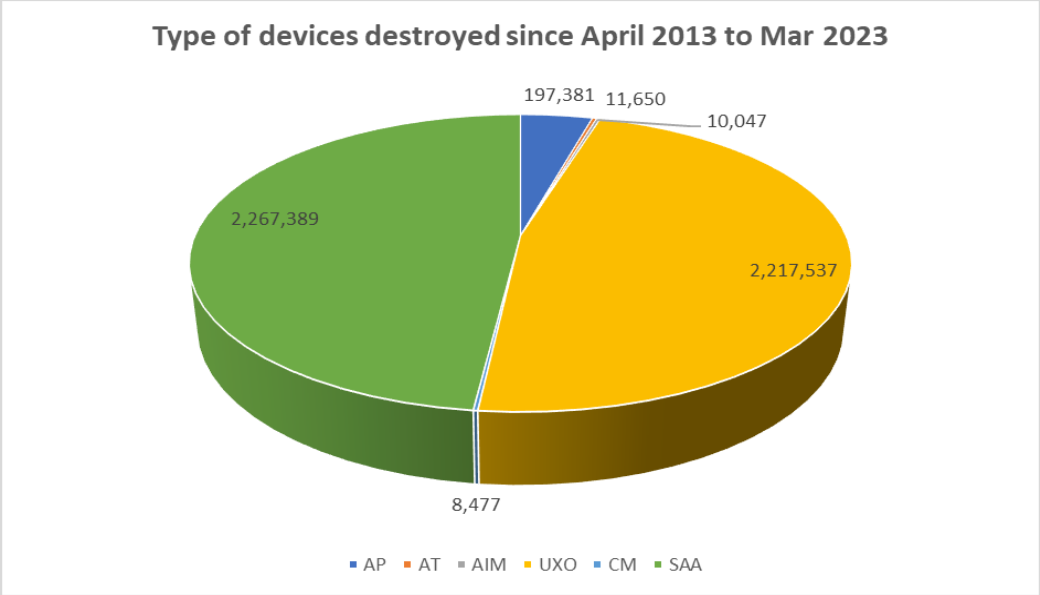
A set policy has been approved by the National Mine Action Authority (NMAA) that the commercial demining companies must implement mine action operations in a transparent manner and in line with the national mine action standards and based on the written requirements of the clients.

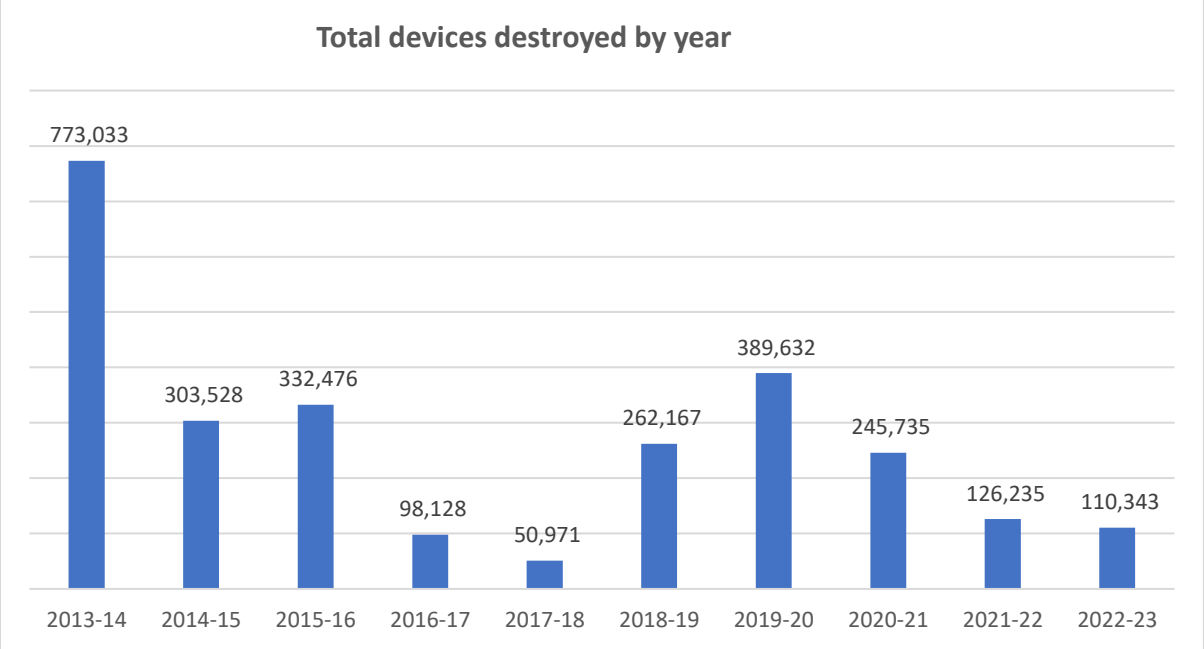
Since (2006) the national and international commercial demining sectors started operations in Afghanistan. Commercial companies demine areas where development and infrastructure projects are implemented. In other words, they carry out demining in support of development. Some of these big development and infrastructural projects which have benefited from demining in the past include; TAPI technical and non-technical survey, CASA 1000 project and different power transmission lines projects.

The commercial companies managed to clear 10.8 Sq Km of the known recorded areas out of which 3 Sq Km of AP area, 0.093 Sq Km of IM area, 7.3 Sq Km of AV area and 0.33 Sq Km of ERW area have been addressed. Besides, the commercial demining companies have checked 163.4 Sq Km area for any possible deep buried ERW based on their client requirement for the development projects.

D. Total Devices Destroyed Since April 2013:

As total by implementation of all the above mentioned projects by mine action NGOs and companies the program managed to locate and destroy a total of 2,692,248 different types of EO. The below graph/table show the number of EO destroyed by device type:





2.3.4 Continual Improvement and Capacity Development

Continual improvement is the permanent objective of the MAPA and has been strongly considered and followed by the programme. During the previous extension request, DMAC in consultation with UNMAS, implementing partners and technical support of GICHD has planned, launched and conducted technical workshops, case studies, training courses, tests and trials on different tools and equipment. These improvement efforts resulted in development of effective processes, procedures, standards, methodologies and policies, and competent and qualified personnel. Regular quality improvement efforts were made by the MAPA, aiming to understand the needs and expectations of the mine action stakeholders and provide timely, appropriate and effective response to them to ensure that their requirements are fulfilled and even exceeded their expectation. As part of the continual improvement efforts, the following were achieved:

1) A national policy on dealing with/addressing IM problem, developed.

2) A national mine action standard on IM clearance developed.
3) Through coordination and technical support of QM department, 22 AMAS reviewed by ANSA (Afghanistan National Standards Authority) and approved as national mine action standards.
4) IM survey and clearance capacity developed, (human resource and equipment).
5) EOD qualified personnel have been trained on NATO ammunitions.
6) Mine action organizations, DMAC, UNMACA personnel have been trained on conducting effective QA monitoring in mine action.
7) MAPA's land release practices have been assessed and evaluated for further improvement.
8) Technical workshops on clearance of nuisance AVM contaminated areas, convened.
9) Technical workshops and case studies on the effective use of machines in AVM clearance convened/conducted.
10) Technical workshops on a safe and effective IM survey and clearance, convened.

The following trails have also been conducted to assess and improve safety, and increase the productivity of demining machines, different detection tools, as well as the manual clearance operations in different land types:

11) Trial on front end loader (FEL) productivity rate in AVM contaminated areas.
12) Trial on detection capabilities of UPEX 740 M large loop detectors (LLD) and 740 M3.
13) Trial on the use of different metal detectors in AVM clearance.
14) Trial on the manual clearance operations using different detectors, in different topographical areas.

All these training programs, trials and studies, technical working groups and technical workshops have been institutionalized within the programme and regularly undertaken to improve the quality, safety, efficiency, effectiveness of the mine action programme of Afghanistan. In conclusion, the survey clearance methodologies, operating procedures, standards requirements and policies have been updated and developed, the quality, productivity, safety and operational efficiency of the MAPA increased and improved. In addition, and as part of international cooperation, MAPA could extend its technical support to other mine action programmes.

A. The Outcomes:

The outcomes of quality improvements are summarized as below:

1) IM capacity developed.
2) The AVM clearance productivity using FEL with of-sit ripper (preparation) and cultivator (follow up) increased to more than 100 %.
3) The average productivity rate for manual clearance in different land types established, which provided valuable inputs for planning of mine action activities.
4) NTS and TS improved and resulted in increased cancellation.
5) The effective use of different detectors and related methodologies developed.
6) AMAS approved as national mine action standards.
7) Different technical working groups established.
8) Demining accidents reduced.
9) Civilian accidents reduced.
10) The capacity of MAPA in effective monitoring developed.
11) Other mine action programmes technically supported.

B. IM Capacity Development

In spite of security challenges, clearance of IEDs became a humanitarian priority, for this reason, MAPA in consultation with stakeholders including donors decided to respond to the priorities of affected communities and humanitarian assistance; maintaining MAPA's neutrality and impartiality. Under DMAC's leadership, the MAPA made efforts to find out practical solutions to overcome this challenge, and thus conducted a number of studies, developed IM policy and IM clearance standard.

As per their complex and evolving structure, the clearance of IEDs required specific skills, competencies, procedures, tools and equipment. Despite being involved in IM clearance since 2014, in 2020, the MAPA with international technical and financial support developed adequate survey and clearance capacity to address IM problem in Afghanistan.

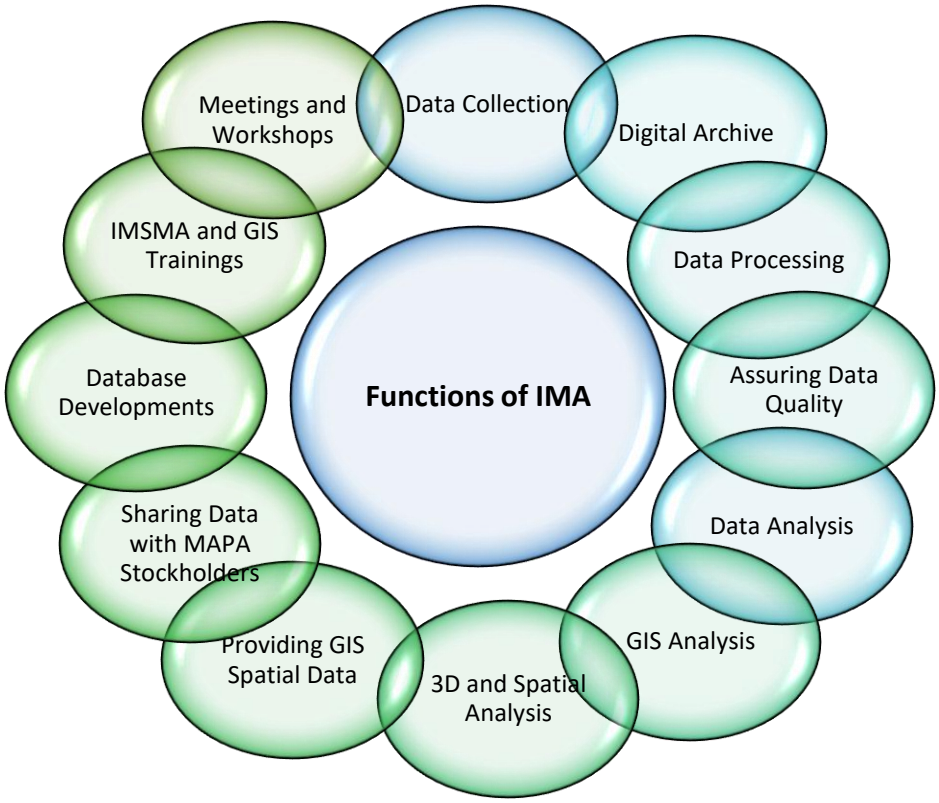
Fortunately, MAPA gained this capacity to respond to the IM problem and the following personnel have been trained throughout the programme:

IM Response Capacity	IM Disposal/Clearance				IM Survey		IM QM
	Basic	Intermediate	Advance	IM ToT (Advance)	Basic	Advance	
Total	583	106	97	28	141	43	61
G-Total	1059						

2.3.5 Information Management System (IMS) Achievements:

The DMAC Information Management System being responsible for overall management of information within MAPA has achieved to successfully digitalize the reporting and archiving system in order to bring more efficiency to the process, in addition to putting extreme effort in capacity enhancement by conducting and participating in several trainings, workshops and exchanges programs within and outside MAPA. Furthermore, several reporting and DQC tools created which ensured the quality and reliability of the data and also brought more efficiency in the information provision.

The following chart shows main functions of DMAC IMS section.



A. IMS - Qualitative Achievements:

DMAC Information Management System (IMS) section with the support from GICHD and other stakeholders has managed to achieve the followings since April 2013:

1. Reporting system became digital.
2. Physical archive changed to digital archive system.
3. Cloud based back up system established.
4. IMS staff capacity reinforced by attending several trainings/workshops inside the country and also outside the country such as Switzerland, Azerbaijan, Uzbekistan, Yemen and Cambodia.
5. Several IM/GIS/Digital Data Collection trainings/workshops conducted by the IMS to DMAC, IPs and governmental staff.
6. IMS staff participated in several information exchange programs and provision of technical support between Afghanistan, Iraq, Sudan, Tajikistan, Libya, and Turkey and IMAP.
7. Efforts begun to change the traditional (paper based) data collection to digital data collection system using Mine Action Reporting System (MARS) and assistance from the GICHD, the process will be completed by 2022 as per the proposed plan.
8. Data related to several projects including MEIFCs, NTS, ACAP-III and Emergency Victim Assistance (EVA) have been successfully processed.
9. The IMS has been working on migration/clean-up process along with the GICHD since 2015.
10. Successful transition from IMSMA legacy to IMSMA-ng (several version updates).
11. IMSMA templates have been standardized.
12. Several add-ons such as plan database, Data Quality Check (DQC) tool, and monthly reporting tool have been designed and developed by the IMS.
13. Several databases have been designed and developed for the AFL, Security Sections and MMD.

14. AMAS for IMS have been updated.
15. Verification of milestone reports with donors and IPs.
16. Effective and friendly relationship built with DMAC departments, regional offices and IPs.
17. Conducted numerous coordination meetings/workshops with IPs.

Since 2013, DMAC IMS/GIS Section besides providing GIS training to its IPs, preparing DMAC Demining Operational and different types of areas location maps based on the request made by stakeholders, one of the key tools that the DMAC uses as part of the operational planning processes is the community and hazard scoring tools. In addition, the DMAC utilizes the GIS data from various data sources to complement existing data hold in the national mine action database. On a monthly basis the GIS Data table are populated for all newly record hazards. The community and hazard scoring tools use data from IMSMA NG and the GIS Data table to score and classify communities/hazards in terms of impact. This impact classification is currently used to inform the operational and EORE planning activities.

Using GIS different analysis tools, for deriving the following information for each new hazard on monthly basis, and based on these information, DMAC Plan and Operation sections make decision to manage their demining activities.

1) Community and Hazard altitude.
2) Land Cover Class and Land Cover Legend.
3) Soil Category and Soil Tax values.
4) Number of Affected population per hazard,
5) The **Snow value** indicates if a hazard will be covered with snow during the months of December, January and February.
6) The **Infrastructure** effected by hazards
7) **Community Centre** is defined as those communities that have hazards within a 1km radius of the community centre.
8) The **Slope** field will be populated based on the Slope Per field value.
9) **Historical Sites** is defined as those historical sites that have hazards within a 500m radius of the historical site.
10) **Flood** is defined as those hazards are within a 500m buffer of the areas prone to flood.

B. IMS GIS Quantitative Achievements:

Since 2013, DMAC IMS/GIS, as in the number of devolvement projects had increased in Afghanistan, the request for preparing hazards location maps also increased. Since then no single development construction projects such as Roads, Power Lines, Dam, Schools, bridges and etc. have been started without having hazards location map and its information. Average Amount of the hazards locations map we produce for our customers on monthly basis are mentioned below:

S#	Customer Name	# of Maps Produced
1	DMAC Operational	10 to 30
2	DMAC Plan Section	15 to 40
3	DMAC External Relation	1-4
4	UNMAS	10-20
5	ANDMA	5-20

6	Afghanistan Government	10-20
7	Development Project	10-30
8	DMAC's IPs	10-15
9	Other	5-10

In addition to the above, based on the requests made by different stakeholders, DMAC IMS/GIS Section also conducted an average amount of 4-5 GIS Analysis on Mine Action database.

2.3.6 Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) Achievements:

Explosive Ordnance Risk Education is categorized to Formal-EORE (in a formal setting) and Informal EORE (in informal setting). In order for the session to be recorded as F-EORE, there needs to be a set of standards applied during the session, as below:

a) The trainer's primary obligation should be EORE session only,
b) The number of participants should be set to a standard number of 20 – 25 persons,
c) The duration of session should be more than 40 minutes,
d) The number of sessions per EORE trainer/instructor should not exceed from two sessions per day.

All other approaches including delivering of EORE by demining teams, humanitarian actors, volunteers, campaigns, posters, exhibitions, mobile cinema and others are categorized as informal EORE.

From April 2013 to Mar 2023, 2,800,034 (870,023 girls, 1,126,438 boys, 422,391 women and 381,182 men) people were reached by F-EORE through 154,891 number of sessions, while 10,472,760 (2,302,157 girls, 3,766,915 boys, 1,227,926 women and 3,175,762 men) people were reached by IF-EORE through 397,468 interventions. Sources such as radio, TV, billboards and other means were also used to deliver EORE messages to at-risk groups and communities which were not recorded in to the IMSMA. Furthermore, 11,399 people (768 women, 10,631 men) were provided with EORE Training of Trainer (ToT) and 440 people were provided with Landmine Safety Program (LSP).

From April 2023 to Dec 2023, a total of 487,868 (138,053 girls, 172,215 boys, 108,063 women and 69,537 men) people were reached by F-EORE through 24,732 sessions, while 1,761,791 (170,118 girls, 301,639 boys, 225,690 women and 1,064,344 men) people were reached through informal EORE.

Around 15 implementing partners contributed in delivering EORE activities in the country including AAR-Japan, ARCS, ATC, JGO, DAFA, DDG, FSD, SDA, HALO Trust, HI, MCPA, Ministry of Education (Schools), OMAR, MDC, MCPA and TDH, most of them are accredited in EORE.

A. EORE - Qualitative Achievements:

EORE as a key mine action pillar underwent a number of revisions, improvement and development. These changes and revisions were implemented to accommodate the changes in IMAS, best practices at the international level, as well as field level requirements within the country. Knowledge Attitude and Practice (KAP) surveys were conducted by various partners to measure the changes and impact of EORE in certain communities. Training of Trainers were provided to around 24,000 teachers in Afghan public schools and EORE messages were included in the school curriculum to mainstream the EORE and enhance awareness among young children about Explosive Ordnance.

ToT and LSP were provided to communities and humanitarian, development actors for their safety and to enable the expanded outreach of EORE. Data clean-up of EORE beneficiaries was implemented to classify the data of EORE beneficiaries and set a guided principle for the EORE actors on methodology of delivering EORE to at-risk communities.

Dedicated teams were established to reach returnees at Transit Centres in collaboration with the IOM and UNHCR on five location of border crossing between Afghanistan and neighbouring countries. EORE and mine action as a member were integrated in to Child Protection in Emergency sub protection cluster and the members of the mentioned cluster were provided with EORE ToT. Afghanistan was the first country to develop and implement the Social Behaviour Change Communication for EORE, aligned with the SCBCC new material child friendly EORE material and adult friendly kit have been developed and used.

Audio and video clips and animations were developed for expanding EORE coverage where access of teams was not possible due to security and geographical issues. The EORE Technical Working Group (TWG) was established and was led by DMAC which was organized on quarterly/ad-hoc basis to discuss key technical and field level issues.

Please refer to Annex F for more details about EORE achievements.

2.4 Overview of EO Victim/Disability

The National Statistics and Information Authority (NSIA) estimates the prevalence of severe disability at 3.1% of the Afghan population (3.5% among male; 2.7% among female) in 2019/2020. Using a different method and a broader definition of disability, the Model Disability Survey Afghanistan 2019 suggests that severe disability prevalence stands at 13.9% in 2019 among Afghan adults aged 18 and above. Among children (2-17 years), the prevalence of moderate disabilities stands at 7.1%, and severe disabilities at 3.5%. Between 1 and 2.5 million adults have severe disabilities and about 1 million children have disabilities which hinder significantly their daily activities and social participation.

Landmine Monitor estimates that 95% of explosive weapons victims in Afghanistan are civilians, and more than half are children.

One family out of five has at least one member with a disability. The Whole of Afghanistan Assessment 2019 found that 17% of shock-affected households were headed by a person with a physical or sensory impairment – not including persons with other types of impairment, which should also warrant consideration. According to a multi-cluster needs assessment in informal settlements, 21% of households had at least one household member with a disability.

The humanitarian impact in terms of deaths and injuries was considerable. The DMAC database holds records of 42,596 casualties (10,647 Killed and 31,949 injured) due to mines, ERW, IM and CM since 1979, though it is most probable that the total will be higher than this due to difficulties in accurate reporting in such large country with limited communication infrastructure. DMAC's records indicate conventional APM and improvised APM have claimed the lives of 4,656 Afghans and injured 11,939 since 1979 in Afghanistan. Data shows that out of 42,596 casualties 7,621 (18. %) occurred by APM, 1,867 (4.4%) by AT, 23,874 (56%) by ERW, 8,974 (21%) by IM and 260 (0.6%) by CM.

From April 2013 to Mar 2023 DMAC database recorded total 16,403 casualties (5,863 killed and 11,118 injured) due to mines, ERW, IM and CM, it indicates conventional APM and improvised AP mines have claimed the lives of 3,740 Afghans and injured 5,771 in Afghanistan. Data shows that out of 16,981 casualties 982 (5.8%) occurred by APM, 289 (1.7%) by AT, 7,036 (40.1%) by ERW, 8,646 (51%) by IM and 28 (0.1%) by CM.

Data indicates that the number of AP mine causalities have fallen from 184 in 2013, to 10 in 2020.

The below figure shows number of civilian victims by types of EO since start of the program

Figure -1: Total EO-Casualties by death and injured

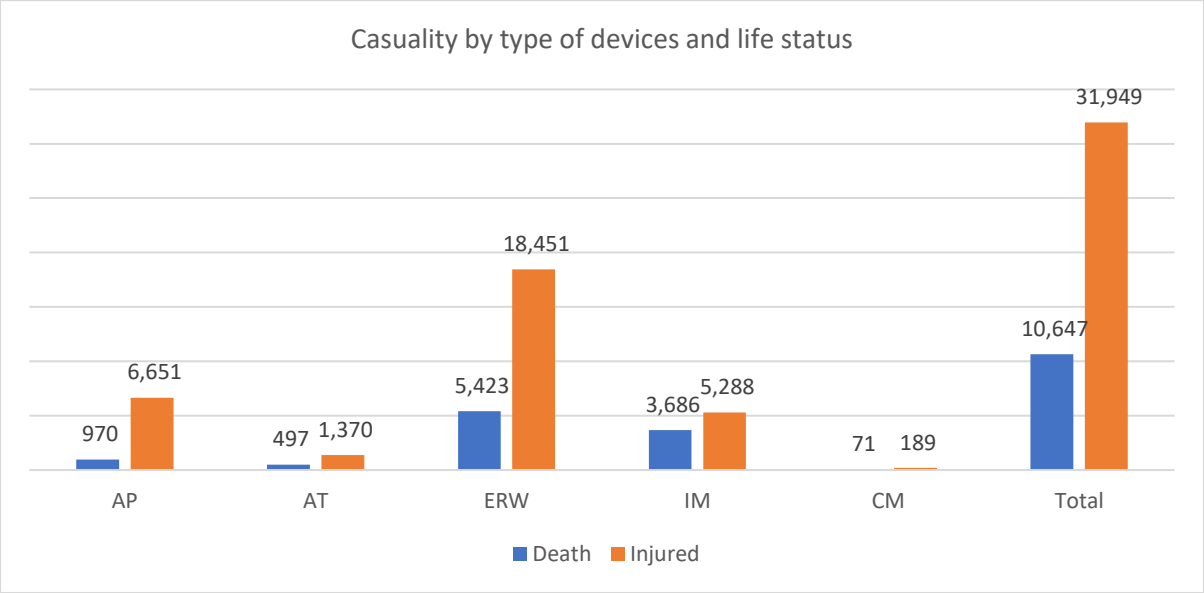
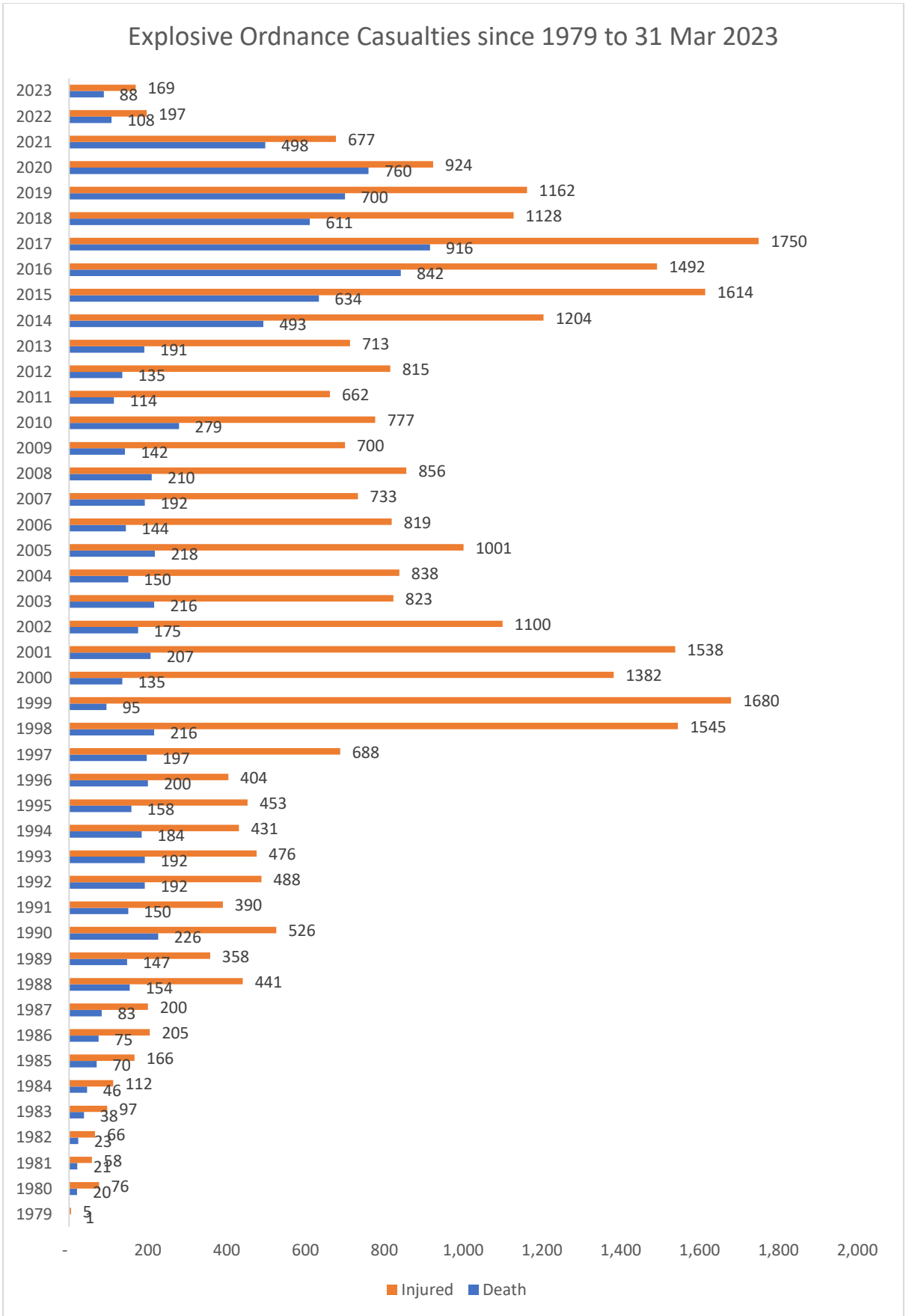


Figure below illustrates the mine, ERW, IM, FR and CM causalities by year and life status, exacting the highest toll between 2015 and 2017. One of the reason was increasing in collation forces and wider military operations as well as using large number of IM. Addition to that through implementation of ACAP-III project helped in wider EO-causality data collection.

Figure-2: Explosive Ordnance Casualties since 1979 to July 2021 by life status


Explosive Ordnance Casualties since 1979 to 31 Mar 2023
2023 169 88
2022 197 108
2021 677 498
2020 924 760
2019 1162 700
2018 1128 611
2017 1750 916
2016 1492 842
2015 1614 634
2014 1204 493
2013 713 191
2012 815 135
2011 662 114
2010 777 279
2009 700 142
2008 856 210
2007 733 192
2006 819 144
2005 1001 218
2004 838 150
2003 823 216
2002 1100 175
2001 1538 207
2000 1382 135
1999 1680 95
1998 1545 216
1997 688 197
1996 404 200
1995 453 158
1994 431 184
1993 476 192
1992 488 192
1991 390 150
1990 526 226
1989 358 147
1988 441 154
1987 200 83
1986 205 75
1985 166 70
1984 112 46
1983 97 38
1982 66 23
1981 58 21
1980 76 20
1979 5 1
- 200 400 600 800 1,000 1,200 1,400 1,600 1,800 2,000
Injured
Death

A. EO Casualties Analysis of the Previous Extended Article 5 Deadline (2013-2023)

This section sets out the extent of progress made by Afghanistan towards meeting its obligations against the Mine Ban Convention's Article 5 challenge from a causality reduction perspective. Following a brief overview of progress, this section examines advancements made in terms of reducing landmine casualties.

This part illustrates the EO (Mine, ERW, IM, CM and FR) casualty analysis for the period of April 2013 – March 2023, for its cause, type of devices, gender, activity during accident, motive behind accidents (economic, unawareness, negligence), seasons and locations as part of oversight on EO including landmine, ERW and IM casualties for further effective and efficient prioritization and planning of EORE, survey/clearance and advocacy activities through 2nd Article 5 extension request.

Large populations of Afghanistan are still living in over 1,800 affected communities throughout the country. An estimated 1,221 square kilometres of land contaminated by different types of EO containing 4,671 hazardous areas in different parts of the country, which require clearance. This includes 632.1 Sq Km contaminated area of military training/firing ranges surveyed in the country.

EO (Landmines, ERW and IMs) are the legacy of a protracted armed conflicts in Afghanistan and kill and injure many civilians as well as causing long-lasting suffering, both physical and psychological to countless others. Considering this fact, it is very important to improve our steps toward more advocacy and providing risk education about the threat and risk posed by EO to the people of Afghanistan; as well as improving coordination of services for victims.

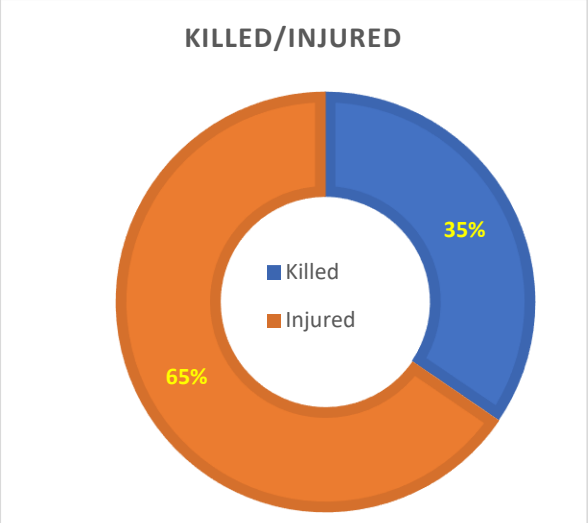
As part of the Victim Assistance, the following services need to be provided to the EO victims:

1. Data collection
2. Emergency and continuing medical care
3. Physical rehabilitation
4. Psychological counselling and peer support
5. Disability awareness
6. Social inclusion
7. Economic reintegration
8. Advocacy for the rights EO victims and dependents
9. Physical Accessibility

B. Number of EO Casualties, Consequences by Type of EO (April 2013-March 2023)

Between 01 April 2013 and March 31, 2023, a total of 16,981 civilian casualties recorded. These comprised of casualties caused by various types of EO; including APM accounted for 982 (5.8%), AVM for 289 (1.7%), IM for 8,646 (51%), ERW other than CM for 7,036 (41.5%), and CM for 28 (0.2%). 5,863 out of 16,981 being fatalities (34.9%) and 11,118 injuries (65.5%).

Chart 3: Percentages killed and injured during 01 March 2013 to 31 March 2023



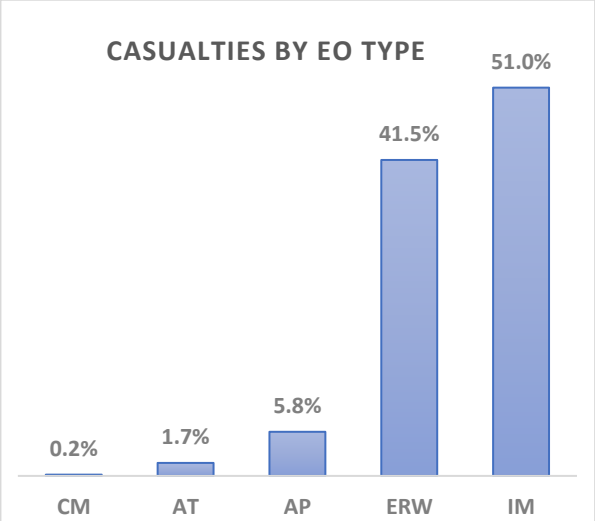
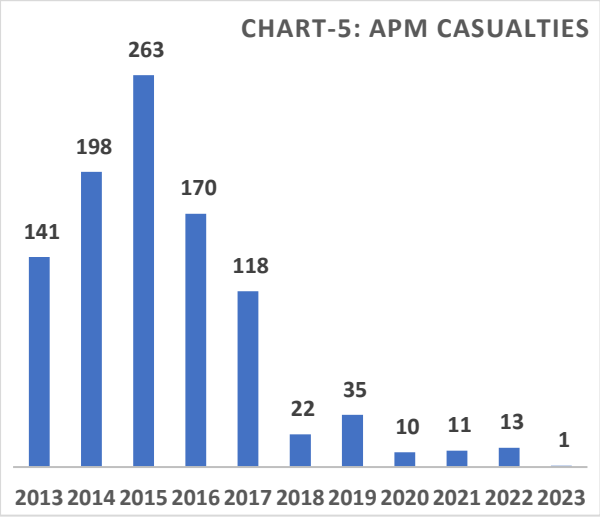
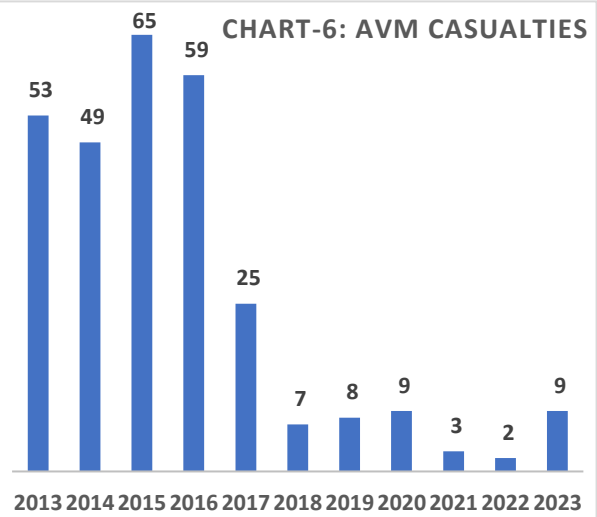
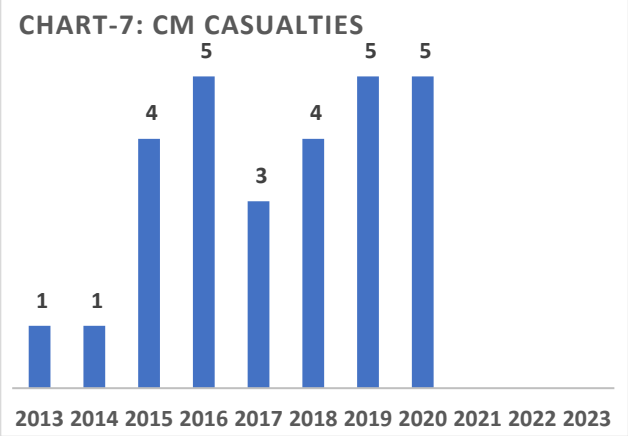


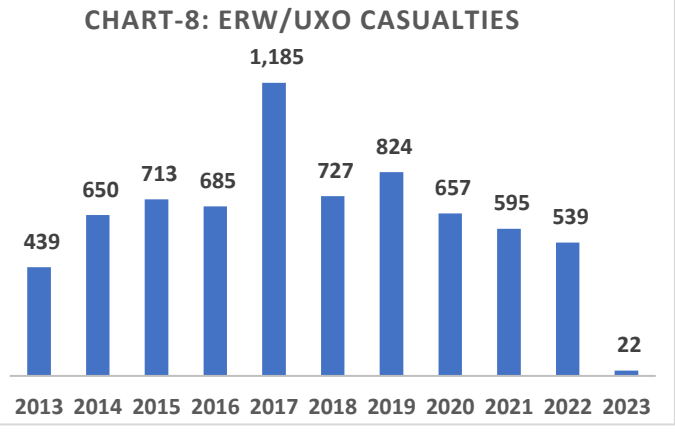
Chart 4: Percentages causality by devices during 01 March 2013 to 31 March 2023

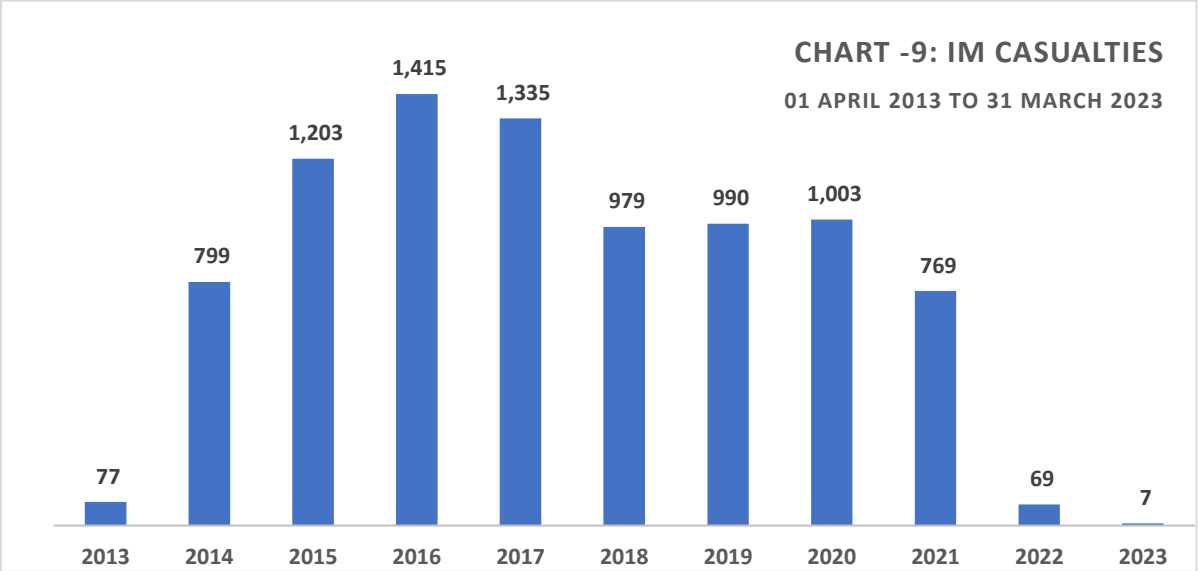
According to the IMSMA data, the casualties resulting from APM decreased from 263 in 2015 to 1 in 2020. Similarly, there was a notable decline in casualties caused by AVM, dropping from 65 in 2015 to 9 in 2020. This remarkable reduction can be attributed to the effective survey and clearance prioritization, successful risk education activities, and a noticeable shift in the behaviour of residents and at-risk group of people within EO affected communities. Conversely, the number of casualties attributed to ERW, IM, and CM has increased. The primary reason behind this surge is the armed conflicts continued throughout the major part of the extended article 5 deadline (April 2013 – August 2021). The bar graphs below illustrate casualties categorized by Mine, ERW, IM and CM separately.





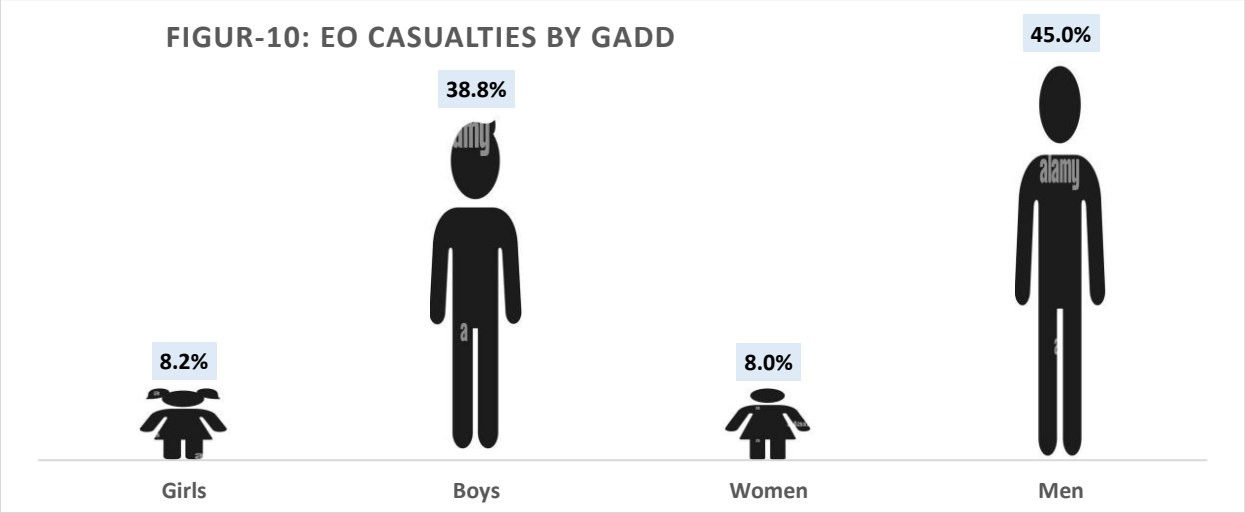


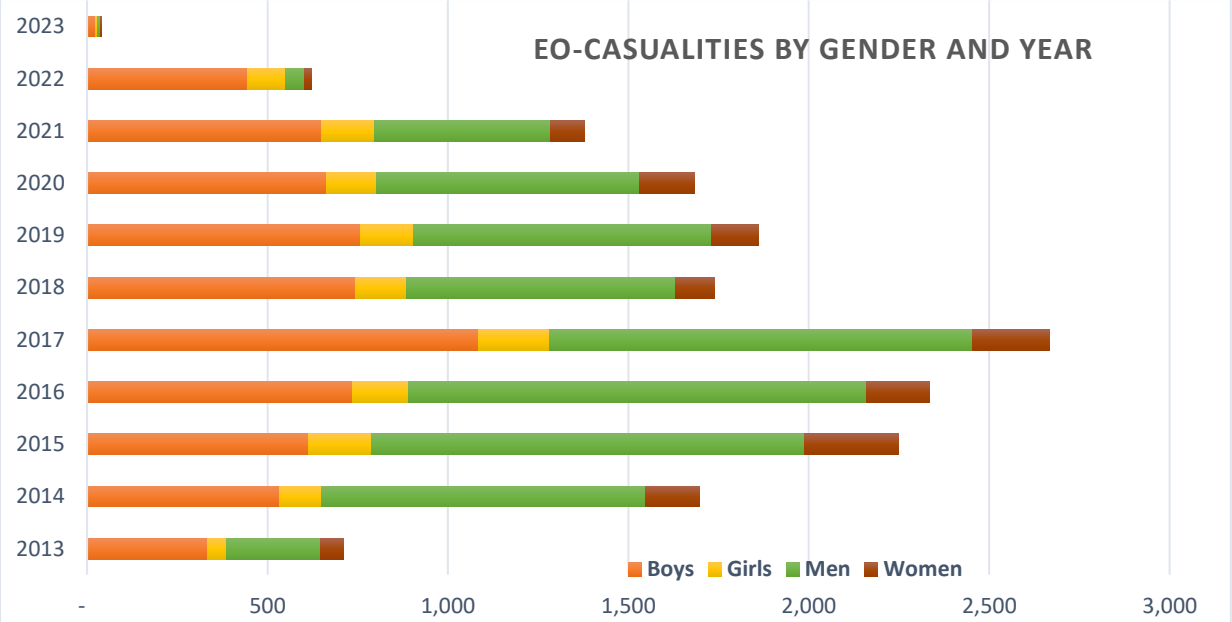




a. EO-Causalities by Gender

The subsequent figures present disaggregated data by gender (Men, Women, Boys, and Girls) over the past 10 years (2013-2023). As depicted, the majority of accidents result in injuries to men and boys. In contrast, fewer women and girls have experienced fatalities or injuries compared to male casualties; indeed, the figures for women and girls have remained relatively consistent throughout the period.





C. Number of Child Casualties with Explosive Ordinance

The data spanning from 01 April 2013 to 31 March 2023 reveals that out of the 16,981 casualties, 7,968 (47%) were children. Among these, the distribution by explosive devices indicates that 29.7% of APM mine casualties, 26% of AVM mine casualties, 71.5% of ERW casualties, 29.5% of IM casualties, and 78.6% of CM casualties were children.

The pie chart below illustrates the percentage of child casualties compared to adults, as well as the distribution of casualties by explosive devices among children. It is evident that children bear the heaviest burden of EO accidents, with ERW being the primary cause (63.2%), followed by IM (32%), AP mine (3.7%), AT mine (0.9%), and CM (0.3%) respectively.

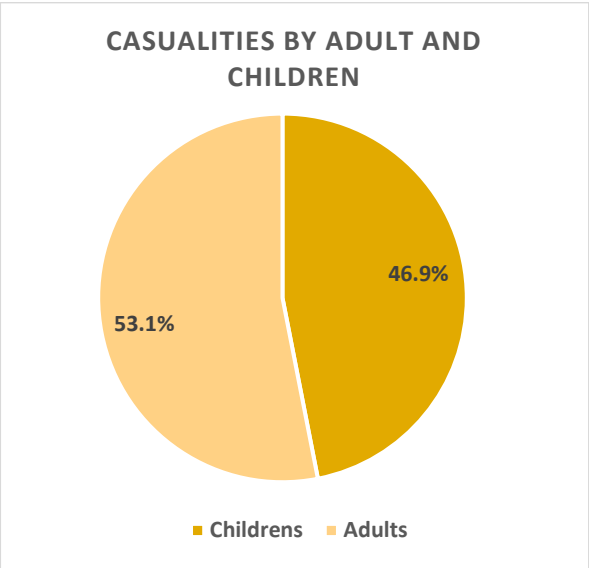


Chart 11: Percentage of EO casualties by adult and children devices

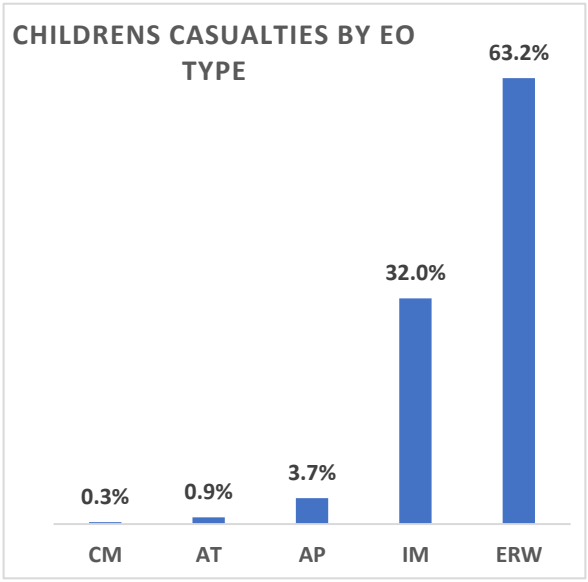
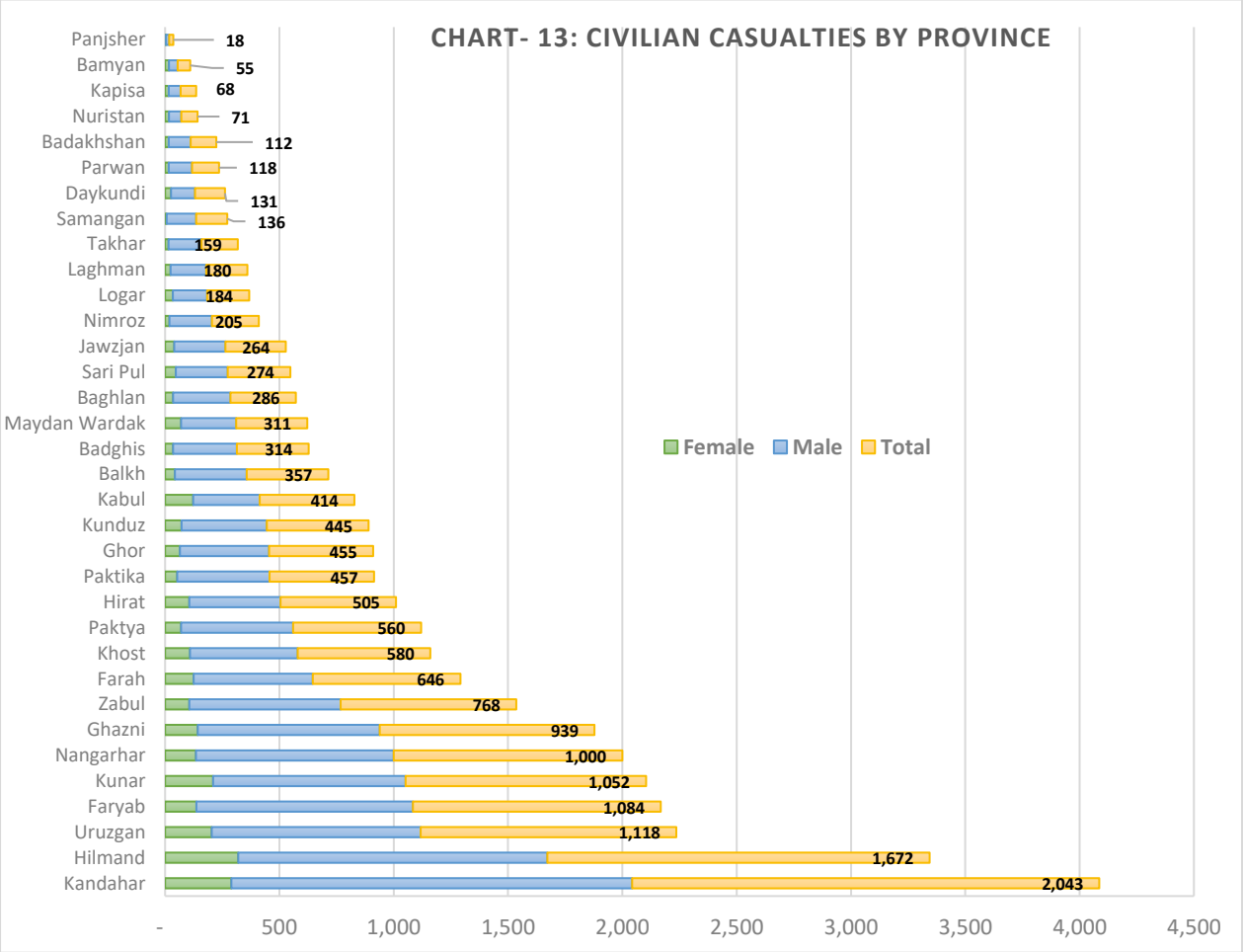


Chart 12: Percentatge of casualties among children by

D. EO Casualties by Province and Gender (April 2013- March 2023)

The graph below illustrates the recorded casualties by province from 01 April 2013 to 31 March 2023. It's apparent that casualties have been reported from 33 out of 34 provinces of the country. Among these provinces, over 10 thousand casualties have been reported from 9 provinces, with Kandahar recording 2,043 casualties, followed closely by Helmand with 1,672 casualties, making them the most heavily affected provinces from the perspective of EO civilian casualties. In contrast, Panjshir province, with 18 casualties, stands as the least affected province.



E. Percentages of EO Casualties by Region:

The graph below illustrates the total number of victims recorded from April 2013 to March 2023 by region. It is evident that the number of casualties in the southern regions surpasses those in other regions.

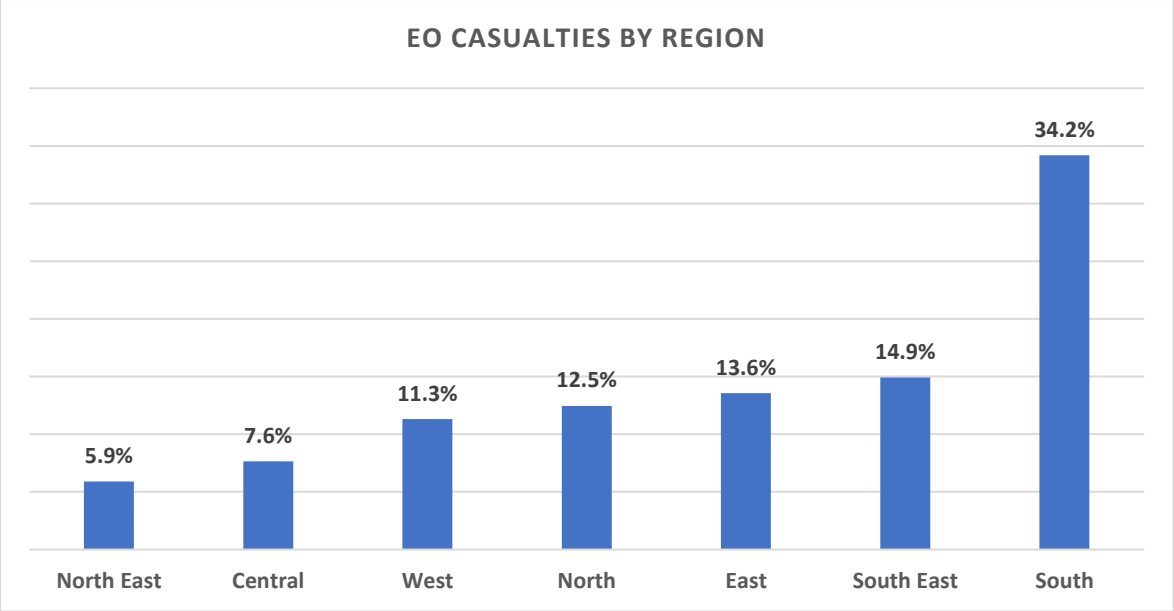


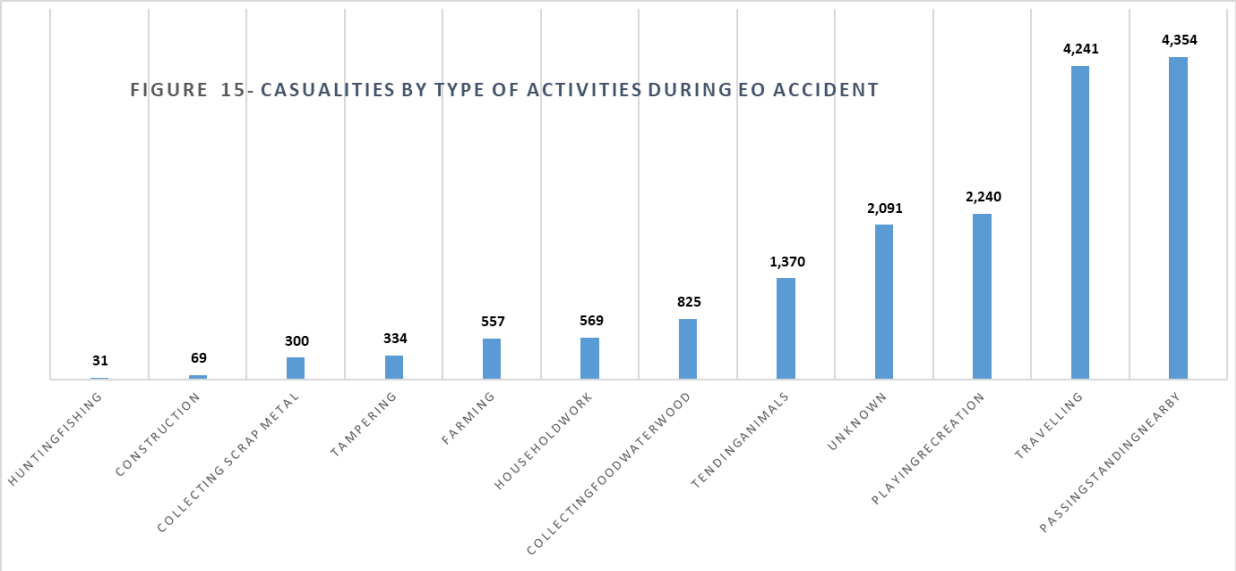
Figure 14: Casualties by gender and region 2013- 2023.

F. Type of Activities when EO Accident Occurred

Data regarding activities leading to accidents reveals that during the period from April 2013 to March 2023, the majority of accidents occurred while victims were either passing by or standing near EO. The second most prevalent activity associated with EO accidents was traveling. The percentages of activities performed by victims at the time of the accident are as follows:

Passing/standing nearby: 25.6%, traveling: 24.3%, playing/recreation: 13.2%, tending animals: 8.1%, collecting food, water, and firewood: 4.9%, farming: 3.3%, tampering: 2.0%, household work: 3.4%, collecting scrap metals: 1.8%, hunting/fishing: 0.2%, construction: 0.4%, unknown: 12.3%.

Please refer to the bar chart below for the number of casualties based on the activities they were performing at the time of the accident.



G. Number of Casualties per Type of EO

According to statistics, on average, one IM accident resulted in 2.1 casualties, one ERW caused 1.9 casualties, one APM resulted in 1.2 casualties, one AVM mine led to 1.4 casualties, and one CM accident resulted in 1.6 casualties. If categorize devices based on their risk to human, the most dangerous item is IM, followed by ERW, APM, AVM and CM.

In summary, it can be concluded that, on average, each accident caused two casualties during the period from 01 April 2013 to 31 March 2023.

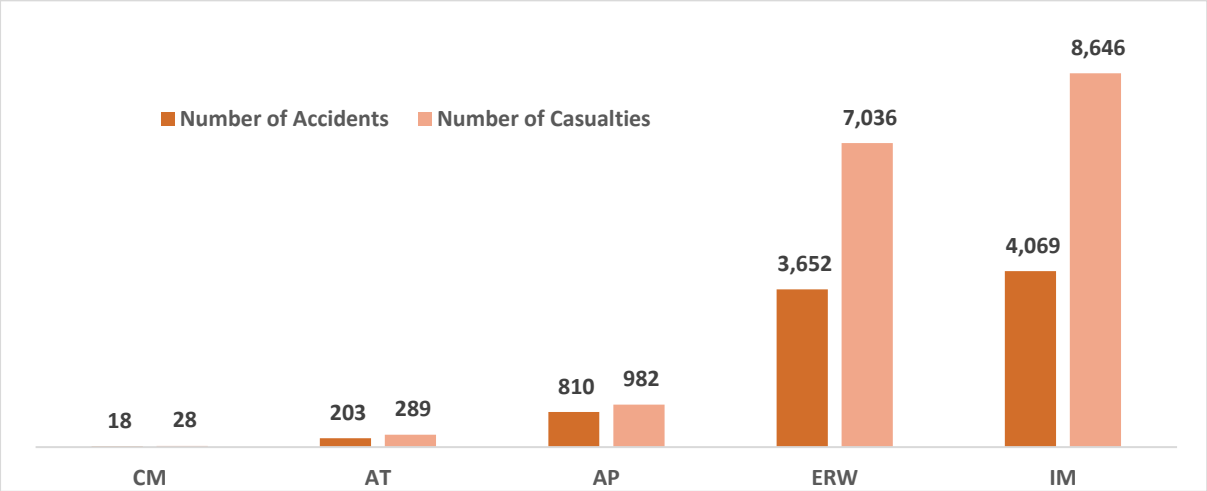


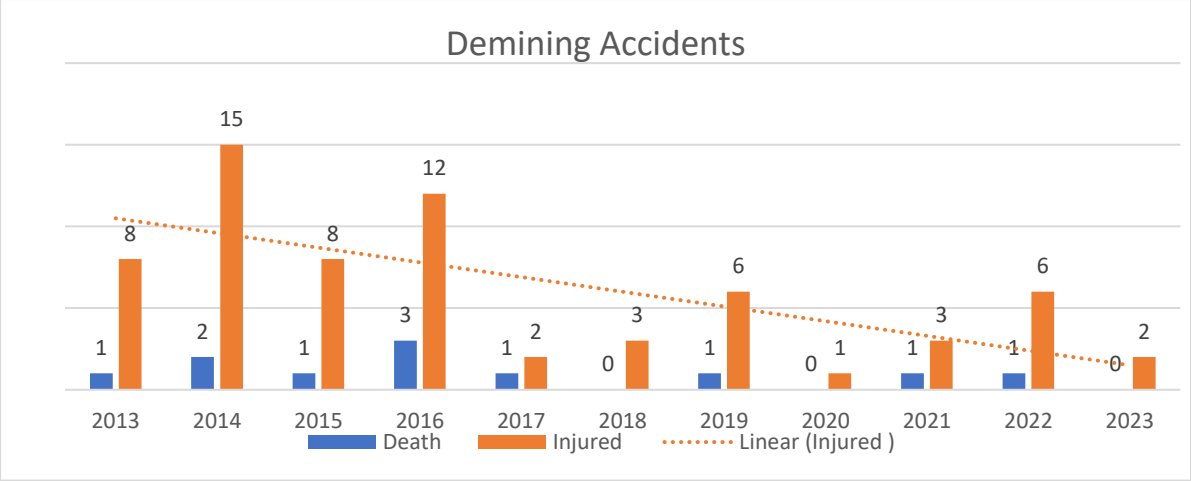
Chart 16: Accident vs number of casualties by type of device. It is worth mentioning that the accidents and casualties due to IM are reduced in recent 2 years, as illustrated in chart-9, page 34.

2.3.7 Quality Management Achievements:

Quality management system stands as the backbone towards realizing intended goals and objectives of the mine action programme.
In 2013, as a result of tireless efforts made in terms of developing working procedures, mapping of the processes, internal audits and management review meetings, UNMACA had been ISO 9001:2008 certified after undergoing a robust external audit by an ISO certification body.

Through monitoring visits, consistent quality is ensured and any alarming scenarios are timely detected and responded to – this helps bring significant refinements in all processes of mine action projects and prevents demining accidents and missed mines while safely releasing the cleared lands to the stakeholders/beneficiaries for their intended productive use.

The following chart shows a significant decline in number of demining accidents. However, the unfortunate reality remains in 77 recorded demining accidents during the last 11 years from 1st April 2013 till end of Dec 2013; these accidents have resulted in 67 injured and 10 killed. QM department thoroughly investigated each of mentioned demining accidents through a dedicated board of inquiry and the lessons learnt were shared with all MAPA stakeholders and implementing partners for preventing such demining accidents in the future.



The Afghanistan Mine Action Standards (AMAS) continue to provide necessary guidance on mine action operations in Afghanistan; most of them have been translated to local languages and approved by the Afghanistan National Standards Authority (ANSA). A number of AMAS chapters were reviewed and modified to reflect on the actual ground realities as a result of new evidences. The following AMAS were updated:

1) AMAS 3.01 – Quality Management
2) AMAS 3.02 – Mine Action Planning and Prioritization
3) AMAS 4.01 – Training and Qualification
4) AMAS 5.01 – Land Release
5) AMAS 5.02 – Explosive Ordnance Survey
6) AMAS 6.02 – Battle Area Clearance
7) AMAS 6.06 – Mine Detection Dogs Operations
8) AMAS 7.03 – Medical Support and Casualty Evacuation
9) AMAS 7.05 – Demining Accident Investigation
10) AMAS 7.06 – Environmental Management in Mine Action
11) AMAS 8.03 – Communications
12) AMAS 9.01 – Mine ERW Risk Education (M ERW RE)

In light of the challenges posed by improvised mines, the MAPA was the first to release and national standard of improvised mines. AMAS 6.10 – Improvised mines clearance was released in 2020. Meanwhile, AMAS 03.02 – Mine Action Planning and Prioritization was the first time developed in 2016 and went three times review based on which its third version is now available.

A number of key initiations were implemented and several SOPs, SWPs, and guidelines were developed to adapt to the requirements at the field level. 304 SOPs of MAPA humanitarian IPs were reviewed and approved, 207 SOPs of commercial companies were reviewed and approved, 23 humanitarian mine action organizations were accredited, 23 commercial companies were accredited; 724 projects were operationally accredited and key assets were trailed and tested for use in mine action operations.

A. QM - Qualitative Achievements:

The QM department led an organizational level effort to centralize documents and provided training to help other departments review and revise their SWPs, SOPs, and process flow diagrams – the quality management department now keeps all working versions of the documents. An online project prioritization system was also introduced to help align department level initiations and concepts with the overall organizational goal.

A policy on stand-alone technical survey was developed in light of the data analysis on the area reduction, the first focus is on the SHAs to either confirm the presence of hazards based on direct evidence and define the boundaries, or release the entire SHA without based on “No evidence of EO”.

A workshop on Risk Management, Residual Contamination and Liability for MAPA was conducted to foster discussions and identify key steps in developing the Liability Policy. The workshop introduced the participants to key definitions and case studies from across the world.

A follow-up workshop on liability in mine action was conducted to introduce key government bodies to the concept of liability in mine action and the need for a liability policy. This helped discuss how existing legal frameworks address liability in other sectors; identify/define key terms concerning liability in light of the legal framework; identify relevant legal frameworks to use as the base for drafting the liability policy; and identify key steps and touchpoints involved in embedding liability in the legal framework.

The field personnel were also trained on the importance of quality management interventions and as a result the process of raising conformances, non-conformances, and observation was updated and a guideline was developed and is now in place for application.

A number of QM related trainings were provided to quality management inspectors and MAPA staff. 18 midyear and annual workshops were convened with MAPA management and field level staff for brainstorming and analysis of QM related issues for further improvement of processes/principles.

A thorough evaluation of 19 quality management inspectors was also conducted to ensure that the QIMS were abreast of the recent changes in standards and were aware of the essential processes that ensures successful monitoring interventions.

B. QM - Quantitative Achievements:

The programme continued to maintain and improve external QA monitoring and QC sampling throughout the duration of previous extended Article 5 deadline. The findings of QA monitoring and QC sampling were timely shared with the implementing partners, in order for them to develop the most appropriate corrective and preventive action for each single nonconformity detected. According to the principle of joint problem solving, DMAC has made efforts to work with mine action organizations to identify, define, analyse, evaluate the problem, develop corrective and preventive actions and follow up on the implementation of corrective action plans, and assess their effectiveness and validation.

The number and result of QA monitoring and QC sampling are illustrated in below table:

External QA monitoring from 01 Apr 2013 to 31 Mar 2023

# Total QA visits	# conformity	# Observation	# Minor NC	# Major NC
30,121	282,66	723	681	451

External QC Sampling from 01 Apr 2013 to 31 March 2023

# QC sample	Area Size sqm	# failed lots
14,469	94,800,363	57

External QA monitoring from 01 Apr to 31 Dec 2023

# Total QA visits	# conformity	# Observation	# Minor NC	# Major NC
444	414	7	9	14

External QC Sampling from 01 Apr to 31 Dec 2023

# QC sample	Area Size sqm	# failed lots
138	38740	0

2.3.8 Gender and Diversity Mainstreaming Achievement:

DMAC, Gender and Diversity department as a leading authority, manages, coordinates and oversees the Mine Action Programme of Afghanistan from G & D perspective.

DMAC in consultation with the IPs Gender Focal Points (GFP) has developed G & D mainstreaming policy for MAPA and it is subject to review and further development.

A technical working group is established comprised of IPs and UNMAS GFPs and is led by DMAC G & D Manager that holds regular monthly meetings for effective coordination mechanism.

MAPA regularly celebrated the international women's day to promote the role of women in mine action, and meanwhile a number of in-house (within MAPA) and external trainings were provided such as G & D awareness, job seeking, developing technical CV and how to deliver job interview to improve the capacity of female MAPA employees.

There was a dedicated goal with its associated objectives in MAPA's National Mine Action Strategic Plan (NMASP) developed for the years 1395-1399 (April 2016 to March 2021), while in NMASP for the next five years, G & D is incorporated throughout the document, and the vision, missions, strategic goals, objectives and indicators are G & D sensitive. It is worth mentioning that a standalone goal has also been set on inclusion and empowerment of women and other marginalized groups in mine action sector in this upcoming five year NMASP which shows Afghanistan commitment toward gender and diversity mainstreaming.

The HR manuals and recruitment policies have been reviewed from gender perspective and they have been transformed to gender sensitive documents, however the Person with Disability (PWD) and Women's employment still remains low, despite recent increases – around 1% PWD and only 4% in MAPA workforce.

UNMAS-Afghanistan has deployed standalone GFP who are working with national implementing partners to ensure women's opinion in different stages of mine action projects such as planning, implementation and monitoring are considered. The Gender Marker, as a tool for comprehensive G & D mainstreaming in project management cycle, is in place at DMAC and in IPs projects. Additionally, a comprehensive mine action related data management system is in place to ensure gender and age related information are recorded for potential analysis-all the data including causality data, VA data, RE data and workforce figures are collected systematically disaggregated by sex and age (Sex and Age Disaggregated Data - SADD).

A dedicated indicator is added in IPs Balanced Scorecard (BSC) to measure the IPs gender mainstreaming activities on quarterly basis. The successful deployment of female deminers in Bamyan since 2018 with the support of UNMAS is a good example of progress. This has significantly improved their contribution to the resource management and decision making at family and community level.

DMAC also conducted some media campaigns, organized social events and broadcasted radio dramas to bring change in the community perception regarding the gender equality and working of women/ persons with disability in mine action.

2.3.9 Advocacy and Coordination Achievements:

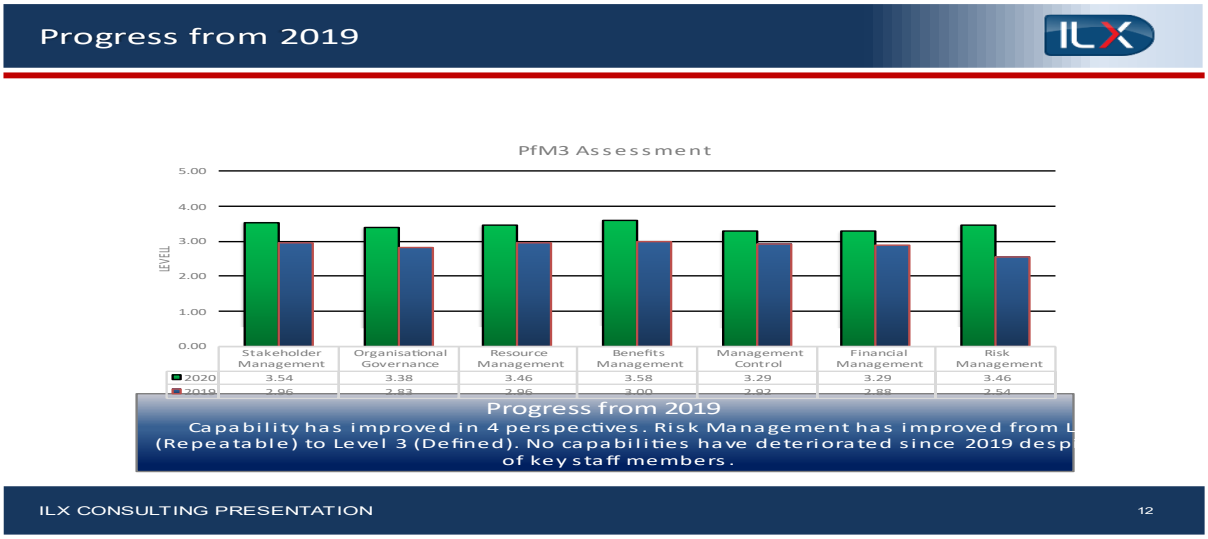
To build consensus and cooperation among various mine action stakeholders and parties to conflict, advocacy and programme management play a vital role. Similarly, effective programme management and advocacy ensures a safe environment for EO affected communities and promotes the rights of persons with disability. Through advocacy, the required resources can be mobilized in order to save lives and improve livelihoods. The DMAC, since 2018, has been responsible for the overall management of the MAPA. The transition process from UNMAS led MAPA to national ownership started in 2014 and was completed in May 2018 with the majority of national staff transferred to DMAC. The staff transferred to DMAC are financially supported by UNMAS and PM/WRA.

International conferences and working groups on related conventions, monthly stakeholder meetings, operations coordination meetings, continuous monitoring visits to the regional offices by HQ staff, IPs projects and organisations balanced scorecard (BSC), information management and post-demining impact assessment are some of the activities carried out as part of programme management and advocacy by DMAC.

A. Qualitative Achievements:

As a result of systematic coordination, DMAC's stakeholder management has improved significantly. The result of a third-party and independent evaluation carried out recently by ILX Group indicates a significant improvement in the DMAC's overall performance and stakeholder's management in particular. The below graph from the P3M3 assessment carried out by the ILX Group demonstrates DMAC's capabilities across different perspectives and compares the organization's performance

between 2019 and 2020.



The fact that the main traditional donors of the MAPA continue to fund the programme despite a global funding decline represent an achievement for DMAC and the MAPA at qualitative level. Through continued advocacy, the MAPA managed to convince New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) and Germany to fund the clearance of their abandoned training/firing ranges in Bamyan and Balkh provinces. The clearance of these firing ranges have been completed in 2022.

Increased advocacy over the last few years also meant that the MAPA was able to convince Germany to fund the clearance of their abandoned firing ranges in Balkh province. The German Government has since awarded the project to an international Company which will be implemented through a national commercial company during 2021. As a result of continued resource mobilization initiatives, a number of new donors have been added to the list of MAPA donors since April 2013. These new donors include; ECHO, Poland, UNHCR and UNICEF.

In addition, the previous Government of Afghanistan gradually started contributing to the programme from the national budget. Two clearance projects in Khost and Kandahar provinces were funded during 2020 and 2021. During the previous government there was potential to receive fund for another demining project located in Nangarhar province. However, due to the recent political changes in Afghanistan, funding of said project postponed. Advocacy efforts are ongoing and it is expected that funding some land release/clearance project from the national budget will be resumed, as high rank officials from the government have shown their commitment to support humanitarian mine action in Afghanistan.

The MAPA has been advocating for continuation of support to the programme, DMAC has systematically liaised with Government ministries, particularly with ANDMA for support in order to include Mine Action in the National Priority Programmes (NPPs) and other national development programmes and frameworks. Moreover, during the previous Article 5 extended deadline, DMAC regularly reported to the office of president every six months and highlighted both the achievements of the programme and the challenges faced by it. DMAC continues to make advocacy efforts with government official to secure some fund for mine action activities.

B. Quantitative Achievements:

Fortunately, efforts made by the DMAC on programme management and advocacy front has had some tangible results and has greatly contributed to an improvement in the organization's overall performance. Some of these achievements are listed below:

C. Workshops and Meetings:

Some of the workshops, events and coordination mechanisms used by the MAPA are listed below;

1) The International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action marked on 4th of April every year with participation of high level Government officials and donor embassies.
2) MAPA Donors and IPs coordination workshop held every year in up to 2021, (outside Afghanistan in the first five years and in Kabul in the last two years due to COVID restrictions).
3) The International Women's Day was celebrated on 8th of March every year before 2021 to celebrate women's contributions to the MAPA and to advocate for inclusion of more women in the programme. DMAC and the programme will make advocacy efforts to resume this celebration throughout the duration of extension request.
4) DMAC was represented in the National Directors and UN Advisors Annual Meeting in Geneva every year. However, this has been stopped after the political changes, keeping its humanitarian objects, DMAC expects to represent the MAPA in international fora again and will continue advocating for this purpose.
5) DMAC was represented in Intersessional meetings and Review Conferences of the States Parties to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, and expects from the state parties and stakeholders to support DMAC representation again.

D. Integration of Mine Action in the Strategic Documents:

To ensure coordination with ministries and national authorities, particularly those that implement development and infrastructural projects in the country, DMAC engaged with all related ministries through quarterly meetings. This was to ensure integration of mine action in the broader development initiatives in the country. As a result of extensive cross-sectoral engagement and outreach, the MAPA was successful to a large extent to include mine action in the relevant national frameworks and priority programmes. In line with the first goal of the National Mine Action Strategic Plan (2016–2021) 'Facilitating Development', mine action was recognized as a pre-requisite for development and was included in the following listed national frameworks and priority programmes:

1) Afghan National Peace and Development Framework (2016 -2021)
2) Comprehensive Agriculture Development National Priority Programme
3) Goal 15 of the Social Protection sector of the Afghanistan Sustainable Development Goals
4) Goal 16 of the social protection sector of the Afghanistan Sustainable Development Goals
5) Provincial Development Plans (PSPs)
6) Policy Framework for Returnees and IDPs

DMAC continues advocacy efforts to keep mine action as pre-requisite in all development priority programs. Mine action is considered as a pre-requisite in recent development projects in 2023 and 2024.

CHAPTER THREE
CURRENT SITUATION AND REMAINING CHALLENGES

3. CURRENT EO CONTAMINATION – BASELINE

As a matter of fact, continuation of armed conflicts in Afghanistan throughout the major part (Apr 2013 - Aug 2021) of the previous Article 5 extended deadline (2013-2023), not only impeded the programme in achieving its Article 5 targets but also resulted in additional EO contamination and multifarious challenges.

Although the security situation improved and access restrictions have been removed after the political changes in Afghanistan in mid-August 2021, but the mine action programme of Afghanistan faced new challenges including reduction in international financial support to the programme, especially to the national mine action organizations, and cessation of entire international support to the directorate of mine action coordination (DMAC).

In spite of decrease in international financial support to the MAPA, the programme, to the extent possible, continued its humanitarian mine action services to the EO affected communities and people. DMAC continued with its coordination and external oversight roles, but with limited resources and limited number of personnel used to work with DMAC as civil servants for many years. Perhaps DMAC's participation in international fora and communication with international community become very limited or even ceased.

Considering changes in political situation and aftermath challenges, in July 2022, the permanent mission of Afghanistan in Geneva has submitted a provisional article 5 extension request to the state parties for an interim period of 2 years (up to March 2025), with a commitment that the mine action programme will submit another extension request with comprehensive analysis of data and a multi-year work plan. Therefore, the EO contamination baseline as part of this extension request, has been set from 01 January 2024, the current provisional extended Article 5 deadline.

3.1 Remaining EO Contamination - as of 01 January 2024

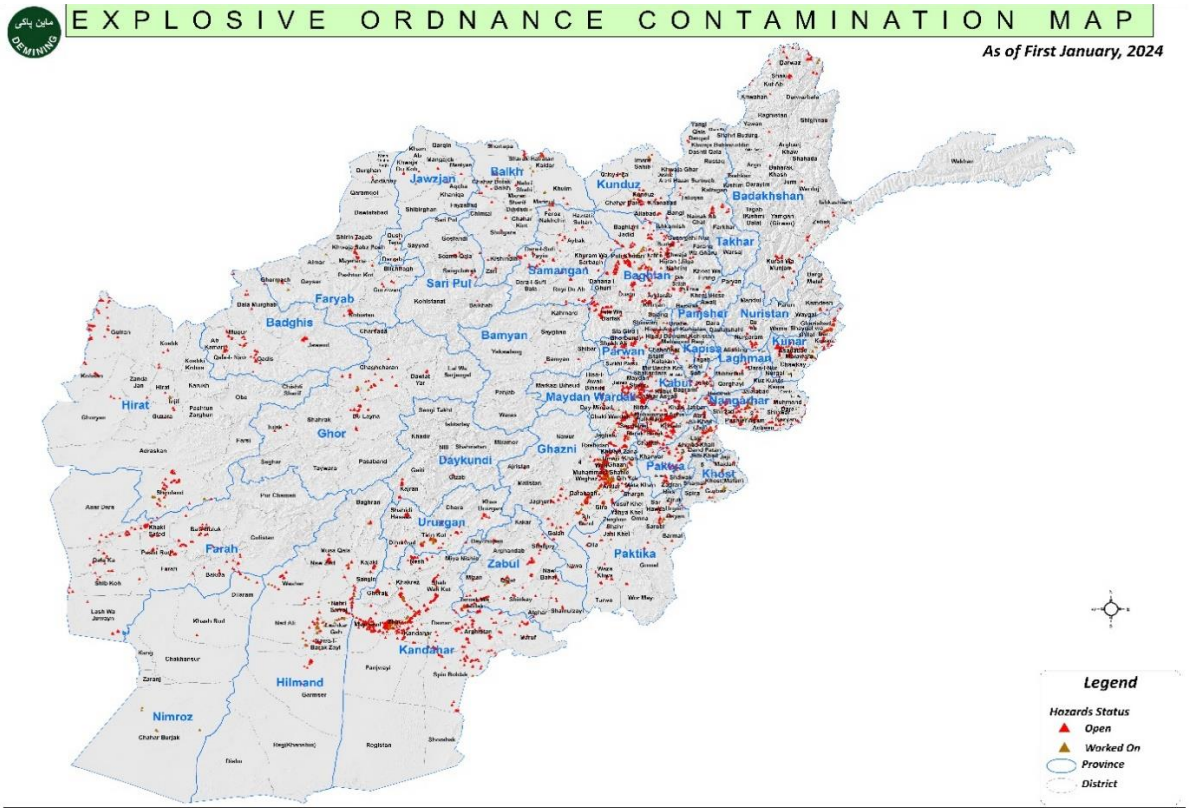
The remaining EO contamination to be addressed during the requested Article 5 extension deadline (April 2025 and March 2030), mainly includes conventional APMs and improvised APMs also called IMs. However, AVM and ERW including CM contamination also need to be cleared, due to their long term impact on the affected communities, civilian accidents and casualties, humanitarian priorities, and blockages created by them. The table below shows a summary of remaining EO contamination in Afghanistan.

As per IMSMA database, there are 1,286 APM confirmed hazardous areas (CHAs) covering 97.7 Sq Km area and 49 Suspected Hazard Areas (SHA) covering 15.1 Sq km area, as of 01 January 2024. In addition, APMs of improvised nature or IM, also located in 26 out of 34 provinces of the country. This includes 1,834 areas with the size of 63.5 Sq Km, which are mainly planted during the post 2001 armed conflicts.

In addition to the above stated APM, other types of EO contamination recorded in IMSMA have also affected communities, that need to be addressed based on their impact and the priority of affected communities.

1) Anti-vehicle (AVM) contamination: 1,015 areas with total size of 172.4 Sq km
2) ERW[6] contamination: 404 areas with total size of 165.5 Sq km
3) Deep buried bomb and ASP 64 areas with total size of 0.01 Sq km
4) Cluster Munitions (CM): 15 areas with total size of 9.2 Sq km
5) TAPI project: 38 areas with total size of 64.8 Sq km
6) Firing Range (FR): 38 areas with total size of 632.1 Sq km

Mainly the AVM, ERW, CM, deep buried bombs (DBBs) and ammunition storage points (ASP) put the civilian at immediate risk. Based on the needs and priorities of the communities including for agriculture, housing, grazing, access and other livelihood activities, these areas are therefore, included in the work plan of the extension request.



Explosive ordnance contamination map of Afghanistan. The red dots show hazardous areas distribution throughout the country.

The table below shows a summary of the baseline EO contamination included in the work plan:

Type of EO	# of CHAs	Size of CHAs Sq km	# of SHAs	Size of SHAs Sq Km	Total of area known and suspected to contain EO Sq km
APM,IM	3,103	159.6	66	16.69	176.3

[6] As part of this document, ERW means all AXO and UXO other than cluster munitions

AVM	921	153.1	94	19.3	172.4
ERW	466	165.7	2	0.02	165.7
CM	15	9.28	0	0	9.28
G. Total	**4,505**	**487.7**	**162**	**36**	**523.76**

Please refer to Annex D for more details.

The hazards surveyed as part of the TAPI project will be cleared through TAPI development project, the government is well-aware of this issue and the budget for its clearance is already considered as part of the overall TAPI construction budget.

All the FRs are planned to be resurveyed, as based on the recent experience of FR clearance during 2020 and 2022, the resurvey resulted in significant decrease of their size to almost 25% of the originally surveyed and recorded sizes. Once resurveyed and revised sizes are realized, the programme will decide about their clearance including advocacy with related Troops Contributing Nations (TCNs) to fund their remaining abandoned FRs. However, to a limited extent parts of the FRs causing civilian accidents will be cleared and the remaining parts will be marked by the programme.

Annex D to this document, provides the breakdown of remaining APM hazards by province and status (CHA and SHA) as well as summary of other types of contaminations.

3.2 Survey Status as of 01 January 2024

The MAPA needs to complete the remaining districts as part of the village by village national survey, to understand the real scope of the EO problem in Afghanistan. This survey will help the programme to accurately record, analyze and effectively communicate the real scope and impact of the EO contamination in Afghanistan, and to effectively manage/address the problem with financial contribution and technical support of the international community.

Considering current situations of improved access and security, the mine action survey teams can reach out to and cover each single community in Afghanistan. In order to understand the real scope of EO problem, the programme has decided to continue with a village by village nationwide survey using well-trained and experienced teams (QRTs).

As part of the nationwide survey, the MAPA based on its long experience, applied the approach of village by village survey and provision of rapid mine action services to the EO affected communities, this approach proved to be effective in survey and recording of EO contamination, addressing immediate EO threat from the communities including removal of spot EO/ERW, clearance of small size hazards and provision of EORE. The quick response teams (QRTs) are cross-trained in non-technical survey (NTS), technical survey (TS), explosive ordnance disposal (EOD), and explosive ordnance risk education (EORE).

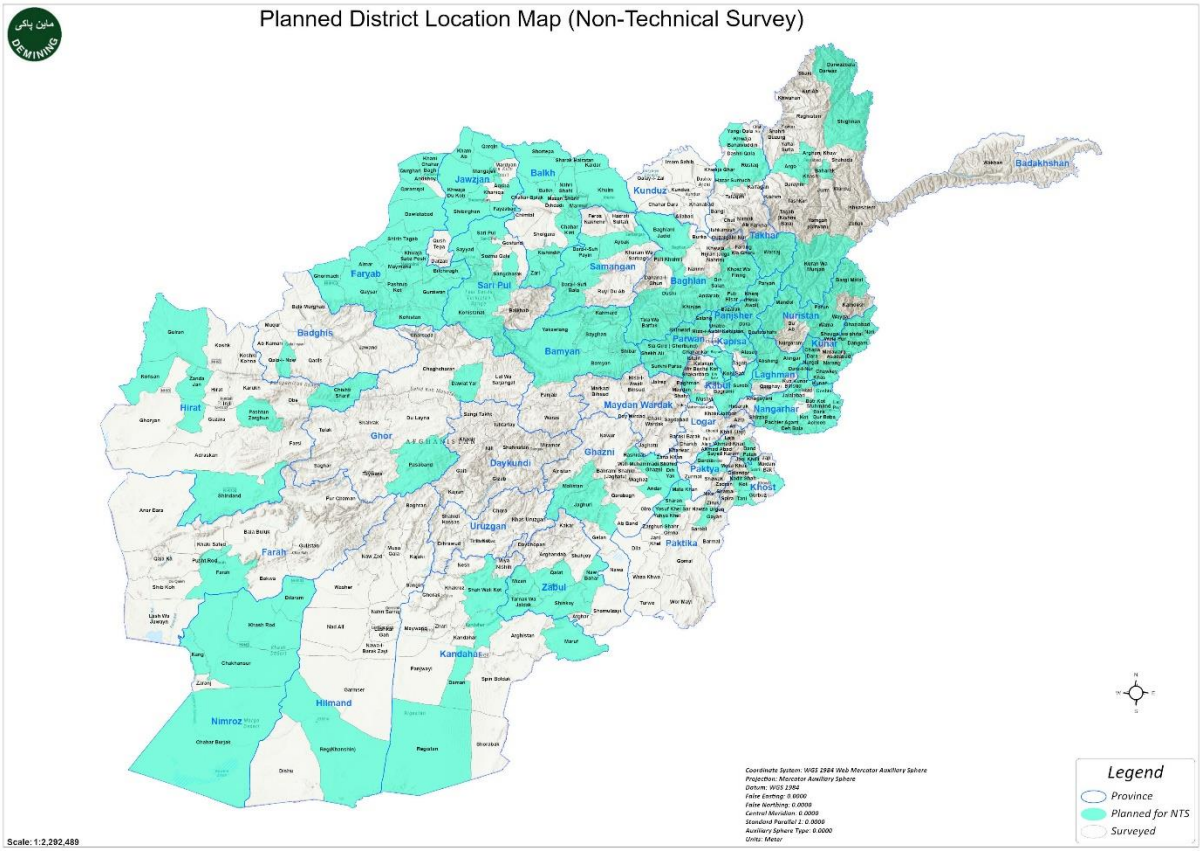
Subject to availability of funds, MAPA planned to complete village by village survey in the remaining 183 districts within 3 years, starting from April 2025. It is important noting that, despite making survey efforts during the previous extension requests and achieving tangible results, there are some districts witnessed kinetic engagements after being surveyed. Thus, the possibility of being re-contaminated with EO as result of recent armed conflicts, is high. The programme requires to resurvey those districts

to confirm the presence, suspicion or absence of EO contamination, based on direct, indirect and no evidence of EO contamination.

The table below shows number of remaining districts/communities to be covered through nationwide, village by village survey approach:

Region	Province	# of District	# of Gazetteer communities	# of non-Gazetteer communities	# of total communities
Central	5	27	2072	1036	3,140
East	4	42	1874	937	2,811
North	5	39	2402	1201	3,603
North East	3	25	1592	796	2,388
South	4	15	1606	803	2,409
South East	4	23	1999	1000	2,999
West	4	12	1281	641	1,922
Total	29	183	12,826	6,414	19,240

Please see Annex G to this document for more details about remaining districts/communities to be covered through nationwide survey.



3.3 Remaining Firing Range (FR) Contamination:

A. Background of FRs Survey

In 2001 when the US-led International Security Assistance Forces (ISAF) came to Afghanistan, they established a number of firing/training ranges in many provinces of Afghanistan, for the purpose of using them as part of the military training programs as well as testing their weapons before military operations by their military forces. These firing ranges were not being cleared of the EO after being used. In addition, most of the FRs located in rural areas of the country and within the movement continuum of the communities. As the Afghan economy is largely depending on agriculture and growing animals; these sites were used by the locals for tending their animals, rain-field agriculture (some of them), collecting firewood and construction materials/stones. Furthermore, due to persisting poverty especially in rural areas, most of the children were approaching these areas for collect scrap metals and selling them to the scrap metal dealers.

As a result, several EO accidents happened in FRs and consequently killed and injured civilian people including children. A total of 227 deaths and injuries have been reported from FRs located in different parts of the country. The table below summarizes reported casualties.

DEVICE TYPE	GIRLS		BOYS		WOMEN		MEN		Total
	Killed	Injured	Killed	Injured	Killed	Injured	Killed	Injured	
ERW	11	10	51	89	0	7	18	41	227

In 2013, it was discovered that over 200 civilian accidents/casualties reported from the military firing/training ranges. DMAC has raised this issue and concern to the National Security Council and related ministries including the ministry of foreign affairs, to communicate and discuss this issue/concern with international military forces. DMAC and UNMAS made advocacy efforts to convince international military forces and ministry of defence to clear all those military firing ranges after being used, to avoid further civilian accidents.

Subsequently, following a detailed discussion in the National Security Council in 2013, it was decided that the NATO mission in Afghanistan to survey and clear all those military firing ranges, where civilian accidents happened, and not guarded nor controlled by the military/security forces.

At the beginning 240 FRs were reported to have been used by the international military forces, contaminated with different munitions. However, it was decided that the FRs under the military control should not be included in survey and clearance plan. In total 123 out of 240 FRs were controlled by international and national military/security forces, and were laterally handed over to the Afghan ministry of defence (documented evidence are not shared with DMAC). As these FRS were not subject to survey and clearance, therefore, the data and information about them were not shared with DMAC and UNMAS.

All the abandoned and subject to survey and clearance 117 FRs, mine action teams have covered them in 112 FRs; as some of them were merged together because of being located very close and partially crossing each other. In total 74 FRs covering a total size of 1,641,172,857 sqm have been released from EO and handed over to the communities, including 5 in Bamyan and 1 in Balkh provinces cleared/released during 2021-2022.

B. Remaining FRs for Survey and Clearance:

The FRs not handed over to the national military and security forces include 38 FRs still awaiting clearance, located in 15 provinces, the detail breakdown of remaining FRs with the name of their TCN are listed in below table:

S-No	Province	No. of areas	Size in sq. m	Status	Troops Contributing Nation (TCN)
1	Ghazni	5	2,0934,640	Active	US Forces
2	Helmand	5	335,844,044	Active	US Forces
3	Herat	2	15,738615	Active	Unknown
4	Kandahar	3	23,562,630	Active	US Forces
5	Parwan	1	1,782,158	Active	US Forces
6	Nuristan	1	4,802,904	Active	Unknown
7	Laghman	3	29,993,172	Active	US Forces
8	Kunduz	1	7,572,154	Active	German Forces
9	Logar	4	89,430,863	Active	US Force
10	Maydan Wardak	3	38,127,882	Active	US Force
11	Uruzgan	1	2,771,017	Active	US Force
12	Zabul	5	46,560,865	Active	US Force
13	Khost	1	4,972,058	Active	US Force
14	Paktika	1	2,268,457	Active	US Force
15	Kapisa	2	7,772,811	Active	Unknown
Total		38	632,134,270		

The programme will make advocacy/resource mobilization efforts for FRs clearance, and related Troops Contribution Nations will be approached. The FRs are not included in the MYWP of the extension request, due to the following reasons:

1) The primary survey seems not to be accurate, there is possible exaggeration in their sizes,
2) All these FRs are subject re-survey as part of the nationwide village by village survey,
3) There is a high possibility that their sizes will be significantly reduced[7],
4) Including FRs in the work plan with their current size, will make the achievement of work plan unrealistic.

Parts of the FRs with civilian casualties will be cleared as urgent BAC tasks by the survey/EOD teams and the remaining parts will be marked with durable marking materials and signs. The FRs impacted and neighboring communities will be covered with regular EORE interventions.

As soon as the survey of FRs completed and their actual size/scope has been realized, and the output of nationwide survey become clear, the programme will communicate the real picture of EO contamination including FRs with the state parties and stakeholders. In consultation with the state

[7] The recent experience of FRs survey/clearance conducted in 2021-22 showed that the size of some FRs reduced to almost 25% of the original surveyed/recorded sizes.

parties and national and international stakeholders, the remaining challenges will be planned to be addressed.

3.4 Remaining TAPI Project Contamination:

The following recorded areas require to be cleared as part of Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) gas pipeline project:

S-No	Province	No. of areas	Size by type of contamination in sqm				
			APM	IM	AVM	ERW	Total
1	Helmand	8	0	0	12,331,332	2,375,791	14,707,123
2	Kandahar	17	0	8,281,235	11,247,206	4,650,020	24,178,461
3	Nimroz	2	0	0	5,005,794	0	5,005,794
4	Farah	7			1,861,500	12,141,803	14,003,303
5	Herat	4	6,075,513			927,004	7,002,517
Total		**38**	**6,075,513**	**8,281,235**	**30,445,832**	**20,094,618**	**64,897,198**

3.4.1 Geographical Challenges of Remaining Areas as of 01 January 2024:

Using ArcGIS analysis tool, the remaining EO contaminated areas are analyzed based on their ground profile, intended land use, blockages, land cover, snow cover and slope. The analysis will help the programme in planning to consider; when and where to conduct clearance operations and what tools/equipment to be considered to ensure safe and effective clearance operations with optimum outputs, considering seasonal effects and designing projects and deployment of assets. Different types of analysis are summarized as below:

A. Ground profile:

a) All EO areas:

The below table shows that 47.24% (247.42 Sq km) of the remaining EO contaminated areas are located in flat ground and 52.8% (276.34 Sq km) located on mountainous areas (hillside, mountain, gully and ridge). This will help the programme to consider the required tools/equipment, and determine the clearance rate during planning phase of the project. For further details, please see below table:

Ground Profile	# of hazards	% of hazards	Area size Sq km	% area	Population
Flat	2,240	48	247.42	47.24	1,707,144
Gully	22	0.47	2.39	0.46	17,496
Hillside	1,365	29.25	130.46	24.91	670,549
Mountain	942	20.18	133.07	25.41	269,589
Ridge	96	2.06	10.39	1.98	47,375
Unknown	6	0.04	0.02	0,00	4,306
Total	**4,671**		**523.77**		**2,716,459**

b) APM/IM areas:

The below table shows that 31.70% (55.90 Sq km) of the remaining AP/IM contaminated areas are located in flat ground and 68.30% (120.43 Sq. m) of contaminated area located on mountainous areas (hillside, mountain, gully and ridge). For further detail please see below table:

Ground Profile	# of hazards	% of hazards	Area Size Sq Km	% area	Population
Flat	1,252	39.51	55.90	31.70	1,052,864
Gully	17	0.54	0.41	0.23	12,518
Hillside	1,019	32.16	48.90	27.73	440,690
Mountain	804	25.37	66.68	37.81	153,145
Ridge	76	2.40	4.42	2.51	38,401
Unknown	1	0.03	0.02	0.01	4,306
Total	**3,169**	**100 %**	**176.33**	**100 %**	**1,701,924**

B. Intended Land Use:

a) All EO areas:

Below table shows that 32.87% (172.16 Sq Km) of the contaminated areas will be used for agricultural purposes, 45.05% (235.93 Sq Km) contaminated area will be used as pastureland and respectively 0.4% (0.19 Sq Km) for industrial purposes, 9.67% (50.63 Sq Km) for infrastructure, 9.31% (48.78 Sq Km) for housing purposes, after clearance. For further detail, please see below table:

Intended Land Use	# of hazards	% of hazards	Area (Sq Km)	% area	Population
Agricultural	1,706	36.55	172.16	32.87	914,023
Development	300	6.43	15.41	2.94	202,007
Housing	503	10.78	48.78	9.31	473,917
Industrial	1	0.02	0.19	0.04	119
Mines	7	0.15	0.29	0.06	3,150
Infrastructure	339	7.26	50.63	9.67	191,028
Pastureland	1,801	38.59	235.93	45.05	923,629
Historical	9	0.19	0.27	0.05	8,542
Unknown	5	0.02	0,07	0,01	44
Total	**4,671**		**523.7**		**2,716,459**

b) APM/IM areas:

The below table shows that the major part of the APM/IM contaminated land (more than 83%) will be used for grazing and agricultural purposes after clearance. The rest of it will be used for either housing, development, infrastructure, mines and historical sites purposes.

Intended Land Use	# of hazards	% of hazards	Area Sq km	% area	Population
Agricultural	1,125	35.50	54.02	30.65	552,759
Development	218	6.90	6.83	3.88	144,217
Housing	340	10.70	13.73	7.79	302,642
Mines	4	0.10	0.13	0.07	1,588
Infrastructure	182	5.80	8.57	0.12	98,658
Historical	7	0.20	0.26	0.15	5,421

Grazing	1,292	40.80	92.63	52.56	596,595
Unknown	1	0.00	0.07	4.78	44
Total	**3,169**		**176.24**		**1,701,924**

C. Blockages:

a) All EO areas:

The below table shows the remaining EO contaminated areas by their blockages, the highest areas blocked by EO contamination is grazing which accounts for 59.57% (312 Sq Km area) followed by agriculture areas, housing, roads, and infrastructure. For more details, please see the below table:

Blockages	# of hazards	% of hazards	Area size Sq km	% area	Population
Mines	4	0.09	0.11	0.02	3,689
Road	332	7.11	17.42	3.33	240,963
Historical	5	0.11	0.29	0.06	5,489
Housing	439	9.41	49.63	9.48	783,830
Infrastructure	314	6.73	14.96	2.78	198,204
Agriculture	1,295	27.75	129.24	24.68	645,843
Grazing	2275	48.75	312	59.57	835,812
Unknown	7	0.06	0.08	0.02	2,629
Total	**4,671**		**523.7**		**2,716,459**

b) APM/IM areas:

The below table shows APM/IM area blockages by land type - again, the majority of the APM contamination is blocking the grazing areas representing 63.31% (111.60 Sq Km area) of the total APM contamination followed by agriculture land 20.16%, then housing, infrastructure, roads, historical sites and natural mines. For details, please see table below:

Blockages	# of hazards	% of hazards	Area Sq km	% area	Population
Mines	1	0.03	0.03	0.02	0
Road	226	7.13	6.88	3.90	196,458
Historical	2	0.06	0.09	0.05	2,368
Housing	276	8.71	12.95	7.35	449,630
Infrastructure	266	7.74	9.11	4.91	165,921
Agriculture	774	24.42	35.54	20.16	366,785
Grazing	1,622	51.18	111.60	63.31	519,162
Unknown	2	0.06	0.08	0.05	2,629
Total	**3,169**		**176.24**	**100 %**	**1,702,953**

D. Land Cover:

a) All EO areas:

The below table shows remaining EO contamination by its land cover. Out of 523.7 Sq Km area, almost 220 Sq km (42%) of the contamination is covered by vegetation and around 205 Sq Km (39%) is rocky/bare soil. This information helps the programme in prioritization, planning, risk assessment and appropriate arrangements as part of the land release operations. For more details, please see below table:

Land Cover	# of hazards	% of hazards	Area (Sq km)	% area	Population
Forest	174	3.73	24.89	4.75	51,662
Agriculture	39	0.84	3.53	0.67	88,231
Irrigated	643	13.78	38.68	7.39	878,653
Marshland	22	0.47	1.09	0.21	18,517
Permanent Snow	2	0.04	0.08	0.02	0
Rain fed Crops (flat lying areas)	238	5.10	21.24	4.06	142,090
Vegetation	2,027	43.43	219.81	41.97	735,152
Rock Outcrop / Bare Soil	1,442	30.90	204.46	39.04	690,502
Sand Covered	31	0.66	7.34	1.40	9,360
Settlements	8	0.17	0.03	0.01	66,061
Water Bodies	2	0.04	0.07	0.01	9
Unknown	43	0.84	2.51	0.48	36,222
Total	**4,671**	**100 %**	**523.73**	**100 %**	**2,716,459**

b) APM/IM areas:

The below table shows the remaining APM/IM contaminated areas by land cover, out of 176 Sq Km area, 54% (95.08 Sq Km) of the contaminated area is covered by vegetation, 30% (53.58 Sq Km area) is rocky/bare soil and respectively 7% (11.52 Sq Km area) is irrigated land. For more details, please see below table:

Land Cover	# hazards	% of hazards	Area size Sq km	% area	Population
Forest	118	4	6.97	4	19,272
Agriculture	25	1	0.86	0	51,065
Irrigated	432	14	11.52	7	397,459
Marshland	17	1	0.70	0	197,132
Permanent Snow	2	0	0.08	0	1,863
Rain fed Crops (flat lying areas)	182	6	6.49	4.5	9,533
Vegetation	1,466	46	95.08	54	8,0627
Rock Outcrop / Bare Soil	899	28	53.58	30.5	434,541
Sand Covered	10	0	0.27	0	495,257
Settlements	4	0	0.02	0	3,347
Water Bodies	2	0	0.07	0	11,819
Unknown	12	0	0.07	0	0
Total	**3169**	**100**	**176.24**	**100 %**	**1,701,924**

E. Snow Cover:

Snow data records from Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) snow covered satellite data shows the "high points" for snow every month of the year. Using the latest snow high points, it can be predicted how many hazards will be "covered" with snow during the peak winter months in Afghanistan. Below table shows that 68% (358.18 Sq Km) of the areas affected by EO contamination will not be covered or did not record any snow during the peak winter months. It indicates mine clearance operations can continue throughout the year on those areas (this is calculated based on remaining EO areas of 523.7 Sq Km as of Jan-2024 to be addressed). Mine clearance in the remaining 31.6% of EO areas is likely to be affected by snow. For further detail please see the below table:

SNOW	# hazards	% of hazards	Area size Sq km	% area	Population
APM	591	37	50.44	30	144,428
IM	442	28	13.23	8	372,038
AVM	394	25	55.91	34	242,549
ERW	160	10	42.79	26	170,950
CM	4	0	3.18	2	590
Total	**1591**	**100 %**	**165.55**	**100 %**	**930,555**

F. Slope:

The slope of the land on which EO contaminated areas are located provides a guide for planning. The slope values for the hazards are derived using the 3D terrain model and ArcGIS spatial analysis. The higher slope can affect the ability of mine action implementers to use machines or dogs, and the speed of mine clearance is likely to be slower on hazards with a higher slope.

a) All EO Areas:

As shown in below table, 37% (193.66 Sq Km) of the remaining EO contaminated area is located within the range of 0-5% slope, 34% (182.92 Sq Km) area is located within the range of 6-25% slope, and 28% (147.15 Sq Km) area is located on the slope of more than 25%, while the slope for the remaining 1% Sq Km or EO contaminated land is not known. For further and detailed info, please see below table:

SLOP_P	# of hazards	% of hazards	Area (Sq Km)	% area	Population
0-5%	1,634	35%	193.66	37%	1,083,281
5-10%	778	17%	93.64	18%	566,301
10-15%	428	9%	47.56	9%	239,031
15-20%	252	5%	27.36	5%	159,009
20-25%	191	4%	12.76	2%	72,080
>25%	1,152	25%	147.15	28%	316,415
Unknown	236	5%	1.60	0%	280342
Total	**4,671**	**100%**	**523.73**	**100%**	**2,716,459**

b) APM/IM areas:

The below table shows slope of remaining APM/IM contamination. Almost 25% (44.65 Sq Km) of APM remaining contaminated area located within the range of 0-5% slope, 28% (50 Sq Km area) is located within the range of 6-25% slope, and 46% (80.44 Sq Km) area located on the slope of more than 25%,

while the slope for the remaining 1% Sq Km or EO contaminated land is not known. For further and detailed info, please see below table:

SLOP_P	# of hazards	% of hazards	Area (Sq Km)	% area	Population
0-5%	996	31%	44.65	25%	723,569
5-10%	439	14%	20.49	12%	342,758
10-15%	277	9%	12.03	7%	147,969
15-20%	195	6%	8.73	5%	100,665
20-25%	162	5%	9.32	5%	57,669
>25%	989	31%	80.44	46%	190,657
Unknown	111	4%	0.58	0%	138,637
Total	3,169	100%	176.24	100%	1,701,924

The above detailed analysis helps MAPA in prioritization, planning, risk management and deployment of clearance assets with appropriate and suitable tools and equipment, special consideration and arrangements considering different factors including terrain, vegetation, jungles, slope of the areas in mountainous locations, plus considering seasonal limitations (snow cover) and access to the hazardous areas, perhaps due to terrain difficulties.

CHAPTER FOUR

THE MULTI-YEAR WORK PLAN (MYWP)

4. MULTI-YEAR WORK PLAN FOR ADDRESSING REMAINING EO PROBLEM

4.1 Nationwide Survey:

Afghanistan includes 34 provinces, 401 districts and 32,065 registered communities (national gazetteer), and almost the same number of communities not registered in national gazetteer. Over 4 decades of war and armed conflicts in this country have left behind widespread EO contamination throughout its territory. In order to remove the EO problem and make Afghanistan free from explosive hazards, it is crucial to understand and define the problem first and then address it.

Based on the MAPA's experience attained during the previous Article 5 extension request, a village by village survey is found to be more effective in identifying, defining and recording hazardous areas. After the political changes of August 2021 in Afghanistan and ending of over 4 decades of armed conflicts, the security situation improved and each single community is accessible for the mine action teams to reach out. It is therefore, the most suitable time for the MAPA to undertake a comprehensive nationwide survey and establish an accurate and evidence-based baseline of the EO contamination.

DMAC in consultation with UNMAS and mine action organizations have decided to implement a village by village survey throughout Afghanistan, through survey specialized mine action organizations and teams, in all remaining districts from previous survey interventions and where armed conflicts occurred after being surveyed before.

Between 2013 – 2023, the programme managed to survey over 54 % of districts (218 of the 401 districts) in 33 provinces of Afghanistan, covering all villages/communities located in these districts. Some of the districts have been surveyed for two and three times, due to the armed conflicts after being surveyed for the first or second time.

The table below shows number of districts/communities covered through nationwide survey:

Year	# of surveyed districts	# of registered villages (Gazetteer)	# of unregistered villages	Total villages
Apr 2013 - Dec 2023	218	20,181	24,140	44,321

Nationwide survey helps the programme to:

1) Determine and record the real/actual scope of EO problem,
2) Regularly analyze EO data, making informed decisions,
3) Describe the complex impacts of the EO contamination on the affected communities,
4) Develop and implement effective mine action strategic (multi-year) and operational (annual) plans, to overcome this national disaster and upheaval.

Effective nationwide survey and management of information facilitate regular analysis of EO data especially for communicating EO information with the state parties, mine action stakeholders and international community.

Once becomes known, the EO contamination will be addressed and removed based on the national

priority system, considering their complex impact on the communities, humanitarian assistance, development interventions, and on the affected population and their livelihood and socio-economic activities.

The remaining 183 districts located in 29 provinces will be surveyed during the first 3 years (2025-2028) of the Article 5 extension request, considering the following requirements:

1) The survey organizations and their teams are accredited in non-technical survey (NTS), technical survey (TS), EOD and IEDD, and EORE; based on IMAS (07.30, 08.10, 08.20, 09.30, 09.31) and the requirements of AMAS (03.01, 05.01, 05.02, 06.03 and 06.10).
2) All survey teams should have appropriate EOD and IEDD capacity in order to be able to respond to the immediate threat of EO, and respond to the hotline calls/requests when needed.
3) The survey activities are regularly monitored internally by the implementing partner, externally by MATC and DMAC.
4) The survey progress and achievements are regularly communicated with the state parties and mine action stakeholders.

A. Nationwide Survey Multi-Year Work-Plan (MYWP)

With the capacity of 54 quick response teams (QRT) cross-trained in EOD, NTS, TS and EORE from the survey specialized organizations to implement the village by village survey activities in 183 districts, 29 provinces of Afghanistan.

The table below illustrates the nationwide village by village survey multi-year work plan:

Year	No of Province	No of District	No of Gazetteer Communities	No of non-Gazetteer communities	# of total communities
1404 (Apr 2025 - Mar 2026)	12	67	4,865	2,433	7,298
1405 (Apr 2026 - Mar 2027)	10	53	4,149	2,075	6,224
1406 (Apr 2027 - Mar 2028)	10	63	3,812	1,906	5,718
Total		183	12,826	6,414	19,240

For more details, please see Annex G to this document.

The seasonal deployment of the survey teams (QRTs) and the issue of access (due to snowfall in winter) to the communities are considered in this plan.

The QRTs should conduct the following activities as part of the village by village survey operations:

1) Establish community mine action liaison with communities, local authority and elders.
2) Survey and record hazardous areas based on direct and indirect evidence of EO.
3) Establish control markers and mark the accessible (to the communities) boundaries of hazards.
4) Resurvey already recorded hazardous areas, to update related information based on new evidence. This may result in cancellation of the entire or part/s of the hazardous areas.
5) Establish hazard signs and marking, especially on accessible sides of the hazards to the communities.

6) Conduct technical survey in certain SHAs in order to either confirm the presence of EO with defined boundaries for further clearance, or release the areas as a result of appropriate TS approaches.
7) Remove spot EO/ERW, with immediate threat to the communities and population.
8) Release/clearance of small-size[8] hazards with immediate threat to the communities and population.
9) Provision of EORE in response to emergencies and when needed during the village by village survey EOD operations.
10) Respond to mine action hotline calls based on the request of affected communities/people.
11) EO accident/casualty data collection, disability awareness within the EO affected communities and referrals of the EO victims to the appropriate service providers.

The survey will be covering over 19,200 villages (including 823 EO impacted) in 183 districts in a 3 consecutive years' duration, between April 2025 – March 2028. The MAPA has a good survey background, experience and capacity to effectively managed and implement village by village survey/EOD activities throughout Afghanistan.

In addition, all remaining Firing Ranges (FRs) are subject to resurveyed as part of the village by village survey activities. Based on a recently conducted resurvey (2020 to 2023) in 6 FRs, their sizes significantly reduced to almost 25 % of the originally size, based on the new evidence. It is found that the primary FRs survey conducted in 2013-14 seems to be overstating about their sizes. Therefore, the MAPA is very optimistic that there will be significant reduction in the size of FRs as a result of resurvey activities.

The table below illustrates FRs located in 15 provinces of Afghanistan used/utilized by NATO forces, covering more than 632 Sq Km area.

S-No	Province	No. of areas	Size in sqm	Status
1	Ghazni	5	20,934,640	Active
2	Helmand	5	335,844,044	Active
3	Herat	2	15,738,615	Active
4	Kandahar	3	23,562,630	Active
5	Parwan	1	1,782,158	Active
6	Nuristan	1	4,802,904	Active
7	Laghman	3	29,993,172	Active
8	Kunduz	1	7,572,154	Active
9	Logar	4	89,430,863	Active
10	Maydan Wardak	3	38,127,882	Active
11	Uruzgan	1	2,771,017	Active
12	Zabul	5	46,560,865	Active
13	Khost	1	4,972,058	Active
14	Paktika	1	2,268,457	Active
15	Kapisa	2	7,772,811	Active
Total		38	632,134,270	

[8] Small-size hazards, as part of the village by village survey/EOD means that any hazardous area that would take less than a week time of a QRT to release/clear it.

The expected outcomes of the nationwide village by village survey include but not restricted to the following:

1) Survey and recoding of the EO contamination, not being surveyed before.
2) Marking of hazards in order for the communities to be warned about the presence of EO.
3) Cancellation of recorded hazardous areas based on "No evidence of EO" anymore.
4) Decrease in the size of recorded hazardous areas, as a result of resurvey; based evidence.
5) Removal of the spot EO and small-size hazards that pose immediate threat on the people.
6) Up to date information about the real scope of the EO contamination in Afghanistan.
7) Delivery of EORE to the affected communities, and EO casualties' data collection.
8) Reduction in the number of civilian accidents.

Afghanistan will regularly update State Parties regarding the progress, achievements and outcomes of the nationwide village by village survey activities, and any possible changes to the work plan will also be communicated on a regular basis.

The table below shows an estimated budget for the implementation of nationwide village by village survey and the need of quick response capacity/teams in Afghanistan:

Year	No of Survey/EOD teams (QRT)	Cost in Million USD
1404 (2025-26)	54	3.5
1405 (2026-27)	54	3.5
1406 (2027-28)	54	3.5
1407 (2028-29)	14	1.0
1408 (2029-30)	14	1.0
Total cost	**190**	**12.5**

The nationwide survey will be completed in 3 years, but a small capacity of QRT (2 teams/region) in 7 regions will be required to respond to the hotline calls, removal of immediate threat of EO, conducting confirmation assessment, responding to the mine action requests, provision of EORE and EO victim data collection.

4.2 Clearance (Land Release) Work Plan

This part presents the clearance work plan for the five-year extension request starting from 01 April 2025. The following tables illustrate the clearance plan to be implemented during the deadline of extension request (Apr 2025 – Mar 2030):

The table below shows the summary of remaining areas known and suspected to contain anti-personnel mines (APMs) including improvised mines (IMs) and conventional APMs:

Anti-Personnel Mines	No. of areas known to contain APMs[9]	No. of areas suspected to contain APMs	Total No. of areas known or suspected to contain APMs	Amount of area known to contain APMs (square meters)	Amount of area suspected to contain APMs (square meters)	Total amount of area known or suspected to contain APMs (square meters)
Total	3,103	66	3,169	159,636,348	16,694,668	176,331,016

In addition to the APM including IM contamination, presence of AVM, ERW and cluster munition continue to affect the lives, socio-economic and livelihood activities of the impacted communities in Afghanistan. The work plan therefore, includes other types of EO contamination to be addressed based on their level of impact, the priorities of affected communities and humanitarian assistance.

The table below shows a summary of remaining areas known and suspected to contain AVM, ERW and Cluster Munitions.

Type of EO	Number of areas known to contain EO contamination[10]	Number of areas suspected to contain EO contamination	Total number of areas known or suspected to contain EO contamination	Amount of area known to contain EO contamination (sqm)	Amount of area suspected to contain EO contamination (sqm)	Total amount of area known or suspected to contain EO contamination (sqm)
AVM	921	94	1,015	153,117,394	19,300,239	172,417,633
ERW	465	2	467	165,708,159	24,535	165,732,694
CM	15	-	15	9,283,697	-	9,283,697
Total	1401	96	1,497	328,109,250	19,324,774	347,434,024

This MYWP part includes but not limited to the following sections:

1) Land release prioritization,
2) Project Approach,
3) Calculation of the annual target,
4) Annual milestones,
5) Budget estimation,
6) Planned capacity, and
7) Risk management and assumptions (covered in part 4.9, page 75).

A. Land Release/Clearance Prioritisation

Due to the varied nature of EO contamination in Afghanistan it would be very challenging or impossible to consider the APM (including IM) problem in isolation from the AVM, ERW and CM contamination. The challenge for Afghanistan is to ensure reducing the impact of all EO types contamination in a safe, effective and efficient way possible. Every APM, IM, AVM, ERW and CM (termed "hazard") is classified

[9] APMs include conventional and improvised mines.

[10] As part of this table EO contamination means – other than APM contamination.

in terms of its impact (very high, high, medium and low) on the community and the result recorded in IMSMA.

To enable hazard impact classification, the MAPA uses a set of impact indicators with an assigned numeric values as reflected in Annex B to this document. The following classification applies to each hazard, based on their complex impact and the need for clearance:

5) Scores 1-10 Low Impact,
6) Scores 11-18 Medium Impact,
7) Scores 19-27 High Impact,
8) Scores Above 27 Very High Impact.

Based on the hazards impact scoring classification, the level of impact of EO contamination can be seen as below:

	Very High	High	Medium	Low	Total
%	2.9	42.4	52.5	2.24	
Area Sqm	15,063,496	222,124,319	274,823,060	11,753,165	523,764,040
No. of Hazard	135	2463	1964	104	4666

B. Project Approach

The MAPA based on its experience of previous extension request, decided to continue with "project approach" as part of addressing the remaining EO contamination, this approach enables monitoring and evaluation of each project with a set of pre-defined objectives. In addition, resource mobilizing for individual or groups of projects has been a successful strategy within MAPA during the recent years. Finally, project approach breaks down the remaining challenge into manageable "bite-size" chunks.

The important aspects considered in project approach are:

1) Hazards impact level,
2) Types of hazards, for example APM, IM, AVM, ERW, CM and Mixed Hazards,
3) Geographical location of each hazard in order to logically group hazards into projects,
4) Accessibility based on terrain and weather conditions. Security issues have not been considered as all hazards are accessible from the security point of view.

Please see Annex H of the Article 5 extension request for more details.

C. Calculation of the Annual Target

The calculation of annual clearance targets is concluded based on below factors:

1) Types of EO contamination, their impact level and geographical locations.
2) Types of assets planned to be used considering types of EO contamination and the average productivity rates of each asset.
3) Appropriate capacity to be deployed to release/clear the target areas within the requested timeline and the MYWP,
4) Average cost of the anticipated capacity/teams and assets including operational, overhead, salaries, rentals, equipment and maintenance, etc.
5) Operational expenses per year and for the entire duration of MYWP.

The similar calculations have been considered for nationwide survey, EORE, VA, capacity development, equipment and external quality management which is included in coordination budget.

Year	IM sqm	APM sqm	AVM sqm	AV and AP mix sqm	CM sqm	BF sqm	Deep Buried Bombs sqm	Total sqm
1404 (2025-26)	28,617,978	10,047,341	8,033,168	2,173,789	9,283,697	44,330,670		102,486,643
1405 (2026-27)	19,741,276	19,006,446	10,136,587	3,199,506	-	40,509,301	4,825	92,597,941
1406 (2027-28)	15,175,976	22,511,895	15,032,947	4,105,927	-	35,070,072	448	91,897,265
1407 (2028-29)	-	19,454,212	62,345,017	6,152,924	-	40,929,634		128,881,787
1408 (2029-30)	-	20,737,263	76,869,914	5,406,458	-	4,887,674	95	107,901,404
Total	**63,535,230**	**91,757,157**	**172,417,633**	**21,038,604**	**9,283,697**	**165,727,351**	**5,368**	**523,765,040**

Percentage of area allocation to different assets

Hazard Type	Manual MCT (DT)	Mechanical Demining Unit (MDU)	MDU+DT	Double MDU[11]
IM	40%	55%	5%	0%
APM	98%	0%	2%	0%
AVM	10%	0%	10%	80%
AVM + APM	68%	0%	2%	30%
Battlefields	95%	0%	5%	0%
CM	100%	0%	0%	0%

The table below summarizes funding requirement for the clearance, per year:

Year	Fund required (including equipment) in Million USD	Reduction in fund per year	% of reduction
1404 (2025-26)	40	-	0.0%
1405 (2026-27)	40	-	0.0%
1406 (2027-28)	41	-	0.0%
1407 (2028-29)	41	-	0.0%
1408 (2029-30)	42	-	0.0%
Total	**203.31**		

[11] Double MDU as part of this document means that when tow mechanical demining units are used in a minefield; one ripping (preparing) the ground and second MDU conducts follow up operations.

D. Productivity Rates

The productivity rate is calculated based on the average productivity rate for the past 3 years and trials conducted on the productivity of different assets including manual clearance, mechanical clearance, mechanical with manual follow up, mechanical with mechanical follow up.

Please refer to Annex C of this document for details about the productivity rate.

E. Annual Milestones

The annual milestones are calculated based on the annual planned targets, planned capacity and expected funding availability:

The table below illustrates the milestones for five years:

Milestone	Type of EO	1404 (2025-26)	1405 (2026-27)	1406 (2027-28)	1407 (2028-29)	1408 (2029-30)	Total
No of hazards removed	IM	681	633	519	-	-	**1,833**
	APM	154	329	242	205	291	**1,221**
	AVM	48	90	99	318	460	**1,015**
	APM + AVM	15	18	26	22	33	**114**
	CM	15	0	0	0	0	**15**
	ERW	109	163	95	55	46	**468**
Area released	IM	28,617,978	19,741,276	15,175,976	0	0	**63,535,230**
	APM	10,047,341	19,006,446	22,511,895	19,454,212	20,737,263	**91,757,157**
	AVM	8,033,168	10,136,587	15,032,947	62,345,017	76,869,914	**172,417,633**
	APM + AVM	2,173,789	3,199,506	4,105,927	6,152,924	5,406,458	**21,038,604**
	CM	9,283,697	0	0	0	0	**9,283,697**
	ERW	44,330,670	40,514,126	35,070,520	40,929,634	4,887,769	**165,732,719**
Number of communities declared impact free		200	250	311	351	522	**1,634**

Number of districts declared impact free	32	45	60	63	60	**260**
Number of provinces declared impact free	0	5	5	3	21	**34**
Number of Gazetteer Communities assessed.	4,162	4161	4161	Small survey, EOD and EORE capacity conducting periodic Confirmation Assessment of recorded hazards, assessing new requests for mine clearance, conducting assessment for large-scale development projects, response spot ERW tasks and provide EORE to the impacted people.		**12,484**
Number of non-Gazetteer Communities assessed.	1,665	1664	1664			**4,993**
Number of impacted communities assessed	545	545	544	0	0	**1,634**
Region impact free	0	0	0	0	7	**7**

F. Planned Capacity

The planned capacity is carefully calculated based on the annual planned target and productivity rate.

The table below shows planned mine action capacity by year:

Year	Teams for IM	Teams for APM	Teams for AVM	Teams for Mixed Mine	Teams for ERW	Teams for CM	Teams for Survey/EOD	Teams for EORE	Total # of teams
1404 (2025-26)	269	44	10	10	27	6	54	52	472
1405 (2026-27)	186	84	13	15	29	0	54	52	432
1406 (2027-28)	143	99	19	20	21	0	54	52	408
1407 (2028-29)	0	86	78	29	25	0	14	30	262

1408 (2029-30)	0	91	97	26	3	0	14	30	261
Total	**598**	**405**	**217**	**100**	**104**	**6**	**190**	**216**	**1,836**

4.3 EORE Work Plan

Explosive Ordnance Risk Education' (EORE) includes activities implemented for a purpose to reduce the risk of injury and death from EO, by raising awareness of women, girls, boys and men in accordance with their different vulnerabilities, roles and needs, and promoting behavioural change.

EORE projects and interventions are designed to ensure that women, girls, boys, and men in affected communities are aware of the risks from EO and are encouraged to behave in a way that reduces the risk to people, property, and the environment. The objective is to reduce the risk to a level where people can live safely, contributing to an environment where economic and social development can occur free from the constraints imposed by EO contamination.

In addition to clearance, providing risk education and other risk reduction programmes to the affected populations is a primary means of preventing injuries and fatal accidents, in recent years, large new groups of refugees/returnees and IDPs have come to count among the many groups at risk from explosive ordnance and the number of casualties will increase. As of 01 Jan 2024, EO contamination affected 1,220 Sq km of land and impacting directly 3.5 million people (living within 1 km radius of explosive hazards) and indirectly 6 million people by blocking access to key livelihood activities such as housing, water, roads, pasture, agriculture, education and infrastructure across 34 provinces and also 2.5 million returnees will be come to count among the affected people , so far, a total of 42,596 people have been injured or died due to explosive ordnance explosion and currently one civilian is killed or injured in every twelve hours.

Therefore, the MAPA needs to deliver EORE across the country to the 3.8 million affected people in 34 provinces, 260 districts, 1634 impacted communities and 2.5 million returnees in 4 UNHCR encashment/transit centres and 7 IOM zero points for a period of next five (years) anticipated from April 2025 to Mar 2030.

A total 52 EORE teams will be deploying to 1,634 impacted communities and 4 UNHCR encashment/transit centres and 7 IOM zero points based on MAPA priority plan and need assessment.

30 EORE teams will be deploy to conduct EORE to 3.8 million people in 1,634 impacted communities, collect civilian casualty data, support access to other mine action activities, report the present of EO hazards, support mine action planning and priority setting process and refer EO victims and their families to other humanitarian assistance providers.

22 EORE teams will be deployed to 4 UNHCR encashment/transit centres and 7 IOM zero points to provide with tailored EORE session at entry points to 2.5 million returnees and deportee's it will promote their safety during travelling to their origin.

The MAPA EORE implementation methodology focused, along with awareness raisin is the behaviour change to promote the safe behaviour and mitigate civilian casualties, particularly among children through following approaches,

1- Direct presentations to audience,
2- School-based EORE,

3- EORE campaigns,
4- EORE messages through mobile cinema,
5- EO Safety Programme, and
6- Mass Media using TVs channels, local radios, installing billboards, distributing materials with EORE massages and social media (Facebook, Tweeters, Instagram and YouTube)

The programme recently developed below strategies and tools to enhance EORE efficiency and cover more audience of the EORE messages.

1) EORE Session including pre-post EORE assessments: (to measure the effectiveness of EORE programs).
2) Identification and targeting at-risk group of people within affected communities: (through community mapping and focus group discussions to reaching the most vulnerable group of people within the communities).
3) EORE campaigns: to cover more people as part of EO risk awareness programs over different platforms including social gatherings, school programs, picnics, matches in stadiums and playgrounds.
4) Using mass media including mobile cinema (to further promote, delivering of EORE through digital formats and helps, reaching more audience and providing risk education at the comfort of the audience.

The table below shows details of EORE beneficiaries and teams by year in 1,634 impacted communities:

Year	# Districts	# of Communities	No of beneficiaries				Total	# of team per month	# of team per year
			Boys	Girls	Man	Women			
1404 (2025-26)	52	327	30,4000	22,8000	15,2000	76,000	760,000	30	360
1405 (2026-27)	52	327	30,4000	22,8000	15,2000	76,000	760,000	30	360
1406 (2027-28)	52	327	30,4000	22,8000	15,2000	76,000	760,000	30	360
1407 (2028-29)	52	327	30,4000	22,8000	15,2000	76,000	760,000	30	360
1408 (2029-30)	52	326	30,4000	22,8000	15,2000	76,000	760,000	30	360
Total	**260**	**1,634**	**1,520,000**	**1,140,000**	**760,000**	**380,000**	**3,800,000**	**150**	**1,800**

The below table shows details of EORE beneficiaries and required teams by years in encashment centres (EC) and transit centre to deliver EORE for returnees, deportees and IDPs:

Year	No of beneficiaries				Total	# of team per month	# of team per year
	Boys	Girls	Man	Women			
1404 (2025-26)	333,334	250,000	166,667	83,333	833,334	22	264

1405 (2026-27)	333,333	250,000	166,667	83,333	833,333	22	264
1406 (2027-28)	333,333	250,000	166,667	83,333	833,333	22	264
Total	**1,000,000**	**750,000**	**500,001**	**249,999**	**2,500,000**	**66**	**792**

4.4 Victim Assistance Work Plan

Victim assistance is a core component of mine action and an obligation of States Parties under the Antipersonnel Mine Ban Treaty. Article Six of the Treaty states that "Each State Party in a position to do so shall provide assistance for the care and rehabilitation, and social and economic reintegration, of mine victims and for mine awareness programs." Protocol V on explosive remnants of war contains a similar provision in its article 8. Also, article 5 in the Convention on Cluster Munitions sets out obligations regarding victim assistance for states members to the convention. A total 120,600 EO victims will receive assistance in 34 provinces of Afghanistan.

Victim Assistance-Physical Rehabilitation and Psychosocial Support:

The VA-physical rehabilitation and psychosocial support programme will be implemented through 7 fixed centre and mobile units, 1 in each 7 regions of Afghanistan.

S. No	Activity by type of services	Men	Women	Boys	Girls	Total	Remarks
1	Physical Therapy Services	12,000	15,000	9,000	9,000	45,000	4 Physiotherapist (max 9 people/day)
2	Prosthetic Services (New production)	420	240	360	180	1,200	Including new production and repairs
3	Orthotic Services	360	300	720	720	2,100	Including new production and repairs
4	Psychological counselling and support	6,000	7,200	3,600	3,000	19,800	
5	Distribution of assistive devices	1,800	2,400	1,200	1,500	6,900	Walking aid, toilet chairs, crutches and sticks and W/chairs
6	Referral for livelihood and medical medication	2,100	1,500	1,800	1,200	6,600	
7	Disability Awareness	9,000	9,000	4,800	4200	2,7000	
Total of beneficiaries by type of services		**31,680**	**35,640**	**21,480**	**1,980**	**108,600**	

Socio-Economical Inclusion and Livelihood Support:

Assist through provision of vocational and skills development training the most vulnerable group and conflict affected people including EO victim especially house headed women, and persons with disability based on their needs, market and context specific requirements in order to support

resumption and establishing their livelihood activities. In total 12,000 beneficiaries will receive vocational trainings and long-term assistance in 34 provinces of the country.

The bellow table shows the # of beneficiaries that will receive vocational trainings and long-term assistance.

S. No	Type of vocations and Skills	Men	Women	Boys	Girls	Total	Remarks
1	Solar panel and solar water pump repair and general electricians	1,200	0	600	0	1,800	*Boys over 15 years
2	Mobile repairing	600	0	600	0	1,200	*Boys over 15 years
3	Tailoring and Embroidery	300	2100	0	600	3,000	*Girls over 14 years
4	Basic mathematic and literacy to all					6,000	
Total of beneficiaries by type of services		**2,100**	**2,100**	**1,200**	**600**	**12,000**	

4.5 Budget Requirement (Annual Cost and Resource Mobilization)

MAPA receives donor funding via two primary funding channels, either:

a) The VTF administered by UNMAS,

b) Bilateral agreements by donors are made directly or through ITF with implementing partners.

From April 2013 when the extension request was submitted and approved by the state party, MAPA separately received funds through the VTF and bilateral channels. Afghanistan is requesting a 5-year extension of the APMBC Article 5 deadline, considering the following facts:

a) The need for a nationwide survey, to understand and record the real scope of EO contamination, as the security improved and mine action access to each corner of the country is possible,

b) Despite significant achievements, Afghanistan is still one of the heavily EO contaminated countries in the world, due to over 4 decades of war and armed conflicts.

c) To remove the remaining known contamination, the extent and impact of which is explained in Chapter II,

d) EO accidents and civilian casualties, blockages and EO impact on livelihood and humanitarian assistance,

e) The competing priorities of the affected communities, humanitarian assistance and development,

f) Massive force returns of Afghan refugees from neighboring countries, require settlement, risk education, reduction and victim assistance.

The MYWP is supported with a budget estimation for the duration of requested extension period.

The following factors could impede achieving the 5-year requested deadline of this Article 5 extension request.

1) As this extension request is survey focused, if survey results in recording significant additional EO contamination, the MYWP will be affected. However, based on recent experience and as it has been highlighted in previous chapters, Afghanistan expects a significant proportion of currently recorded contamination to be cancelled and reduced which would have the opposite effect on the work plan and the timeframe.

2) The five-year timeframe has been based on funds anticipated to be received per annum of the extension request. If funds materialize more than the foreseen yearly amounts clearance could be accomplished within a shorter timeframe. Otherwise, it will require to adjust the work plan on yearly basis and communicated with the state parties and stakeholders.

3) Security deterioration in the region, this could affect Afghanistan from different angles including low level of international contribution.

A. Annual Funding Requirements

The MAPA work plan committee has conducted comprehensive analysis of a number of influencing factors including the total EO contamination included in the work plan, the geographical factors, average productivity rate in different EO types and land types, appropriate capacity/teams and assets, average productivity rate, average costs of the anticipated capacity/teams and assets, including salaries, insurance, allowances, operations, transportation, management, equipment, maintenance, medical support, rentals and overhead cost and etc. Programme management and external quality management cost are considered in overall coordination cost. The similar process of analysis has been considered and followed for the nationwide survey, EORE, VA and capacity development cost estimation.

The analysis process has been based on the current and recent years' expenses and costs that are recorded with planning and programme departments of DMAC, MATC and UNMAS. Based on the results of comprehensive analysis, MAPA realistically expects to seek and secure USD 52 million per year and in total USD 256 million over the five-year of requested extension period. The government of Afghanistan has started funding land release operations in 2020, DMAC will make advocacy efforts to receive some financial support for mine action operations from the national budget.

Since political changes in August 2021, government of Afghanistan has not supported mine action from the national budget, except the salaries DMAC's 17 civil servant staff and the operational cost of the DMAC office which in total becomes around USD 40,000 annually. The high rank officials of the government of Afghanistan (as a member state to APMBC, CCM, CCW and CRPD) have showed and announced their commitment to support the mine action programme of Afghanistan to achieve its international obligations and national responsibilities. DMAC will continue making advocacy efforts to realize financial support from the national budget allocated annually in support of the programme, contributing to achieving its targets as part of the extension request and pursuing its vision, mission and strategic goals of making Afghanistan free from EO contamination, including management of residual EO risks in longer time.

The table below illustrates the funding requirement per year and per activity:

Year	Budget Required/Activities in Million USD	

	Clearance	Survey/EOD	EORE	VA	Coordination	Equipment	Capacity Development	Total Budget
1404 (2025-26)	39.3	3.5	1.7	3.0	3.5	0.6	0.1	51.7
1405 (2026-27)	39.7	3.5	1.7	3.0	3.5	0.6	0.1	52.1
1406 (2027-28)	40.0	3.5	1.7	3.0	3.5	0.6	0.1	52.4
1407 (2028-29)	40.4	1.0	1.0	3.0	3.5	0.6	0.1	49.6
1408 (2029-30)	41.1	1.0	1.0	3.0	3.5	0.6	0.1	50.1
Total	**200.5**	**12.5**	**7.1**	**15.0**	**17.5**	**2.8**	**0.5**	**255.9**

Unfortunately, due to long-lasting war of over 4 decades the economic infrastructure of Afghanistan has been severely affected, and therefore, the same like other sectors, the humanitarian mine action programme also relies on international financial support. However, DMAC and MAPA will continue advocacy efforts to receive some financial support from the national budget. Furthermore, the programme will continue resource mobilization efforts in support of the mine action programme to achieve its Article 5 obligation through the following resource mobilization strategy:

4.6 Resource Mobilization Strategy:

During the requested extension period, releasing all planned EO contaminated areas will require international financial support including from the member states to the convention, to support Afghanistan both technically and financially. Afghanistan, will review and update the almost drafted national mine action strategic plan (NMASP) in collaboration with all mine action stakeholders including UNMAS, GICHD and national and international mine action organizations. The NMASP will include robust resource mobilization strategy as well. DMAC in consultation with mine action stakeholders planned to finalize NMASP by the end of 2024, and communicate it with the state parties, donors and stakeholders and will be posted on DMAC/MAPA website for easy access to the readers and interested parties.

The MAPA resource mobilization strategy will include tireless advocacy efforts and will be geared to meet the overall programme goals and strategic objectives, national priorities, international and treaty obligations in terms of humanitarian mine action to:

1. Increase financial contribution from the existing donors.
2. Realize, ensure and gradually increase the national financial support; assessed budget.
3. Approach national business firms and financiers to support humanitarian mine action.
4. Effectively include mine action in new national priorities, development plans and programmes.
5. Identify and approach new donors in support of the humanitarian mine action, globally and in the region.
6. Increase the number, sources and modalities of financial support.

To receive necessary resources for achieving Afghanistan's humanitarian mine action strategic goals and operational objectives, the following resource mobilization activities and advocacy efforts are planned to be implemented, made and pursued:

Respond to donor needs: To sustain financial contributions from existing donors, MAPA will continue to maintain its humanitarian objectives, neutrality and respond to the needs and priorities of its current donors through regular liaison, advocacy, regular and timely communication and visibility initiatives.

Identify and make new partners: To expand its donor base, sources and modalities of extra-budgetary contributions, the MAPA will identify potential new and consolidate relationships with new donors, including the Gulf States, and identify new "non-conventional" partners, such as philanthropists and private individuals, foundations and commercial entities and corresponding aid modalities or mechanisms.

Encourage national financial support: MAPA will make efforts and continue to encourage support for humanitarian mine action in Afghanistan through approaching national institutions, business firms, merchants, private and development sector for in-kind and financial contributions and advocate for the various benefits of doing so, such as: ensuring national ownership, empowerment, sustainability and sending the political messages to the international community of prioritizing mine action on the national agenda, which may in turn evoke additional international support.

4.7 Capacity Available and Gaps:

In terms of human resource, MAPA throughout its mine action efforts of over 3 decades has trained enough mine action capacity to address the EO problem in Afghanistan, but unfortunately due to inadequate financial resources for the last several years, most of the trained and experienced personnel of the programme either remained unemployed, left the country or changed their career. Although reduction in international financial support to the MAPA affected all mine action organizations, but national mine action organizations are struggling with critical conditions and may not be able to retain their experienced personnel or pay the wages and rents of their facilities in almost short, and long term.

Based on above mentioned facts, the analysis of existing known EO contamination and their complex impact on the lives and livelihood of civilian people, possible additional contamination which will be understood through the planned nationwide survey, Afghanistan's MYWP to address the problem and comply with its convention obligations; there is a strong need to maintain the currently available and build additional capacity of the programme.

MAPA is in need of capacity building in the following fields:

1) Obtaining and using new technology in survey and clearance of improvised mines and deep buried bombs.
2) Modification of available mechanical asset to enhance its operational efficiency.
3) Rehiring its experienced, skilful and qualified human resources.
4) Improve the quality management system in mine action and monitoring of mine action activities, processes, outputs and outcomes.

Currently, 33 national and international mine action organizations are accredited to deliver mine action services in Afghanistan. 25 out of 33 are humanitarian mine action organizations including 14 accredited in survey, clearance, EOD and IM clearance, where only 9 including 3 international (HALO

Trust, DRC/DDG and FSD) and 6 national organizations (AREA, ATC, DAFA, MCPA, MDC and OMAR) are active in delivering mine action services in the country. In addition, 11 accredited organizations are specialized in explosive ordnance risk education (EORE) and victim assistance (VA), are also active in the country. However, international mine action organizations are in a relatively good situation in terms of funded capacity, while national ones are working with limited capacities and some of them are not even active throughout an operational year. The table below illustrates the average MAPA capacity per accredited mine action organization:

S/No	Organization Name	Average Capacity %	Accredited for
1	AREA	5.07%	Clearance (AP, AV, ERW), NTS, TS, EOD, and EORE
2	ATC	5.91%	Clearance (AP, AV, ERW, IM), NTS, TS, EOD, MDD, MDU and EORE
3	DAFA	3.24%	Clearance (AP, AV, ERW, IM), NTS, TS, EOD, MDD, MDU and EORE
4	DRC	4.26%	Clearance (AP, AV, ERW, IM), NTS, TS, EOD, MDU and EORE
5	FSD	1.08%	Clearance (AP, AV, ERW), NTS, TS, EOD and VA
6	HALAO Trust	51.67%	Clearance (AP, AV, ERW, IM), NTS, TS, EOD, WAD, MDU and EORE
7	MCPA	13.86%	Clearance (AP, AV, ERW, IM), NTS, TS, EOD, MDD, MDU and EORE
8	MDC	8.52%	Clearance (AP, AV, ERW, IM), NTS, TS, EOD, MDD, MDU and EORE and VA
9	OMAR	6.39%	Clearance (AP, AV, ERW, IM), NTS, TS, EOD, MDD, MDU and EORE and VA
Total	**9**	**100%**	

Note: This capacity is calculated based on an average of the last 3 years, and is subject to changes based on the availability of funds/projects, throughout the operational year.

There are 7 national and 1 private demining companies remained accredited, and mainly implementing survey and clearance in support of development projects and commercial contracts in Afghanistan. However, their number and capacities are subject to changes based on the availability and scope of development projects and programs.

A total 358 different mine action teams are operational within the country (this is an average number, sometimes a bit increase and decrease happens based on the availability of funds/projects) as covered in table below, while the programme is in need of 472 different teams to address the EO problem as part of the MYWP as part of the extension request of the Article 5 deadline.

The table below shows the number of required teams for 5 years' extension period and available teams in 2024.

Description	Team for EO and clearance	Team for Survey/EOD	Team for EORE	Total
# of teams required per year	366	54	52	472
# of available teams	278	36	44	358
Gaps	-88	-18	-8	-114
% of Gaps	24	33	15	24

In addition to the required capacity in number of teams, the specific tools and equipment as listed in table below are also required to the programme to equip the current and additional teams/capacity required to address the problem:

Item Name	QTY required for 1 MCT	QTY required for 50 MCTs	Unit cost (USD)	Total Cost (USD)
Mine Hound DUAL-SENSOR-DETECTOR KIT VMR3 NATO-Stock-Number: 6665-12-383-0849	2	100	12500	1,250,000
Cable Detector Vallon VR1 "Wire hound" with OLED Display for Cables and Wires	1	50	12500	625,000
DISRUPTOR DRAKEN, DRAKEN DISRUPTOR ROUNDS	1	50	7000	350,000
Exploder including safety light	1	50	1200	60,000
Firing cable	1	50	50	2,500
Hook Line Kit	1	50	100	5,000
LLD	2	50	8500	425,000
UXO Locator	2	100	400	40,000
MDU Modification	1	14	7,000	98,000
Total				**2,855,500**

4.8 National Capacity Building Plan

The programme is well aware of significant turnover/reduction in its professional and experienced personnel mainly due to reduction in financial support exacerbated after the political changes in Afghanistan. In order for the programme to be able to appropriately and effectively respond to the existing and possible additional EO problems, developing a sustainable national capacity is paramount necessity. It therefore, remains the main objective the mine action programme of Afghanistan. Capacity building/development is an evidence-driven process of enabling environment, organizational and individual capacity enhancement and results in strengthening management system, improvement of abilities of the organizations and individuals to effectively manage the implementation of mine action activities and continually improve the overall performance throughout the MAPA. With this concept in mind, DMAC together with MAPA pursue to enhance the ability of the national staff within the programme especially within DMAC and national mine action organizations based on a comprehensive needs assessment, considering the challenges that the programme anticipates.

The ultimate goal is to develop the already existing capacities through strengthening knowledge, skills and efficiency of the MAPA key staff in order to meet the requirements of national and international mine action standards, humanitarian needs, competing priorities of the affected communities and national mine action strategy. In order to achieve its capacity development objectives, the programme needs to undertakes the following activities:

1) In accordance with the localization concept, enhance cooperation between national and international mine action organizations in order for the internationals to understand the needs of and the existing capacities within national organizations to support them, to extent possible.
2) Undertake an accreditation review audit to find out the areas for improvement within mine action organizations, in order to take and implement appropriate remedial and improvement actions, through making joined improvement efforts.
3) Capacity building of the DMAC staff to improve the existing skills and knowledge of relevant specialists to meet the requirements of national and international mine action standards and national strategies and plans.
4) Appeal to the international community for their contribution both in technical and financial aspects to support the humanitarian mine action programme of Afghanistan. This will include convening specialized technical training programs from the expert international organizations and centres.
5) Specialized training courses on enhancing operational efficiency, land release operations, EOD and IEDD capacity of the programme.
6) Enhance the efficiency of information management system including upgrading IMSMA from the current system to an online data collection and information management platform – IMSMA Core.
7) Capacity development of the national mine action organization and relevant institutions on comprehensive victim assistance.
8) Capacity development of the MAPA in impact monitoring and evaluation of the mine action services.
9) As part of international cooperation, the programme will make advocacy efforts to realize resumption of exchange programs with other mine action programmes in the world.

4.9 Assumptions and Potential Risk Factors:

A. Assumptions

Afghanistan plan for addressing the EO problem during the requested Article 5 extension (2025-2030) is based on the assumption that the security situations throughout Afghanistan will remain stable and improve. Presently, all the affected communities in very remote areas are accessible from the security point of view. The programme assumption is that all these areas will be accessible through roads, provided that roads/routes construction interventions have already been started and some of the remote areas are now connected or will be connected (under construction) to the province centres. This will help the survey, clearance, risk education teams and VA projects to reach out to the affected communities which are in need of mine action support.

Afghanistan will provide regular information to the States Parties on the progress, changes in accessibility to the impacted communities, financial contribution and remaining hazardous areas.

As part of the work plan, accessibility is much important to the MAPA survey teams to reach out to each single community in 183 districts (please refer to the survey plan, Annex G). Afghanistan will regularly inform state parties on the progress and completion of nationwide survey. The programme assumption is continuation of improved security situation and sustainable access of the mine action teams throughout Afghanistan.

Afghanistan assumes there is a high possibility of recording new hazards as a result of nationwide survey, which could affect the work plan. Based on new information and in consultation with MAPA stakeholders, Afghanistan will adjust and update the work plan for the remaining period of the extension request and may appeal for additional time and resources, as required.

International financial support and funding is another major concern and the work plans for survey, clearance, risk education, victim assistance, coordination and national capacity building are based on the assumption of adequate funding to the MAPA. As a humanitarian mine action programme, MAPA has maintained its neutrality and humanitarian objective and expects that the international community will resume and increase their generous support and see the programme from the humanitarian lens, not from a political angle.

Although the programme is low funded, and national mine action organizations remained in critical situation due to limited financial support, but luckily international mine action organizations are in relatively good financial situation. As part of the localization concept, the international organizations will enter to a partnership with national organizations, and technically support them to enhance their capacities, especially in resource mobilization, advocacy and other technical fields, in order for the national organizations to maintain and improve their capacity enabling them to respond to the EO problem.

The programme will make advocacy efforts with the government of Afghanistan to consider mine action in national budget and support some mine action projects including land release/clearance.

B. The Viewpoint of Mine Action in Afghanistan in Coming 5 Years

There is a very real humanitarian urgency for mine action activities to take place in response to the massive return of Afghan refugees from the neighbouring countries. Staying outside the country for decades, keeps them unaware of the context in Afghanistan where EO contamination exists in all provinces of the country. There are urgent humanitarian needs specially relating to the safety and security of the deportees and returnees to be properly and timely responded to. The needs include EO risk awareness, risk education and reduction through provision of well-planned EORE, victim assistance, survey and clearance activities, starting from the transit centres in border areas, on the way to temporary and permanent settlements, and in the settlement camps for an immediate post-settlement, medium and long terms.

C. Risk Factors:

Apart from the improvement in security situations and accessibility, during the current extension period there was a realm of possibilities that have resistively affected the completion of planned mine action activities and the likened will be expected to have the same influences on the implementation of mine action operations and progress towards achieving the obligations in the forthcoming extension period. The risks that are likely to be encountered are as follow:

6) **The Overall Political and Economic Situation:** The plan assumes that the political and economic situations evolve in favour of the mien action programme in Afghanistan.
7) **Security Situation in the Region:** Although security situation is improved in Afghanistan, but recent conflicts in the region including security incidents in neighbouring countries may affect Afghanistan. Security deterioration in the region may be followed by reduction in international financial support, logistical issues and access to international community, etc.

8) **Funding:** Unfortunately, the long-lasting war and hostilities have significantly affected the economic infrastructure in Afghanistan, therefore, similar to other sectors, the humanitarian mine action also depends on international financial support. Lack or inadequate funding will definitely affect the survey and clearance work plan.

9) **Weather:** Afghanistan is a mountainous country and the snowfall and cold winter especially in central highland, north, north-east and parts of eastern (Nuristan) and south-eastern regions affects mine action operation during the winter season. However, the MAPA will consider seasonal deployments and consider this factor in planning mine action operations in different regions.

10) **Terrains and Jungles:** Minefields in some parts of south-east, north-east and central highland are located in mountainous areas with jungles (Zazi Aryoub – Paktya province), thick vegetation and sloping areas. These factors are regularly analysed using IMS/GIS and required preparations will be considered by the programme when planning mine action operations.

4.10 Monitoring and Evaluation of the Work Plan:

In order to ensure the quality of mine action services and effective implementation of the MYWP, the following interventions are planned to be followed by the MAPA under the DMAC coordination:

1) All national mine action standards will be regularly reviewed and updated to comply with the latest editions of international mine action standards and country specific requirements,
2) All mine action organizations and their teams to be accredited,
3) All mine action activities, processes and their outputs and outcomes to be regularly monitored, and assessed,
4) The capacity of QA monitoring to be enhanced, including internal QA monitoring process of the mine action organizations,
5) All mine action organizations to be supported to further improve their internal quality management systems,
6) Regular review workshops, management review meetings and technical working groups to be convened in order to systematically assess and analyse the programme progress, achievements, challenges and make informed and facts-based decision to ensure the programme is on track of its MYWP,
7) An appropriate follow up system to be established to ensure the lessons learned as a result of technical and management reviews and related action plans are implemented,
8) Each mine action project team/task to be subject to external QA monitoring at the beginning, middle and at the end/completion,
9) Regular post-demining impact assessments and landmine and livelihood evaluations to be conducted, at least once a year, and their findings to be shared with donors and stakeholders,
10) All SOPs of the mine action organizations to be reviewed to ensure they are updated as per the requirements of AMAS and IMAS,
11) Specialized training courses in survey, land release, operational efficiency, quality management system and community mine action liaison to be delivered to the MAPA operations and field personnel.

In addition to above, the programme will focus on national capacity building of the mine action organizations in resource mobilization, advocacy, communications and donors relation, where international technical support is highly needed. This includes support from international mine action

organizations working in Afghanistan and international institutions with a mandate to support national mine action programmes.

ANNEXES

Annex A: List of Accredited Mine Action Organizations Including Humanitarian (NGOs) and Private Companies

National NGOs	International NGOs	National Commercial	International Commercial
AREA	AAR JAPAN	SADC	SDL
ATC	DRC/DDG	SMCC	
AABRAR	FSD	WDC	
ADA	HI	SDG	
DAFA	HALO Trust	UADC	
MCPA	NPA	KMCC	
MDC	ICRC as programme stakeholder	HDI	
OMAR		TDC	
ACDDO			
JAPO			
HAMRO			
ADWSO			
OSDRA			
HYSIO			
AOAD			
DAO			
KOO			
17	7	8	1
Grand Total			**33**

Annex B: Hazards Impact Indicators (MAPA Humanitarian Impact Classification and Land Release Prioritization System)

SN	Impact Indicator	Max. Value Indicator	Descriptions	Input/Data Source	Scoring Category				
					1	2	3	4	5
1	Hazards with EO incident (with civilian casualty)	5	Civilian casualties from explosive ordnance (EO) in recent years, linked to hazard or communities with recorded hazards, or within 1 kilometer radius of areas with recorded hazards	IMS/IMSMA	Over 10 years	6-10 years	4-5 years	2-3 years	within 1 year
2	Hazards with EO incident (without civilian casualties)	3	Explosive ordnance (EO) incidents reported in recent years during NTS, that do not harm people can still have a significant impact on the socioeconomic well-being of civilians through the loss of livestock and vehicles	IMS/IMSMA	Over 5 years	2-5 years	within 1 year		
3	Intended land use	5	The impact and benefits of land use after clearance, as determined by beneficiary.	IMS/IMSMA	Grazing	Natural Resource	Agriculture	Access and Irrigation Canals	Housing/Public facilities
4	Humanitarian activities/projects need MA support	5	Supporting humanitarian projects to enable development, safety, and other socioeconomic activities	UNMAS Survey/ UNOCHA 4 W's			Planned project with no fund	Project with pledged fund	Project with confirmed fund

5	Community Population directly affected by explosive hazards	5	Total number of people affected by hazards, including residents, workers, property owners, and other users of the affected areas	Land scan data / IMS data		1-99	100 - 499	500-999	Above 1,000
6	EO contaminated Land with potential settlement/return of IDPs/Returnees	5	People displaced by conflict or natural disaster waiting to return home once the area is cleared of confirmed or suspected explosive ordnance	IOM or HDX		Over 4 years	2-3 years	1 year	Immediate and Emergency
7	Proximity of affected community to explosive hazard	5	Identify explosive hazards within a close proximity to the communities (radius)	IMS/IMSMA List of Communities	Above 10 Km	5 - 9.9 Km	3 - 4.99 Km	1- 2.99 Km	0-0.9 Km
8	Local request for hazard clearance based on type of beneficiaries (Group or individual)	2	Request received from the local community to provide mine action support	IMS/IMSMA	Individual request for clearance	Request by a group of people /community			
9	Contaminated districts with no mine action response	5	Districts contaminated with explosive ordnance, where no land release activities have taken place in the X years.	Data source from OCHA for hard-to-reach districts and last mine action intervention based on IMSMA		3-5 year	6-9 years	10-14 years	Above 15 years

10	EO contamination type	5	Explosive hazards should be prioritized based on type, as ERW and IM caused almost 90% of civilian casualties (2019-2023)	IMS/IMSMA		AVM	APM/AV	APM	IM/ERW

Hazard Impact Classification	
Very High priority	Above 27
High priority	19-27
Medium priority	11-18
Low priority	1-10

Annex C: MAPA's Monthly Average Productivity Rates Set Between (2012 – 2023)

Hazard Device Type	Team Type	Monthly average productivity rate set on annual basis in Sqm										Remarks
		In ext. request in 1391/2012	1392/ 2013	1393/ 2014	1394/ 2015	1395/ 2016	1396/ 2017	1397/ 2018	1398/ 2019	1399/ 2020	1400/ 2021	
APM	DT	8,000	9,500	10,000	12,500	12,500	12,000	13,000	17,000	17,000	17,000	10-Lane DT
	MDS	12,000	17,000	17,000	17,000	17,000	17,000	17,000	17,000	17,000	17,000	
	MDU	13,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	13,000	25,000	25,000	15,000	10,000	10,000	Preparation
IM	DT-HT								4,500	4,000	7,000	10-Lane DT
	MDU									8,000	9,000	Clearance
APM+AVM	DT						16,000	13,000	14,000	17,000	17,000	10-Lane DT
	MDU						25,000	10,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	Preparation and Clearance
AV	DT	8,000	17,000	17,000	17,000	18,500	18,500	22,000	23,000	23,000	25,000	10-Lane DT
	MDU+DT	30,000	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000	50,000	50,000	45,000	50,000	50,000	Preparation

	2MDU							90,000	90,000	90,000	90,000	Two MDU/one MDU with two attachments
CM	DT									60,000	60,000	10-Lane DT
ERW	DT in ERW	100,000	110,000	110,000	110,000	110,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	10-Lane DT Sub-surface method
	MDU	15,000	27,000	27,000	27,000	20,000	25,000	20,000	60,000	45,000	45,000	Preparation
ERW specific to Balkh	DT								25,000		65,000	
	2MDU							25,000	25,000	35,000	40,000	2 machines with few deminers
FR	DT										300,000	10-Lane DT Sub-surface method
	MDU										60,000	Preparation

Annex D: Summary of Remaining Areas Known or Suspected to Contain Anti-Personnel Mines (Information at Region and Provincial Level) as of 01 Jan 2024:

Region	Province	Number of areas known to contain antipersonnel mines	Number of areas suspected to contain antipersonnel mines	Total number of areas known or suspected to contain antipersonnel mines	Amount of area known to contain antipersonnel mines (square meters)	Amount of area suspected to contain antipersonnel mines (square meters)	Total amount of area known or suspected to contain antipersonnel mines (square meters)
Central	Daykundi	24		24	434,326		434,326
	Kabul	96		96	7,477,164		7,477,164
	Kapisa	7		7	172,294		172,294
	Logar	102		102	6,190,178		6,190,178

	Maydan Wardak	196	3	199	11,167,276	587,544	11,754,820
	Panjshir	12		12	485,181		485,181
	Parwan	95		95	4,061,208		4,061,208
	Kunar	75		75	4,160,789		4,160,789
	Laghman	4		4	92,247		92,247
	Nangarhar	185		185	7,321,103		7,321,103
East	Nuristan	31		31	2,396,426		2,396,426
	Balkh	31		31	923,720		923,720
	Faryab	27		27	2,529,728		2,529,728
	Jawzjan	5	5	10	59,026	51,590	110,616
	Samangan	67		67	1,842,817		1,842,817
North	Sari Pul	17		17	390,875		390,875
	Badakhshan	73		73	5,107,136		5,107,136
	Baghlan	413	18	431	26,761,102	8,768,445	35,529,547
	Kunduz	47		47	420,075		420,075
North East	Takhar	28		28	1,103,450		1,103,450

	Hilmand	210	7	217	12,815,657	397,956	13,213,613
	Kandahar	554	22	576	21,827,030	4,150,369	25,977,399
	Nimroz	3		3	1,663,959		1,663,959
	Uruzgan	94	1	95	3,203,126	1,127,763	4,330,889
South	Zabul	127		127	4,930,133		4,930,133
	Ghazni	201	4	205	5,588,599	570,000	6,158,599
	Khost	10		10	485,299		485,299
	Paktika	19	5	24	2,658,235	852,478	3,510,713
South East	Paktya	46	1	47	2,752,601	188,523	2,941,124
	Badghis	74		74	1,101,857		1,101,857
	Farah	74		74	10,682,331		10,682,331
	Ghor	91		91	4,920,768		4,920,768
West	Herat	65	-	65	3,910,632	-	3,910,632
Total APM hazards in all provinces		**3,103**	**66**	**3,169**	**159,636,348**	**16,694,668**	**176,331,016**
AVM		921	94	1,015	153,117,394	19,300,239	172,417,633

ERW		466	2	468	165,708,159	24,535	165,732,694
CM		15	-	15	9,283,697	-	9,283,697
G-Total		**4,505**	**162**	**4,667**	**487,745,598**	**36,019,442**	**523,765,040**

In addition to the above recorded contamination, the following other types of contamination exists in IMSMA as of first Jan 2024 that need to be addressed, through specific arrangements:

1) TAPI project 38 areas with total size of 64.8 sq.km
2) Firing Range 38 areas with total size of 632.1 Sq Km

Annex E: Achievement of Anti-Personnel Mine (APM) Land Release During 01 April 2013 to 31 March 2023.

Types of contamination/device	Total number of hazards removed (released)	Total amount of area cleared to contain EO hazard (Sqm)	Reduced area (Sqm)	Cancelled area (Sqm)	Total released area (Sqm)
IM	655	8,634,186	39,767	11,579,299	20,253,252
APM	4,983	232,873,304	6,268,252	40,309,119	279,450,675
Total	**5,638**	**241,507,490**	**6,308,019**	**51,888,418**	**299,703,927**

Achievement of other Types of EO Land Release During 01 April 2013 to 31 March 2023.

Types of contamination/device	Total number of hazards removed (released)	Total amount of area cleared to contain EO hazard (Sqm)	Reduced area (Sqm)	Cancelled area (Sqm)	Total released area (Sqm)
AVM	1,898	175,197,860	343,909	90,717,821	266,259,590
CM	37	15,579,859	-	206,467	15,786,326
ERW	741	155,268,080	6,760,125	31,227,584	193,255,789
Total	**2,676**	**346,045,799**	**7,104,034**	**122,151,872**	**475,301,705**
Copper Mine/Development	6	1,072,450	-	-	1,072,450
TAPI/Development	1	22,939	-	-	22,939
Commercial/Dev/Security	274	201,221,385	832	-	201,222,217

Firing Range	183	1,202,993,774	436,404,608	1,774,475	1,641,172,857
Grand Total	**3,140**	**1,751,356,347**	**443,509,474**	**123,926,347**	**2,318,792,168**

Annex F: Summary of EORE Achievement During 01 April 2013 to 31 Mar 2023:

Programme	Men	Boy	Women	Girls	Total	No of Sessions
EORE	381,182	1,126,438	422,391	870,023	2,800,034	154,891
IF-EORE	3,175,762	3,766,915	1,227,926	2,302,157	10,472,760	397,468
LSP	295	27	103	15	440	24
ToT	10,623	8	768	-	11,399	317
Grand Total	**3,567,862**	**4,893,388**	**1,651,188**	**3,172,195**	**13,284,633**	**552,700**

Summary of EORE Achievement During 01 April 2023 to 31 Dec 2023:

Programme	Men	Boy	Women	Girls	Total	No of Sessions
EORE	69,537	172,215	108,063	138,053	487,868	24,732
IF-EORE	1,064,344	301,639	225,690	170,118	1,761,791	35,368
Grand Total	**1,133,881**	**473,854**	**333,753**	**308,171**	**2,249,659**	**60,100**

Annex G to Article 5 Extension Request Nationwide Survey Plan: Year (2025-26)

Region	Province	District	# of Gazetteer communities	# of non-Gazetteer communities	# of total communities
Central	Kabul	Chahar Asyab	44	22	66
Central	Kabul	Dih Sabz	44	22	66
Central	Kabul	Khaki Jabbar	44	22	66
Central	Kabul	Paghman	116	58	174
Central	Kabul	Surobi	122	61	183
Central	Parwan	Bagram	100	50	150
Central	Parwan	Kohi Safi	60	30	90
Central	Parwan	Salang	96	48	144
Central	Parwan	Shekh Ali	107	54	161
Central	Parwan	Shinwari	69	35	104
Central	Parwan	Sia Gird (Ghorbund)	88	44	132
Central	Parwan	Surkhi Parsa	153	77	230
East	Laghman	Alingar	88	44	132
East	Laghman	Alishing	106	53	159
East	Laghman	Daulatshahi	49	25	74
East	Laghman	Mihtarlam	135	68	203
East	Nangarhar	Khogayani	99	50	149
East	Nangarhar	Spinghar	92	46	138
East	Nangarhar	Bihsud	59	30	89
East	Nangarhar	Kuz Kunar	53	27	80
East	Nangarhar	Acheen	116	58	174
East	Nangarhar	Bati Kot	32	16	48
East	Nangarhar	Chaparhar	50	25	75
East	Kunar	Bar Kunar	38	19	57
East	Kunar	Chapa Dara	40	20	60
East	Kunar	Chawkay	39	20	59
East	Kunar	Dangam	25	13	38
East	Kunar	Dara-I-Pech	56	28	84
East	Kunar	Ghaziabad	50	25	75
East	Kunar	Khas Kunar	72	36	108
East	Kunar	Marawara	8	4	12
East	Kunar	Narang	22	11	33
East	Kunar	Nari	34	17	51
East	Kunar	Nurgal	43	22	65
East	Kunar	Sarkani	10	5	15
East	Kunar	Shaygal wa shital	30	15	45
East	Kunar	Wata Pur	12	6	18
North	Balkh	Balkh	86	43	129
North	Balkh	Chahar Bolak	73	37	110
North	Balkh	Chahar Kint	55	28	83

North	Balkh	Dawlatabad	55	28	83
North	Balkh	Kaldar	10	5	15
North	Balkh	Khulm	47	24	71
North	Balkh	Kishindih	124	62	186
North	Balkh	Marmul	15	8	23
North East	Baghlan	Andarab	47	24	71
North East	Baghlan	Baghlani Jadid	128	64	192
North East	Baghlan	Dih Salah	42	21	63
North East	Baghlan	Dushi	101	51	152
North East	Baghlan	Khinjan	75	38	113
North East	Baghlan	Khost Wa Firing	82	41	123
North East	Baghlan	Puli Hisar	41	21	62
North East	Baghlan	Puli Khumri	73	37	110
North East	Baghlan	Tala Wa Barfak	75	38	113
South	Hilmand	Reg(Khanshin)	13	7	20
South	Kandahar	Daman	78	39	117
South	Kandahar	Maruf	324	162	486
South	Kandahar	Registan	4	2	6
South	Kandahar	Shah Wali Kot	268	134	402
South East	Khost	Mando Zayi	43	22	65
South East	Khost	Nadir Shah Kot	34	17	51
South East	Khost	Sabri	37	19	56
South East	Khost	Tani	112	56	168
South East	Khost	Tere Zayi	42	21	63
West	Badghis	Qala-I- Naw	48	24	72
West	Ghor	Dawlat Yar	76	38	114
West	Ghor	Pasaband	256	128	384
Total		67	4865	2433	7298

Year (2026-27)

Region	Province	District	# of Gazetteer communities	# of non-Gazetteer communities	# of total communities
Central	Bamyan	Bamyan	145	73	218

Central	Bamyan	Kahmard	40	20	60
Central	Bamyan	Sayghan	40	20	60
Central	Bamyan	Shibar	104	52	156
Central	Bamyan	Yakawlang	275	138	413
Central	Kapisa	Alasay	52	26	78
Central	Kapisa	Koh Band	27	14	41
Central	Kapisa	Nijrab	141	71	212
Central	Panjsher	Bazarak	35	18	53
Central	Panjsher	Dara	27	14	41
Central	Panjsher	Khenj (Hese- Awal)	45	23	68
Central	Panjsher	Paryan	34	17	51
Central	Panjsher	Rukha	22	11	33
Central	Panjsher	Shutul	13	7	20
Central	Panjsher	Unaba	29	15	44
East	Nangarhar	Deh Bala	38	19	57
East	Nangarhar	Dur Baba	16	8	24
East	Nangarhar	Kot	32	16	48
East	Nangarhar	Lal Por	22	11	33
East	Nangarhar	Muhmand Dara	18	9	27
East	Nangarhar	Nazyan	27	14	41
East	Nangarhar	Pachier Agam	33	17	50
East	Nangarhar	Shirzad	61	31	92
East	Nangarhar	Dara-I-Nur	35	18	53
East	Nangarhar	Goshta	44	22	66
East	Nangarhar	Shinwar	17	9	26
East	Nangarhar	Surkh Rod	82	41	123
North	Balkh	Nahri Shahi	29	15	44
North	Balkh	Sharak Hairatan	4	2	6
North	Balkh	Shortepa	22	11	33
North	Balkh	Zari	146	73	219
North	Samangan	Aybak	59	30	89
North	Samangan	Dara-I-Sufi Bala	141	71	212
North	Samangan	Dara-I-Sufi Payin	178	89	267
North East	Badakhshan	Argo	162	81	243
North East	Badakhshan	Baharak	63	32	95
North East	Badakhshan	Darwaz	76	38	114
North East	Badakhshan	Darwazbala	65	33	98
North East	Badakhshan	Fayzabad	128	64	192
North East	Badakhshan	Kuran Wa Munjan	45	23	68

North East	Badakhshan	Shighnan	36	18	54
South	Zabul	Mizan	97	49	146
South	Zabul	Naw Bahar	90	45	135
South	Zabul	Qalat	106	53	159
South	Zabul	Shinkay	144	72	216
South	Zabul	Tarnak Wa Jaldak	143	72	215
South East	Ghazni	Andar	199	100	299
South East	Ghazni	Dih Yak	57	29	86
South East	Ghazni	Ghazni	73	37	110
South East	Ghazni	Jaghuri	418	209	627
West	Farah	Farah	104	52	156
West	Farah	Pusht Rod	55	28	83
West	Farah	Pusht Rod	55	28	83
Total		53	4149	2075	6224

Year (2027-28)

Region	Province	District	# of Gazetteer communities	# of non-Gazetteer communities	# of total communities
East	Nuristan	Bargi Matal	19	10	29
East	Nuristan	Mandol	45	23	68
East	Nuristan	Parun	10	5	15
East	Nuristan	Wama	5	3	8
East	Nuristan	Waygal	12	6	18
North	Faryab	Almar	48	24	72
North	Faryab	Bilchiragh	17	9	26
North	Faryab	Dawlatabad	41	21	62
North	Faryab	Ghormach	52	26	78
North	Faryab	Gurziwan	34	17	51
North	Faryab	Khani Chahar Bagh	16	8	24
North	Faryab	Khwaja Sabz Posh	35	18	53
North	Faryab	Kohistan	76	38	114
North	Faryab	Maymana	28	14	42
North	Faryab	Pashtun Kot	150	75	225
North	Faryab	Qaramqol	10	5	15
North	Faryab	Qaysar	158	79	237
North	Faryab	Qurghan	8	4	12
North	Faryab	Shirin Tagab	62	31	93
North	Jawzjan	Aqcha	33	17	50
North	Jawzjan	Fayzabad	59	30	89
North	Jawzjan	Kham Ab	7	4	11

North	Jawzjan	Khwaja Du Koh	26	13	39
North	Jawzjan	Mangajek	43	22	65
North	Jawzjan	Qarqin	9	5	14
North	Jawzjan	Shibirghan	91	46	137
North	Sari Pul	Kohistanat	104	52	156
North	Sari Pul	Sangcharak	68	34	102
North	Sari Pul	Sari Pul	132	66	198
North	Sari Pul	Sayyad	51	26	77
North East	Takhar	Darqad	8	4	12
North East	Takhar	Farkhar	39	20	59
North East	Takhar	Hazar Sumuch	32	16	48
North East	Takhar	Khwaja Bahawuddin	7	4	11
North East	Takhar	Khwaja Ghar	41	21	62
North East	Takhar	Rustaq	131	66	197
North East	Takhar	Warsaj	75	38	113
North East	Takhar	Yangi Qala	20	10	30
South	Nimroz	Chahar Burjak	83	42	125
South	Nimroz	Chakhansur	77	39	116
South	Nimroz	Dilaram	18	9	27
South	Nimroz	Kang	129	65	194
South	Nimroz	Khash Rod	32	16	48
South East	Ghazni	Khwaja Umari	34	17	51
South East	Ghazni	Malistan	226	113	339
South East	Ghazni	Muqur	107	54	161
South East	Ghazni	Rashidan	80	40	120
South East	Ghazni	Wali Muhammadi Shahid	49	25	74
South East	Paktika	Mata Khan	57	29	86
South East	Paktika	Sharan	88	44	132
South East	Paktika	Urgun	63	32	95
South East	Paktika	Yahya Khel	37	19	56
South East	Paktika	Yosuf Khel	11	6	17

South East	Paktya	Ahmad Abad	54	27	81
South East	Paktya	Chamkani	41	21	62
South East	Paktya	Gardiz	110	55	165
South East	Paktya	Jani Khail	27	14	41
West	Hirat	Chishti Sharif	70	35	105
West	Hirat	Gulran	165	83	248
West	Hirat	Kohsan	32	16	48
West	Hirat	Pashtun Zarghun	119	60	179
West	Hirat	Shindand	248	124	372
West	Hirat	Zanda Jan	53	27	80
Total		63	3812	1906	5718

MAPA Commitment Letter

MAPA Commitment to the Implementation of Work-Plan (APMBC Article 5 Extension Request)

April 2025 – March 2030

This document results from the collaborative effort of the major Mine Action Programme of Afghanistan's stakeholders. To the best of our collective knowledge the information contained herein accurately reflects the history of the programme, the considerable progress we have made, and the remaining challenges. We each commit to play our part in the delivery of the enclosed work plan to enable the Government of Afghanistan's vision; Afghanistan free from explosive ordnance where men, women, boys and girls live in a safe environment conducive to sustainable development and where EO victims are fully integrated into society and have their rights and needs recognized and fulfilled.

Nooruddin Rustamkhail, Director, Directorate of Mine Action Coordination(DMAC)

Nicolas Stephon Pond, Chief of Mine Action, UNAMA/UNMAS

Kefayatullah Eblagh, Founder and Director, Afghan Technical Consultants(ATC)

Abdul Wahid Noori, Director, Demining Agency for Afghanistan (DAFA)

Dr. Farid Homayoun, Country Director, HALO Trust (HT)

Hannah Rose Holloway, Head of DRC-HDP, Danish Refugee Council (DRC-HDP)

Haji Atiqullah, Director, Mine Clearance Planning Agency (MCPA)

Mohammad Shohab Hakimi, Director, Mine Detection Center (MDC)

Haji Fazel Karim, Director, Organization for Mine Clearance and Afghanistan Rehabilitation (OMAR)

Nisar Ahmad Omarzai, Director, Agency for Rehabilitation and Energy Conservation in Afghanistan (AREA)

Abdulhuda Waheeb, Director, Afghan Consultants Demining & Development Organization (ACDDO)

Eng. Shams Uddin Waseeq, Mine Action Director, Organization for Sustainable Development and Research of Afghanistan (OSDRA)

Dr. Din Mohammad Nickhwah, Country Director, Fondation Suisse de Deminage (FSD)

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Organization: Directorate of Mine Action Coordination (DMAC) - Afghanistan
Director: Nooruddin Rustamkhail
Email: Noordin.rustamkhail@dmac.gov.af
Telephone: +93 (0) 706424444

Organization: Directorate of Mine Action Coordination (DMAC) – Afghanistan
Senior Technical Adviser: Dr. Aimal Safi
Email: aimals@dmac.gov.af and aimal.safi71@gmail.com
Telephone: +93 (0) 704828372

Organization: United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA)
Chief of Mine Action Section (CMAS): Mr. Nicholas Stephen Pond
Email: nicholas.pond@un.org
Telephone: +93 (0) 730 745115

Organization: United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan/UNMAS – Afghanistan
Chief of Operations: Mohammad Wakil JAMSHIDI
E-mail: mohammadwa@unops.org
Telephone: Mob +93 (0) 705 966403

Organization: Mine Action Technical Cell (MATC) – Supported by UNMAS
Project Coordinator: Eng. Fazel Rahman Ahmadzai
Email: FazelRA@matc-mapa.org
Telephone: +93 (0) 782 321889