

Article 5, paragraph 2 of the Convention requires each State Party to “ensure as soon as possible that all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control are perimeter-marked, monitored and protected by fencing or other means, to ensure the effective exclusion of civilians, until all anti-personnel mines contained therein have been destroyed.”

Mine contamination in the Republic of Tajikistan causes economic and social hindrances in the communities, especially along the former confrontation zones. These areas were the first priorities for demining, and consist of waste agricultural areas, infrastructure networks, forests, river banks. These areas are not only important for their economic significance, but their clearance enabled freedom of movement to the most endangered population groups: farmers, herders, fishermen, public companies’ employees, tourists and children.

Humanitarian demining is quite time consuming process and it is crucially important to focus on the constant risk that threatens the population living in the mine/ERW contaminated areas. Along demining activities, the local population in the rural areas are being informed regarding landmines/ERW risks.

TNMAC regularly conducts Explosive Ordnance Risk Education sessions for the local population of the contaminated districts in Khatlon province, in VMKB province, in Sughd province and in the Central Region (DRS). These activities are conducted in close collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Science of Tajikistan and its regional and district level departments, Women Affairs Committee, and the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan (RCST). The target groups for the EORE activities are the school teachers and schoolchildren, shepherds, hunters, farmers, community members, military personnel, local authorities’ representatives and other relevant persons. During these sessions TNMAC provides EORE printed materials (booklets, guidelines, poster, etc.) to the local population to introduce them with the guiding information and photos of the threat of landmines and ERW, so that local population could recognize the danger when they face it. TNMAC also provides presentations, short movies and cartoons about EORE to the local population while conducting awareness raising sessions in the rural areas. In addition to these EORE activities, the Operations staff of the survey and demining teams hold EORE sessions to the local population in the areas, where they are deployed and conduct demining operations.

In addition to the EORE, the following activities are performed by TNMAC and the Implementing partners to mitigate the threat of mines/ERW: 1) Marking of Hazard Areas/Installation of warning signs (billboards) 2) Mine/ERW risk education programs. 3) An integrated approach to the mine problem 4) Promotional activities 5) Media campaign All known and identified hazard areas (minefields) have been marked with the warning billboards by the survey and demining teams under the supervision of TNMAC. Due to impact of weather and other factors, it is often required to replace them. TNMAC constantly tasks to install warning bill boards around all known hazard areas (minefields) that are not been released yet. Released hazard areas in their turn are marked with the benchmarks and safe area signs.

From 2019 to the end of 2025, TNMAC, in cooperation with the ICRC, TCRCC, Ministry of Education and Science, Women Committee and local authorities, carried out work in this direction. It is estimated that approximately 220,776 persons have passed EORE during 2019 up to the end of November of 2025; this includes 43 613 women, 52 450 men, 58 678 girls and 66 071 boys.

The processing of information and reference materials on the EORE are organized for individual target groups (children, women, men, shepherds, farmers, military personnel and etc.). In addition, jamoats (local communities) and villages located near military polygons were designated as high-risk areas of unexploded ordnance, and roundtable discussions and trainings on the threat of unexploded ordnance were organized and conducted to attract the attention of residents of these areas.

Since the establishment of the Tajik National Mine Action Center in 2014, it has been coordinating and regulating all activities in the field of humanitarian mine action, including the EORE direction. The landmine and ERW threat affected local population is mainly informed and provided with the necessary information through EORE events (trainings, seminars, field visits, emergency response). Special attention is paid to certain categories of the population (women, shepherds, rural population, schoolchildren and school teachers).

Apart from EORE sessions, during the Second extension period, TNMAC conducted the celebration of the International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action in target areas of the country – in Sh. Shohin district of Khatlon province and in Rasht district of the Central region. These events involved the participation of a huge number of local residents, local authorities, local departments of the Border Forces, Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defence, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Education, foreign donor representatives and international organizations, etc.

Tajikistan Remains committed in fulfilling its obligation under the article 5 of the Convention and regularly conducts MRE and EORE sessions in the hard to reach rural mountainous areas in order to inform the local population affected by the landmine contamination. This caused that the level of casualties has significantly decreased during the last ten years.