REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF THE DEADLINE FOR FULFILMENT OF OBLIGATIONS UNDER ARTICLE 5 OF THE CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE, STOCKPILING, PRODUCTION AND TRANSFER OF ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES AND THEIR DESTRUCTION

ZIMBABWE

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Abbreviations

APM	Anti-Personnel Mine
APMBC	Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention
APOPO	Anti-Persoonsmijnen Ontmijnende Product Ontwikkeling / Anti-Personnel Landmines Detection Product Development
CHA	Confirmed Hazardous Area
GIS	Geographic Information System
HALO	Hazardous Area Life-support Organization MAG Mines Advisory Group
EORE	Explosive Ordnance Risk Education
NAMAAZ	National Mine Action Authority of Zimbabwe
NMAS	National Mine Action Standards
NMCU	National Mine Clearance Unit NPA Norwegian People's Aid
NSP	National Strategic Plan
NTS	Non-Technical Survey
QA	Quality Assurance
QC	Quality Control
QM	Quality Management
SHA	Suspect Hazardous Area
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
TS	Technical Survey
ZIMAC	Zimbabwe Mine Action Centre
ZNMAS	Zimbabwe National Mine Action Standards
GICHD	Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining
FCDO	Foreign Commonwealth & Development Office
GFFO	German Federal Foreign Office
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NMFA	Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
PM/WRA	Political Military-Affairs/ Weapons Removal and Abatement
US Do	United States Department of Defence
HD R&D	Humanitarian Demining Research and Development

Executive Summary

On attainment of independence in 1980, Zimbabwe inherited eight (8) distinct mined areas that were laid between 1976-1979 by the Rhodesian Army along the country's borders with Zambia and Mozambique, respectively. The initial contamination before re-survey was **511 050 000m^2** as reported on previous extension requests. However, after the re-survey Zimbabwe had **310 650 000m^2.** By the end of 2024, Zimbabwe had managed to release **55,819,413m^2** and remained with **11,999,499m^2.**

It is estimated that the original contamination included approximately three million (**3,000,000**) anti-personnel mines. The mines were laid on three different types of minefields, i) the Cordon Sanitaire, ii) Ploughshare and, iii) Reinforced Ploughshare minefields.

The Government of Zimbabwe remains concerned with the existence of minefields along the country's border. As such, since independence to date, the Government has made every effort to rid the country of these minefields which continue to injure, maim and in worst cases, kill both humans and livestock. Efforts by the Government include provision of funding for mine action and continuous mobilization of assistance from the international community before and after the country became a State Party to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention ("the Convention").

Zimbabwe became a State Party to the Convention in 1999 whereby it was obligated to have completed clearance of all the mined areas within the country's jurisdiction or control by March 2009. This was however not achieved. Accordingly, Zimbabwe requested for an extension period which was granted and since then the country has been granted five extension periods. During each of these extension periods notable progress was made by Zimbabwe in acquiring a clearer understanding and addressing its remaining challenge. The fifth and current extension period, which expires on 31 December 2025, was granted by the Sixteenth Meeting of States Parties in Vienna, Austria, in 2017.

One of the conditions for granting the fifth extension period was for Zimbabwe to come up with a National Strategic Plan (NSP) for the period 2018-2025, which was done with assistance from GICHD.

The resurvey of all minefields in the country during the fourth extension period enabled the country to have an accurate figure of the remaining contamination, making it easy to then come up with the NSP. Zimbabwe now talks with certainty of the remaining contamination after successfully launching a revised NSP in January 2023 in Harare, Zimbabwe.

Demining Organisations in Zimbabwe have fluctuating capacities, as sometimes they increase and decrease, while MAG and APOPO resumed demining operations much later than scheduled when the fifth extension period was sought and subsequently granted. MAG commenced operations in December 2018 while on the other hand, APOPO commenced operations in January 2021 instead of January 2018 in spite of having signed a Memorandum of Understanding in 2016. HALO Trust has reduced its capacity from 175 to 133 deminers, Norwegian People's Aid, (NPA) maintained its capacity of 80 deminers, the National Mine Clearance Unit (NMCU) has restructured its teams from 150 to 112

deminers, APOPO also maintained its deminers at 36 from January up to February 2025 and terminated all MA operations and activities on the 31st of March 2025 due to the withdrawal of the US funding, whilst MAG commenced with 45 deminers. However, the number will be reduced to 27 in the middle of the year 2025. Despite funding challenges, Zimbabwe is committed and looks forward to achieve completion of its obligations under Article 5 of the Convention.

The Government of Zimbabwe has provided over **Two Million United States Dollars** (**US$2 million**)to ZIMAC and NMCU during the last extension period.

The drafting and approval of National Mine Action Standards that included updates on land release process and further alignment with International Mine Action Standards also ensured Zimbabwe responded to the decision of the States Parties on its 2014 Extension Request. These achievements have enabled Zimbabwe and its operators to re-survey mined areas under her jurisdiction and develop a work plan to deal with an accurate figure of remaining contamination. The total area processed by Non Technical Survey (NTS), Technical Survey (TS) and clearance during the period 2018 to Dec 2024 was **55,819,413m^2**. During the extension period Zimbabwe also completed clearance on the Sheba Forest to Lincon Hill, Rusitu to Muzite Mission and Crook's Corner to Sango Border Post (Ploughshare) and half of Musengezi to Mazowe River minefields. This has resulted in increased business opportunities in areas of agriculture, tourism, mining, game ranching and industrial sites. On the social aspect, local inhabitants living adjacent to cleared minefields now freely access water sources, have ample grazing land for their domestic animals and travel across lands to visit their relatives without risking their lives and limbs.

Requested Period of Extension

Zimbabwe now has a clear picture of the remaining contamination in areas under her jurisdiction. The termination of service by APOPO in February 20S25 left Zimbabwe with 3 International NGOs and the NMCU doing demining operations. The current work plan will be periodically updated and basing on current capacities of demining operators, Zimbabwe should be able to complete its Article 5 obligations in 5 years. **Zimbabwe now seeks a five (5) year extension from 31 December 2025 to 31 December 2030**, during which it is envisaged that, at the current funding levels, clearance would most likely be completed.

The five-year period requested is the maximum period expected to complete the task, basing on projected reductions in funding and capacities.

The country is seeking an extension request up to 2030, the revised strategic plan shall be integrated into the 2026-2030 national development plan. Mine Action is being drafted into the National Development Strategy (NDS) 2 that will see it being aligned with broader national development priorities. NDS 2 should be finalised latest by the end of 2025 to commence implementation in 2026.

Land Release

There will be no further re-surveys through NTS on all tasks. A standardised approach for all operators has been designed where TS lanes/cut lanes will be used to breach across the

minefield depth. Once all mine lanes are established, deminers then follow the hazard therefore, the area uncleared will be released through reduction.

Zimbabwe does not have any suspected hazardous areas under its jurisdiction. Land release methodologies are selected based on the type of minefield being worked on eg the cordon sanitare requires full clearance and this is allocated to manual and mechanical clearances whilst ploughshare minefields require employment of TS, full and targeted clearance, hence the use of MDDs. Dogs are normally employed on fairly open and flat ground whilst manual clearance is reserved for thickly vegetated steep slope areas.

Vigorous land release activities by the operators during the period of the fifth extension period, reduced the figure to **11,999,499m**^{2} as of 31 December 2024. Zimbabwe and its international partners have released **55,819,413m**^{2}**,** representing **90.3%** of all Confirmed Hazardous Areas (CHA). The challenge remaining as of January 2025 was **11,999,499m**^{2} and is summarised on Table 1 below.

Table 1. Contamination Level as of January 2025

	Mined Area	Linear Distance (km)	Area (m^2)	Clearance Organisation
1	Musengezi to Mazowe River	229	1,809,661	HALO Trust
2	Mazowe River to Rwenya River	130	8,562,236	MAG,NPA & HALO Trust
3	Sango Border Post to Mwenezi River	35	830,239	NMCU & APOPO
4	Lusulu	1.50	797,363	NMCU
Total		**395.5**	**11,999,499**	

The below information explains how Zimbabwe demining operations have reached to the stated remaining area of 11,999,499 m2 as at 31 Dec 2024.

Activity	Square meters (m^2)	Remarks
Total area at start of 5th Extension Request	61,793,990	
Released during the Extension period	55,819,413	
Additional areas as per annex C	6,024,922	
Total area remaining	11,999,499	

Zimbabwe aims to complete its clearance obligations within five years, (31 December 2025-31 December 2030). A work plan based on projected reductions in funding and capacities has been developed for the period of the extension, as shown on Table 2 below. These figures are based on projected reductions in funding and capacities. ZIMAC will revise the work plan at the start of each year, so that the plan remains relevant and more accurate during the extension period. The revised plan will be reported on an annual basis through Zimbabwe's Article 7 Transparency Report as well as during Convention meetings. A detailed work plan covering the period 2025-2030 is attached as Annex B.

Table 2. Projected Annual Clearance Work Plan during the Extension Period [Including 2025 (in m²)

Minefields	**Operators**	**2025**	**2026**	**2027**	**2028**	**2029**	**2030**	**Remaining 2024**
Musengezi to Mazowe river	HALO Trust	815,000	900,000	94,661				**1,809,661**
Mazowe River to Nyahuku	HALO Trust			805,339	900,000	459,495		**2,164,834**
Nyahuku to Nyamapanda	NPA	2,500,000	441,201					**2,941,201**
Nyamapanda to Rwenya river	MAG	331,000	277,000	277,000	277,000	277,000	277,000	**3,456,201**
	NPA		198,201	210,000	210,000	210,000	210,000	
	HALO Trust					350,000	350,000	
Mwenezi river to Sango Border Post	NMCU	140,000	140,000	140,000	140,000	140,000	130,239	**830,239**
Lusulu	NMCU	84,000	120,000	149,000	149,000	149,000	149,000	**797,363**
Total	**4**	**3,870,000**	**2,076,402**	**1,676,000**	**1,676,000**	**1,585,495**	**1,116,239**	**11,999,499**

NB. Musengezi to Rwenya is an entire minefield; however, the minefield was sub divided into segments and allocated to operators (HALO Trust has portions ie Musengezi to Mazowe river and Mazowe River to Nyahuku, on the other hand, **NPA** *is working on the* Nyahuku to Nyamapanda stretch, and finally **MAG** is working on the Nyamapanda to Rwenya river stretch)

Given the closure of APOPO and a now 50% capacity drop for HALO Trust after laying off 15 teams from the initial 30 teams as of March 2024, with no new immediate funding opportunities, the target becomes extremely unattainable by any time before 2030.

Annual Finance

The Zimbabwe Government has over the previous years provided funding at the rate of **Half a Million United States Dollars** (**US$500,000.00**) annually for its demining institutions and national clearance operations. This is expected to continue or increase when the country's economic situation improves.

Table 3. Clearance Budget during the Extension Period 31 December 2025 to 31 December 2030 (USD$)

Organisation	**Year**						**Total**
	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	**2025-2030**
Zimbabwe Government Financial Support (US million dollars)							
NMCU	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	**3.00**
International Donor Financial Support (US million dollars)							
NPA	3.46	2.9	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	**14.76**
HALO	3.49	4.95	4.95	4.95	4.95	4.95	**28.24**
MAG	2.3	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	**22.3**
Sub-total	9.25	11.85	11.05	11.05	11.05	11.05	**65.3**
Total	**9.75**	**12.35**	**11.55**	**11.55**	**11.55**	**11.55**	**68.3**

The US$68.3 million mentioned above covers all mine action pillars. However, the majority of funding is allocated for survey and clearance.

The $0.5 million enshrined in Table 3 above does not include equipment cost for NMCU. This is budgeted for as and when it's necessary. The government of Zimbabwe has a procurement process within the Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Assets Act (PPDPA Chapter 22:23), which regulates all procurement activities. However, any international support in form of demining equipment towards NMCU will be greatly appreciated.

Zimbabwe Programme Funding Status

Ser	Organisation	Funding Required (USD)	Funding Secured (USD)	Shortfall (USD)	Remarks
a.	MAG	$22.3 million	$1.52 million	$20.78 million	
b.	HALO Trust	$28.24 million	$7.03 million	$21.21 million	
c.	NPA	$14.76 million	$3.97 million	$10.79 million	
d.	NMCU	$3 million	$3 million	Nill	
e.	**TOTAL**	**$68.3 million**	**$15.52 million**	**$52.78 million**	

Currently MAG has $1,517,055. If the FCDO funding remains at current level (with small increase each year to account for inflation), MAG would require an estimated additional $1.5 million (with yearly increase) to increase capacity from 4 to 6 manual teams. One team will be reduced during the course of 2025 and completion of the southern Reinforced ploughshare minefield section of the Area of Operations (AoO) is earmarked for the end of 2030.

NPA anticipate the amount of $3.13 million annually with potential increase from its donors. If additional funds are available, NPA's aim is to increase from 6 to 10 manual teams and to add 4 more MDDs.

To finish the AoO in 5 years HALO Trust would need an average of 16 Manual teams per year, which results in an uplift of funding by $1,371,328 per year. To complete the target HALO Trust would need $4,737,942.5 annually.

The Government of Zimbabwe will continue to fund the NMCU programme at $0.5 million on yearly bases.

The Government of Zimbabwe remains committed to carry out its Article 5 obligations and the progress achieved can be seen in the

following factors:

- Low accident rates among civilians.
- Low accident rates among demining operators.
- No security risks in the country for operations.
- High impact of cleared land for socio-economic development of communities, local and international businesses.
- Known contamination level with a clear plan, known capacities and resources to achieve these obligations.
- Demobilisation strategy being implemented by demining organisations.

1. Origins of the Article 5 Implementation Challenge

The origin of Zimbabwe's Article 5 implementation challenge derives from the War of Liberation when between 1976 and 1979 the then Rhodesian Army laid minefields along the Northern and Eastern borders of the country to prevent infiltration and resupply of Zimbabwean liberation fighters operating from Mozambique and Zambia respectively. Combat action between Liberation forces and the then Government forces also resulted in unexploded ordinance scattered around the country.

Following considerable research and planning by the then Rhodesian Army, minefield construction commenced in 1976 in the North Eastern border area of what is now Zimbabwe. By 1979, minefields had been laid in eight significant areas. Some smaller minefields were also laid further inland to protect key infrastructure and permanent bases. The areas where the minefields were laid are highlighted on the map of Zimbabwe below and further information on the types of minefields are contained in Annex A.

ORIGINAL MINEFIELDS LOCATION IN ZIMBABWE

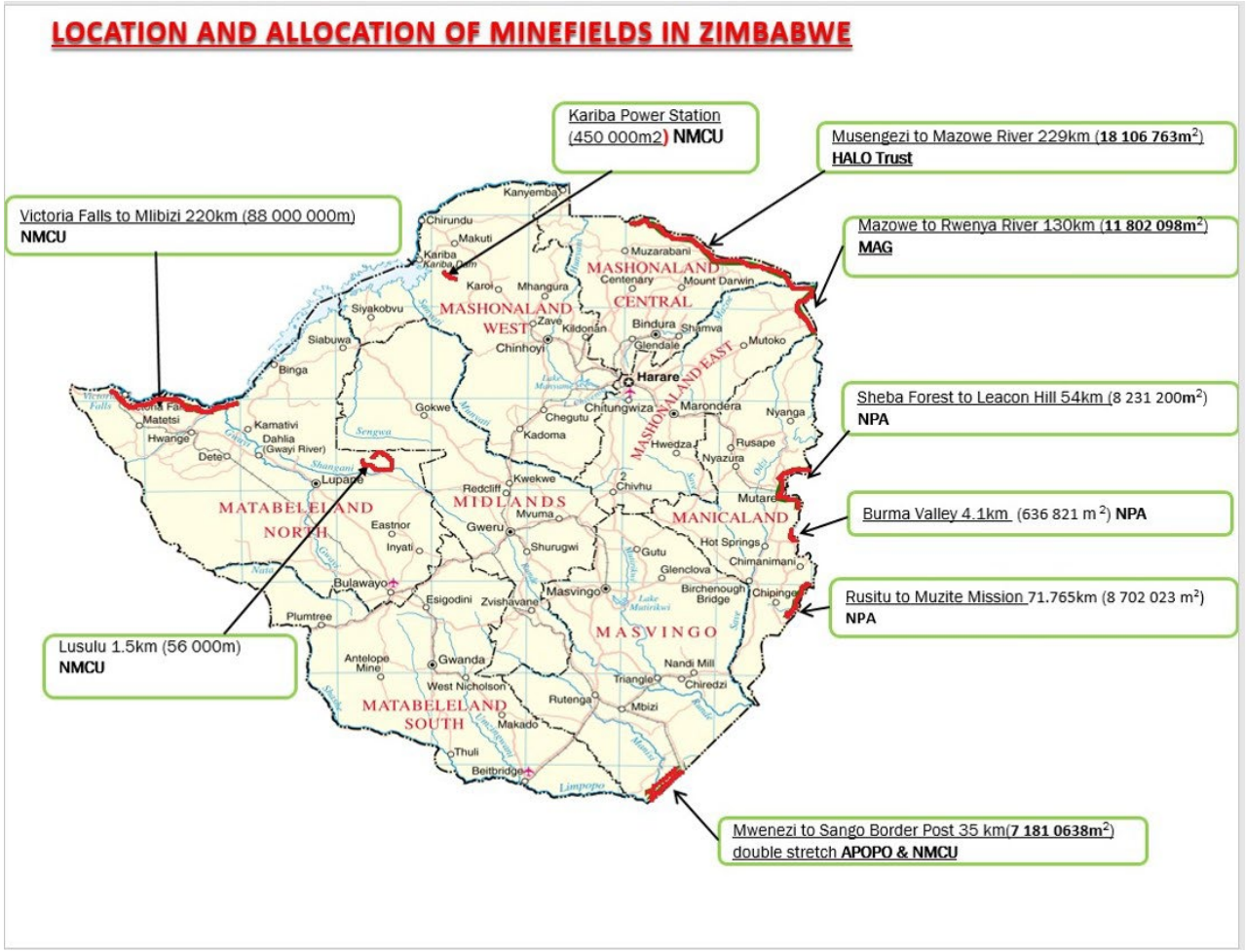

Figure 1 Original Minefields in Zimbabwe as at 1980

a. **Circumstances that Impeded Compliance in Last Extension Request.**

The fifth extension period was centered on the clearance of the remaining confirmed and suspected hazardous areas. Though the remaining contamination or suspected areas were clear and known, it was impossible to complete clearance within the stipulated period granted in the current extension period. The circumstances that impeded compliance were beyond the country's control.

The main challenges were health emergencies and natural disasters (Covid-19 and Cyclone Idai) which reduced funding by donors and some completely withdrew their funding in 2023 leading to the country failing to meet its target for that year which was a turning point in achieving a Mine Free Zimbabwe by 2025. The Government also did not have enough resources to fully support demining operations. Key factors impeding timely completion of Zimbabwe's Article 5 obligations are summarised on Table 4 below.

Table 4. Summary of Circumstances Impeding Compliance

Serial	Circumstance	Comments	Degree to which circumstance may impede the ability of Zimbabwe to clear anti-personnel mines in mined areas
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
1	Natural disasters	Despite demining operations being designated as essential service, during the Covid-19 era, demining organisations operated at less than half capacities and in some cases operations were stopped due to cases recorded within camps	High
2	Funding	The donors reduced funding to the international organisations and in some cases completely withdrew. This resulted in operators reducing capacity which in turn led to reduced output	High
3	Insufficient demining equipment.	There were challenges in re-equipping NMCU. This resulted in capacities lying idle thereby negatively affecting planned output.	The situation is improving as the Government is on the verge of fully equipping the Unit
4	Delayed resumption of work by other operators	When Zimbabwe submitted its fifth extension request, MAG and APOPO were set to start operations at the beginning of the extension, however, the 2 organisations commenced operations at the end of 2018 and 2021 respectively. This was a two year and five year, respectively lost which affected the initial plan. In drafting the 5th Extension request in 2017, the capacities of the two organisations were taken into account since they signed the MOUs in 2016.	High

b. **Humanitarian, Economic, Social and Environmental Implications**

Mine clearance during the requested period will result in humanitarian, economic, social and environmental benefits being realized. For example, cleared land will allow for greater opportunities including in areas of agriculture, tourism, mining, game ranging and the use of cleared areas as industrial sites. On the social aspect, local inhabitants will freely access basic needs like water sources, health facilities, have ample grazing land for their domestic animals and travel across lands to visit their relatives without risking their lives and limbs. In such a situation, investors would be much more willing to invest in land that is mine free resulting in poverty reduction. This can also be achieved through linking mine action with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The remaining mined areas have a severe socio-economic impact on Zimbabwean rural communities. Minefields severely affect the rural populace in the affected areas as livestock have been and continue to be killed by mines. Mines also continue to injure or in extreme cases kill humans.

What is clear, however, is that the population that is at most risk from landmines includes poor rural subsistent farmers, who are often forced, through economic necessities, to take risks.

c. **Impact on the Population of Zimbabwe**

These landmines do not affect the entire population of Zimbabwe but those living adjacent to minefields. It is those communities close to mined areas, the poor rural subsistence farmers, who are often forced, through economic necessities, to take risks. As reported in the previous extension request, the greatest impact on the population has proven to be on the Musengezi to Rwenya and the Sango Border Post to Crooks Corner minefields. In a nutshell, the contaminated areas deny the local populace agricultural land, free movement of people and grazing land for the livestock among others.

Photo 1. Minefield clearance so that farmers can cultivate without fear of landmines or ERWs.

Impact on Rural Communities

Mined areas are mostly in remote rural areas that are inhabited by poor peasant farmers whose livelihoods depend on farming and

livestock rearing. Mined areas deny peasant farmers access to fertile land in areas like Rushinga and Chipinge districts. Minefields have both an economic and social impact on these people, especially those who live adjacent to or within mined areas. Minefields deny freedom of movement to these people. This in turn impacts on socialisation with relatives across the mined areas. Some continue attempting to cross these minefields in order to maintain contact or communication with relatives and the unlucky ones have been maimed or injured by anti-personnel mines.

Minefields also deny the same people access to water sources as well as grazing land. Out of desperation, some people who live adjacent to known mined areas have, as a result of land pressure, ended up taking unnecessary risks by cultivating crops or herding their livestock in mined areas that have not been cleared. This has in most cases resulted in injury or in some cases death as a result of unavailability of suitable health care facilities in rural areas to deal with traumatic injuries caused by landmines. Very large numbers of livestock, a source of livelihood for the affected peasant farmers, have also been killed. Since 1980 the country's database has 302 human casualties and undocumented number of livestock and wild animals. Table 5 below shows EO casualties during the fifth Extension Period.

Table 5. Mine Casualties During the fifth Extension Period

Date	Women		Girls		Boys		Men		Total
	Injured	Dead	Injured	Dead	Injured	Dead	Injured	Dead	
2018	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	3	Nil	1	Nil	6
2019	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
2020	-	-	2	Nil	2	3	9	1	17
2021	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
2022	1						5		7
2023	1						4		6
2024	2						8	Nil	10
TOTAL	6	Nil	2	Nil	7	3	27	1	48

Impact on Commercial Farming

An area of about 5 000 000m^2 of commercial farm land for tea estates and timber plantations was mined. Following the successful clearance completion of the Sheba Forest to Leacon Hill minefield, the timber that had surpassed its maturity was harvested for commercial use. Although no computation has been made, the revenue and potential income that was lost by the country as a result of the existence of mines in these areas is too significant to be ignored.

Impact on Tourism

The successful completion of the clearance of the Victoria Falls to Mlibizi minefield in 2005 unlocked tourism development potential around the City of Victoria Falls. Significant tourism development has undertaken in this area since the area has been cleared. State of the art tourist facilities and infrastructure such as an aerodrome for tourists and other activities have been constructed and are operational in the cleared area. Tourism development has remained a challenge in a huge area of the Great Limpopo Trans-Frontier Park (GLTP), a tripartite tourism project by Zimbabwe, South Africa and Mozambique where the Sango Border Post to Crook's Corner minefield runs adjacent to the National Game Park on the Zimbabwe side. However, demining is in progress in this area.

2. Nature and Extent of Progress Made during the Fifth Extension Request: Qualitative Aspects

During the fifth extension period from January 2018 to December 2024 progress has been achieved both on the clearance front and total survey of all mined areas. The successful completion of re-surveys of all contaminated or suspected areas was a milestone achievement as today Zimbabwe can declare the remaining contamination with a high degree of accuracy. The surveys and clearance efforts have addressed large swathes of land. As such, an accurate estimation of the timeframe for the clearance of the remaining contamination was made possible.

a. **Resources Made Available to Support Progress**

Institutional Strengthening of ZIMAC

The ZNMAS was compiled by the ZIMAC on behalf of the Government of Zimbabwe. This document is written in accordance with the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS), and upholds the same conventions advocated by IMAS relating to all mine action activities governed and supported by IMAS. As reported in previous extension requests, it was first compiled in 2010, drafted and approved in 2013. The ZNMAS was reviewed in 2022 and 2024. It is also subject to review and revision. All mine action organisations have started operating basing on these latest updated standards.

National Mine Action Capacities

The Government of Zimbabwe is fully committed to rid the country of all landmines. This has been amply shown by its consistent allocation of an annual amount of US$500 000.00 for demining operations. Although the funds allocated have been inadequate to allow for the contracting of commercial demining companies to complement the military humanitarian demining efforts, Zimbabwe has gone a long way in demonstrating national ownership of the demining programme. Zimbabwe has hosted a number of dialogues in a bid to lure new donors and persuade current donors to continue or increase their funding.

Coordination Structures

During the current extension, Zimbabwe held two of NSDs. These dialogues played an important role in mobilising new donors to come on board. The role of regular coordination mechanisms such as strategic and technical working group meetings between ZIMAC and operators has managed to bring in new donors such as the Germans through the GFFO. The technical working groups are there to align the Zimbabwe National Standards (ZNMAS) with the IMAS taking into consideration the country's context. These meetings have developed an excellent working relationship between ZIMAC and it's stakeholders. All parties take these meetings as an opportunity to question and be questioned on ways of working, thus bringing a positive sharing of techniques and procedures for mutual learning.

International Cooperation

Zimbabwe hosted other affected States Parties like Angola and Ethiopia in 2024 and 2025 respectively and the country is on the

verge of hosting Guinea Bissau in September 2025. Zimbabwe will continue to host affected state parties for benchmarking visits where it disseminates information to its counterparts on how to deal with international operators thereby creating a favourable ground for the operators to conduct their duties.

Expansion of Demining Capacities

HALO has been generously supported by the governments of the US, UK (FCDO), Ireland (Irish Aid), Japan as well as the OAK Foundation and World Without Mines. HALO Trust hopes for continued support from these donors. However, the US has terminated funding for HALO Trust. All other donors have expressed a keenness to continue with their support, though reduced. New donors are being sought to cover the length of the Sixth Extension Period and alternative approaches to private donors are also being explored to obtain the funding needed to expand operations to complete clearance within the national authority's timeline.

NPA was funded by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (NMFA). From January 2025 until December 2028 NPA will be funded by Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD). NPA has also been receiving funding from GFFO since 2023 and there current contract will be expiring in June 2026. In addition, NPA will continue to approach new donors in order to obtain the funding needed to expand operations in order to complete clearance within the national authority's timeline.

MAG commenced operations in November 2018 and has been supported by the UK (FCDO) and the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (NMFA). Continuous engagement with other donors remains an ongoing process.

APOPO who were the last demining organisation to commence operations in 2021 has been supported by the US Government (PM/WRA, US DoD & HD R&D). APOPO hoped for continued support from this donor and planned to approach new ones to obtain the funding needed to expand operations to complete clearance within the national authority's timeline. Unfortunately, the organisation failed to establish new donors or to maintain the funding, which led to the termination of all operations with effect from 31 March 2025.

All the mentioned international organisations have in some cases reduced staff due to inadequate funding.

Development of National Strategic Plan for Mine Action, (2026-2030)

The revision of the Zimbabwe National Mine Action Strategic Plan is expected to commence in 2025 with the assistance of GICHD Advisors and Zimbabwe Demining Stakeholders to cover the five-year extension period being requested. This five-year National Mine Action Strategic Plan will be finalised in 2026 and submitted to relevant ministries for approval. The NSP will highlight the Zimbabwe Mine Action aim, goals and objectives from 2026 to 2030 which include:

- To create a safe and sustainable environment for communities affected by landmines and ERWs.
- To achieve a mine free Zimbabwe, where all individuals, regardless of gender or age can safely engage in sustainable livelihood activities.
- To address the needs of affected communities through well-coordinated efforts that comply with National Mine Action Standards and international obligations.
- To fulfil the APMBC obligations.
- Emphasizing the importance of engaging with affected communities to understand their needs and incorporate their input into MA activities.
- Capacity building of national staff in line with post clearance operations and activities.

Once approved, a copy of the National Strategic Plan will be submitted to the States Parties.

Drafting of National Standards during the Fifth Extension Period

During the fifth extension period, ZIMAC revised the National Mine Action Standards (ZNMAS). This document is binding and all operators in Zimbabwe abide by the set guidelines. Their SOPs are inspected and approved by ZIMAC to ensure they conform to the ZNMAS. The notable inclusions on this work include drafting of stand-alone quality management standards which is still work in progress.

b. Methods Used to Identify Areas Containing AP Mines.

Most of the minefields in Zimbabwe were known, fenced and marked, though a lot of fencing and markings have now been vandalised. Mostly, these minefields stretched along the borders. Additionally, community reports and the analysis of historical data about conflict zones helped identify contaminated areas. These methods rely on local knowledge and past incidents to guide clearance efforts. This was complemented by TS using manual clearance assets. Over the years, Zimbabwe had taken the recorded

length of the minefield and multiplied it by an average width of 1.3 km. During the initial extension period a more detailed analysis was undertaken by ZIMAC with support provided by ISU, which resulted in some areas being found to be free of mines hence reducing the initial extent of contamination. A resurvey was conducted in 2014 during the fourth extension period, (2014 – 2017).

c. Methods and Standards of Controlling and Assuring Quality

The ZNMAS on their own have Safety and Quality as their prime objectives, that is, they ensure mine action activities are conducted safely to provide quality products and services. Besides the ZNMAS, quality is ensured as early as the accreditation process where only organisations with good and known track records are accredited. Organisations are also to show evidence of a robust internal quality management system as a requirement for operating in Zimbabwe. On deployment, organisations are attached with ZIMAC Quality Assurance (QA) Officers who conduct daily monitoring of an organisation's mine action activities and assisting the organisations on applying best practices which ensure quality end-product. Over and above ZIMAC QA Officers, each organisation has its own internal QC measures. Besides this daily monitoring, ZIMAC Quality Management (QM) Office Section conducts both deliberate and impromptu visits to carry out quality assurance checks on clearance or training worksites. Noted nonconformities are discussed and rectified. After the total clearance of a particular minefield segment, a Quality Control (QC) Team from ZIMAC carries out post clearance sampling and inspection. This is done to all cleared areas including NMC Unit's work before the land is handed over to the community.

Between 12 and 24 months after handover, ZIMAC in conjunction with the responsible demining organisation carry out post-handover impact assessment to verify if the clearance met the intended standard. This includes going around the communities assessing what they are using the cleared land for and if they are coming across any suspicious objects. A handover process is included in ZNMAS 08.04, Section 9, Completion Report and Handover Certificate, with example documentation given in Annex B Guidance on the use of IMSMA for post-clearance documentation. These standards direct operators on procedures for informing ZIMAC, NAMAAZ and communities on completion of tasks.

d. Efforts Undertaken to Ensure Effective Inclusion of Civilians in Mined Areas

Zimbabwe has a national standard for Explosive Ordinance Risk Education, (ZNMAS 11). This standard ensures that ZIMAC and demining organisations have a responsibility to ensure that EORE activities are carried out in a safe, effective and efficient manner, but also in a manner that includes full community liaison. The aim is to reduce the impact on men, women, boys and girls living in, or near to, land contaminated with Mines/ERW. ZIMAC's Explosive Ordnance Risk Education policy is outlined in the ZNMAS and is

drawn up in accordance with the national EORE policies of Zimbabwe.

EORE continues to be done by all operators to educate people in mine affected areas on the dangers of mines. EORE teams take advantage of community developmental and social gatherings to disseminate information. Face to face and small media methods are used to communicate with the targeted audiences. In order to raise awareness of the scale of the challenges communities face, ZIMAC take advantage of the landmine gatherings hosted at ministerial levels to disseminate the information through television sites. Furthermore, all accredited demining operators conduct community liaison and EORE within allotted areas. Progress has been done in making EORE activities more sustainable, with the establishment of EORE community volunteer focal points in all EO impacted areas. These efforts have resulted in community engagement, increased awareness, behavioral change, reduced casualties, and improved reporting and clearance. The methodologies used by operators include school sessions, community sessions, mine awareness soccer tournaments, mine awareness musical galas and EOD sessions. Key behaviors EORE efforts seek to address include ignorance of physical appearance of mines and their dangers, myths of mercury existence in mines, straying into mined areas, unsafe practices such as throwing stones at or picking mines, and failure to report to the relevant authorities.

Before starting Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) sessions, Zimbabwe consults extensively with local stakeholders, including relevant authorities, to gain a comprehensive understanding of landmine contamination and its socio-economic effects. They then perform a community-level needs assessment using a triangulation approach to verify data. This includes pre-focus group discussions that collect both qualitative and quantitative data. The assessment results identify varying risk levels among communities, allowing Zimbabwe to prioritize interventions for those most impacted by explosive ordnance and unsafe practices in hazardous areas.

The EORE program has achieved significant results during the 5th extension period as shown on the table below:

Table 6. EORE BENEFICIARIES F0R THE PERIOD 2018-2025

Organisation	No of Sessions	Women	Girls	Boys	Men	Total
HALO Trust	405	5729	31895	29485	5285	72799
NPA	778	7859	13769	12875	7122	42403
APOPO	29	4057	1842	1822	2857	10607
MAG	753	3650	9838	10796	3707	28744
NMCU	17	1100	1650	1375	1375	5517
Total	**1982**	**22395**	**58994**	**56353**	**20346**	**160070**

Based on ZNMAS 08.05 Chapter 6, the hazard marking system is designed to provide clear warning to the local population of the presence of mines or ERW.

Some of the mined areas were previously marked by a perimeter fence to ensure the effective exclusion of civilians from mined areas. However, the perimeter fence was damaged by animals and some of it was removed by the local inhabitants for their own use. Owing to prohibitive costs and lack of sustainable measures to secure the perimeter fence from theft, the vandalised/stolen fence has not been replaced. However, danger warning signs and concrete beacons to alert civilians of the existence of minefields were erected. During the requested extension period, EORE will continue to be carried out by all organisations as part of the mine action pillar.

As part of its EORE needs assessment, Zimbabwe conducts Mine Action Impact Assessments and Non-Technical Surveys to collect data on explosive ordnance accidents and identify survivor demographics. By recording accident locations, Zimbabwe creates a detailed mapping of incidents. High concentrations of accidents indicate communities where unsafe behaviours are prevalent. Consequently, Zimbabwe will then prioritizes EORE sessions in these areas, using the accident data to inform strategic planning and resource allocation. This data-driven approach ensures that risk education efforts are targeted effectively where they are needed most within Zimbabwe's area of jurisdiction.

Zimbabwe uses its Green Field Tool to evaluate the effect of its activities on the Climate and environment in our area of operations, and this is done in all stages of our work, i.e. Pre and Post Impact Assessment as well as at the start of clearance activities.

Ser	Organisation	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total	Sessions
	MAG	220	214	600	582	1616	96
	HALO Trust	464	284	1125	892	2765	36
	NPA	91	77	112	98	378	60
	NMCU	285	185	400	280	1150	20

These figures are based on the current annual calculations. For the coming years, it is expected the same capacity would be maintained, reaching similar targets. Based on previous EORE sessions estimated cost for all operators' stands at $150,000 per year. This figure vary and may increase slightly with inflation from year to year while some operators include EORE funds under the umbrella of operations which include NTS, impact assessment, EOD spot tasks and data collection.

e. **Victim Assistance**

Zimbabwe is committed to the care of survivors and will be developing survivor assistance as part of national strategic plan. Partnership between ZIMAC and the Department of Disability Affairs under the Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare has managed to ensure that these survivors are not sidelined, hence, they are benefitting from Government sponsored projects. ZIMAC also accredited a local NGO called Mine Victims Assistance of Zimbabwe (MVAZ) to support landmines/ERWs survivors. Over 302 men and women are accounted for in the national database as landmines victims, though the figure is not exhaustive. A national survey for mine victims still remains on the cards, albeit funding constraints.

EORE sessions conducted by operators are message tailored. Additionally, in Zimbabwe, people living with disabilities are catered for by the Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare (MoPSLSW) under the department of Disability Affairs. This department ensures that victim assistance programmes are inclusive and accessible to all age groups and gender. In this regard explosive ordnance victims are considered under this department in liaison with ZIMAC, as the custodian of explosive ordnance victims' database, which information is then forwarded to the MoPSLSW for inclusion into the national database. A proper survey for explosive ordnance victims is still outstanding. Conducting the National survey will go a long way to assist in updating the national database and come up with specific projects to promote inclusive participation and ensure the protection of vulnerable groups.

f. **Nature and Extent of Progress Made: Qualitative Aspects**

ZIMAC QC Teams continue to carryout post clearance quality control on all areas cleared by the demining operators to ascertain readiness of the area for handover. During the previous extension request period 2018 – 2025, a number of entire minefields and portions were completely cleared and handed over. These include the following:

- Mount Darwin district which was cleared by HALO Trust and ZIMAC QM Team conducted Post Clearance Inspection of the area and handed over to the local authorities in 2021.

- Sheba Forest to Leacon Hill and Rusitu to Muzite Mission minefields cleared by NPA were handed over in 2022 and 2025 respectively. One of the double stretch minefield Ploughshare (Primary Minefield) was completely cleared by NMCU and passed external ZIMAC Post Clearance inspection. However, the area is yet to be handed over to the local community due to clearance efforts currently underway on the Cordon Sanitaire (Secondary Minefield), which runs parallel to the Primary Minefield. It would be most ideal to handover the area on completion of the two stretches.

To date, a total area of **55,819,413m^2** has been released since 2018 culminating in the destruction of 213,924 anti-personnel mines. UXOs have been routinely recovered from battle areas in the countryside by military EOD teams stationed at Provincial Centres.

Clearance has been spearheaded from the following fronts:

- Military engineers (NMCU) with funding from Government on the Crooks Corner to Sango Border Post and Lusulu minefields
- HALO Trust working on the Musengezi to Mazowe river Minefield,
- NPA who completed the Leacon Hill to Sheba forest and Rusitu to Muzite Mission Minefields, now working on the re-allocated sector along Nyahuku to Nyamapanda, previously allocated to MAG,
- MAG working from Mazowe river to Rwenya river Minefield,

Following detailed technical surveys and clearance, Zimbabwe has managed to reduce the number of provinces affected by landmines from six to four as shown on figure 2 below:

Table 7. Contamination Level at the Start of Fifth Extension Request, (Jan 2018)

Mined Areas	**Operator**	**Total Area (m^2)**
Sango Border To Crooks Corner(Ploughshare)	NMCU	**16,508,588**
Sango Border To Crooks Corner(Cordon Sanitare)	APOPO	**7,196,038**
Musengezi to Mazowe river	HALO TRUST	**11,784,543**
Mazowe river to Rwenya river	MAG	**11,802,059**
Sheba Forest to Leacon hill	NPA	**5,895,954**
Rusitu to Muzite Mission	NPA	**8,550,808**
Lusulu	NMCU	**56,000**
Total		**61,793,990**

During the Fifth Extension period, 55,819,413m^2 has been released, representing 90.3% of all confirmed mined areas in the country. The challenge remaining as at end of December 2024 was **11,999,499m^2.** The qualitative and quantitative nature of these achievements will be explained in the sections below.

Table 8. Summary of Progress Made - Jan-Dec 2024

Name of mined area	Total area known to contain anti-personnel mines as of Jan 2024 (in m²)	Area cleared (inm²)	Area cancelled through NTS (in m²)	Area reduced through TS (inm²)	Total area released (inm²)	Additional area (in m²)	Mines destroyed
Musengezi to Mazowe river (HALO Trust)	2,408,710	595,394	0	3,655	**599,049**	**0**	**24,003**
Mazowe river to Rwenya river (MAG, NPA & HALO Trust)	9,034,524	344,118	0	177,785	**521,903**	**49,615**	**4,106**
Rusitu to Muzite Mission (NPA)	2,637,154	552,155	0	2,258,758	**2,810,913**	**173,759**	**57**
Mwenezi river to Sango Border Post (APOPO & NMCU)	1,203,434	373,195	0	0	**373,195**	**0**	**3,367**
Lusulu	880,475	83,112	0	0	**83,112**	**0**	**97**
Total	**16,164,297**	**1,947,974**	**0**	**2,440,198**	**4,388,172**	**223,374**	**31,630**

Table below has detailed information on progress made on annual basis throughout the entire period of the current extension.

Summary of Progress Made – Jan 2018 - Dec 2024

Year	Total area known to contain anti-personnel mines at the end of the year	Area cleared (in m²)	Area cancelled through NTS (in m²)	Area reduced through TS (in m²)	Total area released (in m²)	Additional area (in m²)	Mines destroyed
2018	52,637,535	2,112,340	693,523	6,646,257	9,452,120	295,665	22,013
2019	42,690,666	2,759,476	466,419	8,590,447	11,816,342	1,869,473	39,015
2020	34,116,225	2,410,672	28,947	8,105,935	10,545,554	1,969,113	26,911
2021	23,507,427	2,440,425	5,674,052	3,167,116	11,281,593	448,734	26,457
2022	18,302,728	2,132,501	1,917,880	2,065,148	6,115,529	910,830	31,104
2023	16,164,297	1,907,436	19,806	378,004	2,305,246	166,815	37,330
2024	11,999,499	1,947,974	0	2,440,198	4,388,172	1,213,829	31,630
Total		**15,625,681**	**8,800,627**	**31,397,905**	**55,819,413**	**6,024,922**	**213,924**

3. The Remaining Challenge:

a. Nature of Remaining Challenge: Qualitative Aspects

The geographical locations of the remaining minefields in Zimbabwe's jurisdictions and control are highlighted on the map of Zimbabwe below.

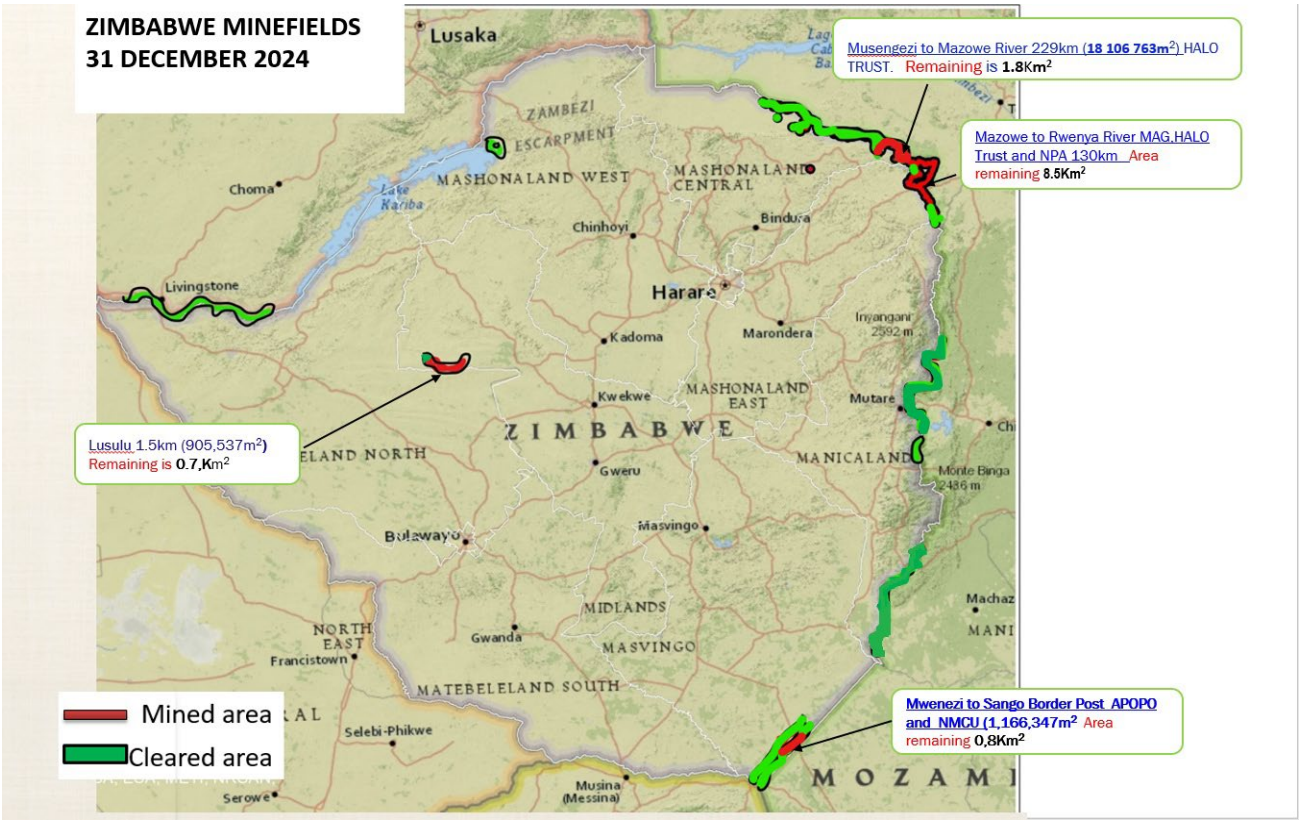

Figure 2. Minefields in Zimbabwe as of 31 December 2024.

The complexity of the remaining contamination such as difficult terrain, high vegetation, and metal contamination has been factored into the annual land release projections. This may impact the efficiency and accuracy of the projected outputs as follows:

a. Difficult terrain

(i). Accessibility Issues: Steep slopes, rocky surfaces and uneven ground can hinder the movement of demining teams and equipment thereby slowing down the clearance process. Difficult terrain can make it hard to transport personnel and equipment thereby increasing cost and reducing efficiency. There is much consideration to be taken on route planning, resource allocation, deployment time and increased risk

(ii). Operational Challenges: Specialized equipment may be required for terrain that is hard to navigate thus increasing costs and time for operations.

b. Thick Vegetation

(i) Visibility and Detection: Dense vegetation can obscure the ground making it challenging to detect mines and unexploded ordnance (UXO) through visual or manual methods.

(ii) Increased Time for Clearance: Teams may need to clear vegetation before conducting surveys, adding extra time and labour to the process.

c. Metal Contamination

(i) Interference with Detection Devices: High levels of metal contamination can create "clutter" that interferes with the sensitivity of mine detection equipment leading to extended search times.

Musengezi to Mazowe River Minefield (HALO TRUST)

Figure 3. Musengezi to Mazowe River Minefield

The minefield was originally estimated to cover a frontage of 229km and 400m depth. This minefield contains in some areas the cordon sanitaire,the ploughshare and the reinforced ploughshare minefields running parallel to each other.

The minefield inhibits free movement of people, some with relatives on the Mozambican side and vice versa, access to water resources, grazing land and cultivation by the local inhabitants which is the source of their livelihood. In some areas, the villages are as close as 100m from the minefield which means children who were born since independence have never ventured more than 100m east of their villages except where there were gaps opened through the minefield.

Photo 2. Community assets such as fields and basic needs lie on the far side of the minefields.

This minefield has the highest number of reported mine victims, including livestock, and the highest number of mines cleared in Zimbabwe occurs on this stretch.

The known victims from this minefield are one hundred and ninety-nine (199) which includes girls, women, boys, and men. Boys are injured while herding cattle when they stray into the minefield, while women get injured while fetching firewood. Men sometimes sacrifice their lives when one of their livestock gets hit by a mine instead of watching it die, they try to retrieve the injured livestock and in the process get injured by mines.

In addition to geographic and technical data HALO Trust observed that the humanitarian priorities here are as high as in any other country around the world. Roads were used as the safe baseline for the mine laying process. Post conflict, communities have settled along these same roads so we find minefields on one side and dense habitation on the other. Typically, the minefields separate communities from their fields and water sources. Children have to walk beside minefields to get to the schools. While human casualties are relatively low (thanks to the minefields being well structured and well known to the communities), livestock accidents are a common occurrence.

Photo 3. Children walk to nearby school past a minefield.

Mazowe River to Rwenya River Minefield (MAG, NPA & HALO Trust).

Figure 4. Mazowe River to Rwenya River Minefield

The minefield was originally estimated to cover a frontage of 130km and 400m depth. The minefield was once surveyed as a single stretch from Musengezi to Rwenya River. As such it has the same characteristics with the stretch explained above. It contains, in some areas, the cordon sanitaire, the ploughshare and the ploughshare reinforced minefields running parallel to each other. In terms of

responsibility for clearance, this entire area has been split between three operators, MAG, NPA and HALO Trust. MAG was allocated the area to the South while NPA and HALO Trust are operating from the North. Further re-allocation of this minefield will be done to other organisations with capacities so as to meet the period requested to complete demining operations in Zimbabwe.

The minefield inhibits free movement of people, some with relatives on the Mozambican side and vice versa, access to water sources, grazing land and cultivation by the local inhabitants which is the source of their livelihood. In some areas, the villages are as close as 100m from the minefield which means children who were born since independence have never ventured more than 100m East of their villages except where there were gaps opened through the minefield.

The number of human victims on this minefield stretch stand at fifty-four (54) as shown below. In terms of livestock injured or killed by mines, there are no accurate statistics as some
go unreported.

Table 9. Mine Victims Mazowe River to Rwenya River Minefield

VICTIM ID	Age	Sex	Year of Injury	Disability
VIC-01		Male	2012	Loss of fingers
VIC-02		Male	2016	Left leg amputation
VIC-03		Male	1982	Loss of fingers
VIC-04		Male	Unknown	Amputated right leg
VIC-05		Male	2001	Loss of fingers
VIC-06		Male		Lacerations on the face
VIC-07		Male	1996	Amputated left leg
VIC-08		Female	2003	Loss of fingers
VIC-09		Male	1983	Lacerations on the right hand
VIC-10		Male	1986	Amputated right leg
VIC-11		Female	1982	Loss of fingers
VIC-12		Male	1982	Amputated right leg
VIC-13		Male	2012	Loss of fingers
VIC-14		Male	1992	Lacerations on the face
VIC-15		Female	2013	Amputated right leg
VIC-16		Male	2018	Loss of fingers
VIC-17		Male	2018	Right leg amputated
VIC-18		Male	1982	Loss of fingers
VIC-19		Male	1981	Loss of fingers
VIC-20		Male	2008	Loss of fingers
VIC-21		Male	1982	Loss of finger
VIC-22		Female	1983	Amputated right leg

VIC-23		Female	1978	Loss of fingers
VIC-24		Male	2012	Amputated left leg
VIC-25		Male	2007	Loss of fingers
VIC-26		Male	1994	Amputated right leg
VIC-27		Male	Unknown	Amputated right leg
VIC-28		Male	2012	Loss of fingers
VIC-29		Male	2013	Lacerations on the hand
VIC-30		Male	1998	Amputated right leg
VIC-31		Male	Unknown	Lacerations on right hand
VIC-32		Male	Unknown	Loss of fingers
VIC 33		Male	Unknown	Amputated right leg
VIC-34		Female	1988	Amputated right leg
VIC-35		Female	1980	Loss of fingers
VIC-36		Male	Unknown	Not known
VIC-37		Male	2010	Amputated right leg
VIC-38		Female	2013	Amputated right leg
VIC-39		Male	Unknown	Loss of fingers
VIC-40		Male	2003	Loss of index finger
VIC-41		Male	1982	Loss of thump finger
VIC-42		Male	1992	Not known
VIC-43		Male	1980	Amputated right leg
VIC-44		Male	1994	Not known
VIC-45		Male	1982	Not known
VIC-46		Female	1998	Loss of fingers
VIC-47		Male	Unknown	Not known
VIC-48		Male	1987	Loss of fingers
VIC-49		Female	1988	Amputated right leg
VIC-50		Male	1983	Not known
VIC-51		Male	2016	Loss of index finger
VIC-52		Male	unknown	Not known
VIC-53		Male	2004	Loss of fingers
VIC-54		Female	Unknown	Amputated right leg

Photo 4: Cattle grazing and passing through on a safe cleared area.

Sango Border Post to Crooks Corner Minefield (NMCU and APOPO)

Figure 5. Sango Border Post to Crooks Corner Minefield

The Sango Border Post to Crook's Corner Minefield stretches for fifty-three kilometres (53km) linear distance along the South Eastern corner of the country. There are two minefields running parallel to each other at a distance of 5km apart. The NMCU undertook clearance on the Ploughshare minefield, (Sector 3) and completed it in 2022. Upon completion of the ploughshare minefield, the NMCU was reallocated to the cordon sanitare minefield operating from the South whilst APOPO who commenced operations on the cordon sanitaire minefield, (Sector 4) in 2021 were operating from the North.

Photo 5. Deminers rescuing a cow that had stepped on a landmine in the minefield.

The impact of this minefield is similar to other minefields documented above, hindering the free movement of the local populace, tourists and reducing the amount of grazing land available for animals and wildlife. The area is predominately a cattle ranching region and Game Park. The minefield runs adjacent to the Gonarezhou National Parks. This National Parks forms the tripartite game sanctuary joining the Kruger National Parks in South Africa and the Limpopo National Parks in Mozambique to form the Great Limpopo Trans-frontier Parks (GLTP), one of the biggest game sanctuaries in the world.

Photo 6. Elephants grazing near Sango Border Post / Crooks Corner Minefield

The other two countries to the tripartite enjoy the privileges of the game sanctuary while the minefield on the Zimbabwean side deters tourists. The minefield has claimed numerous wildlife. The actual statistics are not easily obtainable but as confirmed by officials from National Parks and Wildlife Management, skulls of wildlife are scattered on the game reserve. On the other hand, reported human mine victims from this minefield is thirteen (13) as shown on table 10 below, mainly men, injured while in search of their stray cattle.

Table 10. Mine Victims Sango Border post to Crook's Corner Minefield

VIC ID_	Sex	Year of Injury	Disability	
1		Male		Loss of fingers
2		Male		Left leg amputation
3		Male		Lacerations on the face
4		Male		Right hand amputation
5		Male		Right leg amputation
6		Male		Left hand amputation
7		Male		Left leg amputation
8		Female		Loss of fingers
9		Male		Loss of fingers
10		Male		Right leg amputation
11		Male		Loss of fingers
12		Male		Loss of fingers
13		Female		Left leg amputation

Lusulu

Figure 6. Lusulu Minefield

This is an inland minefield in Matebeleland North Province. It was laid as a protective minefield to protect Lusulu Police Station, Shopping Centre, Helipad Landing Zone and a Keep, where the locals were mobbed and grouped in a protected locality by the then Rhodesian Forces. The minefield was partially cleared by NMCU in 2003 and 2004 to facilitatethe expansion of the Police Station and the Shopping Centre. Initially, the surveyed area was **56,000m^2**. However, after resurvey in 2022, it was established that the Lusulu minefield covered an area of **905,537m^2**. This minefield is currently being cleared by an NMCU Troop. Once the Main Body completes

clearance of their allocated sectors on the Mwenezi River to Sango Border Post Minefield, capacity will be transferred to Lusulu. The documented number of Mine Victims on this minefield is one (01) as shown on the table below. There are no reported cases of livestock hit by mines due to the type of soil (dark clay) which is very hard and the area rarely receives rains. The Carrot mines layed in the Lusulu inland minefield seem to have less threat maybe due to the size and shape which reduces chances of initiation.

Table 11. Mine Victim in Lusulu Minefield

Ser	Age	Sex	Year of Injury	Disability
1	Unknown	Male	2018	Loss of toes

Photo 7. A household inside the minefield.

b. **Nature of Remaining Challenge: Quantitative Aspects**

The Zimbabwe clarified and more accurately defined remaining challenge is given on the Table below:

Table 12. The Remaining Challenge Given in Square Meters

	Mined Area	Operator	**Linear Distance (Km)**	**Area (m^2)**
1	Musengezi to Mazowe River	HALO Trust	229	1,809,661
2	Mazowe River to Rwenya River	MAG,HALO Trust & NPA	130	8,562,236
3	Sango Border Post to Mwenezi River.	NMCU	35	830,239
4	Lusulu	NMCU	1.5	797,363
5	**TOTAL**		**395.5**	**11,999,499**

4. Detailed Work Plan

ZIMAC had envisaged meeting the 2025 mine-free Zimbabwe deadline. However, the deadline is no longer achievable based on current statistics. Failure to meet the 2023 target, which was the turning point for meeting the 2025 deadline, resulted from challenges already stated beforehand in this document.

Zimbabwe is fully aware of the remaining extent of contamination and the current funding levels. The goal of 2030 is achievable taking into consideration projected reductions in funding and capacities.

Zimbabwe aims to complete its clearance obligations within five years, (31 December 2025- 31 December 2030). A work plan based on projected reductions in funding and capacities has been developed for the period of the extension, refer to table 2 above. During the extension period, ZIMAC will revise the work plan at the beginning of each year so that it remains relevant and more accurately to direct operations. This plan will be reported on an annual basis through Zimbabwe's Article 7 Transparency Report. An initial detailed work plan covering the period 2025-2030 is attached as Annex B to this extension request.

The plan and timelines have been put together in collaboration with partner organisations. It is important to highlight that this plan will see alterations as some of the organisations will be reallocated new areas and draw lessons concerning operations in Zimbabwe.

Over the extension period, the national and international operators will continue clearance of their allocated minefields. The current organisational capacities of clearance operators are shown in Table 13.

Table 13. Organisational Capacities at the Start of the Extension Period

Organisational Capacities at the Start of the Extension Period			
Serial	**Activity**	**Area to be covered**	**Capacity at start of period**
1.	TS and Clearance	Msengezi to Nyahuku (HALO Trust)	19 manual teams totaling to 133 deminers and 1 mechanical team reduced from 2024 capacity where they had 25 manual teams and 175 deminers
2.	TS and Clearance	Nyamapanda to Rwenya (MAG)	5 manual teams to reduce to 3 manual teams from May to December 2025 totaling to 45 and 27 deminers respectively.
3	TS and Clearance	Nyahuku to Nyamapanda (NPA)	8 manual teams totaling to 80 deminers and 1 MDD team consisting of 6 x dogs and 4 x deminers
4.	TS and Clearance	Sango Border Post to Mwenezi River(NMCU)	4 troops thus 11 manual teams totaling to 88 deminers and 1 mechanical team. These will be transferred to Lusulu on completion of this sector.
5.	TS and Clearance	Lusulu (NMCU)	1 troop thus 3 manual teams totaling to 24 deminers and capacity to be boosted from NMCU main camp.

The figures enshrined in Table 13 reflect the recent capacities. Tasks lagging behind shall be re-allocated to other operators depending on the strength and capacity to do the work eg APOPO tasks were re-allocated to NMCU.

The calculations for both operators were based on type of minefields being worked on, number of operational days, output per organisation per month, assets employed for LR and the existing capacities. On average a deminer produces 40m^2 per day, MDD output 250m^2 per day per dog while mechanical clearance account for 400m^2 per one mechanical team per day. On average Zimbabwe's programme has 21 days per month constituting to 195 working days for the ten (10) operational months. One manual team consist of 9 deminers, MDD team comprises of six (6) dogs with six (6) handlers assisted by three (3) manual deminers. Mechanical team comprises of four (4) operators.

Land Release Assumptions

Ser	Organisation	Clearance (%)	Reduction (%)	Cancellation (%)	Remarks
a.	MAG	65	35	-	
b.	NPA	11.6	88.4	-	
c.	HALO Trust	54	45	1	
d.	NMCU	75	25	-	

The percentages are based on the current minefields that may change in future.

The clearance rates declined post 2025 as operators had an anticipation of staff reduction during the current year and maintain the same staff for the remainder of the extension hence the rates were constant.

Operator Resources and Assets

Zimbabwe will continue to engage international stakeholders for assistance. The country proposes to conduct individualised approaches on each and every international meeting that will be held. Refer to Annex B of the Extension Request for the table below.

Organisation	Deminers	MDD Teams	Mechanical
HALO Trust	133	Nil	01 (4 operators)
NPA	80	1 (4 deminers)	Nil
MAG	27	Nil	Nil
NMCU	112	Nil	01 (2 operators)
Total		1	1

SURVEY AND CLEARANCE FUNDING

Currently the national government is committed to contribute $3 million, however, this figure is likely to increase if funds permit. The remaining $65.3 million will be mobilised through international assistance. Currently the country has managed to secure $15.52 million. The shortfall for the international organisations stands at $52.78 million. The table below shows the funding for survey and clearance operations only, stating what has been secured and the shortfalls to cover up to 2030.

Ser	Organisation	Funding Required (USD)	Funding Secured (USD)	Shortfall (USD)	Remarks
a.	MAG	$20.07 million	$1.45 million	$18.62 million	
b.	HALO Trust	$25.42 million	$6.33 million	19.09 million	
c.	NPA	$12 million	$3.6 million	$8.4 million	
d.	NMCU	$3 million	$3 million	Nil	
e.	Total	**$60.49 million**	**$14.38 million**	**$46.11 million**	

a. **Clearance Timeline**

The clearance capacity and funding given are manageable estimates considering the remaining challenge. On average, the cost per square meter is $7.20 based on previous years which is way above the average clearance cost rate of $2.50/$m^2$ as the future will become clearer by the unfolding of each year, the figures will always be revisited at the end of each year. The clearance rate is high due to higher operational costs which includes labor and materials. Most of the contaminated areas are densely vegetated and rocky thereby requiring specialized equipment especially in R2M2 contaminated areas where Micro-Excavators and other specialized equipment are required. The rate of clearance of the remaining four demining organisations is set to improve with time as Zimbabwe is on the verge of fully equipping NMCU and introducing new tools that will increase the clearance rate. The average cost per square meter is obtained through calculating average cost for the past three (3) years per team per month divided by average square meter per team per month. The formula used is survey and clearance budget divided by cleared area. Note that the cost differs depending on the type of the minefield. Additionally, for the cost to be realistic operational support factors such as PPE, vehicles, fuel, etc must be factored in

b. **Estimated Funding Required for Extension Request**

To meet the target of 2030, Demining organisations in Zimbabwe need funding as highlighted on Table 3. The Table is in accordance with the allocated areas. Table 3 provides an annual overview of the expected funding required by each respective humanitarian mine action operator to achieve clearance goals under this extension request.

c. **Additional Activities During the Extension Period**

- Resource mobilisation will be an ongoing effort in Zimbabwe with these efforts currently beginning to bear fruit as Zimbabwe managed to receive funds from Germany while the EU made some pledges. Zimbabwe will also continue, as it has done in the past, to solicit support from the international community. As the country is approaching completion of the demining clearance, international organisations have commenced demobilization strategies for deminers to have survival skills after demobilisation. The country expects to have to address residual contamination in the post clearance phase taking into cognizance the fact that most border areas were battle areas. The possibility that there could be Explosive Remnants of War are high.

  The government of Zimbabwe shall continue to fund the NMCU, to address any contamination discovered after completion. The experience gained by the NMCU over the years will become handy in addressing residual contamination during this phase. The effort will be complemented by Military engineer squadrons which are stationed in each province to carry out EODs. These engineer

squadrons have vast experience in EOD operations having been carrying out EOD operations to date. ZIMAC shall continue to carry out EORE at National level through exhibitions at Zimbabwe International Trade Fair (ZITF) and the Zimbabwe Agricultural Show (ZAS). Furthermore, EORE shall be incorporated into school curriculum and local radio stations. Lastly, community leaders will be trained to conduct EORE sessions at community level. All these activities will be wholly funded by the government of Zimbabwe. All demining organisations have already started working on the demobilization strategy ranging from agriculture, solar installation and academic lessons.

5. Risks and Assumptions

During the extension period, there are many factors that may affect the completion of demining activities targets stated in the extension request. The risks likely to be encountered in the areas are as follows:

Heavy Rains.

Zimbabwe generally experience heavy rains during summer from November to March. During this time of the year, demining activities may be suspended or conducted on a slow pace which may result in failure to meet stated deadlines of the extension period. Heavy rains may also move or deeply bury mines resulting in missed mines, which may also delay the process. Due to erosion and deposition, mines may be moved from their original positions or in some cases, there will be deposits on top of the mines, which subsequently increase the depth of mines from the original ground. This has been witnessed in the Sango Border Post to Mwenezi River where NMCU is currently working on.

Terrain

Some parts of the minefields in the Eastern part of the country are located in thickly vegetated and mountainous areas which may delay the process

Ploughshare Minefields

All minefields contain ploughshare mines which have already detonated of which fragments are scattered thereby slowing the pace of demining.

Financing

The plans for clearance of the mined areas in Zimbabwe will depend on the continuation of funding from the Government as well as from the international community. Any reduction on the current funding will affect the obligation of having mine free country.

This revised document is based on projected reductions in funding and capacities.

Minefield Disturbances

Most of the minefields have been disturbed especially ploughshare, due to human, livestock and wildlife activities. Failure to recover mines as per known pattern means that reasonable effort will be conducted to try and ascertain safety of the area, thereby clearing vast areas which could have been released through reduction.

Benefits of operating in Zimbabwe include:

- Low accidents rate among civilians. Using the Mazowe River to Rwenya River and Sango Border Post to Mwenezi River Minefields victims' statistics for period 2018 to 2024 have, through EORE, reduced accidents rate. Table 14 below shows the mine victims in the HALO operational area.
- Low accident rates among demining operators.
- Low security risks in country for operations.
- High impact of cleared land.
- Areas are known, size of contamination known, plan capacities and resources

Table 14. Mine Victims Recorded from 2018 to 2024

Task ID	Accident Date	Year	Injuries	M/W/B/G	Activity
Mazowe to Rwenya	16/08/2018 Afternoon	2018	Below knee amputation	Male	Fetching Water
Mwenezi to Sango Border Post	11/05/2021 Morning	2021	Lost right thumb	Male	Demining
Mazowe to Rwenya	10/09/2022 Morning	2022	Lacerations Right thumb	Male	Demining
Mwenezi to Sango Border Post	2/9/2022 Morning	2022	Elbow injury	Male	Demining
Mwenezi to Sango Border Post	29/4/2022 Morning	2022	Below knee amputation	Male	Demining
Mazowe to Rwenya	10/07/2023 Morning	2023	Lacerations Right thumb	Male	Demining
Mwenezi to Sango Border Post	09/0/2023 Morning	2023	Lost right thumb	Male	Demining
Mwenezi to Sango Border Post	3/10/2023 Morning	2023	Lost 1 eye	Male	Demining
Mazowe to Rwenya	06/06/2024 Morning	2024	Lost right thumb	Female	Demining
Mazowe to Rwenya	11/09/2024 Morning	2024	Lacerations above elbow	Female	Demining
Musengezi to Mazowe	19/03/2024	2024		Female	Demining
Musengezi to Mazowe	24/04/2024	2024		Male	Demining
Musengezi to Mazowe	20/05/2024	2024		Male	Demining
Musengezi to Mazowe	20/05/2024	2024		Male	Demining
Musengezi to Mazowe	07/10/2024	2024		Male	Demining
Musengezi to Mazowe	21/10/2024	2024		Male	Demining
Musengezi to Mazowe	12/01/2024	2024		Male	Demining
Musengezi to Mazowe	02/05/2024	2024		Male	Demining

EOD Callouts Reporting Procedure

An individual who identify suspected hazardous items will physically report to the nearest police camp who in turn will notify the army. All provinces have army engineers responsible for dealing with these explosive items. The local community is taught this procedure during the EORE sessions.

Annex A. General Description of Minefields in Zimbabwe

Types of Minefields

The types of minefields present in Zimbabwe have been well documented in previous extension requests. Notable characteristics of these fields will be outlined in this section below. All minefields contain both buried anti-personnel (AP) mines and above surface ploughshare fragmentation AP mines. The sub surface mines are still intact and active forty (40) years later. They have an activity rate of around 90%. Above 85% of the mined land had sub surface types which are the R2M2, VS50, RAP1 and the M969. The above surface ploughshare mines that have deteriorated and have an activity rate of below 2%. These have either detonated due to activation from animals, throwing fragments all over the minefield or are still intact but the trip wires rusted away.

The full records of these minefields are not readily available, the then Rhodesian forces might have either destroyed them or hidden them but the few that are available are thorough and detailed. Over the years the Zimbabwe National Army has gathered and recorded a lot of useful information about the location of these minefields. In 1994, the first attempt at a consolidated analysis was undertaken by Mine Tech and this survey formed the basis of the original extension request.

Based on military planning processes and a limited number of records available, together with experience gained by the NMCU, the three different types of minefields identified generally consist of:

1. Cordon Sanitaire

The cordon sanitaire barrier was laid **close to** or **on** the international border. It generally consists of three rows of sub-surface anti-personnel mines (AP mines) laid in a standard pattern with an average minefield width of 25m.

2. Ploughshare Minefield

The ploughshare minefield consists essentially of three rows of ploughshare directional fragmentation AP mines mounted on 0.5 to 1m high stakes protected by sub-surface AP mines. The average depth of this type of minefield is 100-200m

3. Reinforced Ploughshare Minefield

The reinforced ploughshare minefield is essentially 3 rows of ploughshare directional fragmentation AP mines mounted on 0.5 to 1m high stakes protected by sub-surface AP mines. These rows will be laid back to back with sub surface clusters of AP mines. The average depth of this type of minefield is 400-500m

Annex B. Zimbabwe Mine Action Work plan for 2025-2030

Musengezi to Rwenya Minefield

Musengezi to Mazowe sector.

Current Capacity. HALO Trust currently has a capacity of 19 manual demining teams with a total of 133 deminers down from 30 teams and 175 deminers as at March 2024.

Activities and Milestones for 2018 to 2025

As at 31 December 2024, HALO Trust was left with a total of 3,974,495m^2 remaining area (sum total of area on the Musengezi to Mazoe River stretch and Mazowe river to Nyahuku stretch). The organisation had been allocated 11,784,543m^2 of contamination area in January 2018, and they achieved a land release percentage of 66.3%.

Training: During this period, the organisation managed to train a mechanical demining team. Further training courses were conducted in line with opportunities for expansion. Furthermore, monthly refresher trainings were conducted with existing manual deminers.

Deployment: Demining is seasonal due to adverse weather conditions during the rainy season. However, in the area where HALO Trust is operating, it is possible to identify tasks that can be worked on during the wet season as the area does not receive too much rainfall, hence they operate throughout the year with monthly breaks.

Equipment: HALO Trust managed to introduce mechanical demining which increased the clearance rate. Of late, HALO introduced a mini micro excavator to minimise demining accidents during excavation. The GPZ 7000 detector was also introduced as a faster tool for conducting missing mine drills.

Future Plans. If additional funding could be sourced, it is HALO Trust's intention to increase the number of manual demining teams deployed. HALO Trust looks forward to complete clearance of all areas allocated to it.

Achievements. During this period, HALO Trust managed to completely clear and handover the entire Mount Darwin district in 2021. This was one of the greatest step towards Zimbabwe’s obligation.

Projected Land Release (m^2) 2025-2030

Minefield	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	Total Remaining to date	Remarks
Musengezi to Mazowe (Mashonaland Central) (**m^2**)	815,000	900,000	94,661				**1,809,661**	
Mazowe to Nyahuku (Mashonaland East) (**m^2**)			805,339	900,000	459,495		**2,164,834**	
Funding Rquired (US$m)	3.49	4.95	4.95	4.95	4.95	4.95	**28.29**	

NB. HALO Trust capacity will be shifted to the Mazowe to Nyahuku stretch upon completion of Musengezi to Mazowe by 2027, then finally to the Nyamapanda to Rwenya stretch by mid-year 2029, where MAG is currently working on.

Mazowe River to Rwenya River Minefield sector

As at 31 December 2024 MAG was left with a total contamination of **3,456,201m^2** uncleared area from this sector after some portions were re-allocated to other operators. The organisation had a contamination level of **11,802,059m^2** in January 2018. The remaining contamination for this organisation is due for re-allocation to other operators.

Operations. MAG commenced clearance of this minefield at the end of 2018. Due to capacity challenges, this minefield has been lagging behind, which then led to re-allocation of some portions in North to NPA and HALO Trust.

Equipment. MAG has managed to secure GPZ 7000 detectors and are on verge of bringing in the Mini Micro Excavator. Introduction of these two tools is hoped to increase the clearance for this sector.

Future plans. At the current clearance rate, this minefield sector is likely to be the last to be cleared. Apart from soliciting for increased funding, ZIMAC will continue to re-allocate this area to any organisation with capacity and who would have completed their current area of operation. This

strategy would ensure that Zimbabwe meets its requested extension period.

Current Capacity. MAG currently has a capacity of 5 manual demining teams, with a total of 45 deminers. This capacity is likely to reduce to 3 manual teams with a total of 27 deminers from May to December 2025 due to expected funding reduction during the course of the year. This will in turn affect the productivity output.

Projected Land Release (m^2) 2025-2030

Minefield	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	Total Remaining to date	Remarks
Mazowe to Rwenya River (Mashonaland East) (**m^2**)	**331,000**	**277,000**	**277,000**	**277,000**	**277,000**	**277,000**	**3,456,201**	
Funding required (US$m))	**2.3**	**4.0**	**4.0**	**4.0**	**4.0**	**4.0**	**22.3**	

NOTE: At current capacity and clearance rate, MAG would release **1,716,000m^2** at the end of 2030. This means that a total remaining area of **1,740,201m^2** would need to be re-allocated to other operators. For the country to meet the 2030 deadline to become mine free, this remaining area would be re-allocated to NPA and HALO Trust on completion of the areas they are currently working on.

Nyahuku to Nyamapanda Minefield Sector

As at January 2018, NPA had a contamination level of **14,446,762m^2** broken down as **5,895,954m^2** on the Sheba Forest to Lincon Hill minefield and **8,550,808m^2** on the Rusitu to Muzite Mission Minefield. As at 31 December 2024, NPA had completed all their initially allocated areas. NPA is currently working on the Nyahuku to Nyamapanda Minefield which was re-allocated to them from MAG in 2022 and are left with a total contamination of **2,941,201m^2**.

Current Capacity. NPA has a capacity of 8 manual demining teams with a total of 80 deminers and 1 MDD team consisting of 6 x dogs and 4 x deminers.

Training: The organisation continued to conduct training workshops for ZIMAC staff, and deminers, Team Leaders, Supervisors and EOD Level 2 concurrently with refresher trainings for old deminers as and when required.

Deployment: Demining is seasonal due to adverse weather conditions during the rainy season. Due to the afore-mentioned, NPA sometimes loses operational days which in the long run affect their annual targets. However, NPA work throughout the year and break for annual leave during the course of the year.

Future Plans. After completion of the Sheba Forest to Leacon Hill Minefield and Rusitu to Muzite Mission Minefield, NPA transferred its full capacity to the re-allocated minefield sector. The sector is part of the Mazowe River to Rwenya River minefield and they have since commenced clearance of this minefield sector.

Achievements. During the previous extension request period, NPA managed to completely clear and handover two minefields, Sheba Forest to Leacon Hill Minefield and Rusitu to Muzite Mission Minefield covering a frontage of 54km and 71km at the end of 2022 and beginning of 2025. This marked one of the greatest step towards Zimbabwe's obligation.

Projected Land Release (m^2) 2025-2030

Minefield	**2025**	**2026**	**2027**	**2028**	**2029**	**2030**	**Total Remaining to date**	**Remarks**
Nyahuku to Nyamapanda (**m^2**)	2,500,000	441,201					**2,941,201**	
Funding requirement (US$m)	3.46	2.9	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	**13.59**	

NOTE. After NPA completes clearance of this minefield by mid-year 2026, it will be re-allocated part of the Nyamapanda to Rwenya River minefield to assist MAG so that the country will meet its obligation.

Sango Border Post to Mwenezi River Minefield (Cordon Sanitaire) Sector

As at January 2018, the NMCU had a contamination of **16,508,588m^2** on the Primary Ploughshare minefield. NMCU completed this minefield in 2021. In 2022, they resumed clearance of the Secondary Cordon Sanitaire minefield, joining APOPO who had already commenced operations in 2021. In January 2018, this minefield sector had a contamination level of **7,196,038m^2**. As at 31 December 2024, APOPO and NMCU were left with a combined total contamination of **830,239m^2** thus 88.5% area released.

Operations. This minefield sector (cordon sanitare) was re-allocated to APOPO and NMCU. As earlier on explained, clearance is conducted from the North and South respectively. APOPO commenced operations in 2021, however, the work done on this sector shows great improvements taking into consideration that this is remaining densely mined area with very sensitive landmines.

Current Capacity. NMCU has a compliment of four (4) troops on this sector thus 11 manual teams, totaling 88 deminers and 1 mechanical. Once NMCU is nearing completion of this sector, some of its capacity will be transferred to the Lusulu minefield where part of its staff is working on.

Training: Deminer training for new deminers and refresher training for old deminers is done annually in March for NMCU. The Demining season for NMCU is from April to November, after which deminers go for the annual shutdown from December to March of the following year. During the course of the previous extension, APOPO hosted technical working groups for ZIMAC and other operators.

Equipment: The NMCU is currently being re-equipped by the Government of Zimbabwe. However, the equipment challenge still remains a threat towards mine-free as the Unit is not yet fully equipped. These tools will be used by the Unit for residual contamination in case of any contamination that may be identified. Additionally, NMCU has introduced GPZ 7000 just like all other organisations operating in the country.

Future Plans. Once this minefield sector is completed, these two operators will be re-allocated other portions mainly along the Mazowe River to Rwenya River minefield stretch which seems to be lagging behind.

Achievements. During the course of the extension requested in 2018, NMCU managed to complete the ploughshare minefield sector. Recently, the Unit has shown great achievements and improvements when it comes to demining compared to previous years.

Projected Land Release (m^2) 2025-2030

Minefield	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	Total Remaining to date	Remarks
Mwenezi to Sango Border Post (Cordon Sanitare) (m^2) NMCU	140,000	140,000	140,000	140,000	140,000	121,207	**821,207**	**The area previously allocated to APOPO included here**
Funding Requirement (US$m) NMCU	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	**3.0**	

LUSULU

As at 31 December 2024, the remaining contamination on the Lusulu minefield was **797,363m²**. The initial contamination was **56,000m²**. However, after the 2021 re-survey, it was established that the actual contamination level on this minefield was **905,537m²**. To date, the Unit has managed to achieve a land release percentage of 11.95%.

Operations. The Lusulu minefield is currently being cleared by a Troop thus 3 teams totaling to 24 deminers from NMCU. This seems to be a huge task for the troop hence additional capacity is expected to be transferred from the main NMCU working at Sango Border Post to Mwenezi minefield sector.

Projected Land Release (m²) 2025-2030

Minefield	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	Total Remaining to date	Remarks
Lusulu (m²) NMCU	84,000	120,000	149,000	149,000	149,000	149,000	**797,363**	

Note: Capacity is expected to increase after purchasing and allocation of new detectors. Funding for this this minefield is from NMCU budget.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES DURING THE YEAR 2026 - 2030.

- **Resource mobilisation**. Resource mobilisation will be an ongoing effort in Zimbabwe with these efforts currently beginning to bear fruit. The Government of Zimbabwe will continue to fund demining operations by NMCU. Funding support from the international community is envisaged to decrease for MAG, HALO Trust, NPA and APOPO funding already terminated. Zimbabwe will continue advocating for the landmine problem both locally and internationally through hosting conferences and attending and presenting on international platforms thereby soliciting support from the international community. ZIMAC would continue to solicit for increased funding from the fiscus.

- **Demobilisation**. Operators will be urged to continue conducting courses earmarked for life after demining in the country. The additional period would avail enough time for both organisations and deminers to identify courses that need to be conducted for deminers.

  The government of Zimbabwe shall continue to fund the NMCU, to address any contamination discovered after completion. The experience gained by the NMCU

over the years will become handy in addressing residual contamination during this phase. The effort will be complemented by Military engineer squadrons which are stationed in each province to carry out EODs. These engineer squadrons have vast experience in EOD operations having been carrying out EOD operations to date. ZIMAC shall continue to carry out EORE at National level through exhibitions at Zimbabwe International Trade Fair (ZITF) and the Zimbabwe Agricultural Show (ZAS). Furthermore, EORE shall be incorporated into school curriculum and local radio stations. Lastly, community leaders will be trained to conduct EORE sessions at community level. All these activities will be wholly funded by the government of Zimbabwe. All demining organisations have already started working on the demobilization strategy ranging from agriculture, solar installation and academic lessons.

- **Gender and diversity.** It is a strategically important cross-cutting theme in the national mine action strategy. Mine action activities reflect the distinct needs of different age and sex groups for targeted design groups. This includes how EORE is designed and delivered to reflect age and gender – specific exposure to risks. It also includes how impact assessment data is collected, ensuring that men, women, boys and girls are included in the process. Gender and diversity will be an important consideration in the implementation of a national mine victim survey to ensure that victims have access to gender and diversity-sensitive, rights-based services and opportunities. Mine action implementers ensure gender sensitivity in their employment policies. Forty percent of NPA's staff are women, while forty-six percent of MAG staff are women.
- **Gender Composition.** This policy seeks all sectors in country to tackle issues related to discrimination, advocate for women empowerment and provide a supportive environment for equal participation. Mine action is under this umbrella framework. In June 2025, ZIMAC accredited two female dog handlers an indication of ongoing efforts in gender and diversity. Inclusion of women in our mine action activities is an ongoing activity.

Ser	GENDER	MAG	HALO Trust	NPA	NMCU	Total
a.	FEMALE	22	36	50		
b.	TOTAL STAFF	48	154	127		

- **Residual Risk Contamination Strategy.** AS Zimbabwe gets nearer to the completion of its demining clearance process, ZIMAC has a clear plan on how to deal with residual contamination that may be identified. In the lead up to the submission of the extension request the country had assigned NMCU to cater for any residual contamination hence the reason why they are being re-equipped. Government would continue to fund Engineer Units dotted in the country's eight provinces to ensure that they are well equipped and ready for any immediate call

up. It is anticipated that, after completion of all the minefields, all operators will withdraw. The government of Zimbabwe will maintain the NMCU, which is a government entity, to address any residual contamination. ZIMAC will continue to be the governing body responsible for coordination of all MA activities like dealing with residual contamination and EORE. The EORE pillar will remain a priority area so as to concertise local communities as well as coordinating ministries on the aftermath of landmines and UXOs. Furthermore, NMCU and Field Engineer Squadrons found in each Provincial Capital will continue with their mandate of concertising the public and how and where to report any suspicious objects after the withdrawal of operators. ZIMAC will continue to carryout EO risk education activities at National level. At local level the NMCU will carry out EORE sessions in previously contaminated areas.

- **Migration to IMSMA Core**. ZIMAC is on the verge of migrating to IMSMA Core through assistance from GICHD. ZIMAC is collaborating with Operators to ensure that the process is smooth and accurate. During this extension period, it is expected that this system will be working perfectly.

- **Planning for National Mine Victim Survey**. Zimbabwe failed to conduct this exercise due to funding challenges. The National Mine Victim Survey is still on the cards as the country seeks to have a comprehensive Mine Victims database. Zimbabwe will solicit for funds to conduct this survey.

- **ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS DURING EXTENSION PERIOD**

  In Zimbabwe, the Environmental Management Agency (EMA) is a Statutory board under the Ministry of Environment, Climate, Tourism and Hospitality Industry, responsible for ensuring sustainable natural resources management, and environmental protection, including pollution prevention and environmental degradation.

  Every organisation working in Zimbabwe is mandated to be compliant with this statutory board. Zimbabwe is reviewing its environmental National Standards to meet the current IMAS.

  Demining operations should be carried out without damaging property or infrastructure, in a manner that minimises the impact on the environment. Demining organisations should ensure that land, over which demining operations have taken place, is left in a state whereby it is suitable for its intended use once demining operations cease. Particular attention should be given to property, infrastructure or land required for subsistence or economic purposes to ensure that these activities can continue after demining operations have been completed.

  The country always minimises deforestation in most of the areas that are manually cleared, however, on mechanically cleared portions tree plantations are on cards. These trees will be

exotic and indigenous fruit trees such as mangoes and guavas. Additionally, operators have resorted to use green energy.

- **EORE PLANS DURING THE EXTENSION PERIOD**

Throughout the duration of the extension request, EORE will be supplementing clearance operations. All personnel operating in the affected regions will engage in EORE activities. EORE groups utilize community development and social events to share information. Methods of communication will include face-to-face interactions and small media to reach the intended audiences. To highlight the extent of the challenges faced by communities, ZIMAC leverages ministerial-level landmine gatherings to distribute information via television platforms. Additionally, all certified demining operators will carry out community liaison and EORE within designated areas. Significant progress has been made towards ensuring the sustainability of EORE efforts, including the creation of EORE community volunteer focal points in all areas impacted by explosives. The Zimbabwean government plans to collaborate with the Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education to integrate EORE into the school curriculum. Moreover, EORE resources will be made available on all local radio stations. This initiative will be executed during both proactive and reactive phases.

The government of Zimbabwe shall continue to fund the NMCU, to address any contamination discovered after completion and to conduct EORE. Lastly, community leaders will be trained to conduct EORE sessions at community level during and after clearance. All these activities will be wholly funded by the government of Zimbabwe.

ANNEX C: Disaggregated Clearance Figures for Period 2018 - 2024

Mined Area & Organisation	Clearance (m²)	Cancellation (m²)	Reduction (m²)	**Total area Released (m²)**	**Additional Area (m²)**	**Remaining area (m²)**	**Mines destroyed**
Sango Border To Mwenezi River (APOPO & NMCU) (Cordon sanitare)	1,388,860	5,111,792	4,065	**6,504,717**	**0**	**830,239**	**12,543**
Sango Border To Mwenezi River Ploughshare minefield (NMCU)	456,415	2,417,880	13,634,293	**16,508,588**	**0**	**0**	**8350**
Musengezi to Mazowe River (HALO Trust)	7,641,897	221,797	5,357,572	**13,221,266**	**3,246,384**	**1,809,661**	**176,569**
Mazowe River to Rwenya River (MAG, NPA & HALO Trust)	1,490,545	384,918	1,584,258	**3,459,721**	**222,630**	**8,562,236**	**8,381**
Sheba Forest to Leacon Hill (NPA)	1,702,569	196,073	5,188,389	**7,082,231**	**1,186,277**	**0**	**6031**
Rusitu to Muzite Mission (NPA)	2,837,221	468,167	5,624,596	**8,929,984**	**379,176**	**0**	**1948**
Lusulu (NMCU)	108,174	0	4,732	**112,906**	**0**	**797,363**	**102**
Total	**15,625,681**	**8,800,627**	**31,397,905**	**55,819,413**	**5,034,467**	**11,999,499**	**213,924**

ZIMBABWE Disaggregated Survey and Clearance Results 2018							
Mined Area & Organisation	Clearance (m²)	Cancellation (m²)	Reduction (m²)	**Total area Released (m²)**	**Additional Area (m²)**	**Remaining area(m²)**	**Mines destroyed**
Sango Border To Mwenezi River Ploughshare minefield (NMCU)	192,831	0	3,984,435	**4,177,266**	**0**	**12,331,322**	**2,060**
Sango Border To Mwenezi River Cordon sanitare (APOPO)						**7,196,038**	**0**
Musengezi to Mazowe River (HALO Trust)	1,245,345	125,533	947,617	**2,318,495**	**284,719**	**9,750,767**	**19,137**
Mazowe River to Rwenya River (MAG)	130,208	16,932	274,828	**421,968**	**0**	**11,391,037**	**211**
Sheba Forest to Leacon Hill (NPA)	232,605	196,073	766,621	**1,195,299**	**0**	**4,700,655**	**597**
Rusitu to Muzite Mission (NPA)	311,351	354,985	672,756	**1,339,092**	**0**	**7,211,716**	**8**
Lusulu (NMCU)						**56,000**	
Total	**2,112,340**	**693,523**	**6,646,257**	**9,452,120**	**295,665**	**52,637,535**	**22,013**

ZIMBABWE Disaggregated Survey and Clearance Results 2019							
Mined Area & Organisation	Clearance (m²)	Cancellation (m²)	Reduction (m²)	**Total area Released (m²)**	**Additional Area (m²)**	**Remaining area(m²)**	**Mines destroyed**
Sango Border To Mwenezi River Ploughshare minefield (NMCU)	111,363	0	4,117,215	**4,228,578**	**0**	**8,102,744**	**5,047**
Sango Border To Mwenezi River Cordon sanitare (APOPO)						**7,196,038**	
Musengezi to Mazowe River (HALO Trust)	1,458,877	20,169	1,861,457	**3,340,503**	**544,852**	**6,955,116**	**29,202**
Mazowe River to Rwenya River (MAG)	258,048	333,963	707,236	**1,299,246**	**40,969**	**10,132,760**	**259**
Sheba Forest to Leacon Hill (NPA)	499,554	0	1,327,769	**1,827,323**	**379,539**	**3,252,871**	**4,068**
Rusitu to Muzite Mission (NPA)	431,635	112,287	576,770	**1,120,692**	**54,576**	**6,145,600**	**439**
Lusulu (NMCU)					**849,537**	**905,537**	
Total	**2,759,476**	**466,419**	**8,590,447**	**11,816,342**	**1,869,473**	**42,690,666**	**39,015**

ZIMBABWE Disaggregated Survey and Clearance Results 2020							
Mined Area & Organisation	Clearance (m²)	Cancellation (m²)	Reduction (m²)	**Total area Released (m²)**	**Additional Area (m²)**	**Remaining area(m²)**	**Mines destroyed**
Sango Border To Mwenezi River Ploughshare minefield (NMCU)	132,472	0	5,532,463	**5,665,115**	**0**	**2,437,629**	**1,243**
Sango Border To Mwenezi River Cordon sanitare (APOPO)						**7,196,038**	
Musengezi to Mazowe River (HALO Trust)	1,155,768	14,743	454,451	**1,624,962**	**1,246,536**	**6,576,690**	**24,740**
Mazowe River to Rwenya River (MAG)	184,164	13,309	220,531	**418,004**	**34,507**	**9,751,263**	**125**
Sheba Forest to Leacon Hill (NPA)	392,267	0	838,669	**1,230,936**	**615,578**	**2,637,513**	**448**
Rusitu to Muzite Mission (NPA)	546,001	895	1,059,641	**1,606,537**	**72,492**	**4,611,555**	**355**
Lusulu						**905,537**	
Total	2,410,672	28,947	8,105,935	**10,545,554**	**1,969,113**	**34,116,225**	**26,911**

ZIMBABWE Disaggregated Survey and Clearance Results 2021							
Mined Area & Organisation	Clearance (m²)	Cancellation (m²)	Reduction (m²)	**Total area Released (m²)**	**Additional Area (m²)**	**Remaining area(m²)**	**Mines destroyed**
Sango Border To Mwenezi River Ploughshare minefield (NMCU)	19,749	500,000	0	**519,749**	**0**	**1,917,880**	**0**
Sango Border To Mwenezi River Cordon sanitare (APOPO & NMCU)	472,260	5,111,792	4,065	**5,588,117**	**0**	**1,831,982**	**4,099**
Musengezi to Mazowe River (HALO Trust)	1,219,532	61,352	1,043,149	**2,324,033**	**182,818**	**4,435,475**	**21,278**
Mazowe River to Rwenya River (MAG)	153,252	908	82,361	**236,521**	**6,497**	**9,521,239**	**296**
Sheba Forest to Leacon Hill (NPA)	357,974	0	1,467,061	**1,825,035**	**181,070**	**993,548**	**630**
Rusitu to Muzite Mission (NPA)	217,658	0	570,480	**788,138**	**78,349**	**3,901,766**	**154**
Lusulu						**905,537**	
Total	**2,440,425**	**5,674,052**	**3,167,116**	**11,281,593**	**448,734**	**23,507,427**	**26,457**

ZIMBABWE Disaggregated Survey and Clearance Results 2022							
Mined Area & Organisation	Clearance (m²)	Cancellation (m²)	Reduction (m²)	**Total area Released (m²)**	**Additional Area (m²)**	**Remaining area(m²)**	**Mines destroyed**
Sango Border To Mwenezi River Cordon sanitare (NMCU &APOPO)	265,930	0	0	**265,930**	**0**	**1,566,052**	**2303**
Sango Border To Mwenezi River Ploughshare (NMCU)	0	1,917,880	0	**1,917,880**	**0**	**0**	**0**
Musengezi to Mazowe River (HALO Trust)	1,126,753	0	892,681	**2,019,434**	**900,740**	**3,316,781**	**27,275**
Mazowe River to Rwenya River (MAG)							
Sheba Forest to Leacon Hill (NPA)	220,169	0	783,469	**1,003,638**	**10,090**	**0**	**288**
Rusitu to Muzite Mission (NPA)	286,249	0	388,998	**675,247**	**0**	**3,226,519**	**368**
Lusulu	1,050	0	0	**1,050**	**0**	**904,487**	**1**
Total	**2,132,501**	**1,917,880**	**2,065,148**	**6,115,529**	**910,830**	**18,302,728**	**31,104**

ZIMBABWE Disaggregated Survey and Clearance Results 2023							
Mined Area & Organisation	Clearance (m²)	Cancellation (m²)	Reduction (m²)	**Total area Released (m²)**	**Additional Area (m²)**	**Remaining area(m²)**	**Mines destroyed**
Sango Border To Mwenezi River Cordon sanitare (NMCU & APOPO)	362,618	0	0	**362,618**	**0**	**1,203,434**	**3,310**
Musengezi to Mazowe River (HALO Trust)	840,228	0	154,562	**994,790**	**86,719**	**2,408,71O**	**30,934**
Mazowe River to Rwenya River (MAG, NPA & HALO)	188,406	19,806	121,517	**329,729**	**80,096**	**9,034,524**	**2515**
Rusitu to Muzite Mission (NPA)	4922,172	0	97,193	**589,365**	**0**	**2,637,154**	**567**
Lusulu	24,012	0	4,732	**28,744**	**0**	**880,475**	**04**
Total	**1,907,436**	**19,806**	**378,004**	**2,305,246**	**166,815**	**16,164,297**	**37,330**

ZIMBABWE Disaggregated Survey and Clearance Results 2024							
Mined Area & Organisation	Clearance (m²)	Cancellation (m²)	Reduction (m²)	**Total area Released (m²)**	**Additional Area (m²)**	**Remaining area(m²)**	**Mines Destroyed**
Sango Border To Mwenezi River-Cordon Sanitare (NMCU)	140,649	0	0	**140,649**	**0**	**330,136**	**1,177**
Sango Border To Mwenezi River Cordon sanitare (APOPO)	232,546	0	0	**232,546**	**0**	**500,103**	**2,190**
Musengezi to Mazowe River (HALO Trust)	595,394	0	3,655	**599,049**	**0**	**1,809,661**	**24,003**
Mazowe River to Rwenya River (MAG, NPA & HALO Trust)	344,118	0	177,785	**521,903**	**49,615**	**8,562,236**	**4,106**
Rusitu to Muzite Mission (NPA)	552,155	0	2,258,758	**2,810,913**	**173,759**	**0**	**57**
Lusulu	83,112	0	0	**83,112**	**0**	**797,363**	**97**
Total	**1,947,974**	**0**	**2,440,198**	**4,388,172**	**223,374**	**11,999,499**	**31,630**