



Article 5 Implementation

National Mine Action Programme

Sri Lanka

National Mine Action Center (NMAC)
Ministry of Urban Development ,Construction and Housing



Vision & Mission

Vision

Women, girls, boys and men thrive in a mine free Sri Lanka where explosive ordnance (EO) victims are fully integrated into society and have their needs met.

Mission

To coordinate and implement mine action in line with international good practice to facilitate sustainable development and achieve completion.



Sri Lanka acceded to the
Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention
(APMBC) on 1 June 2018, officially
becoming a State Party to the convention



**PARLIAMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC
SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF
SRI LANKA**

**PROHIBITION OF ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES
ACT, No. 3 OF 2022**

[Certified on 17th of February, 2022]

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Committed obligations as a state party to the APMBC



- Destroy all stockpiled anti-personnel mines within **four years** of accession (by **1 June 2022** for Sri Lanka). *Article 4*
- Identify and clear all mined areas under national jurisdiction within **ten years** (by **1 June 2028** for Sri Lanka). *Article 5*
- **Transparency Reporting - Article 7**
- Submit an **annual report** to the UN Secretary-General detailing:
 - Stockpile destruction progress
 - Mine clearance progress
 - Victim assistance efforts
 - National legislation and implementation measures

SRI LANKA STRATEGIC PLANNING





Sri Lanka National Completion Strategy 2023-2027



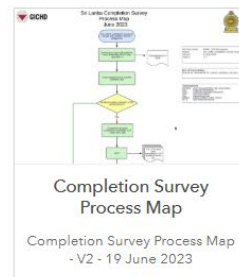


Sri Lanka Completion Survey from Mid 2023



This page provides access to tools and documentation related to Sri Lanka Completion Survey which is the survey of selected GNs, through interviews of key informants, to identify any unidentified/unreported/unrecorded contamination.

Documentation



Completion Survey
Process Map

Completion Survey Process Map
- V2 - 19 June 2023



Completion Process SOP

Sri Lanka Completion Process
SOP - Version 3 - 2 November..



ArcGIS Field Maps Guide

Quick Guide for ArcGIS Field
Maps Application..



ArcGIS Survey123
Connection Guide

Quick Connection Guide for
ArcGIS Survey123 Application

Survey123 Forms



ARTICLE 5 IMPLEMENTATION

PROGRESS, ACHIEVEMENTS

&

CHALLENGES



Survey and Progress



Completion Survey Launched in 2023

- Coverage: All 8 districts in the Northern and Eastern Provinces, & 3 adjoining districts
- 1,400 Grama Niladhari Divisions assessed (The smallest administrative boundary)
- As of Today 59% declared mine- and EO-free
- Remaining undergoing verification



Contamination and Clearance



Contamination Identified and Addressed

Since 2023:

- **8 km²** of previously unknown contamination identified
 - **13.5 km² released** via clearance, survey & cancellation
 - Direct benefit to communities: agriculture, housing, infrastructure
- **IMSMA Core** enabled real-time data and informed decisions



Overall Impact



Progress Since 2010

- Total land released: 1,297 km², including 254 km² of confirmed hazardous areas (CHA)
- Safe return of over 900,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs)
- Supports restoration of public services and economic recovery in post-conflict regions



Demolished items

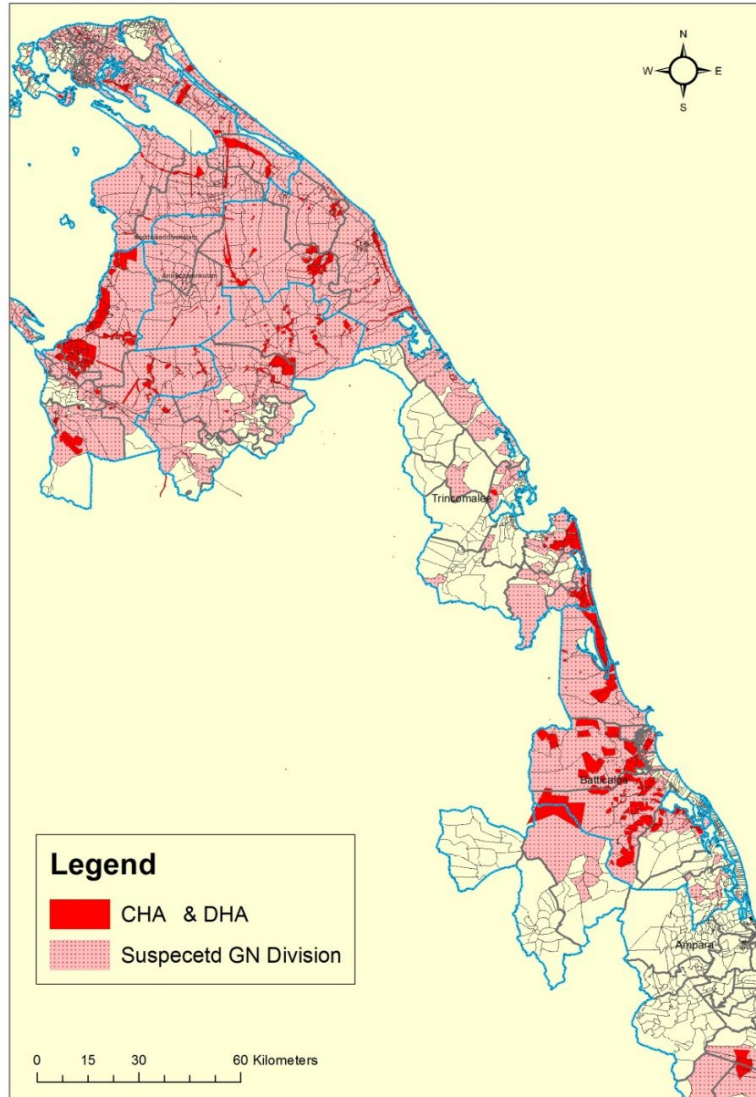


Anti Personal Mine (AP)	Anti-Tank Mine (AT)	Un Exploded Ordnance (UXO)	Small Arms Ammunition (SAA)
928,187	2,256	380,096	1,271,706



Suspected & Confirmed Contaminated Areas

2010 - 254.4 km²



11 June 2025 – 23.0 km²





Key Challenges



Current Challenges in Implementation

- Remaining challenge contamination area : 23 km²
- Emerging new contamination
- Funding shortfalls



Mid-Term Strategy Review and Funding Outlook



- **Mid-Term Mine Action Completion Strategy Review (April 2025)**

- Supported by GICHD
- Assessed progress and funding impact on clearance timeline
- National completion survey stock-taking workshop

- **Key Findings**

- Uncertainty of Article 5 Completion by 2028: Due to emerging contamination and declining donor funding, achieving Article 5 completion by 2028 is uncertain.
- Challenges: Operational limitations and delays caused by funding shortfalls and unknown contamination

- **Donor Coordination Event (2 May 2025)**

- Attended by Honorable Prime Minister and senior donor representatives
- Emphasized national ownership and international partnerships

- **Next Steps**

- Based on the progress made and available resources, the Government of Sri Lanka will consider requesting an Article 5 extension by 2027.



Conclusion and Way Forward



•Commitment to Mine Action

- Data-driven, community-centered approach despite challenges
- Continued support from donors, implementing partners, and technical advisors

•Sri Lanka's Full Commitment

- Upholds obligations under the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention
- Dedicated to a realistic, inclusive, and sustainable completion of Article 5 obligations

THANK YOU



SRI LANKA

**Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention
Intersessional meetings | 17-20 June 2025, Geneva**

Tuesday, 17 June 2025

Item 4: Matters related to the Article 5 Implementation

Delivered by: Mr. M.M Nayeemudeen

**Additional Secretary (Projects), Ministry of Urban Development, Construction and Housing
National Director, National Mine Action Centre (NMAC)**

Opening and National Commitment

On behalf of the Government of Sri Lanka and the National Mine Action Centre (NMAC), I am pleased to provide an update on Sri Lanka's progress and challenges in fulfilling its obligations under Article 5 of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC).

Sri Lanka acceded to the APMBC in June 2018, committing to fulfil its Article 5 obligations by 1 June 2028. To guide this process, the Government launched the National Mine Action Completion Strategy 2023–2027, developed in close consultation with the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) and all national and international stakeholders. The strategy reflects international good practices and is designed to steer Sri Lanka toward timely, transparent, and sustainable completion.

Article 5 Implementation: Progress, Achievements, and Challenges

To operationalize the strategy, a nationwide Completion Survey was launched in mid-2023, covering all districts of the Northern and Eastern Provinces and adjoining areas. The survey has systematically assessed approximately 1,400 Grama Niladhari divisions, which are our smallest administrative boundaries.

As of June 2025, 59% of the surveyed divisions have been declared mine- and EO-free, while the remainder are undergoing follow-up visits and technical verification. During this ongoing process, Sri Lanka has identified approximately 8 square kilometres of previously unknown contamination, reinforcing the need for continuous survey and verification.

To date, 13.5 square kilometres have been released through clearance, technical survey, and cancellation since 2023, directly benefiting affected communities. These efforts have supported access to land for agriculture, housing, infrastructure development, and essential services. The IMSMA Core system, developed by GICHD, has played a central role in real-time data tracking and informed decision-making.

Overall, since 2010, Sri Lanka has released more than 254 square kilometres of confirmed hazardous areas, contributing to a total land release of 1,297 square kilometres, enabling the safe return of over 900,000 internally displaced persons and supporting the restoration of public services and economic recovery in post-conflict regions. During survey and clearance operations, Sri Lanka has found and safely destroyed a total of:

- **928,187 anti-personnel (AP) mines**
- **2,256 anti-tank (AT) mines**
- **380,096 items of unexploded ordnance (UXO)**

Despite this progress, several challenges persist. Newly reported contamination continues to emerge, and funding shortfalls are significantly impacting the overall scale and pace of operations. As of April 2025, the programme is functioning with only 45% of the 2024 funding level, which has limited the capacity of key implementing partners—DASH, SHARP, HALO Trust, and MAG—to maintain or expand their field operations as planned. The Sri Lanka Army also contributes as a national mine action operator, with recognized capacity for clearance and survey activities. However, their operations are also constrained, as the Government of Sri Lanka supports their mine action role with only limited national funding. These combined constraints continue to pose a major challenge to meeting Article 5 obligations within the set timeframe.

Without at least a 30% increase in funding in 2025 and 2026, meeting the Article 5 deadline of June 2028 will be extremely difficult. A further reduction in funding could significantly delay progress.

Mid-Term Strategy Review and Funding Outlook

In May 2025, Sri Lanka undertook a mid-term review of its Completion Strategy, supported by GICHD. Conducted alongside a national completion survey stock-taking workshop, the review assessed ongoing progress and evaluated how different levels of funding would impact the clearance timeline.

The review concluded that achieving Article 5 completion by 2028 is technically feasible if sufficient funding and operational support are mobilized promptly. However, should current funding levels persist, operational limitations will affect the pace and scale of implementation.

These findings were presented at a high-level donor appreciation and coordination event held on 2 May 2025, attended by the Honorable Prime Minister and senior representatives from key donor governments. The event reaffirmed Sri Lanka's national ownership and commitment to working in close partnership with the international community.

In light of the mid-term review and future funding trends, the Government of Sri Lanka will evaluate the necessity of submitting an Article 5 extension request by 2027, based on progress made and available resources.

Conclusion and Way Forward

Despite constraints, Sri Lanka's mine action programme remains committed, data-driven, and community-centred. With the continued support of donors, implementing partners, and technical advisors, we are determined to advance our progress and ensure that no one is left behind due to the threat of landmines and explosive remnants of war.

Sri Lanka reaffirms its full commitment to the principles and obligations of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention and looks forward to continued collaboration with the Committee on Article 5 Implementation, donor states, and the broader mine action community to achieve a realistic, inclusive, and sustainable completion of its Article 5 obligations.

Thank you.