Cluster Munition Destruction Project
Self-Help Approach – Republic of Macedonia

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Macedonia joined the Oslo process since the Vienna meeting and took part in all the meetings leading up to the Oslo Conference.

Macedonian MFA signed the treaty in Oslo in early December 2008.


Its ratification instrument was formally deposited on 8 October 2009.

Proud to be among the countries facilitating the swift entry into force of the CCM.
Macedonia initially declared that it does not possess, produce, stockpile or uses cluster munitions

Following a subsequent examination of all army warehouses, while first transparency report under Article 7 was being prepared, certain quantities of 120 mm Mortar Cluster Bomb M93 and of sub-munitions type AO 2.5 RT were discovered (along with certain quantities of PFM - Destroyed with technical assistance of the GICHD).
On 18 March 2011 the Government of the Republic of Macedonia adopted a Decision, according to which the Ministry of Defense was tasked to destroy CM type Mortar, 120 mm M93 (quantity 1000 (x23): total quantity of explosive sub-munitions 23,000).

On 10 May 2011 the Government of the Republic of Macedonia adopted a Decision, according to which the Ministry of Defense was tasked to destroy CM Sub-munitions type AO 2.5 RT (quantity 1,448 shipping containers: total quantity of explosive sub-munitions 17,376 pieces).
Transparency

- Identified quantities reported at the 2 MP Beirut

- Declared commitment to destroy cluster munitions in line with Article 3 and the need for financial and expert assistance to carry out the destruction process
Contact - Assistance

- MFA and MoD - intensive contacts with the NPA, following a suggestion by the Norwegian delegation in Beirut, and possible donors, primarily Germany.

- After verbal agreement on funding a series of coordinated phases carried out between MoD/NPA with MFA oversight to ensure efficient planning.
Project Objectives

- Eliminate unacceptable risk to civilians
- Macedonia to meet obligations under Article 3 of the CCM (well before the deadline of 2018),
- Assist the national self-help cluster munitions destruction programs
- Promote ownership of the process by building local capacity.
The Project Results

- Full implementation of self-help ammunition disposal project.
- Ownership of procedural documentation.
- Compliance with all procedural and environmental activities.
- Local Capacity developed by participatory process.
Conclusions

- Destruction model selected (SHADOW) has been the most appropriate choice for Macedonia.
- Cooperation with the NPA – efficient, everything done on schedule. Civil society cooperation has given transparent and appropriate sharing of expertise.
- Local ownership and development of local capacities of extreme importance
- Macedonia ready to share experience with other countries and take part in other SHADOW projects