



Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA)
Directorate of Mine Action Coordination (DMAC)
Mine Action Programme of Afghanistan (MAPA)

Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM)

Request for Extension of Article 4 Deadline

For the period
1401-1405 (March 2022- March 2026)



MAPA Vision

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



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Afghanistan was first contaminated with Russian made Cluster Munitions (CM) during 1979-2000. Subsequent to the US-led NATO intervention in the country in October 2001, NATO military forces used cluster munitions against the Taliban.

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (GoIRA) signed the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) on 3 December 2008, ratified it on 8 September 2011, and entered it into force on 1 March 2012. Following that, all known CCM stockpiles were destroyed during 2012-2014.

In March 2012, there were 21 CM recorded hazards covering 7.6 sq. km area in database. Since then, 26 CM hazards that cover 15.3 sq. km area have been identified and surveyed. In the meantime, since the convention's entry into force, the program with financial support from the international donors, managed to release 30 CM hazards that cover 12.4 sq. km area, which was cleared, and 0.25 sq. km area cancelled. As a result, 5,454 items of CMs were destroyed.

At the start of the Solar Year 1400 (April 2021), there was a total of 10 recorded CM for which PMWRA committed to fund five of them and the remaining five were to be funded by UNMAS. PMWRA contracted one of the national demining NGOs and they started clearance, while UNMAS due to delay in their donor funding could not grant any NGOs the clearance of the CM project. Later on, they referred those five hazards to PMWRA for funding and clearance.

Since April 2021, around 11 CM hazards were newly identified and surveyed. Seven out of the eleven hazards surveyed were in hard-to-reach areas, while the remaining four hazards were surveyed based on requests received from the communities.

Due to un-availability of funds for the clearance of 11 newly surveyed hazards plus five remaining from UNMAS, that cover almost 10 sq. km area, and climate considerations, DMAC in consultation with PMWRA which is the main donor of the program for clearance of CM contaminated areas and agreement of CCM ISU, request an extension of four years (March 2022-March 2026) to achieve the article 4 obligation. Based on information received from our regional office in the Southeast, **there is a possibility that some more CM contaminated areas in Zurmat district of Paktya province with an approx. size of 3 sq. km may exist. The area where contamination is reported to exist is currently difficult to access due to the presence of AGEs.**

The funding required to clear the available recorded CM hazards is approximately USD 2,350,700. In operational terms, this means one hundred sixty-five (165) Demining Teams (DT) of 10-lane deminers plus one EO risk education team with 2,350,700 USD funding is needed to clear the available recorded CM remained open in IMSMA.

There are around 10 demining NGOs and 23 commercial demining companies available with trained staff and equipment who are able to clear the remaining CM hazards.

Glossary of Acronyms and Abbreviations

AIM	Abandoned Improvised Mine
AGE	Anti Government element
BLU	Bomb Live Unit
BPHS	Basic Package Health Services
CCM	Convention on Cluster Munitions
CL	Community Liaison
CM	Cluster Munitions
COMAC	Conflict Mitigation Assistance for Civilians
DAFA	Demining Agency for Afghanistan
DMAC	Directorate of Mine Action Coordination
DT	Demining Team
EORE	Explosive Ordnance Risk Education
EPHS	Essential Package Health Services
G&D	Gender & Diversity
GoIRA	Government of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
IMSMA	Information Management System for Mine Action
ISU	Implementation Support Unit
ITF	International Trust Fund (Enhancing Human Security)
MAPA	Mine Action Program of Afghanistan
MBT	Mine Ban Treaty
MoMDA	Ministry of Martyrs and Disability Affairs
MoPH	Ministry of Public Health
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
NDIS	National Disability and Inclusion Strategy
NDMHC	National Disaster Management Higher Commission
NMASP	National Mine Action Strategic Plan
NTS	Non-technical Survey
PMWRA	Political Military affairs/Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement
PwD	Person with Disability
SM	Sub-munitions
UNMAS	United Nations Mine Action Services
UNSCR	United Nations Security Council Resolution
VA	Victim Assistance
VTF	Voluntary Trust Fund

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BACKGROUND

HISTORY OF CONTAMINATION:

Afghanistan has been contaminated with Explosive Ordnance (EO) in the last four decades as explained below:

- Russian invasion (1979-1988)
- Russian Backed regime (1989-1991)
- Mujahedeen internal fighting (1992-1995)
- Northern alliance against Taliban (1996-September 2001)
- NATO forces and the new Afghan administration against Taliban (October 2001-now¹)

During 1979-2000, parties to the conflicts used Russian made CM against each other, and then during October-November 2001 NATO and coalition forces used BLU type of CM against Taliban bases and installations.

MINE ACTION STRUCTURE IN AFGHANISTAN

In government structure, at the top level the first vice-president is responsible for mine action program in the country. Under the first vice-president, there is a National Disaster Management High Commission (NDMHC), which is an inter-ministerial board. Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA) is the secretariat & operational arm for NDMHC.

Directorate of Mine Action Coordination (DMAC) is one of the directorates of ANDMA and United Nations Mine Action Services (UNMAS) and ITF-enhancing human security provide technical and financial support to DMAC together with other MAPA donors and the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD). Annex A shows the mine action governance hierarchy in Afghanistan. There are around 47 accredited national and international mine action NGOs and companies delivering mine action services (survey, clearance, EO Risk Education and victim assistance) under the DMAC coordination in the country. The programme is also highly committed to build on its experience of mainstreaming gender and diversity in all its pillars. Annex B shows the list of mine action NGOs and companies.

CONVENTION ON CLUSTER MUNITION

The GoIRA signed the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) on 3 December 2008, ratified it on 8 September 2011, and entered it into force on 1 March 2012.

MINE ACTION STANDARDS

The MAPA employs national standards for mine action known as the Afghanistan Mine Action Standards (AMAS). Twenty-nine standards are in place, which are in line with the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS). All mine action activities are conducted in adherence to the AMAS. Recently, the MAPA digitized its standards to help ease accessibility and awareness raising².

¹ This is a general information on all types of Explosive Ordnance used in Afghanistan, but CM has not been used since November 2001

² amas.dmac.gov.af

The MAPA has an AMAS review board to scrutinize and approve modifications to existing standards – the DMAC’s QM department chairs these.

EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE RISK EDUCATION (EORE)

Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) refers to the educational activities that seek to reduce the risk of injury from explosive ordnance by raising awareness and promoting behavioural change amongst ‘at risk’ groups within communities and throughout the population in the country, including public information dissemination, education and training and community liaison. EORE should ensure that men, women and children in the affected communities are aware of the risks from mines/cluster munitions and are encouraged to behave in a way, which reduces the risk to people, property and the environment.

EORE activities are carried out to communities and other at-risk groups across Afghanistan by accredited implementing partners. EORE activities are conducted using Social Behaviour Change Communication by aligning the material to the needs of audience and with the use of appropriate means and channels that are; deployment of couple teams in the targeted communities, use child and adult friendly material, installation of billboards and promoting awareness on the risk or EO through mass media. Aside of implementing EORE in the field, EORE teams will make sure audience have an understanding from different types of EO namely; anti-personnel and anti-vehicle mines, Improvised devices, cluster munition and others. They will also be briefed about the marking and ground signs in the field and the teams will assist in marking the EO contaminated hazardous areas where possible.

VICTIM ASSISTANCE (VA)

▪ General context

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

According to the DMAC-MIS data since 1979, there are 41,090 mine, ERW, CM and AIM casualties recorded, out of which 253 are due to Cluster Munitions (CM). Children making 61% of all CM Casualties.

▪ Victim Assistance

Victim Assistance in MAPA is referred to a set of activities and strategies aimed to provide age and gender-sensitive assistance to EO- victims, including emergency and ongoing medical care, rehabilitation and psychological support, as well as, provide assistance for their social and economic inclusion. VA is implementing in eight components, which form all activities and services provided by deferent Government and non-government organizations in Afghanistan.

In response to Article-5, the VA is considered as one of the main objectives of MAPA strategic and action plans. Technical support is provided to relevant stakeholders in developing a centralised and responsive national information management system (NIMS), ensuring continuous collection, analysis and sharing of all EO casualty data.

Besides, VA Department is focusing on integration of VA into broader national health, social protection, human rights and disability frameworks and coordination mechanisms through capacity development of relevant ministries in line with the National Disability and Inclusion Strategy (NDIS).

For sustainability of assistance to victim in mine action context, VA Department is working on an integrated and inclusive VA approach. In addition, VA department support in standardization of the services is another area of focus for ensuring consistent quality of both rights and needs-based VA activities in according to law, IMAS and AMAS.

▪ **CM Civilian casualties since March 2012:**

A total of 13 Accidents with 22 Victims have occurred in Afghanistan since 1 March 2012. Based on a routine practice for victim assistance in Afghanistan; all the EO victims including the above receive the following services:

- Immediate and continual medical care through Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) – Basic Package Health Services (BPHS) and Essential Package Health Services (EPHS)
- Immediate and long-term economic support from Conflict Mitigation Assistance for Civilians (COMAC), which provides comprehensive victims’ assistance services to Afghan civilians and dependents who have suffered physical injury, loss of a household member, or had their household economic livelihood negatively affected because of the conflict in Afghanistan.
- Physical rehabilitation services, in case they got amputee or problem in their movement.
- Psychosocial counselling services.
- For their long-term livelihood, they registered by Ministry of Martyrs and Disability Affairs (MoMDA) for receiving pension around 60-70\$ per month.
- Any other services such as inclusive education or special education is providing if victim is school or education age.
- Social inclusion, such as personal assistance, relationships, marriage and family, culture and arts, recreation, leisure and sports and Justice.

GENDER AND DIVERSITY (G&D)

The impact and consequences of CM are different for women, girls, boys and men. Gender and diversity influence the role an individual plays in their community and in its social and economic activities. G&D affect the likelihood of a person becoming a victim of a landmine or CM, and their ability to access medical treatment, risk education, and other necessary services.

By understanding different people’s experiences, capacities, and vulnerabilities, DMAC tries to better address the needs and protect the rights of individuals and affected communities, in the implementation of treaties’ obligations.

Considering the importance of adopting an equal and inclusive approach adapted to Afghanistan context, the DMAC has strong commitment towards mainstreaming gender and diversity in mine action in general. The National Mine Action Strategic Plan (NMAASP) seeks to support Afghanistan in achieving its international convention obligations and national law. There is a standalone goal for gender and diversity mainstreaming in mine action. Furthermore, Afghanistan is compliant with the United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR 1325), National Action Plan is developed on women, peace, and security and taking into account the gender and diversity aspects of the Oslo Action Plan. The ongoing conflict, political issues and uncertain peace process in Afghanistan has major implications for women’s workforce participation in different areas of Afghanistan. PWD and Women’s employment remains low, despite recent increases – around 1% PwD and only 4% women for the MAPA as a whole, against a global average of around 20%.

A technical working group is established since 2012 by membership of all IP and UNMAS gender focal points and is led by DMAC G&D Manager. Regular monthly meeting is organized for being an effective coordination mechanism.

NATIONAL MINE ACTION STRATEGY

Afghanistan has successfully achieved its previous National Mine Action Strategic Plan (NMAASP), which was set for the years 1396-1399 (April 2016 to March 2021) with more than 85 % achievement of the set objectives and activities. DMAC with technical support of GICHD is in the process of developing the current national mine action strategic plan for the years 1400-1404 (April 2021-March 2026). It is a joint and participatory effort for which all the stakeholders and the relevant government ministries are involved and consulted in different stages. Since July 2020, two workshops and a number of working group meetings were held with the stakeholders. The theory of change has been developed that includes five main goals (live saving, victim assistance, support development, gender and diversity mainstreaming, and advocacy & coordination). The narrative of the work plan is drafted and is being updated based on the stakeholder’s comments. It is intended that this strategic plan will be officially launched during a high-level event in September this year.

ACHIEVEMENTS SINCE ENTRY INTO FORCE

When the Convention entered into force on 1st March 2012, there were 21 recorded CM hazards with the total size of 7.6 sq. km area in five provinces of the country waiting for clearance. The below table shows details of the recorded CM hazards as of March 2012:

Table 1. Available recorded CM hazards in March 2012 by province

S. No.	Provinces	No. of CM hazards	Size in Sq. M	Size in Sq. Km
1	Kandahar	1	47,790	0.05
2	Maydan Wardak	1	618,800	0.62
3	Nangarhar	1	1,717,200	1.72
4	Paktya	4	1,200,000	1.20
5	Takhar	14	4,057,693	4.06
Total		21	7,641,483	7.64

Figure 1. Available recorded CM hazards by province in sq. m



Since March 2012, 26 CM hazards with a total size of 15.3 sq. km area have been surveyed during different years in different provinces. The reason why these surveys were conducted are as follows:

- Local communities were requesting survey; therefore, based on their request the MAPA took action to survey and record CM hazards.
- Due to access issue, the survey teams were not able to enter the area for survey.
- In some areas where civilian accidents occurred due to CM, MAPA survey resources were deployed there.

The period in which the recorded CM hazards have been contaminated was during 1979-2001. There is no CM contamination reported after 2001.

The below graphs shows the number and size of recorded CM hazards province wise and on annual basis respectively:

Figure 2. Recorded CM hazards since March 2012 by province in sq. m

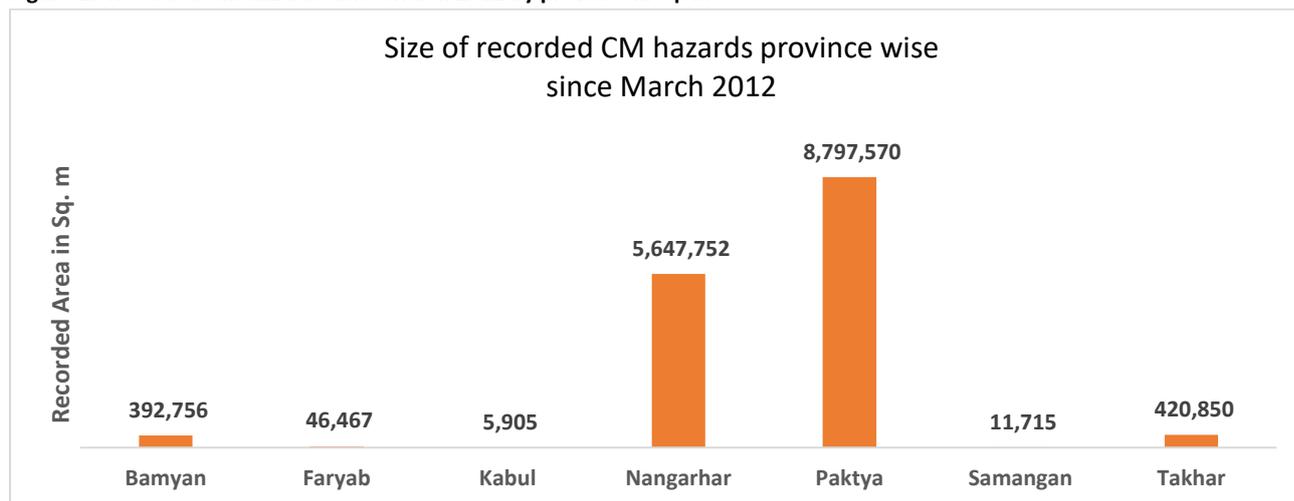


Figure 3. Recorded CM hazards by year in sq. m



The program managed to release 30 CM hazards covering 12.7 sq. km area since the convention's entry into force in March 2012. This covers 12.4 sq. km area cleared and 0.25 sq. km area cancelled. No reduction is reported during land release as the indicated areas were fully checked for sub-surface items.

The below tables and graphs show annual achievements of the program since March 2012:

Table 2. Cleared CM hazards since March 2012 by province in sq. m

S. No.	Provinces	No. of CM hazards	Size in Sq. M	Size in Sq. Km
1	Herat	1	9,926	0.01
2	Kabul	2	5,905	0.01
3	Maydan Wardak	1	670,252	0.67
4	Nangarhar	4	4,783,766	4.78
5	Paktya	7	2,531,632	2.53
6	Takhar	11	4,425,500	4.43
Total		26	12,426,981	12.43

Figure 4. Cleared CM hazards since March 2012 by year and sq. m

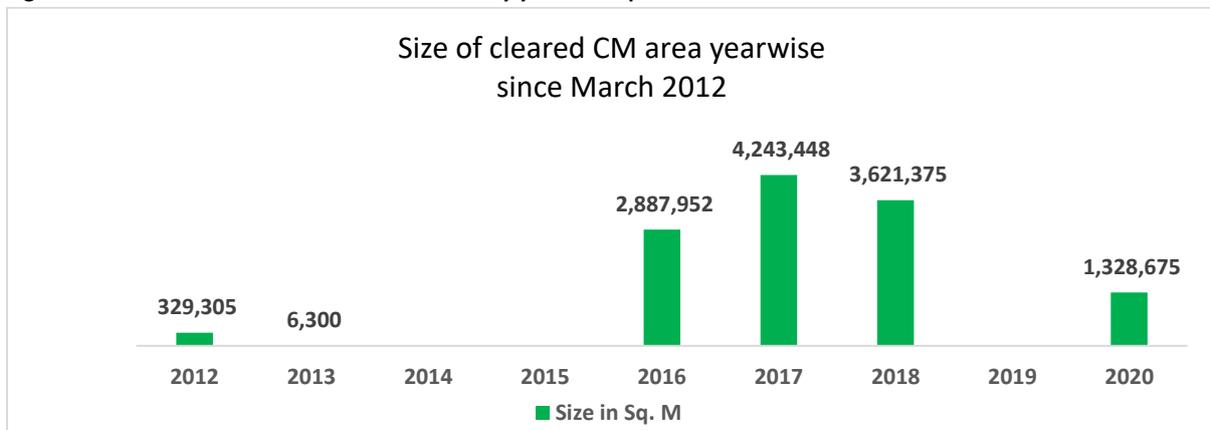
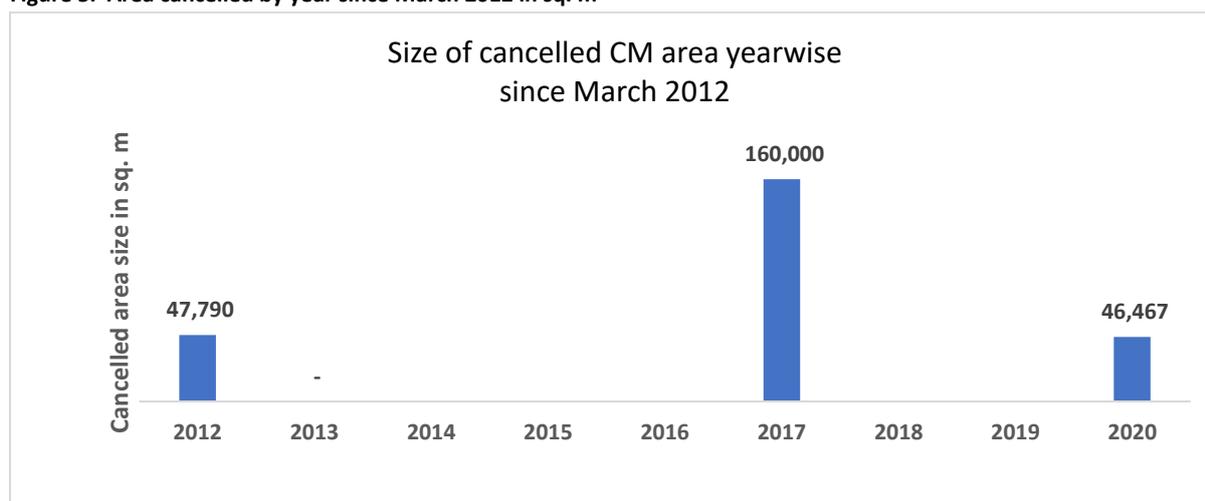


Table 3. Area cancelled by province since March 2012 in sq. m

S. No.	Provinces	No. of CM hazards	Size in Sq. M	Size in Sq. Km
1	Faryab	1	46,467	0.05
2	Kandahar	2	47,790	0.05
3	Paktya	1	160,000	0.16
Total		4	254,257	0.25

Figure 5. Area cancelled by year since March 2012 in sq. m

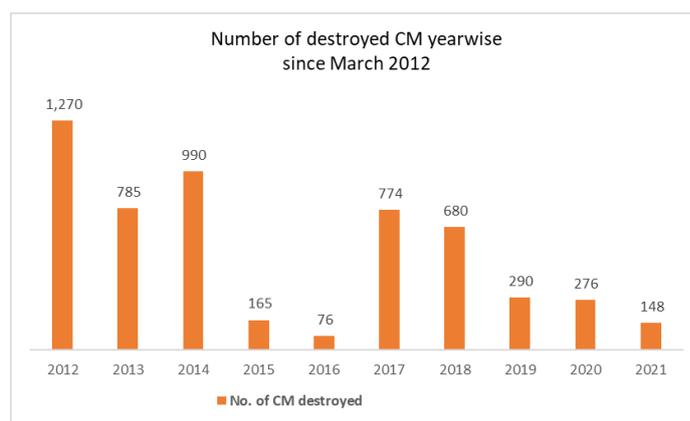


The number and types of CM destroyed since the convention's entry into force are summarized in below:

Table 4. Number of CM destroyed by province since March 2012

S. No.	Provinces	No. of CM destroyed
1	Badakhshan	9
2	Baghlan	33
3	Balkh	130
4	Bamyan	102
5	Hirat	602
6	Jawzjan	6
7	Kabul	2,718
8	Kandahar	84
9	Kapisa	8
10	Khost	162
11	Kunar	1
12	Kunduz	24
13	Nangarhar	163
14	Paktya	430
15	Panjshir	1
16	Parwan	329

Figure 6. Number of CM destroyed by year since March 2012



S. No.	Provinces	No. of CM destroyed
17	Takhar	620
18	Maydan Wardak	32
Total		5,454

Table 5. Types and quantity of CM destroyed.

CM Type	Quantity
9N210	3
9N235	1
AO-1Sch, Sub munition	125
AO-2.5 Sub munition	499
AO-2.5RT	2,686
BKF ACB for Dispenser	9
BLU-97	273
M-42 HE-HEAT	156
PTAB 1M HEAT	182
PTAB-2.5KO Frag-HEAT BTAB-2.5KO	51
Unknown CM	1,469
Total	5,454

The devices found and destroyed since March 2012 in Afghanistan are mainly divided into the following three types of Bomblets:

- AO HE fragmentation Bomblets
- PTAB HEAT Anti-Tank Bomblets
- Dual Purpose HEAT HE -fragment Bomblets

In addition, three types of mine-lets have been used in Afghanistan, which are listed below:

- Anti-Personnel blast mine let (PFM-1, PFM-1S)
- Anti-Personnel Fragmentation
- Dual purpose Anti-Tank (Anti Vehicle), Anti-personnel

The devices found and destroyed are mainly divided into three main categories in terms of country of production as follows:

1. Russian made Cluster Munitions (CM) and Sub-munitions (SM)

a. Cluster Munitions (CM) types:

- RBK 250-275
- RBK 500kg
- BKF AO-2,5RTM

- 9M27K 220mm Uragan carrier rocket warhead -122mm BM 21 carrier rockets warhead

b. Sub-Munitions (SM) types:

- Soviet-AO-1-Sch HE frag bomb let
- Soviet-AO 2.5 HE frag bomb let
- Soviet-AO 2.5 RTM bomb let
- Soviet-9N210 and 9N235 HE Frag bomb let
- Soviet-PTAB 1M HEAT (High Explosive Anti-Tank) bomb let
- Soviet-PTAB 1.5M HEAT (High Explosive Anti-Tank) bomb let
- Soviet-PTAB 2.5 HEAT (High Explosive Anti-Tank) bomb let
- Soviet-PTAB 2.5M HEAT (High Explosive Anti-Tank) bomb let
- Soviet-PTAB 2.5M2 HEAT (High Explosive Anti-Tank) bomb let

2. US made Cluster Munitions (CM) and Sub-munitions (SM):

a. Cluster munition (CM) types:

- CBU-103
- CBU-87
- SAKAR 20 and 30 rocket

b. Sub-Munitions (SM) types:

- USA-M42/M46 and M77 Dual Purpose HEAT Frag Bomb let
- USA-BLU-97/B and BLU-97A/B bomb let

3. Egypt produced Cluster Munitions (CM) and sub-munitions (SM):

a. Cluster munition (CM) types:

- SAKAR 30 rocket

b. Sub-Munitions (SM) type:

- M42, M46 and M77 Dual Purpose HEAT / Frag Bomb let

REMAINING CONTAMINATION

At the beginning of year 1400 (April 2021), there were 10 recorded CHA CM hazards in the database which needed clearance. DMAC requested the two main donors (PMWRA and UNMAS for the VTF fund) of the program for funding the clearance of the mentioned hazards. Fortunately, the two donors committed to provide funds for the remaining 10 CM hazards in a manner that five hazards allocated to PMWRA fund and five hazards for VTF fund through UNMAS.

PMWRA has managed to fund Demining Agency for Afghanistan (DAFA) one of the national mine action NGOs that was involved in implementation of a CM project during recent three years. DAFA

already started clearance of the five allocated hazards. They are on track and we hope that they will finish it by the end of this year.

UNMAS launched their CFP for the clearance of five allocated CM hazards, but later on due to delay of the donor funding, further steps were not taken to determine the project winner. Later on, they had a bilateral communication with PMWRA, as result of which PMRWA agreed to cover funding of all remaining CM in the country in the future.

HT/DAFA Quick Response Teams (QRT) has recently surveyed seven more CM (BLU) hazards close to their ongoing project in Zurmat district of Paktya province with a total size of 5.2 sq. km and recorded in IMSMA during this year. The reason why these areas were not already surveyed was the access issue. The survey team still notified that some more CM contaminated land exist that requires survey, but not now, as the area is under control of Anti Government Elements (AGEs) and they do not allow survey intervention at this stage.

Two CM (Soviet type) recently surveyed in Bamyan province with a total size of approx. 0.4 sq. km.

Two small CM (BLU) surveyed in Samangan province with a total size of 12,000 sq. m

As summary:

Five recorded CM hazards are under demining operation with total size of 3.58 sq. km. Some 40% progress has been made so far.

There are 16-recorded CM hazards with total size of 9.9 sq. km out of which 11 of them surveyed since April 2021 and the remaining five left from previous years, are open, need funding and clearance. Annex C is the detail list of all remaining 16 open CM hazards.

There is a possibility of more survey in southeast province of Paktya where information exist for some more BLU contamination of around 3 sq. km, but due to access problem at this stage cannot be surveyed. The below map shows, the general location of remaining CM recorded hazards in Afghanistan:

Figure 7. General location of remaining recorded CM hazards



AVERAGE PRODUCTIVITY RATE

DMAC calculates the average monthly productivity rates for different hazard types based on the actual work done during the recent year. The average productivity rate is calculated in a manner to divide the area cleared on working hours, then multiply it by 5³ hours to find productivity rate per day. Then multiply it by 22⁴ days to find the average monthly productivity rate.

There was no demining operation conducted on CM sites during 2020, while the productivity rate already assigned for the clearance of CM based on year 2019 and beyond that it was 60,000 sq. m per demining team of 10-lane per month.

On the other hand, the average cost of a standard demining team⁵ of 10-lane is 13,500 USD per month, hence, to determine the cost per sq. m the cost of team per month is divided by the average monthly productivity rate as follows;

Cost of clearance of one sq. m = 13,500 USD / 60,000 sq. m = 0.23 USD sq. m

RESOURCES REQUIRED

▪ Required teams

Considering the average productivity rate per team per month as stated above, we could get the number of required resources using below calculation:

Size of remaining area divided by average monthly productivity rate of a 10-lane demining team is equal to the number of required demining team (DT)

9,894,373 sq. m / 60,000 sq. m per DT per month = 165 DT

The number of required teams per year is specified in annex D to this document

At the same time, in order to raise awareness among the local communities about the risk of EO in the area, during the implementation of CM clearance project it is also needed to have EO Risk Education (EORE) teams to deliver EORE messages to the impacted communities. Therefore, at least one EORE team is needed to work alongside of the project duration.

▪ Required fund

Considering the average cost for one DT per month, we can get the required funding using below calculation:

Cost of one DT multiplied by the number of required teams is equal to amount of fund required to clear the remaining area:

13,500 USD per DT per month * 165 required DT = 2,227,500 USD

Cost of EORE team is calculated as follows:

The average cost of an EORE team is 2,800 USD per month. Hence, in order to find the cost of EORE for the whole duration of extension the cost of one EORE is multiplied by 44 months (the operational months of the project for four years) as follows:

³ The teams are normally working for 5 hours in field and rest for about one hour. This is in a manner to work for 50 minutes following 10 minutes rest on daily basis.

⁴ To subtract the Fridays, team mission leave and the national holidays for which the team do not work, the average working days per month stays 22 days.

⁵ The structure of a standard demining team is 10 deminers, 2 section leaders, 1 team leader, 2 drivers and 2 guards.

2,800 USD * 44 months = 123,200 USD

Hence, the total required funding for the clearance and EORE is reaching to 2,350,700 USD. Reference to the work plan shown in annex D to this document, the breakdown of the funding required per year is as follows:

- 163,000 USD for year 2022
- 1,181,800 USD for year 2023
- 546,600 USD for year 2024 and
- 460,000 USD for year 2025

These figures are flexible and depends on any increase/decrease in size of contamination due to new surveys and or resurveys.

PMWRA is the main funding source for clearance of CM hazards in Afghanistan, while during recent year (2020) and the ongoing year the program received a small amount of funding from the national budget and used it for the clearance of legacy minefields plus new contamination Abandoned Improvised Mine (AIM) in Khost and Kandahar provinces. The government is committed to fund another clearance project for AIM in eastern provinces in order to reduce civilian casualties and provide safe resettlement areas for the Internally Displaced People (IDP). There is no any commitment of the government for the land release of CM contaminated land so far.

Afghanistan needs the required funding to achieve the article four obligations from the international donors for which PMWRA has already committed to provide this funding starting from late 2022/early 2023.

REQUIRED METHODOLOGY

As soon as the project is funded, the winner IP will follow the below methodology to address the hazards in priority order:

a. Community liaison

Conduct a robust Community Liaison (CL) through the assigned CL focal point in order to brief the local communities on the importance of demining operation, its humanitarian aspects and the methodology of operations, and gain support of the community in access for demining operations in their area.

b. Non-technical Survey (NTS)

Conduct a fresh NTS of the recorded hazards to find the update information on the hazard boundary, and if needed decrease some part or cancel the whole CM site if suitable for cancellation. Meanwhile, survey any additional area left from the previous surveys.

During the NTS, the survey teams will put standard marks on the access ways to alarm the people/local communities of the risk of CM hazard area not to enter to the area, and reduce civilian casualties.

c. Technical Survey (TS)

Conduct TS through clearing investigation lanes for targeted investigation and clear cross-lanes for systematic investigation, to identify the low and high threat areas and the areas to be reduced. Meanwhile, mark the hazard boundary to distinguish safe and contaminated land for further clearance. This marking will also help the civilians to avoid the area.

d. Clearance

As soon as the TS is conducted and the actual area found to be fully cleared, the assigned team using Large Loop Detector (LLD) and Schonstedt detector, clear all the recorded area to a specified depth assigned during the field risk assessment. For the destruction of found CM, the following methods are used:

- Shaped charge/explosive plus safety fuse and detonating cord used mostly in open areas, while
- In case the found item is located, in residential areas, protective work will also be applied to reduce damage to properties and electrical destruction will be applied by using an electric detonator.

At the end after quality control of the cleared land, handover the land to the end users and local authority.

Its worth-mentioning that DAFA is currently clearing a CM clearance project in Zurmat district of Paktya province. This project will be ongoing until coming winter season (November 2021), while according to the plan, we have planned to have an EORE team to the recorded CM hazards communities to provide public awareness of risk of CM and other EO types and reduce/avoid civilian casualties

e. EORE

The assigned EORE team delivers formal EORE messages throughout the project lifetime to the impacted communities based on the plan.

The plan is developed based on the impact classification checklist and list of at-risk communities. The impact classification considers a number of factors such as civilian casualties, record of the implementation of EORE, record of IDPs and returnees in the field and proximity of EO hazardous area location from communities where inhabitants live. DMAC EORE department together with the implementing partners through EORE technical working group forum develops the annual plan for the required projects and intervention needed from EORE side. The interventions include, direct EORE presentations, delivering EORE through mass media, targeting bus station and points where IDPs and returnees cross and use of social media.

Annex D shows the proposed work plan for clearance of recorded CM hazards and delivery of EO risk education activities.

PROPOSED EXTENSION DEADLINE

As most of the recorded CM hazards are located in cold areas where demining operation not possible during winter season except Nangarhar. On the other hand, PMWRA as the main donor for clearance of CM in the country will be able to provide fund by late 2022/early 2023, hence, in consultation with PMRWA and agreement of CCM ISU, DMAC propose for an extension of four years beyond March 2022. This will cover March 2022 – March 2026.

CHALLENGES IN MEETING THE TREATY DEADLINE

▪ In-security

The security situation is one of the big challenges in implementation of CCM treaty article 4 (clearance). The NATO and US forces has plan to withdraw their military forces before 11 Sep 2021. On the other side, recently the Taliban increased their fighting and captured a number of districts in the country. Parallel to that, the peace negotiation is also in place but with very slow progress.

The fighting is a direct threat and demining operations is not possible in the areas with active fighting, while, the areas under control of AGEs require robust negotiation to access the area for demining operations.

We are optimistic that peace negotiation will result to a countrywide reconciliation and put an end to the more than four decades of conflict in the country, so that the mine action operations can be reached to all parts of the country especially the areas contaminated with CM.

▪ Funding shortfall

Mine Action Program of Afghanistan (MAPA) has been under funded since 2012; therefore, the funding shortfall is one of the factors for not achieving the mine action international treaties' obligations. For instance, the total funding requirement for MAPA to achieve the MBT and CCM obligation for last year (2020) was 129 million USD out of which 32 million USD was secured, while for the current year the requirement is 183 million USD so far only 18% of it is secured with 82% shortfall.

▪ Weather

Except Nangarhar province where demining work is possible climate wise 11 months in a year, the remaining provinces (Paktya, Bamyan and Samangan) where CM hazards exist due to cold weather and snowfall, demining operation is possible only in summer season (May to November) each year.

BENEFITS OF RELEASED LAND

By clearing the recorded CM sites, Afghanistan will achieve the CCM article four obligation. Besides that:

- ✓ Civilian lives will be saved

- ✓ Promoting peace, jobs will be created for people during the implementation of projects in different positions such as deminers, guards, cleaner, drivers etc.
- ✓ Psychosocial impact of CM will be reduced.
- ✓ The land will be returned to productive use for grazing, agriculture purposes, and other livelihood resources.

For specific information about each site, see the followings:

a. Seven CM hazards in Paktya Province:

There are 7 CM hazards located on mountains, the socio-economic benefits of the area after the clearance are:

The communities will use the cleared land as pasture for grazing their animals.

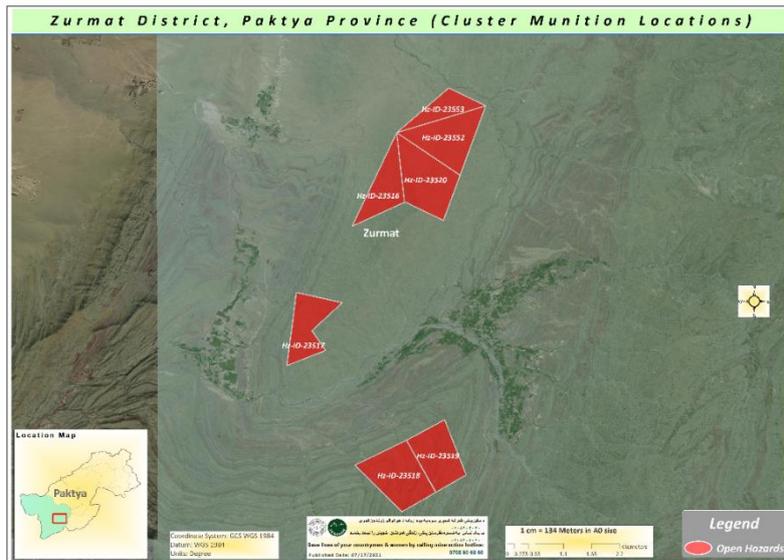
Collection of firewood/bushes to be used for heating and cooking.

Construction stones for building of houses by those families who returned back to their homelands after long displacement during the war.

They will use footpaths as shortcut access ways between several villages.

The below map shows the general location of the recorded hazards in Zurmat district of Paktya province:

Figure 8. Satellite imagery of recorded CM in Zurmat district of Paktya Province



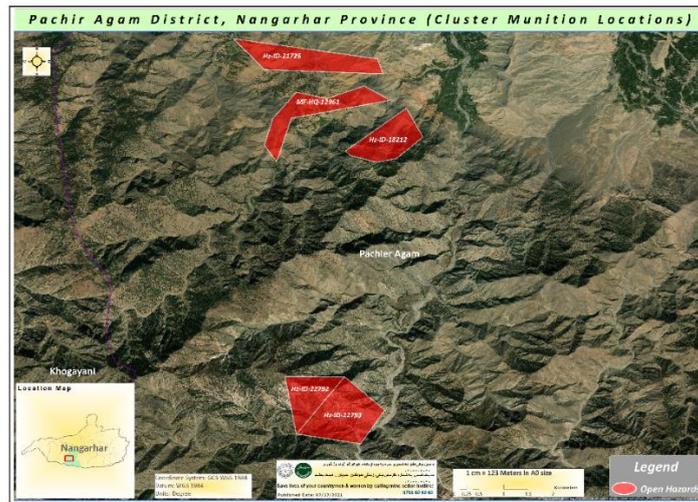
b. Five CM hazards in Nangarhar Province:

There are 5 CM hazards located on mountains, the socio-economic benefits of the area after the clearance are:

According to close communication with local, there are small springs located within a hazard and after clearance of the area the communities have plan to transfer the potable water from springs to their communities and houses.

The communities use the land for grazing/pastures; fire wood and construction material after clearance. The socio-economic impact after the clearance of land is that the local people will be able to reach to the area to collect wood for their daily usage and easily bring stones and sandy/pebble to construct houses. See the satellite imagery map of the area in below figure:

Figure 9. Satellite imagery of recorded CM hazards in Pachier Agan district of Nangarhar Province



c. Two CM hazards in Bamyan province:

The two-recorded hazards have blocked the land to be used as grazing and agriculture. As soon as the land is released, the communities will cultivate potatoes, rain fed wheat, and the rest of area will be used by the locals to graze their animals. See the below satellite imagery map of the area.

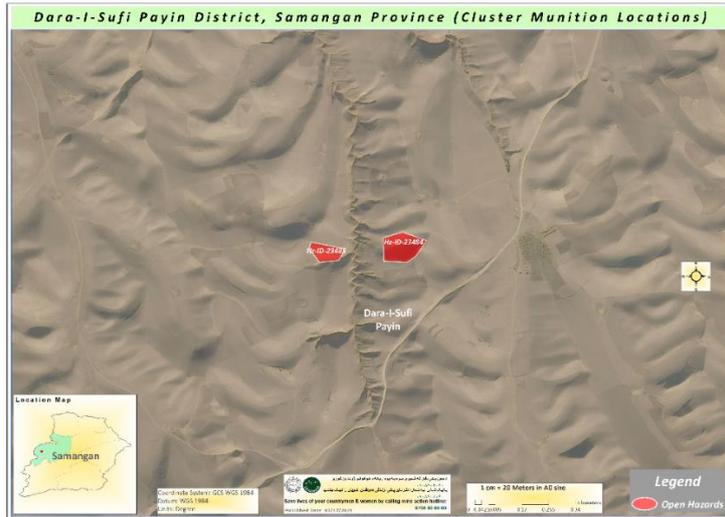
Figure 10. Satellite imagery of recorded CM hazards in Bamyan province



d. Two CM hazards in Samangan province:

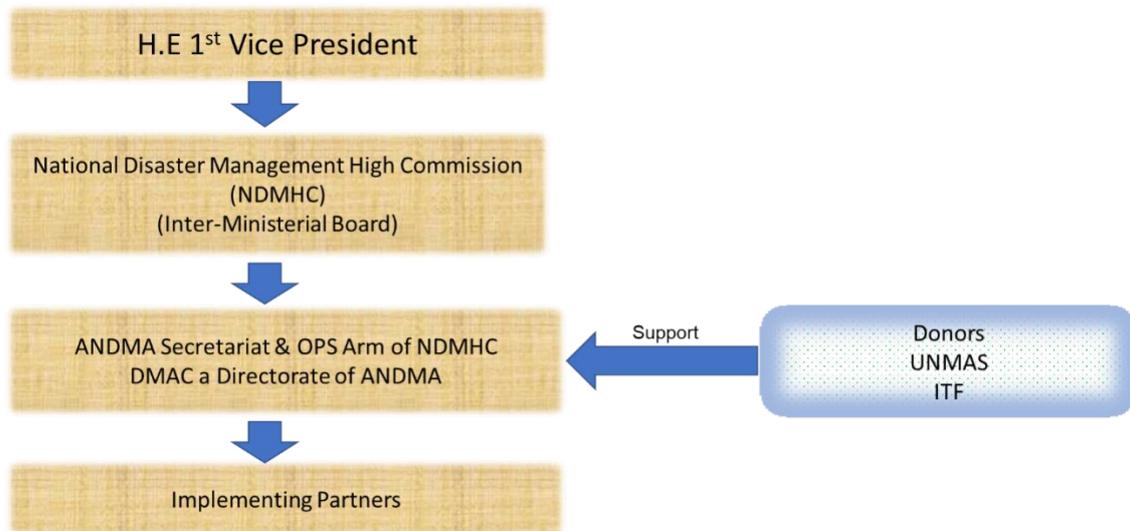
The area after clearance of the two CM sites will be used as rain-fed agriculture land for cultivation of wheat, pea, and grazing their animals. The satellite imagery map of the area is shown in below:

Figure 11. Satellite imagery of recorded CM hazards in Samangan province



ANNEXES

Annex A. Mine Action Governance Hierarchy



Annex B. List of accredited mine action NGOs and companies

National NGOs	International NGOs	National Commercial	International Commercial
ATC	AAR JAPAN	ADC	JGO
DAFA	DDG	UADC	Tt
DAO	FSD	CMCC	RELYANT
MCPA	HI	HDI	SDL
MDC	HT	KMCC	
OMAR	NPA	AMDC	
AREA		OMAR Int.	
AOAD		SADC-SGI	
AABRAR		SADC	
KOO		TDC	
ALSO		WDC	
COEWCA		SMCC	
FOPD		ACL	
CCD		SWDC	
ADVS		AGD	
EO		KDC	
JAPO		SDG	
		TDG	
		PDC	
17	6	19	4
Grand Total			46

Annex C. List of remaining CM hazards:

S. No.	Region	Province	District	Village	IMSMAID	Survey Agency	Survey Date	Re Survey Date	HazardName	Hazard Area	Longitude	Latitude	Status	Device	HazardType	Impact Level
1	Central	Bamyan	Bamyan	Sebartu	HZ-ID-23554	HT-Quick Response-12	03-Jun-21		B/3606	133,869	67.50319	34.78442	Open	CM	BF	Low
2	Central	Bamyan	Bamyan	Sebartu	HZ-ID-23555	HT-Quick Response-12	30-May-21		B/3577	258,887	67.4921	34.77821	Open	CM	BF	Low
3	East	Nangarhar	Pachier Ag	Merkhani	HZ-ID-22793	HT-Quick Response-02	20-Jun-20		B/3436	1,086,643	70.23299	34.06654	Open	CM	BF	Medium
4	East	Nangarhar	Pachier Ag	Merkhani	HZ-ID-22792	HT-Quick Response-02	17-Jun-20		B/3437	587,604	70.21647	34.06073	Open	CM	BF	Low
5	East	Nangarhar	Pachier Ag	Nasir (Gari Khel)	HZ-ID-21726	HT - HALO TRUST	22-Jun-19		AF/0807/00458/BLU3258	939,149	70.23345	34.12807	Open	CM	BF	Low
6	East	Nangarhar	Pachier Ag	Nasir (Gari Khel)	HZ-ID-18212	MCPA-NTST-03	05-Sep-13	02-Mar-19	AF/0807/00458/BLU0044	713,500	70.23672	34.12291	Open	CM	BF	Medium
7	East	Nangarhar	Pachier Ag	Nasir (Gari Khel)	MF-HQ-12961	MCPA-NTST-01	05-Oct-09	02-Mar-19	AF/8807/00458/BLU0020	907,011	70.23463	34.12378	Open	CM	BF	Medium
8	North	Samangan	Dara-I-Suf	Khana Sangi	HZ-ID-23485	HT-Quick Response-18	08-Apr-21		B/3153	3,864	67.21301	36.04204	Open	CM	BF	Medium
9	North	Samangan	Dara-I-Suf	Khana Sangi	HZ-ID-23484	HT-Quick Response-18	07-Apr-21		B/3152	7,851	67.21583	36.04213	Open	CM	BF	Low
10	South East	Paktya	Zurmat	Sepine Takhte	HZ-ID-23516	HT-Quick Response-21	11-May-21		BLU/3568	618,634	69.17116	33.40026	Open	CM	BF	Low
11	South East	Paktya	Zurmat	Sepine Takhte	HZ-ID-23520	HT-Quick Response-21	09-May-21		BLU/3567	989,929	69.17116	33.40026	Open	CM	BF	Low
12	South East	Paktya	Zurmat	Sepine Takhte	HZ-ID-23553	HT-Quick Response-21	06-Jun-21		BLU/3573	416,600	69.17116	33.40026	Open	CM	BF	Low
13	South East	Paktya	Zurmat	Sepine Takhte	HZ-ID-23552	HT-Quick Response-21	03-Jun-21		BLU/3572	883,252	69.17116	33.40026	Open	CM	BF	Low
14	South East	Paktya	Zurmat	Surki	HZ-ID-23517	HT-Quick Response-21	29-Apr-21		BLU/3569	659,319	69.15027	33.37161	Open	CM	BF	Low
15	South East	Paktya	Zurmat	Surki	HZ-ID-23518	HT-Quick Response-21	03-May-21		BLU/3570	947,646	69.17147	33.34482	Open	CM	BF	Low
16	South East	Paktya	Zurmat	Surki	HZ-ID-23519	HT-Quick Response-21	06-May-21		BLU/3571	740,615	69.17147	33.34482	Open	CM	BF	Low
Total										9,894,373						

