

Implementation of Bosnia and Herzegovina's Obligations under the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention since the last Extension Request



**Bosnia and Herzegovina Mine
Action Center (BHMAC)**

Challenging circumstances during the implementation of the last request

During the implementation of the previous request, Bosnia and Herzegovina faced a range of challenging circumstances in the field of mine action. Additionally, there is a variety of other reasons, mainly in casual connection, that affect the demining dynamics in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and relating to the following factors:

- ▶ **Minefield records** - The BHMIC database still contained 8,544 minefield records, while the mine threat had been removed based on 10,560 records since the beginning of demining. However, the records were often incomplete or inaccurate, lacking precise information on the location, shape, and distribution of mines. This complicated the identification of suspect areas, particularly in mountainous and hilly terrain, where it was especially difficult to identify remaining minefields due to the passage of time and lack of relevant information.
- ▶ **Financial resources for the conduct of mine action activities/demining**, The demining process in BiH largely relied on international donors.
- ▶ **Legal environment**, The existing Demining Law (2002) is outdated and not aligned with the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS)
- ▶ **Human resources**, There was a notable shortage of qualified personnel both within BHMIC and among demining teams.
- ▶ **Material and technical resources**. BHMIC faced a shortage of specialized vehicles and equipment necessary for field operations, particularly for non-technical survey, inspections, and technical supervision

Progress made regarding the previous request

Methodologies and standards employed in the implementation of Article 5

Remaining chapters of Standard and SOP are adopted/approved by the Demining Commission in Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2024.


- ▶ Chapter 1: Land Release, April 2024
- ▶ Chapter 2: Non-Technical Survey, April 2024
- ▶ Chapter 3: Technical Survey and Clearance, April 2024
- ▶ Chapter 4: Quality Management, April 2024
- ▶ Chapter 5: Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD), September 2024
- ▶ Standard Operating Procedures for Mine Action – Chapter 1: Non-Technical Survey, April 2024

A new draft of the Demining Law in adoption procedure

Resources available for achieved goals

- International donors in the period from 2020 – 2024 included: USA, Germany, Norway, Switzerland, EU, Japan, UNDP, EUFOR, MKCK, and Marshall Legacy Institute. Through the mediation of international fund for humanitarian demining and mine victims assistance for South-East Europe (ITF - Enhancing Human Security), 55% of donor funds were implemented.

2020-2024	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Total	%
Financial resources made available by the Bosnia and Herzegovina	15.23	15.14	16.3	18.18	18.65	83.50	79%
Financial resources made available by International Donors	21.34	15.43	15.35	12.29	19.35	83.76	
Total realized budget	36.57	30.57	31.65	30.47	38.00	167.26	
Not Ensure	2.18	12.53	11.45	12.63	5.10	43.89	21%
Total projected budget	38.75	43.10	43.10	43.10	43.10	211.15	100%

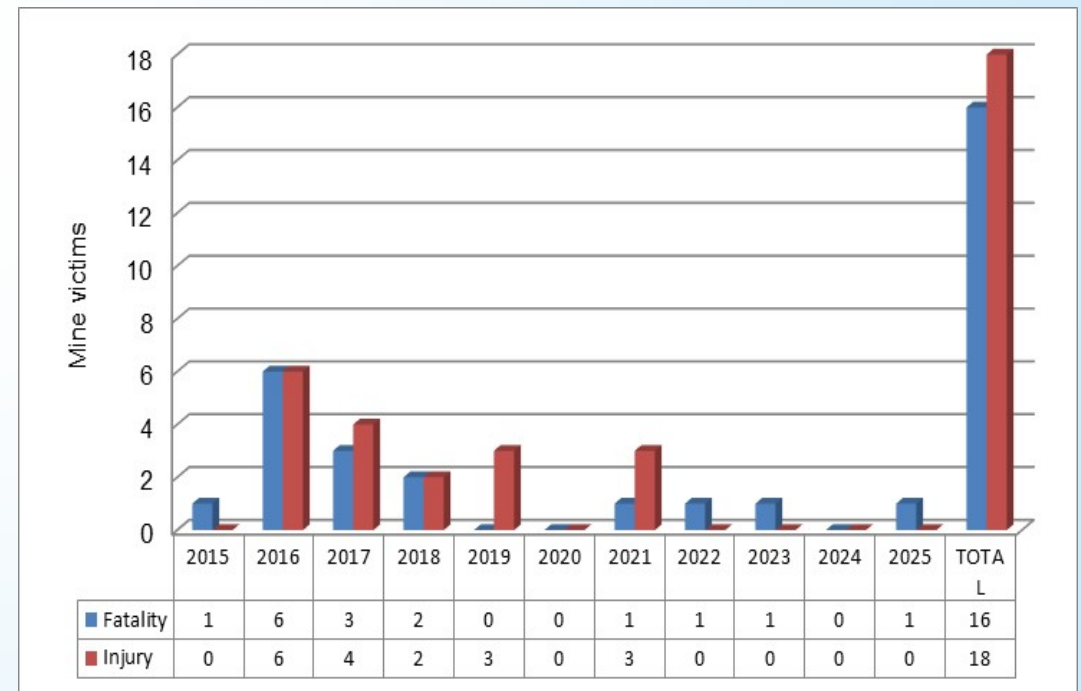


Efforts made on ensuring effective exclusion of civilians from mined areas

- ▶ Mine risk education is an integral part of mine action in Bosnia and Herzegovina
- ▶ Emergency marking is a preventive measure of mine awareness, which is conducted through marking of the SHAs boundaries; marking is an integral part of non-technical survey and mine awareness, thus presenting a very effective risk reduction measure.

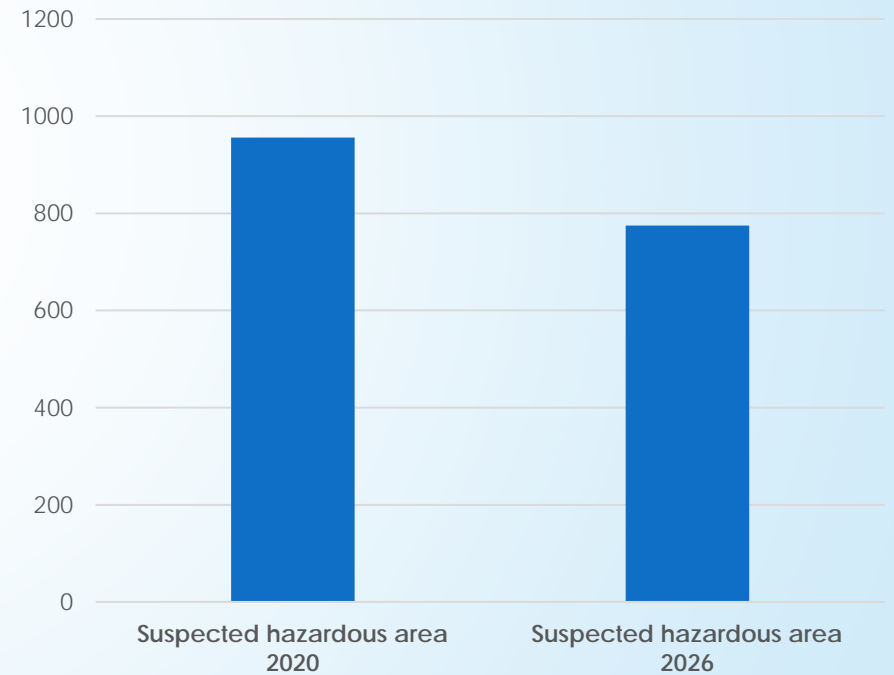
Mine accidents in Bosnia and Herzegovina 2015-2025

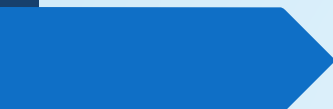
- In the period from 2015 to 2025, 34 mine/ERW victims were registered in Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- Out of the total, males constitute 97% and females 3%. Additionally, out of the total, adults constitute 94%, and children 6%.



Remaining implementation challenge


- ▶ The suspected hazardous area at the beginning of 2026 is **774,69 km²**
- ▶ (1,51 % of the total area of Bosnia and Herzegovina).





Timeframe requested for fulfilment of obligations

- ▶ Based on a more precise understanding of the remaining challenge, and in accordance with Article 5, Para 1, Bosnia and Herzegovina will prepare new a **five (5) years** extension request from **01 March 2027 to 01 March 2032**.
- ▶ Bosnia and Herzegovina will not become a mine-free country with the new request. This extension, along with the annual land release of 55 km² of land in the period from 2027 to the end of 2032, will bring good grounds for the next Request as final for a period that will be more certain at the end of this period. The general conclusion is that planning a period longer than 5 years is not realistic because many factors change in that period, and it is especially not realistic when planning financial resources.
- ▶ Starting from 2027, 52,350,000 BAM are needed to be allocated annually for mine action. The participation of state and donor funds would be 50% each, with additional budget funds of BHMACH of 9,000,000 BAM per year. In addition to donor funds, more significant participation is needed from all levels of government in Bosnia and Herzegovina, including local communities.




Strategic goals

Siem Reap-Angkor Action Plan

Strategic goals

Five strategic goals have been set in the Strategy (Revised Document); each strategic goal has several operational goals, starting points, indicators and targeted shapes.

- Information quality management procedures ensure the gathering, storage, analysis, exchange of relevant information and their use for efficient and effective planning, setting priorities, tasking and implementation of mine action. (Siem Reap-Angkor Action Plan: Actions 9, 22)
- Bosnia and Herzegovina mine action program has been promoted on national and international level in order to increase its visibility and to enhance the responsibility, commitment and support of the state. (Siem Reap-Angkor Action Plan: Actions 1 and 8)
- The size and impact of mine/ERW contamination problems are specified and confirmed; the problem is being solved in accordance with BiH mine action standards, ensuring that safe areas are returned to impacted communities for use. (Siem Reap-Angkor Action Plan: Actions 2, 3, 5, 6, 19, 20 and 27)
- Safe proceeding is promoted through mine awareness measures that are gender sensitive and respect diversity in order to reduce the number of mine/ERW accidents and to support safe and sustainable activities necessary for life. (Siem Reap-Angkor Action Plan: Actions 28, 29, 30, 31 and 32)
- All mine/ERW victims participate in society on equal grounds with others; their needs are identified and fulfilled, and their existential opportunities promoted through rights-based assistance which recognizes diversity. (Siem Reap-Angkor Action Plan: Actions 4, 33 and 34)



Social and economic implications in requested timeframe and prioritization

- In the period of 2027-2032, the mission of all participants will be to eliminate the risk posed by anti-personnel mines and create conditions for exploitation of blocked resources, setting up of the safe environment for affected population, and incentive for reconstruction, sustainable return and social and economic development in mine affected communities, i.e. municipalities/towns.
- In the period from 2027 to 2032, high and middle affected communities will be in focus through the concept of municipal mine action activities, with increased participation of the local community in determining priorities and applying the "Land Release" concept.
- The Mine Action Strategy in Bosnia and Herzegovina for the period 2027-2032 should be developed and adopted in the period from the end of 2026 to the beginning of 2027 as a document that will support a new extension with clearly developed objectives and a financial plan according to funding sources.

Finance plan 2027-2031

Year	Released land in km ² per annum	Financial funds required by BHMAL / BAM	Financial funds, national resources, and budgets at all levels, without BHMAL / BAM	Donor funds /BAM	Total financial funds required for the realization of the plan / BAM (without BHMAL)	Total financial funds required for the realization of the plan /BAM (with BHMAL)
2027	55	9,000,000	26,175,000	26,175,000	52,350,000	61,350,000
2028	55	9,000,000	26,175,000	26,175,000	52,350,000	61,350,000
2029	55	9,000,000	26,175,000	26,175,000	52,350,000	61,350,000
2030	55	9,000,000	26,175,000	26,175,000	52,350,000	61,350,000
2031	55	9,000,000	26,175,000	26,175,000	52,350,000	61,350,000
Total	275	45,000,000	130,875,000	130,875,000	261,750,000	306,750,000