Regional Co-operation on Explosive Hazards Reduction in Central Asia, facilitated through OSCE Programme Office in Dushanbe and US ARMY CENTRAL

Tomislav Vondracek
Greg L. Niles
Regional – Tajikistan based / Central Asia

OSCE extra-budgetary Project

INTEGRATED COOPERATION ON EXPLOSIVE HAZARDS PROGRAMME

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project #</th>
<th>5500426/phase 2</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Starting date:</td>
<td>01-JAN-2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ending date:</td>
<td>31-JAN-2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total budget:</td>
<td>EUR 2,080,662</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donors:</td>
<td>Germany, United States</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Beneficiaries:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) individuals and communities in the affected or hazardous areas,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) governmental authorities and institutions &amp; non-gov. organizations in Central Asia and Afghanistan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Contact Point: Tomislav Vondracek, Programme Officer
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OSCE Programme Office in Dushanbe
PROJECT RELEVANCE

Scope of assistance

- Enhanced national capacities through regional training programme
- Enabled structured format for the exchange of experiences and best practices via PoCs, exchange visits & web-page (www.osce-icexh.org)
- Formalised training institution(s) hosting national and regional courses in accordance with international standards

Relevance

- Explosive Hazards (EH) contaminated land declared safe
- Communities at risk adopt safer behaviour
- Progress towards compliance with int. disarmament conventions
- Enhanced CSB through technical dialogue on EH
- Reduced threats to national security
- In support of participation in peace-keeping operations
# PROJECT PROGRESS

**Status:** Delivery of the project’s Result 1 & 2 as planned, delay in the case of Result 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Achievements/Results</th>
<th>Challenges</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>▪ 269 specialists from 11 countries trained in EOD including EO demilitarization (UZB, AFG, GEO, KG, KZ, MN, TKM, ARM, TJ)</td>
<td>▪ Host country perception of the Project – transition of ownership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▪ The project transitions to mentorship phase in 2018/2021</td>
<td>▪ “Regional Explosive Hazards Training Centre of the MoD RT” – roadmap to be determined</td>
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<tr>
<td>▪ Contributing to “spill-over” effects in the region – enhancing COUNTER EH capabilities</td>
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<tr>
<td>▪ Maintaining and expanding partnership network, e.g. USARCENT, TNMAC, MoD RT &amp; KZ, GICHD, OSCE CA and OSCE PCU, INGOs</td>
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<tr>
<td>▪ MoU framework</td>
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LESSONS LEARNT

LESSONS

▪ Evolution of the Project over time - training-mentoring-monitoring approach
▪ Capitalizing on the success of the Project, e.g. a narrow, regional CSBM, expanding the training base etc.
▪ Success of OSCE horizontal cooperation – OSCE POiD initiative leadership and comm. support by OSCE field ops. in CA & complementarity of action
▪ Ensuring the national/regional ownership - the Project still has not reached the “tipping point” where foreseen sustainable results and long-term benefits could be achieved
▪ Heavily reliance on the key Project personnel

PREVENTIVE / NECESSARY MEASURES

▪ Realign the scope of project activities and implementation time-line beyond 2021 – update of the Project proposal
▪ Expanding the donor community – financial & in-kind
▪ Enhanced role of OSCE in training management and advisory support should consider strengthening (technical side) of the Project team
▪ Codification of PM as well as the Project’s administrative, training & curriculum development and quality management procedures
▪ Active guidance of transition to national/regional ownership
**Donors:** Austria, Germany, the Netherlands & the United States

**Host Government:** Tajikistan & Kazakhstan

### Support

- MoD RT – 30% of train. prog. (host: venues, logistics, personnel, etc.)
- TNMAC (training certification)
- MoD KZ – 25% of train. prog. (host: venues, logistics, personnel, etc.)

### In-kind contribution

- USARCENT – training development, delivery and technical assistance
- OSCE CA FOs & OSCE PCU
- INGOs (DCA, NPA, FSD) – in-kind technical assistance
- UNMAS & DMAC / ANDMA
- UN ODA
- OSCE CPC / FSC Support
- ITF (South Korea)
EOD Level 3
EOD Level 3
EOD Level 3
## Analysis of conducted trainings 2014 - 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Does she/he participate in EOD operations?</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>N.a</th>
<th>Total, participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>147</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>174</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participant from</td>
<td>Tajikistan – 96</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Afghanistan – 36</td>
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<td>Kyrgyzstan – 15</td>
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<td>Kazakhstan – 11</td>
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<td>Turkmenistan – 6</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Armenia – 4</td>
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<td>Mongolia – 3</td>
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<td>Other – 3</td>
<td></td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Does she/he use knowledge gained during the course?</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>N.a</th>
<th>Total, participants</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>160</td>
<td>10</td>
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<th></th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>N.a</th>
<th>Total, %</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Does she/he participate in EOD operations?</strong></td>
<td>85.5</td>
<td>12.2</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Does she/he use knowledge gained during the course?</strong></td>
<td>92</td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>100</td>
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Trainings planned for 2019

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Name of training</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>EOD Level 1 with USARCENT &amp; MoD TJ</td>
<td>18/02 – 01/03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Introduction to Humanitarian Demining Systems, with USARCENT &amp; MoD KZ</td>
<td>01/04 – 05/04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Introduction to Stockpile Management Standards, with MoD TJ</td>
<td>15/04 – 19/04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>EOD ToT with USARCENT for MoD TJ</td>
<td>24/06 – 28/06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>C-IED with USARCENT &amp; MoD TJ</td>
<td>19/08 – 30/08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>EOD Level 2 with USARCENT &amp; MoD TJ</td>
<td>14/10 – 25/10</td>
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Building for the future, Regional Explosives Hazards Training Centre

http://osce-icexh.org/en/
2018-2019 USARCENT EOD Theater Security Cooperation Year In Review
Agenda

• Mission

• Focus Areas

• Theater Security Cooperation Exchanges

• Future Initiatives

• Questions / Discussion
Mission

To provide world class subject matter expert advise and assistance to partner nations within the Central Command (CENTCOM) area of responsibility on matters concerning explosive hazard mitigation in order to improve regional security and stability.
- 2018-2019 Theater Security Cooperation Summary
- 9 Information Exchanges
- 12 Partner Nations
- Over 150 EOD/CIED Specialists Engaged
- Topics ranged from humanitarian mine action to weapons of mass destruction
Focus Areas

Theater Security Cooperation Information Exchanges

Humanitarian Mine Action Program
Theater Security Cooperation Exchanges

EOD Robotics

Counter IED Theory
Theater Security Cooperation Exchanges

Tajikistan – Humanitarian Mine Action (HMA)

April 2018 – HMA Level 1 and 2
June 2018 – HMA Level 3
November 2018 – HMA Level 3+
February 2019 – HMA Level 1

Partner Countries Trained:
Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan
Theater Security Cooperation Exchanges

Post Blast Investigations – Shaw AFB, South Carolina

Pakistan – March 2018

Egypt – May 2018
Lebanon – Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction
November - 2018

Oman – CBRN / EOD / Medical Mission Essential Task List Workshop
- January 2019
- First bi-lateral Counter WMD event with Oman
- Allowed Oman partners to inform ministerial observers on unit capabilities.
- **Purpose:**
  To conduct a rigorous, realistic threat scenario-based engagement with Chemical Squadron, EOD Team, and Field Medical Hospital, along with their civil ministry counterparts.
Theater Security Cooperation Exchanges

Kazakhstan – United States EOD School

January 2019
2019 US Army Central Explosive Ordnance Disposal Symposium

March 2019
• Continue to Integrate Forensics Exploitation and Medical Scenarios in Theater Exchanges

• Expand TSC Exchanges with Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Bahrain, and Qatar

• Continue working with Tajikistan’s Humanitarian Mine Action and Counter IED Programs through partnership with OSCE.

• Kazakhstan Five-Year Plan
Thank you for your attention

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