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In any correspondence on
this subject please quote **OPM/DM/92**



OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER
POST OFFICE BUILDING
YUSUF LULE ROAD
P. O. BOX 341, KAMPALA, UGANDA

17th August 2009

H.E Juerg Streuli,
President of the 9th Meeting of States Parties to the Mine Ban Convention
C/O the Mine Ban Treaty Implementation Support Unit
Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian De-mining
P.O. Box 1300, 1211 Geneva 1, Switzerland

Your Excellency,

Subject: **UGANDA'S ARTICLE FIVE EXTENSION REQUEST**

Reference is made to my earlier letter dated 2nd July 2009, informing you of Uganda's plan to submit a request for extension of the clearance period for identified mined areas in Uganda under Article five of the Mine Ban Treaty.

This is therefore to submit the detailed extension request for your consideration. The total extension period required in this request is three years, effective 1st August 2009.

Please find attached the extension request.

Martin Owor
For PERMANENT SECRETARY

cc: Rt. Hon. Prime Minister
cc: Minister for Relief, Disaster Preparedness and Refugees
cc: Permanent Mission of Uganda to the United Nations, Geneva
cc: Director of the AP Mine Ban Convention Implementation Support Unit

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02 July 2009

H.E Juerg Streuli,
President of the 9th Meeting of States Parties to the Mine Ban Convention
C/O the Mine Ban Treaty Implementation Support Unit
Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian De-mining
P.O. Box 1300, 1211 Geneva 1,
SWITZERLAND.

Your Excellency,

Subject: UGANDA'S ARTICLE FIVE STATUS / EXTENSION REQUEST

- 1.0** This is to inform you that Uganda would like to reverse her earlier position on Article five dead line because of new challenges recently encountered in the field. At both the Eighth and Ninth Meetings of States Parties held in Geneva- Switzerland and the Dead Sea – Jordan respectively, Uganda indicated that she will not seek for extension under her Mine Ban Treaty's Article five deadline of clearing mined areas by 1st August 2009.
- 2.0** At the time of delivering a statement to the Geneva Intercessional Meetings held in May 2009, Uganda was certain of meeting the above dead line. The statement highlighted on the clearance operations going on in the two identified mined areas at Ngomoromo and Agoro hills in Kitgum district – Northern Uganda. Uganda also indicated low level of mine contamination in both areas. This revelation was based on the earlier General Mine Action Assessment (GMAA) in Ngomoromo and Agoro hills, which was conducted with the technical support from the Danish De-mining Group (DDG). In April this year, the national de-mining teams were deployed to clear the two areas based on the information revealed through the GMAA.
- 3.0** For clarity on the information provided in the GMAA and for purposes of ascertaining Uganda's commitment in meeting the 1st August dead line, Uganda requested for further technical assessment and evaluation by the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian De-mining (GICHD) during the Intercessional Committee Meetings. Mr. Tim Lardner – a Consultant with the GICHD was consequently sent to Uganda for a two weeks evaluation mission. After the mission, Tim and our selves had lengthy discussions on the findings. It was revealed that Ngomoromo mined area stretches to 4 kilometres which looked a smaller area to deal with, how ever, progress in de-mining this area was found to be slower due to the dense vegetated land among other factors. The second area at Agoro hills is more challenging logistically and environmentally due to heavy vegetation and difficult site

access. Surveys in this area identified five suspected areas, however currently a technical survey/clearance has been completed in only one of the areas.

4.0 The purpose of this letter therefore is to inform you and through you to communicate to other States Party Members that new information has emerged, upon the re-evaluation by GICHD which has warranted Uganda to reverse her earlier position of sticking to the August 1st clearance deadline and to inform you that for this purpose, Uganda will seek for an extension to enable her clear all the identified areas and be able to deal with any other nuisance mines in other parts of the country.

5.0 Lastly Mr. President, I specifically wish to inform you and seek your support over the following actions:

5.1 With the assistance of the Mine Ban Treaty Implementation Support Unit, Uganda has begun preparing a request for extension document for her Article five deadline. Uganda will ensure that this request provides a high quality documentation for Article five, indicating clearly what has been accomplished to date, what, in precise terms remains to be done and, Uganda's plan to complete implementation if the extension is granted.

5.2 Uganda will submit the formal extension request to your attention by 31st August 2009. Uganda is aware that this request has delayed, given the process of analysing extension requests that is being carried out under your leadership. However, Uganda will ensure that this request is as complete and as comprehensive as possible.

5.3 Uganda will remain transparent as much as possible with the other States Parties regarding this matter, for this reason I would request that you transmit this letter to all States Parties. Uganda will welcome any enquiries or questions that States Parties may have on this matter and will aim to provide additional clarity as shall be required.

5.4 Uganda stands ready to present her request for an extension to the Second Review Conference and will be prepared to answer any further questions.

Your Excellency, Uganda regrets this situation; however, as a State Party that has demonstrated commitment to abide by the Convention's provisions, to destroy all stockpiled anti-personnel mines, and to offer a leading example regarding assistance to the plight of mine victims, Uganda will do what is necessary with in her means to complete the implementation of Article 5 of the Convention.



Pius Bigirimana

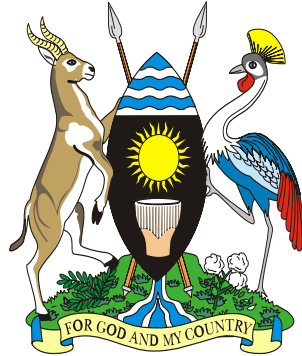
PERMANENT SECRETARY

c.c. Rt. Hon. Prime Minister

c.c. Minister for Relief, Disaster Preparedness and Refugees

c.c. Permanent Mission of Uganda to the United Nations, Geneva

c.c. Director of the AP Mine Ban Convention Implementation Support Unit



**Request for an extension of the deadline for completing the destruction
of anti-personnel mines in mined areas in accordance with Article 5,
paragraph 1 of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Production,
Use, Stockpiling and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their
Destruction**

Uganda

**Submitted to His Excellency Jürg Streuli of Switzerland
President of the Ninth Meeting of the State Parties to the Convention**

July 2009

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I. Executive Summary

1. The mine problem in Uganda originates from civil conflicts and wars that have taken place in the country over the past two decades, mainly in the North, North East, West Nile and the Rwenzori sub-regions in Western Uganda. The conflicts over the last decades resulted in the displacement of up to two million people at its peak with conflicting parties employing a variety of ammunition and mines, causing some of the population to fear falling victim to mines and other explosive remnants of war (ERW).
2. The actual number of victims in the entire country is not clear, as there has not been a comprehensive survey. According to a partial survey conducted by Associazione Volontari per il Servizio Internazionale (AVSI) in 2005 in the Acholi sub region, there have been approximately 2,000 victims of ERW over an 18-year period.¹ As peace returned to the area it was necessary to ensure the safety of returnees by clearing land of the threat of landmines and ERW as provided for under section three of the Internally Displaced Persons Policy (IDP) 2004.
3. In order to address the mine/ERW problem in Uganda, a National Mine Action Programme (NMAP) was established in 2005 through a preparatory assistance programme implemented through the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) and funded as one of the Crisis Prevention and Recovery Programme elements of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) Uganda Country Office. The overall objective of the mine action programme was to create an enabling environment for peace and resettlement, re-integration and socioeconomic recovery of conflict affected populations specifically looking into the development of the management and technical capacity of the Uganda Mine Action Centre (UMAC); improvement in the safety of mine affected communities; improvement in mine risk education (MRE) capacities to reduce the risks of accidents due to landmines and UXO/ERW; and meeting the needs of landmine survivors and contributing to the growth of the economy of Uganda by returning ERW contaminated land to communities for productive use. In April 2006, UMAC was established in the OPM with the objective of coordinating mine action activities. UMAC works under the guidance of the National Mine Action Steering Committee (NMASC), which is chaired by the Permanent Secretary-OPM, the NMASC comprises representatives from line ministries² and other key stakeholders, and operates under the Department for Disaster Preparedness and Refugees of the OPM .

¹ Annex IV: Victim Statistics – UMAC Partial Surveys, 2009

² Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development (MoGLSD), Ministry of Health (MoH), Ministry of Education and Sports (MoES), Ministry of Defence (MoD), Ministry of Internal Affairs (MoIA)

4. During the period of 2006-2007 a Needs Assessment carried out by the Mines Awareness Trust (MAT) identified a total of 427 Suspected Hazardous Areas (SHAs) in parts of the affected areas of Uganda. However, this survey had several limitations and did not provide accurate data that could be used for planning purposes. In particular, this survey did not specify the actual threat of landmines but gathered general information on ERW. As a result, verification visits were carried out by UMAC teams to all SHAs and the conclusion of these visits indicated that only 1 (Agoro Mountains) of the SHAs was identified as a mined area and the remaining SHAs were contaminated by other ERW or were not contaminated at all.
5. In November 2008, a General Mine Action Assessment (GMAA) was carried out by UMAC with assistance from Ugandan People's Defence Force (UPDF) and Danish Demining Group (DDG). Through the GMAA the area identified by the revisit in Agoro Mountains in Kitgum District on the Uganda-Sudan border was confirmed as a mined area. This area was subsequently sub-divided into 5 mined areas with an approximate total size of 130,000 square meters.³
6. In January 2009, an additional GMAA was carried out in Kitgum District leading to the identification of a second mined area in Ngomoromo, which is also located on the Uganda-Sudan border with a total size of 140,000 square meters.⁴
7. In Uganda, clearance operations began in 2006 after developing the capacity of initially 4 teams of UPDF and UPF personnel, expanding the capacity to 12 teams in 2008. The UMAC have two centres of control and coordination - the national centre based in Kampala which deals with overall national mine action coordination and management, and the regional centre based in Gulu district which deals with the day-to-day operational matters pertaining to the deployment and tasking of the clearance teams as well as coordination with the district local governments and mine action forums. Clearance work from 2006 to 2008 mainly involved EOD in which a number of ERW and a small number of mines were destroyed. By 2009, 304 of the 428 SHAs have been cleared resulting in the destruction of 61 mines, 12 antitank mines, 5,323 items of UXO, and 19,553 small arms ammunition.⁵ Additionally, a total of 35 SHAs have been discredited, and 89 are pending UXO clearance. It is important to note that 36 of the 61 mines recovered and destroyed in Uganda are associated with the two areas identified through the GMAA and the remaining 24 mines destroyed are nuisance mines.
8. To date, one of the 5 areas in Agoro Mountains (Agoro 1) measuring approximately 130,000m² has been confirmed of containing mines and is

³ Annex II: GMAA Agoro, November 2008

⁴ Annex III: GMAA Ngomoromo, March 2009

⁵ Annex VIII: Current Maps of Progress Achieved on SHAs and Mined Areas

undergoing technical survey and clearance. As of July 2009, a total of 3,180.5m² has been cleared culminating in the destruction of 13 mines (type 72 APM).⁶ The remaining four mined areas are pending technical survey.

9. To date, in the Ngomoromo mined area measuring approximately 140,000m², technical survey and clearance are ongoing. As of July 2009, a total of 2,874m² has been cleared culminating in the destruction of 23 mines (type PMD6).⁷
10. In order to release land UMAC employs manual demining. The NMAP has a current clearance capacity of 12 fully equipped multi-purpose demining teams, one quality control/assurance team, and an operations management team. Clearance operations, surveys, community liaison and explosive ordnance disposal are being carried out by the multipurpose demining teams seconded from the UPDF and the Uganda Police Force (UPF) under the direct management of the UMAC. Total UMAC operational capacity in terms of personnel is 67. Complementing the work of the clearance teams are six mobile teams delivering MRE services and community liaison to communities and schools.
11. The procedure employed during all operations is in conformity with those established in the Uganda Mine Action Standards (UMAS) based on International Mine Action Standards (IMAS). The land release criteria, risk and quality management applied, is documented in UMAS Chapter 10. The UMAS is a central part of the overall Quality Management toolbox utilised in Uganda. The task, quality and risk management Chapters alongside with regulating the accreditation procedure are all applied in the demining work and training in the field. These include internal and external quality assurance as well as final quality assurance inspections.
12. From 2005 to 2009 a total of US\$7,044,214.67 has been invested in demining operations in Uganda. Of this total, the government of Uganda has contributed US\$ 980,117.00. Uganda works closely with the UNDP to acquire funding for its demining program. In this sense it is important to highlight the important contributions from DANIDA, DFID, the Government of Germany, the Government of Austria, the Government of Ireland, the Government of Australia and the Government of Sweden. The programme has equally received useful support from support in form of capacity building from the International Mine Action Training Centre- Nairobi, Crane University and James Madison University.
13. Apart from the achievements to date there are 6 mined areas with a total of approximately 263,945.5 square meters remaining to be addressed:

⁶ ibid

⁷ ibid

- a. **Agoro Mountains:** technical survey and clearance is currently ongoing and pending completion in Agoro 1. The extent of the remaining area based on the assessment to date, is 26,819.5 m². The initiation of a technical survey to confirm the presence of mines is pending for the remaining four mined areas (Agoro 2, Agoro 3, Agoro 4 and Agoro 5). The extent of these mined areas based on the assessment to date, is approximately 100,000 m².
 - b. **Ngomoromo:** technical survey and clearance is currently ongoing in the Ngomoromo minefield. The extent of the remaining area to be cleared based on the assessment to date is approximately 137,126 m².
14. At completion of the technical survey in the Agoro Mountains and Ngomoromo mined areas, an area reduction for the total clearance requirements may be possible. However, until then, the calculation on the duration of the clearance is being made on the basis that 100% of the assessed total size of the mined areas is to be cleared.
15. Various circumstances have presented themselves that have impeded Uganda from achieving its mine action goals within the 10-year period allotted by the Convention. Some of the most important circumstances are highlighted below:
- a. **Late Commencement of Clearance Operation:** Uganda signed the Ottawa treaty in 1997 and ratified it in 1999. While Uganda was expected to start identifying and addressing all mined areas in her jurisdiction at this time, this did not happen until 2006 upon the establishment of the mine action programme and establishment of a clearance team.
 - b. **Security Reasons:** The uncertainty caused by the continuous LRA rebel attacks on the civilian population affected clearance operations in the affected areas. Actual clearance only began in 2006 when the government forces decisively repulsed the rebels from the affected districts.
 - c. **Resources:** Both material and human resources are required to successfully clear the identified mined areas. The inadequacy in the supply of these resources greatly impeded Uganda's Article 5 clearance obligations. In respect to human resources, only four teams comprised of 41 personnel were second from the UPDF and UPF to the Mine Action Programme, forming only two demining teams. This amount of personnel was not sufficient to deal with the problem in a lesser period. It was only in 2008 that additional 26 were added to the existing personnel, raising the number to 67. This current capacity has resulted in the current progress in demining of the two identified mined areas. Likewise, funding for material resources, equipment, among other requirements, has

been insufficient. This situation is aggravated by the fact that not many international mine action partners have been active in Uganda save for DDG, which came on the ground in 2008.

- d. **Operational Problems:** A multiplicity of operational and management challenges also contributed to the further delay in commencing the clearance of the mined areas. For example, while the plan was to commence with the technical survey of the identified areas in Kitgum in January 2009, this only began in June 2009 due to delays in procurement of necessary facilities such as tents, food, water etc.
 - e. **Meteorological Issues:** Unfavourable weather conditions such as heavy rainfall, leading to flooding thick vegetation curtail the pace of demining work.
16. Factors that may affect operations in the remaining affected areas include the security of the region, the remote location of affected areas, the logistic difficulties in addressing these areas and the difficult type of soil and terrain.
 17. In light of the above circumstances as well as the work pending, Uganda is requesting a total of three (3) years to fulfill its obligations under Article 5 of the Convention.
 18. The location of the mined areas are economically viable for agricultural activities, Agoro mountains is a particularly fertile area, where a range of both food crops and cash crops can be grown, once clearance is completed, this would go a long way in not only improving food security situation in the home stead but also in raising living standards of the people who have lived under encampment for over two decades. It is estimated that approximately 3,000 people in surrounding villages are affected by these mined areas.
 19. The mine contamination challenge in Uganda is small and geographically limited compared to the majority of the affected countries worldwide. It is also a “simple fix” as the mined areas have been identified and are undergoing technical survey and clearance in the case of Ngomoromo and Agoro 1, and known but not yet technically surveyed in the four remaining mined areas in Agoro Mountains. With adjustments to the current capacity in terms of an additional 40 deminers, Uganda would be in position to fulfil her obligation in the requested three-year period.
 20. The Norwegian People’s Aid (NPA) Mine Action programme in South Sudan has offered to support operations in Uganda with the use of a vegetation-cutting machine (Minewolf Bagger) in the Ngomoromo minefield. The funding for external support is likely to be at no cost to

Uganda and fully supported by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (NMFA). This is to be confirmed by NPA Sudan after consultation with their head office and the NMFA⁸. Technical assessment to the NPA Sudan programme mechanical operations is underway to take place in August 2009, carried out by UMAC and DDG staff, followed by a soil and terrain verification assessment at Ngomoromo conducted by NPA Sudan mechanical specialist. The period of external support to the mechanical operations in Uganda is planned to begin in January 2010, consisting of use of ground preparation and vegetation cutting machinery along the minefield of Ngomoromo.⁹ Evidently, the availability of additional capacity, such as mechanical demining assets, may allow Uganda to fulfil its obligations in a shorter time frame.¹⁰

21. The time frame of three years being requested by Uganda is based on several assumptions, including but not limited to the following:

- a. The additional 40 personnel are released, trained, equipped and deployed by December 2009. The details on how this will be achieved are laid down in the Operations Clearance Work Plan August 2009 – August 2012.¹¹
- b. To complete the mine-clearance work, the donors' commitment for continued support until August 2012 has to be secured. Whilst the Ugandan government will continue the provision of the manpower for UMAC operations until and beyond the compliance with international commitments, covering for the salaries for the deminers and office spaces at the OPM Kampala, the technical, logistical and material support requires secured external funding and donor support. The estimated annual cost for the mine-clearance operations is US\$ 2, 6 mill.¹²
- c. The weather conditions shall remain favourable for the clearance operations.
- d. Security situation shall remain stable throughout the three years of operations.
- e. Sustained material and funding support from the international community until August 2012.
- f. Sustained technical and logistics support from DDG or other international Mine Action Agency until August 2012.

22. It is estimated that the total amount necessary to carry out the

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Annex IX Operations Clearance Work Plan 2009-2012

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² Annex VI Costing UMAC Mine-clearance, 12 months

**remaining humanitarian demining work in Uganda is approximately
\$US 6,906,000 Uganda will continue providing \$US1,250,000**

II. Detailed Narrative

1. Origins of the Article 5 Implementation Challenge

The mine problem in Uganda originates from civil conflicts and wars that have taken place in the country over the past two decades, mainly in the North, North East, West Nile and the Rwenzori sub-regions in Western Uganda as highlighted below:

- The LUWERO Triangle liberation war from 1981 to 1985, led by the National Resistance Army
- Uganda People's Army insurgency of 1987, in North Eastern Uganda
- National Army for the Liberation of Uganda insurgency in the late eighties in the West Nile Region
- Allied Democratic Forces rebel group in the late nineties/early 2000
- The Lords Resistance Army (LRA) insurgency, which started in the mid-1980s, in the North and North Eastern parts of Uganda and continued, unresolved for over twenty years.

These conflicts resulted in the indiscriminate use of mines, and other weapons of warfare, resulting in untold suffering to the local population.

2. Nature and Extent of the Original Article 5 Challenge: Quantitative Aspects

A Needs Assessment carried out by the Mines Awareness Trust (MAT) during the period of 2006-2007 identified a total of 427 Suspected Hazardous Areas (SHAs) in parts of the affected areas of Uganda. However, this survey had several limitations, such as not having covered the entire affected regions, and did not provide accurate data that could be used for planning purposes. In particular, this survey did not specify the actual threat of landmines but gathered general information on Explosive Remnants of War (ERW). As a result of the identified limitations of the initial survey, verification visits were carried out by Uganda Mine Action Centre (UMAC) teams to all SHAs and the conclusion of these visits indicated that only 1 of the SHAs (Agoro Hills) was identified as a mined area and the remaining SHAs were contaminated by other ERW or were not contaminated at all.

In November 2008, a General Mine Action Assessment (GMAA) was carried out by UMAC with assistance from Ugandan People's Defence Force (UPDF) and Danish Demining Group (DDG). Through the GMAA one of the 427 areas was confirmed of containing mines in Agoro Mountains in Kitgum District on the Uganda-Sudan border. This area is sub-divided into 5 mined areas with an approximate total size of 130,000 square meters.¹³ Presently, one of these mined areas is confirmed of containing mines and the remaining four mined areas are awaiting technical survey.

¹³ Annex II: GMAA Agoro, November 2008

In January 2009, an additional GMAA was carried out in Kitgum District leading to the identification of an additional mined area in Ngomoromo, which is also located on the Uganda-Sudan border. This area has a total size of 140,000 square meters.¹⁴ This area has been confirmed containing mines with technical survey and clearance ongoing.

To date the confirmed mined areas in Uganda are limited to the above two areas consisting of 5 mined sub-areas in Agoro Hills (1 of which has been technically confirmed to date) and 1 mined area in Ngomoromo measuring a total of a total of 270,000 square meters.

3. Nature and Extent of the Original Article 5 Challenge: Qualitative Aspects

The conflicts of the last decades resulted in the displacement of up to two million people at its peak; these people could no longer access their farmland during the war, which meant that they had to depend on relief handouts from Government and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), which obviously is inadequate. During the conflict, a variety of ammunition and mines were used by conflicting parties, causing some of the population to fear falling victim to mines and other ERW.

With peace now returning in the area as a result of the combined military operations and peace initiatives, most of the population is returning home, this therefore called for serious efforts in ensuring the safety of the returnees by clearing all the land of mines and ERW as provided for under section three of the Internally Displaced Persons Policy (IDP) 2004.

Victims

The actual number of victims in the entire country is not clear, as there has not been a comprehensive survey. However, according to the report of a survey conducted by Associazione Volontari per il Servizio Internazionale (AVSI) in 2005 in the Acholi sub region, there have been approximately 2,000 victims of ERW over an 18-year period.¹⁵

4. Methods Used to Identify Areas Containing AP Mines and Reasons for Suspecting the Presence of AP Mines in Other Areas

Needs Assessment 2006 – 2007

The Needs Assessment was carried out by MAT under the contractual agreement of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Country Office. The methodology used involved the collection of data through questionnaires, which were distributed to sample individuals amongst the

¹⁴ Annex III: GMAA Ngomoromo, March 2009

¹⁵ Annex IV: Victim Statistics – UMAC Partial Surveys, 2009

affected communities. The assessment also involved interviews and review of historical information. The particular districts assessed included: Kasese in the Rwenzori region; Soroti in Teso sub region, Lira in Lango sub region; Kitgum, Gulu and Amuru in Acholi sub region.¹⁶

General Mine Action Assessment 2008 – 2009

A GMAA was carried out by UMAC with the technical support of the DDG. The GMAA was carried out in November in two phases, due to the difficulty in approaching the suspected mined areas owing to extreme terrain condition and lack of roads. Phase one of the GMAA consisted of information gathering from the UPDF, NGOs, local trading centres and population in the suspected mined areas forming the border seal in Kitgum. Phase two involved the deployment of a technical team to visually confirm the suspected mined areas in Lomwaka A and Lomwaka B, Agoro and Patiko.

Report of Local Authorities

This involves generating reports from the local council structures of government at the district level, sub county and village levels thus LC V, LC III and LC I respectively. Other reports are generated through the local communities and the area based NGOs.

Security Information from the UPDF

Security information and reports are obtained from the UPDF divisions in respective affected areas and collated with information from other sources. Additionally, information from Ex-combatants is obtained through the UPDF.

EOD Teams

Other than actual technical surveys and mine-clearance work that is currently going on in the two suspected mined areas in Kitgum, explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) and survey operations are simultaneously being conducted in four ERW affected districts. These EOD teams contribute to the collection of information from affected areas.

5. National Demining Structures

The National Mine Action Programme (NMAP) was established in 2005 in Uganda through a preparatory assistance programme implemented through the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) and funded as one of the Crisis Prevention and Recovery Programme elements of the UNDP Uganda Country Office. The overall objective of the mine action programme was to create an enabling environment for peace and resettlement, re-integration and socioeconomic recovery of conflict affected populations specifically looking into the development of the management and technical capacity of the UMAC; improvement in the safety of mine affected communities; improvement in mine risk education (MRE) capacities to reduce the risks of

¹⁶ Annex VII: Map of Areas of Needs Assessment, 2006-2007

accidents due to landmines and UXO/ERW; and meeting the needs of landmine survivors and contributing to the growth of the economy of Uganda by returning ERW contaminated land to communities for productive use.

In April 2006, UMAC, which took on the functions of accrediting, tasking, monitoring and quality assuring mine action operators, as well as conducting technical surveys, EOD and clearance, was established in the OPM. UMAC works under the guidance of the National Mine Action Steering Committee (NMASC), which is chaired by the Permanent Secretary-OPM, the NMASC comprises representatives from line ministries¹⁷ and other key stakeholders.

Mine action activities carried out by line ministries, UNDP, International and Local NGOs in the conflict-affected areas of Uganda, have been integrated into the National Humanitarian Recovery and Reconstruction Plans and Sector Programmes. Under the Community Based Rehabilitation Strategy of the Government of Uganda (GoU), the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development (MGLSD) is responsible for the social rehabilitation and reintegration of landmine survivors and victims in society, while the Ministry of Health (MoH) is responsible for the medical care and physical rehabilitation.

The NMAP contributes to government efforts of peace, recovery and development in post-conflict areas and advances the realisation of some of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). It is informed and guided by national policies and laws and international legal frameworks such as the Constitution of Uganda, the 1997 Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention; the 1980 Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons; the UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security; the five pillars of Mine Action, national and international mine action standards; the National Policy on Disability and the National Policy for Internally Displaced Persons and the draft Disaster Preparedness and Management Policy.

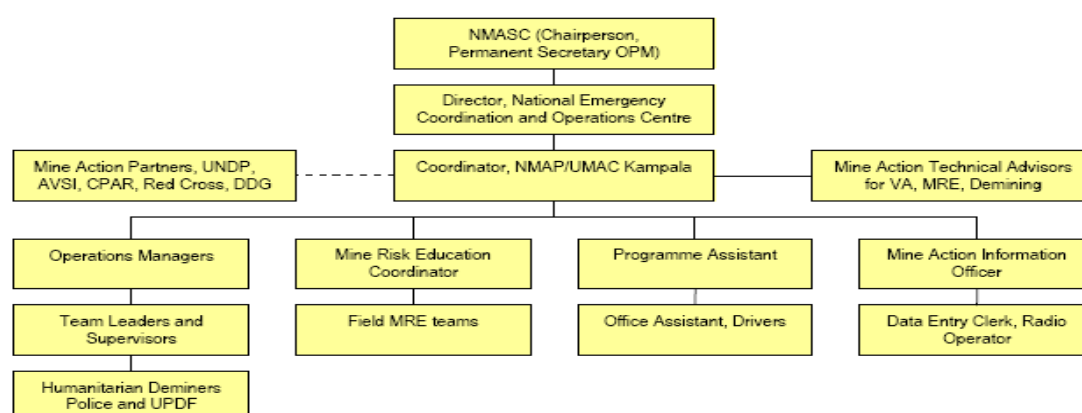
The NMAP has six pillars, namely clearance/demining; MRE, victim assistance, stockpile monitoring, advocacy, and institutional strengthening. Clearance/Demining looks at coordinating EOD response and mine clearance operations to free affected land for settlement and production purposes. The MRE pillar coordinates and monitors mine action actors tasked with MRE at national and local levels. The victim assistance pillar supports and monitors the implementation of the Comprehensive Plan for Landmine Victim Assistance and other victim assistance interventions. Monitoring of landmine stockpiles and reporting on the destruction of anti-personnel mines, in conformity with the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban

¹⁷ Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development (MoGLSD), Ministry of Health (MoH), Ministry of Education and Sports (MoES), Ministry of Defence (MoD), Ministry of Internal Affairs (MoIA)

Convention is the main focus of the stockpile-monitoring pillar. The advocacy pillar advances efforts on the elimination of landmines and cluster munitions, and ensuring that Uganda's international obligations such as to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention and the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) are met. Institutional strengthening builds the capacity of the Government of Uganda for effective coordination, communication, monitoring, evaluation, and mobilisation of resources to manage the NMAP.

Mine action activities are coordinated by the UMAC, which operates under the Department for Disaster Preparedness and Refugees of the OPM. The UMAC is guided by the NMASC, a multi-stakeholder body mandated to foresee and supervise the implementation of mine action activities in Uganda through the management and coordination of humanitarian demining, stockpile destruction, advocacy, victim assistance and MRE activities. The UMAC have two centres of control and coordination - the national centre based in Kampala which deals with overall national mine action coordination and management, and the regional centre based in Gulu district which deals with the day-to-day operational matters pertaining to the deployment and tasking of the clearance teams as well as coordination with the district local governments and mine action forums.

Below is the organisational structure of the NMAP:



The NMAP has a current clearance capacity made up of 12 fully equipped multi-purpose demining teams, one quality control/assurance team, and an operations management team. Clearance operations, surveys, community liaison and explosive ordnance disposal are being carried out by the multipurpose demining teams seconded from the UPDF and the Uganda Police Force (UPF) under the direct management of the UMAC.

Complementing the work of the clearance teams, are six mobile education teams delivering MRE services and community liaison to communities and schools. Victim assistance activities utilise the staff of the Department for Disability and Elderly in the MGLSD and of the MoH, which has the

responsibility of leading the implementation of victim assistance activities under the overall coordination of the UMAC.

6. Nature and Extent of Progress Made: Quantitative Aspects

General Clearance Overview

Clearance operations began in 2006 after developing the capacity of initially 4 teams of UPDF and UPF personnel, expanding the capacity to 12 teams in 2008. Clearance work from 2006 to 2008 mainly involved EOD in which a number of ERW and a small number of mines were destroyed.

By 2009, 304 of the 428 SHAs have been cleared resulting in the destruction of 61 mines, 12 antitank mines, 5,323 items of UXO, and 19,553 small arms ammunition.¹⁸ Additionally, a total of 35 SHAs have been discredited, and 89 are pending UXO clearance.

The two identified areas confirmed of containing landmines are currently being addressed through technical survey and clearance.¹⁹ It is important to note that 36 of the 61 mines recovered and destroyed in Uganda are associated with these two areas and the remaining 24 mines destroyed are nuisance mines.

Agoro Mountains

To date one of the 5 areas in Agoro Mountains (Agoro 1) has been confirmed of containing mines and is undergoing technical survey and clearance. As of July 2009, a total of 3,180.5m² has been cleared out of a total of approximately 130,000m². The clearance operation has so far destroyed 13 mines (type 72 APM).²⁰

Ngomoromo

Technical survey and clearance started in April 2009 and are ongoing. As of July 2009, a total of 2,874m² has been cleared out of the total extent of approximately 140,000m². The clearance operation has so far destroyed 23 mines (type PMD6).²¹

7. Nature and Extent of Progress Made: Qualitative Aspects

Most of the areas that have been cleared of UXO and mines in Lango, Acholi and Teso sub-regions, are being accessed by the former returnees for cultivation and resettlement. It is estimated that in the Teso sub-region 90% of the IDPs have returned, 80% in Lango and about 60 % in Acholi. Out of

¹⁸ Annex VIII: Current Maps of Progress Achieved on SHAs and Mined Areas

¹⁹ Annex V: SHA and clearance progress statistics, June 2009

²⁰ *ibid*

²¹ *ibid*

the approximate 2 million former IDPs, some 80% have returned to date.²² Since 2006, mine and UXO clearance work and mine risk education activities have contributed to the reduction of ERW victims.

8. Methods & Standards Used to Release Areas Known or Suspected to Contain AP Mines

National Mine Action Standards

The Uganda Mine Action Standards (UMAS) 1st Edition, Dec 2008, used to release areas in Uganda are based on International Mine Action Standards (IMAS). The land release criteria, risk- and quality management applied, is documented in UMAS Chapter 10.

General Mine Action Assessments

The GMAA is carried out in an area that is suspected of being contaminated by mines and/or unexploded ordnance and at all times prior to a technical survey or manual clearance activities. The survey consists of liaising with local authorities, communities, NGOs, UN agencies, UPDF and Police posts, followed by visits with local community representatives to the suspected area to assess the extent and type of ERW threat and establish safe perimeters to be marked. Subsequently and if applicable, an operational clearance plan will be developed to clear the area of mines and/or UXO.

Technical Survey

Technical surveys are being carried out on suspected and known mined areas. The term refers to a detailed topographical and technical investigation of known or suspected mined areas identified during the planning phase. These areas have been identified during the conducted GMAAs.

Explosive Ordnance Disposal

The detection, identification, evaluation, render safe, recovery and disposal of UXO; EOD is undertaken as a routine part of mine clearance operations, upon discovery of the UXO; to dispose of UXO discovered outside mined areas; and to dispose of explosive ordnance, which has become hazardous by damage or attempted destruction.

Manual Demining

Manual Demining is currently the only method used for clearance of mines and UXO. The manual mine-clearance in Uganda is conducted by use of Minelab F3 detectors. Activities leading to removal of mine- and UXO hazards; including technical survey, mapping, mine-clearance, UXO-clearance, marking, post-clearance documentation, community mine action liaison and the handover of cleared land.

Land Release (Part of the National Standard)

Once land is released through a mine action activity, it is handed back to the communities in the presence of the local leader(s). A signature is obtained from the local authority as an agreement on their acceptance of ownership and responsibility of the land, and they are fully briefed on what mine action activities have been conducted in the area. In this way, the local authority accepts responsibility to report and monitor any residual risk.

Documentation

In order to fully document decision-making within the operational clearance planning process, task dossiers are used and managed through a task control sheet. This steers the risk management process, documents the decision-making and provides the necessary support towards the audit of operational decision-making. The owner of the land (local authority) approves the work done with the signature to the completion report (hand over certification) and accepts responsibility to report and monitor any residual risk. All documentation regarding the decision making process of demining work and documentation regarding land release is maintained in archive in the task dossier and within IMSMA.

Reasons for suspecting the remaining four areas in Agoro hills;

Several reasons can be advanced for suspecting the four areas including the following:

- 1) The results of the GMAA exercise conducted in Kitgum district in 2008/2009, revealing that the areas under investigation were contaminated with mines.
- 2) The continued UMAC presence in the district and the accumulated knowledge of the details of the past conflict in the area.
- 3) Liaison with the local communities and authorities.
- 4) Reports and information received from the EX combatants and the UPDF.
- 5) A record of two confirmed death cases in Agoro hills associated with the four suspected mined sub-areas.

9. Methods & Standards of Controlling and Assuring Quality

Uganda Mine Action Standards

The UMAS is a central part of the overall Quality Management toolbox utilised in Uganda. The task-, quality- and risk management Chapters alongside with regulating the accreditation procedure are all applied in the demining work and training in the field.

Training and Refresh Training

All training of the demining capacity and of the information management department is carried out in accordance with minimum requirements laid down in IMAS. Each deminer and leader within the UMAC capacity is trained for the specific tasks they will be carrying out. As a minimum, all UMAC personnel are First Aid- and EOD-trained to IMAS level 2, whilst

some personnel have higher EOD qualifications and have undertaken additional demining and surveyor training courses. All training carried out and planned is documented within UMAC information database. The refresher trainings in demining work and medical conduct are carried out bi-annually.

Internal and External Quality Assurance (QA) Inspections

UMAC team and section leaders carry out internal QA inspections on a daily basis. Using metal detectors, they perform a series of 1m² spot checks on the recently cleared ground. The QA is then documented in QA control sheet forming a part of the task dossier. External QA inspections are carried out randomly on the cleared ground bi-monthly by UMAC operations officers with support from a technical advisor.

Final Quality Assurance Inspection

Each area to be released is subject to final QA, which involves a series of spot checks, as mentioned above, to an extent of a minimum of 2% of the cleared area focusing on the spots where a mine has been missing from a pattern. The procedure is carried out by UMAC operations officer with support from a technical advisor.

10. Efforts Undertaken to Ensure the Effective Exclusion of Civilians from Mined Areas

Delivery of Mine Risk Education and Community Liaison

Altogether, five NGOs (AVSI, CPAR, WorldVision, DDG, Amnet-R) have delivered Mine Risk Education (MRE) and community liaison (CL) activities in 7 districts affected by ERW; including Gulu, Pader, Kitgum, Oyam, Lira, Kasese and Bundibugyo. The MRE and CL activities have been ongoing in different capacities since 2006, having involved teaching of safe behaviours and reporting mechanisms to hundreds of thousands of adults and children within the affected districts. Educational Posters, T-shirts, leaflets and other Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials have been disseminated in thousands. Demining teams also carry out CL to all the communities where they are operating at a particular time.

Coordination and Guidance for MRE

The OPM has recently established a position at UMAC for a National MRE Coordinator, who will be the focal point for donor liaison and coordination for these activities to ensure the exclusion of civilians from mined areas.

11. Resources Made Available to Support Progress Made to Date

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Financial Resources made available by the State Party	US\$ 138,900	US\$ 216,217	US\$ 250,000	US\$ 250,000	US\$ 125,000
Financial Resources made available by actors other than the State Party	US\$ 702,426.69	US\$ 1,525,917.98	US\$ 2,123,516.85	US\$ 823,916.45	US\$ 886,587.40
Total	841,326.69	1,742,134.98	2,375,819	1,073,387	1,011,547

Note: the Government contribution has been mainly in form of rental funds for the Mine Action Centre, staff salaries, allowances and contribution towards materials such as explosives.

12. Circumstances that Impede Compliance in a 10-year Period

Late Commencement of Clearance Operation

Uganda signed the Ottawa treaty in 1997 and ratified it in 1999. While Uganda was expected to start identifying and addressing all mined areas in her jurisdiction at this time, this did not happen until 2006 upon the establishment of the mine action programme and establishment of a clearance team. This delay is partially the reason for Uganda's inability to fulfil Article 5 obligations in the initial 10 years.

Security Reasons

The uncertainty caused by the continuous LRA rebel attacks on the civilian population affected clearance operations in the affected areas. Actual clearance only began in 2006 when the government forces decisively repulsed the rebels from the affected districts.

Resources

Both material and human resources are required to successfully clear the identified mined areas. The inadequacy in the supply of these resources greatly impeded Uganda's Article 5 clearance obligations. In respect to human resources, only four teams comprised of 41 personnel were second from the UPDF and UPF to the Mine Action Programme, forming only two demining teams. This personnel was not sufficient to deal with the problem in a lesser period. It was only in 2008 that additional 26 were added to the existing personnel, raising the number to 67. This current capacity has

resulted in the current progress in demining of the two identified mined areas.

Likewise, funding for material resources, equipment, among other requirements, has been insufficient. This situation is aggravated by the fact that not many international mine action partners have been active in Uganda save for DDG, which came on the ground in 2008.

Operational Problems

A multiplicity of operational and management challenges also contributed to the further delay in commencing the clearance of the mined areas. For example, while the plan was to commence with the technical survey of the identified areas in Kitgum in January 2009, this only began in June 2009 due to delays in procurement of necessary facilities such as tents, food, water etc.

Meteorological Issues

Unfavourable weather conditions such as heavy rainfall, leading to flooding thick vegetation curtails the pace of de-mining work.

13. Humanitarian, Economic, Social and Environmental Implications

The location of the mined areas are economically viable for agricultural activities, Agoro mountains is a particularly fertile area, where a range of both food crops and cash crops can be grown, once clearance is completed, this would go a long way in not only improving food security situation in the home stead but also in raising living standards of the people who have lived under encampment for over two decades.

It is estimated that approximately 3,000 people in surrounding villages are affected by these mined areas.

14. Nature and Extent of the Remaining Article 5 Challenge: Quantitative Aspects

Agoro Mountains

Technical survey is currently ongoing and pending completion in Agoro 1 to be followed by clearance of all landmines in the area. The extent of this suspected mined sub-area based on the assessment to date, is 26,819.5 m².

The initiation of a technical survey to confirm the presence of mines is pending for the remaining four remaining mined areas (Agoro 2-5). The extent of these suspected mined areas based on the assessment to date, is approximately 100,000 m².

Ngomoromo

Technical survey is currently ongoing in the Ngomoromo minefield. The extent of the remaining area to be cleared based on the assessment to date is approximately 137,126 m².

At completion of the technical survey in the Agoro Mountains and Ngomoromo mined areas, an area reduction for the total clearance requirements may be possible. However, until then, the calculation on the duration of the clearance is being made on the basis that 100% of the assessed total size of the mined areas is to be cleared.

15. Nature and Extent of the Remaining Article 5 Challenge: Qualitative Aspects

Remote Location

The two mined areas are situated in a remote jungle environment bordering Sudan. In the case of Agoro Mountains, the approach to the base camp the mined area is worked from, requires abandoning 4x4 vehicle once the road ends, followed up by walk up and down the hills for two hours in thick jungle. To reach the mined areas from the base camp, require another hour of walking carrying the heavy deminer equipment and protective gear. To reach Ngomoromo, the road from Kitgum town – which is the nearest point to buy food and fuel items in – to the mined area requires two hours of driving in robust 4x4 vehicle.

Logistics Support

In terms of the remoteness of the sites worked on, the only way to clear Ngomoromo and Agoro Mountains of mines is to maintain and move base camps and deploy deminers permanently in the area. In turn, doing so set up further requirements for a comprehensive logistics and life support for the daily needs of the deployed personnel. The walking path is slashed and burned from vegetation twice a month to enable the continued man-carried logistics support and to maintain an evacuation route in an event of an accident. Besides demining, demolition, protective- and medical equipments; food, fuel, water, generators, hygienic-, cooking and camping equipment are transported onto the site. At present, Ngomoromo and Agoro areas accommodate a total of 65 staff consisting of 44 deminers, 10 security and 11 support staff and in the near future a total of 105, representing heightened challenges.

Soil and Terrain

The jungle terrain in both mined areas makes the manual mine-clearance progress relatively slow whilst the deminers have to spend a lot of time cutting down high and thick vegetation as part of the demining procedure. In Ngomoromo, a mechanical machine can be deployed to speed up the pace of clearance, whilst at Agoro Mountains the steep hills; forest and absence of roads disable plans for mechanical aids.

Security

The overall security situation in the border areas between Uganda and Sudan have been assessed calm for the last year. Both demining operations are supported by small security detachment from UPDF. Nonetheless, should LRA or other unwanted militant groups appear at the border, demining efforts would need to be suspended in accordance with the security and evacuation plan, for as long as the security could be re-established.

16. Amount of Time Requested and a Rationale for This Amount of Time

Based on an assessment by UMAC, in order to fulfil her Article 5 obligations, Uganda will require three additional years (August 2009 – August 2012). It has been established that Uganda can complete its Article 5 obligations in the above stated period with an increased capacity of 40 personnel and if certain assumptions and conditions are met.

17. Current Institutional, Human Resource and Material capacity

Clearance and Survey Capacity

The current Demining capacity in Uganda is small; at present fully stretched to deal with the two known mined areas and the UXO contamination in northern Uganda. The current capacity is 67 strong, highlighted in the table below.

S/N	Position/Role	Location	Manpower
01	UMAC Coordinator	OPM UMAC Kampala	1
02	Operations Officer	RMAC Gulu	1
03	Deputy Operations Officer	RMAC Gulu	1
04	Administration Assistant/Store man	RMAC Gulu	1
05	EOD Team 1	Gulu	5 men
06	EOD Team 2	Amuru	5 men
07	EOD Team 3	Pader	5 men
08	EOD Team 4	Kitgum	5 men
09	Agoro Clearance Teams	Agoro Mountains	22
10	Ngomoromo Clearance Teams	Ngomoromo	21

Current UMAC Operational capacity is 67 strong.

The UNDP and DDG support UMAC and the NMAP. UNDP is coordinating and funding the mine action programme, supplying all vehicles and paying for allowances for UMAC staff involved in demining operations. DDG provide technical and management support to the NMAP and carry out logistics

support to UMAC operations, providing bi-lateral funding for the Regional Mine Action Office and field operations. DDG has a MRE capacity working parallel with UMAC in Northern Uganda. The table below highlights the 22 strong DDG personnel in Uganda.

S/N	Position/Role	Location	Specification / Manpower
01	Programme Manager	OPM Kampala	Strategic Advice
02	Senior Technical Advisor	RMAC Gulu	Operational Management
03	Technical Advisor	RMAC Gulu	Technical Advice
04	MRE/VA Specialist	OPM Kampala	MRE/VA Advice
05	MRE Coordinator	RMAC Gulu	MRE Coordination
06	MRE Team 1	Amuru	2 people
07	MRE Team 2	Amuru	2 people
08	MRE Team 3	Kitgum	2 people
09	MRE Team 4	Kitgum	2 people
10	MRE Team 5	Pader	2 People
11	MRE Team 6	Pader	2 People
12	IMSMA Officer	RMAC Gulu	IMSMA Version 5.2
13	Data Entry Assistant	RMAC Gulu	
14	Radio Operator	RMAC Gulu	HF/VHF communications
15	Logistician	RMAC Gulu	Life support to operations
16	Accountant	RMAC Gulu	Accounting

Current DDG Operational Capacity is 22.

18. Detailed Work Plan for the Period of the Requested Extension

Introduction

The mine contamination challenge in Uganda is small and geographically limited compared to the majority of the affected countries worldwide. It is also a “simple fix” as the areas are known and under a technical survey in the case of Ngomoromo, and known but not yet technically surveyed in four of the five sub-areas at the Agoro Mountains. With adjustments to the current capacity in terms of an additional 40 deminers, Uganda would be in position to fulfil her obligation in the requested three-year period. Evidently, the availability of additional capacity, such as mechanical demining assets, may allow Uganda to fulfil its obligations in a shorter time frame.²³

Objective

The objective of the minefield- and UXO clearance operations is to locate and destroy all AP mines and UXO in the two mined areas to remove the threat to the returning IDP population. The aim of the work plan is to set out the structure and clearance mechanism that will best achieve this

²³ Annex IX Operations Clearance Work Plan 2009-2012

objective in an effective and efficient manner, and thereby facilitating the compliance with Article V of the Ottawa Treaty.

Increased Personnel Capacity

When UNDP funding is made available the plan is to increase the current capacity with additional 40 deminers seconded from UPDF. This will speed up clearance in the minefield areas and increase the EOD and survey response in northern and western Uganda.²⁴

New Mechanical Capacity

External support to the NMAP clearance operations is desired in terms of machine support: The minefield at Ngomoromo is suitable in certain areas for the use of a mechanical demining asset. The use of ground preparation machinery would greatly reduce the time required to complete clearance in Ngomoromo.

The Norwegian People's Aid (NPA) Mine Action programme in South Sudan has offered to support operations in Uganda with the use of a vegetation-cutting machine (Minewolf Bagger) in the Ngomoromo minefield. The funding for external support is likely to be at no cost to Uganda and fully supported by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (NMFA). This is to be confirmed by NPA Sudan after consultation with their head office and the NMFA.²⁵

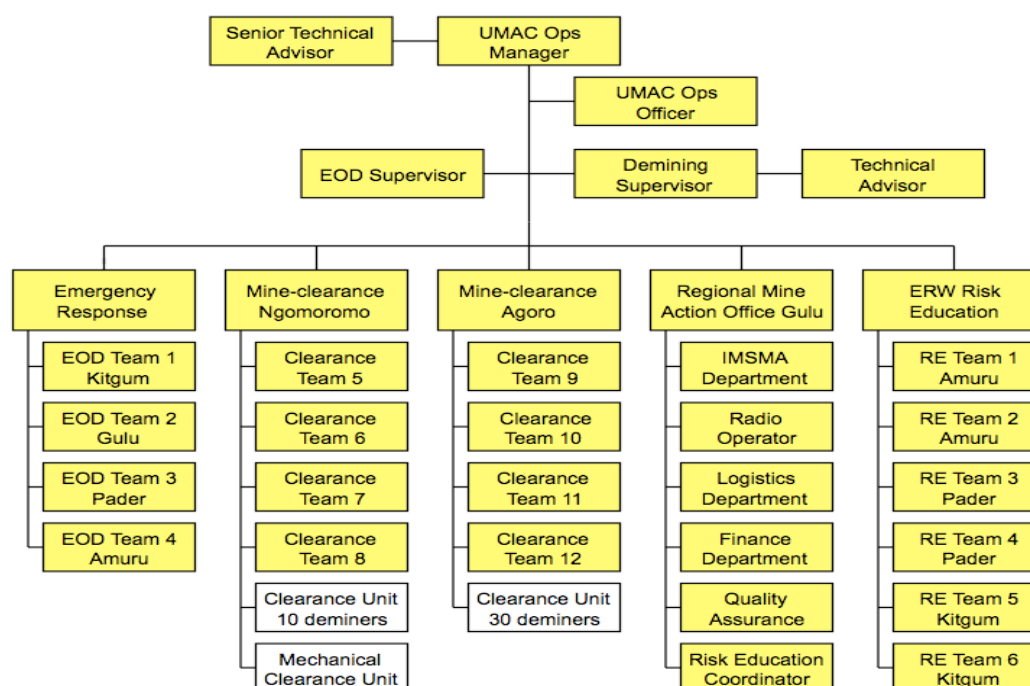
A technical assessment to the NPA Sudan programme mechanical operations is underway to take place in August 2009, carried out by UMAC and DDG staff, followed by a soil and terrain verification assessment at Ngomoromo conducted by NPA Sudan mechanical specialist. The period of external support to the mechanical operations in Uganda is planned to begin in January 2010, consisting of use of ground preparation and vegetation cutting machinery along the minefield of Ngomoromo.²⁶

²⁴ Ibid.

²⁵ Ibid.

²⁶ Ibid.

UMAC Organisation Chart 2009–2012



Each UMAC Emergency Response EOD Team comprises a leader and four trained operators (1+4), who double as drivers and medics for the team. Each UMAC Clearance team comprises a leader and four manual deminers. The planned, increased capacity comprises 40 deminers to carry out only manual mine-clearance.

Training New Personnel

When additional UPDF personnel increase capacity, training is required to ensure they are operating in accordance with IMAS and are qualified for the mine-clearance work they will be carrying out. DDG is equipped and available to provide in-country training in manual demining to IMAS standards upon request. The training and deployment of the additional capacity will greatly improve the pace of clearance and further facilitates the release of few EOD qualified key personnel to other affected districts to deal with the UXO threat, which is assessed more dangerous to the local population compared to the humanitarian impact of mine-clearance in the border areas.

Equipment

The current UMAC team capacity is fully equipped requirements for additional equipment. The table below highlights the operational requirements needed to increase the capacity by forty men.²⁷

²⁷ Annex VI Costing UMAC Mine-clearance, 12 months

S/N	Item	Requirement	Remarks
01	Toyota Hard Top Landcruiser	4	
02	Minelab F3 Detectors	40	
03	Clearance Tool Kits	40	Standard UMAC toolkit
04	Personnel Protective Equipment	40	Including mine visor
05	UMAC Uniforms	80	Including boots
06	Trauma Packs	4	Including Stretcher
07	Codan HF Communications	4	One set per vehicle
08	Motorola VHF Communications	4	Demolition safety
09	Tentage	8 tents	
10	Camp Equipment including Generator	2 sets	Bedding, cooking kits, gen5kVA, stationary, briefing boards

Logistic Support

A deployment of increased capacity in the mined areas requires greater logistic support; 40 additional deminers double the current cost of supporting the clearance operations in Agoro and Ngomoromo.²⁸

Hardship Allowances

To ensure the teams are all working on the same memorandum of understanding, UNDP would be required to pay allowances to UMAC teams in conjunction with the current rates.²⁹

Costing

To increase the manual demining capacity will involve purchase of new equipment, means of transport as highlighted in this report and the logistics support to the increased capacity over a period taken to clear the mined areas in Ngomoromo and Agoro.³⁰

Operational Plan Time-Line

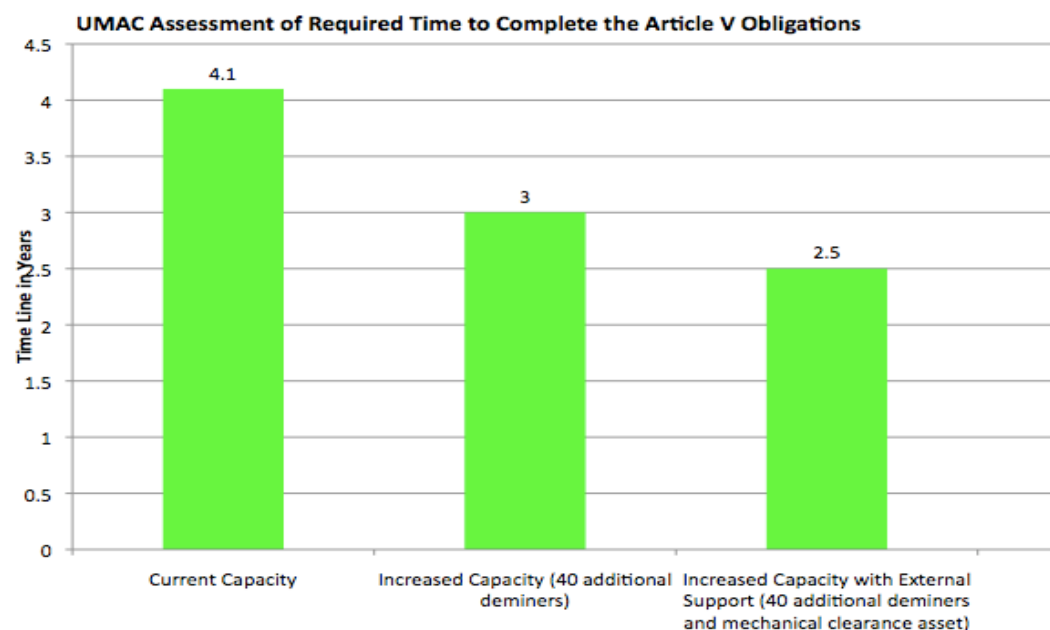
On the next page is a chart illustrating the result of UMAC assessment on the estimated clearance completion time frame for 1) the current capacity; 2) increased capacity by 40 additional deminers; and for 3) increased capacity by 40 personnel and external mechanical asset. The timeline is an estimation of the total clearance progress on the known mined areas; based on manual demining time and motion studies, UMAC annual work plan, and the findings of the technical survey carried out to date.

²⁸ Ibid.

²⁹ Ibid.

³⁰ Ibid.

UMAC Assessment on Time Required to Fulfilling Article V Obligations



The above chart of estimated time line to completion is in line with the below table setting up annual objectives for clearance progress objective [in square meter m²] for the period 2009 – 2012. A detailed account on the estimated clearance progress within the mined areas is annexed to this document.³¹

Total Clearance Requirement m ²	Realistic Clearance Objective m ²			
	AUG 2009 – DEC 2009	JAN 2010 – DEC 2010	JAN 2011 – DEC 2011	JAN 2012 – MAY 2012
270,000	27,500	137,500	85,000	20,000

Assumptions for Requesting Three Years

The time frame of three years being requested by Uganda is based on several assumptions, including but not limited to the following:

- The additional 40 personnel are released; trained, equipped and deployed by November 2009. The details on how this will be achieved are laid down in the Operations Clearance Work Plan August 2009 – August 2012.³²
- To complete the mine-clearance work, the donors' commitment for continued support until August 2012 has to be secured. Whilst the Ugandan government will continue the provision of the manpower for

³¹ Annex IX Operations Clearance Work Plan 2009-2012

³² Ibid.

UMAC operations until and beyond the compliance with international commitments, covering for the salaries for the deminers and office spaces at the OPM Kampala; the technical, logistical and material support require secured external funding and donor support. The estimated annual cost for the mine-clearance operations is US\$ 2,6 mill.³³

- The weather conditions shall remain favourable for the clearance operations.
- Security situation shall remain stable through out the three years of operations.
- Sustained material and funding support from the international community until August 2012.
- Sustained technical and logistics support from an international Mine Action agency until August 2012.

³³ Annex VI Costing UMAC Mine-clearance, 12 months

Annex I

Glossary of Terms

Discredited	Discredited by a physical visit on the area, which turned out no evidence of mines or UXO.
Nuisance mine	Randomly scattered antitank or antipersonnel landmine or parts of it in few strategic locations or just randomly left behind during i.e. a retreat, individually laid over a large area to create the suspicion and fear of threat posed by landmines and thereby to influence the judgment of the minds of the authorities, military and local civilian population.
GMAA	Liaison with local authorities and communities, NGOs and UN agencies on perceived threat of ERW in a specific area. Obtaining information from UPDF and Uganda Police Force on the history of warfare in a specific area. Physical visit into the safe perimeters of the suspected area to find markings, traces of mines or mines; followed by mapping and recording reference points, marking and fencing where appropriate; to be basis of establishment of an operational plan.
Community Liaison	As part of the daily activities of demining teams and MRE teams integrated to UMAC capacity, CL in Uganda is designed to reinforce efforts under other pillars for mine action, in particular those of victim assistance and clearance. The CL is carried out to share collected information, linking victims and health centres, linking communities with UMAC phone line for ERW reporting, assigning MRE and UMAC demining teams with prioritised work areas near to each other, and gathering data in support of surveys, at all times striving for high community participation.

Glossary of Acronyms

ADF	Allied Democratic Forces
APM	Antipersonnel Mine
AVSI	Associazione Volontari per il Servizio Internazionale
CCW	Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons
CL	Community liaison
CPR	Crisis Prevention and Recovery Programme
DDG	Danish Demining Group
EOD	Explosive Ordnance Disposal
ERW	Explosive Remnants of War
GMAA	General Mine Action Assessment
GoU	Government of Uganda
IDP	Internally Displaced Persons Policy
IMAS	International Mine Action Standards
LRA	The Lord's Resistance Army
MAT	Mines Awareness Trust
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
MGLSD	Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development
MoH	Ministry of Health
MRE	Mine Risk Education
NALU	National Army for the Liberation of Uganda
NGO	Non-governmental Organisation
NMAP	National Mine Action Programme
NMASC	National Mine Action Steering Committee
OPM	Office of the Prime Minister

QA	Quality Assurance
QC	Quality Control
SHA	Suspected Hazardous Area(s)
UMAC	Uganda Mine Action Centre
UMAS	The Uganda Mine Action Standards
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UPA	Uganda People's Army
UPDF	Uganda People's Defence Force
UPF	Uganda Police Force
UXO	Unexploded Ordnance



02 December 2008



UGANDA MINE ACTION CENTRE

PLANNING DOCUMENT FOR TECHNICAL SURVEY OF KITGUM AGORO HILLS AT UGANDA-SUDAN BORDER SEAL

1 GENERAL

This planning document details the requirements for the deployment of a technical survey asset to the Uganda/Sudan border seal area near the villages of Lomwaka A and Lomwaka B in the Agoro Hills to be carried out in January 2009. A General Mine Action Assessment (GMAA) was carried out in Kitgum over the period of 17 – 20 Nov (phase one) and 24 – 28 Nov (phase two), in a joint effort by the Danish Demining Group (DDG), Uganda People's Defence Force (UPDF) and the Humanitarian Mine Action Team No. 4 of the Uganda Mine Action Centre (UMAC).

2 AIM

The aim of this document is to specify the logistics, human and technical resources requirements and cost estimation to carry out a technical survey in the Agoro Hills of Kitgum, and to collate information on the suspected mined areas forming a border seal between Uganda and Sudan.

3 BACKGROUND

The Sudanese border with Uganda was frequently used by the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) insurgents during the 20-year civil war. The government of Uganda ratified the Ottawa Mine Ban Convention in December 1999.

The mines previously identified at the border area, and during the GMAA, are a mixture of types T72 anti tank mines, AP Mine No4, PMD6 and PMD7 anti-personnel blast mines and POMZ-2 anti-personnel fragmentation mines.

In 2005, the UPDF cleared part of the minefields. The clearance took place between Bibia (Amuru district), Ngomoromo and Palamoni (Kitgum district), clearance reports were however not submitted. Partial clearance was done between Ngomoromo and Palamoni.

Clearance between Palamoni and Agoro in the area with in the Agoro hills was not carried out. The full extent of the suspected mined area in terms of the full length is not yet known.

Mines were, however laid in areas believed to be LRA crossing points along the Agoro Hills in the location of the villages Lomwaka A & B. The mines used were a mixture of types T72 and PMD6 and PMD7 anti-personnel blast mines and POMZ-2 anti-personnel fragmentation mines. The mined areas were laid without the completion of minefield-laying maps.

In 2005, the UPDF deployed to lift the minefields that were previously laid. The clearance took place between Bibia (Amuru district), Ngomoromo and Palamoni (Kitgum district), and was carried out without the completion of clearance reports. Clearance between Palamoni and Agoro in the area known as the Agoro hills has not been carried out, due to the tactical importance of the mined areas.

4 PLANNING FOR TECHNICAL SURVEY

4.1 Responsibilities. The planning and preparation are being conducted among UNDP, UMAC and DDG. The DDG will deal with all matters regarding the technical advice required to carry out the technical Survey. The UMAC will be responsible for providing the clearance teams, liaison with the UPDF, and completion of the technical survey. UNDP will be responsible for funding the operation and providing the logistics supply for the duration of the survey.

4.2 General Mine Action Assessment. At the request of the UMAC, a GMAA was carried out by UMAC with the technical support of the DDG. The GMAA was carried out in two phases in November due to the difficulty in approaching the suspected mined areas due to extreme terrain conditions and lack of roads. Phase one of the GMAA consisted of information gathering from the UPDF, NGOs, local trading centres and -population in the suspected mined areas forming the border seal in Kitgum, whilst the phase two involved the deployment of a technical team to visually confirm the suspected mined areas per se in Lomwaka A and Lomwaka B, Agoro and Patiko. The maps and photos of the suspected mined areas are shown at Annexes D and E.

4.3 Demining to Date. During 2005 the UPDF deployed engineer assets to the area of the border seal to carry out clearance of the mined areas laid in 2000 and 2002. Clearance started in the areas of Bibia and Ngomoromo. The mines were lifted to a military standard and no humanitarian clearance took place, WO2 Asiraf and Sgt Odwar Sam confirmed this. During the clearance operation the mines and marking system were removed.

4.4 Last Known Mine Found. The last mine found was in Nov 2008 in the area of Ngomoromo. This was a type POMZ-2 discovered in the area of the previously lifted mined areas. The local population had started to cultivate the land and uncovered the damaged mine during ploughing. No other mines have been found to date since the clearance operation in 2005.

4.5 Suspected Mined Area. The suspected mined areas run along the Ugandan border with Sudan situated on the Agoro hills. The area is approximately 6km long and 50m wide; however until the technical survey is completed, the actual perimeters of the mined areas remain unknown. There are five suspected minefields in total, two in front of Lomwaka B running over the main feature of IIaIa (Lomwaka) on the hills of Mica and Agolo Kikec, and three in front of Lomwaka A running over the hills of Locoro, Aruru and Gunya Doyo. The area is interspersed with heavy bush, during the forthcoming dry season this will be burnt to ensure easier access. All minefields are partly fenced; this is likely to need replacing after the technical survey and before the clearance operation.

The area around the Agoro Hills is overgrown in most places and very difficult to approach by vehicle. Phase two of the GMAA was conducted on foot from the villages of Agoro and Potika with UPDF assistance. The local population are not occupying the border seal area in the Agoro hills due to a fear of landmines. During the UPDF clearance in 2005, the fence was removed after the mines were lifted. It is however observed that in few areas of Agoro and Potika the minefield marking system is still in place, suggesting that no clearance has taken place on those areas on Agoro Hills. The majority of the ground is made up of rock formations interspersed with heavy bush, during the dry season this will be burnt to ensure easier access.

4.6 Last Known Casualty. In the region of Agoro there were reports from the Local Council member of casualties and the loss of livestock on the Agoro hills over the past 6 years. However there were no confirmed names or casualties available to verify the reports. The last known casualty was in 1999 in the area of Lomwaka B, a local child called Abala Leone, who wandered into the minefield on Mica, and was later on taken to Gulu for a prosthetic limb. His father and one member of UMAC that met the casualty in Agoro confirmed this. Since the accident the local population have kept their distance from the mined areas. The last mine incident occurred on 24 Nov 2008, when an animal strayed onto the hill Mica and detonated a device.

4.7 Clearance. Due to the difficulty in gaining access to the suspected mined area locations on the Agoro hills due to the harshness of the terrain, the only clearance method available taking into account the UMAC resources, would be manual demining.

4.8 Detector Test. During the phase two of the GMAA, a detector test was carried out successfully to ascertain the metallic content of the ground and to determine the suitability of the Minelab F3 during the forthcoming technical survey and clearance operations.

4.9 Threat. It has been assessed that the threat in the suspected mined areas is likely to be that of anti-personnel mines; the remaining mines of the batch planted roughly ten years ago including AP blast types T72, PMD6 and PMD7, and POMZ-2 AP fragmentation mines. No reports of unexploded ordnance (UXO) were recorded at Agoro Hills during the GMAA, however this cannot be discredited, as combats are known to have occurred in the area.

4.10 Supporting Documentation. UMAC team 4 have completed IMSMA location reports for the areas of Bibia, Patiko and Agoro and both phases of the GMAA include a detailed report. A copy of the IMSMA report can be found from RMAC in Gulu.

5 RECOMMENDATIONS

The assessed areas at Lomwaka A and Lomwaka B are likely to still contain anti-personnel mines, due to the reports of casualties to the local population and livestock, and the presence of a minefield marking system. The technical survey will provide more precise information as to the total surface area of the mined areas, what devices they contain and the requirement for a subsequent clearance operation.

The technical survey of the mined areas should be conducted with effective start in January 2009. An assessment would be made then with reference to a future clearance task; if this is to be carried out by the UMAC, they will require further refresher training before deployment with the support from DDG.

6 LOGISTICS REQUIREMENTS

Technical Resources. The technical survey will require a minimum of four UMAC clearance teams; the teams will require refresher training at the beginning of January to ensure they are conversant with Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) and the methodology of a technical survey. It is recommended that Lt. Alex Kibwota will be the supervisor for the operation due to his involvement in the GMAA and his local knowledge of the Kitgum District.

Human Resources. There will be a requirement for labourers to move and set up a base camp in the Agoro Hills. The base camp location is a 4-hour walk from the nearest road; this will require a caravan of men to move all the stores to the location from Agoro, Kitgum. There will also be a requirement for a smaller party of men to remain at the base camp for the duration of the operation to aid movement of equipment and relocation of base camp as the survey progresses. A full breakdown of human resources requirements can be found at Annex A to this document.

Cook/Camp Helper. It is recommended that a cook and a camp helper be hired for the duration of the operation to ensure that maximum technical capacity can be used for surveying the mined areas.

Equipment. There will be a requirement for a large amount of equipment to be carried for the technical survey and to establish the base camp in the Agoro Hills. All equipment should be in place at the UMAC/DDG compound on 15 December 2008. An inventory of equipment requirements can be found at Annex B to this document.

Food, Water and Fuel. There will be a requirement to purchase food and water at the beginning of January to be transported onto the Agoro Hills for the team initial deployment. After this deployment, it is essential to re-supply the team capacity by a weekly collection of food and water to be transported to Agoro. There will be a requirement for a larger water ration for the technical survey teams; a minimum of 6 litres per day due to the harsh conditions, arduous work and the heat. It would be advised that Sunday be used as a re-supply day for all consumables. Fuel will be required for the generator; this should be re-supplied on a weekly basis.

Costing. A breakdown of estimated costs can be found at Annex C to this planning document.

Training. The technical survey teams will require an in-depth technical survey training package prior to deployment; this will take place over the period of 06 – 11 January 2009.

Security. The area of the Agoro Hills was used as an avenue of approach for the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) patrols during the war, the area still requires a security presence during the planned technical survey. UMAC are to contact the UPDF to ensure security patrols will be available for the duration of the operation.

Mine Risk Education. There will be a requirement for Mine Risk Education in the areas of Lomwaka A and B before and during the technical survey. DDG MRE teams deployed in the Kitgum area should plan to carry out training from the beginning of January 2009.

Attachments. A detailed logistics plan to achieve this and deploy the technical survey teams is attached within the Annexes A, B and C to this document.

7 SUMMARY

The technical survey operation will require a large percentage of the UMAC clearance capacity and reliable and timely logistical support to ensure a safe and effective operation can be carried out. With full support from all parties concerned, the survey can be completed within the timeframe allowed to contribute towards a safe environment at the border areas and a mine-impact free Uganda.

8 ATTACHMENTS

- A Technical Survey Human Resources Requirements
- B Technical Survey Equipment Requirements
- C Technical Survey Costing
- D Suspected Mined Area Location and Terrain Maps
- E Suspected Mined Area Photos

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TECHNICAL SURVEY HUMAN RESOURCES REQUIREMENTS

Ser	Manpower Requirements	Quantity	Remarks
01	4 UMAC Clearance Teams	20	See Note 1
02	Cook/ Camp Helper	2	See Note 2
03	Local Labourers	20	See Note 3
04	Permanent Labourers	5	See Note 3
04	UPDF Security	24	See Note 4
05	MRE Team	2	See Note 5

Note:

1. The clearance teams should be taken from all locations, one team from Amuru, Gulu, Pader and Kitgum. The overall team commander should be Lt Alex Kibwota supported by the Regional Mine Action Centre, Gulu.
2. To ensure the teams spend the maximum time on the technical aspect of the operation they will require a cook and laundry girl to carry out all administration tasks.
3. Due to the harsh terrain and distance to the survey site, there will be a requirement for local labourers to move the camp equipment, technical equipment, food and water to the site at the beginning of the operation. There will also be a requirement to keep five of these labourers for the duration of the task to move sites and carry out re-supply of Food and Water on a weekly basis.
4. Due to the area of the Agoro Hills being deemed as a security threat area there will be a requirement for two UPDF sections to act as a security force for the duration of the operation. One section will be used to guard and safeguard the camp and equipment while the other section will be a mobile patrol unit.
5. To ensure the local population are aware of the survey taking place and the dangers associated with the survey a MRE team should be deployed to the Agoro Hills region in the first week of January and continue with bi-weekly Mine Risk Education briefing in areas of Lomwaka A and Lomwaka B.

TECHNICAL SURVEY EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS

Ser	Equipment Requirements	Quantity	Remarks
01	Technical Clearance Equipment	4 Full Teams	See Note 1
02	Minefield Marking System	4500m	See Note 2
03	Tents	6 x 8 Man Tents	See Note 3
04	Cooking Equipment	Sufficient for 30 men	See Note 4
05	Water	6 L per day per man	See Note 5
06	Food	Sufficient food for 30 men for one week	See Note 6
07	Generator	1	
08	Lighting System	Sufficient for 6 Tents	
09	Fuel	Sufficient for 1 weeks generator usage	
10	Camp Equipment	Sufficient for 30 men	See Note 7
11	Sandbags	100	Fuel Store
12	Explosives	250 SM-EOD	See Note 8

Notes:

1. The teams will require full clearance equipment for 20 men; this is to include Minelab F3 detectors, tool bags and Med-eng PPE.
2. There will be a requirement to remark the minefield areas during the survey phase to IMAS standards, the minefields are to be marked on the Ugandan side, it is estimated that 4500m of marking equipment will be required, this is to include, 200 pickets, 4500m of barbed Wire, 200 mine signs, Red, White, Blue and Yellow paint, Re-bar x 10m and 500 Rocks to be located on site in the Agoro Hills.
3. There will be a requirement for 6 x 8 man tents, new tents will need to be purchased as part of the order submitted in early Nov 08.
4. The cook will require charcoal burners, Charcoal, pots and pans and utensils sufficient for 30 men.
5. There will be a requirement for 6 Litres of water per man per day; this is due to the harsh conditions, heat and the arduous work. Water will be need to be re-supplied on a weekly basis, delivered to Agoro by UMAC for collection by the local labour force for transportation to base camp.
6. There will be a requirement for a food supply to last one week for 30 men, this is to be re-supplied once a week by UMAC, delivered to Agoro for collection by the local labour force for transportation to base camp.

7. Camp Equipment will be required to last for the duration of the operation, wash bowls, washing equipment, tables, and chairs and stationary should be purchase prior to deployment.
8. There will be a requirement for explosives for the destruction in situ of all items found, SM -20 EOD will be suitable for the destruction, and UMAC are to ensure there are sufficient SM-20 EOD and detonators for the duration of task. As a back up to SM-20 EOD plastic explosive and detonating cord should be sourced and purchased prior to deployment.

TECHNICAL SURVEY COSTING

Ser	Items	Quantity	Cost
01	Water	Weekly Re-supply	UNDP Issue
02	Fuel	Weekly Re-supply	UNDP Issue
03	Food	Weekly Re-supply	UMAC Per-Diem
04	Tents	6 x 8 man tents	UNDP Issue
05	Marking Equipment: Metal Pickets Barbed Wire Tin of Paint Mine Signs Tape Red & White	200 x 2m 4500m 20 100 20 Rolls	5,000,000 Shillings 750,000 Shillings 380,000 Shillings 2,000,000 Shillings 300,000 Shillings
06	Camp Equipment: Utensils Pots and Pans Charcoal Burners Charcoal	Assorted 5 2 2 bags a week	100,000 Shillings 100,000 Shillings 70,000 Shillings 40,000 per week
07	Lighting System	6	UNDP Issue
08	Generator	1	UNDP Issue
09	Sandbags	100	UPDF Issue
10	Explosives: SM-20 EOD Plastic Explosive Detonating Cord	200 20 kg 200m	13,200,000 Shillings Tbc or UPDF Issue Tbc or UPDF Issue
11	Manpower: Deployment Labourers Permanent Labourers Cook Camp Helper	20 for 5 days 05 for the duration 01 for the duration 01 for the duration	25,000 a day 250,000 a month 200,000 a month 200,000 a month

Notes:

1. The costing above is taken from local purchase prices in Gulu between the 28 Nov – 01 Dec 08.
2. The costing for labourers is calculated on the cost for a labourer/porter in Gulu, with an additional amount added for hardship and working conditions. The monthly pay for the permanent labourers, cook and camp helper is taken from the Gulu average for that position, the amount of time they are employed will depend on the duration of the task but at a minimum 3 months.
3. Consumables will require be purchasing on a weekly basis and transported to Agoro for collection by the camp labourers, this is to include, Water, Fuel, Food and Charcoal the costs will be inclusive of the standard UNDP fuel and water budget.

Supplementary Note to Annex C – Tech Survey Costing

Kitgum GMAA Results and Tech Survey Plan

Procurement Tasks

On the main page of annex C items marked with “UNDP Issue” in the cost column, should be procured by UNDP as they already have supply contracts in place for these items.

Items with a cash figure against them will be procured by DDG on behalf of UNDP. The exception is the explosives figure which should be procured through the normal channels

Lighting system and generator

The generator should be of sufficient power to operate a lighting system for the camp and provide electrical outlets for charging phones, radio batteries etc. Lighting system should be able to provide 2 standard wattage bulbs per tent and 8 halogen outdoor lamps on stands. Cable and fittings relevant to this supplied e.g. approx 250 metres of cable, 10 electrical outlets etc. The tentage supplier should be in a position to advise on necessary items needed and costs.

Camp Equipment

Camp equipment should include portable tables and chairs for 35 Men, again the tentage supplier should be able to advise on this. Other camp equipment can be sourced locally by DDG.

Costs

One off Costs

Estimated one off cost for local procurement to DDG is: UGX 8,700,000

Labour costs for initial portage to set up the camp are estimated at: UGX 2,500,000

Ongoing Costs

Weekly cost to DDG is for Charcoal resupply estimated at UGX 40,000 per week

Monthly costs to DDG for Labour are estimated at UGX 1,650,000

UNDP costs are not available to the writer

SUSPECTED MINED AREA LOCATION AT UGANDA/SUDAN BORDER SEAL



TERRAIN MAP AT UGANDA/SUDAN BORDER SEAL



PHOTOS OF SUSPECTED MINED AREA AT AGORO HILLS AT UGANDA/SUDAN BORDER SEAL







Minefield Hills of Locoro, Aruru and Gunya Doyo, viewed from Lomwaka A



Minefield Hills of Mica and Agolo Kikec, viewed from Lomwaka B

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02 April 2009



UGANDA MINE ACTION CENTRE

PLANNING DOCUMENT FOR TECHNICAL SURVEY ON SUSPECTED MINED AREA IN NGOMOROMO, KITGUM

1 General

This planning document details the requirements for the deployment of technical survey assets to the Uganda/Sudan border near the area of Ngomoromo in Kitgum District, Uganda. A General Mine Action Assessment (GMAA) was carried out in Ngomoromo on the 12th of March 2009, in a joint effort by the Danish Demining Group (DDG), Uganda People's Defence Forces (UPDF) and the Humanitarian Mine Action Team No. 4 of the Uganda Mine Action Centre (UMAC).

2 Aim

The aim of this document is to specify the logistics, human and technical resource requirements and cost estimation to carry out a technical survey in the Ngomoromo area of Kitgum, and to collate information on the suspected mined areas.

3 Background

The Sudanese border with Uganda was frequently used by the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) insurgents during the 20 year civil war. The government of Uganda ratified the Ottawa Mine Ban Convention in December 1999. Uganda as a states party has pronounced her self in complying with the Article V the treaty, of clearing identified suspected mined areas by 1st August 2009.

The mines previously identified at the border area, and during the GMAA, are a mixture of types T72 anti tank mines, AP Mine No4, PMD6 and PMD7 anti-personnel blast mines and POMZ-2 anti-personnel fragmentation mines.

In 2005, the UPDF cleared part of the minefields. The clearance took place between Bibia (Amuru district), Ngomoromo and Palamoni (Kitgum district), clearance reports were however not submitted. Partial clearance was done between Ngomoromo and Palamoni.

Clearance between Palamoni and Agoro in the area with in the Agoro hills was not carried out. The full extent of the suspected mined area in terms of the full length is not yet known

4 PLANNING FOR TECHNICAL SURVEY

4.1 Responsibilities.

The planning and preparations is being undertaken by UNDP, UMAC and DDG. The DDG will deal with all matters regarding the technical advice required to carry out the technical Survey. The UMAC will be responsible for providing the clearance teams and liaison with the UPDF, and the completion of the technical survey. UNDP will be responsible for funding the operation and providing the logistical supplies for the duration of the survey.

4.2 General Mine Action Assessment.

Upon the tasking order issued by UMAC, a GMAA was carried out by the UMAC, demining/survey teams with the technical support from DDG. The GMAA was carried out on 12 March 2009. The maps and photos of the suspected mined areas are shown at Annexes D and E.

4.3 Demining to Date.

During 2005, the UPDF deployed engineer assets to the area of the Uganda/Sudan border seal to carry out clearance of the mined areas. Clearance started in the areas of Bibia and Ngomoromo. The mines were cleared to military standards, no other clearance took place. Clearance was halted 11 Km short of Ngomoromo Border Post and was not resumed thereafter.

4.4 Last Known Mine Found.

The last mine found was on 3rd March 2009. This discovery was of two type AP No. 4 mines approximately 60 metres from a Military Detachment outpost, in the area of previously mined.

4.5 Suspected Mined Area.

The suspected mined area is parallel to the road that runs North West from the Ngomoromo Border Post. The area is approximately 11 Km long and 20m deep, however until the technical survey is completed, the actual perimeters of these suspected mined areas remain unknown. The suspected mined area is partially fenced. The area around the suspected mine belt is overgrown in most places with heavy vegetation and, on long stretches, heavy Bamboo Forest. Some of the local population cross into the area on a regular basis to access their gardens which are located on the northern edge of the hazard area.

4.6 Last Known Casualty. The last known casualties were two members of the UPDF during clearance operations in 2007. It is important that the area is expeditiously cleared as the communities have to be free to access their gardens

4.7 Clearance.

Taking into account the density of the vegetation and the resources available to UMAC, the only clearance method available taking into account the UMAC resources, would be manual demining.

4.8 Detector Test.

During the GMAA, a detector test was carried out successfully to ascertain the metallic content of the ground and to determine the suitability of the Minelab F3 during the forthcoming technical survey and clearance operations.

4.9 Threat.

It has been assessed that the threat in the suspected mined areas is likely to be that of anti-personnel mines; the remaining mines of the batch laid roughly ten years ago including AP blast types T72, PMD6 and PMD7, and POMZ-2 AP fragmentation mines. Reports of unexploded ordnance (UXO) have been recorded at Ngomoromo, and several items of UXO were destroyed during the GMAA

4.10 Supporting Documentation.

UMAC team 4 have completed an IMSMA location report for the area of Ngomoromo and the GMAA includes a detailed report. A copy of the IMSMA report can be found from RMAC in Gulu.

5 RECOMMENDATIONS

The assessed area at Ngomoromo is suspected to contain more mines. The technical survey will provide more precise information as to the total surface area of the mined areas, what devices they contain and the requirement for a subsequent clearance operation.

The technical survey of the suspected mined areas should be conducted as soon as possible. An assessment would be made then with reference to a future clearance task; if this is to be carried out by the UMAC, they will require further refresher training before deployment with the support from DDG.

6 LOGISTICS REQUIREMENTS

Technical Resources.

The technical survey will require a minimum of four UMAC clearance teams; the teams will require refresher training to ensure they are conversant with Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) and the methodology of a technical survey. It is recommended that Lt. Alex Kibwota will be the supervisor for the operation due to his involvement in the GMAA and his local knowledge of the Kitgum District.

Human Resources.

There will be a requirement for the UMAC teams to re-locate to the Military camp at Ngomoromo to facilitate the Technical Survey as the nearest UMAC post is in Kitgum. Kitgum district centre is situated two hours by car from Ngomoromo.

Cook/Camp Helper.

It is recommended that a cook and a camp helper be hired for the duration of the operation to ensure that maximum technical capacity can be used for surveying the mined areas.

Equipment.

There will be a requirement for a large amount of equipment to be carried for the technical survey and to establish the base camp in the Agoro Hills. An inventory of equipment requirements can be found at Annex B to this document.

Food, Water and Fuel.

There will be a requirement to purchase food and water, to be transported to Ngomoromo for the team's initial deployment. After this deployment, it is essential to re-supply the team capacity by a weekly collection of food and water to be transported to Ngomoromo. There will be a requirement for a larger water ration for the technical survey teams; a minimum of 6 litres per day due to the harsh conditions, arduous work and the heat. It would be advised that Sunday be used as a resupply day for all consumables. Fuel will be required for the generator; this should be resupplied on a weekly basis.

Costing.

A breakdown of estimated costs can be found at Annex C to this planning document.

Training.

The technical survey teams will require an in-depth technical survey training package prior to deployment.

Security.

Security is not a major issue at Ngomoromo as the UMAC team will be working close to two UPDF installations

Mine Risk Education.

There will be a requirement for Mine Risk Education in the areas of Ngomoromo before and during the technical survey. DDG MRE teams deployed in the Kitgum area should plan to carry out this training as soon as is practicable.

Attachments.

A detailed logistics plan to achieve this and deploy the technical survey teams is attached within the Annexes A, B and C to this document.

7 SUMMARY

The technical survey operation will require a large percentage of the UMAC clearance capacity and reliable and timely logistical support to ensure a safe and effective operation will be carried out. With full support from all parties concerned, the survey can be completed within the timeframe allowed to contribute towards a safe environment at the border areas and a mine-impact free Uganda.

8 ATTACHMENTS

Annex A	Technical Survey Human Resources Requirements
Annex B	Technical Survey Equipment Requirements
Annex C	Technical Survey Costing
Annex D	Suspected Mined Area Location and Terrain Maps
Annex E	Suspected Mined Area Photos

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Annex A

GMAA Ngomoromo

22 March 2009

TECHNICAL SURVEY HUMAN RESOURCES REQUIREMENTS

Ser	Manpower Requirements	Quantity	Remarks
01	4 UMAC Clearance teams / 3 UPDF Engineer Platoons	20 / 90	See Note 1
02	Cook/Camp Assistant	2	See Note 2
03	MRE Teams	2	See Note 3
04	Technical Advisor	1	See Note 4

Note:

1. The clearance teams should be taken from all locations, one team from Amuru, Gulu, Pader and Kitgum. The overall team commander should be Lt Alex Kibwota supported by the Regional Mine Action Centre, Gulu.

Should UMAC clearance resources become unavailable due to the current work load, UPDF Engineers assistance should be sought for support to carry out military lifting of the landmines by 3 x 30 men, followed by 1 UMAC QA team conducting Quality Control inspections on 2% - 5% of the surface area being released by UPDF.

2. To ensure the teams spend the maximum time on the technical aspect of the operation they will require a cook and a camp assistant to carry out all administration tasks.

3. To ensure the local population are aware of the survey taking place and the dangers associated with the survey, a Mine Risk Education team should be deployed to the Ngomoromo county on the week prior to commencement of operations to carry out bi-weekly MRE sessions in the area.

4. Technical Advisor to be in charge of the quality assurance and quality control on the mined areas, is required to monitor and assess the result of work from humanitarian and quality perspectives, reporting the status of the area in detail during and after the clearance and the methodology and extent of QC efforts.

Annex B

GMAA Ngomoromo

22 March 2008

TECHNICAL SURVEY EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS

Ser	Equipment Requirements	Quantity	Remarks
01	Technical Clearance Equipment	4 Full Teams	See Note 1
02	Minefield Marking System	4500m	See Note 2
03	Tents	6 x 8 Man Tents	See Note 3
04	Cooking Equipment	Sufficient for 25 men	See Note 4
05	Water	6 l / day / man	See Note 5
06	Food	Sufficient for 25 men	See Note 6
07	Generator	1, 5 kWA	Comms, lighting
08	Lighting System	Sufficient for 6 Tents	
09	Fuel	Sufficient for generator usage	
10	Camp Equipment	Sufficient for 25 men	See Note 7
11	Sandbags	100	Fuel Store
12	Explosives	250 SM-EOD	See Note 8

Notes:

1. The teams will require full clearance equipment for 20 men; this is to include Minelab F3 detectors, tool bags and Med-eng PPE. Alternatively, the clearance equipment can be lent to UPDF Engineers unit lifting the mines, for the duration of this task.
2. There will be a requirement to remark the minefield areas during the survey phase to IMAS standards, the minefields are to be marked on the Ugandan side, it is estimated that 11.000m of marking equipment will be required, this is to include, 800 pickets, 11.000m of barbed Wire, 800 mine signs, Red, White, Blue and Yellow paint, Re-bar x 100m and 1.500 Rocks to be located on site in Ngomoromo.
3. There will be a requirement for 6 x 8 man tents. Alternatively, UPDF can provide accommodation at the military camp installations (2) in the area.
4. The cook will require coal burners, charcoal, pots and pans and utensils sufficient for 20 men. The UPDF Engineers, if chosen for the task, would provide these utensils excluding the charcoal.
5. There will be a requirement for 6 litres of water per man per day; this is due to the harsh conditions, heat and the arduous work with no external logistics supply. Water will be need to be re-supplied on a weekly basis, delivered to Ngomoromo by UMAC. Alternatively, UPDF Engineers if chosen for the task, would be self-sufficient towards all water for showering, reducing the required amount of water / person to 2 l /day.
6. There will be a requirement for a food supply for 25 men, this is to be re-supplied once a week by UMAC. Alternatively, UPDF Engineers, if chosen for the task, would require food for 90 men.
7. Camp Equipment will be required to last for the duration of the operation, wash bowls, washing equipment, tables, and chairs and stationary should be purchase prior to deployment. UPDF Engineers, if chosen for the task, would not require this.
8. There will be a requirement for explosives for the destruction in situ of all items found, SM -20 EOD will be suitable for the destruction, and UMAC are to ensure there are sufficient SM-20 EOD and detonators for the duration of task. As a back up to SM-20 EOD plastic explosive and detonating cord should be sourced and purchased prior to deployment.

Annex C

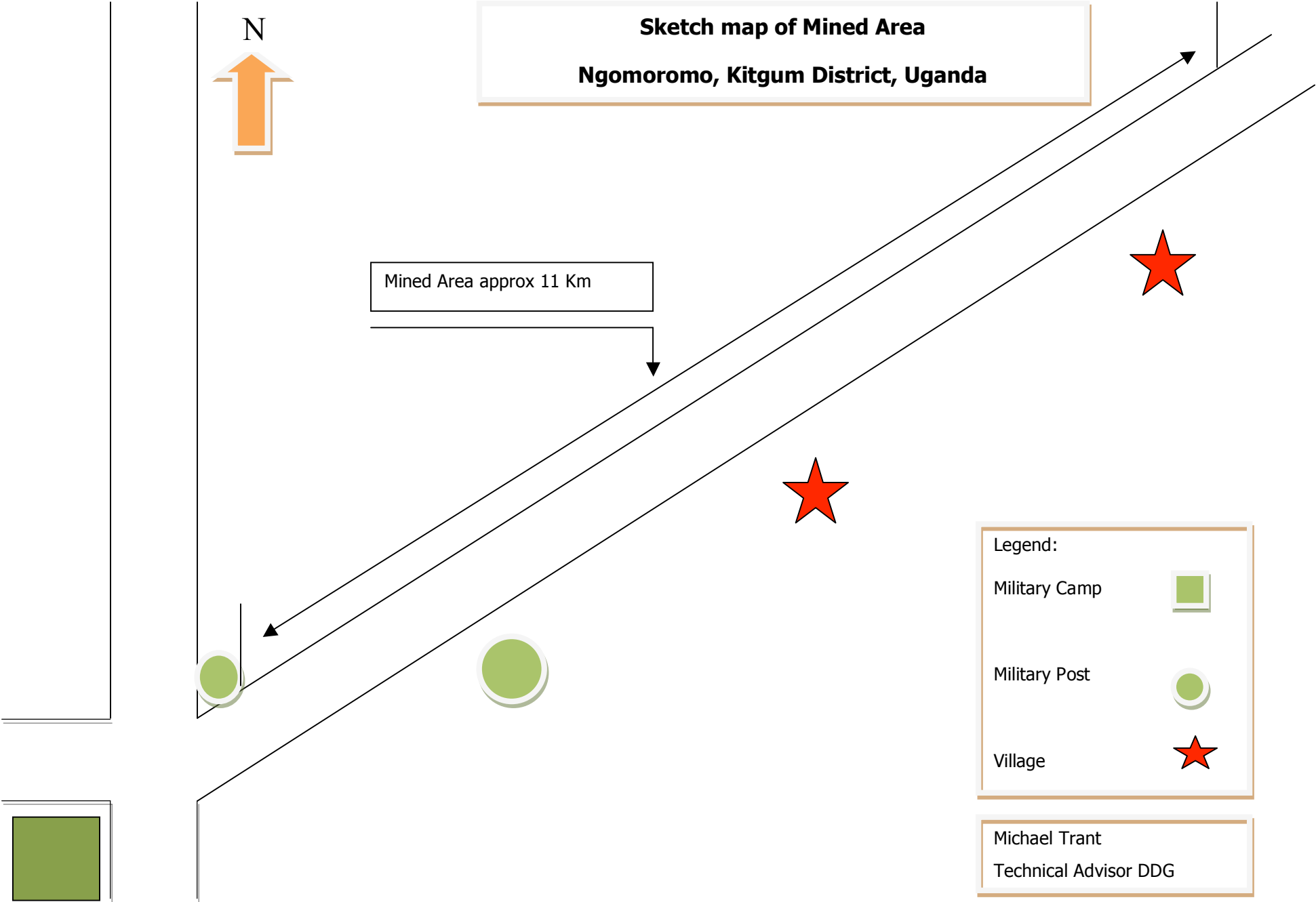
GMAA Ngomoromo

22 March 2008

TECHNICAL SURVEY COSTING

Ser	Items	Quantity	Cost in UGX
01	Water	Weekly re-supply	UNDP Issue
02	Fuel	Weekly re-supply	UNDP Issue
03	Food	Weekly re-supply	10,000 / day / man
04	Tentage	6 x 8 man tents	UNDP Issue
05	Marking Equipment: - o Metal Pickets - o Barbed Wire - o Tin of Paint - o Mine Signs - o Tape Red & White	600 x 2m 11.000m 20 300 60 Rolls	15,000,000 1,850,000 1,520,000 6,000,000 900,000
06	Camp Equipment: - o Utensils - o Pots and Pans - o Charcoal Burners - o Charcoal	Assorted 5 2 2 bags a week	100,000 100,000 70,000 40,000 per week
07	Lighting System	6	UNDP Issue
08	Generator	1	UNDP Issue
09	Sandbags	100	UPDF Issue
10	Explosives: - o SM-20 EOD shaped charge - o Plastic Explosive - o Detonating Cord	200 20 kg 200m	13,200,000 UPDF Issue UPDF Issue

Note: The above costing figures are based on actual local purchase prices 01 Dec 08 in Gulu / delivered to Gulu. The related quotations are available on request.



Annex E
GMAA Ngomoromo
22 March 2008

Pictures of the Mined Area at Ngomoromo



The mined area runs along the RIGHT side of this road. This picture demonstrates the thickness of vegetation.



The mined area runs along the LEFT side of the road in this shot. Agoro Mountains in the background, demonstrating the type of heavy vegetation involved.

Annex IV

Victim Statistics - UMAC partial surveys in 2009

Victims of ERW and mines in Uganda

	2005		2006		2007		2008		2009	
	Deaths	Injuries	Deaths	Injuries	Deaths	Injuries	Deaths	Injuries	Deaths	Injuries
Men	N/A	N/A	1	14					1	1
Women	N/A	N/A		14	1					
Boys	N/A	N/A	3	1			2	3	3	
Girls	N/A	N/A	4	3			1	3		
Adults (not specified)	N/A	N/A	3	16						
Children (not specified)	N/A	N/A		3	3			8		3
Total			11	51	4		3	14	4	4

Source: The Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social development that is currently carrying out a survey on the victims.

Annex V

SHA and clearance progress statistics, June 2009

Table I: Suspected Hazardous Areas Statistics in Uganda

District	Number of SHA	SHA Cleared of UXO	SHA Pending UXO Clearance	SHA Discredited	Battle Area Cleared m ²	Total Minefield Area m ²
Gulu	91	91	-	-	53,785	-
Amuru	63	63	-	-	25,211	-
Pader	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kitgum	152	127	25	-	27,916	-
Agoro (mined area)	01	-	01	-	3,180.5	130,000
Ngomoromo (mined area)	01	-	01	-	2,874	140,000
Kaberamaido	37	02	-	35	55,208	-
Lira	13	13	-	-	-	-
Soroti	09	-	09	-	-	-
Bundibugyo	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kasese	61	08	53	-	-	-
Total	428	304	89	35	168,174.5	270,000

Table 2 – Clearance Progress 2006-2009

Year	Antipersonnel Mine	Antitank Mine	Unexploded Ordnance	Small Arms Ammo	Air Bomb	Total Battle Area Clearance	Total Mine Clearance
2006	8	1	565	0	0		
2007	14	0	1162	0	0		
2008	14	2	2635	18471	0		
2009 Jan-Jun	25	9	961	1082	2		
Total	61	12	5,323	19,553	2	168,174.5	5938.5

Table 3: Clearance progress in mined areas, July 2009-07-29

Minefield	Location	Total Area m ²	Area cleared m ²	AP mines destroyed	Uncleared Area m ²
Agoro 1	Kitgum	30,000	3,180.5	13	26,819.5
Agoro 2	Kitgum	25,000	0	0	25,000
Agoro 3	Kitgum	25,000	0	0	25,000
Agoro 4	Kitgum	25,000	0	0	25,000
Agoro 5	Kitgum	25,000	0	0	25,000
Ngomoromo	Kitgum	140,000	2,874	23	137,126
Total		270,000	5,938	36	264,062

Annex VI

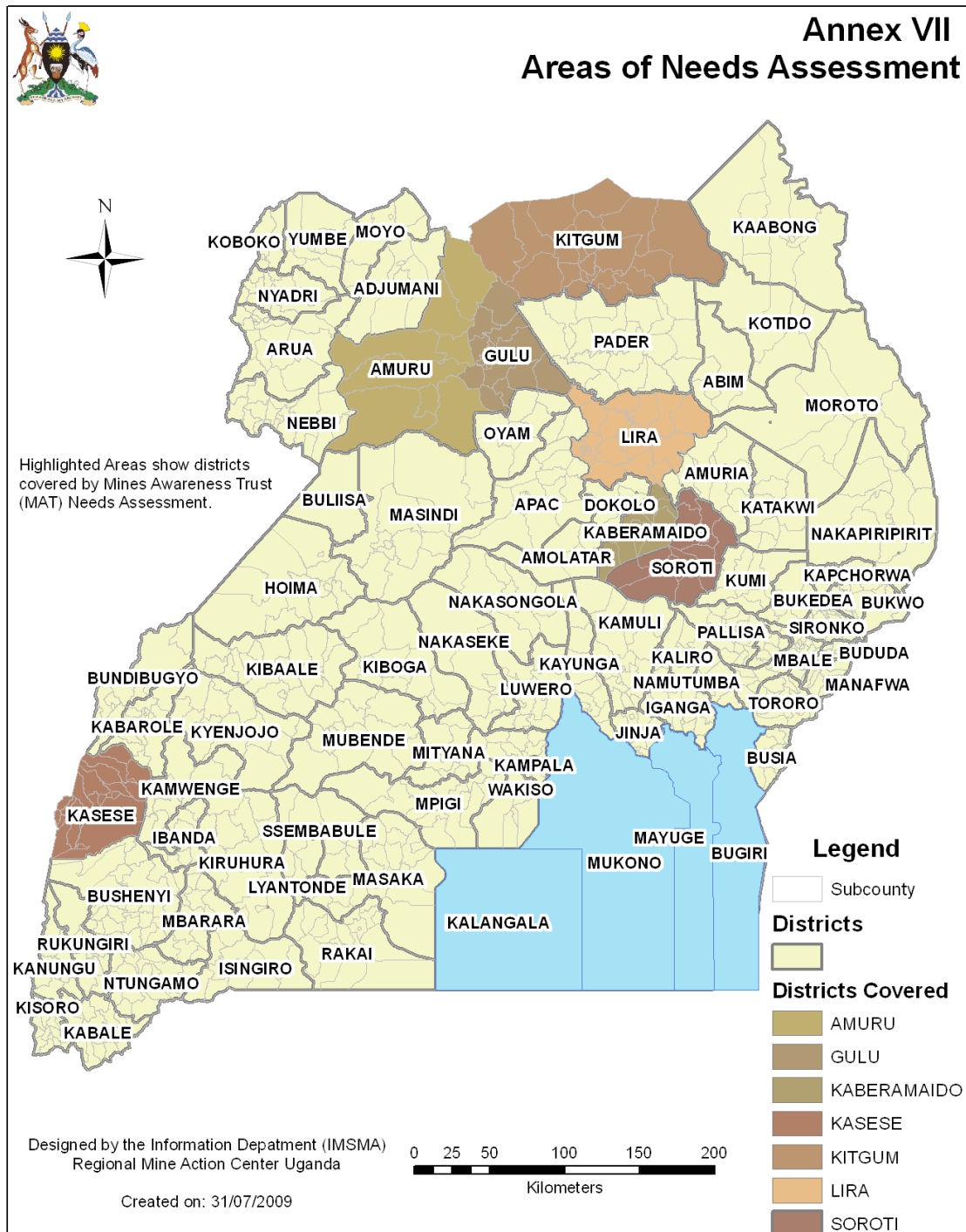
Costing UMAC Mine-clearance, 12 months

Costing for UMAC Mine-clearance, 12 months

SN	CURRENT CAPACITY	CURRENT COST ITEMS ACCORDING TO AWP / BUDGET	RESOURCES	COST USD	REMARKS
01		Minefield Re-Supply Food and Water	Current UMAC Capacity deployed in minefields	\$ 172,000	Total cost of feeding the UMAC clearance capacity in the minefield areas in Agoro and Ngomoromo over a 12-month period.
02		Allowances	Current UMAC Capacity 67 men	\$ 284,000	Monthly feeding and hardship allowances over a 12-month period for all UMAC field capacity.
03		Logistics Requirements	Current UMAC Capacity 67 men	\$ 850,000	Total fuel for vehicles and generators, HF and VHF communications, local labour salaries, uniforms, vehicle maintenance, explosives, stationary, equipment repairs and replacements.
			Sub-total	\$1,306,000	
SN	INCREASED CAPACITY	ADDITIONAL COST ITEMS	RESOURCES	COST USD	REMARKS
04		Minefield Re-Supply Food and Water	Additional 40 men	\$ 172,000	The cost of feeding the additional clearance capacity in the minefield areas in Agoro and Ngomoromo over a 12-month period including labour.
05		Allowances	Additional 40 men	\$ 175,000	The monthly feeding and hardship allowances over a 12-month period for all UMAC field capacity.
06		Equipment	Additional 40 men	\$ 120,000 \$ 32,000 \$ 10,000	Minelab F3 Detector x 40. MedEng PPE x 40. Demining Tool bag x 40.
07		Vehicles	4 Vehicles	\$ 255,000	Toyota Hard Top Landcruiser 13-seater x 4.
08		Logistics Requirements	Additional 40 men and 4 Vehicles	\$ 450,000	Total fuel for additional vehicles, HF and VHF communications, local labour salaries, uniforms, vehicle maintenance, explosives, stationary, equipment repairs and replacements.
09		Demining Training	40 men	\$ 60,000	In country demining and first aid training for 40 men with external support from DDG.
			Sub-total	\$ 1,274,000	
Sum of Current and Additional Costs, 12 months			Grand Total	\$ 2,580,000	

Annex VII

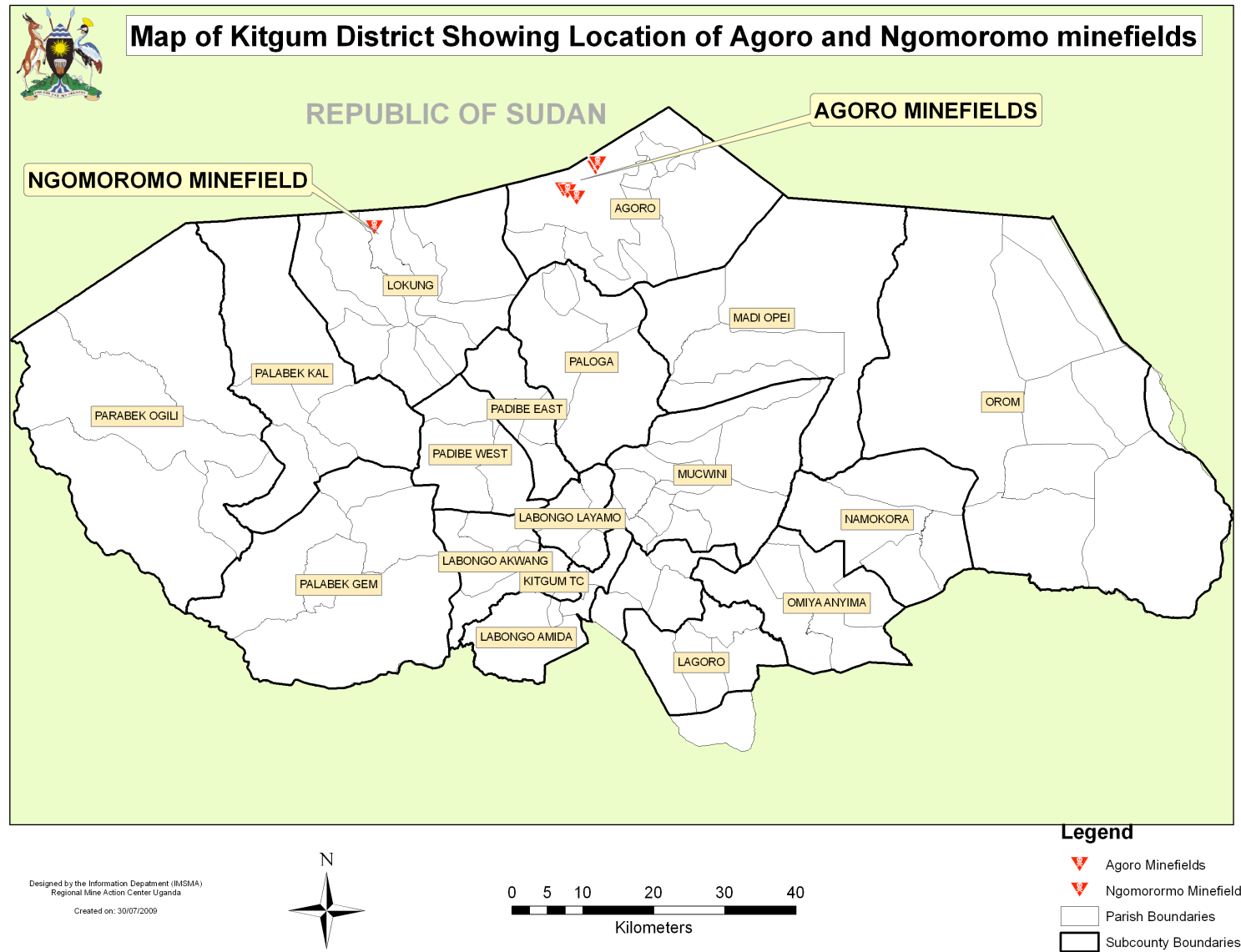
Areas of Needs Assessment



Annex VIII

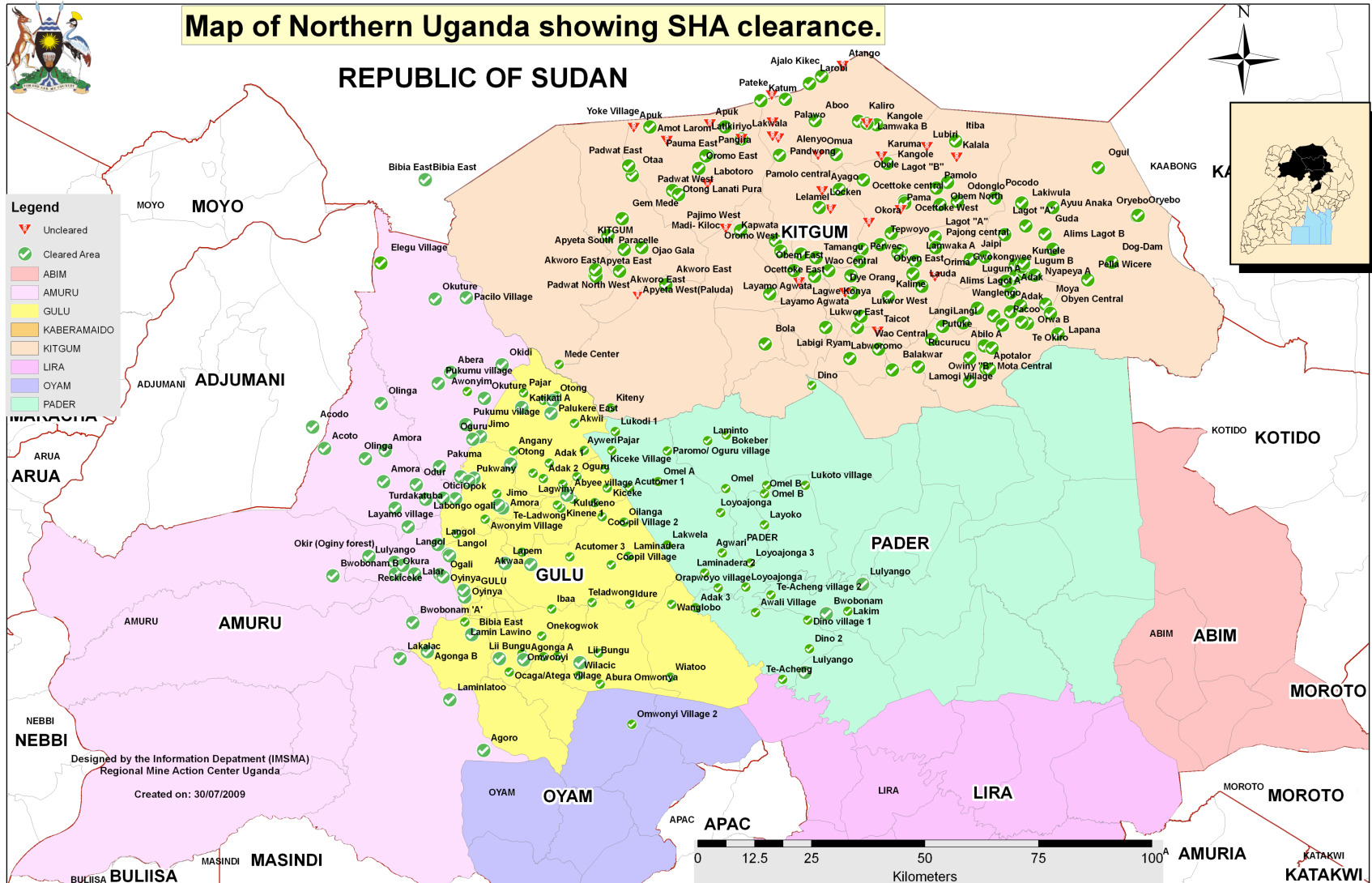
Current Maps on the Progress Achieved on Suspected Hazardous Areas and Mined Areas

Map 1 – Mined Areas Overview in Kitgum



Current Maps on the Progress Achieved on Suspected Hazardous Areas and Mined Areas

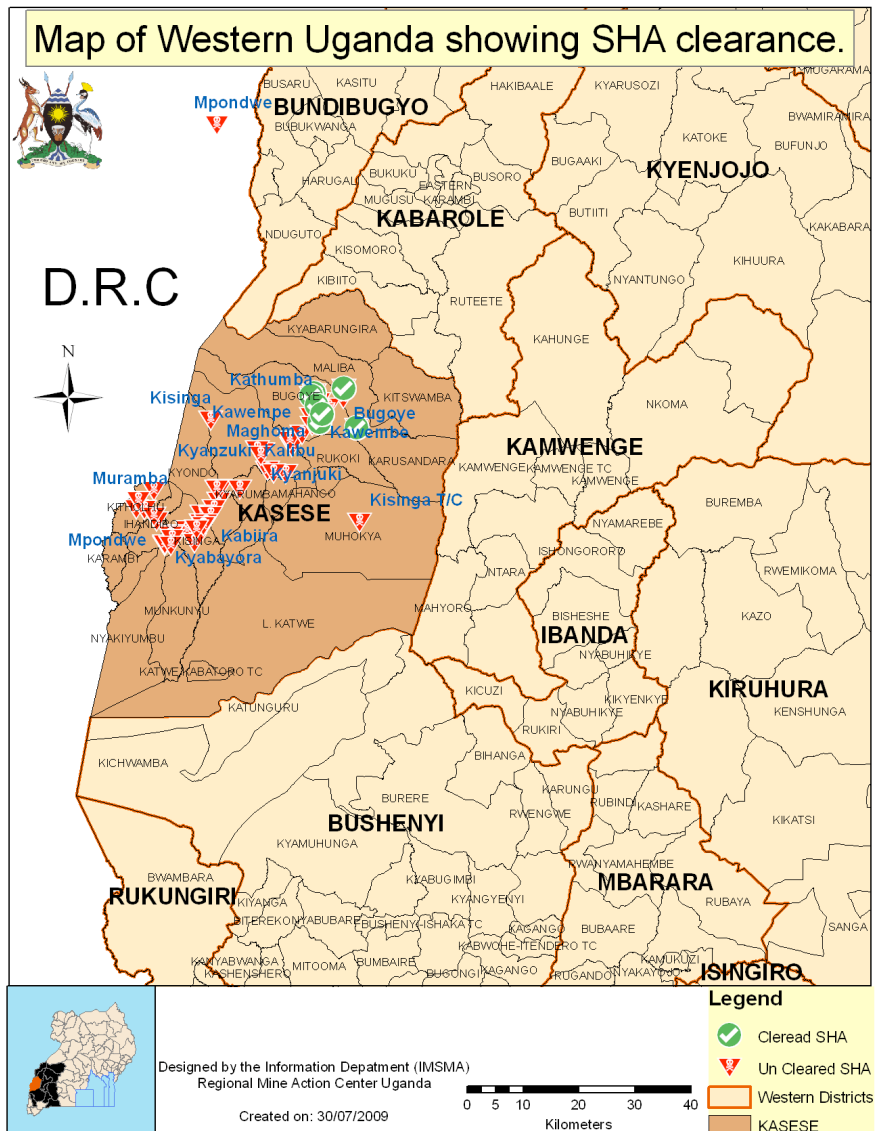
Map 2 – Northern Uganda SHA Clearance Progress



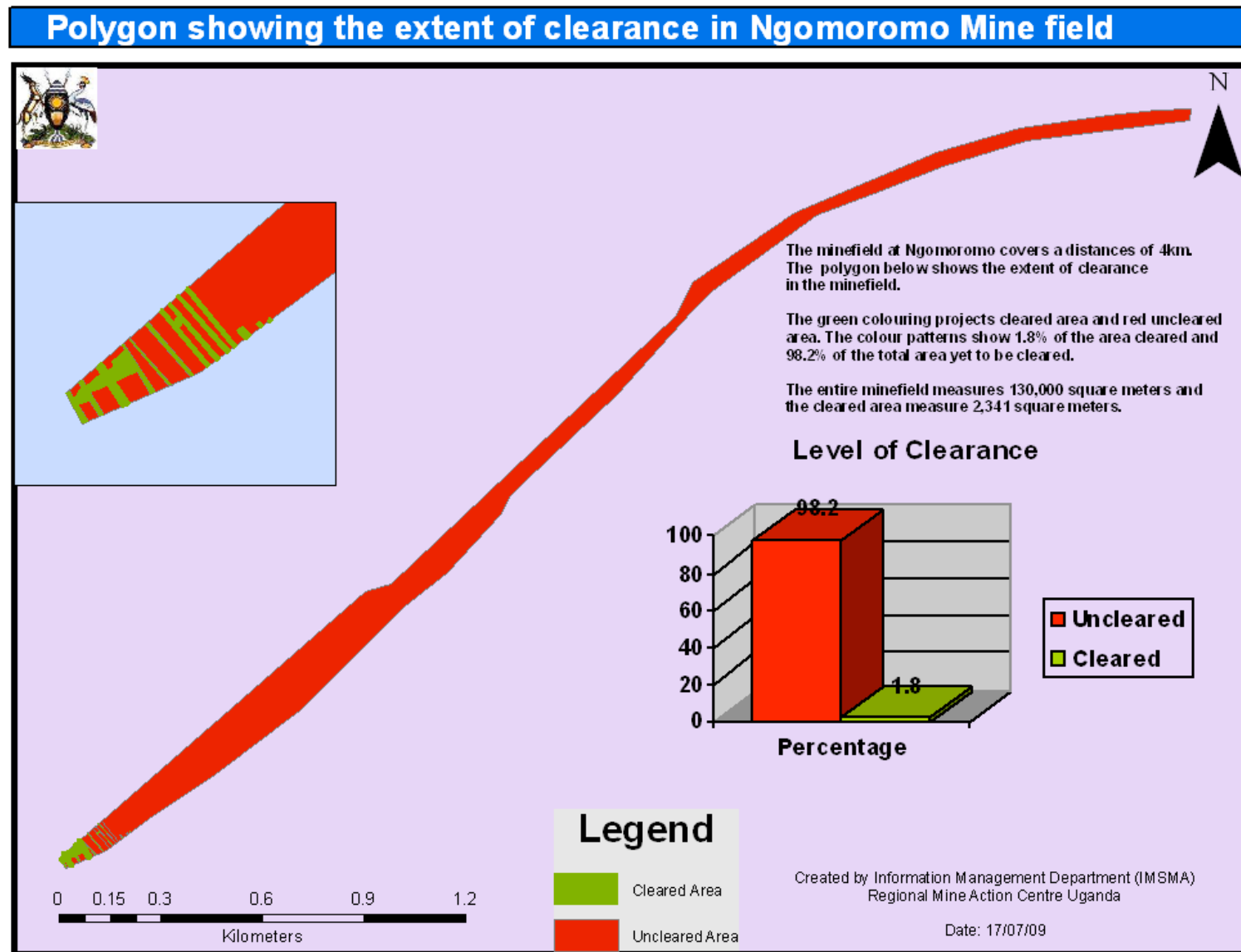
Annex VIII

Current Maps on the Progress Achieved on Suspected Hazardous Areas and Mined Areas

Map 3 – Western Uganda SHA Clearance Progress



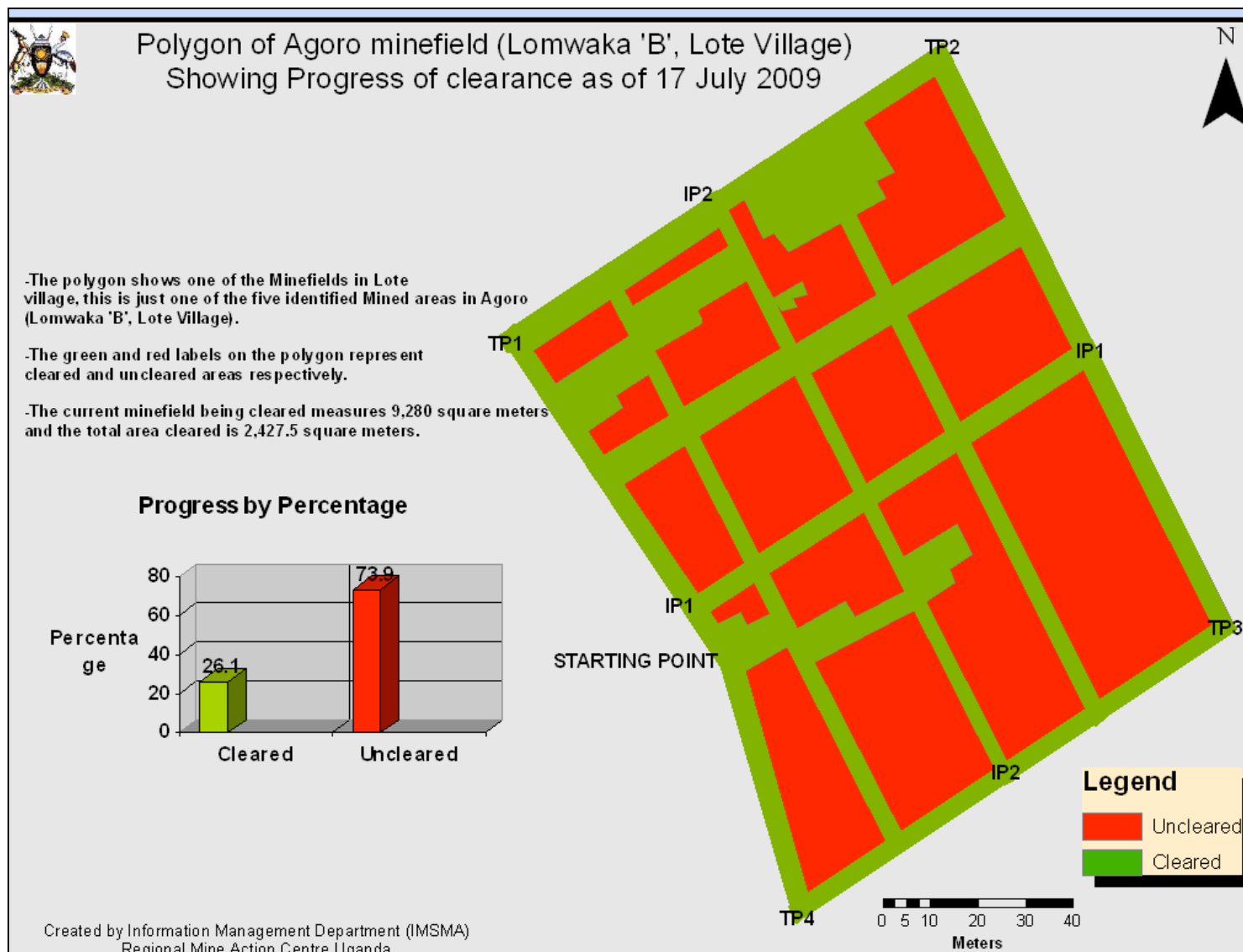
Map 4 – Technical Survey and Clearance Progress in Ngomoromo, June 2009

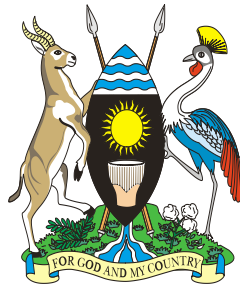


Annex VIII

Current Maps on the Progress Achieved on Suspected Hazardous Areas and Mined Areas

Map 5 – Technical Survey and Clearance Progress in Agoro Mountains, June 2009





Uganda Mine Action Centre
Operations Clearance Work Plan
2009 - 2012

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1. SCOPE OF THE PROBLEM

During the twenty-year conflict, mines were laid in Northern Uganda on the border with Sudan. These minefields at Ngomoromo and Agoro in Kitgum District have only recently been located during General Mine Action Assessments in November 2008 and January 2009. These minefields are located in.

1.1 Ngomoromo Mined Area

Ngomoromo is a 4 km long and 35 m deep linear minefield containing antipersonnel blast mines type PMD6. Majority of the extent of the area is thick vegetated bushes and sparse forest, bordering Sudan. A technical survey and clearance started in April 2009 and have continued to date. With the current demining capacity and clearance rates, the area will take approximately five years to clear. Of the estimated 140,000 m², a total of 3,168m² have been manually cleared as at 31 July 09, leaving 97.7% of the land un-cleared.

1.2 Agoro Mined Area

Agoro is broken into five suspected mined areas in near proximity to each other. The first of the areas has been surveyed and clearance has begun in May 2009, continuing to date. The five areas are located within a rainforest, containing Type72 antipersonnel mines, situated in the remote mountainous surroundings with no infrastructure or road network, bordering Sudan. With the current demining capacity and clearance rates, the area will take approximately five years to clear. Of the suspected 130,000 m² comprising the 5 suspect areas to be cleared, 3,503 m² has been manually cleared as at 31 July 09. This leaves 97.3% of the land un-cleared.

There still a requirement in the Agoro Mountains to carry out technical survey on the four other suspected mined areas around the feature of Lomwaka and in-front of the villages Lomwaka A and Lomwaka B. The impact on the local community is low due to the knowledge passed by the UPDF and the marking of the areas to stop any movement into the danger areas.

1.3 Other Unexploded Ordnance

In the aftermath of the 20-year conflict, 428 Suspected Hazardous Areas (SHA) have been surveyed spread around seven districts in the northern and western Uganda. These SHAs contain unexploded ordnance other than landmines and out of the above number, 306 SHA have been cleared or otherwise discredited to date, leaving more than hundred areas to inspect and empty of unexploded ordnance. This task will take more than two years to complete with the explosive ordnance disposal team resources (4 teams) available.

2. OBJECTIVES

The objective of the mine-clearance operations is to locate and destroy antipersonnel landmines in the two mined areas in northern Uganda to reduce the threat to the returning IDP population and to comply with the international obligations. This should be achieved in three (3) years, effective from 01 Aug 2009.

The objective of the Operations Clearance Work Plan is to set out the structure and clearance mechanism that will best achieve the above objective.

3. CURRENT DEMINING CAPACITY

The current demining capacity in Uganda is small, at the present fully stretched to deal with the mined areas and the UXO contamination in northern and western Uganda. The current demining capacity is laid down below in the table.

S/N	Position/Role	Location	Strength
01	UMAC Coordinator	OPM UMAC Kampala	1
02	Operations Officer	RMAC Gulu	1
03	Deputy Operations Officer	RMAC Gulu	1
04	Admin Assistant/Storeman	RMAC Gulu	1
05	EOD Team 1	Gulu	5
06	EOD Team 2	Amuru	5
07	EOD Team 3	Pader	5
08	EOD Team 4	Kitgum	5
09	Agoro Clearance Team (4 teams)	Agoro Mountains	22
10	Ngomoromo Clearance Team (4 teams)	Ngomoromo	21

The total UMAC Operational capacity is 67

4. PLANNED DEMINING CAPACITY

4.1 Increased Capacity

Once UNDP funding is made available, the current demining capacity will be increased to improve the pace in clearance progress at the mined areas. The current UMAC capacity of 67 men and women is to be increased by an additional 40 deminers to achieve the clearance objective.

4.2 Training and Equipment

Training of 40 additional deminers will be carried out to International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) in accordance with the Uganda Mine Action Standards (UMAS). As to date there is a sufficient number of IMAS EOD qualified operators within the UMAC capacity, training in manual demining and quality assuring the work will be sufficient to qualify the new staff for the task to be carried out. The demining training shall be conducted with the resources in country, namely DDG to set up a 4-week course, qualified instructors and facilities at UPDF compound in Gulu; and UNDP to provide for the additional demining-, team equipment and vehicles as laid down in the table below. The training course should be conducted at latest November 2009 with the increased capacity ready to deploy in December 2009.

S/N	Item	Requirement	Remarks
01	Toyota Hard Top Landcruiser	4	
02	Minelab F3 Detectors	40	
03	Clearance Tool Kits	40	Standard UMAC toolkit
04	Personnel Protective Equipment	40	Including mine visor
05	UMAC Uniforms	80	Including boots
06	Trauma Packs	4	Including stretcher
07	Codan HF Communications	4	One set per vehicle
08	Motorola VHF Communications	4	Demolition safety
09	Codan HF Radio Base Station	2	
10	Tentage (tents)	8	
11	Camp Equipment (sets)	2	Bedding, cooking equipment, stationary, brief boards
12	Generator 5kv	1	

4.3 Logistic Support

An increased capacity in the minefield areas means greater logistic support: By increasing the capacity by forty deminers this approximately doubles the current cost of logistics support to the remote clearance operations in Agoro and Ngomoromo.

4.4 External Mechanical Clearance Assistance

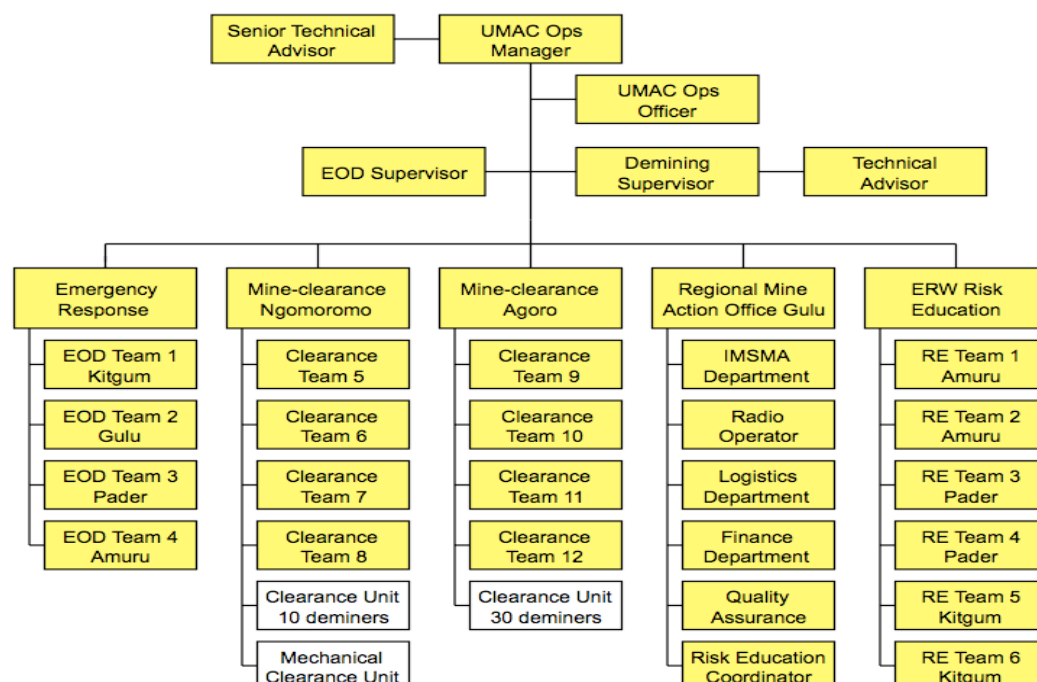
The Norwegian People's Aid (NPA) Mine Action in South Sudan has offered to support operations in Uganda with the use of a vegetation cutting and ground preparation machine (Minewolf Bagger) in the Ngomoromo Minefield. Deployment of this machine to Agoro is not possible due to the lack of road network and terrain (jungle hills) conditions. The period of support to the clearance operations in Uganda is assessed 6 months or less, depending on the conclusion of the reconnaissance mission in August 2009: To assess the terrain suitability and estimate the extent of the use of the machine in Ngomoromo. Preferably, the machine deployment period would be January – June 2010 and the external mechanical clearance assistance consist of the following:

S/N	Subject	Quantity	Remarks
01	Minewolf Bagger	1	NPA
02	Project Manager	1	NPA staff
03	Mechanical Technical Advisor	1	NPA technical staff
04	Machine Operators	2	Trained from UMAC capacity

The funding for external support is likely to be at no cost to Uganda and fully supported by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (NMFA). This is to be confirmed by NPA Sudan after consultation with their head office and the NMFA. NPA Sudan will conduct a detailed reconnaissance over the period of 11 – 15 August 2009 with assistance from DDG Uganda, followed by a UMAC Operations Officer visit to Sudan to observe the machine operating in order to formulate detailed clearance plans for the machine and relationships with the NPA technician team. The support is likely to be of the following:

4.5 UMAC Organisation Chart

The below organisation chart illustrates the UMAC as it is today and after the expansion of additional manual demining capacity and external mechanical assistance.



5. ASSUMPTIONS

To materialize the above work plan for the additional demining capacity, external mechanical clearance assistance, and to ensure the work plan objectives will be met within three (3) years effective 01 August 2009, the following assumptions are set:

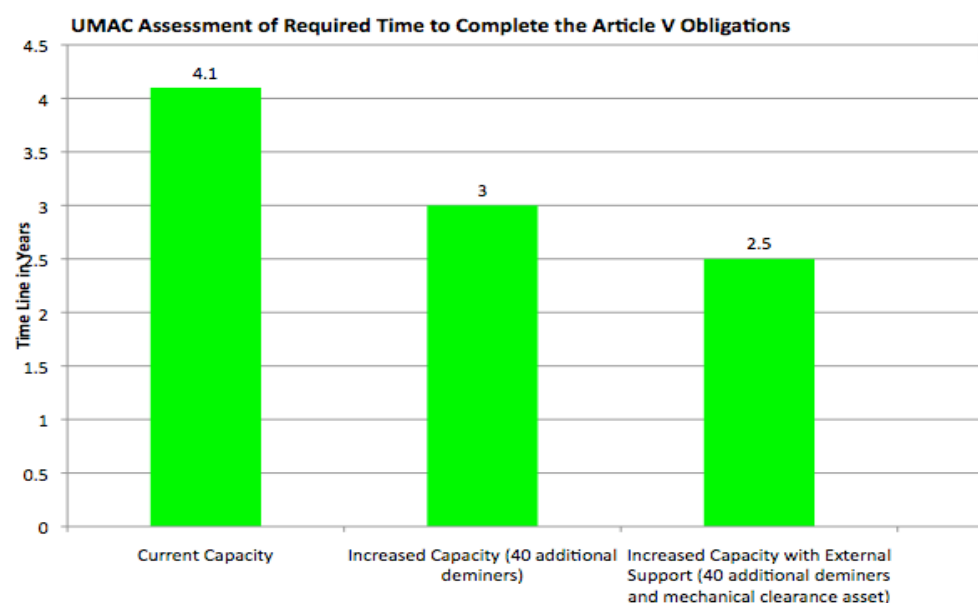
1. UNDP will continue support to National Mine Action Programme (NMAP) until August 2012. The sought support include funding for the technical support to the national mine action programme, funding for establishment of the additional demining resources, continue lending the UN vehicle fleet and covering for the field- and hardship allowances to the UMAC field staff.
2. Danish Demining Group (DDG) will continue technical and logistics support to the UMAC operations until August 2012. The required support include continuing to quality assure and train the demining operations, maintaining the Regional Mine Action Centre functions in Gulu, building technical and management capacities to UMAC staff, and undertaking the logistics support tasks to the demining operations.
3. Mechanical clearance assistance is provided by Norwegian People's Aid Sudan in terms of lending a clearance machine and technicians to Ngomoromo mine-clearance for six months at the beginning of 2010, preferably at no cost to Uganda.
4. Government of Uganda (GoU) will continue to support the NMAP in terms of maintaining the Uganda Mine Action Centre and Coordinator in Kampala, providing salaries for the existing 67 and additional 40 UMAC staff until August 2012. Furthermore, the GoU shall continue provision of security to the field staff in the areas of operation. An unforeseen, weakened security situation at the border area to Sudan, would no doubt lead into a temporary suspension of mine-clearance activities.
5. Uganda People's Defence Force will second an additional 40 staff to be trained as deminers in October 2009 and deployed to Ngomoromo and Agoro in December 2009 to carry out manual and mechanically assisted mine-clearance until August 2012.

6. OPERATIONAL PLAN TIME LINE

On the next page is a chart illustrating the result of UMAC assessment on the estimated clearance completion time frame for 1) the current capacity; 2) increased capacity by 40 additional deminers; and for 3) increased capacity by 40 personnel and external mechanical asset. The timeline is an estimation of the total clearance progress on the known mined areas; based on the above assumptions and manual demining time and motion studies, UMAC annual work plan, and the findings of the technical survey carried out to date.

The chart shall not be taken as a fixed indicator of the demining completion date but instead illustrating realistic yet ambitious objective for the completion of the clearance with time-bound benchmarks. As to date, the ongoing technical survey operation in Agoro has progressed to assess one of the five suspected mined areas. Therefore, the remaining four areas have to be calculated onto the total areas to be cleared in their full size assessed by means of a non-technical survey (GMAA). In other words, the extent of the mined areas in Agoro can reduce from the present assessment rather than increase, and until the technical survey is complete, the mine contamination remains unknown.

6.1 UMAC Assessment on Time Required to Fulfilling Article V Obligations



7. ESTIMATED CLEARANCE PROGRESS

The tables and charts under 7.1 and 7.2 indicate the expected manual clearance rates for a three-year extended clearance period, taking into account the increased capacity for 2010 – 2012. The planned division of additional staff is following: 30 new deminers will deploy to the Agoro Mountains to complete the technical survey and subsequent clearance on all the sub-areas of the mined area; whilst Ngomoromo will receive an additional 10 deminers to support the existing demining capacity and mechanical clearance operations.

7.1 Ngomoromo

There will be an increase in productivity at the Ngomoromo minefield once the NPA machine is deployed. However, the productivity cannot be accurately calculated until NPA have completed a thorough reconnaissance in August 2009. The Minewolf Bagger is likely to be available in January 2010, preferably for 6 months.

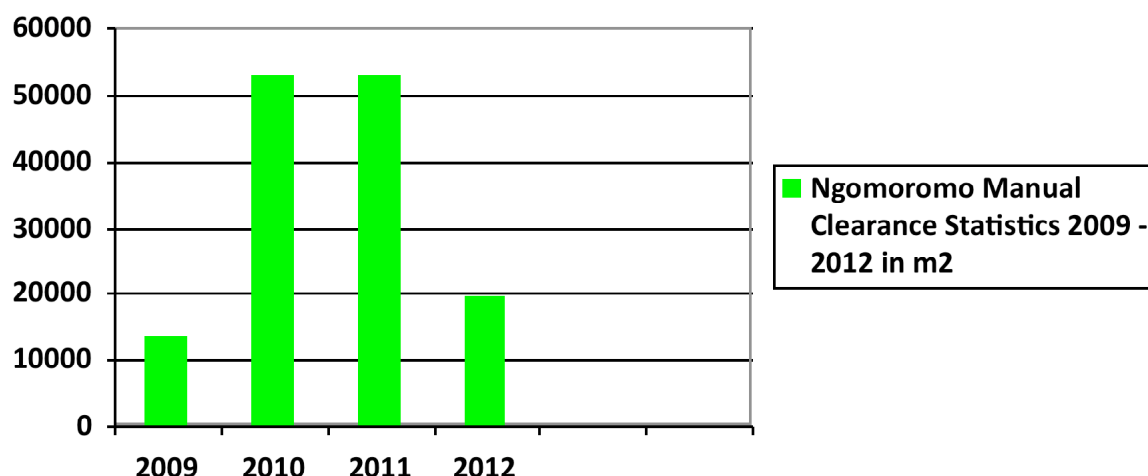
The table 7.1 and chart 7.1 below show the forecasted manual clearance progress for the Ngomoromo mined area over the period of July 2009 – August 2012, taking into account the increase in capacity by 10 men in Jan 2010. The total area cleared would be 140,000 m² by May 2012, working on today's daily clearance rate of 7.7 m² per lane per day, taking into account the increased deminer capacity, four more working days each month and average weather conditions.

Year/Progress	Current average clearance rate per deminer per lane	Deminers	Work days in one month	Clearance rate in one month
2009	7.7 m ² / day	14	20	2,156 m ²
2010	7.7 m ² / day minimum	24	24	4,435 m ²
2011	7.7 m ² / day minimum	24	24	4,435 m ²
2012	7.7 m ² / day minimum	24	24	4,435 m ²

Table 7.1 Progress Calculation Ngomoromo

However, the calculation does not account for the Minewolf Bagger vegetation cutting and ground preparation machine, which should deploy to the Ngomoromo minefield in Jan 2010, greatly increasing the productivity in the areas, it can be employed in. It is also

possible that parts of the area can be discredited in the aftermath of the ongoing technical survey. These factors will ensure clearance of the Ngomoromo minefield is completed before May 2012. Details of the clearance rates for the Minewolf Bagger will be available in September 2009.



Ch

art 7.1 Estimated Clearance Progress in Ngomoromo

7.2 Agoro Mountains

The table 7.2 and chart 7.2 below show the forecasted manual clearance progress for the Agoro mined area over the period July 2009 – Aug 2012. The calculation is taking into account the clearance rate to date of 8.5 m² per lane per day on the mountainous terrain, four more working days in each month, and the increase in capacity by 30 men in Jan 2010. The total area cleared would be 130,000 m² by May 2011, not accounting for possible areas discredited in the aftermath of the ongoing technical survey.

Year/Progress	Current average clearance rate per deminer per lane	Deminers	Work days in one month	Clearance rate in one month
2009	8.5 m ² / day	14	20	2,380 m ²
2010	8.5 m ² / day	44	24	6,396 m ²
2011	8.5 m ² / day	44	24	6,396 m ²
2012	7.7 m ² / day	44	24	6,396 m ²

Table 7.2 Progress Calculation Agoro

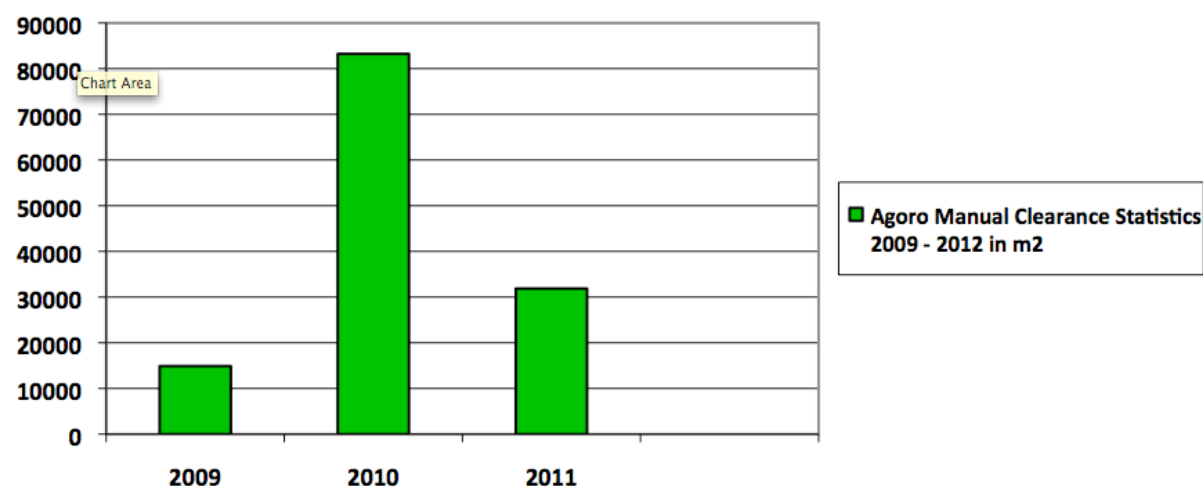


Chart 7.2 Estimated Clearance Progress in Agoro

7.3 Summary of Agoro and Ngomoromo Predicted Clearance Progress

Year/Area	Clearance Objective in m ²		
	Ngomoromo	Agoro Mountains	Total clearance year
2009	15,000 m ²	12,500 m ²	27,500 m ²
2010	52,500 m ²	85,000 m ²	137,500 m ²
2011	52,500 m ²	32,500 m ²	85,000 m ²
2012	20,000 m ²	0 m ²	20,000 m ²
Total clearance	140,000 m²	130,000 m²	270,000 m²

8. RE-DEPLOYMENT OF ASSETS UPON COMPLETION IN AGORO

On completion of the Agoro mined area, one of the two options for the re-deployment of the assets will be selected to facilitate safe environments to the affected population and compliance with Ottawa Article V.

The released demining capacity can either be increased in Ngomoromo, if that was required at the time of completion in Agoro; or then to deploy the capacity or parts of it to western Uganda, namely the former battle areas in Kasese, Bundibugyo and Koboko to conduct surveys on any nuisance mines and unexploded ordnance reported. At completion of the mine-clearance, there will also be a requirement to alter the clearance priorities to explosive ordnance disposal (EOD), and increase the number of EOD teams within the currently operated four districts in northern Uganda.

9. COSTING

Increasing the demining capacity will involve the purchase of new equipment as highlighted in this report and higher cost to maintain the logistic support over the maximum 3-year period to clear the mined areas in Ngomoromo and Agoro. A breakdown of costs for the first 12 months for the current and increased UMAC demining capacity logistics support and training and equipment requirements, can be found at *Annex VI to Uganda Article V Extension Request: Costing UMAC Mine Clearance, 12 months*.

10. SUMMARY

The increase in demining capacity to UMAC and the use of external support from NPA will increase productivity in both mined areas. This will ensure that the areas are cleared within a three-year period, working on the current clearance rates but demanding more from the demining capacity in terms of days and hours worked. Upon completion of the two mined areas, the manpower can be re-deployed to conduct surveys and clearance of possible nuisance mines and reported unexploded ordnance on former battle areas in Western Uganda, thereby increasing the explosive ordnance disposal team capacity to deal with the residual hazard of UXO.