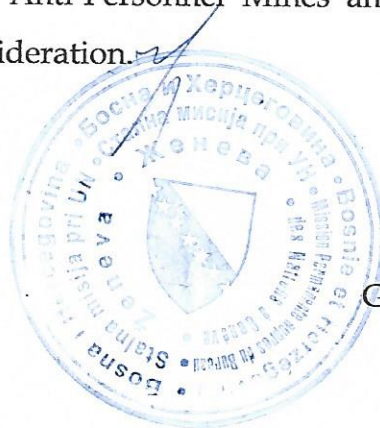




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The Permanent Mission of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the President of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction and has the honor to submit Bosnia and Herzegovina's Interim Request for Extension to the Deadline for Fulfilling Obligations as per Article 5, para 1 of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction.

The Permanent Mission of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the President of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction the assurances of its highest consideration.



Geneva, April 25, 2018

**H.E. Ms. Suraya Dalil**

**President**

**Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction**

**Fax: +41 22 730 93 62**

**Email: [isu@apminebanconvention.org](mailto:isu@apminebanconvention.org)**



**BOSNIA AND HERCEGOVINA**

**Interim Request for Extension to the Deadline for Fulfilling Obligations as  
per Article 5, Para 1 of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use,  
Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their  
Destruction**

**March 2018**

**CONTACT:**

**Ministry of Civil Affairs in Bosnia and Herzegovina**

**Minister Adil Osmanović**

Trg BiH 3

71 000 Sarajevo

tel: +387 33 221 073

fax: +387 33 221 074

E-mail: [kabinet.ministra@mcp.gov.ba](mailto:kabinet.ministra@mcp.gov.ba)

URL: [www.mcp.gov.ba](http://www.mcp.gov.ba)

**Demining Commission in Bosnia and Herzegovina**

**Members – Suvad Džafić, Blažen Kovač i Mladen Mrkaja**

Trg Bosne i Hercegovine 1

71 000 Sarajevo

TEL: + 387 33 492 548

FAX: + 387 33 498 631

E-mail: [suvad.dzafic@mcp.gov.ba](mailto:suvad.dzafic@mcp.gov.ba); [blazen.kovac@mod.gov.ba](mailto:blazen.kovac@mod.gov.ba); [mladen.mrkaja@msb.gov.ba](mailto:mladen.mrkaja@msb.gov.ba)

URL: [www.mcp.gov.ba](http://www.mcp.gov.ba)

**Mine Action Centre Bosnia and Herzegovina (BHMACH)**

**Acting Director Saša Obradović**

Tvornička 3

71 000 Sarajevo

TEL: + 387 33 253 800

FAX: + 387 33 464 565

E-mail: [info@bhmac.org](mailto:info@bhmac.org)

URL: [www.bhmac.org](http://www.bhmac.org)

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## Executive Summary

The challenge in the implementation of Article 5 of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction in Bosnia and Herzegovina dates back from the period 1992-1995. From 1992 to 1995 warring factions in Bosnia and Herzegovina laid a huge number of minefields throughout the country. All warring factions in Bosnia and Herzegovina (Army of BH, Army of Republic of Srpska, Croatian Defence Council) laid minefields and primarily between confrontation lines, in order to prevent or slow down the movement of military units of one fraction into the area controlled by another fraction. Minefields were also laid in front of strategic points of all warring factions and military facilities. Geographically speaking, minefields were laid throughout the country, from Herzegovina to the south and south/west, over the mountains, canyons, and gorges of Central Bosnia to the flat areas to the north of the country. Minefields are present on the ground with all types of vegetation typical for Bosnia and Herzegovina (high grass and forest) at all types of ground (stone, karst).

Mine action program in Bosnia and Herzegovina commenced in 1996, through the establishment of UNMAC and in order to build local structure and capacities for mine action. Entity centres for mine action (MAC RS and FED MAC), along with the coordination centre on the state level (BHMAL) were established in 1998. With the passing of the Demining Law in Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2002, the existing mine action structure has been transformed. The central body of the State is presented by the Demining Commission in Bosnia and Herzegovina, operating within the Ministry of Civil Affairs in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The expert Commission's body for demining in Bosnia and Herzegovina – Mine Action Centre BiH (BHMAL) has been established by the Decision of the Council of Ministers and based on the Demining Law in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

A General assessment of mine problem in Bosnia and Herzegovina was carried out in the preparation of the previous request in 2007, where the Study identified 1.631 communities (inhabited places) contaminated with mines. It is estimated that mine contaminated micro-locations directly affect the safety of 921.513 persons, out of which 154.538 inhabitants in high threat communities, 342.550 in medium threat communities and 424.425 persons in low threat communities. Out of the total number of endangered communities, 122 or 7% were categorized as high threat communities, 625 or 38% as medium threat and 884 or 55% as low threat communities.

Based on the previous request, Bosnia and Herzegovina should be in a position to declare completion of its Article 5 obligations by 1 March 2019. After nine (9) years of implementation out of estimated ten (10), it can be stated that Bosnia and Herzegovina will not be able to fulfil obligations in accordance with the previous request.

According to the previous request, the affected area in Bosnia and Herzegovina has been reduced over the period of 2009–2017 from 1.688.033.658 square meters to 1.080. 207.829 square meters. During this period a total of 607.825.829 square meters were addressed or 45% out of the plan with 514.325.299 square meters of the suspected hazardous area cancelled through non-technical survey operations, which is 51% out of the plan, 77.800.000 square metres of suspected hazardous area reduced through technical survey operations in 1.630 realized tasks (technically surveyed locations), which is 30% out of the plan, and 15.690.000 square meters of confirmed hazardous areas cleared in 953 realized tasks (locations cleared), which is 20% out of the plan. A total of 14.385 anti-personnel mines, 1.181 anti-tank mines and 15.105 pieces of ERW, including cluster munitions were identified and destroyed.

The fulfilment of obligations under the previous request, as well as under the Strategic Plan for period 2009-2016, required 673,37 million of BAM. Annual operational plans since 2009 should have enabled stable and continuous engagement of financial resources for mine action from all available resources. However, Bosnia

and Herzegovina failed to find additional financial resources for this particular use. Financial plan of Bosnia and Herzegovina was also affected by the world economic crisis that overlapped with the beginning of the implementation of the obligations taken. With insufficient own means, the capital market, and the strict macro-economic policy, and in order to enable a relative prosperity, Bosnia and Herzegovina intended to turn towards the financial market credit resources. In the period from 2009 to 2017, and due to the lack of financial means, the average engagement of operational capacities, i.e. resources accredited for technical survey and mine clearance was 35%.

In the period from 2009 – 2017, continuous efforts were made in Bosnia and Herzegovina in order to prevent civilians entering the suspected and confirmed hazardous areas. Mine risk education is an integral part of mine action in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Apart from Mine Action Centre Bosnia and Herzegovina, MRE was conducted by accredited organizations under the supervision of Mine Action Centre Bosnia and Herzegovina, all in order to inform the population in affected communities and to diminish the number of mine victims. Mine risk education was conducted through public dissemination, education of affected groups and through liaising between mine action and affected communities. Mine risk education is a part of the regular school curriculum in elementary schools in Bosnia and Herzegovina. All stated above greatly contributed in preventing people from entering the suspected and confirmed hazardous areas. In the period since the submission of previous extension request, 178 mine risk education projects were realized in Bosnia and Herzegovina and 222.310 persons were educated on mine threat, most of them school children.

Analyses of mine accidents in Bosnia and Herzegovina indicate that patterns are seasonal: most accidents occur in autumn and spring, which is the result of agricultural and firewood collecting activities. The second important cause of mine accidents is collection of raw materials of economic value. Analyses of mine victims reveal a high gender sample where adult males prevail as the most affected group. Most accidents with fatal outcome were the consequence of activation of PROM-1 mine, which is fragmentation bouncing mine. BHMIC conducted an analysis on accidents which revealed that great many accidents were the result of adult men entering the suspect minefields, where they intended to do activities related to survival or economic benefit. It is important to perceive that adult males constitute a great number of victims; however, the key is to perceive that death or disability of the bread winner greatly affects other family members, who are considered to be indirect victims. It is of critical significance to understand the psychological and psycho-social consequences for survivors and affected family members, and conditions must be ensured for the satisfaction of their needs. In the period from 2009 to 2017, 128 mine/ERW victims were registered in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Out of the total, males constitute 94% and females 6%. Additionally, out of the total, adults constitute 87%, and children 13%. In the period after the war (since 1995) up to 2017, there were 1.756 casualties from mines/ERW, 614 of them fatal.

From 2013 to 2016 and in order to fulfil the obligations taken under the Article 5 of the Convention, Mine Action Centre in BiH realized “Land Release” project IPA 2011, with the support from Delegation of European Union in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The said project promoted the full employment of the land release process with non-technical survey efforts resulting in either cancellation of the suspected hazardous areas in case of insufficient evidence about the existence of mine/explosive devices or confirmation of hazardous areas. This process enabled efficient tasking in technical survey for the purpose of systematic and targeted investigation ensuring that clearance assets were directed onto confirmed hazardous areas only.

Within the stated project, Mine Action Centre in BiH created the following first three chapters of the new Standards: Land Release, non-technical survey and technical survey. These chapters were drafted in accordance with IMAS and adopted by the Demining Commission in Bosnia and Herzegovina in January 2016.

The results of the project “Land Release” present 91% of the area cancelled through non-technical survey by Mine Action Centre BiH, out of total area released to final users (42.788.962m<sup>2</sup>), 8,5% of area reduced through technical survey<sup>1</sup> and 0,5% cleared by accredited organizations through mine clearance.

Bosnia and Herzegovina is currently the most mine affected country in Europe. The total suspect area is 1.061.241.360 square meters in 8.482 mined areas or 2,1% out of the total area of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Suspected hazardous area is identified as the area between the zones of confrontation of the warring factions, for which there is information and probability of mine contamination. Unlike suspected hazardous area, which is a wider term, confirmed hazardous area is smaller, after non-technical survey (including general survey) the presence of the minefield is identified, along with serious indications or coordinates of suspected hazardous area are defined in detail. Sufficient information is collected for the conduct of humanitarian demining operations (technical survey and mine clearance). The confirmed hazardous area in Bosnia and Herzegovina is 306.142.475 square meters at 4.189 locations which are defined through non-technical survey (including general survey) for further humanitarian demining operations (technical survey and mine clearance).

In accordance with Article 5, Para 1, Bosnia and Herzegovina requests a two (2) years Interim extension from 01 March 2019 to 01 March 2021, to carry out survey and clearance activities to better define the precise perimeter of mined areas in Bosnia and Herzegovina. During the extension period, clearance operations will be carried out prior to these efforts. Following the better definition of the remaining challenge, Bosnia and Herzegovina will be in a better position to highlight the exact amount of time remaining to implement its obligations under Article 5. Bosnia and Herzegovina will submit a final request for extension for completion based on a more precise understanding of the remaining challenge by 31 March 2020.

Elimination of risk for population and social and economic development of Bosnia and Herzegovina will be resolved through integrated approach to mine action. Through the system of defining the mine suspect areas (MSA)<sup>2</sup> through non-technical survey operations conducted by Mine Action Centre BiH, the mine situation will be defined on a certain area, regardless of priority level and threat level in the community; the needs of local communities and municipalities/cities were first to consider, all in order to eliminate threat for population.

An area made up of SHAs and CHAs which encompasses one or more impacted communities and due to economic, cultural or geographical and other reasons is selected as a logical unit. The MSA is selected by BHMIC in close cooperation with the municipal authorities. These areas are then treated comprehensively through the land release procedure.

The Application of “land release”, with evidence-based decision making will allow reliable definition of areas where technical survey activities will be needed. Through the full application of land release suspected hazardous areas will be identified through the collection of indirect evidence and confirmed hazardous areas will be identified where direct evidence exists, likewise, activities will lead to significant cancellation of areas where no evidence exists and reduction through technical survey. Non-technical survey effort will provide for efficient tasking in technical survey, which will include both systematic and targeted investigation in order to confirm or refute the presence of mines and ensure that mine clearance capacities are deployed to confirmed hazardous areas only. In order to ensure the quality of the efforts carried out in the next year, the BHMIC has developed and adopted three chapters in its new standards on non-technical survey, technical survey and land release. All three have been developed in accordance with International Mine Action Standards (IMAS 07.11).

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<sup>2</sup> An area made up of SHAs and CHAs which encompasses one or more impacted communities and due to economic, cultural or geographical and other reasons is selected as a logical unit. The MSA is selected by BHMIC in close cooperation with the municipal authorities. These areas are then treated comprehensively through the land release procedure.

During the requested time period, Mine Action Centre Bosnia and Herzegovina, Armed Forces BiH and Norwegian People's Aid (NPA) will carry out a project entitled "Country assesment of suspected hazardous areas in Bosnia and Herzegovina" which will be carried out from 1 April 2018 – 30 September 2019. This project is approved and will be financed through EC emergency grants. The aim of this project is to increase the efficiency in mine action in Bosnia and Herzegovina through the implementation of improved general assessment of mine threat with the aim of setting a new baseline through the application of non-technical survey and technical survey i.e. it will aim to establish a new foundation for realistic planning in mine action in order to plan for the realization of the Mine Action Strategy 2018-2025 and preparation of the final request for fulfilling the obligations under Article 5 of the Convention.

Parallel to this project, the BHMIC with support of the UNDP and financing from the European Union will create the new web orientated database to replace the existing system and increase accessibility and transparency of mine action data. Project Title is "Mine Action Governance and Management Project". This project will aim to influence policy and build the capacity to instil greater organisational openness and adaptability to new methodologies. This will contribute towards re-establishing donor confidence through the formulation of a credible, realistic and achievable completion plan, which will provide the strategic framework and work plan necessary to clear all known mined areas in the country and comply with the country's demining obligations under the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (hereafter referred to as the Ottawa Convention).

Land release operations will continue in line with the annual priorities presented by municipal authorities as well as in line with the financing available for implementation. As per the National Demining Law, these plans are developed on an annual basis, following the final procedures. It is expected that through these operations at total of 192.000.000 square meters including 164.000.000 square meters cancelled through non-technical survey, 26.000.000 reduced through technical survey and 2.000.000 square meters cleared. In addition to this the BHMIC will prepare through non-technical survey a total of approximately 120 MSAs approximately 263.200.000 square kilometres. Parallel to these activities marking of suspected hazardous areas with 18.000 signs for emergency marking will take place.

At the moment, there are 26 accredited organizations for mine action in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Five of them are government organizations (Armed Forces, Fed. Administration of CP FBiH, Republic Administration of CP RS, Brčko District Civil Protection and Red Cross Society BiH), seven commercial organizations (all national) and fourteen non-government organizations (11 national and 3 international). Within accredited organizations, 1.200 persons are engaged, all accredited for the conduct of mine action and licensed for work, i.e. 900 deminers and 300 persons accredited for managerial and supervision tasks (team and site leaders, operational officers, quality assurance officers, EDD trainers, dog-handlers, operators etc.). Organizations accredited for mine actions have at their disposal 37 accredited machines (for vegetation removal, ground disturbance and removal of debris), 1.257 metal detectors and 63 accredited explosive detection dogs.

Mine risk education in the period 2019-2020 will be implemented through public information, education of affected population groups and through linking mine action with an affected community. Mine risk education will focus on the priority implementation of activities in communities that have a large suspected hazardous area of priority category III and the most affected target population groups.

In accordance with the Demining Law in Bosnia and Herzegovina, funds for the conduct of mine action in Bosnia and Herzegovina will be ensured via donors' sources, budgets of Bosnia and Herzegovina institutions, entity budgets and other sources. In order to fulfil the obligations under Article 5. of the Convention in requested timeframe (two years), the funds totalling 79.649.835 BAM are necessary. The finance plan according to the operational plan for 2019-2020 is prepared in accordance with the realistic financial frame of mine action, and in accordance with the analysis of financial plan for mine action in the period 2009-2016.



## **1. Remaining implementation challenge at the time of previous request submission**

A General assessment of mine problem in Bosnia and Herzegovina was carried out in the preparation of the previous request in 2007, where the Study identified 1.631 communities (inhabited places) contaminated with mines. It is estimated that mine contaminated micro-locations directly affect the safety of 921.513 persons, out of which 154.538 inhabitants in high threat communities, 342.550 in medium threat communities and 424.425 persons in low threat communities. Out of the total number of endangered communities, 122 or 7% were categorized as high threat communities, 625 or 38% as medium threat and 884 or 55% as low threat communities.

In the period after the war (since 1995) up to 2009, there were 1.666 casualties from mines/ERW, 486 of them fatal.

At the time of submission of the previous request, Bosnia and Herzegovina was the most mine contaminated country in Europe with a remaining area of 1.688.000.000 square meters and it was 3,3% of the total area of Bosnia and Herzegovina. At this time, Mine Action Centre BiH had 19.057 registered minefield records in BHMAIS, which was estimated to be approximately 60% out of their total number.

### **1.1. Obligations taken under the previous request and circumstances which prevented completion**

Based on the previous request, Bosnia and Herzegovina should be in a position to declare completion of its Article 5 obligations by 1 March 2019. After nine (9) years of implementation out of estimated ten (10), it can be stated that Bosnia and Herzegovina will not be able to fulfil obligations in accordance with the previous request. The main circumstances preventing Bosnia and Herzegovina from achieving completion are as follows:

- **Lack of financial means** necessary for the conduct of humanitarian demining operations in the context of the previous request, Bosnia and Herzegovina did not pass the new Law on Mine Action in BiH. Unfortunately, no better conditions were created in the previous period for stabile and continuous financing of the humanitarian demining operations via finding the new financing resources. The passing of the new Law on Mine Action in BiH has been in the parliamentary procedure for several times now yet the new law has not been passed. In 2016, activities commenced on the Amendments Act to the Demining Law in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The working group for creation of the said act consisted of the representatives from the Ministry for Civil Affairs in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Demining Commission in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Mine Action Centre, Armed Forces, and entity civilian protections (RU CZRS and FU CZ FBiH). Council of Ministers in Bosnia and Herzegovina defined the proposition for the stated law, where the document was forwarded via Ministry of Civil Affairs to the Parliamentary Assembly in Bosnia and Herzegovina for regular adoption procedure. Bosnia and Herzegovina prepared its previous request in accordance with the Strategy on Mine Action in Bosnia and Herzegovina 2009-2019, which constitutes a strategic state document in the mine action domain, adopted by the Council of Ministers in 2008.

The fulfilment of obligations under the previous request, as well as under the Strategic Plan for period 2009-2016, required 673,37 million of BAM. Annual operational plans since 2009 should have enabled stabile and continuous engagement of financial resources for mine action from all available resources. However, Bosnia and Herzegovina failed to find additional financial resources for this particular use. Financial plan of Bosnia and Herzegovina was also affected by the world economic crisis that overlapped with the beginning of the implementation of the obligations taken. With insufficient own means, the capital market, and the strict macro-economic policy, and in order to enable a relative prosperity, Bosnia and Herzegovina intended to turn towards the financial market credit resources. In the period from 2009

to 2017, and due to the lack of financial means, the average engagement of operational capacities, i.e. resources accredited for technical survey and mine clearance was 35%.

- **The size of mine problem** in Bosnia and Herzegovina. In accordance with the stated Strategy, Bosnia and Herzegovina was supposed to be mine free by 2019, with the established safe environment for normal and prosperous life for all the residents of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and with mine victims fully integrated into the social community. The suspected hazardous area in the implementation deadline should have been returned to final users as it follows:
  - a) I and II category of priority through the operations of non-technical (general) and technical survey and clearance, through continued preventive instruments such as movement ban, emergency and permanent marking, and mine risk education;
  - b) III category of priority, through the developed methods of survey. The suspected hazardous areas were continuously treated through movement bans, emergency and permanent marking, and mine risk education.

The suspected hazardous area at the beginning of 2009 should have been 1.573.000.000 square meters in accordance with the request. However, due to the fact that Bosnia and Herzegovina did not fully implement the Operational Plan for Humanitarian Demining 2008, suspect area at the beginning of the implementation of the previous request was 1.688.000.000 square meters.

- **Non-functional minefield records available.** The problem was the quality of minefield records, which were not sufficiently accurate for the identification of the precise minefield location and shape (approximately 30%). Minefields in Bosnia and Herzegovina generally contain relatively small number of mines, whereas they might be either in groups or randomly laid. A large number of minefield records (approximately 40% of them) were never made or handed over; they were often destroyed or hidden for numerous reasons, such as the death of persons who created the minefield records, emigrating from Bosnia and Herzegovina and other unknown reasons.
- **Prevailing climate conditions.** Demining season in most of Bosnia and Herzegovina lasts from mid-March to the beginning of December. In such context, there is a fact that should not be ignored: during spring 2014, Bosnia and Herzegovina was hit by natural disaster whereas Mine Action Centre diverted available operational capacities towards the removal of negative consequences of catastrophic natural disasters. Suspect hazardous areas in 33 municipalities in Bosnia and Herzegovina affected 106.000.000 square meters of area caught in catastrophic natural disasters, with previously defined 41.000.000 square meters of the suspected hazardous area. The most significant result of operational activities conducted by Mine Action Centre BH with the assistance of accredited organizations is the fact that there were no accidents, incidents or injuries due to mines/ERW during the catastrophic natural disasters.

## **2. Progress made regarding the previous request**

### **2.1. Progress made during the previous extension period**

According to the previous request, the affected area in Bosnia and Herzegovina has been reduced over the period of 2009–2017 from 1.688.033.658 square meters to 1.080. 207.829 square meters. During this period a total of 607.825.829 square meters were addressed or 45% out of the plan with 514.325.299 square meters of the suspected hazardous area cancelled through non-technical survey operations, which is 51% out of the plan, 77.800.000 square metres of suspected hazardous area reduced through technical survey operations in 1.630 realized tasks (technically surveyed locations), which is 30% out of the plan, and 15.690.000 square meters of confirmed hazardous areas cleared in 953 realized tasks (locations cleared), which is 20% out of

the plan. A total of 14,385 anti-personnel mines, 1,181 anti-tank mines and 15,105 pieces of ERW, including cluster munitions were identified and destroyed.

Detailed information on the progress of non-technical and technical survey and mine clearance in the period from 2009 to 2017 is shown in the following 3 tables:

| ADMINISTRATIVE LEVEL        | Situation during the submission of previous extension request |                   | Cancelled area square meters | Reduced area square meters | Cleared area square meters | Released area square meters | AP mines found and destroyed | AT mines found and destroyed | ERW found and destroyed | No of released areas |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
|                             | No of Suspected areas                                         | SHA square meters |                              |                            |                            |                             |                              |                              |                         |                      |
| UNSKO-SANSKI CANTON         | 826                                                           | 136,845,937       | 23,307,230                   | 7,537,082                  | 701,625                    | 31,545,937                  | 1,108                        | 21                           | 337                     | 156                  |
| POSAVSKI CANTON             | 353                                                           | 44,165,441        | 16,861,440                   | 6,959,529                  | 1,114,472                  | 24,935,441                  | 640                          | 446                          | 803                     | 169                  |
| TUZLANSKI CANTON            | 959                                                           | 91,950,243        |                              | 9,174,075                  | 1,516,168                  | 10,690,243                  | 1,419                        | 69                           | 1,361                   | 234                  |
| ZENICKO-DOBOJSKI CANTON     | 867                                                           | 141,509,215       | 13,285,497                   | 5,427,988                  | 1,075,730                  | 19,789,215                  | 1,373                        | 39                           | 946                     | 168                  |
| BOSANSKO-PODRINJSKI CANTON  | 348                                                           | 71,744,463        | 19,941,306                   | 1,252,053                  | 131,104                    | 21,324,463                  | 154                          | 1                            | 116                     | 95                   |
| SREDNJE-BOSANSKI CANTON     | 1,028                                                         | 201,631,365       | 65,776,384                   | 4,636,820                  | 1,778,161                  | 72,191,365                  | 1,771                        | 203                          | 2,333                   | 236                  |
| HERCEGOVACKO-NERETV. CANTON | 1,684                                                         | 229,943,457       | 69,252,829                   | 4,299,473                  | 1,346,155                  | 74,898,457                  | 675                          | 12                           | 262                     | 416                  |
| ZAPADNO-HERCEGOVACKI CANTON | 11                                                            | 2,123,911         | 1,813,911                    |                            |                            | 1,813,911                   |                              |                              |                         | 5                    |
| CANTON SARAJEVO             | 642                                                           | 101,580,687       | 21,419,489                   | 4,408,664                  | 1,632,534                  | 27,460,687                  | 1,723                        | 72                           | 6,036                   | 150                  |
| CANTON 10                   | 582                                                           | 177,611,039       | 89,009,701                   | 2,806,577                  | 454,761                    | 92,271,039                  | 1,008                        | 76                           | 236                     | 289                  |
| FEDERATION OF BIH           | 7,300                                                         | 1,199,105,758     | 320,667,787                  | 46,502,261                 | 9,750,710                  | 376,920,758                 | 9,871                        | 939                          | 12,430                  | 1,918                |
| REPUBLIC OF SRPSKA          | 4,496                                                         | 450,316,700       | 184,805,968                  | 18,713,546                 | 4,777,186                  | 208,296,700                 | 3,791                        | 160                          | 2,100                   | 1,545                |
| DISTRICT BRCKO              | 371                                                           | 38,611,200        | 8,851,544                    | 12,589,293                 | 1,167,534                  | 22,608,371                  | 723                          | 82                           | 575                     | 222                  |
| BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA      | 12,167                                                        | 1,688,033,658     | 514,325,299                  | 77,805,100                 | 15,695,430                 | 607,825,829                 | 14,385                       | 1,181                        | 15,105                  | 3,685                |

Table 1: Review of released SHA and CHA

| Year  | Cancelled area square meters | Reduced area square meters | Cleared area square meters | Released area square meters | AP mines found and destroyed | AT mines found and destroyed | ERW found and destroyed |
|-------|------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 2009  | 115,320,000                  | 10,800,000                 | 1,940,000                  | 128,060,000                 | 2,112                        | 150                          | 977                     |
| 2010  | 100,760,000                  | 9,390,000                  | 2,350,000                  | 112,500,000                 | 2,350                        | 114                          | 1340                    |
| 2011  | 89,930,000                   | 9,560,000                  | 3,130,000                  | 102,620,000                 | 1,816                        | 389                          | 5,536                   |
| 2012  | 68,480,000                   | 7,460,000                  | 1,300,000                  | 77,240,000                  | 904                          | 75                           | 736                     |
| 2013  | 33,260,000                   | 9,210,000                  | 1,850,000                  | 44,320,000                  | 1,700                        | 100                          | 990                     |
| 2014  | 30,130,000                   | 10,120,000                 | 1,850,000                  | 42,100,000                  | 1,901                        | 135                          | 2,582                   |
| 2015  | 17,040,000                   | 8,390,000                  | 1,640,000                  | 27,070,000                  | 1,654                        | 129                          | 785                     |
| 2016  | 56,950,000                   | 10,390,000                 | 1,330,000                  | 68,670,000                  | 1,313                        | 63                           | 1555                    |
| 2017  | 2,455,299                    | 2,480,000                  | 300,000                    | 5,235,299                   | 635                          | 26                           | 604                     |
| Total | 514,325,299                  | 77,800,000                 | 15,690,000                 | 607,815,299                 | 14,385                       | 1,181                        | 15,105                  |

Table 2: Realization of the plan of for releasing the area, 2009-2017

| Time (2009-2017)                    | Plan (square metres) | Realization (Square metres) | Percentage of realization | Realization per method |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Cancelled area (square metres)      | 1,001,110,000        | 514,325,299                 | 51%                       | 85%                    |
| Non-technical survey                |                      |                             |                           |                        |
| Reduced area (square metres)        | 262,890,000          | 77,805,100                  | 30%                       | 13%                    |
| Technical Survey                    |                      |                             |                           |                        |
| Cleared area (square metres)        | 77,230,000           | 15,695,430                  | 20%                       | 3%                     |
| Clearance of mines                  |                      |                             |                           |                        |
| Total area released (square metres) | 1,341,230,000        | 607,825,829                 | 45%                       | 100%                   |

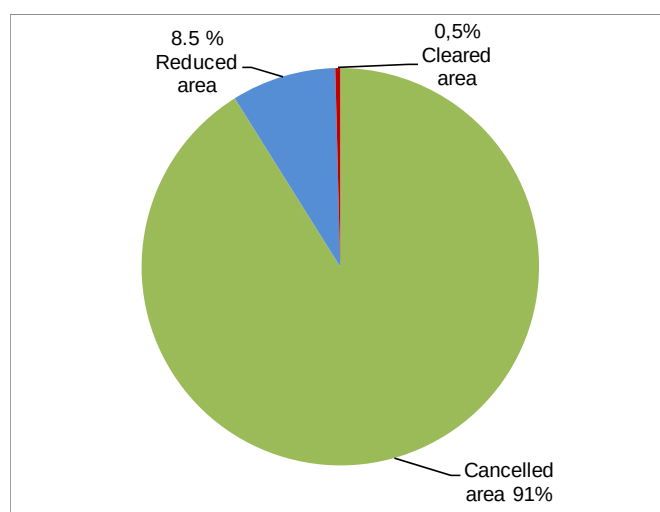
Table 3: Review of non-technical and technical survey, and mine clearance

### ***Land Release project***

From 2013 to 2016 and in order to fulfil the obligations taken under the Article 5 of the Convention, Mine Action Centre in BiH realized “Land Release” project IPA 2011, with the support from Delegation of European Union in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The said project promoted the full employment of the land release process with non-technical survey efforts resulting in either cancellation of the suspected hazardous areas in case of insufficient evidence about the existence of mine/explosive devices or confirmation of hazardous areas. This process enabled efficient tasking in technical survey for the purpose of systematic and targeted investigation ensuring that clearance assets were directed onto confirmed hazardous areas only.

Within the stated project, Mine Action Centre in BiH created the following first three chapters of the new Standards: Land Release, non-technical survey and technical survey. These chapters were drafted in accordance with IMAS and adopted by the Demining Commission in Bosnia and Herzegovina in January 2016.

The results of the project “Land Release” present 91% of the area cancelled through non-technical survey by Mine Action Centre BiH, out of total area released to final users (42.788.962m<sup>2</sup>), 8,5% of area reduced through technical survey<sup>3</sup> and 0,5% cleared by accredited organizations through mine clearance. Chart 1 below shows the results in percentage of “Land Release” project in the domain of releasing the land:



*Chart 1: Results of the “Land Release” project*

## **2.2. Methodologies and standards employed in the implementation of Article 5**

Methods for release of the suspect hazardous and confirmed hazardous areas in Bosnia and Herzegovina are defined through national standards and standard operational procedures which are in accordance with the international standards for mine action (IMAS) including Standards and SoPs on non-technical survey, technical survey and mines clearance:

**Non-technical survey** in Bosnia and Herzegovina includes systematic and general survey. Non-technical survey (relation to IMAS 08.10) is an activity for collection and analysis of information on presence, type, and layout of mines without the use of technical methods. Non-technical survey permits the analysis of gathered information and allows for decisions to be made on further technical activities. Through Non-Technical

Survey methods more precise area is defined for technical survey activities to take place should evidence of mines be discovered or cancellation of areas should there be no evidence of mines. Non-technical survey activities are conducted by the Mine Action Centre BiH, providing quality assurance and quality control (Standard for non-technical survey adopted 2016). **Non-technical survey** is conducted by Mine Action Centre in BiH.

**Systematic survey** is a process based on analysis and research, a process used to estimate the area that was subject to warring factions' activities. Systematic survey is a continuous activity of Mine Action Centre BiH, conducted through gathering, estimation, analysis and updating information on suspect locations and their characteristics (Standard operational procedures for humanitarian demining in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Chapter X, adopted in 2003).

Systematic survey is a part of the general assessment with the goal of estimating the impact of mines based on all the available information on hazard and size, shape, and characteristics leading to the formation of a suspected hazardous areas. Results of systematic survey are as follows:

1. Estimation of the size of the problem and mine impact;
2. Information on situation providing a precondition for general assessment;
3. Basis for long term planning for Non-Technical survey, Technical Survey and Clearance;
4. Source of information for the preparation of mine action plans in impacted communities.

**Non-technical survey** represents the sum of intertwined processes and activities for collecting and processing of information about mines without the application of technical methods. Information gathered contains the location, layout, and basic information on the suspected hazardous area characteristics. The purpose of non-technical survey is identification of risks and need for technical methods, marking and other mine risk education activities. Results of General Survey are as follows:

1. Gathering and processing information on suspected hazardous areas,
2. Estimation of mine threat and creation of priorities for humanitarian demining,
3. Cancellation of suspected hazardous areas,
4. Upgrading data base BHMAIS,
5. Planning of humanitarian demining,
6. Creation of the project documentation for technical survey and mine clearance.

**Technical survey** is a process which collects and analyses information on presence, type and layout of mines with the assistance of appropriate technical methods, and confirms their presence. The goal of technical survey is the use of appropriate methods for defining the borders of the mined areas (if any) or removal of doubt about the existence of mines in the area to which the evidences points. Technical survey represents entry into the areas which are identified through non-technical survey activities, direct search and defining the presence of mines, specific characteristics of the soil, marking the borders of mined areas, and setting the parameters for further mine clearance operations. **Technical survey** will be conducted in order to check and verify the information collected through non-technical survey, as well as to determine the borders of mined areas more precisely, i.e. to define the confirmed hazardous area.

Three methods are used in technical survey in Bosnia and Herzegovina: mechanical preparation of the land, MDD search by trained dogs, and manual method that implies the deminer working with his detector and his prodder (Standard operational procedures for humanitarian demining –Chapter V, adopted in 2003, Standard for technical survey, adopted in 2016).

**Mine clearance** implies physical removal of mines from the confirmed hazardous areas and their destruction. Methods used in mine clearance in Bosnia and Herzegovina are: mechanical preparation of the ground, *mine* detection dogs teams, and manual method which implies the deminer working with his detector and his

prodeder (Standard for mine clearance and UXO removal in Bosnia and Herzegovina, adopted in 2003). **Mine clearance** will be carried out with the aim of physically removing mines from the confirmed hazardous areas that are treated through the process of non-technical and technical survey. These activities will be carried out by accredited organizations.

### Quality Assurance and Quality Control

Quality control is conducted by Mine Action Centre in BiH (Standard operational procedures for humanitarian demining in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Annex II, Chapter I, adopted in 2008). The Mine Action Centre BiH also conducts technical supervision/inspection over technical survey operations conducted by accredited organizations.

Quality assurance in humanitarian demining is a system of control and activities including organization, planning, screening of the equipment, training, procedures and activities of humanitarian demining on the ground which will confirm that controlled operational procedures of humanitarian demining are correct and adequate and that tasks are achieved in a safe, efficient and effective manner. Quality assurance system is a significant factor for the trust in both demining personnel and users of demined area. Quality assurance in Bosnia and Herzegovina is conducted in accordance with the Demining Law in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Standard for mine clearance and UXO removal and Standard operational procedures for humanitarian demining in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The aim of quality assurance is implementation of prescribed norms and procedures that provide safety for people, and result in the quality of the area addressed. Quality assurance in Bosnia and Herzegovina consists of the following:

1. Technical inspection of humanitarian demining operations conducted by inspection bodies of Mine Action Centre Bosnia and Herzegovina, in accordance to the Demining Law in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Standard and approved SOPs. Technical inspection is conducted through:
  - a. Planning, including the project task, conduct plan for the technical survey and mine clearance tasks;
  - b. External quality control monitoring Of the humanitarian demining process conducted by Mine Action Centre BiH which enables the handover of the technically surveyed and cleared area;
  - c. Sampling of the cleared area,
  - d. Final technical inspection and issue of the quality assurance certificate,
2. Estimation and issue accreditation to organizations for the conduct of humanitarian demining in accordance with the Law, Standards and SOPs.
3. Process of training and testing including training and planning, approval of training plans for accredited organizations, control and participation in training, testing the personnel and readiness to work in Bosnia and Herzegovina.
4. Occupational safety and health.
5. Internal quality control over accredited organizations is conducted by the organization itself, i.e. team leader, site manager and quality assurance officer. Every internal quality control is recorded at site, in writing, with control samples of the situation, including sampling results, attached sketches and marking of the area. Through internal organization of work and through conduct of control within the accredited organization, maximum safety is achieved for deminers and users of demined

area.

6. Monitoring by contractor over organizations in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Monitoring represents the control of the contract between the contractor and the organization. Such monitoring is not obligatory and it is conducted per request of the contractor. Mine Action Centre issues the Quality Control Certificate, which is a confirmation that a certain location is demined in accordance with Article 36 of the Demining Law (Official Gazette BiH, No: 5/02) and Chapter VII of the Standard Operational Procedures for humanitarian demining (defined that a demined location is in accordance with IMAS, with the guarantee of 99,65%). Detailed information of quality assurance and quality control activities in the period 2009-2017 is shown below in table 4:

Operational plan are conducted in accordance with technical regulations compatible with international standards (IMAS):

- a. Chapter of Standard for Land Release,
  - b. Chapter of Standard for non-technical survey,
  - c. Chapter of Standard for technical survey,
  - d. Chapter of Standard for mine clearance and UXO removal,
  - e. Standard Operating Procedures for humanitarian demining,
  - f. Standard Operating Procedures for non-technical survey,
  - g. Standard Operational Procedures for revision of suspect hazardous area,
  - h. Quality assurance and quality control guidelines necessary for conduct of "Land Release" project.
- Methods which will be used in technical survey and mine clearance in Bosnia and Herzegovina are as follows: Mechanical preparation of the ground, EDD and Manual method.

In the period from 2009 to 2017, Mine Action Centre BiH inspection bodies have conducted 31.364 inspections at 2.583 humanitarian demining tasks (technical survey and mine clearance). Average number of inspections per humanitarian demining task was 12,2.

| 2009-2017                          | 2009   | 2010  | 2011  | 2012  | 2013  | 2014  | 2015  | 2016  | 2017  | Total  |
|------------------------------------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| Approved accreditations            | 1,839  | 1,509 | 2,257 | 1,395 | 1,529 | 1,460 | 1,328 | 1,233 | 626   | 13,176 |
| Deminers licenses issued           | 293    | 221   | 266   | 227   | 306   | 196   | 265   | 161   | 65    | 2,000  |
| Metal detectors tested             | 350    | 994   | 343   | 842   | 342   | 1,055 | 384   | 953   | 9     | 5,272  |
| EDD teams tested                   | 137    | 121   | 126   | 104   | 108   | 90    | 128   | 111   | 54    | 979    |
| Machines tested                    | 13     | 12    | 11    | 19    | 6     | 32    | 3     | 30    | 0     | 126    |
| Technical supervision / inspection | 4,467  | 4,165 | 4,718 | 2,910 | 3,223 | 3,767 | 3,291 | 3,833 | 1,260 | 31,634 |
| Total                              | 53,187 |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |        |

*Table 4: Review of quality assurance and quality control*

### 2.3. Organizational/coordination improvements

In the period from 2009 to 2017, effective information management was of great significance with its clear reporting systems, quality coordination and cooperation with relevant parties. Mine Action Centre in BiH was amongst the first to introduce a standardized information management in the initial phase of humanitarian demining and served as an example to numerous similar organizations and institutions.

Quality information management in mine action guarantees that actors have a momentary access to information in order to make strategic and evidence based operational decisions. This is achievable providing

the program has a sufficient number of technical personnel and updated and applicable methods, procedures, tools and processes for gathering, storing, analysis and dissemination of accurate, timely and relevant information.

In the same year, Mine Action Centre in BiH commenced the process of revision of all the mine action standards and SOPs in Bosnia and Herzegovina. By the end of 2017, the draft has been completed for Standard operating procedures for non-technical survey and Standard operational procedures for opening and follow-up of the task. The BHMAL has been working together with all its partners in developing a land release concept for Bosnia and Herzegovina which will lead to the implementation of a more efficient approach to addressing contamination. These SoPs are currently in the process of being adopted by the Demining Commission of BiH.

During 2016, the BHMAL with the support of the GICHD conducted an assessment of information management. BHMAL collects, stores, analyses and updates all necessary information concerning mine action. This information is available to all interested parties. BHMAL is currently in the phase of defining its organizational structure which supports integration of information management within and between the organizational units.

#### 2.4. Resources available for achieved goals

In the period from 2009 to 2016, mine action in Bosnia and Herzegovina was financed with 332,5 million BAM or 49% out of planned 673,0 million<sup>4</sup>. In this period, Bosnia and Herzegovina failed to find additional finance resources that would total 340,8 million BAM or 51% of means necessary in accordance with the previous extension request. Considering the bad economic situation in the country as well as the size of mine problem, the fact remains that mine action as an exceptionally costly process could not have been adequately supported. Bosnia and Herzegovina ensured 171,0 million BAM or 51% out of total funds invested into mine action, from the budgets of the state, entities, cantons, municipalities as well as public and private sector budgets. Donors and friend countries provided 161,4 million BAM or 49% out of total invested means, for which Bosnia and Herzegovina is very grateful. International donors in the period from 2006 – 2016 were presented by: USA, Germany, Norway, Switzerland, EU, Japan, Holland, Italy, Canada, Slovenia, Turkey, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Ireland, the Principality of Monaco, South Korea, UNDP, UNICEF, EUFOR, MKCK, Marshall Legacy Institute, CEB, Handicap International, SIDA, WOM and ICBL. Through the mediation of international fund for humanitarian demining and mine victims assistance for South-East Europe (ITF - Enhancing Human Security), 55% of donor funds were implemented. The review of mine action financing in Bosnia and Herzegovina in millions of BAM for the period from 2009-2016 is given in Table 5 below:

| 2009-2016                                                        | 2009  | 2010  | 2011  | 2012  | 2013  | 2014  | 2015  | 2016  | Total  | %   |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-----|
| Financial resources made available by the Bosnia and Herzegovina | 26.59 | 30.78 | 20.12 | 16.88 | 16.73 | 21.48 | 19.51 | 18.97 | 171.06 | 49% |
| Financial resources made available by International Donors       | 29.47 | 27.05 | 20.53 | 16.63 | 16.88 | 20.49 | 15.63 | 14.76 | 161.44 |     |
| Total                                                            | 56.06 | 57.83 | 40.65 | 33.51 | 33.61 | 41.97 | 35.14 | 33.73 | 332.50 |     |
| Not Ensure                                                       | 23.37 | 21.34 | 39.34 | 46.61 | 44.46 | 64.53 | 71.31 | 29.91 | 340.87 | 51% |

Table 5: Review of funds invested in mine action in the period 2009-2016.

<sup>4</sup> The amount of funds spent on mine action in BiH in 2019 will be known in March 2018 after the completion of data collection from BHMAL.



## 2.5. Efforts made on ensuring effective exclusion of civilians from mined areas

In the period from 2009 – 2017, continuous efforts were made in Bosnia and Herzegovina in order to prevent civilians entering the suspected and confirmed hazardous areas. Mine risk education is an integral part of mine action in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Apart from Mine Action Centre Bosnia and Herzegovina, MRE was conducted by accredited organizations under the supervision of Mine Action Centre Bosnia and Herzegovina, all in order to inform the population in affected communities and to diminish the number of mine victims. Mine risk education was conducted through public dissemination, education of affected groups and through liaising between mine action and affected communities. Mine risk education is a part of the regular school curriculum in elementary schools in Bosnia and Herzegovina. All stated above greatly contributed in preventing people from entering the suspected and confirmed hazardous areas. In the period since the submission of previous extension request, 178 mine risk education projects were realized in Bosnia and Herzegovina and 222,310 persons were educated on mine threat, most of them school children. The review of conducted MRE projects and educated persons in the period from 2009 to 2017 are stated below in Table 6:

| 2009-2017                              | 2009   | 2010   | 2011   | 2012   | 2013   | 2014   | 2015   | 2016   | 2017   | Total   |
|----------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| Number of implemented MRE projects     | 18     | 23     | 20     | 17     | 20     | 35     | 19     | 14     | 12     | 178     |
| Number of people cover by MRE projects | 22,918 | 37,215 | 26,307 | 15,097 | 24,296 | 35,397 | 26,158 | 22,888 | 12,034 | 222,310 |

Table 6: Review of mine risk education program 2009-2017

Emergency marking is a preventive measure of mine awareness, which is conducted through marking of the suspected hazardous areas boundaries; marking is an integral part of non-technical survey and mine awareness, thus presenting a very effective risk reduction measure. Total number of placed emergency marking signs in the period from 2009 to 2017 is 80,035, which is 74% of the plan. The review of emergency marking signs places is shown in the Table 7:

| 2009-2017                    | 2009  | 2010   | 2011   | 2012   | 2013  | 2014   | 2015  | 2016  | 2017 | Total  | Plan    | %   |
|------------------------------|-------|--------|--------|--------|-------|--------|-------|-------|------|--------|---------|-----|
| Emergency marking activities | 9,796 | 12,068 | 13,543 | 11,563 | 9,749 | 11,521 | 5,973 | 4,921 | 901  | 80,035 | 107,966 | 74% |

Table 7: Review of emergency marking activities in the period from 2009 to 2017

Emergency marking represents a preventive mine risk education measure, which is conducted through marking of boundaries of the confirmed hazardous areas. Placing of the signs at locations of III category priority was conducted at areas where humanitarian demining operations were planned in future, and it presented a very effective risk reduction measure. In the period from 2009 to 2017, 80,53 square kilometres of suspected hazardous area has been permanently marked, which is 46% out of plan, with 9,153 signs or 28% out of the plan. Review of permanent marking activities is given in Table 8 below:

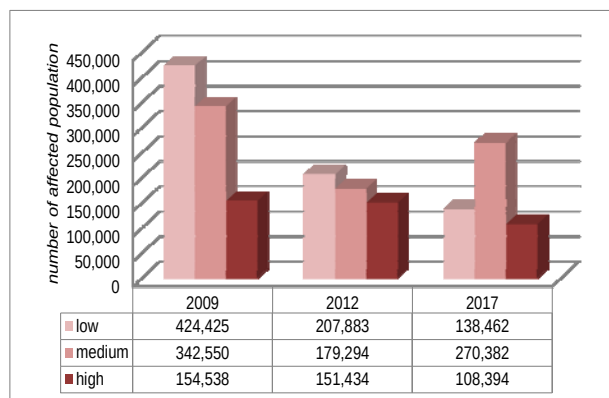
| 2009-2017                    | 2009                  |       | 2010                  |       | 2011                  |       | 2012                  |       | 2013                  |       | 2014                  |       | 2015                  |       | 2016                  |       | 2017                  |       | TOTAL                 |       |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|-------|-----------------------|-------|-----------------------|-------|-----------------------|-------|-----------------------|-------|-----------------------|-------|-----------------------|-------|-----------------------|-------|-----------------------|-------|-----------------------|-------|
| Permanent marking activities | Areas km <sup>2</sup> | Signs | Areas km <sup>2</sup> | Signs | Areas km <sup>2</sup> | Signs | Areas km <sup>2</sup> | Signs | Areas km <sup>2</sup> | Signs | Areas km <sup>2</sup> | Signs | Areas km <sup>2</sup> | Signs | Areas km <sup>2</sup> | Signs | Areas km <sup>2</sup> | Signs | Areas km <sup>2</sup> | Signs |
|                              | 11.31                 | 1,421 | 14.05                 | 1,564 | 24.63                 | 2,349 | 7.38                  | 954   | 11.82                 | 1,200 | 5.38                  | 906   | 2.56                  | 321   | 2.97                  | 386   | 0.43                  | 52    | 80.53                 | 9,153 |

Table 8: Review of permanent marking activities for the period 2009 - 2017

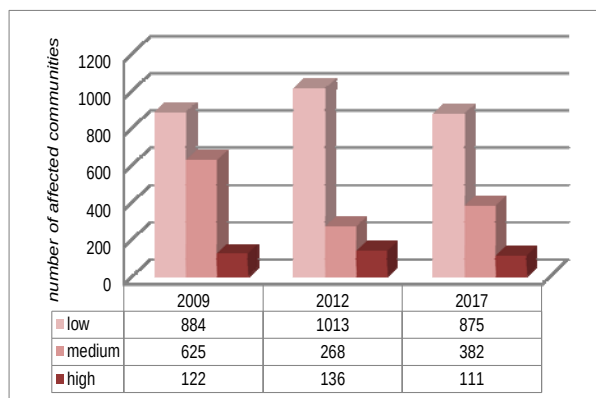
## 2.6. Social and economic aspects in the period since submission of the first request

General assessment of mine threat: a study conducted in 2007, has identified a total of 1,631 mine affected communities. It has been estimated that mine contaminated micro locations directly affect the safety of

921.513 residents. The general assessment update in Bosnia and Herzegovina conducted in 2015 has identified 1.398 mine affected communities. The micro-locations contaminated by mines directly affect the safety of 517.238 residents, which is 15% out of total number of Bosnia and Herzegovina residents. In the period from 2009 to 2017, the number of affected residents in Bosnia and Herzegovina is reduced by 404.275 people. The review of affected communities and persons is shown in graphs 1 and two below:



Graph 2: Affected communities



Graph 3: Affected persons

In the period from 2009 to 2017, suspected and confirmed hazardous areas were released to final users according to categories of priority. The qualitative aspect of suspected and confirmed hazardous areas release in Bosnia and Herzegovina is shown below in Table 9:

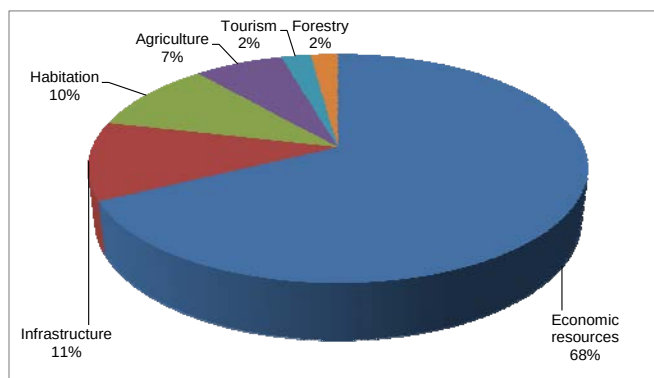
| Priority category | Released Area (square meters) |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| I category        | 93,500,530                    |
| II category       | 134,070,442                   |
| III category      | 380,254,857                   |
| Total             | 607,825,829                   |

Table 9: Release of suspected and confirmed suspect areas

The first category in priority encompasses repatriation, demining of housing objects for people to return, reconstruction of settlements, educational and health facilities, agricultural land, industrial complexes, forests, tourist and forest locations away from inhabited areas, where both mine risk and mine threat are low.

The second category in priority encompassed areas in occasional use or areas that border with I category areas. They represent a minimum safety belt through already treated I category locations, and they are defined by logical geographic unit borders. Traditionally, such areas are neither interesting nor motivating the residents to move towards periphery areas treated as III category in priority.

The third category in priority encompasses suspected hazardous areas with the least possible risk but with probable consequences dating from the war, since they were located between the confrontation lines. These are distant locations without traditional or any other recognizable motifs that would make people approach or move. They also do not contain strategically significant natural resources. The intentional use of the reduced area and area cleared through demining, i.e. technical survey and clearance is shown below in Graph 3:

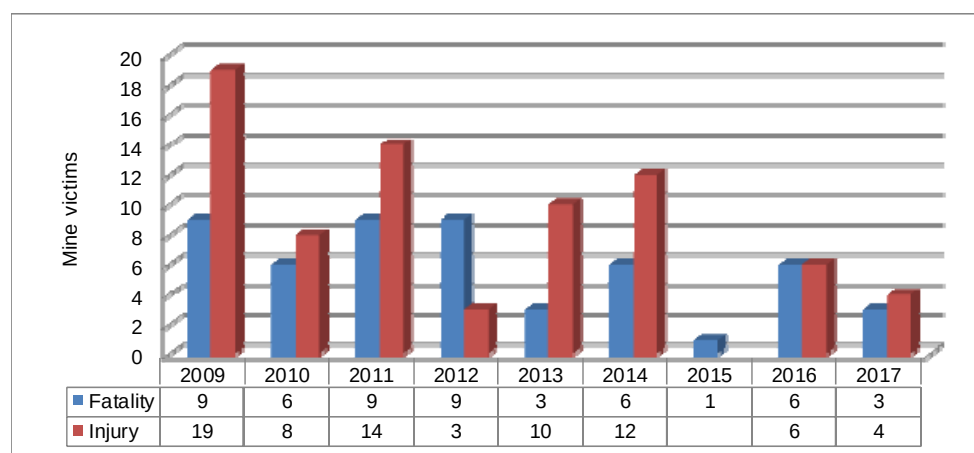


Graph 4: Intentional use for reduced and cleared area in the period 2009-2017

Analyses of mine accidents in Bosnia and Herzegovina indicate that patterns are seasonal: most accidents occur in autumn and spring, which is the result of agricultural and firewood collecting activities. The second important cause of mine accidents is collection of raw materials of economic value. Analyses of mine victims reveal a high gender sample where adult males prevail as the most affected group. Most accidents with fatal outcome were the consequence of activation of PROM-1 mine, which is fragmentation bouncing mine. BHMIC conducted an analysis on accidents which revealed that great many accidents were the result of adult men entering the suspect minefields, where they intended to do activities related to survival or economic benefit. It is important to perceive that adult males constitute a great number of victims; however, the key is to perceive that death or disability of the bread winner greatly affects other family members, who are considered to be indirect victims. It is of critical significance to understand the psychological and psycho-social consequences for survivors and affected family members, and conditions must be ensured for the satisfaction of their needs. In the period from 2009 to 2017, 128 mine/ERW victims were registered in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Out of the total, males constitute 94% and females 6%. Additionally, out of the total, adults constitute 87%, and children 13%. The review of victims as per gender and age in the period from 2009 to 2017 is given in Table 10 and Graph 5 below:

| Mine victims | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | TOTAL |
|--------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| Fatality     | 9    | 6    | 9    | 9    | 3    | 6    | 1    | 6    | 3    | 52    |
| Injury       | 19   | 8    | 14   | 3    | 10   | 12   |      | 6    | 4    | 76    |
|              |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |       |
| Men          | 25   | 14   | 22   | 11   | 12   | 18   | 1    | 12   | 6    | 121   |
| Women        | 3    |      | 1    | 1    | 1    |      |      |      | 1    | 7     |
|              |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |       |
| Adults       | 23   | 14   | 23   | 11   | 7    | 15   | 1    | 12   | 6    | 112   |
| Children     | 5    |      |      | 1    | 6    | 3    |      |      | 1    | 16    |

Table 10: Review of mine/ERW victims in the period 2009-2017



Graph 5: Review of mine/ERW victims in the period 2009-2017

### 3. Remaining implementation challenge

#### 3.1. Suspected hazardous areas and confirmed hazardous areas to contain anti-personnel mines

Bosnia and Herzegovina is currently the most mine affected country in Europe. The total suspect area is 1.061.241.360 square meters in 8.482 mined areas or 2,1% out of the total area of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Suspected hazardous area is identified as the area between the zones of confrontation of the warring factions, for which there is information and probability of mine contamination. Unlike suspected hazardous area, which is a wider term, confirmed hazardous area is smaller, after non-technical survey (including general survey) the presence of the minefield is identified, along with serious indications or coordinates of suspected hazardous area are defined in detail. Sufficient information is collected for the conduct of humanitarian demining operations (technical survey and mine clearance). The confirmed hazardous area in Bosnia and Herzegovina is 306.142.475 square meters at 4.189 locations which are defined through non-technical survey (including general survey) for further humanitarian demining operations (technical survey and mine clearance). The review of suspected and confirmed hazardous areas is given in Table 11<sup>5</sup>:

| ADMINISTRATIVE LEVEL                 | Number of areas suspect to contain AP mines | Number of areas know to contain AP mines | Area suspected to contain AP mines (square metres) | Area known to contain AP mines (square metres) |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| UNSKO-SANSKI CANTON                  | 640                                         | 132                                      | 100.810300                                         | 2.999408                                       |
| POSAVSKI CANTON                      | 174                                         | 6                                        | 18.100660                                          | 0.373135                                       |
| TUZLANSKI CANTON                     | 704                                         | 57                                       | 78.390233                                          | 1.392733                                       |
| ZENICKO-DOBOJSKI CANTON              | 665                                         | 52                                       | 118.350953                                         | 1.789376                                       |
| BOSANSKO-PODRINJSKI CANTON           | 222                                         | 19                                       | 47.003428                                          | 1.139795                                       |
| SREDNJE-BOSANSKI CANTON              | 761                                         | 100                                      | 122.529502                                         | 3.228952                                       |
| HERCEGOVACKO-NERETVANSKI CANTON      | 1225                                        | 68                                       | 149.613837                                         | 2.995124                                       |
| ZAPADNO-HERCEGOVACKI CANTON          | 10                                          | 3                                        | 0.740850                                           | 0.228308                                       |
| CANTON SARAJEVO                      | 285                                         | 29                                       | 73.329218                                          | 1.015054                                       |
| CANTON 10                            | 475                                         | 36                                       | 85.634465                                          | 1.065563                                       |
| FEDERATION OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA | 5,161                                       | 502                                      | 794.503446                                         | 16.227448                                      |
| REPUBLIC OF SRPSKA                   | 2834                                        | 303                                      | 229.456214                                         | 5.785176                                       |
| DISTRICT BRCKO                       | 146                                         | 2                                        | 15.216675                                          | 0.052401                                       |
| TOTAL                                | 8,141                                       | 807                                      | 1039.176335                                        | 22.065025                                      |

Table 11: Review of suspected and confirmed hazardous areas

<sup>5</sup> Suspect area in Bosnia and Herzegovina includes the confirmed hazardous area. It is not technically possible to show it within the same table as it is, and in accordance with BHMAIS database.

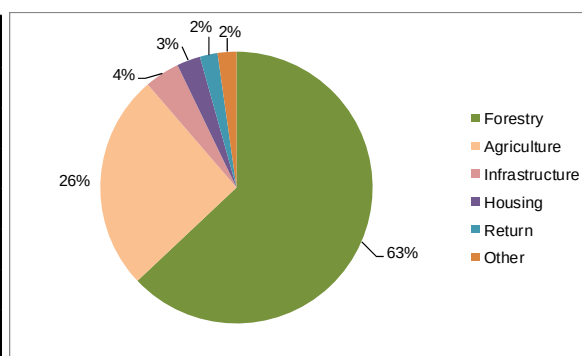
### 3.2. Relevant qualitative characteristics of remained challenge

Elimination of risk for population and social and economic development of Bosnia and Herzegovina will be resolved through integrated approach to mine action. Through the system of defining the mine suspect areas (MSA)<sup>6</sup> through non-technical survey operations conducted by Mine Action Centre BiH, the mine situation will be defined on a certain area, regardless of priority level and threat level in the community; the needs of local communities and municipalities/cities were first to consider, all in order to eliminate threat for population. In relatively sparsely inhabited hills and mountains of III category priority where the mine threat is low, the contamination problem will be dealt with in phases. The first phase will be conducted non-technical survey, marking of the suspected hazardous area, and mine risk education. Mine action activities in Bosnia and Herzegovina confront the challenge due to the fact that operational activities cannot be conducted throughout the year, but only when weather conditions allow: in case of Bosnia and Herzegovina, that is the period from mid-March to beginning of December. The remaining suspected hazardous area defined by potential use is shown below in table 12 and graph 5:

An area made up of SHAs and CHAs which encompasses one or more impacted communities and due to economic, cultural or geographical and other reasons is selected as a logical unit. The MSA is selected by BHMAL in close cooperation with the municipal authorities. These areas are then treated comprehensively through the land release procedure.

| Intentional use of SHA | Area m <sup>2</sup> |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| Forestry               | 668206530           |
| Agriculture            | 273124501           |
| Infrastructure         | 44240211            |
| Housing                | 29593819            |
| Return                 | 22423026            |
| Other                  | 23653272            |
| TOTAL:                 | 106.124.136         |

Table 12: Intentional use of SHA



Graph 6: Intentional use of SHA

### 4. Timeframe requested for fulfilment of obligations and the justification

In accordance with Article 5, Para 1, Bosnia and Herzegovina requests a two (2) years Interim extension from 01 March 2019 to 01 March 2021, to carry out survey and clearance activities to better define the precise perimeter of mined areas in Bosnia and Herzegovina. During the extension period, clearance operations will be carried out prior to these efforts. Following the better definition of the remaining challenge, Bosnia and Herzegovina will be in a better position to highlight the exact amount of time remaining to implement its obligations under Article 5. Bosnia and Herzegovina will submit a final request for extension for completion based on a more precise understanding of the remaining challenge by 31 March 2020.

<sup>6</sup> An area made up of SHAs and CHAs which encompasses one or more impacted communities and due to economic, cultural or geographical and other reasons is selected as a logical unit. The MSA is selected by BHMAL in close cooperation with the municipal authorities. These areas are then treated comprehensively through the land release procedure.

The outline of the plan presented below is based on the results of the “Land Release” project which was realized in Bosnia and Herzegovina in the period 2013-2017 and based on the assumption that sufficient financial resources will be mobilized during the requested period.

The Application of “land release”, with evidence-based decision making will allow reliable definition of areas where technical survey activities will be needed. Through the full application of land release suspected hazardous areas will be identified through the collection of indirect evidence and confirmed hazardous areas will be identified where direct evidence exists, likewise, activities will lead to significant cancellation of areas where no evidence exists and reduction through technical survey. Non-technical survey effort will provide for efficient tasking in technical survey, which will include both systematic and targeted investigation in order to confirm or refute the presence of mines and ensure that mine clearance capacities are deployed to confirmed hazardous areas only. In order to ensure the quality of the efforts carried out in the next year, the BHMIC has developed and adopted three chapters in its new standards on non-technical survey, technical survey and land release. All three have been developed in accordance with International Mine Action Standards (IMAS 07.11).

If we apply the results of the “Land Release” projects, it is possible to deduce that not all suspected hazardous areas currently in the database of BHMIC are contaminated by mines and that mine clearance capacities will have to be deployed in a relatively small area. The results of the “Land Release” project represent the basis during the process of making the Mine Action Strategy in Bosnia and Herzegovina 2018-2025, created by Mine Action Centre Bosnia and Herzegovina, in cooperation with International centre for humanitarian demining in Geneva (GICHD) in the domain of Strategic goal 3 that relates to survey and mine clearance (attached).

| Mine suspected area<br>MSA          | Suspected<br>hazardous<br>area<br>/m <sup>2</sup> / | Cancelled<br>area<br>/m <sup>2</sup> / | Number of found<br>and destroyed<br>mines | Cleared<br>/m <sup>2</sup> / | Reduced<br>/m <sup>2</sup> / | Physically<br>treated<br>/investigation<br>paths m <sup>2</sup> / | Land<br>released<br>/m <sup>2</sup> / | Number of<br>mines / ha |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Podvelež                            | 5,990,000                                           | 5,675,011                              | 23                                        | 8,660                        | 190,631                      | 44,876                                                            | 5,990,000                             | 27                      |
| Kupres                              | 9,410,000                                           | 9,294,082                              | 18                                        | 32,992                       | 206,770                      | 17,018                                                            | 9,410,000                             | 5                       |
| Avramovina                          | 1,310,000                                           | 852,235                                | 32                                        | 20,002                       | 297,845                      | 30,063                                                            | 1,310,000                             | 16                      |
| Tursanovo Brdo                      | 1,550,000                                           | 1,243,770                              | 46                                        | 12,894                       | 274,629                      | 40,765                                                            | 1,550,000                             | 36                      |
| Vlašić 1                            | 2,500,000                                           | 2,000,738                              | 258                                       | 23,881                       | 211,267                      | 24,768                                                            | 2,500,000                             | 108                     |
| Brežićani                           | 3,380,000                                           | 2,726,101                              | 36                                        | 3,173                        | 651,187                      | 72,234                                                            | 3,380,000                             | 113                     |
| Lukavica                            | 6,770,000                                           | 2,291,617                              | 40                                        | 9,366                        | 305,056                      | 53,133                                                            | 6,770,000                             | 43                      |
| Prača                               | 2,141,221                                           | 1,746,520                              | 132                                       | 26,959                       | 381,791                      | 53,638                                                            | 2,141,221                             | 49                      |
| Velika Drežnica -<br>Šuička poljana | 3,900,000                                           | 3,524,686                              | 380                                       | 45,393                       | 515,149                      | 121,776                                                           | 3,900,000                             | 84                      |
| Mitrići                             | 2,039,000                                           | 1,730,631                              | 66                                        | 40,814                       | 322,262                      | 50,476                                                            | 2,039,000                             | 16                      |
| Jošanica - Turija                   | 3,798,741                                           | 3,552,931                              | 113                                       | 18,301                       | 229,565                      | 61,238                                                            | 3,798,741                             | 62                      |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                        | <b>42,788,962</b>                                   | <b>34,638,322</b>                      | <b>1144</b>                               | <b>242,432</b>               | <b>3,586,153</b>             | <b>569,985</b>                                                    | <b>42,788,962</b>                     | <b>47</b>               |

Table 13: Results of “Land Release” project

The next two (2) years, will see a transition of working methodologies throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina with land release being intensively conducted through the application of new standards and SOPs to improve efficiency and cost-effectiveness of mine action in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

## 5. Social and economic implications in requested timeframe and prioritization

In the period of 2019-2020, the mission of all participants is to eliminate the risk posed by anti-personnel mines and create conditions for exploitation of blocked resources, setting up of the safe environment for affected population, and incentive for reconstruction, sustainable return and social and economic development in mine affected communities, i.e. municipalities/towns. In the period from 2019 to 2020, affected community will be in focus through the concept of municipality mine action activity, with increased participation of the local community in prioritization and acceptance of the “Land Release” concept results.

In cooperation with and taking as the lead the needs of the local community and municipality/town, prioritization of the different areas within and MSA will be addressed. The problem will then be dealt with in different phases depending on the impact and prioritization of the municipal authorities.

## 6. Detailed implementation plan for the requested timeframe

### Project BHMAL /BiHAF/ NPA

During the requested time period, Mine Action Centre Bosnia and Herzegovina, Armed Forces BiH and Norwegian People's Aid (NPA) will carry out a project entitled "Country assessment of suspected hazardous areas in Bosnia and Herzegovina" which will be carried out from 1 April 2018 – 30 September 2019. This project is approved and will be financed through EC emergency grants in the sum of 900,000 EUR. The aim of this project is to increase the efficiency in mine action in Bosnia and Herzegovina through the implementation of improved general assessment of mine threat with the aim of setting a new baseline through the application of non-technical survey and technical survey i.e. it will aim to establish a new foundation for realistic planning in mine action in order to plan for the realization of the Mine Action Strategy 2018-2025 and preparation of the final request for fulfilling the obligations under Article 5 of the Convention. This project will be carried out by 14 Non-Technical Survey Teams (9 of the BHMAL, 2 of the Armed Forces of BiH and 3 of Norwegian People's Aid).

In the implementation of the project non-technical survey will be carried out and with the support of authorities of local communities, the grouping of remaining suspected hazardous areas into individual suspected hazardous areas or MSAs will be achieved. These are geographical areas which will bring together a number of areas into one geographical area that will then be submitted to the land release process (NTS, TS and clearance). In this way it is expected that operations will better respond to the needs of the community through strengthening community liaison and ensuring that the needs of the communities are prioritized and addressed. This will also simplify the tasking procedure by assigning specific organizations a larger geographical area in which to carry out operations.

MSAs will be formed through the Non-Technical survey operations and will encompass former confrontation lines taking into consideration the character of the war and geographical characteristics of terrain, in order to create MSAs for land release operations. Priorities will reflect the level of impact of mines on residents, which is estimated through threat to the population and blocked resources.

Within the implementation of the project "Country assessment of suspected hazardous areas in Bosnia and Herzegovina", reconnaissance teams of organizations that will implement the project will be hired, shown below in Table 14:

| ORGANIZATION               | No. Survey teams | No. Staff |
|----------------------------|------------------|-----------|
| BHMAL                      | 9                | 27        |
| ARMED FORCES BIH           | 2                | 6         |
| NORWEGIAN PEOPLE AID (NPA) | 3                | 9         |
| TOTAL                      | 14               | 42        |

*Table 14: Review of survey teams*

All preparatory activities (i.e. staffing, training, equipment procurement) for the implementation of the project will be completed by March 30, 2018. The training of operational staff will be held in the period from April 02 until April 13, 2018.

Mine Action Center Bosnia and Herzegovina will accomplish "A Comprehensive Assessment of the Suspect Area for existence of mine and cluster munition threat in Bosnia and Herzegovina 2018-2019", as the

leading organization for this project, along with its project partners: (1) Armed Forces BH – Demining Battalion and (2) Norwegian People's Aid Program – disarmament program in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

This assessment is the integral part of the efforts of society, governing institutions at all levels, and specialized structures of mine action; the objective of these efforts is to improve planning, organization and the conduct of mine action through improved mine threat assessment, all in order to enhance human security, decrease the negative impact of the mentioned risks and to fulfil remaining obligations Bosnia and Herzegovina undertook as a signatory of Ottawa Treaty and Convention on Cluster Munition.

The general objective of the project is to increase mine action in Bosnia and Herzegovina through the application of improved general assessment of mine and cluster munition threat and their impact on affected communities. Inhabited places, households, and individuals who are at risk because of mines, cluster munition and other explosive remnants of war are in the center of this assessment.

Activities of the project are directed towards the fulfillment of two specific objectives:

1. Reassessment of the suspect area in accordance with the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) and with a developed approach to the land release in Bosnia and Herzegovina.
2. Defining the indicators for the conduct of the new strategy of mine action in Bosnia and Herzegovina and development of midterm action plan for land release.

To achieve the specific objectives of the Project, and in partnership with the Armed Forces BH and Norwegian People's Aid, Mine Action Center BH is planning to conduct the assessment of suspect areas in Bosnia and Herzegovina, in accordance with the developed assessment plan, on 1.030 km<sup>2</sup> of the suspect area, define a total of 500 +/- 10 % polygons of the suspect areas in the period from 01.03. 2018. - 31.08.2019. Most suspect areas defined for releasing will be adjusted to the optimal size on the level of 1,7-2,5 km<sup>2</sup> (2,1 km<sup>2</sup> on average).

The realization of this project will provide for the establishment of new grounds for the more realistic planning of mine action activities, bases for the development of new strategy in mine action and preparations for the submission of the new request by Bosnia and Herzegovina for the extension of the deadline set by the Ottawa Treaty.

The end result of this projects includes the creation of approximately 500 MSAs for further operations and the cancelation of approximately 30.000.000 square meters.

### **Information management**

Parallel to this project, the BHMAL with support of the UNDP and financing from the European Union will create the new web orientated database to replace the existing system and increase accessibility and transparency of mine action data. Project Title is "Mine Action Governance and Management Project".

The Mine Action Governance and Management project will assist the mine action authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina to increase transparency, improve planning capabilities and implement contemporary mine action standards for an accelerated pace of mine clearance. It builds on the activities implemented in the past that resulted in reconvening the Board of Donors, improvements in the human resource management processes and mine action standardization within BHMAL.

This project will aim to influence policy and build the capacity to instil greater organisational openness and adaptability to new methodologies. This will contribute towards re-establishing donor confidence through the formulation of a credible, realistic and achievable completion plan, which will provide the strategic framework and work plan necessary to clear all known mined areas in the country and comply with the country's demining obligations under the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (hereafter referred to as the Ottawa Convention). A credible completion plan should generate greater support for mine action and land release projects in the country ensuring the required resources are available to achieve a mine-free country. Through the implementation of this project, UNDP aims to strengthen the institutions, policies, systems and by-laws to enable increased citizen security and delivery of basic services to contribute to efficient release of



previously mine suspected land back to communities. This should enable inclusive growth and sustainable development increasing the productive capacities that create employment and livelihoods for the poor and excluded communities that currently live near landmine affected areas.

This project will be anchored to the Board of Donors providing the forum with well-coordinated plans, timely and accurate reports and advice on strategic and operational developments in the mine action arena in Bosnia and Herzegovina. It will establish a strong partnership with Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), Demining Battalion of the Armed Forces of BiH, civil protection and national mine action authorities.

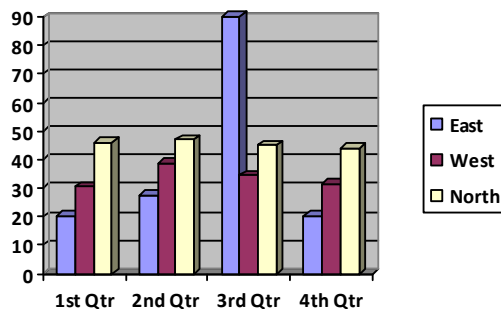
During 2016, GICHD conducted an estimation of information management quality in Mine Action Centre in BiH. In the same year, Mine Action Centre in BiH commenced the process of revision of all the mine action standards and SOPs in Bosnia and Herzegovina. By the end of 2017, the draft has been completed for Standard operating procedures for non-technical survey and Standard operational procedures for opening and follow-up of the task. The adoption of these two documents is expected by the middle of calendar year 2018. Mine Action Centre in BiH collects, stores, analyses and updates all necessary information from the domain of mine action. They are available to all interested parties. Mine Action Centre in BiH is currently in the phase of defining its organizational structure which supports integration of information management within and between the organizational units.

#### **Annual work plans for the extension period 2019 – 2020**

Finally, land release operations will continue in line with the annual priorities presented by municipal authorities as well as in line with the financing available for implementation. As per the National Demining Law, these plans are developed on an annual basis, following the final procedures:

It is expected that through these operations at total of 192.000.000 square meters including 164.000.000 square meters cancelled through non-technical survey, 26.000.000 reduced through technical survey and 2.000.000 square meters cleared.

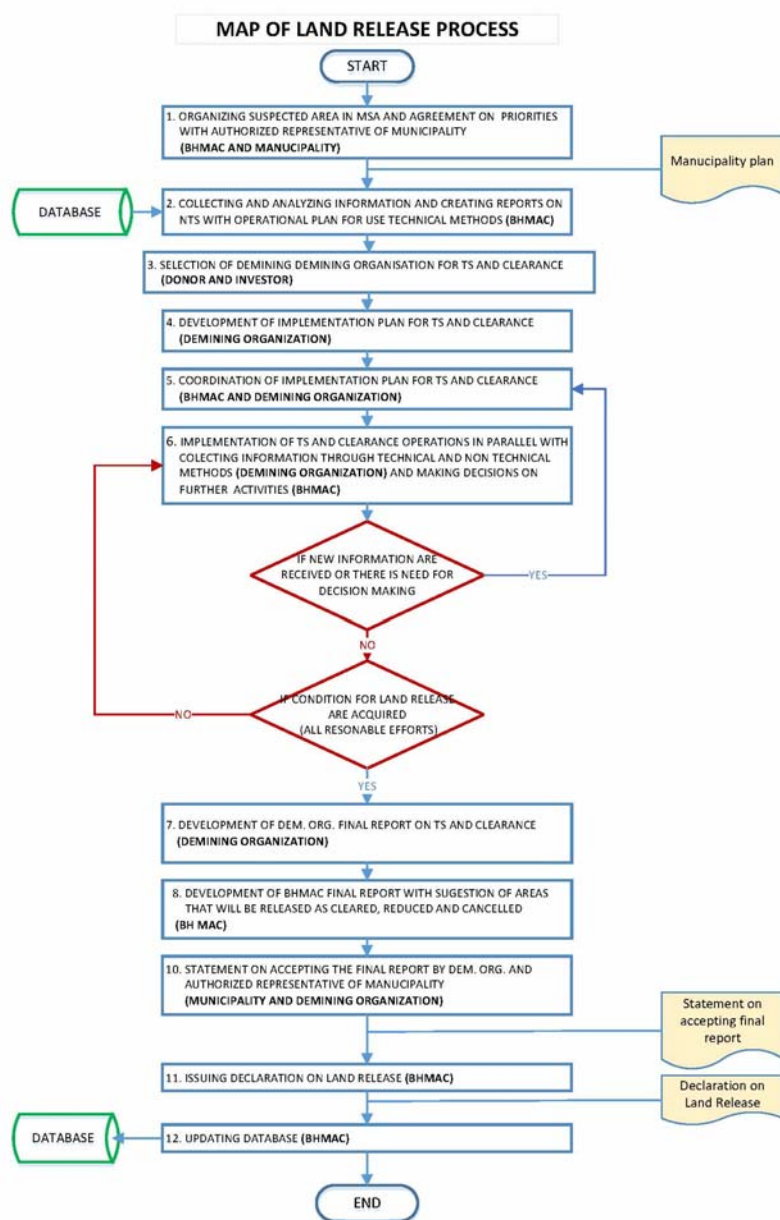
In addition to this the BHMAL will prepare through non-technical survey a total of approximately 120 MSAs approximately 263.200.000 square kilometres. Parallel to these activities marking of suspected hazardous areas with 18.000 signs for emergency marking will take place.



In addressing the MSAs, Bosnia and Herzegovina will coordinate closely with municipality authorities and engage maximum efforts in addressing these areas through non-technical and technical survey and clearance efforts. MSAs will be subjected to survey (i.e. Non-technical survey and Technical Survey) to discard the presence of mined areas or identify the precise perimeter of mined areas through an evidence based approach. Parallel to this, clearance operations will take place in confirmed hazardous areas.

Comprehensive plans for affected communities to address the MSA ensuring that these efforts eliminate specific high-risk locations or allows usage of certain natural and economic resources and through targeted and systematic investigation within the framework of the Land Release concept. Technical survey and mine clearance operations will be conducted by accredited organizations with the expert supervision of Mine Action Centre in BiH based on the Annual Operational Plans of mine action for 2019 and 2020.

The timetable of areas for implementation of technical survey and mine clearance operations has been carried out at administrative levels in Bosnia and Herzegovina and is in line with the impact of the suspected hazardous area and the planned levels of operations for affected communities. Land Release process is shown below in Scheme 1. In Annex 7 are shown Scheme 2 - Map of technical survey in land release process and Scheme 3 - Map of non-technical survey process.



Scheme 1: Map of Land Release Process

**Annual Planning and Prioritization:** an update of the General assessment of the problem of landmines in Bosnia and Herzegovina was carried out in 2015 and this research included impact of mines and their socio-economic influence at inhabited places.

The general assessment of the mine problem in Bosnia and Herzegovina identified the mine problem in 129 municipalities/towns, i.e. 1,398 affected communities. Areas suspected of or known to contain anti-personnel mines directly affect the safety of 545,603 inhabitants or 15% of the total population of Bosnia and Herzegovina (in accordance with the results of the last 2013 Population Census in Bosnia and Herzegovina).

The estimation of the levels of danger will be carried out from the date of the general assessments. Mine suspected areas (MSAs) will be categorized in three levels, high, medium and low impacted communities.<sup>7</sup> Division according to the level of benefits will be based on humanitarian and development considerations. A priority setting model will be shown as Annex to SOPs related to NTS and Land Release.

## **6.1. Prioritization and planning**

### **Analysis of Mine Action Centre BH database and creation of MSAs**

Given the fact that there are several local communities contaminated with mines in one community, the MSA will be chosen based on information from general assessment on mine action and its characteristics, encompassing one or more local communities.

There are priorities in creating MSA, and those are minefields, former confrontation lines, and character of conflict and geographic attributes of the ground, all in order to create logical cores in relation to mine situation. All three categories of priorities will comprise MSA, without segregation. Analysis of mine situation will be conducted no matter the category of the suspect area, and according to the minefield spreading and confrontation lines.

Local administration will agree with Mine Action Centre BH on the size and priority of MSA in accordance with humanitarian, developmental and safety needs of municipality and local communities, not neglecting the level of threat for each and every local community.

Level of threat in a community taken from the general assessment is used for prioritization of MSAs within one municipality.

Analysis based on information from BH MAC database implies gathering of information on previous mine action conduct (clearance, technical survey, mine awareness, incidents and similar).

While creating MSA, particular attention is to be paid to the following:

- Encompass mine situation in order to get one whole. Split the mine situation only in exceptional cases when the size of the MSA would be too large to process and for further conduct of technical methods.
- Encompass all confrontation lines in order to get an integrated view of conflict activities, deployment of the units, minefields etc.
- Particular attention is to be paid to geographic characteristics of the ground in order to plan the starting points for targeted investigation.
- Minefields should not be split if they belong to a whole or one minefield record,
- If possible, encompass entire communities with one MSA, with the exception of cases when there is a mine situation at various geographic sides of a community, belonging to a different context (time) of conflict.

- Average size of MSA should be approximately 3 km<sup>2</sup>. The chiefs of regional offices will make a final decision, consulting BH MAC Office.
- As an exception, MSA may spread over two or more neighboring municipalities; in such cases, the activity carrier is the municipality with the greatest part of MSA.

### **Basic principles in the prioritization procedure**

- Priorities reflect the size of threat presented in mines and unexploded devices and their impact on population.
- The size of the impact is estimated through consequences of threat as well as through risk and inability to use area due to existence of mines.
- Priorities should enable efficient conduct of mine action in order to accomplish safety for citizens, strategic goals and interests of all levels of authority, from state to municipality level.
- Criteria for choosing a priority should be clear, quantifiable and transparent.
- The priority list should equivalently contain the interests of all local communities.
- Priorities will be verified under the Demining Law in Bosnia and Herzegovina; the public and local communities will be informed about it.

### **Prioritization procedure**

The creation of MSA is conducted by joint effort of Mine Action Centre BH and municipality authorities, within the process of creation or revision of existing municipality plans. In case there is no such plan, the municipality or other interested party will usually initiate a procedure for creation of MSA. The prioritization request should contain explanation on usefulness and need for certain MSA to be processed in accordance with humanitarian, developmental and safety needs of a municipality and local communities. The level of threat for each and every community should not be neglected.

The prioritization model is adjusted to specificity of mine problem in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The model defines criteria for quality measurement of the level of threat and the level of usefulness, including the said levels for all communities within one MSA. Liaising with local community is one of the key principles for setting the MSA priority. The municipalities with greater number of high and medium impact communities will have advantage in a region.

### **Estimated level of threat**

Regarding the level of threat, MSAs will be categorized into three categories: high medium and low risk MSAs. The estimation of level of threat is conducted based on available data which lead to general assessment. MSAs with higher probability of PROM, large confirmed minefields and high/medium level of impact taken from general assessment will be categorized as high and medium risk MSAs within one municipality. All other MSAs will be categorized as low risk. Since one MSA may encompass several impacted communities, the assessment is conducted based on community with highest risk.

| SETTING THE RISK LEVEL OF MSA       |                                             |                                                             |                                                         |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| HIGH IMPACT                         | MEDIUM RISK                                 | HIGH RISK                                                   | HIGH RISK                                               |
| MEDIUM IMPACT                       | LOW RISK                                    | MEDIUM RISK                                                 | HIGH RISK                                               |
| LOW IMPACT                          | LOW RISK                                    | MEDIUM RISK                                                 | MEDIUM RISK                                             |
| Community level of impact           | Unknown minefields – INDIRECT EVIDENCE ONLY | Known and unknown minefields – DIRECT AND INDIRECT EVIDENCE | Known minefields – DIRECT EVIDENCE, PROM MINE EXISTENCE |
| Probability of minefields existence |                                             |                                                             |                                                         |

In accordance with Law on demining in BiH, humanitarian demining in Bosnia and Herzegovina will be carried out in accordance with lists of priority tasks which at yearly level are being adopted by entity governments (2018). Priority lists tasks will contain all tasks where there are existent mine records or where confirmed hazardous areas have been identified as well as contamination which blocks sustainable returns or are located up to 500 meters away from inhabited objects. When selecting projects in each affected community, the order of execution of each individual project will be defined according to the level of threat and development priorities. The list of priority tasks will also include all prepared MSAs.

#### Procedure for development of annual work plan

The priorities areas to be addressed by municipality are attached in annexed Table 7.

Detailed operational plan of land released, as well as the plan of non-technical survey and marking for each year for the period 2019-2020 is shown below in Table 15:

| LAND RELEASE                                                  |                          | 2019        | 2020        | TOTAL<br>(square meters)              |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|
| ACTIVITY                                                      | IMPLEMENTER              |             |             |                                       |
| Cancelled area-non-technical survey                           | BHMAC                    | 82.000.000  | 97.000.000  | 179.000.000                           |
| Cancelled area-non-technical survey                           | BHMAC,AFBH,NPA           | 30.000.000  |             | 30.000.000                            |
| Reduced area-technical survey                                 | Accredited organizations | 13.000.000  | 13.000.000  | 26.000.000                            |
| Cleared area-mine clearance                                   | Accredited organizations | 1.000.000   | 1.000.000   | 8.400.000                             |
| TOTAL                                                         |                          | 126.000.000 | 111.000.000 | 237.000.000                           |
| NON TECHNICAL SURVEY AND MARKING SHA (square meters)/No.signs |                          | 2019        | 2020        | TOTAL<br>(square meters)/<br>No.signs |
| ACTIVITY                                                      | IMPLEMENTER              |             |             |                                       |
| Survey SHA                                                    | BHMAC                    | 131.600.000 | 131.600.000 | 263.200.000                           |
| Urgent marking                                                | BHMAC                    | 9.000       | 9.000       | 18.000                                |

Table 15: Operational plan for period 2019-2020

**Mine risk education** in the period 2019-2020 will be implemented through public information, education of affected population groups and through linking mine action with an affected community. Mine risk education will focus on the priority implementation of activities in communities that have a large suspected hazardous area of priority category III and the most affected target population groups. The emergency marking of suspected hazardous areas will be carried out through non-technical survey operations by BHMAC surveying teams whereby the population will be educated and informed about mine danger at the local community level.

## 6.2. Finance plan

In accordance with the Demining Law in Bosnia and Herzegovina, funds for the conduct of mine action in Bosnia and Herzegovina will be ensured via donors' sources, budgets of Bosnia and Herzegovina institutions, entity budgets and other sources. In order to fulfil the obligations under Article 5. of the Convention in requested timeframe (two years), the funds totalling 79.649.835 BAM are necessary. The finance plan according to the operational plan for 2019-2020 is shown below in Table 16:

| LAND RELEASE                                       |                          | 2019       | 2020       | TOTAL<br>(million BAM) |
|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------|------------|------------------------|
| ACTIVITY                                           | IMPLEMENTER              |            |            |                        |
| Cancelled area-non-technical survey                | BHMAC                    | 2.950.000  | 2.950.000  | 5.900.000              |
| Cancelled area-non-technical survey                | BHMAC,AFBH,NPA           | 1.760.000  |            | 1.760.000              |
| Reduced area-technical survey                      | Accredited organizations | 28.600.000 | 28.600.000 | 57.200.000             |
| Cleared area-mine clearance                        | Accredited organizations | 4.200.000  | 4.200.000  | 8.400.000              |
| TOTAL                                              |                          | 37.510.000 | 37.750.000 | 73.260.000             |
| NON TECHNICAL SURVEY AND MARKING SHA (million BAM) |                          | 2019       | 2020       | TOTAL<br>(million BAM) |
| ACTIVITY                                           | IMPLEMENTER              |            |            |                        |
| Processed SHA-non technical survey                 | BHMAC                    | 2.950.000  | 2.950.000  | 5.900.000              |
| Urgent marking                                     | BHMAC                    | 50.000     | 50.000     | 100.000                |
| TOTAL                                              |                          | 3.000.000  | 3.000.000  | 6.000.000              |
| GRAND TOTAL                                        |                          | 40.510.000 | 38.750.000 | 79.260.000             |

Table 16: Finance plan according to operational plan 2019-2020

The finance plan is prepared in accordance with the realistic financial frame of mine action, and in accordance with the analysis of financial plan for mine action in the period 2009-2016. The finance plan per source and year is shown below in Table 17:

| FINANCING PLAN (million BAM) |                    | 2019       | 2020       | TOTAL (million BAM) |
|------------------------------|--------------------|------------|------------|---------------------|
| RESOURCE                     | BH resources (50%) | 20.255.000 | 19.375.000 | 39.630.000          |
|                              | Donors (50%)       | 20.255.000 | 19.375.000 | 39.630.000          |
| TOTAL                        |                    | 40.510.000 | 38.750.000 | 79.260.000          |

Table 17: Finance plan per source

Funds for non-technical survey activities by BHMAC will be ensured from the budgets of Bosnia and Herzegovina institutions, and implemented through operational activities of Mine Action Centre Bosnia and Herzegovina. Budgets of Bosnia and Herzegovina institutions will also ensure funds for technical survey and mine clearance activities, to be implemented by Armed Forces. Entity governments' budgets will ensure funds for technical survey and mine clearance operations, to be implemented by entity civilian protections. Other funding resources from Bosnia and Herzegovina: Brčko District budget, budgets of cantons and municipalities, and budgets of public and private companies.

Funds from traditional donor countries to Bosnia and Herzegovina for technical survey and mine clearance activities will largely (approximately 55%) be implemented via the mediation of International fund for humanitarian demining and victims assistance in SE Europe (ITF - Enhancing Human security), Norwegian People's Aid (NPA), Delegation of European Union in BiH through IPA II program, and other international institutions and organizations. The project "National assessment on remaining suspected hazardous areas" will be financed by emergency grants of the European Commission.

### 6.3. Resources and capacities for the realization of the plan

At the moment, there are 26 accredited organizations for mine action in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Five of them are government organizations (Armed Forces, Fed. Administration of CP FBiH, Republic Administration of CP RS, Brčko District Civil Protection and Red Cross Society BiH), seven commercial organizations (all national) and fourteen non-government organizations (11 national and 3 international). Within accredited organizations, 1.200 persons are engaged, all accredited for the conduct of mine action and licensed for work, i.e. 900 deminers and 300 persons accredited for managerial and supervision tasks (team and site leaders, operational officers, quality assurance officers, EDD trainers, dog-handlers, operators etc.). Organizations accredited for mine actions have at their disposal 37 accredited machines (for vegetation removal, ground disturbance and removal of debris), 1.257 metal detectors and 63 accredited explosive detection dogs. Mine Action Centre Bosnia and Herzegovina has at its disposal 44 surveyors, i.e. 22 survey teams for the conduct of non-technical survey (that includes general and systematic survey) and emergency marking, 8 officers for planning non-technical survey operations, 12 inspectors and 28 senior clerks for the conduct of quality control, i.e. technical supervision/inspection. Technical survey and mine clearance, as requested by the investors, are conducted by 3 monitor organizations with 18 monitors.

Resources accredited for technical survey and mine clearance per organization are shown below in Table 18:

| ACCREDITED ORGANIZATION      |                                    | Number of machines | Number of dogs | Number of detectors |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|---------------------|
| Government organizations     | ARMED FORCES BiH                   | 5                  | 25             | 284                 |
|                              | FED. ADMINISTRATION OF CP FBiH     | 6                  | 4              | 120                 |
|                              | REPUB. ADMINISTRATION CP RS        | 5                  | 2              | 42                  |
|                              | CIVIL PROTECTION BRČKO DISTRICT    | 0                  | 0              | 12                  |
|                              | UKUPNO                             | 16                 | 31             | 458                 |
| Non-government organizations | NORWEGIANS PEOPLE'S AID (NPA)      | 6                  | 10             | 186                 |
|                              | Udruga "Pazi mine Vitez"           | 1                  | 0              | 35                  |
|                              | UDRUŽENJE ZA ELIMINACIJU MINA UEM  | 1                  | 2              | 32                  |
|                              | UG DEMIRA                          | 1                  | 2              | 33                  |
|                              | NVO PRO VITA                       | 1                  | 2              | 60                  |
|                              | NVO STOP MINES                     | 2                  | 4              | 113                 |
|                              | UG EKO DEM                         | 1                  | 0              | 24                  |
|                              | CENTAR ZA OBUKU PASA ZA OTKR. MINA | 0                  | 2              | 15                  |
|                              | DOK-ING DEMINIRANJE N.H.O.         | 2                  | 0              | 62                  |
|                              | The Mines Advisory Group MAG       | 0                  | 0              | 18                  |
|                              | SVIJET BEZ MINA                    | 1                  | 0              | 10                  |
|                              | TOTAL                              | 16                 | 22             | 588                 |
| Commercial organizations     | N&N IVSA                           | 2                  | 4              | 88                  |
|                              | DETEKTOR                           | 1                  | 2              | 38                  |
|                              | UEM d.o.o.                         | 1                  | 2              | 30                  |
|                              | MINEMON d.o.o. Pale                | 0                  | 0              | 8                   |
|                              | EKSPLORING                         | 0                  | 0              | 5                   |
|                              | TROTIL d.o.o Sarajevo              | 0                  | 0              | 7                   |
|                              | POINT d.o.o.                       | 1                  | 2              | 35                  |
|                              | TOTAL                              | 5                  | 10             | 211                 |
| GRAND TOTAL                  |                                    | 37                 | 63             | 1,257               |

Table 18: Review of accredited resources

#### **6.4. Factors that might put the implementation plan at risk**

Circumstances that might put implementation of the plan at risk and thus present as a threat definitely relate to potential loss of interest of traditional donors in Bosnia and Herzegovina, which may result in reduced financial support for mine action. Continuous funding of the operational activities is the basic precondition for the realization of the set goals within the requested timeframe. In 2017, Mine Action Centre Bosnia and Herzegovina cooperated with GICHD and created the Mine Action Strategy in Bosnia and Herzegovina, 2018-2025. After it is confirmed by the Demining Commission in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Strategy will be forwarded to Ministry of Civil Affairs and Council of Ministers for approval. The stated document encompasses strategic and operational aim related to the plan of mobilizing finance resources with annual sums of expected funds and explained manners to keep traditional and attract new donors.



## Glossary:

**Mine Action Centre BiH** – BHMAC established by the Decision of the Council of Ministers, based on the Demining Law in BiH (Official Gazette BiH, No: 5/02) as the expert body of the Demining Commission in BiH;

**Quality control (CC)** – is a part of quality management, with the goal of fulfilling the request for quality (ISO 9000: 2000). Quality control relates to the inspection of the final product. In the case of humanitarian demining, the final product is the cleared area;

**Quality Assurance (QA)** – is a part of quality management, with the goal of building trust that conditions set for quality will be met (ISO 9000:2000). The purpose of quality assurance in humanitarian demining is the confirmation that managerial and operational procedures are applied properly, and that prescribed precondition can be met safely, efficiently and effectively. Internal quality assurance is conducted by the organization itself, while Mine Action Centre Bosnia and Herzegovina conducts external control;

**Mine** – is explosive device capable of killing, placed onto or under the surface of the ground or any other surface, with the purpose to explode due to pressure, proximity or contact with a person or a vehicle, with the ultimate goal of causing human victims and damage of property;

**Mine suspected area (MSA)** - Area that consists of SHA and CHA of one or more mine impacted communities covered in whole or in part, and which is chosen to be as one logical whole is treated through the "Land Release";

**Explosive remnants of war (ERW)** – are abandoned explosives (OES) and (UXO);

**General assessment** covers the mine impact assessment process in order to determine their socio-economic impact on populated areas, endangered communities and updating systematic survey that identifies, records and processes data on suspected hazardous areas as sources of risk.

**Non-technical survey (NTS)** – Activity for gathering and analysis of presence, type and layout of mines without the use of technical methods. Although non-technical methods are used in non-technical survey, there is a strong connection with technical methods. Non-technical survey defines the areas to be cancelled, reduced and cleared;

**Confirmed hazardous area (CHA)** – An area where the presence of mine/ERW contamination has been confirmed on the basis of direct evidence of the presence of mines/ERW;

**Suspected Hazardous Area (SHA)** is an area where there is reasonable suspicion of mine/ERW contamination on the basis of indirect evidence of the presence of mine/ERW;

**Technical survey (TS)** – The process of gathering and analysing information on existence, type and layout of mines, used to clarify whether the contamination is present or not.

## Acronyms

|       |                                                       |
|-------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| APMBC | „Anti-personnel Mine Ban Convention “                 |
| AP    | Anti-personnel mine                                   |
| AT    | Anti-tank mine                                        |
| BHMAC | Mine Action Centre BiH                                |
| EOD   | Explosive ordnance disposal                           |
| ERW   | Explosive remnants from war                           |
| EUFOR | European Union Forces                                 |
| GICHD | Geneva International Centre for humanitarian demining |
| GMAP  | Gender mine action program                            |
| IMAS  | International standards                               |
| LIS   | Landmine impact survey                                |
| MRE   | Mine risk education                                   |
| MSA   | Mine suspected area                                   |
| NVO   | Non-government organizations                          |
| NMAS  | National standards for mine action                    |
| NTS   | Non-technical survey                                  |
| SOP   | Standard operational procedures                       |
| SOPO  | Sumnjiva opasna površina                              |
| POPO  | Potvrđena opasna površina                             |
| MVA   | Mine victims assistance                               |
| TS    | Technical survey                                      |
| UN    | United Nations                                        |