

FACT SHEET
Mine Action and Support for Mine Action
1999–2014

June 2014

The international mine action community has made significant strides toward putting an end to the suffering caused by antipersonnel mines.¹ Clearance operations over the past two decades, combined with a huge decline in new use thanks to the Mine Ban Treaty, have dramatically reduced casualties caused by these indiscriminate weapons. The ICBL believes that the remaining antipersonnel mine threat can be removed in every State Party in less than ten years if operators, donors, and national authorities employ the right resources in the right way. Most importantly, they need to direct resources to areas with actual mine contamination rather than the large suspected areas identified through outdated surveys.

Completion of Article 5 obligations

Under Article 5 of the Mine Ban Treaty, States Parties have specific international legal obligations to find, clear, and destroy all antipersonnel mines in mined areas within a defined time period. Twenty-seven states and one other area have declared themselves cleared of mines since the treaty entered into force in 1999, and more do so with every passing year. In 2013, Bhutan, Hungary, and Venezuela completed clearance of all known areas containing antipersonnel mines. Germany declared it was in compliance with Article 5 after verifying that there were no antipersonnel mines in an area previously reported as suspected of contamination. Greece, which had already declared completion of Article 5 obligations in 2009, completed verifications of a suspected area without finding any contamination. Similarly, Burundi, which had reported additional suspected mined areas after declaring completion of its Article 5 obligations in 2011, announced that its subsequent survey and clearance efforts in 2014 had been completed. In addition, although Montenegro has still formally to report completion of its Article 5 obligations, the Monitor understands that no mined areas remain to be addressed.

States and other areas that have completed Article 5 implementation since 1999

Albania	Germany	Nigeria
Bhutan	Greece	Rwanda
Bulgaria	Guatemala	Suriname
Burundi	Honduras	Swaziland
Congo	Hungary	Tunisia
Costa Rica	Malawi	Uganda
Denmark	Montenegro	Venezuela
France	Nepal	Zambia
FYR Macedonia	Nicaragua	<i>Taiwan</i>
Gambia		

Note: States Parties to the Mine Ban Treaty are indicated in **bold**; other areas are indicated by *italics*.

¹ This fact sheet is based on research by the Monitor’s Mine Action team, which also appears in the Norwegian People’s Aid report, “Clearing the Mines,” June 2014.

Mine contamination

Today, 56 states plus four other areas still have an identified threat from antipersonnel mines. In most cases— 32 —contamination is on territory under the jurisdiction or control of a State Party.

Mine-affected states and other areas with confirmed mined areas as of May 2014

Africa	Americas	Asia-Pacific	Europe, the Caucasus, and Central Asia	Middle East and North Africa
Angola	Argentina*	Afghanistan	Armenia	Algeria
Chad	Chile	Cambodia	Azerbaijan	Egypt
Democratic Republic of Congo	Colombia	China	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Jordan**
Eritrea	Cuba	India	Croatia	Iran
Ethiopia	Ecuador	Lao PDR	Cyprus	Iraq
Mauritania	Peru	Myanmar	Georgia	Israel
Mozambique		North Korea	Kyrgyzstan	Lebanon
Niger		Pakistan	Russia	Libya
Senegal		South Korea	Serbia	Morocco
Somalia		Sri Lanka	Tajikistan	Palestine
South Sudan		Thailand	Turkey	Syria
Sudan		Vietnam	United Kingdom*	Yemen
Zimbabwe			Uzbekistan	<i>Western Sahara</i>
<i>Somaliland</i>			<i>Kosovo</i>	
			<i>Nagorno-Karabakh</i>	

Note: States Parties to the Mine Ban Treaty are indicated in **bold**; other areas are indicated by *italics*.

* Argentina and the United Kingdom both claim sovereignty over the Falkland Islands/Malvinas, which still contain mined areas.

** Jordan reported completion of clearance in 2013, but it also reports ongoing survey and clearance of areas contaminated with antipersonnel mines.

Today, massive antipersonnel mine contamination (defined by the Monitor as more than 100km²) is believed to exist only in Afghanistan and Cambodia, and very probably in Iraq. Heavy antipersonnel mine contamination (more than 20 km² and up to 100km²) is believed to exist in several states: Angola, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Thailand, and Zimbabwe.² The situation in Lao PDR, Myanmar, and Vietnam is not known, but may also be heavy. Other states have either medium contamination (more than 3km² and up to 20km²) or light (up to 3km²).

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² According to the Landmine Monitor’s assessment of actual antipersonnel mine contamination.

However, within the next five years, 24 States Parties and 16 states not party as well as three other areas are fully capable of completing clearance.

States and other areas fully capable of clearance by end of 2019

Africa	Americas	Asia-Pacific	Europe, the Caucasus, and Central Asia	Middle East and North Africa
Democratic Republic of Congo Eritrea Ethiopia Mauritania Mozambique Niger Senegal South Sudan* Sudan* Zimbabwe	Argentina** Chile Colombia Cuba Ecuador Peru	China India Pakistan South Korea* Sri Lanka	Armenia Croatia Cyprus* Georgia* Kyrgyzstan Russia Serbia Tajikistan Turkey* United Kingdom Uzbekistan <i>Kosovo</i> <i>Nagorno-Karabakh</i>	Algeria Egypt Jordan Iran Libya Morocco Palestine Yemen* <i>Western Sahara</i>

* Clearance subject to adequate security and control of territory, but all mined areas under effective control can be cleared (or have been cleared, such as in the case of Cyprus.).

** Without prejudice to the sovereignty dispute between Argentina and the United Kingdom on the Malvinas/Falkland Islands, if the United Kingdom clears the islands in accordance with its international obligations, Argentina’s legal obligations under Article 5 will also be complete.

Mine clearance

Over the past five years, approximately 200km² of mined area was cleared to international standards each year.

Mine clearance in 2009–2013 (km²)

Year	Mined area cleared
2013	185
2012	200
2011	190
2010	200
2009	198

Five years of clearance operations have resulted in the destruction of more than 1.48 million antipersonnel mines and 107,000 antivehicle mines, as well as countless items of unexploded ordnance (UXO).

Emplaced mines destroyed in 2009–2013

Year	Antipersonnel mines	Antivehicle mines
2013	275,000	4,500
2012	240,000	9,300
2011	325,000	29,900
2010	388,000	27,000
2009	255,000	37,000
Totals	1,483,000	107,700

In 2013, as in previous years, the mine action programs in Afghanistan, Cambodia, and Croatia accounted for the large majority of area cleared.

Major mine clearance programs in 2013

State	Mined area cleared (km ²)	Antipersonnel mines destroyed	Antivehicle mines destroyed
Afghanistan	60.1	19,181	752
Algeria	5.5	76,283	0
Angola	3.8	3820	861
Azerbaijan	4.7	10	117
Cambodia	45.9	21,618	498
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1.9	1,700	100
Croatia	32.3	1,771	775
Iraq*	5.3	8,552	323
Israel	2.2	34,006	122
Jordan	1.2	238	24
Sri Lanka	6.4	72,296	287
South Sudan	4.9	845	215
Sudan	2.6	1,053	254
Tajikistan	0.9	22,486	3
Thailand	0.3	2,142	60
Zimbabwe	0.8	6,052	0
Totals	178.8	272,053	4,391

* Only partial results were obtained for Iraq, so the true clearance figures are higher.

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Support for mine action

Throughout the past two decades, international support for mine action has increased to almost US\$500 million in 2012. While further contributions for 2013 have yet to be reported, early indicators suggest a decline in international support—a reflection of certain programs ending and demonstrating the need for national support to mine action to increase.

International support in 2013 amounted to almost US\$435 million (down from \$497 million in 2012, a more than 12% decrease). Support was provided by 30 donors to 48 states and four other areas. The top five donors accounted for more than 60% of all 2013 funding. In addition, reported national funding in 2013 amounted to almost US\$198 million (an increase of almost \$14 million compared to 2012).

Top five donors in 2013 (US\$ million)

Donor	Amount
United States	113.4
Japan	52.5
Norway	49.6
European Union	39.6
The Netherlands	23.6

The top five recipients of support for mine action were, in descending order, Afghanistan, Lao PDR (primarily for clearance of cluster munition remnants), Iraq, Cambodia, and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Top five recipients in 2013 (US\$ million)

Donor	Amount
Afghanistan	71.8
Lao PDR	34.8
Iraq	33.3
Cambodia	32.6
Bosnia and Herzegovina	23.1