Mine Action Programme of Afghanistan (MAPA)

Annual Report

1392 (2013 - 2014)

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ABOUT THE MINE ACTION COORDINATION CENTRE OF AFGHANISTAN (MACCA)

The concept of humanitarian mine action was developed in Afghanistan in 1988/9. After the fall of the Taliban and the international community's intervention in 2002, the Government of Afghanistan entrusted interim responsibility for mine action to the United Nations through an organisation named the United Nations Mine Action Coordination Centre (UNMACA) managed by the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS).

In 2008, in order to further transition and national ownership of the coordination of mine action, UNMACA was rebranded as the Mine Action Coordination Centre of Afghanistan (MACCA), remaining an UNMAS project. Oversight and coordination of the Mine Action Programme of Afghanistan (MAPA) is gradually shifting toward national ownership. MACCA is now working together with the Department of Mine Clearance (DMC) under the Afghan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA) to develop strategies and to implement and monitor mine action activities and targets. Together, MACCA and DMC coordinate nationwide mine action activities through seven MACCA regional offices in Kabul, Herat, Kandahar, Mazar-i-Sharif, Kunduz, Gardez, and Jalalabad.

As the coordination body, MACCA is also responsible for implementing Afghanistan's ten-year workplan approved under its Extension Request to the Ottawa Anti-personnel Mine Ban Treaty. To ensure proper coordination and efficiency within MAPA, MACCA focuses primarily on planning and priority setting, information management, quality management, resource mobilisation, advocacy and the coordination of all activities undertaken by any MAPA stakeholder towards achieving the goal of "Afghanistan Mine Free by 2023".

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FOREWORD

I am very happy and delighted to report that the Mine Action Programme of Afghanistan (MAPA) successfully achieved its annual mine action targets for 1392. This year the programme released 1,457 hazards (82.9 square kilometres (sq km) of minefields and 20.7 sq km of battlefields); in fact, the programme exceeded its clearance target of 79.15 sq km. The programme provided mine/explosive remnants of war (ERW) risk education to 701,050 Afghans including men, women, boys and girls, and implemented seven projects in support of victim assistance.

In 1392, MAPA received USD 72 million for mine action operations, with the majority coming from international donors. Although the amount of funds secured by MAPA in 1392 was around USD 12 million less than the expected budget, I am still very pleased to report that MAPA exceeded its annual clearance objectives. Meeting the mine action targets for 1392, the first year of the MAPA's 10 year operational plan, is a promising sign, indicating that the remaining landmine and ERW contamination in Afghanistan can be completely removed by 2023, the deadline to which the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan committed under the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Treaty in 2012.

Personally, this is a sign of the efficient use of mine action resources in Afghanistan. Certainly, we would not have had such great success in 1392 without the combined efforts of all players in the mine action family, including implementing partners, the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS), the Mine Action Coordination Centre of Afghanistan (MACCA), the Department of Mine Clearance (DMC) of the Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA), our generous donors, and all other mine action stakeholders.

It is worth mentioning that considerable progress was made in 1392 with regard to the transition mine action to national ownership. 1392 saw the establishment of a mine action legislation committee, which is comprised of various mine action stakeholders and made significant progress in developing national mine action legislation. This is another major step towards institutionalising mine action within the government, and thereby further strengthening national ownership of mine action.

As the line department for mine action, and on behalf of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all who have played a role in different segments of the Mine Action Programme of Afghanistan, thus helping the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to achieve its mine action related national and international obligations.

Dr. Mohammad Daim Kakar
Director General
Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA), Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

MESSAGE FROM THE PROGRAMME MANAGER OF THE UNITED NATIONS MINE ACTION SERVICE

1392 was another successful year for MAPA, though not without its challenges. The most difficult issue has been securing funds. MAPA did not receive the full amount anticipated for 1392; USD 12.3 million was outstanding. This meant MAPA did not deliver as much mine/ERW risk education as planned, and did not assist as many victims of mine/ERW accidents as expected. None-the-less, due to the commitment of implementing partners, the clearance target set for the first year of the Ottawa Extension Request workplan was achieved, which is a remarkable accomplishment and one of which Afghan deminers should be very proud.

The other challenge has been addressing the increase in civilian casualties of ERW, specifically in or around areas where international military have recently vacated. MAPA has advocated hard on the issue and some progress has been made by the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) and North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) countries, but it is slow and must be built upon.

For me personally, 1392 is the last year that I will represent the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) in the Mine Action Programme of Afghanistan; after five and a half years, I am moving on to UNMAS Headquarters in New York. It has been a pleasure and a privilege to work alongside the MAPA; the commitment and professionalism I have witnessed over and over again has been truly inspiring. I wish this programme every success for 1393.

Abigail Hartley
Programme Manager
United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS), Afghanistan

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE MINE ACTION COORDINATION CENTRE OF AFGHANISTAN

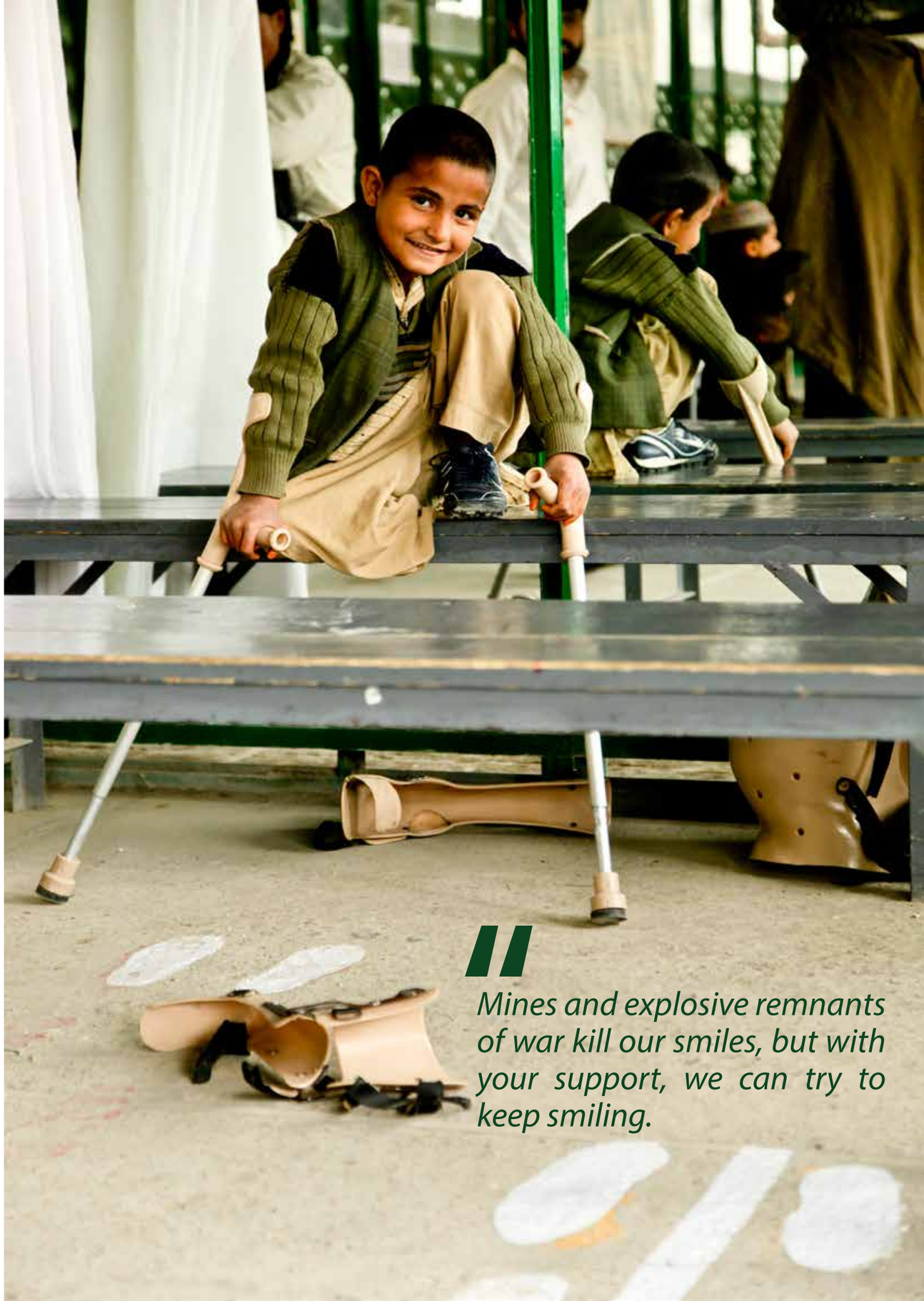
The end of 1392 marked the completion of the first year of the decade-long plan to clear the remaining known landmine and ERW contamination in Afghanistan. Submitting this plan for the review and approval of the member states to the Ottawa treaty was one of the obligations of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. I am proud to inform the stakeholders of the Mine Action Programme of Afghanistan that, despite a substantial reduction in funding, the hard work, and the efficient, well-managed and coordinated efforts of all mine action organisations resulted in the programme exceeding its mine and ERW clearance target.

The Mine Action Programme of Afghanistan remained focused on fulfilling Afghanistan's commitment in accordance with the relevant humanitarian laws, such as the Anti-personnel Mine Ban Treaty (APMBT), the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). Mine action operators worked tirelessly to ensure both the protection of Afghan citizens who were at risk of being killed or injured and the release of land essential to their livelihoods that was blocked by landmines and other ERW.

In addition to improving human security in the country, the sector facilitated the implementation of several development projects by addressing the threat of landmines and ERW and providing essential guidance and advice to the development sector. This year, in line with the expectations of our respected donors and other stakeholders, we managed to facilitate several missions through which Afghanistan exchanged its experience and knowledge with other mine-affected countries. Our consistent advocacy efforts in partnership with protection actors in Afghanistan resulted in some practical steps towards addressing the ERW contamination left behind from the international military forces in various parts of the country. We succeeded in further integrating risk education and victim assistance into the existing state and non-state institutions for the sustainability of mine action service delivery in the longer term.

I would like to assure the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, our generous donors and all the citizens of Afghanistan who are threatened by this inhumane legacy of past, recent and ongoing armed conflicts that we are committed to bring Afghanistan to an end state free from landmines and ERW contamination in the foreseeable future. I would like to end by expressing my heartfelt appreciation to all those who are involved in the mine action sector, especially the brave deminers, surveyors, risk education instructors and those who are assisting landmine survivors. I am sincerely grateful to our honourable donors, who have supported the Afghan people affected by landmines and ERW.

Mohammad Sediq Rashid
Director
Mine Action Coordination Centre of Afghanistan (MACCA)



"Mines and explosive remnants of war kill our smiles, but with your support, we can try to keep smiling.

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"It is not an easy job to be a deminer.
This year alone, two of our colleagues lost their lives
and another 14 were injured during demining operations.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As the first year of Afghanistan's Ottawa Extension Request workplan, 1392 was a landmark year for the Mine Action Programme of Afghanistan (MAPA). Despite a shortfall in funding for the year, the programme succeeded in doing more with less, surpassing its land release target by 30%. The programme's target under the Ottawa workplan was 79.15 sq km for 1392, but it succeeded in releasing 82.9 sq km of minefields and 20.7 sq km of battlefields by year end through survey and clearance operations.

As of the beginning of 1392, there were 4,866 hazardous areas covering 552 sq km area of the country, affecting 1,674 communities in 244 districts. During 1392, 1,457 hazardous areas covering an area of 103.6 sq km were successfully released through survey and clearance operations. 314 villages in 33 districts were declared entirely free of all known mines and ERW contamination.

This achievement bodes well for the next nine years of the workplan as we move towards the 2023 deadline to declare Afghanistan mine free. While donor funding has decreased in recent years, MAPA remains committed to the workplan and to continually improving the overall productivity of the programme. One of MAPA's great strengths is that its organisations are owned and managed entirely by Afghans, ensuring continuity since the programme began in 1989. The capacity to solve the problem is therefore on the ground; all that is required to achieve the 2023 deadline is financial support.

Over the past 25 years, mine action operations in Afghanistan have progressed apace. To date, MAPA has released 22,743 hazards covering 1,991.3 sq km area. As a result, 114 districts and 2,490 communities are no longer affected by known landmines and explosive remnants of war (ERW).

The remaining 4,294[1] hazards are, however, significant and continue to directly impact over 774,000 people in 1,609 communities and 253 districts. Indirectly, of course, the entire country is impacted, as these hazards block access to arable land in many cases and also impede the delivery of key development initiatives unless they are removed.

In addition to the clearance operations, MAPA delivered mine/ERW risk education to communities in order to mitigate persisting risks, with a particular focus on children as the largest group among victims of mines and ERW.

As part of the Ottawa Extension Request, during 1392, MAPA continued with the nationwide Mine/ERW Impact Free Community Survey (MEIFCS). This process involves a non-technical survey of all communities as well as immediate destruction of spot ERW found during the survey. During 1392, the survey was completed in 86 additional districts, and over 22,356 communities were visited, the majority of which were recorded as being free of hazard. Thanks to this survey, this year, 543 previously unrecorded hazards, covering 53 sq km were found and recorded in the national mine action database. On the other hand, 152 hazards covering 12.4 sq km area were cancelled and removed from the national database.

The funding target for 1392 was USD 84.3 million including the coordination cost of mine action, which includes planning and priority setting, quality management, information management, advocacy, resource mobilisation and the coordination of mine action operations. Of this total, MAPA received USD 72 million from donors including the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, through the UN Voluntary Trust Fund (VTF) and bilaterally to its implementing partners. This means that MAPA received around 85% of its required funding in 1392. The funds received were spent on survey, clearance, mine/ERW risk education, victim assistance and coordination. A total of USD 20.1 million was allocated from the UN Voluntary Trust Fund; and the remaining USD 51.9 million was provided through bilateral agreements.

This report is prepared and published by MACCA on behalf of MAPA. It encompasses all mine action activities, whether funded through the UN VTF, bilaterally or commercially.

[1] *At the beginning of 1392, there were 4,866 hazardous areas recorded in the national mine action database. During 1392, 1,457 hazards were processed. This year, survey and field operations resulted in the addition of 885 previously unrecorded hazards to the list, bringing the remaining contamination to 4,294 hazards by year end.*

SECTION 1: SCOPE OF THE PROBLEM

1.1. Contamination at the Beginning of 1392

At the beginning of 1392 (March 21, 2013), there were 4,866 hazardous areas covering 552 sq km of land, impacting 1,674 communities in 244 districts of the country. The breakdown of this contamination is reflected by device type in the table below.

Table 1: Contamination by device type as of the beginning of 1392

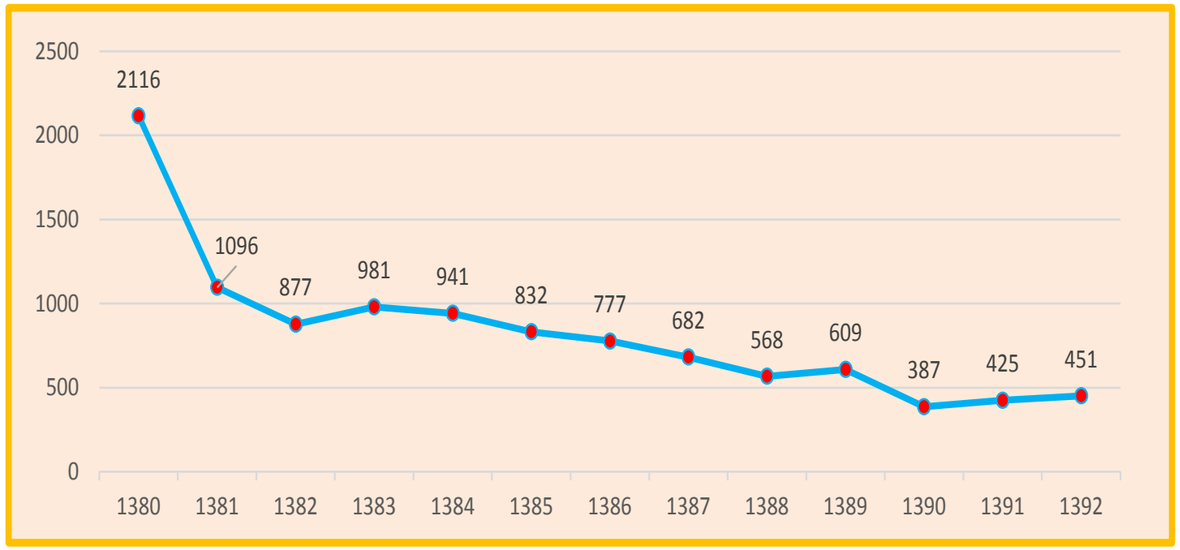
Device Type	Number of Hazards	Area of Hazards (sq km)
Anti-personnel mine	3,439	266.4
Anti-tank mine	1,248	252.1
Explosive remnants of war	179	33.5
Total	**4,866**	**552**

1.2. Civilian Casualties

451 civilian casualties were reported in 1392, indicating a slight increase on the figures recorded during 1391. The human cost of the contamination remains high, with an average of 37 Afghan civilians killed or injured every month during 1392 due to landmines and explosive remnants of war (ERW), more than Iraq or Colombia and four times as many casualties as Cambodia. Lost access to large quantities of productive land for livelihoods and settlement only serves to reinforce poverty, destabilise communities and undermine opportunities for development.

Notwithstanding the increase in the casualty rate in the past two years, which is largely due to the ongoing armed conflict and the resulting ERW, Figure 1 below indicates a marked decrease in landmine and ERW casualties over the past 13 years. If we compare 1392 figures with the 2,116 casualties recording during 1380 (2001), it is clear that the hard work of MAPA's workforce has paid off and that its clearance and awareness-raising efforts have contributed to an almost fivefold reduction in the casualty rate since 2001.

Figure 1: Mine/ERW casualties, 2001-2014



On average, 37 people were killed or injured by mines and ERW every month in Afghanistan during 1392; over 85% of these casualties were caused by ERW.

Table 2 below shows regional variations in casualty figures across the country during 1392, broken down by device type. As the table demonstrates, ERW has had a significantly higher toll, more than six times greater than mines. The East region had the highest share of mine and ERW victims, while the South remains the region with the second highest number of recorded casualties in the country.

Table 2: 1392 casualties by device type and region

Region	Casualty by Landmine		Casualty by ERW		Total
	Death	Injured	Death	Injured	
East	4	25	28	79	136
South	5	2	41	66	114
South East	1	10	21	32	64
North	1	8	5	29	43
Central	0	2	26	13	41
North East	2	4	5	22	33
West	0	0	8	12	20
Total	**13**	**51**	**134**	**253**	**451**

The other challenge that has put civilian lives in danger is the use of pressure-plate improvised explosive devices (IED) in Afghanistan, and the ERW left behind by the ongoing conflict almost in every part of the country. Under the terms of the Ottawa Treaty, victim-activated pressure-plate IEDs are considered anti-personnel mines; according to the UNAMA Annual Report on the Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict[2], 245 people were killed and another 312 were injured by pressure-plate IEDs in 2013, down from 393 deaths and 520 injuries as a result of pressure-plate IEDs in 2012. Despite this decrease, the human cost of pressure-plate IEDs remains a significant concern with an average of 61 casualties per month over the past two years.

[2] *United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA), 2013, Annual Report on the Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict, p. 3-4. Available online: http://unama.unmissions.org/Portals/UNAMA/human%20rights/Feb_8_2014_PoC-report_2013-Full-report-ENG.pdf. Last accessed: 7 July 2014.*

SECTION 2: PLAN FOR 1392

The programme's 1392 target under the workplan for Afghanistan's Extension Request to the Ottawa Treaty was to clear 79.15 sq km of contaminated land (66.68 sq km of minefields and 12.47 sq km of battlefields). Despite the shortfall in funding noted above and thanks to the efficient execution of clearance projects, MAPA implementing partners succeeded in releasing 103.6 sq km (82.9 sq km of minefields and 20.7 sq km of battlefields), a significant achievement.

During 1392, MACCA twice revised its 1392 Ottawa Treaty workplan in order to ensure the most appropriate prioritisation for the effective implementation of the Extension Request. MACCA also supported implementing partners in preparing their plans for the coming year (1393), as well as improving MACCA's impact scoring and priority setting systems.

The geographical situation of existing hazards has blocked access to the agricultural lands, irrigation systems, residential and resettlement areas, pasture lands, potable water sources, opportunities for infrastructure and other development projects. Meanwhile, the psychological burden for people of having hazardous areas close to their communities is not to be discounted, particularly if these hazardous areas are large and have led to human casualties.

In response to this situation, MACCA has set up an impact indicator scoring system. With the help of this system, MACCA measures the impact weight of each blockage type to ensure proper planning and prioritisation of the hazards for clearance operations. Every hazard, be it an anti-personnel (AP) minefield, an anti-tank (AT) minefield, or a battlefield (BF), is classified in terms of its impact (high, medium and low) on the community and the result recorded in IMSMA. To enable impact classification, MACCA uses a set of impact indicators with an assigned numeric weighting, which were defined together with DMC, as reflected in Table 3.

Table 3: Impact indicators and weight factors

SN	Impact Indicators	Weight Factor	Remarks
1	Known victims linked to the hazard	High with victims	
2	Local authority and villagers' requests	Requests	In this case, further assessment is required unless already prioritised based on any other criteria.
3	Resettlements	High	For instance, hazards in close proximity to IDP camps.
4	Agriculture blockages	2	All blockages are grouped into 5 main categories: 1.Agriculture fields; 2.Non-agriculture fields; 3.Water sources; 4.Other infrastructure; and 5. Critical infrastructure such as schools, health facilities and mosques.
5	Non-agriculture blockages	1	
6	Water blockages	3	
7	Infrastructure blockages	2	
8	Critical infrastructure blockages	3	
9	Number of affected families	1	Communities with over 200 families: communities of this size experienced 77% of recent casualties compared to communities with 200 or less families.
10	Area size	1	Cumulative area of hazards impacting the community: For every 10,000 square metre increase in the total hazard area, up to 200,000 square metres, the total number of recent casualties increases by 7%. At 200,000 square metres and above, the casualty rate levels out.
11	Small hazards	2	Small hazards could potentially be cleared quickly and should therefore be prioritised to rapidly change the hazard map.
12	Community centres	2	Minefields close to community centres cause a high level of psychological stress to women.
13	Anti-personnel minefields on flat land affecting high number of people	2	The majority of the affected population relates to AP only minefields (51%) and those on flat land are quicker to clear. Such hazards should be prioritised to alleviate the pressure on this large section of the population.
14	Device type, ERW	2	ERW cause the majority of casualties and so these areas should receive a weighting for prioritisation.
15	Distance from health centre	1	In the case of civilian accidents, the victim is at greater risk the longer it takes to reach the nearest health centre. Hazards located more than 10 km away from the nearest health centre receive a weighting of 1.
16	IDPs in close proximity to the hazards	2	If IDPs exist within a 5 km buffer zone around the hazard, the hazard receives a weighting of 2.

By applying these weighting factors, each hazard is given a score. Hazards with scores above nine are classified as high impact, hazards with scores between six and nine are classified as medium impact and hazards that score five or lower are classified as low impact. Hazards with a recorded casualty linked to them and those that block resettlement are automatically classified as high impact. If local authorities and villagers have requested clearance, MACCA Regional Offices will further investigate and, if approved, the hazard will be amended in the dataset as "high impact with request".

During 1392, two additional indicators (distance from a health centre, and the proximity of the hazard to internally displaced people) were added to the list of impact indicators. This was to make sure that hazards are also prioritised based on their distance from a nearest health facility in case of any accident within the hazardous area; likewise, a score was given to the hazards where IDPs are located within a five kilometre buffer zone. Taking these factors into account, the total scores of the hazard in question increases, which means that such hazards are planned and cleared earlier.

2.1. Project Cycle Management

In 2008, MACCA began to projectise the remaining hazards in Afghanistan to enable monitoring and evaluation of every single project using a set of pre-defined objectives. This strategy proved to be very successful and has led to increased resource mobilisation.

Project design is the first stage in the project management cycle and is therefore vital to the life of the project. The following points were taken into consideration when designing projects for 1392:

- Geographical proximity of the hazards, to ease access from the logistics perspective;
- Impact classification of the hazards, mostly high impact while in some cases medium impact hazards were also selected for clearance;
- Number of beneficiaries to the projects;
- Projects' specific results (releasing of communities, districts or provinces);
- Number of civilian accidents; and
- Blockages to agriculture, water, road, and other infrastructures.

Table 4 below shows a summary of the projects that were planned for 1392.

Table 4: Projects planned for 1392

Project Type	Number of Projects	Focus Areas for the Projects
Demining/Clearance	70	Release of 87.1 sq km of contaminated area.
Mine and ERW Impact Free Community Survey (MEIFCS)	8	Survey of the 452 impacted communities and 21,904 communities not recorded to be impacted.
Mine/ERW Risk Education	8	Provision of M/ERW risk education to the 840 impacted communities.
Victim Assistance	7	Support mine/ERW victims and person with disability in 12 different provinces.
Total	**93**	

2.2. Mine Action Capacity in 1392

To facilitate the achievement of the 1392 plan, MAPA's toolbox included demining teams, mechanical units, explosive ordnance disposal teams, non-technical survey teams, mine/ERW risk education teams, and victim assistance teams. Figure 2 shows the total number of commercial and humanitarian teams in the mine action sector.

During 1392, a total of nine MAPA implementing partners (IPs) were engaged in the delivery of survey and clearance activities, six IPs were engaged in delivering disability services, and five IPs were engaged in the delivery of mine/ERW risk education. In addition to implementing partners, three key Afghan Government ministries – the Ministry of Education (MoE), Ministry of Public Health, (MoPH) and Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs, Martyrs and Disabled (MoLSAMD) – were also directly involved in mine/ERW risk education and victim assistance services.

Figure 3 shows the number of commercial and humanitarian teams by funding source. The challenge of coordination is evident in these charts, which indicate the size of the programme and the vast number of teams on the ground.

Figure 2: MAPA workforce during 1392

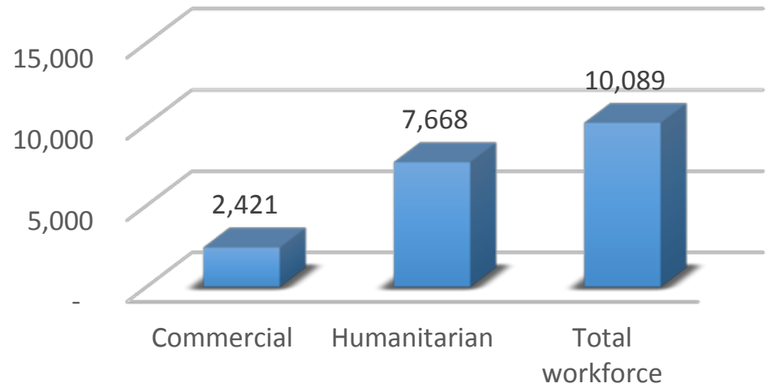
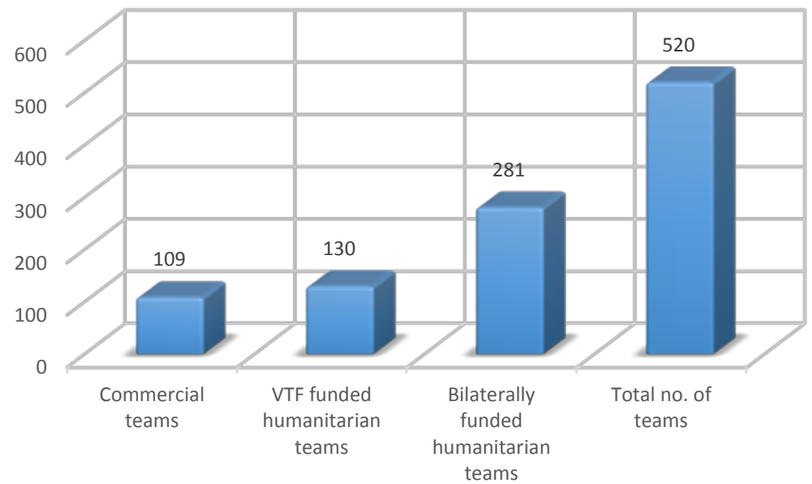


Figure 3: MAPA teams by funding source in 1392



SECTION 3: MAPA ACHIEVEMENTS IN 1392

The year 1392 was a challenging but successful period for MAPA. Despite the challenges, MAPA was able to exceed most of its targets. The achievements during 1392 under the clearance component were particularly outstanding.

3.1. Overall Clearance

The majority of humanitarian mine clearance is carried out by seven key implementing partners (IPs), of which five are national and two are international organisations, while commercial mine clearance is carried out by some national and international commercial demining companies, all of whom are part of the MAPA collective.

The five national IPs are Afghan Technical Consultants (ATC), Demining Agency for Afghanistan (DAFA), Mine Clearance and Planning Agency (MCPA), Mine Detection and Dog Centre (MDC), Organisation for Mine Clearance and Afghan Rehabilitation (OMAR); the two international NGOs are Danish Demining Group (DDG), and Hazardous Area Life-Support Organisation Trust (HALO Trust).

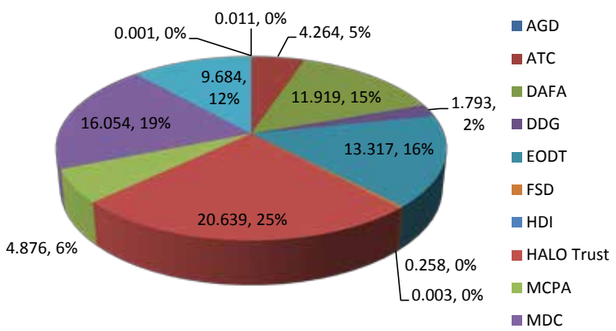
Table 5 below summarises the 1392 achievements of each organisation by the number of hazards, the hazard area, and the device found and destroyed, which includes anti-personnel (AP) and anti-tank (AT) mines, abandoned improvised explosive devices (AIED), Unexploded Ordinance (UXO), and small arms ammunition (SAA). This table shows the overall clearance and area reduction of the recorded minefield hazards during 1392.

Table 5: 1392 achievements by organisation

Clearance Agency	Number of Hazard	Area of Hazard (sq m)	Number of Devices Found and Destroyed				
			AP	AT	AIED	UXO	SAA
AGD	2	10,981	0	0	0	0	0
ATC	78	4,263,629	1,385	65	0	826	0
DAFA	121	11,918,880	1,381	207	82	4,172	2,384
DDG	36	1,792,903	752	0	0	993	1,250
EODT	93	13,316,515	156	146	0	770	55
FSD	4	247,141	6,064	0	0	33	624
HDI	1	3,327	0	0	0	0	0
HALO Trust	477	20,638,752	7,003	212	0	768	4,876
MCPA	94	4,876,357	1,027	174	0	78	0
MDC	242	16,053,527	1,766	190	77	812	53,537
OMAR	196	9,684,334	3,227	89	0	4,472	21,794
SDA	2	974	0	0	0	0	0
Total	**1,347**	**82.818,410**	**22,761**	**1,083**	**159**	**12,924**	**84,520**

Figure 4 shows the percentage of total area released by each organisation. HALO Trust accounts for the greatest share of land release in 1392, having been responsible for 25% of all land release, followed by MDC at 19% and EODT at 16%.

Figure 4: Sq km & percentage of area released by each organisation in 1392



3.2. Minefield Clearance by Humanitarian Organisations

In terms of land release, as shown in Table 6 below, 1,535 minefields were released compared to the initial target under the Ottawa Treaty workplan of 1,006 minefields. The clearance of hazards during 1392 provided communities with safe access to productive land previously blocked as a result of mine and ERW contamination.

Table 6 below summarises the minefield clearance, area reduction, cancellation and minefields processed during 1392.

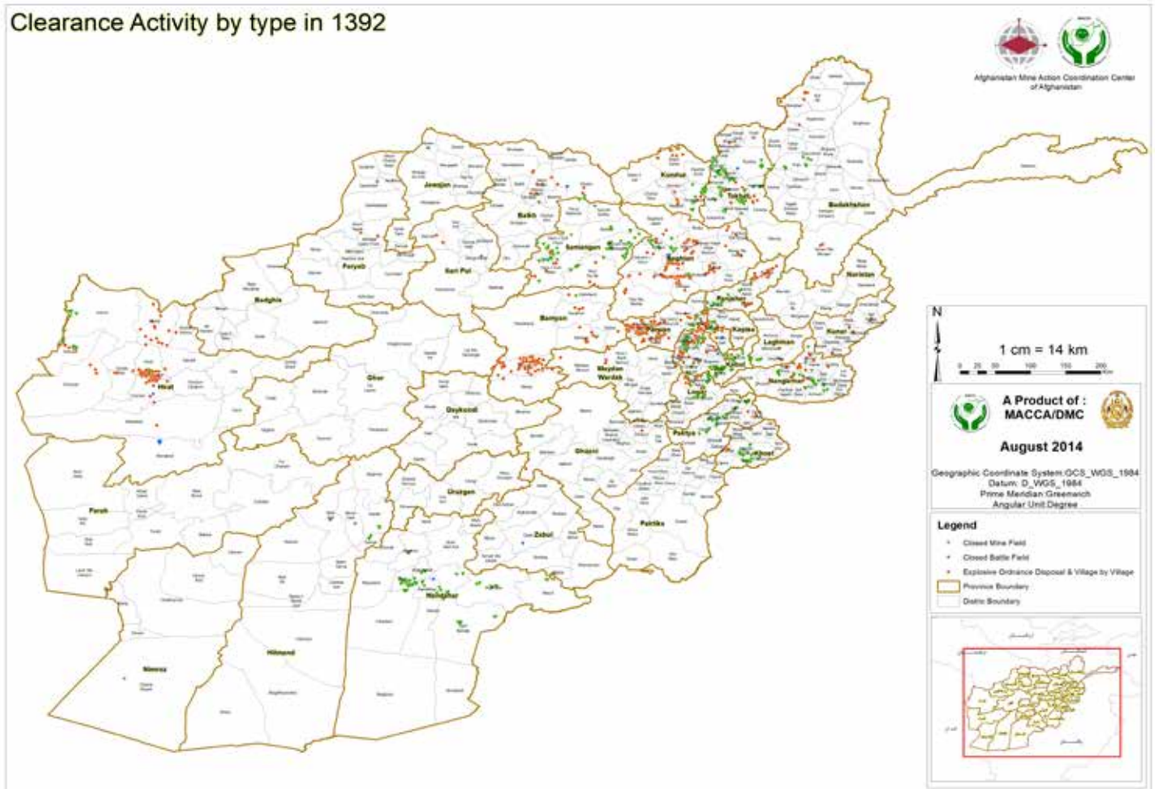
Table 6: Summary of minefield activities in 1392

Activity	Number of Hazard	Area of Hazard (sq km)
Minefields cleared in 1392	985	59.3
Area reduced in 1392		1.8
Minefields cleared in 1391, but processed in 1392[3]	217	15
Minefields partially cleared in 1392	145	6.7
Minefields cancelled in 1392	188	15.1
Total	**1,535**	**97.9**

The majority of mine and ERW clearance in Afghanistan is carried out by seven implementing partners outlined under heading 3.1.

Efforts have been made through proper planning and priority setting to make sure that mine clearance operations take place in different locations throughout the country. As highlighted in Figure 5 below, clearance operations were conducted by various MAPA implementing partners in different parts of the country.

Figure 5: Coverage of clearance operations by activity during 1392



[3] *217 minefields, amounting to 15 sq km, as shown in Table 6 above, were cleared during 1391 but were not processed last year. The documentation required as part of the land release process for these hazards was only entered into IMSMA in 1392. The 15 sq km were not included in the 1391 report and are therefore included this year. In addition to this 15 sq km, MAPA processed 103.6 sq km during 1392 alone.*

> *On a positive note, MAPA remains committed to the APMBT workplan and to continually improving the overall productivity of the programme. Indeed, despite the shortfall in funding for 1392, the programme succeeded in doing more with less and surpassed its land release target by 30%, a significant achievement.*

3.3. Battle Area Clearance by Humanitarian Organisations

Battle Area Clearance (BAC) operations involve the location and disposal of ERW, including UXO and abandoned exploded ordinance (AXO), but not mines, over specific areas, which may include battlefields, defensive positions and sites where air delivered or artillery munitions, including cluster munitions, have been fired or dropped. BAC operations are only conducted by organisations accredited to implement BAC operations.

Depending on the humanitarian priorities and required land use, BAC may involve surface and sub-surface clearance. BAC may be required in both urban and rural environments. BAC operations do not cover the disposal of stockpiled munitions in national storage facilities.

Table 7 on the next page shows the square kilometre area searched under BAC operations and the number of mines and ERW found and destroyed as a result during 1392.

Table 7: BAC outcomes during 1392

Clearance Agency	Area Searched (sq m)	Number of Devices Found and Destroyed		
		AP	UXO	SAA
ATC	447,961	0	4,414	0
FSD	97,340	0	405	424
DAFA	1,361,022	0	3,357	0
DDG	152,482	0	2,559	5,863
HALO Trust	6,439,718	1	13,751	150,369
MDC	12,194,632	0	262	123
OMAR	132,844	0	382	1,745
Total	**20,728,659**	**1**	**24,725**	**158,100**

3.4. Clearance by Commercial Companies

There are a significant number of national and international commercial demining companies conducting mine action operations in Afghanistan at the request of various clients. The total value of commercial sector contracts, including ISAF firing range clearance, reported to MACCA for 1392 is approximately USD 49.3 million. The commercial mine action sector works largely in support of macro-level infrastructure and development projects, such as the construction of roads, bridges and buildings. Macro-level development projects tend not to be implemented in areas with known hazards. Nevertheless, there is a justifiable concern due to the protracted conflict and the widespread presence of explosive remnants of war and therefore MACCA works with the relevant line ministries and development organisation as required to check areas for possible contamination prior to the start of a development or construction project. Table 8 shows the achievements of commercial companies in this regard during 1392.

Table 8: Commercial survey and clearance in 1392 by entity and device type

Clearance Agency	Area Searched (sq m)	Number of Devices Found and Destroyed			
		AP	AT	UXO	SAA
ACL	1,098,184	0	0	1,300	0
ADC	324,800	0	0	1	0
AMDC	619,467	0	0	12	28
EODT	1,737,715	1	3	60,470	19,270
KDC	57,133	0	0	0	0
KMCC	1,364,680	0	0	1	5
RONCO	32,789	0	0	0	0
SADC	274,022	0	0	30	200
SDA	27,959	0	0	0	10
SDC	164,348	0	0	0	0
SDG	901,346	0	0	0	0
TDC	819,991	0	0	0	0
TDG	514,667	0	0	0	0
Total	**7,937,101**	**1**	**3**	**61,814**	**19,513**

The commercial implementers regularly report their achievements to MACCA, which are then recorded in the Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA), a national database maintained by MACCA.

In some cases, development projects are found to be impacted by known hazards, in which case, this work is recorded in IMSMA as clearance of known hazards once clearance has been completed. The implementation of such projects by commercial partners decreases the remaining mine/ERW contamination in the country. The results of commercial partners during 1392 with regard to known hazards are also shown in Table 5 on page 9, which represents the number and size of known contaminated areas cleared by the commercial demining company in question as well as the number and type of items found and destroyed.

3.5. Community-Based Demining (CBD)

In order to have access to remote areas where the security situation is not stable and also provide job opportunities to community members, MACCA and its humanitarian implementing partners initiated community-based demining (CBD) in 1387 (2008-2009). The core concept is that the traditional implementing partners establish links with the local leadership of a mine/ERW contaminated community and work with them closely in developing M/ERW risk education and demining projects, recruiting the team from the community and training them so that they can carry out clearance operations or M/ERW risk education sessions in their own communities. This has proved to be a very successful option to reach otherwise inaccessible communities.

Moreover, the economic boost provided to communities through the salaries CBD team members receive supports peace and stabilisation and provides the community with a platform for development once the hazards have been removed. Since demining is a half-day activity, the local deminers can continue looking after their land in the afternoons with the additional income enabling them to expand or develop new micro businesses. In 1392, 106 out of MAPA's 652 teams were community-based demining or M/ERW risk education teams.

Table 10 below details the achievements of community-based demining in 1392

Table 9: CBD teams by organisation during 1392

Clearance Agency	Number of Teams	
	Demining	M/ERW Risk Education
ARCS	0	30
DAFA	24	0
DDG	0	1
EODT	16	0
MCPA	25	0
MDC	6	0
HI	0	4
Total	**71**	**35**

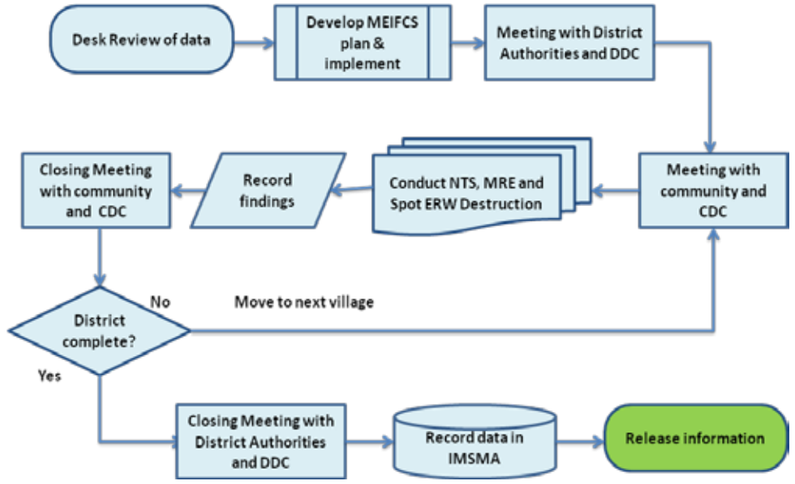
Table 10: CBD achievements by organisation in 1392

Clearance Agency	Number of Hazards	Area (sq m)	Number of Devices Found and Destroyed				
			AP	AT	UXO	SAA	AIED
DAFA	54	5,350,950	145	97	212	200	0
EODT	76	10,666,553	0	0	0	0	0
MCPA	41	1,515,232	697	56	2	0	0
MDC	8	882,833	0	34	9	9,123	29
Total	**179**	**18,415,568**	**842**	**187**	**223**	**9,323**	**29**

3.6. Survey

Survey plays a critical role in properly and accurately identifying the type, nature and extent of mine and ERW contaminated areas. Mine/ERW survey can ensure the safe, efficient and effective use of demining assets for hazard removal or the removal of suspicion of reported mine/ERW hazardous areas.

Figure 6: Process map of the MEIFCS



There are mainly two types of surveys, technical survey and non-technical survey. Non-technical survey is a thorough investigation of new or previously recorded hazardous areas. This operation is undertaken to collect essential information about a new or an existing suspected hazardous area in order to allow a decision to be made for subsequent land release operations. Conversely, technical survey is a detailed and topographical investigation of the reported hazardous areas to confirm the presence or absence of mines and ERW. Technical survey requires physical intervention into a hazardous area and can either be conducted as a standalone operation or integrated with clearance operations. In MAPA operations, technical survey is integrated with clearance and the outputs of the technical survey are reflected alongside those of clearance operations.

As part of Afghanistan's Extension Request to the Ottawa Treaty, and to obtain the most recent information on the scope of the mine/ERW problem in every single community, MAPA launched a nationwide Mine/ERW Impact Free Community Survey (MEIFCS) in April 2012. MEIFECS includes non-technical survey of contaminated areas, immediate action on the destruction of known spot ERW endangering the lives and safety of people, as well as the communication of key mine/ERW risk education messages to the communities.

The main challenge in the MEIFCS process has been a huge increase in the number of villages not recorded in the gazetteer all over the country, compared to what was initially planned. The MEIFCS teams need to visit and survey all those villages as well. During 1392, survey teams succeeded in visiting an additional 12,615 communities that were not included in the gazetteer and therefore had not been initially planned.

Table 11: MEIFCS achievements during 1392

Number of Communities Visited			Resurvey of the Recorded Hazards		Hazards Cancelled[4]		Previously Unreported Hazards		Number of ERW Destroyed
Impacted	Not Recorded as Impacted		No. of Hazards	Area Decrease (sq km)	No. of Hazards	Area (sq km)	No. of Hazards	Area (sq km)	
	From Gazetteer	Out of Gazetteer							
452	9,289	12,615	582	10.2	152	12.4	543	53	13,825

Overall, the survey resulted in a 10.2 sq km decrease in the area size of previously known hazards and the cancellation of a further 12.4 sq km area. Table 11 also shows that 543 previously unrecorded hazardous areas covering an area of 53 sq km were surveyed and subsequently recorded into the national mine action database to be planned for clearance.

During 1392, demining teams also conducted technical survey, which was integrated with their clearance operations in the field in order to deliver an effective and efficient land release process.

[4] *Cancelled land is a previously recorded hazardous area concluded not to contain evidence of mine/ERW contamination following the non-technical survey.*

3.7. Progress towards the Anti-personnel Mine Ban Treaty

Afghanistan acceded to the Ottawa Anti-personnel Mine Ban Treaty in September 2002 and became a state party on March 1, 2003, making a commitment towards a complete ban on anti-personnel (AP) mines through implementation of an overarching framework for mine action. This framework requires the clearance of all emplaced AP mines within ten years, the destruction of all stockpiled AP mines within four years, the provision of mine/ERW risk education, and assistance to mine/ERW survivors.

The magnitude of the mine problem in Afghanistan, combined with the ongoing conflict, underfunding and the lack of reliable records of minefields, however, meant that the initial deadline of 2013 was untenable. In March 2012, the Afghan Government submitted a request for a ten-year extension of the deadline to complete the removal of all AP mines by 2023. This request was assessed by 14 members of the secretariat to this treaty, and, in December 2012, all state parties to this treaty accepted Afghanistan's Extension Request.

The current baseline and progress is shown in Table 12 below. However, as people continue to return and resettle in Afghanistan, some previously unrecorded hazards continue to be discovered. Therefore, it is expected that the baseline may continue to change to a degree. This, however, has been factored into Afghanistan's Extension Request, and the goal for the complete removal of mines within ten years is believed to be achievable, even if previously undiscovered hazards are added.

Table 12: MAPA benchmark table as of March 2014

Hazard Type	Baseline April 2013		Previously Unreported Hazards		Resurvey Results	Current Target		Hazards Processed from April 2013		Remaining Hazards		Progress against current target	
	No. of Hazard	Area (sq km)	No. of Hazard	Area (sq km)	Area (sq km)	No. of Hazard	Area (sq km)	No. of Hazard	Area (sq km)	No. of Hazard	Area (sq km)	% of Hazard	% of Area
	a	b	c	d	e	f = (a+c)	g = (b+d+e)	h	i	j	k	l = % of (f & h)	m = % of (g & i)
AP	3,439	266.4	519	32.0	-1.6	3,958	296.8	998	48.1	2,960	248.7	25.2	16.2
AT	1,248	252.1	260	36.0	-9.4	1,508	278.7	392	43.1	1,116	235.6	26.0	15.5
BF	179	33.5	106	12.8	0.8	285	47.1	67	12.4	218	34.6	23.5	26.5
Total	4,866	552	885	80.8	-10.2	5,751	622.6	1,457	103.6	4,294	518.9	25.3	16.7

As shown in Table 12 above, during 1392, a total area of 80.8 sq km was newly recorded, while a resurvey of hazards reduced their area size by 10.2 sq km; in the end, therefore, 70.6 sq km were added to the initial baseline. The target for 1392 was to clear 79.15 sq km (14.3% of the initial baseline), while in actual fact, a 103.6 sq km area was eventually released. Thus, the programme released an additional area of 24.6 sq km, surpassing its target for the year. This is a great achievement, particularly given that this was the first year of the Ottawa workplan.

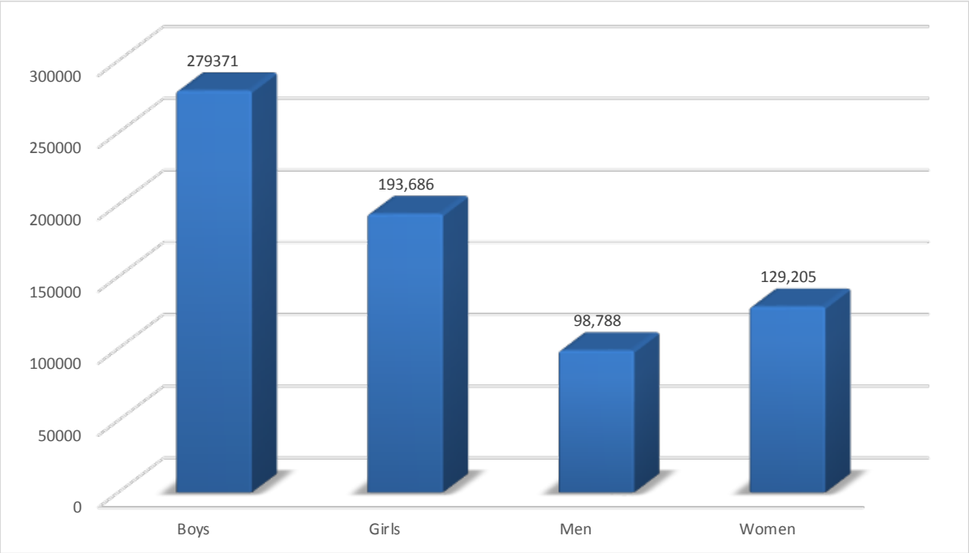
3.8. Mine/ERW Risk Education

Mine/explosive remnants of war (M/ERW) risk education activities have been coordinated and implemented based on the MACCA/DMC 1392 Integrated Operational Framework (IOF) and a classified list of M/ERW impacted communities prioritising the most impacted areas to be provided with M/ERW risk education through MAPA M/ERW risk education assets and Ministry of Education (MoE) school teachers. During 1392, M/ERW risk education activities were primarily conducted through a joint effort of MACCA's M/ERW risk education and victim assistance departments, DMC, implementing partners (IPs) and the Ministry of Education. This joint effort ensured that M/ERW risk education projects and activities were appropriately planned and monitored across all target areas.

Based on MACCA/DMC standards for community-based M/ERW risk education, this year's activities targeted communities impacted by mines and ERW and that had been identified by MACCA's community classification and priority setting mechanism.

During 1392, five MAPA implementing partners (AAR Japan, ARCS, DDG, HI and OMAR) were actively engaged in delivering M/ERW risk education activities; a total of 45 teams were allocated to carry out a range of M/ERW risk education activities in line with the strategy and plans agreed on in the 1392 MAPA Integrated Operational Framework.

Figure 7: Number of people receiving M/ERW risk education by gender, in 1392



Nationwide mass media was used to support mine/ERW risk education activities and outreach. Over 250 radio and TV spots were broadcast through various radio and TV channels, including Killid Radio, National Radio Television of Afghanistan, and Arman FM Radio, across all 34 provinces of the country.

All M/ERW risk education activities during 1392 were monitored by MACCA/DMC at their Kabul headquarters as well as by MACCA's seven regional offices to ensure that M/ERW risk education activities were implemented smoothly and reached the most impacted areas as specified for 1392. This year, a total of 183 monitoring visits were conducted to M/ERW risk education projects.

3.8.1. School-based Mine/ERW Risk Education

During 1392, 2,375 school teachers received mine/ERW risk education training through the Ministry of Education's Child Protection Officers (CPOs). This year, the Ministry of Education also recruited 70 mine action focal points to be solely responsible for the Ministry's M/ERW risk education activities across Afghanistan's 34 provinces and to support M/ERW risk education activities at schools. These mine action focal points are permanent government employees under the Ministry of Education structure and are paid from the Ministry's budget.

Under the umbrella of the Ministry of Education, a total of 169,690 school students received M/ERE risk education from teachers at their schools in all 34 provinces this year.

3.8.2. Mainstreaming of Mine/ERW Risk Education

The end-goal for mine/ERW risk education will be achieved when a comprehensive and sustainable system is in place to educate and raise awareness throughout people and communities nationwide regarding the residual mines/ERW threats, including sufficient information to recognize and report these items to the appropriate authorities. To this end, the programme has made considerable progress in mainstreaming M/ERW risk education across several ministries; for example, M/ERW risk education is now part of the national curriculum of the Ministry of Education and has also been incorporated into a Mullah Imam training programme through the Ministry of Hajj and Religious Affairs. M/ERW risk education has also been successfully mainstreamed across several other government networks, including the health sector (training of midwives through the Norwegian Afghanistan Committee, vaccinators through UNICEF, and community health workers through Child Fund Afghanistan, CFA), and the security sector (training of community based 'police-e-mardumi' officers through the Ministry of Interior). UNMAS and MACCA aim to find innovative ways to institutionalise M/ERW risk education activities to reach more impacted communities thanks to these networks.

During 1392, MACCA took advantage of various other resources to mainstream mine/ERW risk education. MACCA and DMC provided mine/ERW risk education to the 79 police-e-mardumi officers (Community Based Police) in Herat and Bamyan provinces so that they can deliver mine/ERW messages to the community. 3,298 mine/ERW risk education kits were circulated to the Police-e-Mardumi Unit at the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Education to support the implementation of their mine/ERW risk education activities.

Moreover, 790 Mullah Imams from Ghazni, Paktika, Kabul, Paktya and Khost provinces were trained in mine/ERW risk education at the Imam Training Centre in Kabul through a joint effort between MACCA/UNMAS, Ministry of Hajj and Religious Affairs and the UAE Embassy. The overall target is to train 15,000 Mullah Imams from all 34 provinces during the coming months in 1393. 30 people from the Norwegian Afghanistan Committee, 16 people from Child Fund Afghanistan, and 13 people from SAYARA Media and Communications were trained in mine/ERW risk education in Baghlan, Kabul, Bamyan, Uruzgan, Kandahar, Herat and Nimroz provinces. Mine/ERW risk education kits, posters and the MACCA hotline number were also distributed to the Mullah Imams and all other trainees.

UNMAS and MACCA will continue to provide technical and management support to assist the Government of Afghanistan to build a national capacity for the oversight and coordination of M/ERW risk education activities.

3.9. Gender and Mine Action

To ensure gender is thoroughly mainstreamed throughout MAPA, during 1392, MACCA/UNMAS contracted the Gender and Mine Action Programme (GMAP) to review the current situation of gender in MAPA and to develop a gender mainstreaming strategy for MAPA. GMAP is an independent association providing technical assistance, including training and capacity building, to mine action stakeholders in gender.

After completing an assessment and holding a number of discussion sessions, GMAP drafted a gender mainstreaming strategy for MAPA in consultation with the relevant MAPA stakeholders. The strategy outlines the following activities to be addressed during 1393 and beyond:

- Implementing partners (IPs) to conduct a gender analysis in their geographical areas of operations to understand the needs and priorities of the different sex and age groups.
- IPs to develop their own action plan, to be endorsed by MACCA, for gender mainstreaming based on their area of opertions and specific activities.
- MACCA/DMC to revise the Afghanistan Mine Action Standards (AMAS) related to land release, non-technical survey, com munity liaison and handover and their corresponding quality assurance forms.
- IPs to revise their relevant standard operating procedures in line with the above mentioned AMAS, which is checked as part of the accreditation process.
- MACCA/DMC to revise non-technical survey form to ensure sex and age disaggregated data is collected in all data-gathering events.
- MACCA/DMC and IPs to monitor participation of women, girls, boys and men in community level meetings and handover ceremonies.
- MACCA/DMC and IPs to train field teams on gender awareness and the importance of gender-sensitive data collection.
- MACCA/DMC and IPs to identify networks and forums where women, girls and other underrepresented groups can be ac cessed for data-gathering and handover ceremonies.

MACCA has appointed its M/ERW Risk Education Project Manager as the gender focal point for mine action and will recruit a gender associate in 1393 to support the implementation of the 2014-16 MAPA Gender Mainstreaming Strategy.

The directors of MAPA's implementing organisations and the relevant government focal points have been trained by GMAP on mainstreaming gender in mine action. MACCA continues to commit its staff time to the advancement of gender equality to improve its staff awareness and management thus providing an enhanced gender-friendly institutional capacity and work environment. MACCA has also raised awareness with regard to the importance of gender equity within all areas of mine action and is working steadily to strengthen its access and information gathering to ensure all target groups are well represented in mine action decision-making. MAPA's Gender Mainstreaming Strategy is available on the MACCA website at:
http://www.macca.org.af/macca/merw-risk-education/

3.10. Victim Assistance

MACCA and UNMAS aim to support the Government of Afghanistan in assisting mine/ERW survivors and other people with disability to be able to participate equally in society. This support consists of institutional development, capacity building through the provision of technical support, advocacy, awareness and the coordination of Victim Assistance (VA) and disability activities under the relevant departments within the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs, Martyrs and Disabled (MoLSAMD), the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) and the Ministry of Education (MoE).

3.10.1 Working with MoPH: Supporting Physical Rehabilitation

This project supported the MoPH Disability and Physical Rehabilitation Department (DRD) in its physical rehabilitation activities in line with MoPH's priorities for 1392. With the financial support of UNMAS, 210 health workers from implementing organisations under the Ministry's Basic Package of Health Services (BPHS) and Essential Package of Health Services (EPHS) from seven provinces participated in a four-day disability and physical rehabilitation awareness course. The training was aimed at enhancing the understanding and knowledge of health workers and thereby the access of persons with disabilities to health and physical rehabilitation services. The training also served to strengthen coordination and referral systems among health facilities and rehabilitation centres.

1392 also saw the development and approval of several guidelines and standards by MoPH with the support of MACCA and UNMAS. Non-technical and technical standards for monitoring and supervising physiotherapy and prosthetics and orthotics (P&O) were approved by MoPH during 1392. A physical rehabilitation guideline was developed for implementing partners working as part of EPHS, while the physical rehabilitation Guideline for BPHS was revised and updated; both of these guidelines are now in the process of being approved by the relevant department under the Policy and Planning Directorate. The disability and physical rehabilitation training manual for health workers was developed, translated and printed during 1392. MoPH also disseminated 5,000 copies of its Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) health manual, as well as published a Guideline for the Management of Spinal Cord Injuries in Hospitals.

The Development and Ability Organisation (DAO) and Kabul Orthopedic Organisation (KOO) were contracted by MoPH through UNMAS/UNOPS to provide physical rehabilitation services to persons with disabilities in Kunar and Kabul. This project provided various services (prostheses, orthotics, walking aids, assistive devices and training) to more than 3,000 persons with disabilities. A plan was finalised to train 20 orthopaedic technician assistants from Kunar, Khost, Kabul and Bamyan; the training will start on 1st May 2014 in Kabul. The guideline for the management of spinal cord injuries in hospitals and other health facilities was also finalised.

Disability taskforce meetings were organised during 1392 to improve the coordination of victim assistance activities. Joint MACCA and MoPH monitoring visits were conducted to Herat, Mazar and Samangan to ensure the health, disability and physical rehabilitation services were being implemented in accordance with the 1392 workplan.

During 1392, MACCA and its Ministry counterparts also visited the VA department of Cambodia's National Mine Action Centre to obtain information on how mine and ERW survivors and other people with disabilities have been integrated into the Cambodian mine action programme. The delegation learned of the best practices implemented in Cambodia as well as the role of the Cambodian line ministries in the provision of VA services.

The main purpose of the visit by representatives of the Government of Afghanistan and the MACCA was to discuss victim assistance and disability issues. With this in mind, the delegates and their hosts discussed the integration of landmine and ERW survivors and other people with disabilities (PWDs) within the CMAA, Victim Assistance Authorities and other governmental networks. The visit also aimed to strengthen the capacities of Afghanistan's government representatives in relation to victim assistance, disability programmes, socio-economic and community-based activities, physical rehabilitation, education and training programmes. Conversely, the representatives from the MACCA and the Afghan government also had the opportunity to share their experience of victim assistance and disability in Afghanistan.

3.10.2 Working with MoLSAMD: Supporting Economic Reintegration, Physical Accessibility, and Advocacy

During 1392, MACCA/UNMAS supported the victim assistance (VA) projects prioritised by MoLSAMD in its goal to increase the capacity and development of necessary structures to coordinate VA/disability efforts. The main focus has been on peer support, vocational training and physical accessibility for persons with disabilities, including the victims of landmines and ERW.

This year, the Afghan Landmine Survivors Organisation (ALSO), Accessibility Organisation for Afghan Disabled (AOAD), and the Afghan Amputee Bicyclists for Rehabilitation and Recreation (AABRAR) were contracted by MoLSAMD through UNMAS/UNOPS to provide physical accessibility, support mainstreaming centres, peer support, vocational training, awareness, advocacy and capacity building for persons with disabilities, their families, community and related government staff in Kabul, Herat, Bamyan and Balkh Provinces.

During 1392, five different trainings were conducted, benefiting a total of 95 MoLSAMD staff members from the Disability, Labour and Human Resources sections of the Ministry. The aim of these courses was to support MoLSAMD in strengthening its capacity to better respond to the needs and rights of persons with disabilities.

MACCA's Technical Advisor at MoLSAMD continued to provide technical support to the Ministry. This year, the Advisor assisted MoLSAMD in preparing for a workshop on the Convention on Rights of People with Disabilities (CRPD), helped to draft Afghanistan's National Policy for Persons with Disabilities, as well as the first report on the ILO Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Convention, and conducting various VA situation analyses. With the support of the MACCA Advisor, 17 Disability Stakeholders Coordination Group (DSCG) meetings were held with the participation of civil society actors, VA implementers, MoLSAMD and other stakeholders. These meetings facilitated discussion on VA related issues, policies, regulations, and laws.

To raise awareness, the MACCA Advisor supported MoLSAMD in conducting 15 TV and radio interviews focusing on different VA thematic areas. 14 advocacy meetings, workshops and awareness sessions were convened on various disability issues including but not limited to the meetings of the Advocacy Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (ACPD) with UNICEF, UNDP, ACPD, ACBAR, AIHRC, and discussions on issues related to elections, media support, disability and disaster, as well as the inclusive education policy.

3.10.3 Working with MoE: Supporting Social Inclusion (Inclusive Education)

Inclusive and Child Friendly Education (ICFE) ensures that all children have equal access to education regardless of their race, religion, ability, disability, health condition, economic background and language. During 1392, MACCA's support to the Ministry or Education with regard to inclusive education included training for 100 MoE teachers in six provinces so that they can train others to deliver inclusive education; as well as training for 1,599 school teachers and principals in 294 schools in Kabul City to be able to deliver inclusive education at their schools. In addition, 1,411 children with disabilities and their parents were trained in 73 schools throughout the country.

Moreover, this year, 30 teachers participated in a 25-day sign language training course, and another 30 teachers in a 25-day Braille script training course. 20 staff members of the Inclusive Education department at MoE were provided with training on VA/disability management to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of their daily operations. 2,000 copies of the inclusive education toolkit were printed and disseminated to target schools and teachers with the financial support of UNMAS. As part of the capacity building plan for Ministry employees, the Inclusive Education Manager at MoE was financially supported to participate in an exchange visit to Cambodia in order to expand his current capacity and share his experiences with the Cambodia programme.

By the end of 1392, a total of 1,200 children with disabilities were enrolled in public schools in Kabul City and other provinces. With the support of MACCA's VA/Disability Advisor, this year, six inclusive education coordination working group meetings were held, resulting in the drafting of the Afghanistan's first inclusive education policy. The inclusive education policy was made available in English and national languages and will be printed with the financial support coming from MACCA/UNMAS next year.

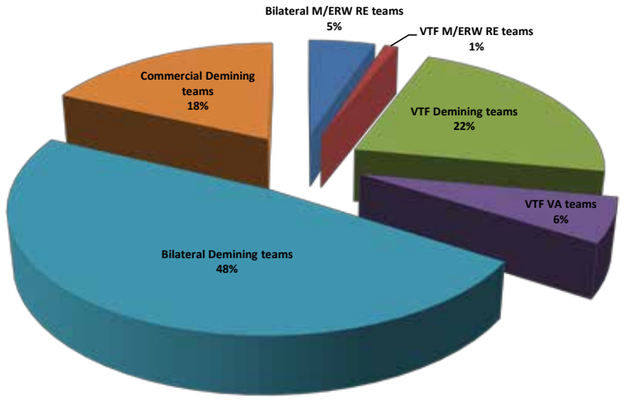
SECTION 4: COORDINATION OF MINE ACTION

4.1. Mine Action Planning and Coordination

At the beginning of 1392, there were 4,866 hazardous areas that covered 552 sq km of land, impacting 1,674 communities in 244 districts of Afghanistan. In order to maximise the effectiveness of the resources available to clear the mines and ERW from Afghanistan towards the desired end-states, coordination is essential, including sound planning and efficient management practices.

The MACCA Planning and Programme Department works closely with implementing partners (IPs) and stakeholders. The department continuously updates the Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA), which links individual teams and donor resources to hazards, and analyses progress against defined targets to identify priority gaps to be addressed.

Figure 8: Teams by type and funding mechanism in 1392



Each year, the Planning and Programme Department works towards developing the indicative plan for the following year. Thus the 1392 Integrated Operational Framework (IOF) was developed in 1391. MACCA seeks to publish a framework before the beginning of the next operational year. This process necessitates wide consultation and the active engagement of Government, IPs and donors. The published framework deliberately does not go into operational detail; while the goals do not change, the process through which progress is made towards meeting the goals does.

A large part of MACCA's analysis of implementation delivery is associated with managing an understanding of how work carried out now translates into anticipated progress. This enables the MACCA to establish what hazards remain and, at the appropriate time, to move forward into the cycle of project design and the establishment of an understanding of a programme of multilateral and bilateral projects.

The scale of the coordination challenge can be seen in Figure 8 above, which shows all of the mine action teams functioning during 1392 throughout Afghanistan; please note that this covers all sectors, both humanitarian and commercial, funded via the VTF or bilaterally.

4.2. Ensuring Effectiveness and Efficiency of Mine Action through Quality Management

The aim of Quality Management (QM) in mine action is to ensure that the communities, donors, mine action contractors, and national authorities can be confident that mine action quality requirements have been met during the delivery of mine action services and the land that is released is indeed safe for use.

QM in mine action covers the accreditation of mine action organisations, monitoring of mine action activities called Quality Assurance (QA) and post-clearance inspection of the cleared land called Quality Control (QC). QA in mine action also includes the management and maintenance of mine action standards as a reference document, which sets out the quality requirements with regard to all mine action activities.

> *The end of April 2014 is the deadline to establish a standardised quality management system throughout MAPA. Our quality management system will be based on ISO 9001:2008 QMS requirements.*

During 1392, as part of improvements made to the Quality Management System (QMS) throughout the MAPA, the internal QMS of seven mine action organisations (ATC, DAFA, DDG, HALO Trust, MCPA, MDC and OMAR) were reviewed. Five MAPA QM team meetings were convened to discuss the findings of these reviews, identify areas for improvement and take necessary action. The MAPA QM team is working on the documentation required for QMS, which is to be finished by end of April 2014, the deadline to come up with a standardised system of quality management throughout the MAPA. The QMS will be based on ISO 9001:2008 QMS requirements.

During 1392, a total of 15 demining accidents were investigated; summaries of the lessons learned from these incidents have been processed and shared with the mine action organisations to be considered and practiced during future operations.

4.3. Accreditation

Accreditation is essential to ensure that all mine action organisations working in Afghanistan are technically capable and staffed to plan, manage and operationally conduct mine action activities in a safe, effective and efficient way. In addition to monitoring and post-clearance inspections, a comprehensive accreditation process has been implemented by MACCA and DMC to assess all aspects of mine action organisations intending to operate in Afghanistan.

MACCA has established an accreditation board consisting of well-qualified staff from the relevant departments of MACCA and the Department of Mine Clearance (DMC) to undertake accreditation practices with due consideration given to impartiality, integrity and transparency throughout the process. During 1392, organisational accreditation were completed for Star Demining Limited (SDL), an international commercial demining company, and two national humanitarian mine action organisations, Afghan Amputee Bicyclists for Rehabilitation and Recreation (AABRAR) and Kabul Orthopaedic Organisation (KOO). At the same time, KOO and AABRAR's documents were reviewed and processed for operational accreditation in accordance with the nature of their projects.

As part of the accreditation process, MACCA's QM Department also managed to test and accredit seven mechanical demining units and test and license 107 mine detection dog teams.

In addition, 23 sets of revised mine action survey, land release and range clearance Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) were reviewed and approved.

4.4. Monitoring

Monitoring is an essential part of the quality management process, and together with accreditation and post clearance inspections, it provides the necessary confidence that the mine action quality requirements have been met. During 1392, a total of 2,012 monitoring visits were conducted on project management systems, mine action activities, demining worksites and training courses, which resulted in 1,754 conformity reports, 77 observation reports, 121 minor non-conformity reports and 60 major non-conformity reports. All the non-conformities were processed and corrective and preventive action was taken.

4.5. National Mine Action Standards

The mine action standards are living documents and are subject to continual review and revisions based on new requirements that may emerge from the field and/or new developments in International Mine Action Standards (IMAS). To this end, MACCA established a review board to review and provide technical input for the further improvement of the Afghanistan Mine Action Standards (AMAS). In 1392, two main standards for land release and mine/ERW survey (AMAS 05.01 and 05.02) were revised and distributed to all mine action organisations and stakeholders.

In addition, in order to formally recognise AMAS as national mine action standards by the Afghanistan Supreme Council of Standards, MACCA signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Afghanistan National Standards Authority (ANSA) in 2011 to review the complete set of AMAS and prepare them for final approval by Afghanistan's Supreme Council of Standards. During 1392, AMAS 02.01 of glossary of mine action terms, AMAS 03.01 of quality management and AMAS 04.01 of training and qualification were approved as Afghanistan National Mine Action Standards. ANSA's technical committee reviewed 20 standards during 1392 and submitted them to the editing committee to prepare them for final approval by the Supreme Council.

4.6. Project and Implementing Partner Selection (PIPS)

One of MACCA's roles is to provide advice to donors on the best use of funds earmarked for mine action (survey, clearance, M/ERW risk education and VA) in Afghanistan. MACCA provides expertise and advice to UNMAS in terms of allocation of Voluntary Trust Fund for Mine Action (VTF) contributions for Afghanistan. The PIPS also provides significant added value to bilateral donor decision-making and UNMAS and MACCA strongly encourages bilateral donor participation in the process. Regardless of whether a donor contributes to the VTF, MACCA's Proposal Review Team (PRT) has in the past reviewed proposals on the request of bilateral donors and provided feedback and recommendations, which the bilateral donor may consider in its decision to award bilateral funding. This is in line with the policy of UNMAS and MACCA to encourage IPs to pursue additional funding mechanisms alongside the VTF. UNMAS and MACCA will continue to support bilateral donors in reviewing proposals and assuring the quality of bilaterally funded operations.

The PIPS panel, comprised of UNMAS and senior MACCA managers and donor representation (in the case of UNMAS), as well as DMC in a non-UN observer role, considers un-funded APMBT, mine/ERW risk education and VA projects to be cleared/implemented for the current and/or next year against donor preferences and MACCA policies. The PIPS panel also makes decisions concerning funding through a competitive process. In certain cases, an implementing partner can be pre-selected based on their advantages in a given area. As described in detail under heading 4.7, the PIPS process aims to provide donors with value for money, rather than selecting the cheapest approach on offer.

The outcome of the PIPS process is either a request for a detailed project proposal from an identified implementing partner or the issue of a Request for Proposals within a competitive process.

4.7. Proposal Review Process

The Proposal Review Team (PRT) reviews proposals on behalf of MAPA's donors. The team ensures each proposed project has clearly defined outputs, verifies information on the hazards an IP intends to clear, and ensures that the project is in line with MACCA and Government priorities and clearance standards and that it represents good value for money.

Once MACCA is satisfied with the project design and overall proposal, a recommendation to the bilateral donor is made to fund a particular project; in the case of VTF funds, a recommendation is made to UNMAS to contract the selected partner for the project. A number of bilateral donors consistently ask for MACCA's endorsement letter prior to confirming fund allocations to an implementing partner; however, there are some bilateral donors who do not use these services facilitated by MACCA. MACCA strongly encourages bilateral donors' involvement in this process, so that all projects being undertaken in the humanitarian sector have defined outputs and are in line with the overall goals of the Afghan Government.

A Request for Proposal is issued when competitive evaluations are conducted by the PRT in line with UNOPS rules and regulations.

The Proposal Review Team reviews the project proposals based on the following characteristics:

- Ensuring that the listed hazards in the proposal are valid and not in conflict with other IPs' planned hazards;
- Ensuring that the selected hazards are of high Impact and are planned for the current year, and that the IPs' priority setting criteria is logical, valid and in line with MAPA's Integrated Operational Framework;
- Ensuring that the IP will use the right tool;
- Ensuring that the IP has a reasonable timeframe to deliver the project, taking into account external factors;
- Assessing how many job opportunities will be provided to deminers and how many are planned to be recruited from the impacted communities; and
- Ensuring that the IP provides best value for money.

> *MACCA strongly encourages bilateral donors' involvement in its proposal review process, ensuring all projects being undertaken in the humanitarian sector have defined outputs and are in line with the overall goals of the Afghan Government.*

During 1392, the MACCA/DMC Proposal Review Team reviewed 32 project proposals, of which 23 were for survey and clearance, five for M/ERW risk education, and four for victim assistance. The PRT was able to incorporate changes to some proposals. Upon review of the proposed hazard lists of each project, the PRT recommended changes based on the hazard status (cancelled, cleared, or planned by another IP at the time of proposal review) thus avoiding duplication of effort and ensuring high priority hazardous areas are cleared.

For example, during 1392, the US Department of State requested the support of MACCA's Proposal Review Team in reviewing several proposals for US bilateral funding for mine clearance. The team compared the hazardous areas in the proposals with those planned under the Ottawa Extension Request and identified some inconsistencies. The technical review found that 3,500,000 square metres could be added to the hazardous areas put forward for clearance in the proposals. This is the equivalant of over USD 3 million in savings for the US.

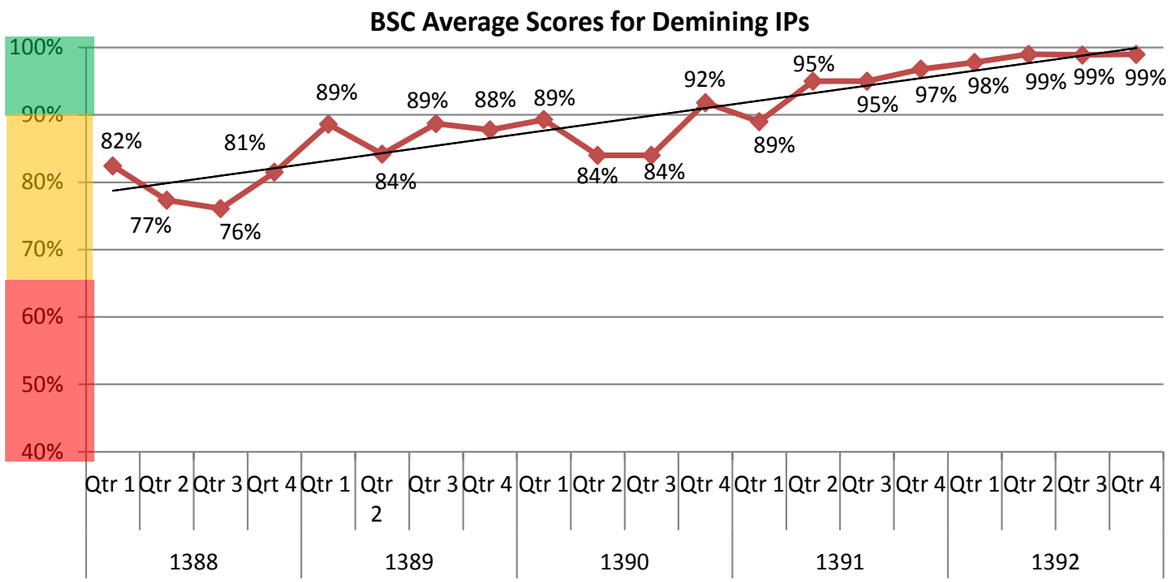
4.8. Balanced Scorecard

The Balanced Scorecard (BSC) was introduced at the beginning of 1388 (2009). This performance management tool measures each implementing partner against a specific set of criteria. The BSC enables MACCA to monitor the output, quality and effectiveness of each IP against the same set of indicators on a quarterly basis. Not only does the tool allow for comparison between implementers, information that could be useful for donors in funding decisions, it also provides IPs with a baseline for their own improvement and development.

The total possible score (100%) is divided across four indicator sets: operations, quality management, demining accidents, and reporting. Recognising that delivering mine action is the primary function of IPs, the operations indicator set has the highest weighting and accounts for 40% of the total score. The other indicators are divided almost equally and account for 20%, 25%, and 15% of the total score respectively. Each indicator set is further divided into a number of subsets – or questions – that enable MACCA to measure and evaluate the planning ability of an IP, the productivity of assets, the safety and quality of work delivered, and reporting efficiency. Full details are available in MACCA's BSC Briefing document, which can be found on www.macca.org.af.

The following graph shows the BSC results of IPs evaluated between 1388 and 1392. The trend line indicates a general improvement towards increased productivity and quality.

Figure 9: BSC results of IPs evaluated for 1388-1392



4.9. End of Project Balanced Scorecard

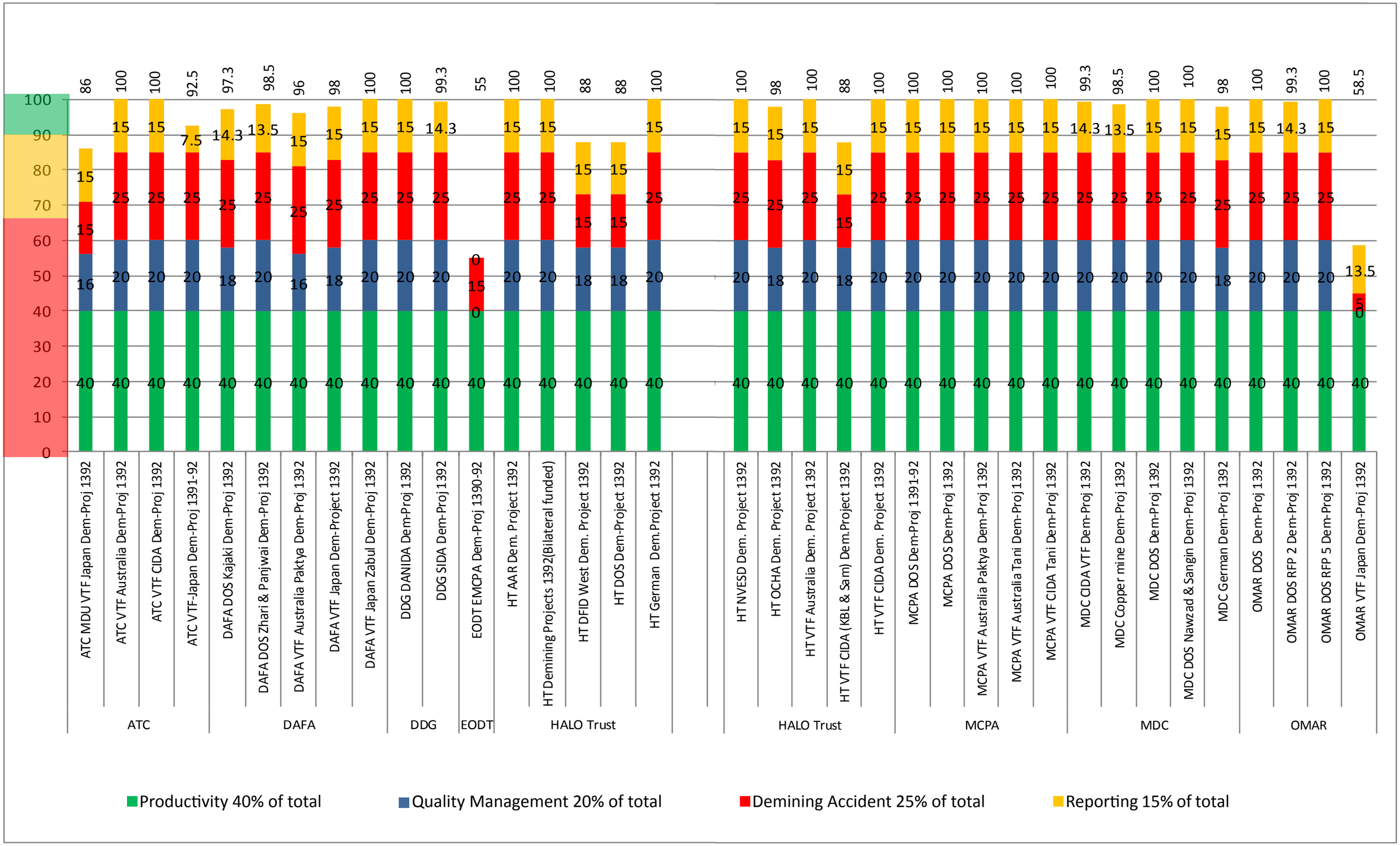
In 1392, MACCA used the BSC methodology to carry out end of project evaluation on 36 demining projects being implemented by eight MAPA implementing agencies.

Out of 36 demining projects, 30 projects scored between 90% and 100%, which is considered 'highly satisfactory'. Four projects scored between 65% and 90%, which is considered 'satisfactory' and the remaining two projects scored below 65% and are considered 'unsatisfactory'. Poor planning, demining accidents and reporting are the indicators against which these six projects scored lower.

During the year, a total of 45 projects were operational; however, of these 45, only 36 were completed. The remaining projects will be completed during 1393 and were therefore not included in this evaluation.

End of project BSC results for the projects completed in 1392

Figure 10: End of project BSC results, 1392



4.10. Transition

In 1392, significant and tangible progress was made in the transition of mine action to national ownership. As a result of several discussions between mine action stakeholders and the Ministry of Justice, regulations for further clarifying the structure, roles and responsibilities of the Department of Mine Clearance (DMC) of the Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA) as the Government institution mandated to coordination of mine action activities were discussed and presented for adoption.

In addition, pursuant to Article 9 of the APMBT and the CCM, this consultative process yielded an addendum to supplement the existing law banning the use, acquisition, trading and stockpiling of weapons, ammunition and explosive items without the required legal license. Article 9 of the APMBT and CCM requires each state party to "take all appropriate legal, administrative and other measures to implement this Convention, including the imposition of penal sanctions to prevent and suppress any activity prohibited to a State Party under this Convention undertaken by persons or on territory under its jurisdiction or control"[5].

This addendum references the Convention on Cluster Munitions and the Ottawa Treaty. Given its importance, His Excellency, the Second Vice President of Afghanistan, Mohammad Karim Khalili, issued a special order to the Ministry of Justice to finalise the review of this addendum as soon as possible. DMC, MACCA and the implementing partners jointly reviewed the draft and agreed on its contents based on advice from the Ministries of Defence, Interior, Justice, and the National Directorate of Security. The final draft addendum was sent to the Ministry of Justice for further processing.

During 1392, the Director of GIRoA's Department of Mine Clearance represented Afghanistan in the following international meetings:

- The 16th Meeting of National Mine Action Directors and UN Advisors, held in Geneva, 10-12 April 2013
- The Intersessional Meeting of State Parties to Convention on Cluster Munitions, held in Geneva, 15-18 April 2013
- A workshop on the transition of mine action to national ownership, 22-24 May 2013 also in Geneva
- A meeting of the Standing Committee of the Antipersonnel Mine Ban Convention in Geneva, 27-31 May 2013
- The regional mine action exchange programme in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, 21-29 August 2013
- The 4th Meeting of State Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions, held in Lusaka, Zambia, 10-13 September 2013
- The 13th Meeting of State Parties to the Anti-personnel Mine Ban Convention held in Geneva, 2-5 December 2013

At the aforementioned meetings and workshops, the Director of DMC delivered Afghanistan's statements on the progress made by MAPA with regard to mine and ERW removal, mine/ERW risk education, victim assistance, and national implementation measures. The Director also presented on best practices and case studies from Afghanistan.

4.11. Post Demining Impact Assessment

Post Demining Impact Assessment (PDIA) was implemented to assess the social and economic impact of demining interventions in communities cleared of mines and ERW. PDIA in Afghanistan is carried out six months to one year after an area is demined. PDIA also assessed if survey information on mine and ERW contaminated areas was credible and reflected the facts on the ground. For 1392, GIRoA's Department of Mine Clearance (DMC), with minimum technical support from MACCA, conducted PDIA surveys with credible results.

Pursuant to the agreed upon concept for PDIA, in 1392, ten percent of all cleared or cancelled minefields/battlefields were evaluated and 20% of all completed reports were selected for desk assessment. The following criteria were taken into consideration for selection for PDIA:

- Security
- Areas cleared by different implementing partners
- Areas in different geographical locations
- At least six months has passed since the areas were cleared/cancelled
- Minefields with varied terrain, i.e., flat, mountainous, etc.
- Minefields showed varied outcomes, such as:
    - Quantity of crops produced on cleared land
    - Number of families accommodated on cleared land
    - Estimated amount of income villagers can secure as a result of their land cleared of mines
    - Number of public works constructed on cleared land

[5] *Article 9 of the Anti Personnel Mine Ban Convention. Available at: www.apminebanconvention.org.*

In the planning phase of PDIA, 175 cleared and cancelled sites were selected, which makes up ten percent of the 1,750 areas cleared or cancelled in 1391. In total, 140 sites were evaluated in 16 provinces including Parwan, Panjsher, Kapisa, Bamyan, Baghlan, Takhar, Badakhshan, Balkh, Samangan, Kandahar, Khost, Paktya, Nangarhar, Laghman, Herat and Kabul. Due to insecurity, 35 sites in eight provinces including Kunduz, Ghazni, Sar-e Pol, Ghor, Badghis, Helmand and Logar were not evaluated. To ensure that the required completion and handover process requirements have been observed and that the required documents are recorded, 20% of the minefield and battlefield completion reports were subject to desk assessment.

PDIA's findings:

- 95% of visited sites were in use by the local people
- 95% of cleared sites were properly handed over to local people and local authorities, while 5% of the areas were not prop erly handed over; users said that they did not sign the completion reports or local authorities did not attended the handover ceremony.
- The 140 sites evaluated under the PDIA project cover a 7.4 sq km area, of which 52% of sites are used for agricultural pur poses; the remaining sites are classified as grazing areas, roads, footpaths, or canals. PDIA estimates that the agricultural part of the cleared areas produce 1,000 metric tons of wheat, creating an annual income of up to one million AFS for beneficiaries.
- 95.7% local people said that blockages due to the presence of mines and ERW had been addressed; the remaining people surveyed did not respond or were not 100% sure if their land is safe.
- 97% of local people expressed satisfaction with the approach through which demining services were delivered in their com munities; the remaining three percent expressed dissatisfaction, either in relation to the priority setting of minefields in their communities or were unhappy with the quality of demining services.
- No accidents were recorded in areas evaluated under the PDIA; however, accidents have occurred in other nearby areas.
- No recontamination or armed conflict was reported in the areas surveyed.
- Of the people interviewed during PDIA, 51.4% have not received M/ERW risk education.
- The PDIA team found that the survey and clearance teams liaised with local authorities before or during project implementa tion in 82% of the sites visited.
- 74% of people interviewed indicated that they do not need further demining assistance.
- 100% of people interviewed during the PDIA did not have any land rights issues.
- No reports of land grabbing were recorded during the PDIA.

4.12. Reporting on International Treaties

With the support of MACCA, DMC prepared and finalised the Article 7 reports as required under the Mine Ban Treaty and Convention on Cluster Munitions on behalf of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and submitted these reports to the Afghan Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The reports were released in late April 2014.

4.13. Cross-Border Coordination and Cooperation

During 1392, MACCA managed to provide technical support to other mine action programmes globally. As part of the regional cooperation between central Asian countries and Afghanistan, MACCA took part in the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)'s Regional Conference held in Almaty, Kazakhstan, in November 2013. The aim of the conference was to encourage technical cooperation among the participating states in Central Asia to address the concerns and challenges stemming from explosive hazards.

As part of said regional cooperation, a complete set of Tajikistan Mine Action Standards was reviewed and revised by MACCA experts during three missions to Tajikistan. A total of three weeks were spent on this support to Tajikistan, which was made possible thanks to the financial support of the OSCE's office in Tajikistan.

The Colombian Mine Action Programme requested MACCA's Chief of Staff to share Afghanistan's experience in developing its 10-year Extension Request to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Treaty. The quality management system of the Organisation of American States (OAS), which is primarily responsible for technical assistance, operational accreditation and quality assurance of demining operations in Colombia, was reviewed by MACCA's Chief of Quality Management and the findings and recommendations were shared with OAS for further improvement.

MACCA's Chief of Quality Management also delivered a five-day training course on Quality Management Systems in Mine Action to the Colombian Mine Action Programme from October 28 to November 1, 2013. The course focused on mine action pillars, structure of mine action, planning and prioritisation, land release processes, mine action standards, quality management in mine action, accreditation, monitoring and post-clearance sampling, demining accidents, and safety terms and definitions.

4.14. Resource Mobilisation

MAPA provides essential services for mine/ERW impacted communities in Afghanistan. MAPA is primarily supported by international donors, with the exception of copper mine project, which is funded by the Government of Afghanistan through its national budget. Resource mobilisation plays a very important role in ensuring MAPA's sustainability. In addition to the global fundraising efforts of the UN Mine Action Service (UNMAS), MACCA appeals for funds in support of mine action to help the Government of Afghanistan meet its obligations under international treaties pertaining to mines and ERW.

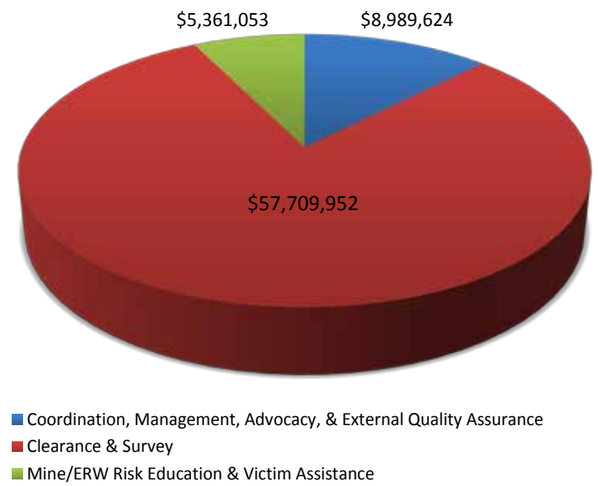
MACCA's resource mobilisation strategy goes beyond the raising of funds to include gaining donor support in terms of time and expertise. One example of this is MACCA's collaboration with the United Arab Emirates (UAE) to provide mine/ERW risk education training for around 15,000 Mullah Imams at the UAE's training centre in Kabul. Such initiatives strengthen partnerships between donors and the programme by broadening donor input to extend beyond financial contributions. MACCA also liaised with sister agencies such as UNHCR and OCHA for the implementation of mine/ERW activities. Moreover, in light of decreasing donor contributions, these particular initiatives have enabled the programme to expand the reach of mine/ERW messaging to communities that are otherwise inaccessible at a minimal cost.

MACCA oversees all funds in support of humanitarian mine action in Afghanistan. Funds for the humanitarian sector are received through two modalities:

- Multilateral contributions to the VTF, administered by UNMAS and contracted through UNOPS to implementing partners;
- Bilateral agreements between implementing partners and international donors or the Government of Afghanistan.

Funds are made available throughout the year, depending on donor funding cycles and the commencement of new projects. In some cases, donors make multi-year commitments, and their contributions may not be aligned with the Afghan calendar. This requires an allocation process that divides the contribution over two Afghan years.

Figure 11: Funding breakdown for 1392 (VTF and bilateral)



The funding target for 1392 was USD 84.3 million including the coordination cost of mine action. Of this total, MAPA received USD 72 million from donors, including the Government of Afghanistan, through the UN Voluntary Trust Fund (VTF) and bilaterally to its implementing partners. This means that MAPA received around 85% of its required funding in 1392. The funds received were spent on survey, clearance, M/ERW risk education, victim assistance and coordination. A total of USD 20.1 million was allocated from the UN Voluntary Trust Fund; and the remaining USD 51.9 million was provided through bilateral agreements.

The chart above shows that the amount contributed to coordination activities has decreased compared to the USD 10.8 million spent on coordination in 1391. MACCA is planning further cost reductions for coordination in the coming years, primarily by decreasing the number of both national and international posts. Coordination is nonetheless essential to the effective running of the entire programme, ensuring an effective response to the extension request and assisting the Government in achieving its obligations under the APMBT. Support to coordination allows MACCA and DMC to continue working on:

1. Determination of mine action policy, prioritisation and planning in line with government requirements and responsibilities including the Afghan National Development Strategy, National Priority Programmes, Ottawa Treaty, Cluster Munitions Convention, and the Convention on Rights of People with Disabilities, among others.
2. Monitoring and evaluation.
3. Management of the IMSMA, national mine action database.
4. Maintenance and improvement of Afghanistan Mine Action Standards (AMAS), accreditation of implementers and quality assurance of their work ensuring qualified operators conform to AMAS and deliver high quality mine action services.

While the APMBT workplan envisages a reduction in the funds required as the plan progresses, the funds received from donors in the past three years have decreased at a more rapid rate. If this trend continues, it is unlikely that Afghanistan will meet its 2023 deadline under the APMBT.

On a positive note, MAPA remains committed to the workplan and to continually improving the overall productivity of the programme. Indeed, despite the shortfall in funding for 1392, the programme succeeded in doing more with less and surpassed its land release target by 30%.

Moreover, in light of the fall in funding from traditional donors, MACCA and UNMAS reached out to several potential new donors in an effort to expand the programme's donor base. It is hoped that these discussions will lead to new funding sources in the coming years.

The tables below show the breakdown of VTF and bilateral support by donor.

Donors	Bilateral Contributions
Belgium	327,500
Denmark	1,186,793
Finland	950,475
Germany	4,005,601
Government of Afghanistan	2,562,946
Ireland	1,215,338
Japan	1,738,591
Netherlands	4,014,919
Norway	2,441,139
Pak - Afghan - Tajik Regional Integration Program	554,810
Sweden	1,784,050
UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs	497,505
UAE	8,265,000
UK	2,537,222
USA	19,849,816
Total	**51,931,705**
Grand Total for VTF and Bilateral Funding	**USD 72,060,629**

Table 13: VTF and bilateral funding for 1392

Donors	VTF Contributions
Australia	5,133,000
Austria	173,326
Canada	3,474,475
Denmark	429,348
European Union	1,417,012
Finland	1,060,080
Italy	904,998
Japan	3,500,000
Korea	48,000
Lithuania	5,880
Luxembourg	15,394
Netherlands	1,500,000
Oman	100,000
Saudi Arabia	98,000
UN unrestricted fund	819,435
UAE	959,976
USA	490,000
Total	**20,128,924**

CONCLUSION: THE REMAINING CHALLENGE

By the end of 1392 (March 20, 2014), 4,294 hazards covering 518.9 square kilometres area contaminated with mines and ERW existed in Afghanistan. These hazards are located in 1,609 communities, 253 districts and 33 provinces, directly affecting 774,000 people and indirectly the whole population of the country. These hazards are grouped into 272 primary and sub-projects as part of Afghanistan's Extension Request to the Ottawa Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Treaty. The following table shows the breakdown of known hazards by contamination type, as of end of 1392.

Table 14: Remaining contamination as of end of 1392

Contamination Type	Number of Hazards	Area of Hazards (sq km)
Anti-personnel minefields	2,960	248.7
Anti-tank minefields	1,116	235.6
Battlefield/ERW contamination	218	34.6
Total	**4,294**	**518.9**

As shown above, most of the contamination results from anti-personnel (AP) minefields, which make up 48% of the overall contamination. Table 15 below shows the breakdown of the contamination by region. Almost half of all AP minefields are located in the Central Region (Kabul, Logar, Wardak, Parwan, Panjsher, Bamyan, and Kapisa provinces), accounting for almost 30% of the total AP contamination. While the Central Region leads in terms of number of AP hazards, the area contaminated in terms of square kilometres is larger in the South.

Table 15: Contamination by region as of end of 1392

Region	Anti-personnel Minefield		Anti-tank Minefield		Battlefield	
	Number	Area (sq km)	Number	Area (sq km)	Number	Area (sq km)
Central	1,113	72.8	361	51.3	50	5.2
East	127	11.6	113	12.4	34	8
North	370	16	49	1.9	33	2.1
North East	880	49.1	19	0.7	58	6.5
South	207	50.8	169	86.1	16	4.4
South East	178	17.9	254	40.6	14	3.2
West	85	30.5	151	42.6	13	5.2
Total	**2,960**	**248.7**	**1,116**	**235.6**	**218**	**34.6**

In addition to the contamination described above, one recent challenge has been contamination surrounding International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) and North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) firing ranges and bases. From 2010 to the end of March 2014, MACCA recorded 82 casualties resulting from ERW accidents in or around ISAF/NATO firing ranges and bases. 23 people were killed and 59 were injured; 83% of casualties are children. 11 casualties have been reported in 2014 so far, while 38 were reported in 2013 compared to 29 in 2012, one in 2011, and three in 2010. The casualty numbers in 2012 and 2013 have seen a notable increase. This steep rise in accidents coincides with the withdrawal of international military forces. Accidents have occurred in 12 provinces out of 34, which show that the problem is widespread.

In 2013, the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) awarded a contract to Sterling Demining Afghanistan (SDA) for the survey and clearance of firing ranges. SDA started the survey and clearance of ranges in nine provinces namely Balkh, Farah, Kandahar, Khost, Laghman, Paktika, Paktya, Uruzgan and Zabul.

32 firing ranges covering 159.5 sq km area have been surveyed so far. Based on IMSMA data, seven ranges have been cleared, while clearance operations are ongoing on 12 ranges. A total of 66.4 sq km area has been cleared by SDA so far; 33,772 items of ERW and 11,965 small arms ammunitions have been destroyed.

ACRONYMS

AABRAR	Afghan Amputee Bicyclists for Rehabilitation and Recreation
AAR	Association for Aid and Relief
ACBRN	Afghanistan Community Based Rehabilitation Network
ACL	Afghan Campaign for Landmine
ACPD	Advocacy Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
ADC	Asad brothers Demining Company
AGD	Afghan Greenfield Demining
AIED	Abandoned Improvised Explosive Device
AIHRC	Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission
ALSO	Afghan Landmine Survivors Organisation
AMAS	Afghanistan Mine Action Standards
AMDC	Aims Demining Company
ANDMA	Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority
ANSA	Afghanistan National Standards Authority
AOAD	Accessibility Organisation for Afghan Disabled
AP	Anti-personnel
APMBT	Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Treaty
ARCS	Afghan Red Crescent Society
AT	Anti-tank
ATC	Afghan Technical Consultants
BAC	Battle Area Clearance
BPHS	Basic Package of Health Services
BSC	Balanced Scorecard
CAMACC	Central Asian Mine Action Coordination Council
CBD	Community-Based Demining
CBMRE	Community-Based Mine Risk Education
CBR	Community-Based Rehabilitation
CCM	Convention on Cluster Munitions
CDC	Community Development Councils
CMAA	Cambodian Mine Action Authority
CPO	Child Protection Officer
CRPD	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
DAFA	Demining Agency for Afghanistan
DAO	Development and Ability Organisation
DDC	District Development Council
DDG	Danish Demining Group
DMC	Department of Mine Clearance
DRD	Disability and Rehabilitation Department
DSCG	Disability Stakeholder Coordination Group
EOD	Explosive Ordnance Disposal
EODT	EOD Technology, Inc.
ERW	Explosive Remnants of War
FSD	Swiss Foundation for Mine Action
GMAP	Gender and Mine Action Programme
HALO Trust	Hazardous Areas Life-Support Organisation Trust
HDI	Hemayat brothers Demining International
HI	Handicap International
ICFE	Inclusive and Child Friendly Education
IDP	Internal Displaced People
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IMAS	International Mine Action Standards
IMSMA	Information Management System for Mine Action
IOF	Integrated Operational Framework
IPs	Implementing Partners
ISAF	International Security Assistance Force
KDC	Kawoon Demining Company
KMCC	Kabul Mine Clearance Company
KOO	Kabul Ortho Organisation
M/ERW RE	Mine/Explosive Remnants of War Risk Education
MACCA	Mine Action Coordination Centre of Afghanistan
MAPA	Mine Action Programme of Afghanistan
MCPA	Mine Clearance and Planning Agency
MDC	Mine Detection Centre
MEIFCS	Mine and ERW Impact Free Community Survey
MoE	Ministry of Education
MoI	Ministry of Interior
MoLSAMD	Ministry of Labor, Social Affairs, Martyrs and Disables
MoPH	Ministry of Public Health
MoRA	Ministry of Religious and Hajj Affairs
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MRRD	Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organisation
NDSS	National Demining Support Service
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NPCWD	National Partnership for Children With Disabilities
NTS	Non-Technical Survey
OAS	Organisation of American States
OMAR	Organisation for Mine Clearance and Afghan Rehabilitation
OSCE	Organisation for Security in Central Europe
OTA	Orthopedic Technician Assistant
P&O	Prosthetic and Orthotic
PDIA	Post Demining Impact Assessment
PIPS	Project and Implementing Partner Selection
PRT	Proposal Review Team
PWD	Person With Disability
QA	Quality Assurance
QC	Quality Control
QMS	Quality Management System
RFP	Request For Proposal
RONCO	RONCO Consultancy Corporation
SAA	Small Arms Ammunition
SADC	Storm Afghanistan Demining Company
SDA	Sterling Demining Afghanistan

SDC	Standard Demining Company
SDG	Safi Demining Group
SHA	Suspected Hazardous Area
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
TC	Technical Committee
TDC	Trust Demining Company
TDG	Titan Demining Group
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNMAS	United Nations Mine Action Service
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
UXO	Unexploded Ordinance
VA	Victim Assistance
VPM	Victim Prediction Model
VTF	Voluntary Trust Fund

Mine Action Coordination Centre of Afghanistan (MACCA)

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