



MAPA

Annual Report for 1398

APR 2019 - MAR 2020



PREPARED BY:
DIRECTORATE OF MINE ACTION
COORDINATION



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Acronyms

ACAP	Afghan Civilian Assistance Programme
ACPD	Advocacy Committee for the Right of Persons with Disabilities
AGE	Anti-Government Element
AIM	Abandoned Improvised Mine
AMAS	Afghanistan Mine Action Standards
ANDMA	Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority
ANSF	Afghan National Security Forces
AP	Anti-personnel
APMBC	Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention
AREA	Agency for Rehabilitation and Energy conservation in Afghanistan
AT	Anti-Tank
ATC	Afghan Technical Consultants
AV	Anti-Vehicle
BAC	Battle Area Clearance
BLU	Bomb Live Unit
BOI	Board of Inquiry
BSC	Balanced Score Card
CHA	Confirmed Hazard Area
CPiE	Child Protection in Emergencies
CR	Conformity Report
DAFA	Demining Agency for Afghanistan
DDG	Danish Demining Group
DMAC	Directorate of Mine Action Coordination
EOD	Explosive Ordnance Disposal
ERW	Explosive Remnant of War
FSD	Swiss Foundation for Mine Action
GICHD	Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining
GIS	Geographical Information System
GoIRA	Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
HALO Trust	Hazardous Area Life Support Organisation Trust

HI	Handicap International
I&CFE-CWG	Inclusive & Child Friendly Education Coordination Working Group
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
IED	Improvised Explosive Device
IM	Improvised Mine
IMSMA	Information Management System for Mine Action
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IP	Implementing Partner
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
LSP	Landmine Safety Programme
EORE	Explosive Ordnance Risk Education
MALS	Mine Action Livelihood Survey
MAPA	Mine Action Programme of Afghanistan
MCPA	Mine Clearance and Planning Agency
MDC	Mine Detection Centre
MEIFCS	Mine/ERW Impact Free Community Survey
MF	Mine Field
MoCIT	Ministry of Communication and Information Technology
MoE	Ministry of Education
MoIC	Ministry of Information and Culture
MMD	State Ministry for Martyrs and Disabled Affairs
MoPH	Ministry of Public Health
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MRE	Mine Risk Education
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organisation
NCR	Non-Conformity Report
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NMASP	National Mine Action Strategic Plan
NPA	Norwegian People's Aid
NTS	Non-Technical Survey
OHPM	Organization for Health Promotion and Management
OMAR	Organisation for Mine Clearance and Afghan Rehabilitation
OPS	Operations

OSCE	Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
PDIA	Post Demining Impact Assessment
PM/WRA	Political-Military Affairs, Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement
QA	Quality Assurance
QC	Quality Control
QM	Quality Management
QMI	Quality Management Inspection
R&D	Research and Development
SAA	Small Arms Ammunition
SHA	Suspected Hazardous Area
SNMAC	Sudan National Mine Action Centre
ToT	Training of Trainers
TS	Technical Survey
TURMAC	Turkish Mine Action Centre
UN	United Nations
UN VTF	United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Action
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNMAS	United Nations Mine Action Service
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USD	United States Dollar
UXO	Unexploded Ordnance
VA	Victim Assistance
ITF	International Trust Fund

Foreword

As one of the largest and oldest mine action programmes in the world, the Mine Action Programme of Afghanistan (MAPA) is managed by the Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA) through its Directorate of Mine Action Coordination (DMAC) with technical and financial support from international donors and the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS). Since the completion of transition to national authority in June 2018, the DMAC has been managing the MAPA with support from the wider Afghan Government, UNMAS and GICHD. The Afghan Government is committed to national ownership and has gradually started contributing to the programme from the national budget. We are optimistic that this support will continue and increase in the coming years. However, given the unstable situation of the country and its reliance on international community, the government alone may not be able to fulfil its treaty obligations and commitments without international support. Thus, support from our international donors is vital for the continuation of the programme until the country becomes mine-free.

As State Minister for Disaster Management and Humanitarian Affairs with the responsibility to lead and coordinate disaster management and humanitarian activities in Afghanistan, including the MAPA, I am pleased to present MAPA's Annual Report for 1398, outlining key achievements and challenges faced by the programme during the year.

In the year 1398, MAPA cleared 63 sq. Kilometres of contaminated land in the country. Since the inception of the programme in 1367 (1989), the MAPA has addressed almost 78.9 per cent of recorded contamination in the country; however, as of the end of the Afghan year 1398, 254 districts in 34 provinces of the country remain impacted, affecting an estimated number of 2.5 million people living within one kilometre of contaminated land. To put this into perspective, there are 400 districts in 34 provinces in Afghanistan with an approximate population of 33 million people.

Furthermore, the ongoing clashes between the Afghan National Security and Defence Forces (ANDSF) and Anti-Government Elements (AGEs) have further exacerbated contamination levels in the country. Approximately 296.75 sq. kilometres of hazards, mostly improvised mines and explosive remnants of war (ERW), from post-2001 contamination in 18 provinces of the country have initially been surveyed and require proper survey. The growing use of improvised mines (IM) by the Anti-Government Elements have led to an increase in the rate of civilian casualties. In the past year, an average of about 130 civilians lost

their lives or limbs every month as a result of landmines including improvised mines and ERW. However, the true figure of civilian casualties is likely to be much higher, as the programme lacks sufficient data collection mechanisms that were in place a few years ago.

A vicious and continuous cycle of conflicts over the last four decades has meant that Afghanistan still remains on top of the list of countries affected by Explosive Ordnance (EO) globally. The MAPA, with determined efforts of national and international partners and support from our donors, has destroyed more than 18.6 million ERW, 741,935 anti-personnel mines and approximately 30,496 anti-vehicle mines. I would like to thank all the MAPA donors for their generous contributions during the year 1398. I am particularly grateful to the Governments of the United Kingdom, United States, the Netherlands, Japan, Sweden, Finland, Denmark, Canada, Norway, Australia, Ireland, Slovenia as well as donors such as ECHO, PATRIP, ACF, and OCHA. Your contributions have saved countless lives and improved peoples' livelihoods and economic conditions. Looking forward, I wish for continued assistance and cooperation of all stakeholders, particularly our donors, as we seek to rid this country of explosive hazards.



Ghulam Bahawuddin Jailani

State Minister for Disaster Management and Humanitarian Affairs

Executive Summary

Despite significant fluctuations in violence throughout 1398, occurring simultaneously with gains and setbacks made during negotiations in Doha, the Mine Action Programme of Afghanistan (MAPA) made reasonable progress in 1398¹. The growing insecurity and clashes between the Afghan National Security and Defence Forces (ANDSF) and Anti-Government Elements (AGEs) in various parts of the country rendered the operating environment extremely challenging for mine action implementing partners. Thus, making it difficult to achieve annual clearance targets. Achieving annual clearance targets is also heavily dependent on the availability of funds as well as accessibility of sites requiring the mine action interventions. The required funding for 1398 was 95.6 million USD and 47.4 per cent of this target was secured. This meant as a result of the funding shortfall, the clearance target was affected.

Insecurity in areas where mine action projects were planned meant that these projects were delayed and, in some cases, moved to other areas. Thus, the annual clearance target was not achieved. This trend has continued for the past seven years and the ongoing conflict, especially since 2009 has added a new burden to the existing contamination. When conducting non-technical surveys (NTS), new hazards of mostly legacy contamination remaining from previous surveys were found creating an addition to the clearance target and thus the APMBC work plan. Part of this contamination is attributed to post-2001-armed conflict between the Anti-Government Elements (AGEs), the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and Afghan National Security and Defence Forces (ANSDF), creating a major challenge and leaving behind unexploded ordnance (UXO) and Improvised Mines (IMs)².

The MAPA has been receiving an increased number of civilian casualty reports, which mainly emanate from Improvised Mines (IMs) and ERW. During 1398, there were 1,565 civilian casualties as a result of mine/ERW and IMs, 52 per cent of which were children; 57 per cent of these civilian casualties were due to IMs, an additional 41 per cent were due to ERW and the remaining 1.6 per cent involved legacy landmines. As of April 2020, at the beginning of 1399, DMAC recorded 3,756 hazardous areas covering 1,762 sq. kilometres of land in Afghanistan. This includes 620 sq. kilometres of legacy contamination³ and 512 sq. km of new contamination⁴ consisting of improvised mines (IM), ERW and 630 Sq. KM of firing ranges.

During 1398, the MAPA was able to convince New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) to fund the clearance of five abandoned firing ranges that were previously used by NZDF in Bamyan province. NZDF has since awarded the project to a national implementing partner which will be implemented during 2020-2021. The project awarded also has a VA and EORE components. There are currently 42 firing ranges that are abandoned and cover a total area of 630 Sq. KM which need clearance. DMAC is systematically advocating for the clearance of these abandoned firing ranges by encouraging the countries that have used these firing ranges as part of their involvement with the International Security Assistance Force. In addition to the 38 recorded firing ranges, a number of firing ranges are currently being used by NATO countries in Afghanistan and are not yet abandoned.

¹ The Afghan year 1398 of the Solar Hijri calendar is equal to April 2019 – March 2020 of the Gregorian calendar.

² Improvised Mines refers to Pressure Plate IED or Victim Operated IED for which mine action consider the PPIED as AP mine and part of the Mine Ban Convention is responsible to provide response to only the abandoned Improvised Mine.

³ This includes 104 sq. km of initial hazard areas surveyed but not yet confirmed.

⁴ This includes 421 sq. km of IM, 77.2 sq. km ERW and 588 sq. km of firing ranges.

Introduction

MAPA

The Mine Action Programme of Afghanistan (MAPA) is one of the largest mine action programmes in the world. At a global level the MAPA was the first humanitarian (i.e. non-military) mine action programme that encompasses all pillars of mine action: advocacy, demining, stockpile destruction, EO Risk Education (EORE), and victim assistance (VA). MAPA employs over 7,000 Afghans and works with over 45 mine action organizations. These partners, which include national and international actors, from both the private and not-for-profit sectors, deliver a wide range of mine action services including manual clearance, mechanically assisted clearance, mine dog detection assets, Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD), survey, EORE, VA activities and data collection.

MAPA's activities are coordinated and monitored by the Directorate of Mine Action Coordination (DMAC) of Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA).

DMAC

The Directorate of Mine Action Coordination (DMAC) of Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA) is a regulatory body for the humanitarian MAPA. Through its headquarters in Kabul and its seven regional offices, DMAC manages, coordinates and oversees the humanitarian mine action activities implemented by national and international non-governmental organizations and commercial companies. DMAC is supported by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (GoIRA) and International Donors. Subsequent to the completion of the final phase of transition in June 2018, DMAC took over the responsibility for programme management of the MAPA from the United Nations Mine Action (UNMAS). UNMAS remains in the country as a close technical advisor and donor to DMAC.

Chapter One: Overview

Background

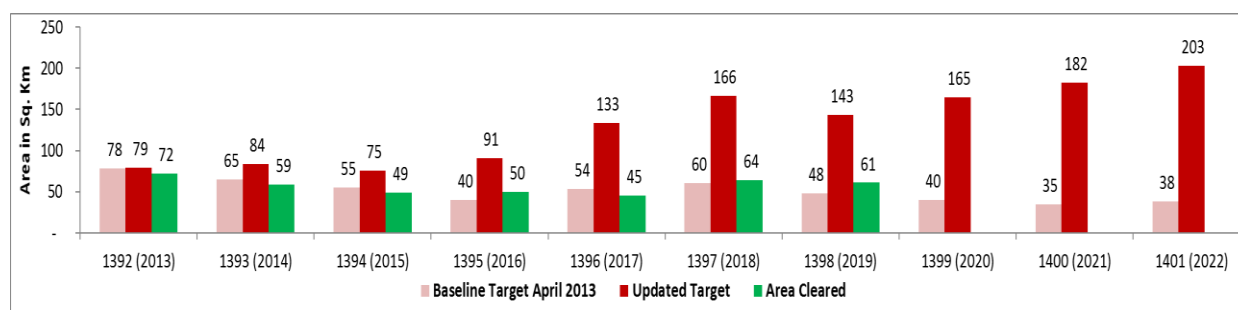
Afghanistan is among the most-severely landmine and ERW affected. Decades of conflict have left the country littered with mines and ERW that are killing and maiming innocent civilians every day. The contamination in the country dates back to the Soviet era and later to the internal fighting between Mujahideen warring factions in 1992 to 1995 as well as fighting between the Taliban and the Northern Alliance in 1995 to 2001. Contamination during this period is referred to as legacy mine/ERW contamination.

Part of the contamination is attributed to post-2001-armed conflict between the Anti-Government Elements (AGEs), the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF). This posed a major challenge, as the war with Anti Government Elements (AGEs) has left behind unexploded ordnance (UXO) and Improvised Mines (IMs). The MAPA has been receiving an increased number of civilian casualty reports, which mainly emanate from ERW and IMs. During 1398, there were 1,565 civilian casualties by mine/ERW and IMs, 52 per cent of which were children; 57 per cent of these civilian casualties were due to IMs, an additional 41 per cent were due to ERW and the remaining 1.6 per cent were due to legacy mine incidents.

As of April 2020, at the beginning of 1398, DMAC recorded 3,756 hazardous areas covering 1,762 sq. kilometres of land in Afghanistan. This includes 620 sq. kilometres of legacy contamination⁵ and 512 sq. km of new contamination⁶ consisting of improvised mines (IM), ERW and 630 Sq. KM of firing ranges.

Funding and the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention Extension

In April 2012, The Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (GoIRA) submitted a clearance extension request at the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention meeting. By submitting this extension request, Afghanistan committed to clearing all known mine-contaminated areas in its territory by March 2023.



Graph 1: The original baseline target indicated in the extension plan, the revised target of clearance which is updated annually, and the amount of cleared areas on annual basis.

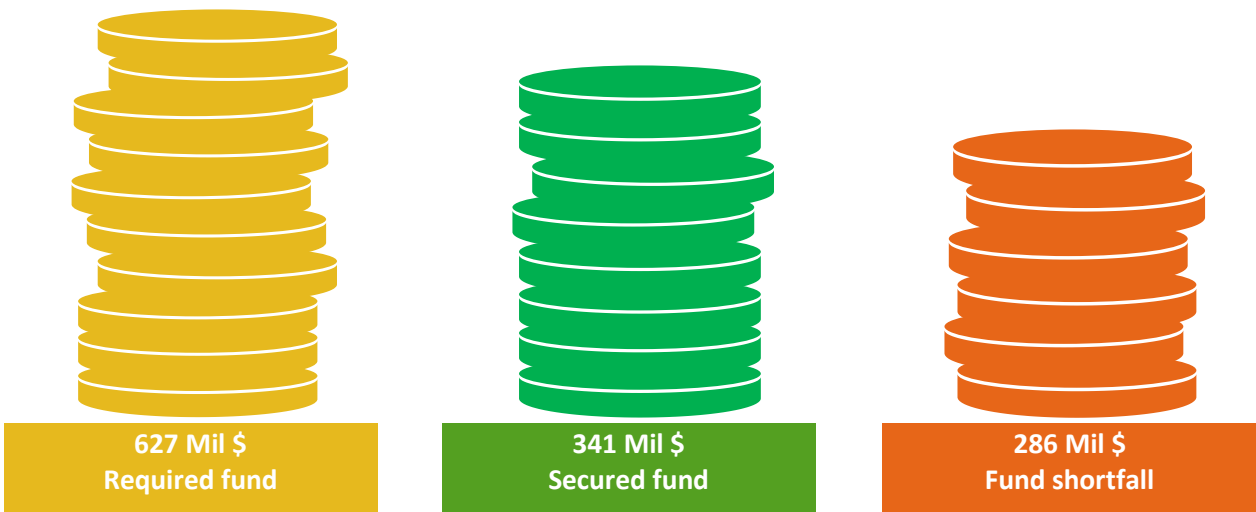
⁵ This includes 104 sq. km of initial hazard areas surveyed but not yet confirmed.

⁶ This includes 421 sq. km of IM, 77.2 sq. km ERW and 588 sq. km of firing ranges.

As shown in Graph 1, Afghanistan was not able to achieve its set target for the past seven years due to funding shortfalls. The ongoing conflict, especially since 2009 has added a new burden.

MAPA managed to secure 341 million USD over the last seven years which equates to 54.4 per cent of the 627 million USD required for those seven years in the APMBC extension work plan.

Figure 1: Total required fund, secured so far and the shortfall for the current MBT 10-years work plan



While conducting non-technical surveys (NTS), new hazards of mostly legacy contamination remaining from previous surveys were found creating an addition to the clearance target and thus the APMBC work plan. The revised funding update suggests 348 million USD is needed to implement the plan in the remaining three years (1399– 1401). In addition to the recorded hazards in the national database, there are around 299 sq. kilometres of initially surveyed hazards, mostly improvised mines and ERW, from post-2001 contamination in 18 provinces of the country requiring proper NTS. The clearance cost of the 299 sq. kilometres of new contamination is around 209 million USD. The overall amount needed increases to 557 million USD. In other words, MAPA requires 557 million USD to clear all the recorded landmines and ERW in the country.

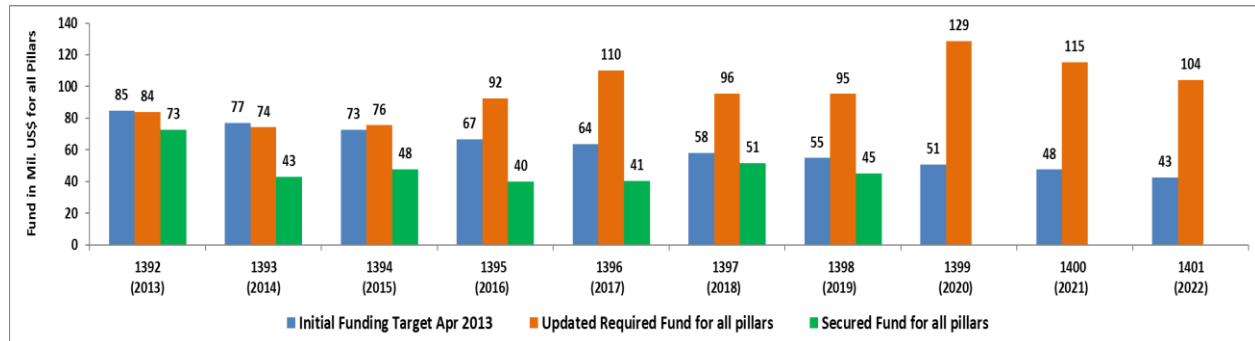
The graph below shows the funding requirement to clear the remaining recorded hazards, the funding requirement for the IHA hazards and the total required funding for both. These figures include funding requirement for other pillars of mine action including the programme management:

Figure 2: Shows the funding requirement for the remaining recorded hazards, the IHA and as total



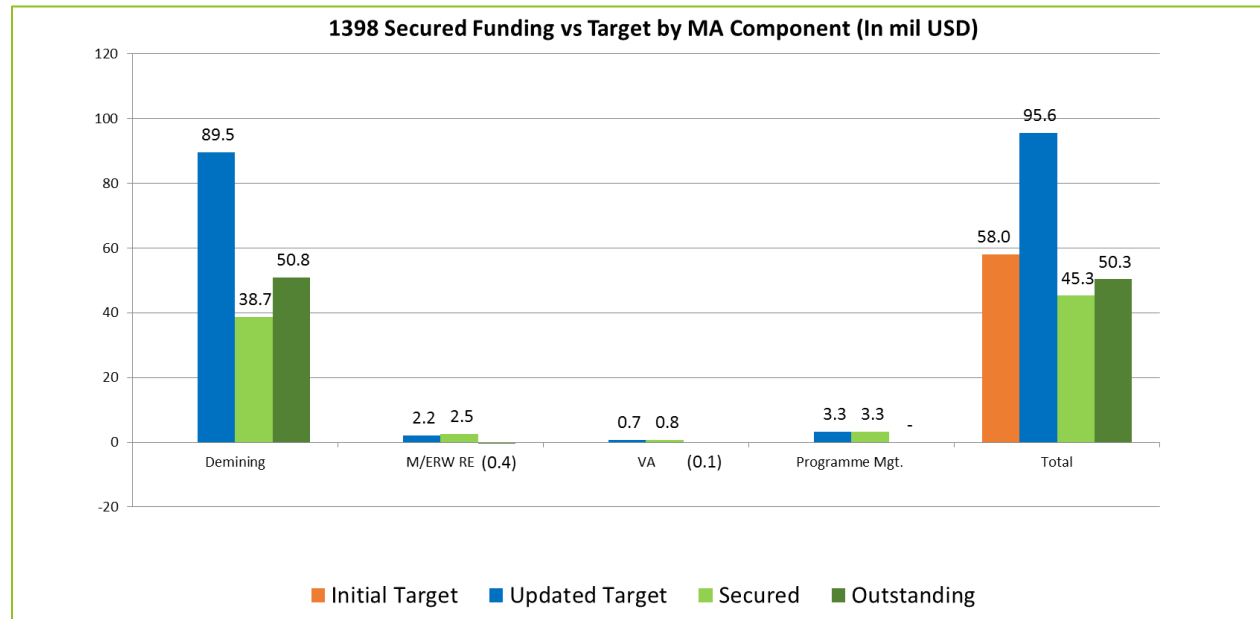
The graph below shows the funding requirement for the original extension plan, the revised funding target, the funding secured to-date and the funding needed for the remaining years to complete the extension plan on time.

Graph 2: Funding requirement of the original extension plan.



The required funding for 1398 was 95.6 million USD and 47.4 per cent of this target was secured. This meant that in line with the funding shortage, the clearance target was also affected, as explained in the previous chapter.

Graph 3: 1398 required funding and funding secured for each mine action pillar.



As shown in the graph above the required amount for clearance was 89.7 million USD. While 38.7 million USD was secured, there was a 50.8 million USD gap.

Chapter Two: Activities

Table 1: A Summary of activities completed in 1398.

DMAC accomplished the following activities in 1398:	
1	The Balanced Scorecard (BSC) for implementing partners (IPs) were reviewed and the methodology was changed from average system to cumulative system. Meanwhile, BSC for Weapons and Ammunition Destruction (WAD) & Conventional Weapons Destruction (CWD) projects of HALO Trust have been developed and utilized.
2	DMAC representative participated in evaluation of IPs' submissions for PM/WRA NOFOs in Dubai. The total allocation of PM/WRA was around 13 million US\$
3	The Abandoned Improvised Mine (AIM) AMAS was developed by DMAC with technical support from UNMAS in coordination and consultation with MAPA humanitarian implementing partners. AMAS directs the engagement of the MAPA to deal with the challenge of confirmed or suspected AIM contaminated areas in Afghanistan.
4	<p>OPS R&D department developed & released the policy on commercial mine action operations in Afghanistan:</p> <p>The Policy highlights the following main points:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Role of DMAC in the implementation of the Policy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Accreditation of commercial mine action organizations – Monitoring visits from the premises and field operations of commercial mine action organizations – Mechanism for verification and processing of commercial demining completion reports 2. Role of the Commercial Mine Action Organizations in the implementation of the Policy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Commercial Mine Action Organizations can operate if they are technically and operationally accredited by DMAC – In order for the Commercial Mine Action Organizations to be accredited by DMAC, they should prove to have the required premises for their office (Office space, stock, assets and other essential resources) and meet the requirements of accreditation detailed in AMAS 03.01 and DMAC SWP 02.01
5	<p>DMAC OPS R&D department coordinated the mission of GICHD technical consultant for Land Release Case Study to Afghanistan during 7 – 11 Mar 2020:</p> <p>The aim of the mission was to conduct case studies of current land release practices of MAPA in order to further improve the process.</p>
6	<p>DMAC OPS R&D Department conducted the Operations Technical Workshop during 21 – 24 Apr 2019:</p> <p>The main purpose of the workshop was to review and discuss the important operational issues & share ideas for further improvement of the coordination within MAPA.</p>
7	Mine Action Livelihoods Survey was conducted in Kapisa province through which 12 communities in 4 districts of the province were surveyed
8	Post Demining Impact Assessment (PDIA) was conducted on 53 released hazardous areas in 33 communities, across 28 districts in 14 provinces of the country

9	DMAC OPS R&D manager participated in a series of the IMAS Review Board Meetings during the reporting year in Geneva, Switzerland.
10	DMAC OPS R&D manager participated in the Mine Action Technology Workshop conducted by GICHD in Basel, Switzerland during 7 – 8 Nov 2019. The aim of this Mine Action Technology Workshop was to promote dialogue and cooperation between equipment manufacturers, researchers and end – users of these technologies.
11	DMAC OPS R&D manager participated in the Mine Action Liability Workshop that was organized jointly by GICHD and Lebanon Mine Action Center (LMAC) from 4 – 6 Dec 2019 in Beirut, Lebanon. The objective of the workshop was to provide a forum for discussion of liability-related issues in mine action.
12	OPS R&D Associate attended the regional workshop on Counter Improvised Explosive Devices (C-IED) from 19-23 August 2019 in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.

2.1 Programme Management and Advocacy

To build consensus and cooperation among various mine action stakeholders and parties to conflict, advocacy and programme management can play a vital role. Similarly, effective programme management and advocacy ensures a safe environment for mine/ERW affected communities and promotes the rights of persons with disability. Through advocacy the required resources can be mobilized in order to save lives and improve livelihoods. DMAC is responsible for the overall management of the MAPA. International conferences and working groups on related conventions, monthly stakeholder meetings, operations coordination meetings, continuous monitoring visits to the regional offices by HQ staff, IPs projects and organizations balanced scorecard (BAC), information management and post-demining impact assessment are some of the activities carried out as part of programme management and advocacy by DMAC.

2.1.1: Advocacy, Planning and Communications

Table 2: List of advocacy and programme management activities in 1398.

Activities	Outcomes/Results
Global Conference on Assistance to Victims of Anti-Personnel Mines and Other Explosive Remnants of War, and Disability Rights, Conducted in Amman, Jordan, 10-12 September 2019	<p>a. Involved discussions and exchange of ideas between different programmes where DMAC – Head of VA Department presented in the following sessions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advancing Integration of Victim Assistance into National Broader Policies and Programmes; As member of this Plenary Session DMAC head of VA shared his experience on inclusion of VA in other sectors. DMAC delegate also discussed gender and diversity considerations when reducing loss of lives and limbs and how emergency response can be improved.

	The issues raised by the panel are reflected in the Oslo Action Plan.
MAPA managed to convince New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) to fund the clearance of their abandoned firing ranges in Bamyan province	NZDF is funding the clearance of 5 abandoned firing ranges in Bamyan province. The project has already been awarded to a national IP and will be implemented during 2020-2021.
The International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action was celebrated by the MAPA.	This high-profile event was participated by H.E. Dr Abdullah Abdullah, the then Chief Executive of the Government of Afghanistan and current Chairman of the High Council for National Reconciliation, H.E. Najib Aqa Fahim, the then State Minister for Disaster Management and Humanitarian Affairs, representatives from UNAMA and other UN agencies in the country as well as representatives of donor countries, directors of implementing partners and other government and non-governmental organizations.
MAPA celebrated International Women's Day on 8 th of March 2020. The event was held at DMAC compound and was participated by staff from various organisations such as UNMAS and MAPA implementing partners.	The event was well represented by IPs and other stakeholders of the MAPA.
The 21 st National Directors and UN Advisors Annual Meeting was attended by DMAC Director in Geneva.	DMAC Director, Mr. Mohammad Shafiq Yosufi, represented Afghanistan in the meeting and delivered statements. Mr. Yosufi also took part in side events and a special meeting to share MAPA's achievement and challenges.
The DMAC Director participated in the Fourth Review Conference of the States Parties to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention in Oslo.	DMAC Director provided updates on the progress made by the Mine Action Programme of Afghanistan (MAPA) in the last five years namely; on survey, clearance, victim assistance and explosive ordnance risk education. Mr. Yosufi also chaired a side-event on the role of female deminers in Bamyan in bringing the province to mine-free status. He also attended side events as a panelist on the

	use of Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) and on explosive ordnance risk education.
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2.1.2: Research and Development

One of the main activities of DMAC Operations Research and Development Department, in consultation with MAPA's seven partner humanitarian mine action organizations, is to conduct research and trials. The mentioned practices are undertaken based on the needs and requirements of the programme to further improve clearance operations and to increase efficiency and cost-effectiveness of the asset/tools used by MAPA operators.

Trial on productivity rate in low threat BF area in August 2019:

The main objective of this trial was to set an average monthly productivity rate for MAPA humanitarian and commercial demining organizations in low threat battlefield (BF) areas that will further improve the efficiency of clearance operations in low threat BF contaminated areas.

The trials conducted at HALO Trust training facility in Barikab of Bagram district, Parwan province. Successful conduct of the trials was a joint effort involving DMAC, all humanitarian IP representatives and commercial demining companies' representatives, each of which made useful contributions to the methodology and completion of these trials.

Following is the summary of the trial methodology:

- The LLD trial conducted in fake battlefield (50 X 50) m area.
- LLD sensitivity setting was in **Line** for 23mm target to the detection capability up to 20 cm depth.
- Schonstedt sensitivity setting was in **High**.
- In order to make sure of the quality of the operations, nine targets with different size randomly planted in the test boxes. The target depth was ranging from 5cm to 30cm from original ground surface to the top of the buried targets.

DMAC staff and representatives from relevant demining organizations were observing the quality of operations including searching of area, searching/excavation of signals, marking and number of the targets found. They were also taking note of the time spent for clearance operations of the targeted area. Overall, the trial confirmed that the method is very efficient with high quality output for clearance of low threat BF contaminated areas and as a result of the trial the productivity rate of one standard demining team with two Large Loop Detectors (LLD) in low-threat BF clearance operations is 300,000 Sq. m/ Month.

Trial on Comparison of CMD, CMD2 and CMD3 Detectors in December 2019:

The objective of this trial was to conduct practical test/trial of CMD, CMD2 and CMD3 detectors in order to find out about depth detection capability of the three detectors. Overall, the trial confirmed that the CMD3 detector is more effective in detecting of IED components because apart from CMD3, the two other detectors (CMD and CMD2) could not detect the wire.

MAPA staff were trained by GICHD on Non-Technical Survey (NTS):

Nineteen staff from DMAC and implementing partners attended the Non-Technical Survey (NTS) course from 14 – 27 October 2019, in Hammana, Lebanon. The course lasted 10 days and the participants learnt about land release, NTS tools and Ground Sign Awareness.

This course was organized by GICHD for Mine Action Programme of Afghanistan, and funded by the Auswärtiges Amt - German Federal Foreign Office.

DMAC discusses the issue of sporadically laid Anti-vehicle mines in a workshop:

A Workshop with participation of DMAC, mine action humanitarian organizations, UNMAS and GICHD, was organized to discuss the issue of irregularly laid Anti Vehicle mines in Kabul from 18-19 November 2019. The aim of the workshop was to provide a platform to discuss operational experience in dealing with sporadically laid AV mines in large areas and to try to identify possible solutions and agree on next practical steps. The workshop was finalized with an outcome of action points including conduct of case study of current land release practices of MAPA to seek practical options for further improving the process, conduct of Non-Technical Survey and Technical Survey training for technical staff of MAPA and development of liability policy to be followed.

GICHD Consultant examines MAPA land release practices:

Ms. Helen Gray, Geneva International Center for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) technical consultant came to Afghanistan during the 2nd Week of March 2020 to "**conduct case studies of current MAPA land release practices and to seek practical options to further improve the process**". This case study was launched as a result of the initial baseline assessment of the national capacities of the Mine Action Programme in Afghanistan (MAPA), conducted by GICHD during June 2019. During her week long mission, Ms. Gray met separately with different departments of DMAC, UNMAS, NPA, and implementing partners (IPs). The meeting involved queries on key issues on land release experience of the MAPA.

Part of the mission involved field visits to some cleared minefields and newly surveyed hazards around Balkh province. Ms. Gray conducted interviews with team command groups regarding the land release implementation process and the challenges they face in the field. The outcome of the land release case study containing the recommendation and action plan will be shared with DMAC in the near future.

2.1.3: Quality Assurance and Quality Control

The aim of quality management (QM) is to provide confidence to the beneficiaries, funding bodies, mine action contractors and the Government of Afghanistan that mine action quality requirements are met and that cleared land is indeed safe for use. QM consists of three complementary components: accreditation, monitoring and post-clearance inspection.

As per quality management principles, the QM department plays an important role in maintaining stakeholder satisfaction through the provision of quality services. The main functions of the QM department are: managing and maintaining the Afghanistan Mine Action Standards (AMAS); managing and undertaking monitoring and quality control of mine action activities, operations and services; investigating demining incidents; managing and maintaining internal quality management systems of DMAC, including standard operating procedures and processes; conducting internal audit and measuring processes; developing the DMAC Balanced Scorecard reports; and developing QM-related policies.

During the reporting period, the Afghanistan Mine Action Standard (AMAS) 03.02 for Mine Action Planning and Prioritization was revised, finalized and shared with the demining organizations, and other key stakeholders. The AMAS was revised in consultation with the demining organizations through the AMAS review board. It is a technical reference for engagement of the MAPA to deal with the mine action planning and prioritization and can be used to plan and prioritize based on set standards that ensure relevance and need of mine action interventions. It is also used by the demining organizations to develop their SOPs in order to ensure that mine action planning and prioritization are conducted safely, effectively, and efficiently without compromising their neutrality and impartiality by ensuring that all demining activities are conducted solely for humanitarian purposes.

During 1398 DMAC conducted 2,846 QA visits of mine action projects in the country out of which 52 major non conformities⁷, 101 minor non conformities, 99 observations and 2,594 conformities were reported by DMAC quality management inspectors. According to the Afghanistan Mine Action Standards (AMAS) a major non conformity can generally be defined as a breach of AMAS that is considered to be life threatening. AMAS defines a minor non conformity as a breach of AMAS that is not considered to be life threatening and/or can be rectified immediately without further training or additional resources being required/deployed.

In 1398, two missed-mine accidents occurred in minefields which were previously cleared by IPs in 2012. The first missed mine accident occurred on 10 Feb 2019 in Chahar Asyab district of Kabul province; the victim was a local fifteen years old child. As a result, he lost his left leg, left eye and received injuries to his face and right leg. The area was re-cleared by the same IP and no mines were found. The second missed ERW accident occurred on 21 June 2019 in Dangam district of Kunar Province where the victim was a local ten-year-old resident who died as a result. A Board of Inquiry (BOI) was assigned and lessons-learned summaries of the investigation reports were developed and shared with the stakeholders. The respective IPs were provided with clear instructions for further improvement and the cases were reflected in the Balanced Scorecards (BSC)⁸. There were three demining accidents reported in 1398, lessons learned summaries were developed based on the investigation reports prepared by the assigned BOIs and shared with the stakeholders.

MAPA Hotline project began in Sep 2012 to timely provide mine action response and remove mine/ERW threat, decrease mine/ERW civilian casualties, remove mine/ERW blockages, ensure communities' priorities for mine action intervention are considered, establish a link between communities and mine action to get their feedback and ensure demining operation effectiveness and efficiency.

2.1.4: Information Management

The Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) was developed to help make mine action safer, faster, more effective and efficient. There were calls from the mine action community for computerized decision support tools able to support the coordination and management of their

⁸ Balanced Scorecards (BSC) is monitoring tool based on which DMAC measures IP performance

operational activities. IMSMA is currently in use in more than 80 per cent of mine action programmes around the world and is the United Nations preferred information management system for mine action.

By using IMSMA, the Management Information System (MIS) department has the biggest dataset of mine action worldwide. The information/dataset enables MAPA management to make operational and strategic decisions. For better prioritizing of MAPA operational activities, DMAC MIS also conducts some additional data and GIS analysis. DMAC MIS is one of the few MIS departments globally that is using all IMSMA components/objects.

Table 3: IMSMA's activities in 1398

S#	Activity
1	IMSMA/GIS training for DMAC regional staff & IPs (20 people).
2	IMSMA training for OPS/QMI staff (15 people).
3	Database Installation/Training for MMD. (Ongoing)
4	DMAC MIS is working along with GICHD to prepare for IMSMA Core.
5	MARS (Digital data collection tool for Mine Action) initial test is done on PDIA project and full implementation starts with DMAC QM, Bamyar Firing Range Project and AABRAR Victim Assistance Project.
6	Online Reporting System DMAC MIS working with GICHD to purchase ArcGIS Online Licenses
7	DMAC MIS SWP is prepared and finalized, AMAS is 85 % done.
8	IMSMA Emergency Victim Assistance project templates and data collection forms designed. completed

2.2 Survey and Clearance

The first essential step before mine clearance is to identify the location of the hazardous area, delineate its boundaries and gather information about the nature of mines or explosive remnants of war (ERW) within that region.

Mine/ERW survey can ensure safe, efficient and effective use of demining assets for hazard removal or the removal of suspicion of reported mine/ERW hazardous areas. Two types of survey are conducted by MAPA: Technical survey (TS) and non-technical survey (NTS).

Technical survey is mainly incorporated jointly with clearance operations while NTS is conducted as a stand-alone operation.

Non-technical survey is undertaken to collect essential information about a new or an existing suspected hazardous area (SHA) to allow for decisions to be made for subsequent technical survey and clearance operations.

Non-Technical Survey (NTS)

In 1398, NTS was planned to be conducted in 30 districts funded by PM/WRA. that in 6 out of 30 planned districts from 201 – 500 and in the remaining 24 districts from 51 – 200 military operations took place.

The primary focus of the NTS was to capture potentially contaminated areas due to kinetic operations in those districts. Accurate information was not available to show in which villages the kinetic operations took place; therefore, the NTS teams visited each individual gazetteer communities of the planned districts plus other communities of the districts not mentioned in the national gazetteer.

During 1398, the NTS teams completed surveys of 5,909 communities (140 Impacted, 2,048 non-impacted from gazetteer and 3,721 communities out of the gazetteer). In summary, after factoring in previously unrecorded hazardous areas and the area contaminated post-2001, identifying and cancelling non-hazardous areas, the NTS operations resulted in an addition of 1.5 sq. kilometres of new hazardous areas to the national mine action database of Afghanistan.

Technical Survey

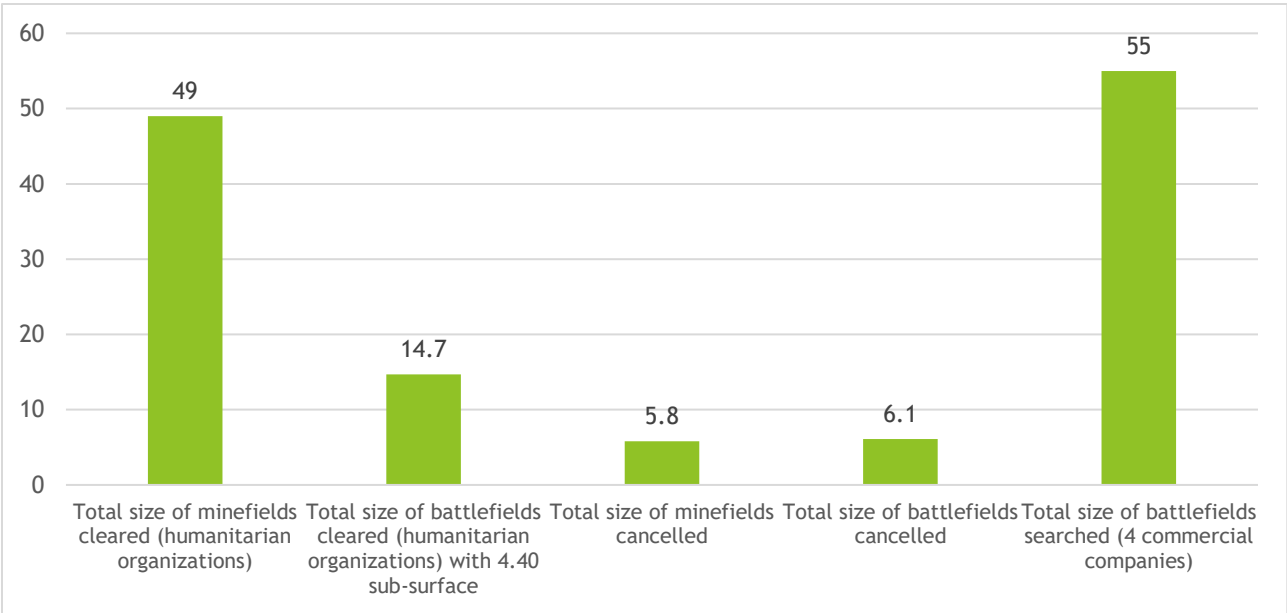
To confirm the presence or absence of mines and ERW, technical survey can be conducted as a stand-alone operation or integrated with clearance operations. In MAPA operations, the technical survey is integrated with clearance and the outputs of the technical survey are reflected alongside those of clearance operations.

Technical surveys result in more effective and efficient use of mine action resources for actual clearance operations.

2.2.2 Clearance

MAPA’s clearance operations in 1398 covered areas contaminated during the Soviet-Afghan war, as well as those contaminated by the Russian-backed government, civil war, fighting between the Taliban and Northern Alliance, NATO firing ranges and explosive remnants from the ongoing post-2001-armed conflict.

Graph 4: Clearance achievements (in square kilometres) in 1398



Land Release Achievements

Land Release is the process of removing hazard or suspicion of hazard through Non-Technical Survey, (NTS), Technical Survey (TS) and or clearance operations. The programme's 1398 target under the APMBC work plan was to clear 143 sq. km of contaminated land, but due to a shortage of funds, the set target was not reached.

Despite receiving 47 per cent of the required funds (45 million USD received compared to 95 million USD required) for clearance, MAPA IPs succeeded in clearing 63 sq. km, 45.5 sq. km of minefields and 15.4 sq. km of battlefields. Clearing those hazards freed 142 communities from known recorded hazards.

Clearing hazards in 1398 provided communities in Afghanistan with safe access to productive land previously blocked by mines and ERW. Table 4 below summarizes the minefield (MF) land release in 1398.

Table 4: 1398 achievements by organization (Minefield)

Clearance Agency	Number of Hazards	Hazard Area Released (sq. m)	Number of Devices Found and Destroyed				
			AP	AT	AIM	SAA	UXO
AREA	4	322,109	38	-	-	-	27
ATC	67	6,544,326	412	45	-	1,122	407
DAFA	110	7,351,612	373	34	-	120	454
DDG	37	1,569,505	414	-	-	808	714
FSD	3	315,525	1,005	-	-	174	67
HT	266	20,626,341	4,763	106	45	2,650	410
KMCC	1	28,579	-	-	-	-	-
MCPA	18	3,373,505	23	15	-	-	23
OMAR	59	5,653,172	197	56	-	503	303
SDC	1	22,195	-	-	-	-	-
TDC	1	8,642	-	-	-	-	-
UADC	1	6,051	-	-	-	-	-
Total	568	45,821,562	7,225	256	45	5,377	2,405

Table 5 below shows areas cleared by humanitarian demining organizations under Battle Area Clearance (BAC) operations and the number of devices found and destroyed during 1398.

Table 5: Battle Area Clearance Achievements in 1398

Agency	Surface Area Checked (sq m)	Sub-Surface Area Cleared (sq m)	Number of Devices Found and Destroyed				
			AP	AT	UXO	SAA	BLU
ATC	0	1,371,091	1	0	7,934	8,455	3
DAFA	0	1,998,415	0	0	1,220	77	57
DDG	323,872	1,989,844	0	0	32,428	59	-

HT	5,968,819	2,878,489	8	0	3,832	7,574	-
JGO	0	22,342	0	0	262	302	-
MCPA	1,048,251	1,048,251	0	0	211	0	-
OMAR	0	148,877	0	0	454	401	-
Total	7,340,942	9,457,309	9	0	46,341	16,868	60

The table below demonstrates the number of explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) found and destroyed by humanitarian demining organizations under EOD operations during 1398.

Table 6: EOD Achievements in 1398

Agency	Number of Devices Found and Destroyed					
	AP	AT	AIM	SAA	UXO	BLU
DAFA	-	-	-	0	13	36
DDG	1	-	-	134	574	5
HT	268	54	52	176,216	133,694	245
Total	269	54	52	176,350	134,281	286

Socioeconomic impact of mine action:

It is broadly understood and acknowledged that mine action has tangible impacts when it comes to saving lives. What should equally be understood is that mine action lies at the center of the triple nexus of peace security and development, with social, economic and psychosocial impacts within communities and regions affected by mine action. The impact of mine action is felt beyond the immediate gains in the community and once an area is cleared, the socioeconomic benefits is felt across the wider economy. A few examples of clearance projects implemented in during 1398 and their socioeconomic impact is listed below;

An Industrial park is being built in Mohammad Agha, district of Logar province

Mohammad Agha was once on the front line of fighting between the Mujahiddin and Taliban in the 1990s. The village was contaminated with both anti-personnel and anti-vehicle mines laid by factional groups, as a result most of the inhabitants were forced to evacuate the village due to intense fighting. Based on the request of local people and district governor, the area was cleared by a MAPA implementing partner in 1398. Locals are employed in the implementation of the project and people in the area are no longer worried about the presence of mines and other explosive materials.



Mohammad Agha Industrial Park

UNHCR builds shelter for IDPs in land cleared by MAPA

Gorimy is a village in Nahr-e-Shahi district of Balkh province, located approximately 2 KMs south west of Mazar-e-sharif airport, the village was the battle ground between Mujahidin and Russian forces in the 1980s and 1990s. Gorimay was littered with ERW and when UNHCR intended to build shelters for IDPs there, the organisations requested the MAPA to clear the area for them. DMAC deployed a quick response team to the area and the area was cleared February 2020, and handed over to UNHCR. UNHCR built 84 shelters in this area which are now being used by IDPs.



A demining team working in Gorimy

Aab Mazar Village, Nahrin District of Baghlan Province

The village of Aab Mazar was contaminated with Anti-Personnel mines, laid by Mujahideen during 1981-1985 against both Soviet Union troops and the Soviet-backed Afghan Government forces. As per the information provided by the local community members, prior to clearance, mine accidents took place in the village which killed and injured both human beings and animals.



Deminers marking a contaminated site in Aab Mazar



Cleared land in Aab Mazar being used for agriculture

Subsequent to a clearance request by village elders, a MAPA implementing partner surveyed the area and then started clearance operation in 2019. After clearance, the land has been released for the productive use of the locals on which they cultivate crops.

Several landmine and ERW accidents in Banozai village led to clearance of the village by MAPA

Banozi village is a medium-sized village located about 10 km south of Gardiz city near a strategic location called Dara-Mullah Qudrat in Zurmat district of Paktya province. The main road connecting Paktya and Khost provinces passes through the village. The village is also connected to Zurmat district through a narrow road.

Mujahidin laid mines in these narrow roads against the Soviets and pro-Russian governmental forces. These mines later caused several civilian casualties. In 2013, a local vehicle was hit by an anti-vehicle mine as a result of which the driver died. In 2014 a nomad child died while playing with an ERW and in 2016, a mine killed a nomad woman and her 12 year old daughter while they were passing through the village to go to Khost. Following a clearance request by the locals, the area was cleared in 1397 and is now being used safely and productively by the locals for agricultural purpose.



Cleared land in Banozai Village of Paktya Province



A local farmer irrigating land in Khuoshab village

MAPA clears anti-personnel mine belts used by the Soviets in Khuoshab village to protect Kandahar Airfield

Anti-personnel mine belts were used by Soviet Union troops in Khuoshab village which is located in the close vicinity of Kandahar Airfield. Based on a request made by the local people, the MAPA cleared more than 3 sq Km area in the village and destroyed 2,008 anti-personnel mines. Farmers in the village use the cleared land to cultivate crops.

230 families are housed in land cleared by MAPA in Samace village

Once a key transit point for the Soviet troops, Samace village is located in Pacheeragam district of Nangarhar province. In 2006 and 2008 AV mines laid by mujahideen against the Soviets caused civilian casualties. The local authorities requested MAPA to clear the village where 230 families live in houses built after clearance.



Operations by Commercial Demining Companies

In 1398 seven commercial companies were engaged in survey and clearance operations of areas requested by their clients to ensure safe execution of some key development projects in Afghanistan. A total surface and sub-surface area of 70 sq. kilometres was cleared by 7 commercial demining companies in 1398. It is notable that commercial demining companies mainly work in support of development projects. Regardless of whether an area contains mines or not, donors/clients of development project wants the area to be checked for mines and ERW in different depths (based on the development projects' requirements i.e. depth of foundation etc) in order to ensure the area is safe. The clearance figure mentioned here is actually the size of the areas they have checked. The majority of the areas checked by the commercial demining companies were not initially recorded as contaminated in the national mine action database.

2.3 Victim Assistance

According to the DMAC's Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA), during 1398 the average number of civilian casualties recorded was 130 per month, which demonstrates an approximately three-fold increase compared to 2013.

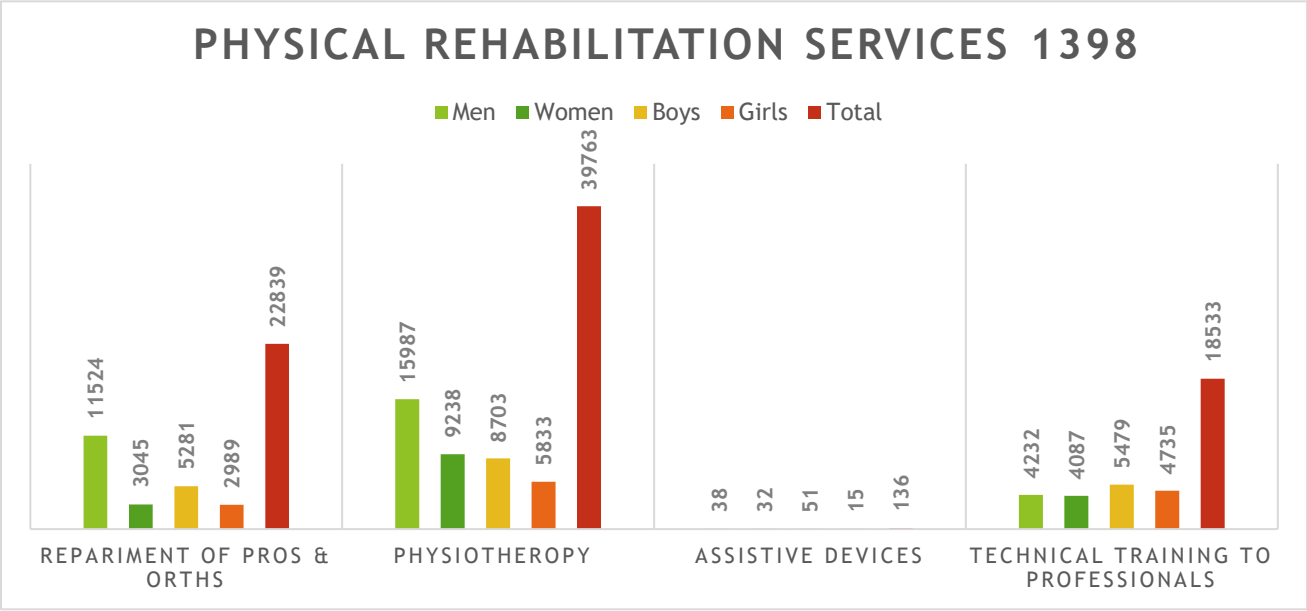
Civilian casualties from victim-activated pressure-plate IEDs (VA-PPIED) increased by 12 per cent in 1398, causing 852 civilian casualties (Injured, 441, Killed, 411,) remained the leading cause of civilian casualties by explosive ordinance, accounting for 57.2 per cent of the overall total. DMAC recorded 608 casualties (40.8%) due to ERW and remaining 2% of casualties are combined of anti-personal mine, anti-vehicle mine and cluster munitions (27 AP, 3 CM). Compared to 1397, the number of casualties in 1398 have been increased from 1,474 to 1,490 (1%). 416 communities in 33 provinces have experienced 549 EO-accidents in 1398. As per UNAMA annual report for 2019, 10,392 civilian casualties (3,403 killed and 6,989 injured) as a result of the armed conflict, representing a five per cent decrease as compared to 1397 and the lowest overall level of civilian casualties since 2013⁹.

VICTIM ASSISTANCE IMPLEMENTATION Services in 1398 (2019/2020)

1) Physical rehabilitation (including prostheses):

A total of 215,500 (MMD graphic report 1398) people with disabilities in 20 provinces received Victim Assistance/Disability services during the year 1398. The services included fitting, supply and maintenance of prosthetics and orthotics services, physiotherapy; including training for use of assistive devices (prostheses, orthoses, walking aid and wheelchairs, occupational and speech therapy. The mentioned services were provided through the VA/Disability partners: HI, SCA, KOO, AABRAR

⁹ https://unama.unmissions.org/sites/default/files/executive_summary_-_afghanistan_protection_of_civilians_annual_report_2019_english.pdf



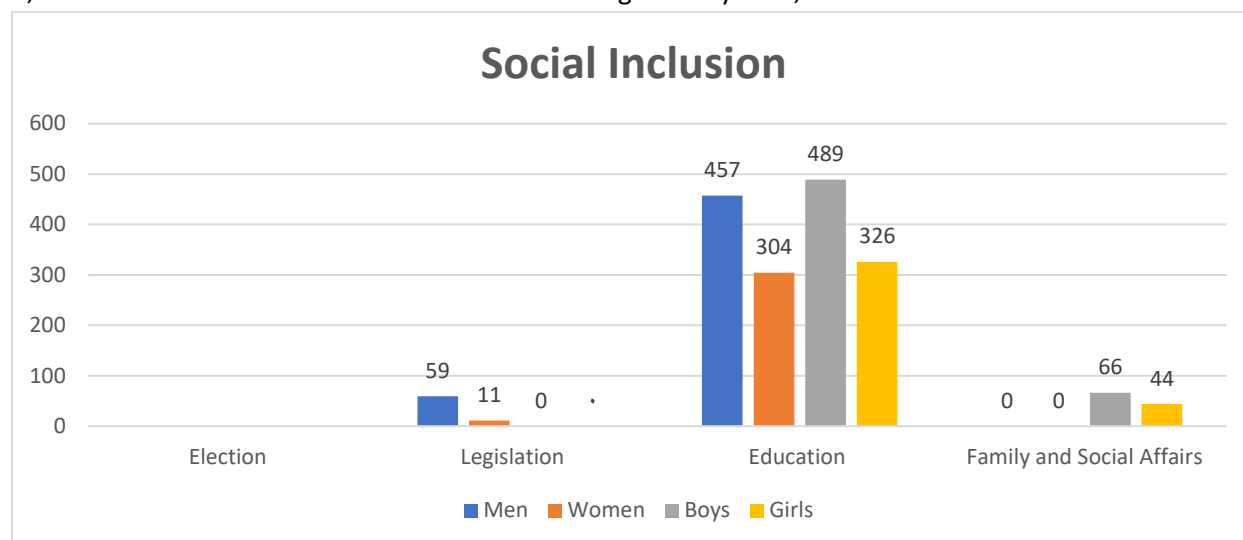
2) Psychological support (including counselling and peer support):

Psychosocial support is part of mental health services, which comprises: Psychological support: counselling by psychology and psychiatry professionals; Psycho-social support: activities such as cultural, sport and leisure whose main aim is to improve psychological well-being; and Peer-to-peer support: provision of social and emotional support by persons facing similar situations and challenges through one-on-one visits or social support groups. Handicap International has provided Psycho social Counselling services to a total of 4,800 EO Victims and other PwD.



3) Social inclusion (including sports):

This broad term refers to social inclusion, inclusive education and decision-making inclusion, the latter of which is comprised of waged and self – employment, as well as social protection and recognition, Total of 5,100 EO-Victims and other PwD are covered during 2019 by ICRC, SERVE and ALSO.



4) Economic inclusion (including training, work placement, loans and micro-credit):

Economic reintegration/ inclusion includes activities that improve the economic status of survivors, the families of those killed or injured and affected communities through vocational training, access to micro-credit, income generation and employment opportunities, social protection and the economic development of the community infrastructure. Through HI, AOAD, COMAC, ICRC and SCA, a total of 15,623 people with disabilities received mentioned services during 1398.



5) Inclusive education (for persons with disabilities including survivors):

Information about Inclusive education is not in hand but progress has been made in training of professional staff in physical rehabilitation and a total of 311 Physiotherapists and Orthopaedic technicians are trained among persons with disability and normal people by HI and Swedish Committee for Afghanistan under European Commission Budget.

6) Emergency humanitarian activities: Assistance linked to responses in situations of emergencies and conflict:

A total of 12,594 packages were distributed to war victims including victims of landmines and ERW in 33 provinces of the country. This assistance is provided to families of civilian victims as a result of war and is the continuation of ACAP-I, ACAP-II and ACAP-III projects funded by USAID.

Table 9: Victim Assistance activities during 1398

Activity Area	Activity
Information Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Technical support has been provided in mapping to single window management system in MMD.- VA data clean-up has been conducted and VA Database was re-adjusted to meet the requirements of MMD as Line-Ministry and authority for Victim and Disability Assistance. This will be the first National Database for Disability with comprehensive information.
Advocacy	<p>As a member of advocacy committees, the DMAC VA department facilitated the following activities and events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 3rd of December, the International Day of Person with Disability was celebrated in Salam Khana Palace of Presidential Office (Arg) on 3rd Dec 2019. The event was participated by H.E. the President, Mohammad Ashraf Ghani and other high-ranking authorities from the government, Parliament and Civil Society as well as around 800 PwD. This was the first time in 20 years that H.E. the President participated in the event.-- White Cane day was celebrated with participation of H.E. Dr. Abdullah Abdullah, the Chief Executive of the Government of Afghanistan. <p>In addition, DMAC – VA Department in close coordination with other civil society organizations conducted and participated in different advocacy events related to victim assistance. DMAC VA department also participated in the celebration of the International Mine Awareness Day in which VA Exhibition table and briefing was also arranged at Marble house.</p>
Casualty data monitoring and evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Casualty data monitoring and evaluation: Victim assistance data gained from MAPA IPs, UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) and other implementing partners was monitored and evaluated on a quarterly basis and shared with stakeholders.
Integration of VA/Disability affairs in other sectors	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Development of Inter-Ministerial Action plan and presentation to Council of Ministers chaired by H.E. Chief Executive Dr. Abdullah Abdullah- Development of ToR for Inter- ministerial committee

Activity Area	Activity
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support development and signing of 35 MoUs between MMD and other Government ministries and entities.
Coordination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. As part of Advocacy for the right of persons with disability 10 Advocacy Committee meetings were conducted and VA department had an active role on it. b. Organizing of 6 Disability Stakeholders Coordination Group (DSCG) meetings in MMD through which the MoUs were signed between VA organizations and MMD. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreement of first draft of National Disability Strategy • A unique reporting mechanism for all Implementing Partners developed • National Database for service delivery owned by MMD • National VA/ Disability Annual report for 2019/1398 • Joint Celebration of Disability Day, White Cane Day • MMD signed MoU with 15 National and International organizations c. Four inter-ministerial meetings have been conducted as a result of which the inter-ministerial action plan has been developed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inter-Ministerial Action Plan for Coordination in Disability Affairs has been developed and approved. • ToR for Inter-ministerial committee developed and shared with H.E. Executive office for review and comments • MoUs between MMD and other 35 members of inter-ministerial committee have been developed and signed • National Physical Accessibility Concept has been developed and approved by Inter-ministerial • Concept for Job creation for PwD (3% of Government Tashkeel to be from Persons with Disability) has been adapted. • Technical Working Groups has been structured within Inter-Ministerial Committee for Disability. d. Three Victim Assistance/Disability Coordination meetings were conducted
Strategy and policy development	<p>During 1398, the first draft of Afghanistan National Disability Strategy was developed and is now under review of consultant.</p>
Progress in amendment in Law and Legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The Third amendment to the Disability Law has been drafted and sent to Ministry of Justice. 2) Afghanistan National Disability strategy was developed and shared with the technical committee (UNMAS, HI and ACBAR) for review and comments. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ToR for consultant (VA Specialist) has been drafted • Consultant was hired and started his strategy review

Activity Area	Activity
	<p>4) Review and finalization of the VA/Disability federation constitution and other relevant documents such as concept for temporarily steering committee and plan have been developed and shared with Presidential Office through MMD.</p> <p>5) Developing regulation on operations mechanism in MMD as internal document for facilitation in service provision to victim through this ministry.</p> <p>6) Developing communication strategy for MMD to access and response to PwD's need.</p> <p>7) Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanism for VA/Disability has been developed by MMD in support of VA Department to improve the quality of services provided to PwD.</p> <p>8) Mechanism for transparency of implementation development projects (off budget).</p> <p>9) Development of 21 operations mechanism for different sections and departments of MMD.</p>

Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE)

Throughout 1398 risk education (RE) activities were coordinated, implemented and monitored in line with Afghanistan Mine Action Standards (AMAS), the Integrated Operational Framework, and the criteria for community prioritization.

Main at-risk groups included communities located in proximity of hazards, returnees, IDPs, nomads, scrap metal collectors, aid workers, returnees, and people on the move (travellers). While the threat remains constant to all the aforementioned groups, the data indicates that children are the most vulnerable to the threat of landmines and ERW given their mobility and lack of care.

DMAC and IPs are making efforts to mitigate the threat landmine and ERW contamination pose to the lives and livelihoods of Afghan civilians. During 1398, nine accredited local and international IPs including OMAR, ATC, DDG, HT, MCPA, DAFA, AREA, HI, and AAR Japan were actively engaged in the delivery of formal and informal RE sessions. To ensure gender is mainstreamed in EORE, 53 couple teams (one male and one female) and 24 community volunteer teams were involved in delivering RE; inclusion of a female EORE trainer ensures access to the evidently hard to reach female population.

In order to reach all at-risk groups for the delivery of RE, the following activities were conducted:

- Provision of direct RE sessions to people living in or in vicinity of landmine and ERW impacted communities
- Provision of RE through media outreach, which is an effective communication channel to reach vulnerable communities in remote and insecure areas; two EORE clips in Pashto and Dari, prepared with the help of UNMAS were broadcasted on Shamshad and TOLO tv channels and shared, through sponsored posts, on Facebook.

- Provision of RE to returnees through UNHCR and IOM encashment centres, transit centres, and zero points; the locations include Pol-i- Charkhi (Kabul), Islam Qalaa (Herat), Milak (Nimroz) Shorandam and Spin Boldak (Kandahar) and Momandara and Torkham (Nangarhar).
- Provision of RE to IDPs and host communities
- Conducted Landmine Safety Program (LSP) for aid workers
- Updated EORE progress report format
- Data and Information guideline was developed by DMAC to avoid data discrepancies and ambiguities concerning informal and formal RE
- Impact Indicators and prioritization was revised to reflect on the evolving nature of contamination and risks posed to the vulnerable affected populations
- Reviewed, developed and piloted child-focused EORE materials with the help of implementing partners.
- UNMAS in collaboration with its local partner (DDG) supported the conduction of a one-day - EORE workshop under DMAC's leadership. The workshop aimed to highlight and discuss RE material, means for delivery of messages to encourage participation of the children (children's flip chart).
- A workshop was conducted on new EORE flip chart for children (story pictures)
- ToT trainings were conducted for 153 EORE trainers of the accredited Risk IPs and organizations who implement EORE in the non-formal (indirect) approach, as a complementary activity
- Held meetings with MoC and Radio Television for dissemination of EORE messages using their platforms.
Held meetings with various media platforms in Ghazni province who agreed to share EORE messages, free-of-cost, through their platforms.
- Held meetings with a radio broadcaster (Voice of Nimroz) who also shared EORE messages through their platform, free of cost.
- Drafted and agreed in principle an MoU with Ministry of Public Health; this will enable DMAC to use their reach to spread EORE messages in hard to reach communities. The MoU is pending signature due to the COVID-19 restrictions.
- Acquired license for the short-code hotline from ATRA for Mine Action

During the RE sessions, 65,750 green brochures, 26,502 notebooks with EORE messages, 100,250 ways to home brochures, 4,310 pens with Risk Education messages, 51,000 MAPA hotline cards and 170 Trainers' kits were distributed.

Additionally, during the year, Training of Trainers (ToT) sessions were conducted for 35 EORE trainers of RE Ips, and Training of Trainers (LSP) sessions were conducted for 135 MoE and NGOs staff.

Table 10: Number of Risk Education beneficiaries, via formal EORE, by social status of audience, and by gender and age group

Formal EORE Beneficiary Type	# of Sessions	Girls	Boys	Women	Men	Total
Community Member	9,682	63,944	76,529	24,973	19,861	185,307

Community Volunteer	0	0	0	0	0	0
IDP	951	5,545	6,910	3,443	3,054	18,952
Kochies	28	200	155	0	0	355
Returnee	170	1,256	1,388	619	604	3,867
School Teacher	4	33	33	17	15	98
Student	1,074	12,182	9,403	2,408	2,207	26,200
Women Group	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grand Total	11,909	11,909	23,818	3,044	2,826	234,779

Table 11: Number of Risk Education beneficiaries, via informal EORE, by social status of audience, and by gender and age group

Informal EORE Beneficiary Type	# of Sessions	Girls	Boys	Women	Men	Total
Community Members	9,635	84,258	120,636	26,592	15,618	247,104
Community Volunteers	0	0	0	0	0	0
IDPs	1,170	8,327	9,318	3,509	3,336	24,490
Kochies	1	12	0	0	0	12
Returnees	24,746	19,965	83,900	26,150	444,242	574,257
School Teachers	130	0	0	125	1,557	1,682
Students	2,909	30,521	127,820	2,687	5,350	166,378
Women Groups	157	4,528	21	4,347	0	8,896
Grand Total	38,748	147,611	341,695	63,410	470,103	1,022,819

2.5 Gender and Diversity Mainstreaming

The fourth goal of National Mine Action Strategic Plan (NMAPS 2016-2020) of the MAPA is Gender & diversity mainstreaming to ensure that the capabilities, contributions, concerns, and needs of women/men and girls/boys are utilized, acknowledged and addressed equally. It has a detailed number of strategic actions, among which major steps were taken in the last year.

Table 12: Gender and Diversity Mainstreaming activities in 1398.

S/N	Activity
1	Assess IPs from gender and diversity prospective and provide them advice regarding better mainstreaming of gender and diversity within their organization. The assessment was document level.
2	The gender and diversity mainstreaming SWP developed.
3	International Women's Day was celebrated by the gender and diversity department.
4	Three gender and diversity monthly meetings have taken place for better coordination of gender mainstreaming activities within the MAPA.
5	Checklists reviewed and finalized for EORE- Survey and clearance- VA departments for smooth work.

6	DMAC together with the UNMAS advocate to MAPA donors to fund the Gender focal point position within the national IP offices and successfully one donor showed intention in this regard.
7	Gender department, DMAC/UNMAS female staff visited KOO rehabilitation centre and site. The visit was organised by DMAC/UNMAS.
8	Gender department and DMAC/UNMAS female staff had an IED training by Mr. Gregory Pierrick Yannick Robin, Technical Advisor (PSC) at UNOCA compound.

Chapter Three: Key Achievements

The following are a list of the main achievements of the DMAC and the wider MAPA in 1398.

Table 13: Key achievements of the MAPA stakeholders in 1398.

Stakeholder	Achievement	Date
DMAC OSCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two department heads of DMAC (OPS & QM) participated as co-instructors in the Advanced IED Awareness training conducted by the Organization for Security & Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) in Dushanbe. The training provided an opportunity for the two participants to exchange their experience and knowledge with other participants attending the course. Mr. Abdul Qadir Kakar-EOD expert attended the workshop which focused on raising awareness at national, regional and global C-IED strategies. The workshop was held in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. 	August 2019
DMAC with financial support from PM/WRA	Mine Action Livelihoods Survey was conducted in Kapisa province through which 12 communities in 4 districts were surveyed	04-11 September 2019
DMAC with financial support from PM/WRA	Post Demining Impact Assessment (PDIA) was conducted on 53 released hazardous areas in 33 communities, across 28 districts of 14 provinces of the country	May-November 2019
GIS Training	MIS department conducted IMSMAng & ArcGIS training course for MAPA information management and operational staff. The aim of this course was to train and enable the participants to fulfil their organizational IM requirements by utilizing the IMSMAng, IMSMA Rep and ArcGIS properly.	28 December 2019 till 02 January 2020

DMAC MRE department DDG, IPs (TWGs)	DDG, in consultation and under supervision of DMAC, has prepared flipcharts, containing MRE messages, aiding in delivering MRE to children (6-18-year olds). The Flipcharts have been approved by TWGs, inclusive of all relevant IPs, and will soon be used in conducting MRE where children are the primary focus.	During 2019
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Chapter Four: Risk Management

Table 14: Challenges faced by the programme in 1398 and mitigation measures.

Challenges	Mitigating Measures
Funding	
Reduced funding was one of the main challenges faced by the programme.	A donor workshop was held in Geneva where all donors were invited and a number of meetings were conducted with embassies of different donor countries in Kabul to advocate for support for the programme.
Security	
As the security situation deteriorated, the programme encountered some challenges. The main challenges were security incidents on demining personnel and stolen demining equipment. Due to the security situation, the MAPA teams were not able to complete all of their tasks normally. They had to either stop operations or leave the districts abruptly where fighting was taking place. The other main issue is when our operations colleagues go for site visit and sudden fighting eruptions in those areas could endanger the lives of our staff.	<p>All the MAPA teams were advised to be vigilant and liaise with community elders. It had best results when community elders give Demining personnel safer environment to complete their operations. Selection of demining personnel (Community based deminers) from mine affected areas was another option to minimize the risk. In addition, past incidents were discussed and as lessons learned developed among the teams. Staff were given security briefings to avoid loss of life in those volatile areas.</p> <p>Meanwhile, since the outbreak of COVID-19 All Staff were advised to take precautionary measures both on field and off field to make sure they are safe from this Pandemic Virus. Those colleagues who had visited the suspected COVID-19 patients were advised to quarantine themselves and if symptoms were witnessed, test themselves.</p>
Land Release (Survey & Clearance)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Possible lack of evidence-based survey requests from the communities. b) Potential ineffective implementation of LR process c) Demining Accident d) Setting unrealistic LR target. The IPs pressure on team to achieve the target e) Missed EOs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Implementation of evidence-based land release process. b) Strengthen monitoring, training of personnel engaged in LR and validation of LR processes and outputs at field level. c) Monitor employee health and safety standards. Provide appropriate training to demining teams. Provide suitable equipment including PPE, equipped ambulances and trauma kits in line with relevant standards and SOPs. d) Screening of the same geographical field historical data, joint field visits, considering

	<p>MAPA standard productivity rate, systematic review of technical proposals, monitoring,</p> <p>e) Adherence strictly to standards, employ appropriate equipment, trained personnel and methodology, extensive implementation of QM.</p>
Clearance	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Security incidents on demining teams. • Suspension of mine action projects. • Monitoring visits from some of mine action projects not conducted due to security problems. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IPs and commercial demining companies were encouraged to conduct proper liaison with the local elders to make sure the security of their staff is maintained. • The IPs were asked to provide proof of their duty of care for their staff. • Mine action organizations were asked to facilitate monitoring visits, and the issue was reflected in the balance scorecard (BSC).
Explosive Ordinance Risk Education	
<p>* Physical access to implement mine/ERW risk education was challenging in conflict affected and/or disputed areas.</p> <p>* We were going to conduct MRE TOT for MOE and directorate Kochi school teachers. Reduced funding was one of the main challenges and this could not be considered.</p>	<p>New Initiative in MRE approaches is going to introduced such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ EORE through TVs ○ EORE through Awaaz Afghanistan ○ EORE through radio ○ EORE through new activity cards <p>New Initiative in EORE approaches is going to introduced such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MOE Child Protection Officers (CPOs) with coordination of DMAC EORE department were able to conduct EORE for students and teachers with little facilities. • Conducting EORE session for children, using the newly EORE flip charts developed.
Victim Assistance	
<p>Limitation in access to services (<i>physically, culturally and financially</i>)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MMD has been supported in development of physical accessibility concept that accepted by Presidential Office and direction is gone to all ministries for their consideration and implementation. - 10 women bench workers are trained in physical rehabilitation addition to that number of other female technicians and

	<p>Physiotherapists are graduated from three years' diploma in Physical Rehabilitation by HI, SCA under EC fund. To response to the cultural sensitivities and barriers toward women access to services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mobile physical rehabilitation clinics helped mitigate access constraints.
<p>The fact that VA was not included in the broader sectors <i>(caused less consideration from Government to person with disability)</i></p>	<p>For this purpose, MMD provided with technical support in development and signing of MoUs with 35 Government entities.</p> <p>The Inter-ministerial action plan further expanded and included all government organizations to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Through Advocacy programmes the awareness about victim assistance which is the responsibility of everyone has been raised
<p>Lack of baseline data – (caused inappropriate planning, allocation of resources, and missing out on real beneficiaries)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National Disability Database in MMD has been established for registration of Heirs of Martyrs and PwD - Service Database for Victim /Disabilities assistances developed into MIS and will be soon installed in MMD and all IPs.
<p>Lack of adequate capacity within MMD – affects implementation, coordination, advocacy, and realization of strategy.</p>	<p>Capacity Development Plan has been developed in support from COMAC and DMAC to MMD</p>

Chapter Five: Conclusion

As illustrated in the table below, as a result of the clearance in 1398 the size of the legacy contamination has been reduced. However, the total size of contamination in the country has increased to 1,539.36 sq. kilometres. This is due to the ongoing conflict in various parts of the country which has led to a spread of ERW, AIM and IHA. Insecurity in areas where mine action projects were planned meant that these projects were delayed and, in some cases, moved to other areas. Thus, the annual clearance target was not achieved. This trend has continued for the past seven years and the ongoing conflict, especially since 2009 has added a new burden to the existing contamination.

Remaining contamination as of the end of 1398

Type of Hazard	Number of Hazard	Area of Hazard (sq km)
AIM	324	38.64
Anti-personnel mine	2,057	310.65
Anti-tank mine	1,288	308.55
Battlefield/ERW contamination	60	8.19
Firing Range	42	630.76
IHA	322	296.74
Total	4,093	1593.36

As demonstrated in the above table, despite considerable progress, the size of the remaining contamination is still enormous. Nevertheless, despite the unstable security situation which has made the operating environment ever more challenging for MAPA partners, the programme has made steady progress over the last year.

During 1398, the Programme managed to secure 47.4 million USD of which 38.7 million USD was spent on demining and the remaining amount was spent on risk education, VA and programme management. The required funding was not secured, the overall funding situation in 1398 was worse compared to the previous year (1397) and MAPA was able to clear less areas than in 1397. However, as a result of increased advocacy during 1398, MAPA was able to convince New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) to fund the clearance of their 5 abandoned firing ranges in Bamyan province. NZDF has since awarded the project to a national implementing partner which will be implemented during 2020-2021.

The project awarded also has a VA and EORE component. There are currently 43 firing ranges that are currently abandoned and need clearance

In terms of clearance, MAPA was able to clear 63 sq. Kilometres of contaminated land in the country. Since the inception of the programme in 1367 (1989), the MAPA has addressed almost 78.9 per cent of recorded contamination in the country; however, as of the end of the Afghan year 1398, 254 districts in 34 provinces of the country remain impacted, affecting an estimated number of 2.5 million people living within one kilometre of contaminated land.



MAPA

ANNUAL REPORT 1398

APR 2019 - MAR 2020



PREPARED BY:
DIRECTORATE OF MINE ACTION
COORDINATION



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Acronyms

ACAP	Afghan Civilian Assistance Programme
ACPD	Advocacy Committee for the Right of Persons with Disabilities
AGE	Anti-Government Element
AIM	Abandoned Improvised Mine
AMAS	Afghanistan Mine Action Standards
ANDMA	Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority
ANSF	Afghan National Security Forces
AP	Anti-personnel
APMBC	Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention
AREA	Agency for Rehabilitation and Energy conservation in Afghanistan
AT	Anti-Tank
ATC	Afghan Technical Consultants
AV	Anti-Vehicle
BAC	Battle Area Clearance
BLU	Bomb Live Unit
BOI	Board of Inquiry
BSC	Balanced Score Card
CHA	Confirmed Hazard Area
CPiE	Child Protection in Emergencies
CR	Conformity Report
DAFA	Demining Agency for Afghanistan
DDG	Danish Demining Group
DMAC	Directorate of Mine Action Coordination
EOD	Explosive Ordnance Disposal
ERW	Explosive Remnant of War
FSD	Swiss Foundation for Mine Action
GICHD	Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining
GIS	Geographical Information System
GoIRA	Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
HALO Trust	Hazardous Area Life Support Organisation Trust

I&CFE-CWG	Inclusive & Child Friendly Education Coordination Working Group
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
IED	Improvised Explosive Device
IM	Improvised Mine
IMSMA	Information Management System for Mine Action
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IP	Implementing Partner
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
LSP	Landmine Safety Programme
EORE	Explosive Ordnance Risk Education
MALS	Mine Action Livelihood Survey
MAPA	Mine Action Programme of Afghanistan
MCPA	Mine Clearance and Planning Agency
MDC	Mine Detection Centre
MEIFCS	Mine/ERW Impact Free Community Survey
MF	Mine Field
MoCIT	Ministry of Communication and Information Technology
MoE	Ministry of Education
MoIC	Ministry of Information and Culture
MMD	State Ministry for Martyrs and Disabled Affairs
MoPH	Ministry of Public Health
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MRE	Mine Risk Education
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organisation
NCR	Non-Conformity Report
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NMASP	National Mine Action Strategic Plan
NPA	Norwegian People's Aid
NTS	Non-Technical Survey
OHPM	Organization for Health Promotion and Management
OMAR	Organisation for Mine Clearance and Afghan Rehabilitation
OPS	Operations
OSCE	Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

PDIA	Post Demining Impact Assessment
PM/WRA	Political-Military Affairs, Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement
QA	Quality Assurance
QC	Quality Control
QM	Quality Management
QMI	Quality Management Inspection
R&D	Research and Development
SAA	Small Arms Ammunition
SHA	Suspected Hazardous Area
SNMAC	Sudan National Mine Action Centre
ToT	Training of Trainers
TS	Technical Survey
TURMAC	Turkish Mine Action Centre
UN	United Nations
UN VTF	United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Action
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNMAS	United Nations Mine Action Service
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USD	United States Dollar
UXO	Unexploded Ordnance
VA	Victim Assistance
ITF	International Trust Fund

Foreword

As one of the largest and oldest mine action programmes in the world, the Mine Action Programme of Afghanistan (MAPA) is managed by the Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA) through its Directorate of Mine Action Coordination (DMAC) with technical and financial support from international donors and the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS). Since the completion of transition to national authority in June 2018, the DMAC has been managing the MAPA with support from the wider Afghan Government, UNMAS and GICHD. The Afghan Government is committed to national ownership and has gradually started contributing to the programme from the national budget. We are optimistic that this support will continue and increase in the coming years. However, given the unstable situation of the country and its reliance on international community, the government alone may not be able to fulfil its treaty obligations and commitments without international support. Thus, support from our international donors is vital for the continuation of the programme until the country becomes mine-free.

As State Minister for Disaster Management and Humanitarian Affairs with the responsibility to lead and coordinate disaster management and humanitarian activities in Afghanistan, including the MAPA, I am pleased to present MAPA's Annual Report for 1398, outlining key achievements and challenges faced by the programme during the year.

In the year 1398, MAPA cleared 63 sq. Kilometres of contaminated land in the country. Since the inception of the programme in 1367 (1989), the MAPA has addressed almost 78.9 per cent of recorded contamination in the country; however, as of the end of the Afghan year 1398, 254 districts in 34 provinces of the country remain impacted, affecting an estimated number of 2.5 million people living within one kilometre of contaminated land. To put this into perspective, there are 400 districts in 34 provinces in Afghanistan with an approximate population of 33 million people.

Furthermore, the ongoing clashes between the Afghan National Security and Defence Forces (ANDSF) and Anti-Government Elements (AGEs) have further exacerbated contamination levels in the country. Approximately 296.75 sq. kilometres of hazards, mostly improvised mines and explosive remnants of war (ERW), from post-2001 contamination in 18 provinces of the country have initially been surveyed and require proper survey. The growing use of improvised mines (IM) by the Anti-Government Elements have led to an increase in the rate of civilian casualties. In the past year, an average of about 130 civilians lost

their lives or limbs every month as a result of landmines including improvised mines and ERW. However, the true figure of civilian casualties is likely to be much higher, as the programme lacks sufficient data collection mechanisms that were in place a few years ago.

A vicious and continuous cycle of conflicts over the last four decades has meant that Afghanistan still remains on top of the list of countries affected by Explosive Ordnance (EO) globally. The MAPA, with determined efforts of national and international partners and support from our donors, has destroyed more than 18.6 million ERW, 741,935 anti-personnel mines and approximately 30,496 anti-vehicle mines. I would like to thank all the MAPA donors for their generous contributions during the year 1398. I am particularly grateful to the Governments of the United Kingdom, United States, the Netherlands, Japan, Sweden, Finland, Denmark, Canada, Norway, Australia, Ireland, Slovenia as well as donors such as ECHO, PATRIP, ACF, and OCHA. Your contributions have saved countless lives and improved peoples' livelihoods and economic conditions. Looking forward, I wish for continued assistance and cooperation of all stakeholders, particularly our donors, as we seek to rid this country of explosive hazards.



Ghulam Bahawuddin Jailani

State Minister for Disaster Management and Humanitarian Affairs

Executive Summary

Despite significant fluctuations in violence throughout 1398, occurring simultaneously with gains and setbacks made during negotiations in Doha, the Mine Action Programme of Afghanistan (MAPA) made reasonable progress in 1398¹. The growing insecurity and clashes between the Afghan National Security and Defence Forces (ANDSF) and Anti-Government Elements (AGEs) in various parts of the country rendered the operating environment extremely challenging for mine action implementing partners. Thus, making it difficult to achieve annual clearance targets. Achieving annual clearance targets is also heavily dependent on the availability of funds as well as accessibility of sites requiring the mine action interventions. The required funding for 1398 was 95.6 million USD and 47.4 per cent of this target was secured. This meant as a result of the funding shortfall, the clearance target was affected.

Insecurity in areas where mine action projects were planned meant that these projects were delayed and, in some cases, moved to other areas. Thus, the annual clearance target was not achieved. This trend has continued for the past seven years and the ongoing conflict, especially since 2009 has added a new burden to the existing contamination. When conducting non-technical surveys (NTS), new hazards of mostly legacy contamination remaining from previous surveys were found creating an addition to the clearance target and thus the APMBC work plan. Part of this contamination is attributed to post-2001-armed conflict between the Anti-Government Elements (AGEs), the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and Afghan National Security and Defence Forces (ANSDF), creating a major challenge and leaving behind unexploded ordnance (UXO) and Improvised Mines (IMs)².

The MAPA has been receiving an increased number of civilian casualty reports, which mainly emanate from Improvised Mines (IMs) and ERW. During 1398, there were 1,565 civilian casualties as a result of mine/ERW and IMs, 52 per cent of which were children; 57 per cent of these civilian casualties were due to IMs, an additional 41 per cent were due to ERW and the remaining 1.6 per cent involved legacy landmines. As of April 2020, at the beginning of 1399, DMAC recorded 3,756 hazardous areas covering 1,762 sq. kilometres of land in Afghanistan. This includes 620 sq. kilometres of legacy contamination³ and 512 sq. km of new contamination⁴ consisting of improvised mines (IM), ERW and 630 Sq. KM of firing ranges.

During 1398, the MAPA was able to convince New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) to fund the clearance of five abandoned firing ranges that were previously used by NZDF in Bamyan province. NZDF has since awarded the project to a national implementing partner which will be implemented during 2020-2021. The project awarded also has a VA and EORE components. There are currently 42 firing ranges that are abandoned and cover a total area of 630 Sq. KM which need clearance. DMAC is systematically advocating for the clearance of these abandoned firing ranges by encouraging the countries that have used these firing ranges as part of their involvement with the International Security Assistance Force. In addition to the 38 recorded firing ranges, a number of firing ranges are currently being used by NATO countries in Afghanistan and are not yet abandoned.

¹ The Afghan year 1398 of the Solar Hijri calendar is equal to April 2019 – March 2020 of the Gregorian calendar.

² Improvised Mines refers to Pressure Plate IED or Victim Operated IED for which mine action consider the PPIED as AP mine and part of the Mine Ban Convention is responsible to provide response to only the abandoned Improvised Mine.

³ This includes 104 sq. km of initial hazard areas surveyed but not yet confirmed.

⁴ This includes 421 sq. km of IM, 77.2 sq. km ERW and 588 sq. km of firing ranges.

Introduction

MAPA

The Mine Action Programme of Afghanistan (MAPA) is one of the largest mine action programmes in the world. At a global level the MAPA was the first humanitarian (i.e. non-military) mine action programme that encompasses all pillars of mine action: advocacy, demining, stockpile destruction, EO Risk Education (EORE), and victim assistance (VA). MAPA employs over 7,000 Afghans and works with over 45 mine action organizations. These partners, which include national and international actors, from both the private and not-for-profit sectors, deliver a wide range of mine action services including manual clearance, mechanically assisted clearance, mine dog detection assets, Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD), survey, EORE, VA activities and data collection.

MAPA's activities are coordinated and monitored by the Directorate of Mine Action Coordination (DMAC) of Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA).

DMAC

The Directorate of Mine Action Coordination (DMAC) of Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA) is a regulatory body for the humanitarian MAPA. Through its headquarters in Kabul and its seven regional offices, DMAC manages, coordinates and oversees the humanitarian mine action activities implemented by national and international non-governmental organizations and commercial companies. DMAC is supported by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (GoIRA) and International Donors. Subsequent to the completion of the final phase of transition in June 2018, DMAC took over the responsibility for programme management of the MAPA from the United Nations Mine Action (UNMAS). UNMAS remains in the country as a close technical advisor and donor to DMAC.

Chapter One: Overview

Background

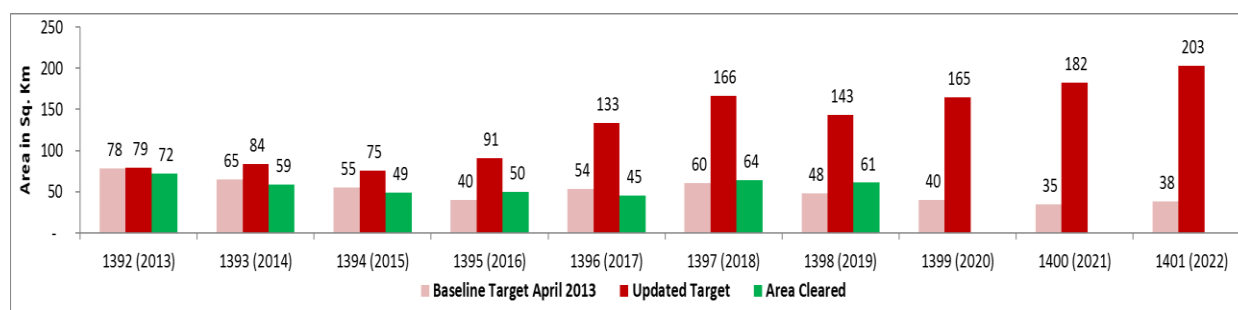
Afghanistan is among the most-severely landmine and ERW affected. Decades of conflict have left the country littered with mines and ERW that are killing and maiming innocent civilians every day. The contamination in the country dates back to the Soviet era and later to the internal fighting between Mujahideen warring factions in 1992 to 1995 as well as fighting between the Taliban and the Northern Alliance in 1995 to 2001. Contamination during this period is referred to as legacy mine/ERW contamination.

Part of the contamination is attributed to post-2001-armed conflict between the Anti-Government Elements (AGEs), the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF). This posed a major challenge, as the war with Anti Government Elements (AGEs) has left behind unexploded ordnance (UXO) and Improvised Mines (IMs). The MAPA has been receiving an increased number of civilian casualty reports, which mainly emanate from ERW and IMs. During 1398, there were 1,565 civilian casualties by mine/ERW and IMs, 52 per cent of which were children; 57 per cent of these civilian casualties were due to IMs, an additional 41 per cent were due to ERW and the remaining 1.6 per cent were due to legacy mine incidents.

As of April 2020, at the beginning of 1398, DMAC recorded 3,756 hazardous areas covering 1,762 sq. kilometres of land in Afghanistan. This includes 620 sq. kilometres of legacy contamination⁵ and 512 sq. km of new contamination⁶ consisting of improvised mines (IM), ERW and 630 Sq. KM of firing ranges.

Funding and the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention Extension

In April 2012, The Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (GoIRA) submitted a clearance extension request at the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention meeting. By submitting this extension request, Afghanistan committed to clearing all known mine-contaminated areas in its territory by March 2023.



Graph 1: The original baseline target indicated in the extension plan, the revised target of clearance which is updated annually, and the amount of cleared areas on annual basis.

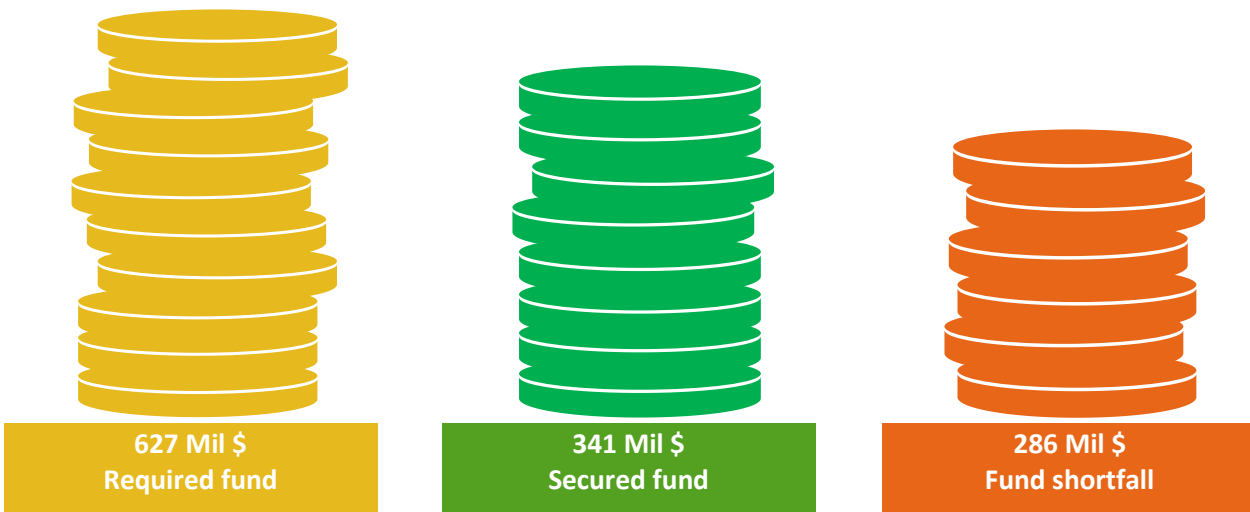
⁵ This includes 104 sq. km of initial hazard areas surveyed but not yet confirmed.

⁶ This includes 421 sq. km of IM, 77.2 sq. km ERW and 588 sq. km of firing ranges.

As shown in Graph 1, Afghanistan was not able to achieve its set target for the past seven years due to funding shortfalls. The ongoing conflict, especially since 2009 has added a new burden.

MAPA managed to secure 341 million USD over the last seven years which equates to 54.4 per cent of the 627 million USD required for those seven years in the APMBC extension work plan.

Figure 1: Total required fund, secured so far and the shortfall for the current MBT 10-years work plan



While conducting non-technical surveys (NTS), new hazards of mostly legacy contamination remaining from previous surveys were found creating an addition to the clearance target and thus the APMBC work plan. The revised funding update suggests 348 million USD is needed to implement the plan in the remaining three years (1399– 1401). In addition to the recorded hazards in the national database, there are around 299 sq. kilometres of initially surveyed hazards, mostly improvised mines and ERW, from post-2001 contamination in 18 provinces of the country requiring proper NTS. The clearance cost of the 299 sq. kilometres of new contamination is around 209 million USD. The overall amount needed increases to 557 million USD. In other words, MAPA requires 557 million USD to clear all the recorded landmines and ERW in the country.

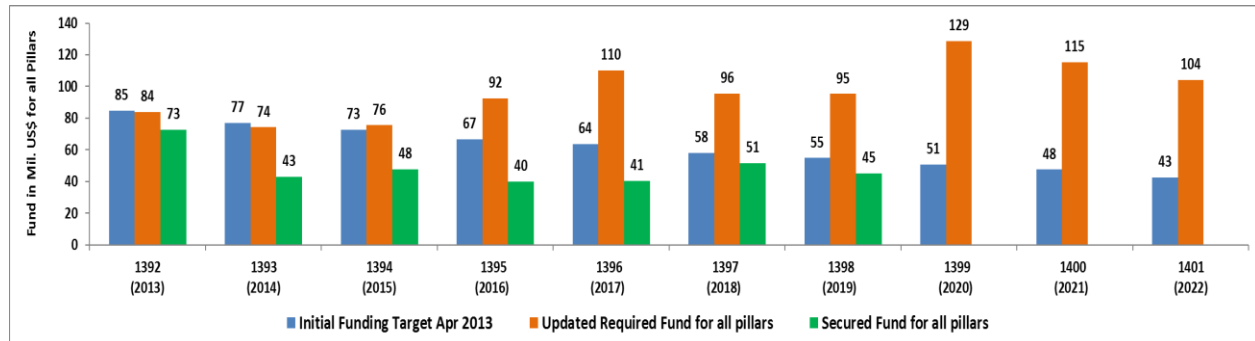
The graph below shows the funding requirement to clear the remaining recorded hazards, the funding requirement for the IHA hazards and the total required funding for both. These figures include funding requirement for other pillars of mine action including the programme management:

Figure 2: Shows the funding requirement for the remaining recorded hazards, the IHA and as total



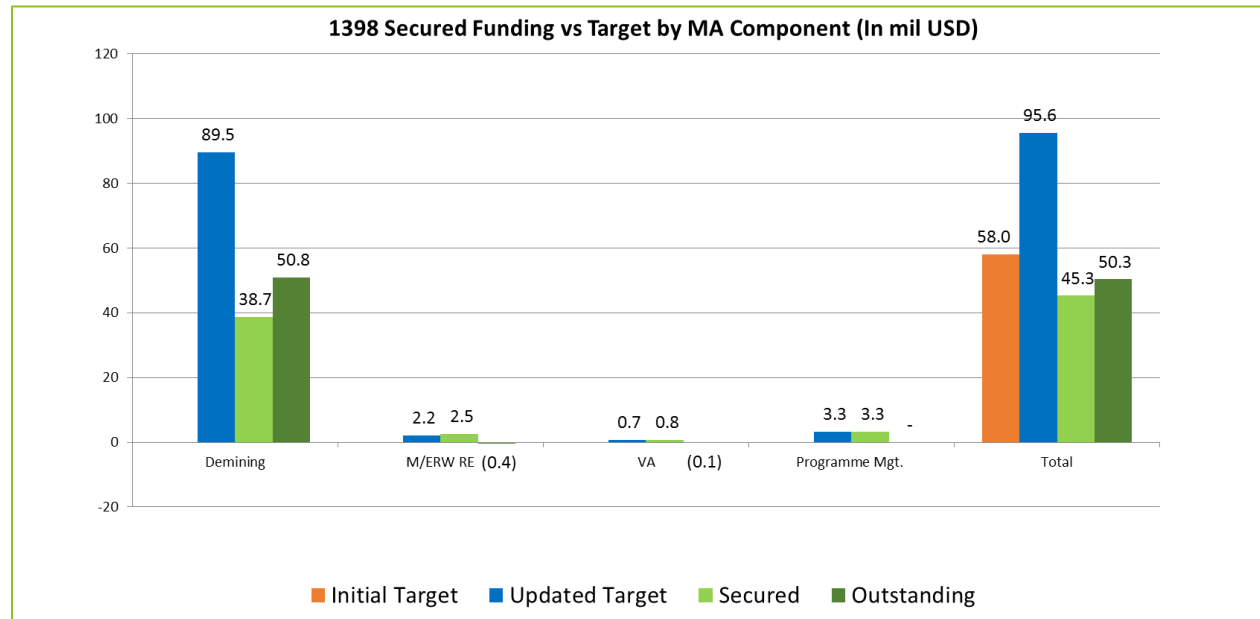
The graph below shows the funding requirement for the original extension plan, the revised funding target, the funding secured to-date and the funding needed for the remaining years to complete the extension plan on time.

Graph 2: Funding requirement of the original extension plan.



The required funding for 1398 was 95.6 million USD and 47.4 per cent of this target was secured. This meant that in line with the funding shortage, the clearance target was also affected, as explained in the previous chapter.

Graph 3: 1398 required funding and funding secured for each mine action pillar.



As shown in the graph above the required amount for clearance was 89.7 million USD. While 38.7 million USD was secured, there was a 50.8 million USD gap.

Chapter Two: Activities

Table 1: A Summary of activities completed in 1398.

DMAC accomplished the following activities in 1398:	
1	The Balanced Scorecard (BSC) for implementing partners (IPs) were reviewed and the methodology was changed from average system to cumulative system. Meanwhile, BSC for Weapons and Ammunition Destruction (WAD) & Conventional Weapons Destruction (CWD) projects of HALO Trust have been developed and utilized.
2	DMAC representative participated in evaluation of IPs' submissions for PM/WRA NOFOs in Dubai. The total allocation of PM/WRA was around 13 million US\$
3	The Abandoned Improvised Mine (AIM) AMAS was developed by DMAC with technical support from UNMAS in coordination and consultation with MAPA humanitarian implementing partners. AMAS directs the engagement of the MAPA to deal with the challenge of confirmed or suspected AIM contaminated areas in Afghanistan.
4	<p>OPS R&D department developed & released the policy on commercial mine action operations in Afghanistan:</p> <p>The Policy highlights the following main points:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Role of DMAC in the implementation of the Policy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Accreditation of commercial mine action organizations – Monitoring visits from the premises and field operations of commercial mine action organizations – Mechanism for verification and processing of commercial demining completion reports 2. Role of the Commercial Mine Action Organizations in the implementation of the Policy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Commercial Mine Action Organizations can operate if they are technically and operationally accredited by DMAC – In order for the Commercial Mine Action Organizations to be accredited by DMAC, they should prove to have the required premises for their office (Office space, stock, assets and other essential resources) and meet the requirements of accreditation detailed in AMAS 03.01 and DMAC SWP 02.01
5	<p>DMAC OPS R&D department coordinated the mission of GICHD technical consultant for Land Release Case Study to Afghanistan during 7 – 11 Mar 2020:</p> <p>The aim of the mission was to conduct case studies of current land release practices of MAPA in order to further improve the process.</p>
6	<p>DMAC OPS R&D Department conducted the Operations Technical Workshop during 21 – 24 Apr 2019:</p> <p>The main purpose of the workshop was to review and discuss the important operational issues & share ideas for further improvement of the coordination within MAPA.</p>
7	Mine Action Livelihoods Survey was conducted in Kapisa province through which 12 communities in 4 districts of the province were surveyed
8	Post Demining Impact Assessment (PDIA) was conducted on 53 released hazardous areas in 33 communities, across 28 districts in 14 provinces of the country

9	DMAC OPS R&D manager participated in a series of the IMAS Review Board Meetings during the reporting year in Geneva, Switzerland.
10	DMAC OPS R&D manager participated in the Mine Action Technology Workshop conducted by GICHD in Basel, Switzerland during 7 – 8 Nov 2019. The aim of this Mine Action Technology Workshop was to promote dialogue and cooperation between equipment manufacturers, researchers and end – users of these technologies.
11	DMAC OPS R&D manager participated in the Mine Action Liability Workshop that was organized jointly by GICHD and Lebanon Mine Action Center (LMAC) from 4 – 6 Dec 2019 in Beirut, Lebanon. The objective of the workshop was to provide a forum for discussion of liability-related issues in mine action.
12	OPS R&D Associate attended the regional workshop on Counter Improvised Explosive Devices (C-IED) from 19-23 August 2019 in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.

2.1 Programme Management and Advocacy

To build consensus and cooperation among various mine action stakeholders and parties to conflict, advocacy and programme management can play a vital role. Similarly, effective programme management and advocacy ensures a safe environment for mine/ERW affected communities and promotes the rights of persons with disability. Through advocacy the required resources can be mobilized in order to save lives and improve livelihoods. DMAC is responsible for the overall management of the MAPA. International conferences and working groups on related conventions, monthly stakeholder meetings, operations coordination meetings, continuous monitoring visits to the regional offices by HQ staff, IPs projects and organizations balanced scorecard (BAC), information management and post-demining impact assessment are some of the activities carried out as part of programme management and advocacy by DMAC.

2.1.1: Advocacy, Planning and Communications

Table 2: List of advocacy and programme management activities in 1398.

Activities	Outcomes/Results
Global Conference on Assistance to Victims of Anti-Personnel Mines and Other Explosive Remnants of War, and Disability Rights, Conducted in Amman, Jordan, 10-12 September 2019	<p>a. Involved discussions and exchange of ideas between different programmes where DMAC – Head of VA Department presented in the following sessions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advancing Integration of Victim Assistance into National Broader Policies and Programmes; As member of this Plenary Session DMAC head of VA shared his experience on inclusion of VA in other sectors. DMAC delegate also discussed gender and diversity considerations when reducing loss of lives and limbs and how emergency response can be improved.

	The issues raised by the panel are reflected in the Oslo Action Plan.
MAPA managed to convince New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) to fund the clearance of their abandoned firing ranges in Bamyan province	NZDF is funding the clearance of 5 abandoned firing ranges in Bamyan province. The project has already been awarded to a national IP and will be implemented during 2020-2021.
The International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action was celebrated by the MAPA.	This high-profile event was participated by H.E. Dr Abdullah Abdullah, the then Chief Executive of the Government of Afghanistan and current Chairman of the High Council for National Reconciliation, H.E. Najib Aqa Fahim, the then State Minister for Disaster Management and Humanitarian Affairs, representatives from UNAMA and other UN agencies in the country as well as representatives of donor countries, directors of implementing partners and other government and non-governmental organizations.
MAPA celebrated International Women's Day on 8 th of March 2020. The event was held at DMAC compound and was participated by staff from various organisations such as UNMAS and MAPA implementing partners.	The event was well represented by IPs and other stakeholders of the MAPA.
The 21 st National Directors and UN Advisors Annual Meeting was attended by DMAC Director in Geneva.	DMAC Director, Mr. Mohammad Shafiq Yosufi, represented Afghanistan in the meeting and delivered statements. Mr. Yosufi also took part in side events and a special meeting to share MAPA's achievement and challenges.
The DMAC Director participated in the Fourth Review Conference of the States Parties to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention in Oslo.	DMAC Director provided updates on the progress made by the Mine Action Programme of Afghanistan (MAPA) in the last five years namely; on survey, clearance, victim assistance and explosive ordnance risk education. Mr. Yosufi also chaired a side-event on the role of female deminers in Bamyan in bringing the province to mine-free status. He also attended side events as a panelist on the

	use of Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) and on explosive ordnance risk education.
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2.1.2: Research and Development

One of the main activities of DMAC Operations Research and Development Department, in consultation with MAPA's seven partner humanitarian mine action organizations, is to conduct research and trials. The mentioned practices are undertaken based on the needs and requirements of the programme to further improve clearance operations and to increase efficiency and cost-effectiveness of the asset/tools used by MAPA operators.

Trial on productivity rate in low threat BF area in August 2019:

The main objective of this trial was to set an average monthly productivity rate for MAPA humanitarian and commercial demining organizations in low threat battlefield (BF) areas that will further improve the efficiency of clearance operations in low threat BF contaminated areas.

The trials conducted at HALO Trust training facility in Barikab of Bagram district, Parwan province. Successful conduct of the trials was a joint effort involving DMAC, all humanitarian IP representatives and commercial demining companies' representatives, each of which made useful contributions to the methodology and completion of these trials.

Following is the summary of the trial methodology:

- The LLD trial conducted in fake battlefield (50 X 50) m area.
- LLD sensitivity setting was in **Line** for 23mm target to the detection capability up to 20 cm depth.
- Schonstedt sensitivity setting was in **High**.
- In order to make sure of the quality of the operations, nine targets with different size randomly planted in the test boxes. The target depth was ranging from 5cm to 30cm from original ground surface to the top of the buried targets.

DMAC staff and representatives from relevant demining organizations were observing the quality of operations including searching of area, searching/excavation of signals, marking and number of the targets found. They were also taking note of the time spent for clearance operations of the targeted area. Overall, the trial confirmed that the method is very efficient with high quality output for clearance of low threat BF contaminated areas and as a result of the trial the productivity rate of one standard demining team with two Large Loop Detectors (LLD) in low-threat BF clearance operations is 300,000 Sq. m/ Month.

Trial on Comparison of CMD, CMD2 and CMD3 Detectors in December 2019:

The objective of this trial was to conduct practical test/trial of CMD, CMD2 and CMD3 detectors in order to find out about depth detection capability of the three detectors. Overall, the trial confirmed that the CMD3 detector is more effective in detecting of IED components because apart from CMD3, the two other detectors (CMD and CMD2) could not detect the wire.

MAPA staff were trained by GICHD on Non-Technical Survey (NTS):

Nineteen staff from DMAC and implementing partners attended the Non-Technical Survey (NTS) course from 14 – 27 October 2019, in Hammana, Lebanon. The course lasted 10 days and the participants learnt about land release, NTS tools and Ground Sign Awareness.

This course was organized by GICHD for Mine Action Programme of Afghanistan, and funded by the Auswärtiges Amt - German Federal Foreign Office.

DMAC discusses the issue of sporadically laid Anti-vehicle mines in a workshop:

A Workshop with participation of DMAC, mine action humanitarian organizations, UNMAS and GICHD, was organized to discuss the issue of irregularly laid Anti Vehicle mines in Kabul from 18-19 November 2019. The aim of the workshop was to provide a platform to discuss operational experience in dealing with sporadically laid AV mines in large areas and to try to identify possible solutions and agree on next practical steps. The workshop was finalized with an outcome of action points including conduct of case study of current land release practices of MAPA to seek practical options for further improving the process, conduct of Non-Technical Survey and Technical Survey training for technical staff of MAPA and development of liability policy to be followed.

GICHD Consultant examines MAPA land release practices:

Ms. Helen Gray, Geneva International Center for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) technical consultant came to Afghanistan during the 2nd Week of March 2020 to "**conduct case studies of current MAPA land release practices and to seek practical options to further improve the process**". This case study was launched as a result of the initial baseline assessment of the national capacities of the Mine Action Programme in Afghanistan (MAPA), conducted by GICHD during June 2019. During her week long mission, Ms. Gray met separately with different departments of DMAC, UNMAS, NPA, and implementing partners (IPs). The meeting involved queries on key issues on land release experience of the MAPA.

Part of the mission involved field visits to some cleared minefields and newly surveyed hazards around Balkh province. Ms. Gray conducted interviews with team command groups regarding the land release implementation process and the challenges they face in the field. The outcome of the land release case study containing the recommendation and action plan will be shared with DMAC in the near future.

2.1.3: Quality Assurance and Quality Control

The aim of quality management (QM) is to provide confidence to the beneficiaries, funding bodies, mine action contractors and the Government of Afghanistan that mine action quality requirements are met and that cleared land is indeed safe for use. QM consists of three complementary components: accreditation, monitoring and post-clearance inspection.

As per quality management principles, the QM department plays an important role in maintaining stakeholder satisfaction through the provision of quality services. The main functions of the QM department are: managing and maintaining the Afghanistan Mine Action Standards (AMAS); managing and undertaking monitoring and quality control of mine action activities, operations and services; investigating demining incidents; managing and maintaining internal quality management systems of DMAC, including standard operating procedures and processes; conducting internal audit and measuring processes; developing the DMAC Balanced Scorecard reports; and developing QM-related policies.

During the reporting period, the Afghanistan Mine Action Standard (AMAS) 03.02 for Mine Action Planning and Prioritization was revised, finalized and shared with the demining organizations, and other key stakeholders. The AMAS was revised in consultation with the demining organizations through the AMAS review board. It is a technical reference for engagement of the MAPA to deal with the mine action planning and prioritization and can be used to plan and prioritize based on set standards that ensure relevance and need of mine action interventions. It is also used by the demining organizations to develop their SOPs in order to ensure that mine action planning and prioritization are conducted safely, effectively, and efficiently without compromising their neutrality and impartiality by ensuring that all demining activities are conducted solely for humanitarian purposes.

During 1398 DMAC conducted 2,846 QA visits of mine action projects in the country out of which 52 major non conformities⁷, 101 minor non conformities, 99 observations and 2,594 conformities were reported by DMAC quality management inspectors. According to the Afghanistan Mine Action Standards (AMAS) a major non conformity can generally be defined as a breach of AMAS that is considered to be life threatening. AMAS defines a minor non conformity as a breach of AMAS that is not considered to be life threatening and/or can be rectified immediately without further training or additional resources being required/deployed.

In 1398, two missed-mine accidents occurred in minefields which were previously cleared by IPs in 2012. The first missed mine accident occurred on 10 Feb 2019 in Chahar Asyab district of Kabul province; the victim was a local fifteen years old child. As a result, he lost his left leg, left eye and received injuries to his face and right leg. The area was re-cleared by the same IP and no mines were found. The second missed ERW accident occurred on 21 June 2019 in Dangam district of Kunar Province where the victim was a local ten-year-old resident who died as a result. A Board of Inquiry (BOI) was assigned and lessons-learned summaries of the investigation reports were developed and shared with the stakeholders. The respective IPs were provided with clear instructions for further improvement and the cases were reflected in the Balanced Scorecards (BSC)⁸. There were three demining accidents reported in 1398, lessons learned summaries were developed based on the investigation reports prepared by the assigned BOIs and shared with the stakeholders.

MAPA Hotline project began in Sep 2012 to timely provide mine action response and remove mine/ERW threat, decrease mine/ERW civilian casualties, remove mine/ERW blockages, ensure communities' priorities for mine action intervention are considered, establish a link between communities and mine action to get their feedback and ensure demining operation effectiveness and efficiency.

2.1.4: Information Management

The Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) was developed to help make mine action safer, faster, more effective and efficient. There were calls from the mine action community for computerized decision support tools able to support the coordination and management of their

⁸ Balanced Scorecards (BSC) is monitoring tool based on which DMAC measures IP performance

operational activities. IMSMA is currently in use in more than 80 per cent of mine action programmes around the world and is the United Nations preferred information management system for mine action.

By using IMSMA, the Management Information System (MIS) department has the biggest dataset of mine action worldwide. The information/dataset enables MAPA management to make operational and strategic decisions. For better prioritizing of MAPA operational activities, DMAC MIS also conducts some additional data and GIS analysis. DMAC MIS is one of the few MIS departments globally that is using all IMSMA components/objects.

Table 3: IMSMA's activities in 1398

S#	Activity
1	IMSMA/GIS training for DMAC regional staff & IPs (20 people).
2	IMSMA training for OPS/QMI staff (15 people).
3	Database Installation/Training for MMD. (Ongoing)
4	DMAC MIS is working along with GICHD to prepare for IMSMA Core.
5	MARS (Digital data collection tool for Mine Action) initial test is done on PDIA project and full implementation starts with DMAC QM, Bamyan Firing Range Project and AABRAR Victim Assistance Project.
6	Online Reporting System DMAC MIS working with GICHD to purchase ArcGIS Online Licenses
7	DMAC MIS SWP is prepared and finalized, AMAS is 85 % done.
8	IMSMA Emergency Victim Assistance project templates and data collection forms designed. completed

2.2 Survey and Clearance

The first essential step before mine clearance is to identify the location of the hazardous area, delineate its boundaries and gather information about the nature of mines or explosive remnants of war (ERW) within that region.

Mine/ERW survey can ensure safe, efficient and effective use of demining assets for hazard removal or the removal of suspicion of reported mine/ERW hazardous areas. Two types of survey are conducted by MAPA: Technical survey (TS) and non-technical survey (NTS).

Technical survey is mainly incorporated jointly with clearance operations while NTS is conducted as a stand-alone operation.

Non-technical survey is undertaken to collect essential information about a new or an existing suspected hazardous area (SHA) to allow for decisions to be made for subsequent technical survey and clearance operations.

Non-Technical Survey (NTS)

In 1398, NTS was planned to be conducted in 30 districts funded by PM/WRA. that in 6 out of 30 planned districts from 201 – 500 and in the remaining 24 districts from 51 – 200 military operations took place.

The primary focus of the NTS was to capture potentially contaminated areas due to kinetic operations in those districts. Accurate information was not available to show in which villages the kinetic operations took place; therefore, the NTS teams visited each individual gazetteer communities of the planned districts plus other communities of the districts not mentioned in the national gazetteer.

During 1398, the NTS teams completed surveys of 5,909 communities (140 Impacted, 2,048 non-impacted from gazetteer and 3,721 communities out of the gazetteer). In summary, after factoring in previously unrecorded hazardous areas and the area contaminated post-2001, identifying and cancelling non-hazardous areas, the NTS operations resulted in an addition of 1.5 sq. kilometres of new hazardous areas to the national mine action database of Afghanistan.

Technical Survey

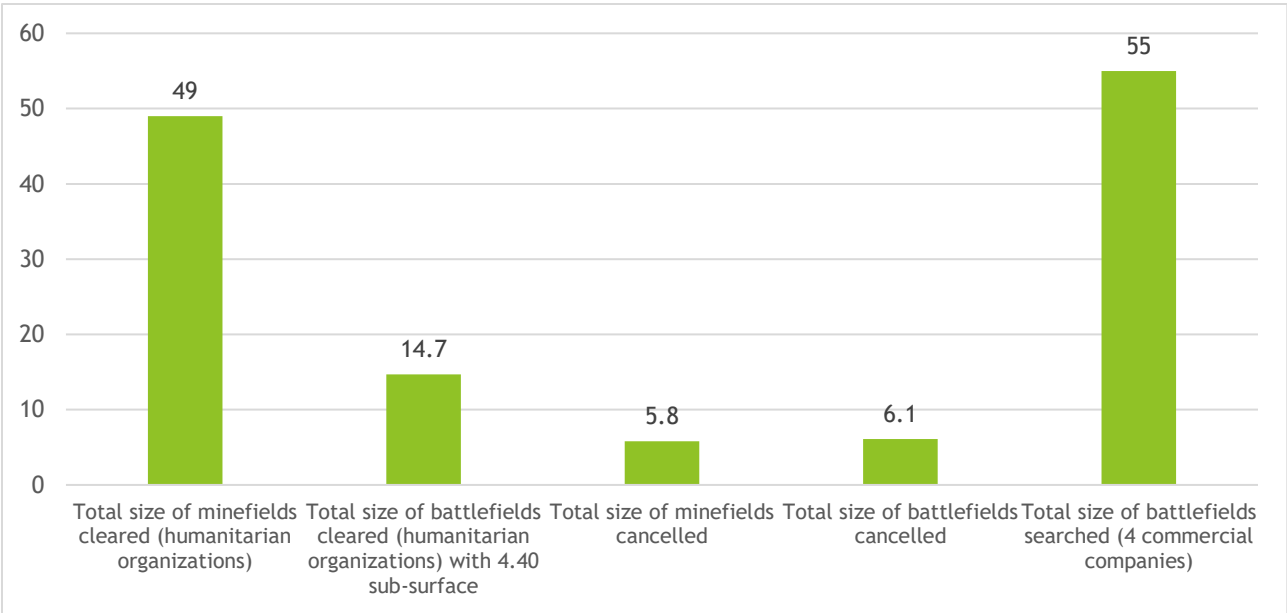
To confirm the presence or absence of mines and ERW, technical survey can be conducted as a stand-alone operation or integrated with clearance operations. In MAPA operations, the technical survey is integrated with clearance and the outputs of the technical survey are reflected alongside those of clearance operations.

Technical surveys result in more effective and efficient use of mine action resources for actual clearance operations.

2.2.2 Clearance

MAPA’s clearance operations in 1398 covered areas contaminated during the Soviet-Afghan war, as well as those contaminated by the Russian-backed government, civil war, fighting between the Taliban and Northern Alliance, NATO firing ranges and explosive remnants from the ongoing post-2001-armed conflict.

Graph 4: Clearance achievements (in square kilometres) in 1398



Land Release Achievements

Land Release is the process of removing hazard or suspicion of hazard through Non-Technical Survey, (NTS), Technical Survey (TS) and or clearance operations. The programme's 1398 target under the APMBC work plan was to clear 143 sq. km of contaminated land, but due to a shortage of funds, the set target was not reached.

Despite receiving 47 per cent of the required funds (45 million USD received compared to 95 million USD required) for clearance, MAPA IPs succeeded in clearing 63 sq. km, 45.5 sq. km of minefields and 15.4 sq. km of battlefields. Clearing those hazards freed 142 communities from known recorded hazards.

Clearing hazards in 1398 provided communities in Afghanistan with safe access to productive land previously blocked by mines and ERW. Table 4 below summarizes the minefield (MF) land release in 1398.

Table 4: 1398 achievements by organization (Minefield)

Clearance Agency	Number of Hazards	Hazard Area Released (sq. m)	Number of Devices Found and Destroyed				
			AP	AT	AIM	SAA	UXO
AREA	4	322,109	38	-	-	-	27
ATC	67	6,544,326	412	45	-	1,122	407
DAFA	110	7,351,612	373	34	-	120	454
DDG	37	1,569,505	414	-	-	808	714
FSD	3	315,525	1,005	-	-	174	67
HT	266	20,626,341	4,763	106	45	2,650	410
KMCC	1	28,579	-	-	-	-	-
MCPA	18	3,373,505	23	15	-	-	23
OMAR	59	5,653,172	197	56	-	503	303
SDC	1	22,195	-	-	-	-	-
TDC	1	8,642	-	-	-	-	-
UADC	1	6,051	-	-	-	-	-
Total	568	45,821,562	7,225	256	45	5,377	2,405

Table 5 below shows areas cleared by humanitarian demining organizations under Battle Area Clearance (BAC) operations and the number of devices found and destroyed during 1398.

Table 5: Battle Area Clearance Achievements in 1398

Agency	Surface Area Checked (sq m)	Sub-Surface Area Cleared (sq m)	Number of Devices Found and Destroyed				
			AP	AT	UXO	SAA	BLU
ATC	0	1,371,091	1	0	7,934	8,455	3
DAFA	0	1,998,415	0	0	1,220	77	57
DDG	323,872	1,989,844	0	0	32,428	59	-

HT	5,968,819	2,878,489	8	0	3,832	7,574	-
JGO	0	22,342	0	0	262	302	-
MCPA	1,048,251	1,048,251	0	0	211	0	-
OMAR	0	148,877	0	0	454	401	-
Total	7,340,942	9,457,309	9	0	46,341	16,868	60

The table below demonstrates the number of explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) found and destroyed by humanitarian demining organizations under EOD operations during 1398.

Table 6: EOD Achievements in 1398

Agency	Number of Devices Found and Destroyed					
	AP	AT	AIM	SAA	UXO	BLU
DAFA	-	-	-	0	13	36
DDG	1	-	-	134	574	5
HT	268	54	52	176,216	133,694	245
Total	269	54	52	176,350	134,281	286

Socioeconomic impact of mine action:

It is broadly understood and acknowledged that mine action has tangible impacts when it comes to saving lives. What should equally be understood is that mine action lies at the center of the triple nexus of peace security and development, with social, economic and psychosocial impacts within communities and regions affected by mine action. The impact of mine action is felt beyond the immediate gains in the community and once an area is cleared, the socioeconomic benefits is felt across the wider economy. A few examples of clearance projects implemented in during 1398 and their socioeconomic impact is listed below;

An Industrial park is being built in Mohammad Agha, district of Logar province

Mohammad Agha was once on the front line of fighting between the Mujahiddin and Taliban in the 1990s. The village was contaminated with both anti-personnel and anti-vehicle mines laid by factional groups, as a result most of the inhabitants were forced to evacuate the village due to intense fighting. Based on the request of local people and district governor, the area was cleared by a MAPA implementing partner in 1398. Locals are employed in the implementation of the project and people in the area are no longer worried about the presence of mines and other explosive materials.



Mohammad Agha Industrial Park

UNHCR builds shelter for IDPs in land cleared by MAPA

Gorimy is a village in Nahr-e-Shahi district of Balkh province, located approximately 2 KMs south west of Mazar-e-sharif airport, the village was the battle ground between Mujahidin and Russian forces in the 1980s and 1990s. Gorimay was littered with ERW and when UNHCR intended to build shelters for IDPs there, the organisations requested the MAPA to clear the area for them. DMAC deployed a quick response team to the area and the area was cleared February 2020, and handed over to UNHCR. UNHCR built 84 shelters in this area which are now being used by IDPs.



A demining team working in Gorimy

Aab Mazar Village, Nahrin District of Baghlan Province

The village of Aab Mazar was contaminated with Anti-Personnel mines, laid by Mujahideen during 1981-1985 against both Soviet Union troops and the Soviet-backed Afghan Government forces. As per the information provided by the local community members, prior to clearance, mine accidents took place in the village which killed and injured both human beings and animals.



Deminers marking a contaminated site in Aab Mazar



Cleared land in Aab Mazar being used for agriculture

Subsequent to a clearance request by village elders, a MAPA implementing partner surveyed the area and then started clearance operation in 2019. After clearance, the land has been released for the productive use of the locals on which they cultivate crops.

Several landmine and ERW accidents in Banozai village led to clearance of the village by MAPA

Banozi village is a medium-sized village located about 10 km south of Gardiz city near a strategic location called Dara-Mullah Qudrat in Zurmat district of Paktya province. The main road connecting Paktya and Khost provinces passes through the village. The village is also connected to Zurmat district through a narrow road.

Mujahidin laid mines in these narrow roads against the Soviets and pro-Russian governmental forces. These mines later caused several civilian casualties. In 2013, a local vehicle was hit by an anti-vehicle mine as a result of which the driver died. In 2014 a nomad child died while playing with an ERW and in 2016, a mine killed a nomad woman and her 12 year old daughter while they were passing through the village to go to Khost. Following a clearance request by the locals, the area was cleared in 1397 and is now being used safely and productively by the locals for agricultural purpose.



Cleared land in Banozai Village of Paktya Province



A local farmer irrigating land in Khuoshab village

MAPA clears anti-personnel mine belts used by the Soviets in Khuoshab village to protect Kandahar Airfield

Anti-personnel mine belts were used by Soviet Union troops in Khuoshab village which is located in the close vicinity of Kandahar Airfield. Based on a request made by the local people, the MAPA cleared more than 3 sq Km area in the village and destroyed 2,008 anti-personnel mines. Farmers in the village use the cleared land to cultivate crops.

230 families are housed in land cleared by MAPA in Samace village

Once a key transit point for the Soviet troops, Samace village is located in Pacheeragam district of Nangarhar province. In 2006 and 2008 AV mines laid by mujahideen against the Soviets caused civilian casualties. The local authorities requested MAPA to clear the village where 230 families live in houses built after clearance.



Operations by Commercial Demining Companies

In 1398 seven commercial companies were engaged in survey and clearance operations of areas requested by their clients to ensure safe execution of some key development projects in Afghanistan. A total surface and sub-surface area of 70 sq. kilometres was cleared by 7 commercial demining companies in 1398. It is notable that commercial demining companies mainly work in support of development projects. Regardless of whether an area contains mines or not, donors/clients of development project wants the area to be checked for mines and ERW in different depths (based on the development projects' requirements i.e. depth of foundation etc) in order to ensure the area is safe. The clearance figure mentioned here is actually the size of the areas they have checked. The majority of the areas checked by the commercial demining companies were not initially recorded as contaminated in the national mine action database.

2.3 Victim Assistance

According to the DMAC's Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA), during 1398 the average number of civilian casualties recorded was 130 per month, which demonstrates an approximately three-fold increase compared to 2013.

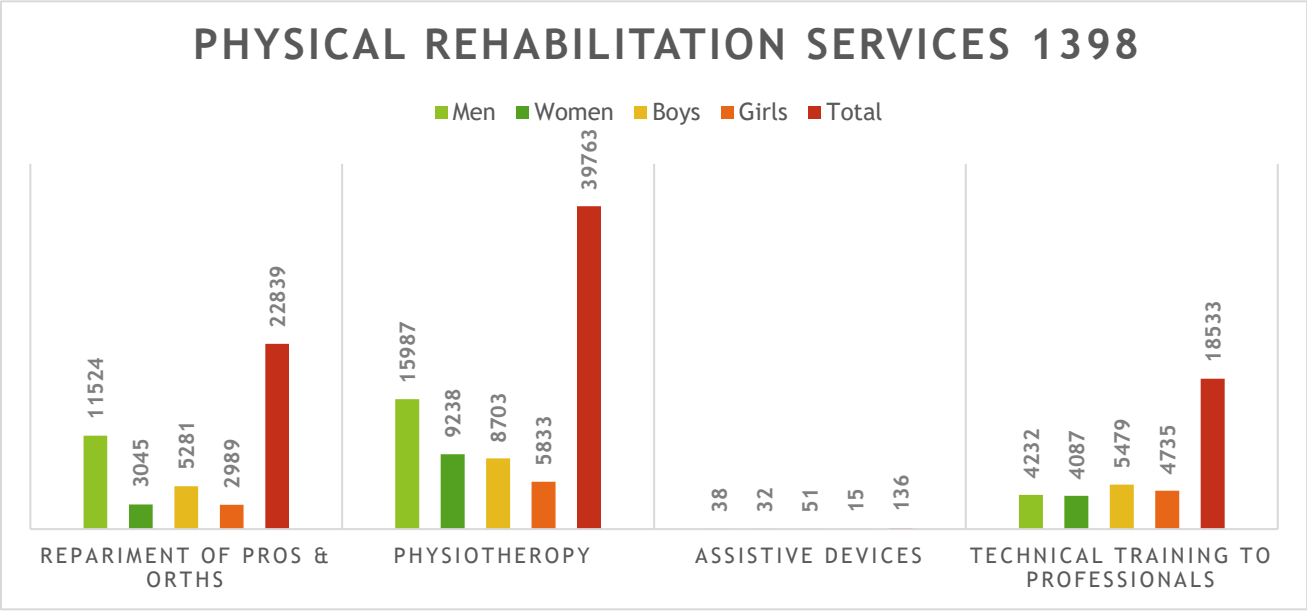
Civilian casualties from victim-activated pressure-plate IEDs (VA-PPIED) increased by 12 per cent in 1398, causing 852 civilian casualties (Injured, 441, Killed, 411,) remained the leading cause of civilian casualties by explosive ordinance, accounting for 57.2 per cent of the overall total. DMAC recorded 608 casualties (40.8%) due to ERW and remaining 2% of casualties are combined of anti-personal mine, anti-vehicle mine and cluster munitions (27 AP, 3 CM). Compared to 1397, the number of casualties in 1398 have been increased from 1,474 to 1,490 (1%). 416 communities in 33 provinces have experienced 549 EO-accidents in 1398. As per UNAMA annual report for 2019, 10,392 civilian casualties (3,403 killed and 6,989 injured) as a result of the armed conflict, representing a five per cent decrease as compared to 2013⁹ and the lowest overall level of civilian casualties since 2013⁹.

VICTIM ASSISTANCE IMPLEMENTATION Services in 1398 (2019/2020)

1) Physical rehabilitation (including prostheses):

A total of 215,500 (MMD graphic report 1398) people with disabilities in 20 provinces received Victim Assistance/Disability services during the year 1398. The services included fitting, supply and maintenance of prosthetics and orthotics services, physiotherapy; including training for use of assistive devices (prostheses, orthoses, walking aid and wheelchairs, occupational and speech therapy. The mentioned services were provided through the VA/Disability partners: HI, SCA, KOO, AABRAR

⁹ https://unama.unmissions.org/sites/default/files/executive_summary-afghanistan_protection_of_civilians_annual_report_2019_english.pdf



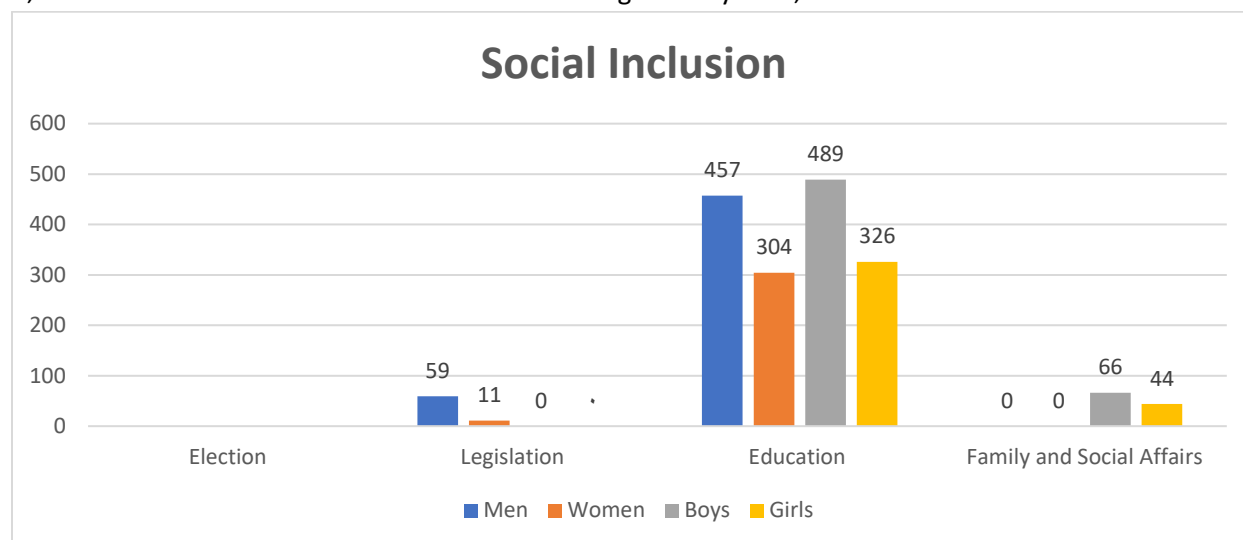
2) Psychological support (including counselling and peer support):

Psychosocial support is part of mental health services, which comprises: Psychological support: counselling by psychology and psychiatry professionals; Psycho-social support: activities such as cultural, sport and leisure whose main aim is to improve psychological well-being; and Peer-to-peer support: provision of social and emotional support by persons facing similar situations and challenges through one-on-one visits or social support groups. Handicap International has provided Psycho social Counselling services to a total of 4,800 EO Victims and other PwD.



3) Social inclusion (including sports):

This broad term refers to social inclusion, inclusive education and decision-making inclusion, the latter of which is comprised of waged and self – employment, as well as social protection and recognition, Total of 5,100 EO-Victims and other PwD are covered during 2019 by ICRC, SERVE and ALSO.



4) Economic inclusion (including training, work placement, loans and micro-credit):

Economic reintegration/ inclusion includes activities that improve the economic status of survivors, the families of those killed or injured and affected communities through vocational training, access to micro-credit, income generation and employment opportunities, social protection and the economic development of the community infrastructure. Through HI, AOAD, COMAC, ICRC and SCA, a total of 15,623 people with disabilities received mentioned services during 1398.



5) Inclusive education (for persons with disabilities including survivors):

Information about Inclusive education is not in hand but progress has been made in training of professional staff in physical rehabilitation and a total of 311 Physiotherapists and Orthopaedic technicians are trained among persons with disability and normal people by HI and Swedish Committee for Afghanistan under European Commission Budget.

6) Emergency humanitarian activities: Assistance linked to responses in situations of emergencies and conflict:

A total of 12,594 packages were distributed to war victims including victims of landmines and ERW in 33 provinces of the country. This assistance is provided to families of civilian victims as a result of war and is the continuation of ACAP-I, ACAP-II and ACAP-III projects funded by USAID.

Table 9: Victim Assistance activities during 1398

Activity Area	Activity
Information Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Technical support has been provided in mapping to single window management system in MMD.- VA data clean-up has been conducted and VA Database was re-adjusted to meet the requirements of MMD as Line-Ministry and authority for Victim and Disability Assistance. This will be the first National Database for Disability with comprehensive information.
Advocacy	<p>As a member of advocacy committees, the DMAC VA department facilitated the following activities and events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 3rd of December, the International Day of Person with Disability was celebrated in Salam Khana Palace of Presidential Office (Arg) on 3rd Dec 2019. The event was participated by H.E. the President, Mohammad Ashraf Ghani and other high-ranking authorities from the government, Parliament and Civil Society as well as around 800 PwD. This was the first time in 20 years that H.E. the President participated in the event.-- White Cane day was celebrated with participation of H.E. Dr. Abdullah Abdullah, the Chief Executive of the Government of Afghanistan. <p>In addition, DMAC – VA Department in close coordination with other civil society organizations conducted and participated in different advocacy events related to victim assistance. DMAC VA department also participated in the celebration of the International Mine Awareness Day in which VA Exhibition table and briefing was also arranged at Marble house.</p>
Casualty data monitoring and evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Casualty data monitoring and evaluation: Victim assistance data gained from MAPA IPs, UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) and other implementing partners was monitored and evaluated on a quarterly basis and shared with stakeholders.
Integration of VA/Disability affairs in other sectors	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Development of Inter-Ministerial Action plan and presentation to Council of Ministers chaired by H.E. Chief Executive Dr. Abdullah Abdullah- Development of ToR for Inter- ministerial committee

Activity Area	Activity
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support development and signing of 35 MoUs between MMD and other Government ministries and entities.
Coordination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. As part of Advocacy for the right of persons with disability 10 Advocacy Committee meetings were conducted and VA department had an active role on it. b. Organizing of 6 Disability Stakeholders Coordination Group (DSCG) meetings in MMD through which the MoUs were signed between VA organizations and MMD. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreement of first draft of National Disability Strategy • A unique reporting mechanism for all Implementing Partners developed • National Database for service delivery owned by MMD • National VA/ Disability Annual report for 2019/1398 • Joint Celebration of Disability Day, White Cane Day • MMD signed MoU with 15 National and International organizations c. Four inter-ministerial meetings have been conducted as a result of which the inter-ministerial action plan has been developed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inter-Ministerial Action Plan for Coordination in Disability Affairs has been developed and approved. • ToR for Inter-ministerial committee developed and shared with H.E. Executive office for review and comments • MoUs between MMD and other 35 members of inter-ministerial committee have been developed and signed • National Physical Accessibility Concept has been developed and approved by Inter-ministerial • Concept for Job creation for PwD (3% of Government Tashkeel to be from Persons with Disability) has been adapted. • Technical Working Groups has been structured within Inter-Ministerial Committee for Disability. d. Three Victim Assistance/Disability Coordination meetings were conducted
Strategy and policy development	<p>During 1398, the first draft of Afghanistan National Disability Strategy was developed and is now under review of consultant.</p>
Progress in amendment in Law and Legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The Third amendment to the Disability Law has been drafted and sent to Ministry of Justice. 2) Afghanistan National Disability strategy was developed and shared with the technical committee (UNMAS, HI and ACBAR) for review and comments. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ToR for consultant (VA Specialist) has been drafted • Consultant was hired and started his strategy review

Activity Area	Activity
	<p>4) Review and finalization of the VA/Disability federation constitution and other relevant documents such as concept for temporarily steering committee and plan have been developed and shared with Presidential Office through MMD.</p> <p>5) Developing regulation on operations mechanism in MMD as internal document for facilitation in service provision to victim through this ministry.</p> <p>6) Developing communication strategy for MMD to access and response to PwD's need.</p> <p>7) Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanism for VA/Disability has been developed by MMD in support of VA Department to improve the quality of services provided to PwD.</p> <p>8) Mechanism for transparency of implementation development projects (off budget).</p> <p>9) Development of 21 operations mechanism for different sections and departments of MMD.</p>

Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE)

Throughout 1398 risk education (RE) activities were coordinated, implemented and monitored in line with Afghanistan Mine Action Standards (AMAS), the Integrated Operational Framework, and the criteria for community prioritization.

Main at-risk groups included communities located in proximity of hazards, returnees, IDPs, nomads, scrap metal collectors, aid workers, returnees, and people on the move (travellers). While the threat remains constant to all the aforementioned groups, the data indicates that children are the most vulnerable to the threat of landmines and ERW given their mobility and lack of care.

DMAC and IPs are making efforts to mitigate the threat landmine and ERW contamination pose to the lives and livelihoods of Afghan civilians. During 1398, nine accredited local and international IPs including OMAR, ATC, DDG, HT, MCPA, DAFA, AREA, HI, and AAR Japan were actively engaged in the delivery of formal and informal RE sessions. To ensure gender is mainstreamed in EORE, 53 couple teams (one male and one female) and 24 community volunteer teams were involved in delivering RE; inclusion of a female EORE trainer ensures access to the evidently hard to reach female population.

In order to reach all at-risk groups for the delivery of RE, the following activities were conducted:

- Provision of direct RE sessions to people living in or in vicinity of landmine and ERW impacted communities
- Provision of RE through media outreach, which is an effective communication channel to reach vulnerable communities in remote and insecure areas; two EORE clips in Pashto and Dari, prepared with the help of UNMAS were broadcasted on Shamshad and TOLO tv channels and shared, through sponsored posts, on Facebook.

- Provision of RE to returnees through UNHCR and IOM encashment centres, transit centres, and zero points; the locations include Pol-i- Charkhi (Kabul), Islam Qalaa (Herat), Milak (Nimroz) Shorandam and Spin Boldak (Kandahar) and Momandara and Torkham (Nangarhar).
- Provision of RE to IDPs and host communities
- Conducted Landmine Safety Program (LSP) for aid workers
- Updated EORE progress report format
- Data and Information guideline was developed by DMAC to avoid data discrepancies and ambiguities concerning informal and formal RE
- Impact Indicators and prioritization was revised to reflect on the evolving nature of contamination and risks posed to the vulnerable affected populations
- Reviewed, developed and piloted child-focused EORE materials with the help of implementing partners.
- UNMAS in collaboration with its local partner (DDG) supported the conduction of a one-day - EORE workshop under DMAC's leadership. The workshop aimed to highlight and discuss RE material, means for delivery of messages to encourage participation of the children (children's flip chart).
- A workshop was conducted on new EORE flip chart for children (story pictures)
- ToT trainings were conducted for 153 EORE trainers of the accredited Risk IPs and organizations who implement EORE in the non-formal (indirect) approach, as a complementary activity
- Held meetings with MoIC and Radio Television for dissemination of EORE messages using their platforms.
Held meetings with various media platforms in Ghazni province who agreed to share EORE messages, free-of-cost, through their platforms.
- Held meetings with a radio broadcaster (Voice of Nimroz) who also shared EORE messages through their platform, free of cost.
- Drafted and agreed in principle an MoU with Ministry of Public Health; this will enable DMAC to use their reach to spread EORE messages in hard to reach communities. The MoU is pending signature due to the COVID-19 restrictions.
- Acquired license for the short-code hotline from ATRA for Mine Action

During the RE sessions, 65,750 green brochures, 26,502 notebooks with EORE messages, 100,250 ways to home brochures, 4,310 pens with Risk Education messages, 51,000 MAPA hotline cards and 170 Trainers' kits were distributed.

Additionally, during the year, Training of Trainers (ToT) sessions were conducted for 35 EORE trainers of RE Ips, and Training of Trainers (LSP) sessions were conducted for 135 MoE and NGOs staff.

Table 10: Number of Risk Education beneficiaries, via formal EORE, by social status of audience, and by gender and age group

Formal EORE Beneficiary Type	# of Sessions	Girls	Boys	Women	Men	Total
Community Member	9,682	63,944	76,529	24,973	19,861	185,307

Community Volunteer	0	0	0	0	0	0
IDP	951	5,545	6,910	3,443	3,054	18,952
Kochies	28	200	155	0	0	355
Returnee	170	1,256	1,388	619	604	3,867
School Teacher	4	33	33	17	15	98
Student	1,074	12,182	9,403	2,408	2,207	26,200
Women Group	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grand Total	11,909	11,909	23,818	3,044	2,826	234,779

Table 11: Number of Risk Education beneficiaries, via informal EORE, by social status of audience, and by gender and age group

Informal EORE Beneficiary Type	# of Sessions	Girls	Boys	Women	Men	Total
Community Members	9,635	84,258	120,636	26,592	15,618	247,104
Community Volunteers	0	0	0	0	0	0
IDPs	1,170	8,327	9,318	3,509	3,336	24,490
Kochies	1	12	0	0	0	12
Returnees	24,746	19,965	83,900	26,150	444,242	574,257
School Teachers	130	0	0	125	1,557	1,682
Students	2,909	30,521	127,820	2,687	5,350	166,378
Women Groups	157	4,528	21	4,347	0	8,896
Grand Total	38,748	147,611	341,695	63,410	470,103	1,022,819

2.5 Gender and Diversity Mainstreaming

The fourth goal of National Mine Action Strategic Plan (NMAPS 2016-2020) of the MAPA is Gender & diversity mainstreaming to ensure that the capabilities, contributions, concerns, and needs of women/men and girls/boys are utilized, acknowledged and addressed equally. It has a detailed number of strategic actions, among which major steps were taken in the last year.

Table 12: Gender and Diversity Mainstreaming activities in 1398.

S/N	Activity
1	Assess IPs from gender and diversity prospective and provide them advice regarding better mainstreaming of gender and diversity within their organization. The assessment was document level.
2	The gender and diversity mainstreaming SWP developed.
3	International Women's Day was celebrated by the gender and diversity department.
4	Three gender and diversity monthly meetings have taken place for better coordination of gender mainstreaming activities within the MAPA.
5	Checklists reviewed and finalized for EORE- Survey and clearance- VA departments for smooth work.

6	DMAC together with the UNMAS advocate to MAPA donors to fund the Gender focal point position within the national IP offices and successfully one donor showed intention in this regard.
7	Gender department, DMAC/UNMAS female staff visited KOO rehabilitation centre and site. The visit was organised by DMAC/UNMAS.
8	Gender department and DMAC/UNMAS female staff had an IED training by Mr. Gregory Pierrick Yannick Robin, Technical Advisor (PSC) at UNOCA compound.

Chapter Three: Key Achievements

The following are a list of the main achievements of the DMAC and the wider MAPA in 1398.

Table 13: Key achievements of the MAPA stakeholders in 1398.

Stakeholder	Achievement	Date
DMAC OSCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two department heads of DMAC (OPS & QM) participated as co-instructors in the Advanced IED Awareness training conducted by the Organization for Security & Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) in Dushanbe. The training provided an opportunity for the two participants to exchange their experience and knowledge with other participants attending the course. Mr. Abdul Qadir Kakar-EOD expert attended the workshop which focused on raising awareness at national, regional and global C-IED strategies. The workshop was held in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. 	August 2019
DMAC with financial support from PM/WRA	Mine Action Livelihoods Survey was conducted in Kapisa province through which 12 communities in 4 districts were surveyed	04-11 September 2019
DMAC with financial support from PM/WRA	Post Demining Impact Assessment (PDIA) was conducted on 53 released hazardous areas in 33 communities, across 28 districts of 14 provinces of the country	May-November 2019
GIS Training	MIS department conducted IMSMAng & ArcGIS training course for MAPA information management and operational staff. The aim of this course was to train and enable the participants to fulfil their organizational IM requirements by utilizing the IMSMAng, IMSMA Rep and ArcGIS properly.	28 December 2019 till 02 January 2020

DMAC MRE department DDG, IPs (TWGs)	DDG, in consultation and under supervision of DMAC, has prepared flipcharts, containing MRE messages, aiding in delivering MRE to children (6-18-year olds). The Flipcharts have been approved by TWGs, inclusive of all relevant IPs, and will soon be used in conducting MRE where children are the primary focus.	During 2019
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Chapter Four: Risk Management

Table 14: Challenges faced by the programme in 1398 and mitigation measures.

Challenges	Mitigating Measures
Funding	
Reduced funding was one of the main challenges faced by the programme.	A donor workshop was held in Geneva where all donors were invited and a number of meetings were conducted with embassies of different donor countries in Kabul to advocate for support for the programme.
Security	
As the security situation deteriorated, the programme encountered some challenges. The main challenges were security incidents on demining personnel and stolen demining equipment. Due to the security situation, the MAPA teams were not able to complete all of their tasks normally. They had to either stop operations or leave the districts abruptly where fighting was taking place. The other main issue is when our operations colleagues go for site visit and sudden fighting eruptions in those areas could endanger the lives of our staff.	<p>All the MAPA teams were advised to be vigilant and liaise with community elders. It had best results when community elders give Demining personnel safer environment to complete their operations. Selection of demining personnel (Community based deminers) from mine affected areas was another option to minimize the risk. In addition, past incidents were discussed and as lessons learned developed among the teams. Staff were given security briefings to avoid loss of life in those volatile areas.</p> <p>Meanwhile, since the outbreak of COVID-19 All Staff were advised to take precautionary measures both on field and off field to make sure they are safe from this Pandemic Virus. Those colleagues who had visited the suspected COVID-19 patients were advised to quarantine themselves and if symptoms were witnessed, test themselves.</p>
Land Release (Survey & Clearance)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Possible lack of evidence-based survey requests from the communities. b) Potential ineffective implementation of LR process c) Demining Accident d) Setting unrealistic LR target. The IPs pressure on team to achieve the target e) Missed EOs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Implementation of evidence-based land release process. b) Strengthen monitoring, training of personnel engaged in LR and validation of LR processes and outputs at field level. c) Monitor employee health and safety standards. Provide appropriate training to demining teams. Provide suitable equipment including PPE, equipped ambulances and trauma kits in line with relevant standards and SOPs. d) Screening of the same geographical field historical data, joint field visits, considering

	<p>MAPA standard productivity rate, systematic review of technical proposals, monitoring,</p> <p>e) Adherence strictly to standards, employ appropriate equipment, trained personnel and methodology, extensive implementation of QM.</p>
Clearance	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Security incidents on demining teams. • Suspension of mine action projects. • Monitoring visits from some of mine action projects not conducted due to security problems. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IPs and commercial demining companies were encouraged to conduct proper liaison with the local elders to make sure the security of their staff is maintained. • The IPs were asked to provide proof of their duty of care for their staff. • Mine action organizations were asked to facilitate monitoring visits, and the issue was reflected in the balance scorecard (BSC).
Explosive Ordinance Risk Education	
<p>* Physical access to implement mine/ERW risk education was challenging in conflict affected and/or disputed areas.</p> <p>* We were going to conduct MRE TOT for MOE and directorate Kochi school teachers. Reduced funding was one of the main challenges and this could not be considered.</p>	<p>New Initiative in MRE approaches is going to introduced such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ EORE through TVs ○ EORE through Awaaz Afghanistan ○ EORE through radio ○ EORE through new activity cards <p>New Initiative in EORE approaches is going to introduced such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MOE Child Protection Officers (CPOs) with coordination of DMAC EORE department were able to conduct EORE for students and teachers with little facilities. • Conducting EORE session for children, using the newly EORE flip charts developed.
Victim Assistance	
<p>Limitation in access to services (<i>physically, culturally and financially</i>)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MMD has been supported in development of physical accessibility concept that accepted by Presidential Office and direction is gone to all ministries for their consideration and implementation. - 10 women bench workers are trained in physical rehabilitation addition to that number of other female technicians and

	<p>Physiotherapists are graduated from three years' diploma in Physical Rehabilitation by HI, SCA under EC fund. To response to the cultural sensitivities and barriers toward women access to services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mobile physical rehabilitation clinics helped mitigate access constraints.
<p>The fact that VA was not included in the broader sectors <i>(caused less consideration from Government to person with disability)</i></p>	<p>For this purpose, MMD provided with technical support in development and signing of MoUs with 35 Government entities.</p> <p>The Inter-ministerial action plan further expanded and included all government organizations to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Through Advocacy programmes the awareness about victim assistance which is the responsibility of everyone has been raised
<p>Lack of baseline data – (caused inappropriate planning, allocation of resources, and missing out on real beneficiaries)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National Disability Database in MMD has been established for registration of Heirs of Martyrs and PwD - Service Database for Victim /Disabilities assistances developed into MIS and will be soon installed in MMD and all IPs.
<p>Lack of adequate capacity within MMD – affects implementation, coordination, advocacy, and realization of strategy.</p>	<p>Capacity Development Plan has been developed in support from COMAC and DMAC to MMD</p>

Chapter Five: Conclusion

As illustrated in the table below, as a result of the clearance in 1398 the size of the legacy contamination has been reduced. However, the total size of contamination in the country has increased to 1,539.36 sq. kilometres. This is due to the ongoing conflict in various parts of the country which has led to a spread of ERW, AIM and IHA. Insecurity in areas where mine action projects were planned meant that these projects were delayed and, in some cases, moved to other areas. Thus, the annual clearance target was not achieved. This trend has continued for the past seven years and the ongoing conflict, especially since 2009 has added a new burden to the existing contamination.

Remaining contamination as of the end of 1398

Type of Hazard	Number of Hazard	Area of Hazard (sq km)
AIM	324	38.64
Anti-personnel mine	2,057	310.65
Anti-tank mine	1,288	308.55
Battlefield/ERW contamination	60	8.19
Firing Range	42	630.76
IHA	322	296.74
Total	4,093	1593.36

As demonstrated in the above table, despite considerable progress, the size of the remaining contamination is still enormous. Nevertheless, despite the unstable security situation which has made the operating environment ever more challenging for MAPA partners, the programme has made steady progress over the last year.

During 1398, the Programme managed to secure 47.4 million USD of which 38.7 million USD was spent on demining and the remaining amount was spent on risk education, VA and programme management. The required funding was not secured, the overall funding situation in 1398 was worse compared to the previous year (1397) and MAPA was able to clear less areas than in 1397. However, as a result of increased advocacy during 1398, MAPA was able to convince New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) to fund the clearance of their 5 abandoned firing ranges in Bamyan province. NZDF has since awarded the project to a national implementing partner which will be implemented during 2020-2021.

The project awarded also has a VA and EORE component. There are currently 43 firing ranges that are currently abandoned and need clearance

In terms of clearance, MAPA was able to clear 63 sq. Kilometres of contaminated land in the country. Since the inception of the programme in 1367 (1989), the MAPA has addressed almost 78.9 per cent of recorded contamination in the country; however, as of the end of the Afghan year 1398, 254 districts in 34 provinces of the country remain impacted, affecting an estimated number of 2.5 million people living within one kilometre of contaminated land.



+93 (0) 708 606 60



info@dmac.gov.af



www.dmac.gov.af



DMAC Afghanistan

Sedarat Square, next to Alfalah Bank, Kabul - Afghanistan