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# UNDP Mine Action Programming: Tajikistan

February 2016

## I. UNDP Approach to ‘Development and Mine Action’

UNDP’s 2014-17 Strategic Plan focuses on helping countries achieve the simultaneous eradication of extreme poverty and reduction of inequalities and exclusion. In many of the most fragile post-conflict contexts that count on UNDP support, however, landmines and explosive remnants of war (ERW) are a significant hindrance to this vision. To be an effective development partner in settings rife with landmines and ERW, UNDP has revamped its ‘Development and Mine Action’ Agenda through programmes that tackle the connected issues of poverty, inequality and exclusion while lowering the risks arising from shocks and stressors.

With this in mind, UNDP’s approach to what is now a Development and Mine Action service line focuses on restoring livelihoods capacities and building resilience by: (1) translating mine action into sustainable development dividends in the form of jobs/livelihoods and (2) strengthening national institutions that accelerate development benefits. This approach frames UNDP policy and programming in Tajikistan.

## II. Tajikistan Mine Action Context and Strategy

Despite the efforts of UNDP, the Tajikistan National Mine Action Centre (TNMAC) and partners over the years, landmines are still a critical concern in Tajikistan. Susceptibility of the region to natural disasters and security concerns often challenges planned mine clearance activities. From 2003 through 2015, the Centre coordinated the release of 16.3 km<sup>2</sup> of land, resulting in the handover of 234 hazard areas and destruction of 56,362 landmines and 10,138 pieces of ERW. However, as of 2015, it was estimated that approximately 5.0 km<sup>2</sup> of contaminated land still remains on the Tajik-Afghan border and 1.7 km<sup>2</sup> in the Central Region. In addition, 101 minefield records still need to be assessed in these areas.

After 10 years of UNDP assistance, the mine action Centre was nationalized in January 2014. Therefore, upon the establishment of the Tajikistan National Mine Action Centre (TNMAC), UNDP transitioned its focus to an advisory, capacity building and consultancy role. Through a gradual handover process, the overall goal of TNMAC is to take full responsibility for mine action programming in the country and effectively coordinate, manage and task all related activities to, ultimately, assist the Government in eliminating the economic and health impacts of mine/ERW contamination.

## III. Key Activities

- Provide TNMAC with capacity building, planning, coordination and external relations assistance.
- Implement the ‘Transition to National Ownership Strategy’ 2015-2017.
- Support TNMAC in resource mobilization.
- Coordinate meetings and public events to share information and raise awareness of mine action.
- Revise TNMAC website to reflect national ownership, and strengthen information management.
- Survey remaining suspected hazardous areas; clear/release known mine/ERW-contaminated areas.
- Monitor and inspect demining activities to ensure the quality and safety of the work.
- Support mine/ERW risk education in affected communities and train implementing partners.
- Support victim assistance as part of an overall disability support approach.
- Prepare a new Mine Action Strategy (2016-2020) and develop mine action legislation.

## IV. Budget

Budget allocated in 2015 (USD)	Budget projected for 2016 (USD)	Funding shortfall for 2016 (USD)	Budget projected for 2017 (USD)	Budget projected for 2018 (USD)
844,227	890,000	80,205	610,000	500,000