

THE REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF HUMANITARIAN DEMINEING PLAN AND SPENT FINANCIAL MEANS ALLOCATED FOR 2008

SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

On January 1 2008, the total mine suspected area of the Republic of Croatia amounted to 997 km². The MSA extended through 112 towns and municipalities and was marked with 14.521 mine warning signs.

I. BASIC TASKS OF 2008 PLAN

The basis for drafting the Plan was the established mine suspected area of 997 km² and planned financial means in the amount of 318.548.000,00 HRK.

The Plan defined the following basic tasks:

1. To remove mine danger from the area of 33,3 km² with mine search and demining operations;
2. To complete the revision of the entire mine suspected area of the Republic of Croatia;
3. To maintain marking of the entire mine suspected area of the Republic of Croatia;
4. To prepare the realization of demining funds from the World Bank loan no. 7283 HR;
5. Drafting a three-year humanitarian demining plan and a new Mine Action Strategy;
6. Co-ordination of mine risk education and mine victim assistance activities;
7. Strengthening of international co-operation.

II. THE REALIZATION OF HUMANITARIAN DEMINEING PLAN AND FINANCIAL MEANS SPENT IN 2008

II.1 REDUCTION OF MINE SUSPECTED AREA IN 2008

The conduct of general survey for the purpose of performing a revision of the entire mine suspected area of the Republic of Croatia and drafting project documentation was resulted in reduction of mine suspected area for 9,4 km². Mine search operations through 128 project proposals and demining operations through 149 project proposals resulted in removal of mine danger from the area of 33.109.979 m². Finally, all this resulted in **reduction of mine suspected area of the Republic of Croatia in 2008 in the size of 42,5 km². According to the above-stated, on 31 December 2008, mine suspected area of the Republic of Croatia amounted to 954,5 km².**

II.1.1. AREAS CANCELLED FROM MINE SUSPECTED AREA BY CONDUCT OF GENERL SURVEY

Parallel to the operations of mine search and demining of mine suspected areas performed by accredited legal entities and non-governmental organization "Norwegian People's Aid", survey teams of the Croatian Mine Action Centre performed in 2008 the revision of general survey of the entire mine suspected area in the Republic of Croatia. Besides, there were additional surveys carried out needed for the preparation of 213 project proposals as well as additional mine search and demining projects.

By applying criteria determined by Standard Operating Procedures (SOP 01.01.) on the above-mentioned area, mine suspected area **was reduced for 9,4 km².**

II.1.2 REDUCTION OF MINE SUSPECTED AREA IN 2008 BY CONDUCT OF MINE SEARCH AND DEMINING

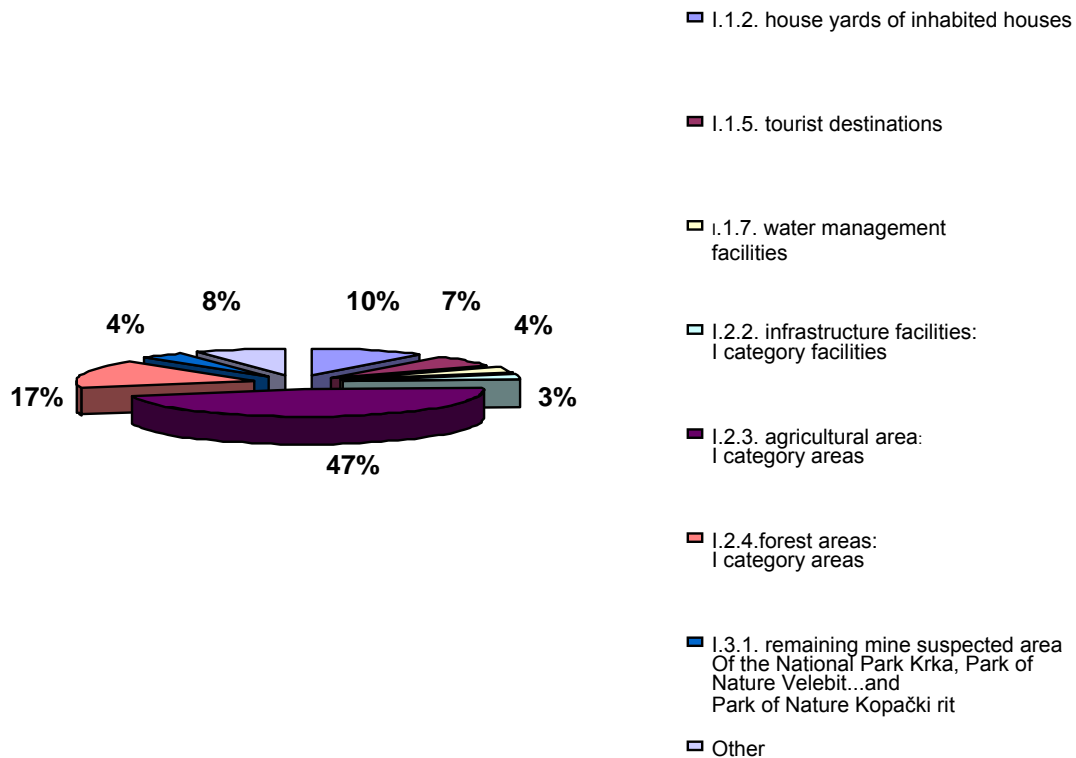
Mine search and demining operations in 2008 resulted in releasing the area of **33.109.979 m²** out of which **20.883.364 m²** through mine search and **12.226.615 m²** through demining what represents the realization of **99,5 %** in relation to the Plan.

Table no.1. The illustration of demined, searched and contracted mine suspected area per counties

No.	County	Planned realization in 2007 (m ²)	Demined and searched in 2007 (m ²)	Realization (%)	Remaining mine search and demining operations contracted in 2007 (m ²)	Demined, searched and remaining mine search and demining operations contracted in 2007 (m ²)	Realization (%)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7=4+6	8
1	Brod-Posavina	3.031.556	2.622.250	86,50	3.733	2.625.983	86,62
2	Brod-Posavina	1.385.358	987.372	71,27	230.396	1.217.768	87,90
3	Karlovac	3.029.841	2.321.675	76,63	49.911	2.371.586	78,27
4	Lika-Senj	4.147.431	3.774.394	91,01	244.764	4.019.158	96,91
5	Osijek-Baranja	6.587.731	7.508.934	113,98	2.258.896	9.767.830	148,27
6	Požega-Slavonia	1.986.980	1.044.216	52,55	407.654	1.451.870	73,07
7	Sisak-Moslavina	3.023.357	3.051.362	100,93	282.804	3.334.166	110,28
8	Split-Dalmatia	724.227	620.449	85,67	0	620.449	85,67
9	Šibenik-Knin	1.915.213	1.756.927	91,74	1.791.718	3.548.645	185,29
10	Virovitica-Podravina	493.930	813.043	164,61	0	813.043	164,61
11	Vukovar-Srijem	4.112.049	5.759.922	140,07	951.791	6.711.713	163,22
12	Zadar	2.838.434	2.849.435	100,39	1.564.688	4.414.123	155,51
TOTAL:		33.276.107	33.109.979	99,50	7.786.355	40.896.334	122,90

II.1.3. THE STRUCTURE OF SEARCHED, DEMINED AND CONTRACTED AREA PER COUNTIES

Graph no.1. The structure of searched, demined and contracted areas per counties – realization:



II.2 QUALITY ASSURANCE

Quality assurance over completed mine search and demining operations in 2008 was conducted by 12 Quality Control Officers and 23 Quality Assurance Monitors performing the control sample search.

In 2008, there was the total of 338 quality controls over completed mine search and demining operations performed on 3.778 control samples totalling 587.939 m² what makes 1,68% of the total searched and demined area.

In 2008, there was the total of 918 quality assurances during the execution of mine search and demining operations performed.

In 2008, authorised legal entities searched 20.883.364 m² and demined 12.226.615 m² what makes the total of 33.109.979 m² (average weekly realization amounted to 662.200 m²). There were **1.805 pieces of antipersonnel mines, 2.617 pieces of antitank mines and 3.402 pieces of unexploded ordinances found and destroyed.**

II.3 FINANCING

Table no.2. Financial realization in 2008 – all funding sources

No.	Funding source	Plan	Realized and contracted	Realization
1. a)	State Budget - demining	158.099.000	158.086.839,48	100,0
b)	State Budget – share in the loan IBRD-7283	22.927.624	17.149.602,70	74,8
2.	Legal entities and state administration bodies	65.617.000	64.230.611,93	97,9
3.	Donations	63.800.000	51.910.070,42	81,4
4.	Loan IBRD-7283	29.680.000	28.760.400,00	96,9
TOTAL:		338.918.000	320.137.524,53	94,5

II.3.1. DEMINING PRICE

Average price of all mine search and demining operations contracted in 2008 was 7,78 HRK/m², no VAT what represents a decrease of 8,1% in relation to 2007. The reason for the price decrease is projecting bigger projects on agricultural areas where demining machines can be used intensively.

III. COMPLETION OF REVISION OF THE ENTIRE MINE SUSPECTED AREA OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

On October 1, 2008, the revision of the entire mine suspected area was finished. The basic indicators of a status of mine suspected area of the Republic of Croatia upon the completion of processing data collected during the revision are:

- mine suspected area of the Republic of Croatia extends through 111 towns and municipalities inside 12 counties. It is marked with 14.986 mine warning signs.
- On December 31, 2008, the size of mine suspected area of the Republic of Croatia amounted to 954,5 km² including 4,7 km² of areas contaminated with cluster munitions of KB-1 and MK-1 type that is not classified as mine suspected area according to the valid regulations and standards.

IV. SUSTAINING MARKING OF THE ENTIRE MINE SUSPECTED AREA OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

The position of mine warning signs is one of the basic elements of mine information system presented on mine-contamination maps submitted to state administration bodies, local and regional self-administration, police administrations and other natural and legal entities upon request.

On December 31, 2008, **mine suspected area of the Republic of Croatia was marked with 14.986 mine warning signs.**

V. PREPARATION FOR THE REALIZATION OF THE WORLD BANK LOAN NO. 7283 HR, DEMINING AND DRAFTING THE NEW NATIONAL MINE ACTION STRATEGY

Based on the first call for expressing interest in humanitarian demining, the Croatian Mine Action Centre made 17 projects classified in 11 contracting groups totalling 7.946.845 m². In the final quarter, the second call for expressing interest was announced resulting in 565 letters of request submitted from 43 towns and municipalities totalling 29.027.771 m². Definition of areas to be projected for mine search and demining is currently in progress.

The proposal of the new National Mine Action Strategy in the Republic of Croatia (hereinafter: the Strategy) consists of all relevant information on mine action since 1991, current status of mine suspected area (size, positioning, structure and impact on society and economy), a description of available capacities for mine action execution and their performance and basic goals to be achieved in the period 2009 to 2019 with an established method and preconditions for their realization.

In line with the goals stated in the Draft Strategy, Draft Humanitarian Demining Plan for the period 2009 to 2011 (hereinafter: three-year plan), made in 2008, defined the basic tasks and their implementation for the next three-year period. Basic characteristics of planned realization in the next three-year period are: complete removal of mine danger from houses, house yards and infrastructure facilities in the Republic of Croatia as well as from over 2/3 of all agricultural areas. Two documents stated above will be submitted for approval in the first quarter of 2009.

VI. CO-ORDINATION OF MINE RISK EDUCATION AND MINE VICTIMS ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES

In line with the Law on Humanitarian Demining, mine risk education and mine victims assistance was conducted during 2008 with co-coordinative role of the Croatian Mine Action Centre and co-operation with non-governmental organizations, different institutions and international organizations and associations.

VII. MINE VICTIMS

In the period from 1 January 2008, there were **6 mine incidents registered** involving **7 persons**. During 2008, there were incidents registered involving 3 deminers of commercial companies. Two persons were killed out of which one deminer while 4 persons suffered major bodily injuries.



IX.1.1. MINE VICTIMS ASSISTANCE

Relevant state administration authorities were involved in solving the problems of mine victims relating to medical rehabilitation. Other forms of assistance were conducted mostly by nongovernmental sector and financing was ensured by different donations of the international or domestic subjects. In 2008, there were different one-time projects of financial support and education (scholarships, legal and psycho-social and medical support, orthopaedic aids) realized with the purpose of mine victims assistance. There were also summer and winter workshops organized for children and young people mine victims.

Mine victims are entitled to health care and acquisition of orthopaedic aids to the amount covered by the Croatian Health Insurance Institute. However, there are certain problems detected in the programs of psycho-social rehabilitation of victims and their employment.

X. STRENGTHENING OF THE INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION

In 2008, the emphasis was put on presentation of Croatian experience in mine action within the international mine action community and diplomatic posts in the Republic of Croatia.

Establishment of the cluster that integrates experience and capacities of the Croatian Mine Action Centre, CROMAC-CTDT, commercial demining companies and equipment manufacturers resulted in realization of an initiative of the Croatian Mine Action Centre, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration and Trade and Investment Promotion Agency. Uniting all demining subjects in the Republic of Croatia opened the door to exporting the Croatian know-how and technologies to foreign markets i.e. countries facing the mine problem. First results became evident through expressing interest by Turkey, Yemen, Georgia and Egypt in strengthening of co-operation.

At the Conference held in Oslo from 2 to 4 December 2008, the Republic of Croatia was among the first countries to sign the Convention on Cluster Munitions and will be one of the first to ratify the Convention in the first trimester of 2009.

In April 2008, Croatian Mine Action Centre and International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance from Ljubljana were the hosts of the 11. Meeting of mine action directors and UN advisers from all over the world. This was the first meeting held out of Geneva.

In Sisak, 30 March 2009