

ARTICLE 5 DEADLINE: 31 DECEMBER 2025
NOT ON TRACK TO MEET DEADLINE

KEY DATA

ANTI-PERSONNEL (AP) MINE CONTAMINATION: HEAVY

MINE ACTION REVIEW ESTIMATE

40 KM²

AP MINE CLEARANCE IN 2020

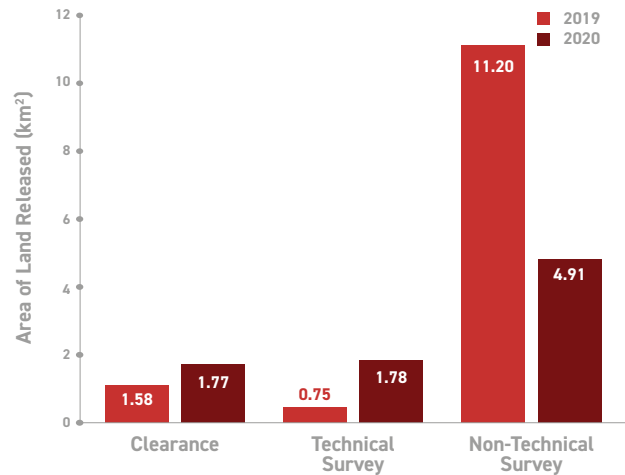
1.77 KM²

AP MINES DESTROYED IN 2020

510

(84 DESTROYED DURING SPOT TASKS)

LAND RELEASE OUTPUT



CURRENT LIKELIHOOD OF MEETING 2025 CLEARANCE TARGET (as per the Oslo Action Plan commitment): **LOW**

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

Anti-personnel mine survey and clearance operations continued in Angola during 2020, albeit restricted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Although Angola did not meet its land release targets for the year, there was a small increase in clearance output in 2020 compared to the previous year. Continued improvements to Angola's mine action infrastructure were also delayed by the pandemic and it is expected that 2021 will bring a number of developments including the restructuring of the national authority, changing the National Intersectoral Commission on Demining and Humanitarian Assistance (CNIDAH) into the National Mine Action Agency (ANAM).

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

- Angola should continue to impress upon all operators the importance of applying proper land release principles to reduce clearance of uncontaminated areas.
- Angola should finalise its resource mobilisation strategy increasing its international advocacy to attract new and former donors.
- Angola should finalise its national strategy on the management of residual contamination.
- Angola should formally approve its National Mine Action Strategy 2020–2025.
- Angola should update the accompanying Article 5 Implementation Work Plan to include measurable gender and diversity targets.
- Angola should formally approve its National Mine Action Standards (NMAS).
- Angola should accelerate the integration of mine action data from the Executive Commission for Demining (CED) into the CNIDAH national database.
- The Government of Angola should mobilise financial resources for CNIDAH's quality management capacity to allow it to function effectively across provinces.
- Angola should ensure that no taxes are imposed on equipment imported by international operators to carry out mine action operations.

ASSESSMENT OF NATIONAL PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE

Criterion	Score (2020)	Score (2019)	Performance Commentary
UNDERSTANDING OF CONTAMINATION (20% of overall score)	8	8	Angola has completed its nationwide re-survey of anti-personnel mine contamination and there is a high ratio of confirmed hazardous areas (CHAs).
NATIONAL OWNERSHIP AND PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT (10% of overall score)	6	6	CNIDAH is in the process of changing its legal status from a commission to a national agency and it is expected that this will resolve the longstanding issues in coordination and information sharing between CNIDAH and the CED. It is estimated that Angola has a funding shortfall of \$200 million through to the end of 2025. A resource mobilisation strategy was due to be approved in 2020 but, as at July 2021, was still under review.
GENDER AND DIVERSITY (10% of overall score)	6	6	Gender and diversity are included as a cross-cutting issue in Angola's new National Mine Action Strategy but there are no outcomes or targets related to gender or diversity in the work plan.
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING (10% of overall score)	8	7	Improvements continued to be made to the national database in 2020 to maintain data quality. It was planned that CED tasks would be integrated into the database as of 2020 but the data continues to be excluded as their land release methods are not IMAS compliant.
PLANNING AND TASKING (10% of overall score)	7	7	Angola's new National Mine Action Strategy 2020–2025 and accompanying Article 5 Implementation Work Plan 2020–2025 have yet to be formally approved by the government. A new tasking, prioritisation and planning system has been implemented in Angola with a review conducted in 2021.
LAND RELEASE SYSTEM (20% of overall score)	6	6	Nine national mine action standards (NMAS) have been drafted and reviewed by operators and it was expected they would be officially approved in June 2021. Quality management continues to be a challenge for CNIDAH due to a lack of financial resources. In 2020, training and quality assurance (QA) and quality control (QC) activities took place across nine provinces.
LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS AND ARTICLE 5 COMPLIANCE (20% of overall score)	8	8	Overall land release output fell in 2020 due to decreased survey, although clearance output increased slightly despite the challenges posed by COVID-19. Angola did not meet its land release target for the year and at current demining capacity it is estimated that completion of clearance could take ten years, far exceeding its current Article 5 deadline of end 2025. During 2020, Angola held sensitisation workshops in three provinces nearing completion to advance their understanding of residual risk in support of the residual management strategy, now developed.
Average Score	7.1	7.0	Overall Programme Performance: GOOD

DEMINING CAPACITY

MANAGEMENT CAPACITY

- CNIDAH (Comissão Nacional Intersectorial de Desminagem e Assistência Humanitária)
- Executive Commission for Demining (Comissão Executiva de Desminagem, CED)

NATIONAL OPERATORS

- National Demining Institute (Instituto Nacional de Desminagem, INAD)
- Angolan Armed Forces
- Military Office of the President
- Police Border Guard (under the CED)
- The Association of Mine Professionals (APACOMINAS)(NGO)

INTERNATIONAL OPERATORS

- APOPO
- The HALO Trust
- Mines Advisory Group (MAG)
- Norwegian People's Aid (NPA)

OTHER ACTORS

- Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD)

UNDERSTANDING OF AP MINE CONTAMINATION

As at the end of 2020, according to CNIDAH, a total of 1,033 anti-personnel mined areas with an estimated size of 84.4km² remained to be addressed in 17 provinces (see Table 1). This includes just under 81.6km² across 964 confirmed hazardous areas (CHAs) and just over 2.8km² across 69 suspected hazardous areas (SHAs).¹

Table 1: Anti-personnel mined area by province (at end 2020) ²

Province	CHAs	Area (m ²)	SHAs	Area (m ²)	Total Area (m ²)
Bengo	55	3,440,820	0	0	3,440,820
Benguela	46	2,510,771	0	0	2,510,771
Bié	102	5,444,864	0	0	5,444,864
Cabinda	27	1,230,321	0	0	1,230,321
Huambo ³	1	12,890	0	0	12,890
Huíla	17	3,339,594	0	0	3,339,594
Kuando Kubango	226	17,795,504	0	0	17,795,504
Kunene	33	2,575,367	0	0	2,575,367
Kwanza Norte	18	3,231,821	0	0	3,231,821
Kwanza Sul	120	9,436,804	2	413,999	9,850,803
Luanda	9	1,121,211	0	0	1,121,211
Lunda Norte	48	1,755,897	9	121,268	1,877,165
Lunda Sul	46	7,569,410	20	1,095,145	8,664,555
Moxico	187	10,879,952	38	1,196,996	12,076,948
Namibe	2	155,100	0	0	155,100
Uíge	10	1,259,277	0	0	1,259,277
Zaire	17	9,823,000	0	0	9,823,000
Totals	964	81,582,603	69	2,827,408	84,410,011

This is a 3.6km² reduction in the overall amount of anti-personnel mined area from the just over 88km² reported at the end of 2019.⁴ In addition, a total of 1.27km² of anti-personnel mine and anti-vehicle contamination was added to the database in 2020 from new surveys across the country. Of this, NPA identified and recorded one new CHA in the Kwanza Norte province of 184,000m², HALO Trust discovered 18 areas totalling 520,262m², MAG identified eight new areas totalling 64,850m², and APOPO identified 497,000m².⁵

In 2019, non-technical survey of all 18 provinces across the country was completed, ensuring that previously inflated mined areas have now been redefined or cancelled. CNIDAH, The HALO Trust, Mines Advisory Group (MAG), and Norwegian People's Aid (NPA) all agree that Angola now has its most accurate baseline of anti-personnel mine contamination ever.⁶ However, NPA emphasised the need to continue evidence-based survey, in order to provide more accurate information on the type of contamination and to increase further the number of CHAs.⁷ Indeed, in 2020 a total of 6.7km² was released other than by clearance.

In the Article 5 Implementation Work Plan 2020–2025, CNIDAH states that non-technical survey will remain an integral component of all operations and will be conducted in areas that may need additional verification during the work plan implementation period. In addition, CNIDAH acknowledges the gap in coordination and monitoring of CED operations at provincial level and that areas cleared by the CED-coordinated entities may need further assessment and verification before they can be removed from the database.⁸ No verification of areas cleared under CED auspices took place in 2020.⁹

It is also expected that, as people return to previously uninhabited areas, previously unrecorded mined areas will be added to the database and that new areas of contamination will be found as operators revisit more remote areas and address minefields where clearance has yet to begin.¹⁰

Overall, Angola's progress in land cancelled and reduced through the re-survey has resulted in huge land release, with nearly 150km² released between 2017 and 2020 and the cancellation of more than 90% of SHAs recorded as a result of inflated estimates from the 2004–07 Landmine Impact Survey (LIS). It is, however, important to note that most of the land released has been due to cancellation through non-technical survey and with the completion of non-technical survey in all provinces and more well defined minefields, there is likely to be far less cancellation from now on. Most of the remaining contamination is expected to be dealt with through clearance and technical survey according to CNIDAH.¹¹

Angola's contamination is the result of more than 40 years of internal armed conflict that ended in 2002, during which a range of national and foreign armed movements and groups laid mines, often in a sporadic manner. Historically, the most affected provinces have been those with the fiercest and most prolonged fighting, such as Bié, Huambo, Kuando Kubango, and Moxico. In addition to its anti-personnel mine contamination, CNIDAH reported that at the end of 2020 Angola had 1.02km² of anti-vehicle mine contamination.¹² As at May 2021, Angola had an estimated 3,702km of roads contaminated with mines, of which, 3,167km are CHAs and 535km are SHAs.¹³

Many minefields contain a mix of anti-personnel and anti-vehicle mines. Operators have also reported finding anti-personnel mines being used as triggers for larger devices linked with detonating cords and being reinforced with other explosive ordnance such as projectiles and rocket-propelled grenades.¹⁴

Angola also has a significant problem of explosive remnants of war (ERW), especially unexploded ordnance (UXO), and what appears to be very limited, if any, contamination from cluster munition remnants (see Mine Action Review's *Clearing Cluster Munition Remnants 2021* report on Angola for further information).¹⁵

NATIONAL OWNERSHIP AND PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT

Angola's mine action programme is managed by the newly established National Mine Action Agency (ANAM). ANAM is a government agency formerly known as CNIDAH, which served as the national mine action authority and reported to the Council of Ministers. CNIDAH received approval in April 2021 to change its legal status from a commission to a national agency to further strengthen coordination mechanisms and information sharing between the different national bodies.¹⁶

In previous years, there were tensions between CNIDAH and the Executive Commission for Demining (Comissão Executiva de Desminagem, CED), the other national coordination body whose main role was to manage four national operators: the Demining Brigades of the Security Unit of the President of the Republic, the Angolan Armed Forces, the National Demining Institute (INAD), and the Brigades of the Angolan Border Guard Police. There were overlaps and ambiguities as to the exact division of labour and the related roles and responsibilities between the two entities with CED reporting to the Ministry of Social Action, Family, and Women's Promotion (MASFAMU).¹⁷ This has made it difficult for Angola to describe in detail and with any degree of accuracy the extent of land released over the years as the CED operators are not accredited by CNIDAH, nor are their activities quality assured in line with International Mine Action Standards (IMAS).¹⁸ This has resulted in limited oversight of where the CED-coordinated operations are conducted, the kind of activities that are implemented, and the results achieved.¹⁹

In 2019, CNIDAH re-established mine action and donor coordination meetings with all partners, operators, and key donors every four months.²⁰ This was reduced to two meetings in 2020 both of which were held without donors due to COVID-19. In 2021, it is planned that the meetings will resume with donors in attendance as it has been helpful for donors to understand the day to day challenges and achievements of operators.²¹

The HALO Trust, NPA, MAG, and APOPO have all reported being consulted in key decision-making processes by the national authorities through participation at these meetings and other channels.²² For example, it was reported that all operators participated actively in the elaboration of Angola's National Mine Action Strategy 2020–2025 and Article 5 Implementation Work Plan 2020–2025.²³

NPA is supporting CNIDAH to develop its capacity to better manage the national mine action programme, including in key areas such as information and quality management.²⁴ This UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO)-funded consortium project, alongside HALO Trust and MAG, was discontinued in March 2021, but using funds from the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (NMFA), the capacity development project will continue until the end of 2021.²⁵ The focus of the past two years for the project has been to put management systems in place and the relevant documentation and the next stage of the project will focus

on implementation.²⁶ During 2020, the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) continued to provide support to CNIDAH for strategic planning. However, no field visits or workshops took place due to COVID-19.²⁷

International mine action operators continue to report lengthy bureaucratic obstacles in securing visas for expatriate personnel, with processing times of four to twelve months, which was further compounded by COVID-19.²⁸ There have been some changes to the tariffs on importation of demining equipment, with HALO Trust reporting that as of April 2021, tax exemptions have been applied to demining equipment although this does not apply to vehicles.²⁹

Angola's mine action programme has faced critical challenges in securing financial resources in recent years. In Angola's Article 5 Implementation Work Plan 2020–2025, based on an estimate of remaining contamination of 92.41km², clearance is budgeted to cost US\$286 million through to completion by 2025. The Angolan government has committed to clear all roads in the country through its budgetary allocations for the CED. This would leave 90.08km² of clearance and a budget projection of \$279 million.³⁰ Funding has been secured for national and international operators in 2020 but, as at June 2021, Angola still needed to secure approximately \$166 million to complete clearance of the remaining mine contamination in the country.³¹

The Angolan government allocated approximately \$15.7 million to support mine action in 2020 and similar support is expected annually until 2025.³² These funds are split between CNIDAH, the CED, and INAD to cover salaries and administrative overheads and to support the clearance infrastructure across the country.³³ Additionally, the government has committed to fund The HALO Trust in a \$60 million, five-year project to release more than 15km² across 153 minefields in Kuando Kubango province, with \$20 million paid out in 2020. The project is designed to release land in Angola's portion of the Kavango Zambezi Transfrontier Region (KAZA), which spans parts of Angola, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia, and Zimbabwe, and which is home to the Okavango delta. This project will employ 840 Angolans and allow the government to develop the area for conservation and eco-tourism. This is an unprecedented commitment by the Angolan government to support demining.³⁴

In 2019, a draft resource mobilisation strategy was developed and, as at July 2021, was still under review.³⁵ According to Objective 5 of the National Mine Action Strategy 2020–2025, the resource mobilisation strategy should have been developed and approved before the end of 2020 with CNIDAH taking the lead in its development.³⁶ In 2018, Angola participated in the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC) individualised approach following which donor support was increased with funding provided by Belgium, Japan, Norway, the United Kingdom, and the United States along with private sector funding from, for example, British Petroleum (BP).³⁷

GENDER AND DIVERSITY

Gender and diversity are integrated into Angola's National Mine Action Strategy 2020–25 as a cross-cutting issue. The strategy recognises that mine action activities need to reflect the distinct needs of different ages, genders, and other diverse groups through targeted design with the collection, analysis and reporting of data disaggregated by sex and age a key precursor for this. Disaggregated data collection requirements have been integrated into all relevant standing operating procedures, forms, and other data collection tools.³⁸ However, while the Strategy pledges that Angola's mine action programme will ensure that gender and diversity considerations are taken into consideration in the planning, implementation, and monitoring of all mine action projects, it does not say how this will be done. In Angola's updated Article 5 Implementation Work Plan 2020–2025 it states that the demining sector will take gender and equality into account and that the national authority will continue to advocate to ensure fair employment for both men and women, and that data disaggregated by gender and age are collected and reported during land release processes.³⁹ However, there are no specific targets in place or measurable outcomes.

International non-governmental organisation (NGO) operators stated that gender-, age-, and diversity-related concerns are taken into account during survey and clearance to ensure the different groups are reflected in demining operations.⁴⁰ Operators employ Angolan nationals from all ethnic groups who are able to communicate in local languages as well as Portuguese.⁴¹ Pre- and post-clearance household surveys allow The HALO Trust to obtain the perspective of diverse groups within the local communities about the obstacles they face due to mine contamination, as well as determining the main areas of relevant impact for women, men, boys, and girls.⁴²

NPA organises gender sensitivity training for its staff and, whenever possible, gender equality is raised with the national and provincial authorities. NPA ensures that job opportunities are accessible to women as well as men and do not contain requirements that unnecessarily discourage female applicants or preclude their employment.⁴³ APOPO strongly encourages women to apply for roles and include gender and diversity perspectives when planning and implementing its demining operations as one of its core values.⁴⁴ During survey MAG consults with local government, community leaders and male and female representatives from the community to assess their needs and prioritise accordingly. For example, prioritising areas for clearance allow access to water sources for drinking, cooking, and farming is important as fetching water is traditionally a task for women and girls.⁴⁵

All operators and CNIDAH have reported taking into consideration gender balance in the hiring of staff in mine action operations, ensuring that a mix of male and female staff were employed in operational roles in the field including in survey and community liaison teams, as well as in managerial positions.⁴⁶

In 2020, CNIDAH's total workforce was 35% female with 30% of ten managerial positions occupied by women but only two women working in operational roles.⁴⁷ At the HALO Trust 33% of operational roles were held by women; at NPA the figure was 15%; at MAG, 32%; and at APOPO, 33% of the 12 deminers were women. Both HALO Trust and MAG increased the proportion of women working in operational roles from 2019 to 2020 with MAG reporting a 10% increase towards its goal of gender balance. While in managerial positions at The HALO Trust 12% were women, the figure was 13% at NPA, and it was 2% at MAG, with no women in managerial or supervisory positions at APOPO in Angola.⁴⁸

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING

CNIDAH manages a national Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) database which is now considered to be a reliable source of information as it has been fully reconciled with operators' data, and the previous data backlog and inflated contamination figures have been cleared.⁴⁹ In previous years, Angola's mine action programme suffered from significant problems with information management, in particular the poor quality of the CNIDAH national database. As noted above, since 2018 an NPA Capacity Development Adviser has been embedded in the CNIDAH team focused on establishing an up-to-date and accurate mine contamination database, with assistance from operators. As part of the improvements to information management, a monthly data-sharing mechanism between CNIDAH and operators has been in place since 2018 as part of the mine action and information management coordination

meetings.⁵⁰ Throughout 2020, database cleaning and updating took place to maintain data quality.⁵¹ Operators have reported that data collection forms are consistent and enable collection of the necessary data.⁵²

According to the National Mine Action Strategy 2020–2025, all CED-coordinated tasks will be reported to CNIDAH, disaggregated by survey and clearance, as of 2020.⁵³ However, as at March 2021, CED data continues to be excluded from the database as their land release methods are not IMAS-compliant and they were largely non-operational during 2020.⁵⁴

Transparency and reporting of mine action activities in Angola has certainly improved in recent years with timely and accurate submission of its most recent Article 7 reports and Article 5 statements at APMB meetings.

PLANNING AND TASKING

Angola's National Mine Action Strategy 2020–2025 was developed by CNIDAH, in 2019, with support from the GICHD. As at May 2021, the strategy has yet to be formally approved by the government of Angola but once adjustments are made to align it with the mandate of the newly created government agency ANAM it will be signed off by the office of the presidency.⁵⁵

There are five objectives within the strategy, three of which relate to completion of Angola's Article 5 obligations and which contain specific outcomes and targets:

- **Strategic Objective 1: Land release**

That appropriate land release activities result in the release of safe land and the facilitation of sustainable development. All hazardous areas are to be addressed by 31 December 2025 in line with the Article 5 extension request work plan. The programme's key strategic orientation for achieving its land release objective will focus on developing and fully implementing IMAS-compliant NMAS on land release, including by defining "all reasonable effort".

- **Strategic Objective 4: Management of Residual Contamination**

A national strategy on the management of residual contamination will be developed by the end of 2020 under the lead of CNIDAH and the CED with the participation of all relevant actors. A national capacity to manage residual contamination will be trained within the first quarter of 2021.⁵⁶ As at June 2021, this had still to happen (see section, Planning for residual risk after completion, for further information).

- **Strategic Objective 5: Advocacy, Communication, and Coordination**

Effective coordination and information sharing are stated to be pre-conditions for achieving all strategic objectives. In addition to the twice-yearly coordination meetings with relevant stakeholders that began in 2019, CNIDAH will take the lead in developing a communications plan on the completion process by the middle of 2021, to facilitate effective information sharing.⁵⁷

The Article 5 implementation Work Plan 2020–2025 contains annual land release targets, and projected milestones for Huambo, Malange, and Namibe provinces and on the standardisation of road contamination, establishment of comprehensive national mine action standards and a national residual contamination management plan.⁵⁸ In 2020, the majority of land release was planned to take place in Kuando Kubango, Kwanza Norte, Kwanza Sul, Lunda Sul, Moxico, Uige, and Zaire, with a land release target of 17.2km².⁵⁹ The COVID-19 outbreak led to the suspension of survey and clearance operations during March and April 2020, following the declaration of a national state of emergency.

At the end of April, CNIDAH authorised operators to resume demining activities at 50% capacity with operators resuming work at full capacity from July 2020. In October 2020, domestic flights resumed on a limited basis. Throughout the year there were also delays on the importation of equipment and machinery parts and restrictions when moving between provinces which caused delays to operations. Although Angola did not come close to meeting its land release target for the year, despite the challenges it did manage to release 8.46km².⁶⁰ In June 2021, Angola released an updated work plan which includes an updated list of all areas confirmed or suspected to contain explosive ordnance, annual clearance projections and milestones, and revised funding projections. The updated land release targets, set out in Table 2, are based on an estimate of outstanding anti-personnel mine contamination as at June 2021.

Table 2: Annual targets for release of mined area in 2021–25⁶¹

Year	Targets (m ²)
2021	17,075,262
2022	17,075,262
2023	15,672,399
2024	14,288,955
2025	7,826,779
Total	71,938,657

CNIDAH has acknowledged that its tasking, prioritisation, and planning procedures are inadequate, and that the effective implementation of the work plan depends heavily on these processes being strengthened.⁶² In 2020, CNIDAH planned to re-establish its authority regarding the coordination of tasking in individual provinces, working closely with operators to ensure there is no duplication of effort in any areas of the country, and that all operators are clearly tasked.⁶³ Guidelines for a new tasking and prioritisation system have been developed, which was planned to be finalised and adopted during 2020 following a round table with operators, but this was postponed due to COVID-19. By July 2021, this had been implemented and the new tasking and prioritisation system had been adopted.⁶⁴

A key feature of the new system is that provinces are assigned to operators giving them responsibility over that province and making it easier for CNIDAH to monitor their operations.⁶⁵ As part of the system a multi-year (2021–25) Tasking Master Plan (TMP) provides a comprehensive list of all hazardous areas that have been registered in the national database, with the Annual Task List (ATL) providing annual list of the tasks that will be cleared and by which operator.⁶⁶

LAND RELEASE SYSTEM

STANDARDS AND LAND RELEASE EFFICIENCY

There is no specific national mine action legislation in Angola.⁶⁷

While NMAS are in place in Angola, they are not up to date and are not IMAS-compliant. This has resulted in a lack of standardisation for activities, and consequently, operators have been relying on their own standing operating procedures.⁶⁸ With support of NPA's capacity development project, initially three IMAS-compliant standards on information management, quality management, and post-land-release documentation were developed with an additional seven standards identified as a minimum requirement for Angola. Nine NMAS have been drafted and reviewed by operators, which were expected to be officially approved in June 2021,⁶⁹ but as of writing had not yet occurred. An NMAS Review Board, chaired by CNIDAH and with representation from every operator, has been established to oversee all aspects of standards. A Technical Working Group has also been set up to advise the Review Board.⁷⁰

CNIDAH is responsible for undertaking external quality assurance (QA) and quality control (QC) of mine action

activities, including QC of all completed tasks prior to handover of land to beneficiaries. However, CNIDAH lacks the financial resources to mobilise its quality management capacity across provinces, which has resulted in very limited QA and significant delays in QC on completed tasks. This has also impacted negatively on handover procedures, with significant delays at the provincial levels.⁷¹

CNIDAH has relied on operators to fund its transport and, sometimes, even provide accommodation and per diem. This allowed CNIDAH to produce completion reports and remove completed tasks from the IMSMA database.⁷² In 2020, through the FCDO-funded Capacity Development Project, NPA provided both on-the-job and applied training to CNIDAH QA and QC officers.⁷³ A total of 89 QA and QC activities were conducted during 2020 by CNIDAH monitoring teams across nine provinces.⁷⁴

It has been agreed that CNIDAH will receive funding to conduct QA and QC as part of The HALO Trust five-year demining project in Kuando Kubango province.⁷⁵

OPERATORS AND OPERATIONAL TOOLS

Four international NGOs conducted demining for humanitarian purposes in Angola in 2020: APOPO, The HALO Trust, MAG, and NPA. APACOMINAS, the only national operator, was also operational in 2020.⁷⁶

The CED's four operators—the Armed Forces, the Military Office of the President, INAD, and the Police Border Guard—were not operational across Angola in 2020 due to a reduction in government funding but they did undertake some commercial verification type tasks.⁷⁷

MAG, NPA, and the HALO Trust all increased their operational capacity from 2019 to 2020 thanks to increased funding. HALO Trust also has two non-technical survey teams totalling seven

personnel and one technical survey team of three personnel. In APOPO and MAG clearance personnel also conduct non-technical survey and technical survey in the areas that they work. NPA has two non-technical survey personnel and clearance teams also conduct technical survey. MAG, NPA, HALO, and APOPO all expect to increase their operational capacity during 2021.⁷⁸ NPA is planning to introduce six mine detection dogs (MDDs) into its operations during the second half of 2021 and is conducting a three-month MDD handler training course which will also include selected CNIDAH QA/QC officers. The introduction of MDDs means that NPA will be deploying the full toolbox in Angola.⁷⁹

Table 3: Operational clearance capacities deployed in 2020⁸⁰

Operator	Manual teams	Total deminers*	Animal detection capacity	Machines**	Comments
APOPO	1	6	6 handlers, 12 rats	0	No change from 2019
HALO Trust	36	288	0	1	Increase by 50 deminers from 2019
APACOMINAS	3	25	0	2	Newly operational in 2020
NPA	6	56	0	4	Triple capacity from 2019
MAG	7	77	0	5	Increase by 40 deminers from 2019
Totals	53	452	6 handlers, 12 rats	12	

* Excluding team leaders, medics, and drivers. ** Excluding vegetation cutters and sifters.

DEMINER SAFETY

The HALO Trust reported that one deminer was injured by an R2M2 anti-personnel mine during clearance operations in 2020. The accident was initially investigated by HALO Trust and the site was then visited by CNIDAH which conducted its own assessment. Preliminary findings indicate a breach in SOPs by the deminer with an accident report shared by the HALO Trust with other operators in August 2021.⁸¹

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS AND ARTICLE 5 COMPLIANCE

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS IN 2020

A total of almost 8.5km² of mined area was released in 2020: almost 1.8km² through clearance, just over 1.8km² through technical survey, and 4.9km² through non-technical survey.⁸²

SURVEY IN 2020

CNIDAH reported that international operators released a total of just under 6.69km² through survey in 2020: cancelling 4.9km² through non-technical survey (see Table 4) and reducing 1.78km² through technical survey (see Table 5).⁸³ This represents an overall 44% decrease on the 11.95km² released by survey in 2019.⁸⁴ This decrease was due to the fall in cancellation by non-technical survey as area reduced by technical survey increased from 2019 to 2020.

CLEARANCE IN 2020

According to CNIDAH, operators cleared a total of 1.77km² of mined area in 2020, destroying in the process 426 anti-personnel mines (three of which were mines of an improvised nature), 87 anti-vehicle mines, and 802 items of ERW (see Table 6 for details).⁸⁵ This is a 13% increase on the 1.56km² of mined area cleared in 2019.⁸⁶ However, the number of square metres cleared for every anti-personnel mine found has also increased significantly: from 811m² per mine in 2019 to 4,166m² per mine in 2020.

In addition, 84 anti-personnel mines were destroyed during spot tasks: 9 by NPA, 17 by the HALO Trust, and 58 by MAG.⁸⁷

Table 4: Cancellation through non-technical survey in 2020⁸⁸

Province	Operator	Area cancelled (m ²)
Moxico	MAG	27,339
Kwanza Norte	NPA	3,802,846
Uíge	NPA	236,770
Uíge	APOPO	131,728
Bié	HALO Trust	122,032
Kuando Kubango	HALO Trust	587,629
Total		4,908,344

Table 5: Reduction through technical survey in 2020⁸⁹

Province	Operator	Area reduced (m ²)
Kwanza Norte	NPA	540,555
Uíge	NPA	328,008
Kwanza Sul	APOPO	47,877
Uíge	APOPO	347,761
Benguela	HALO Trust	33,810
Kuando Kubango	HALO Trust	241,739
Kwanza Sul	HALO Trust	81,087
Moxico	MAG	50,843
Kwanza Sul	APACOMINAS	109,700
Total		1,781,380

Table 6: Mine clearance in 2020⁹⁰

Province	Operator	Area cleared (m ²)	AP mines destroyed	AV mines destroyed	UXO destroyed
Kwanza Sul	APACOMINAS	183,300	17	0	64
Kwanza Norte	NPA	16,789	11	0	72
Uíge	NPA	41,598	30	2	19
Uíge	APOPO	3,567	2	1	21
Benguela	HALO Trust	201,741	70	0	66
Bié	HALO Trust	170,724	81	0	44
Kuando Kubango	HALO Trust	276,747	120	54	18
Kwanza Sul	HALO Trust	53,205	33	0	27
Moxico	MAG	827,149	62	30	471
Totals		1,774,820	426	87	802

AP = Anti-personnel AV = Anti-vehicle

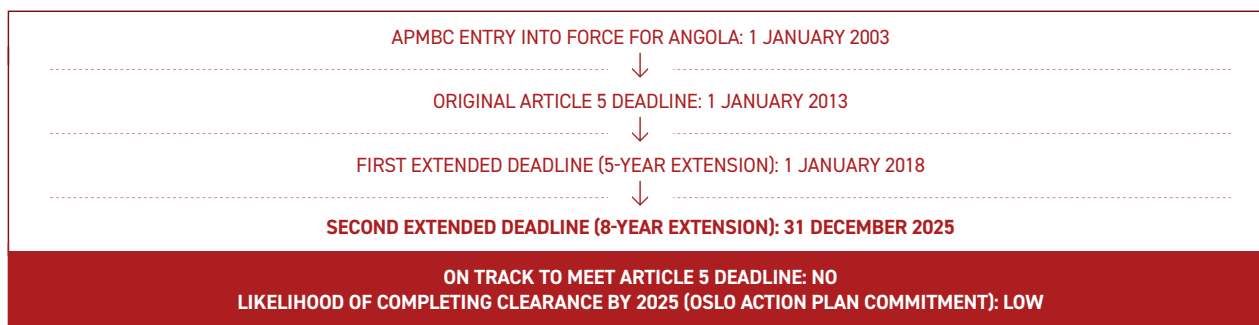
There was an overall reduction in land release productivity in 2020 compared to 2019. This was due to a large reduction in cancellation by non-technical survey, which is to be expected as Angola now has a much more accurate estimate of overall anti-personnel mine contamination. Clearance and technical survey output increased slightly from 2019, despite the restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

APOPO reported that it doubled its operational productivity in 2020 due to a reduction in operational downtime which resulted from APOPO's increased independence as an operator and improved logistics.⁹¹ NPA increased the area it reduced by technical survey by more than 100%, while reducing its area cleared by more than 40%, by continuing to deploy the evidence approach established in 2019 with increased operational capacity.⁹² The HALO Trust reported that the reduction in the amount of mined areas cancelled, reduced and cleared in 2020 was due to the COVID-19 pandemic and resultant two-month stand-down.⁹³ MAG increased clearance output in 2020 and reported a decrease in cancellation by non-technical survey and reduction by technical survey.⁹⁴ MAG reported that it had invested heavily in machines and that efficiency had improved in certain respects in 2020.⁹⁵

As at June 2021, all known mined areas in Huambo province had been released. Four provinces (Uige, Kwanza Norte, Malange, and Namibe) are very close to completion. Indeed, after years of clearance operations in Malange by both national and international operators, it was thought that all mined areas in the province had been cleared. However, CNIDAH received reports from the CED at the beginning of 2020 of newly discovered mined areas.⁹⁶ It has now been determined that this is likely residual contamination and that all known mined areas in Malange province registered in the national IMSMA database have been released. The declaration of completion has been delayed due to challenges with the interpretation and understanding of residual contamination by provincial leadership. This will be addressed as part of CNIDAH's residual contamination strategy (see Planning for residual risk after completion).⁹⁷

Completion of the remaining three minefields in Namibe province as operators have yet to be deployed, however, it is expected that clearance will be completed no later than December 2022. Completion of Uige and Kwanza Norte provinces are also expected by the end of 2022.⁹⁸

ARTICLE 5 DEADLINE AND COMPLIANCE



Under Article 5 of the APMBC (and in accordance with the eight-year extension granted by States Parties in 2017), Angola is required to destroy all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control as soon as possible, but not later than 31 December 2025. It is not on track to meet this deadline.

Angola was 8.7km² under its Article 5 work plan target for land release of 17.2km² in 2020.⁹⁹ Based on contamination figures provided as at June 2021, Angola will need to release nearly 17.1km² of anti-personnel mined area in 2021 and 2022, going down to nearly 15.7km² in 2023, 14.3km² in 2024, and 7.8km² in 2025 to meet its Article 5 deadline.¹⁰⁰ Although COVID-19 led to reduced land release output in 2020, it was expected that annual land release would drop due to the completion of nationwide re-survey. This means that land release is expected to mainly result from clearance and technical survey rather than large amounts of cancellation through non-technical survey.¹⁰¹

Table 7: Five-year summary of AP mine clearance

Year	Area cleared (km ²)
2020	1.8
2019	1.6
2018	1.0
2017	1.2
2016	4.1
Total	9.7

With these considerations, and the current demining capacity in the country, CNIDAH have stated that it will take ten years for Angola to achieve completion of clearance of anti-personnel mines. However, if capacity is increased and operators implement efficient and effective land release methodologies then this timeline could be significantly reduced.¹⁰² While funding has increased in Angola in recent years, as at May 2021, Angola still had a funding shortfall of \$200 million for the period through to the end of 2025.¹⁰³

CNIDAH has reported that the completed re-survey has meant that demining resources are more likely to be deployed for clearance and technical survey on land that is actually contaminated and that CNIDAH will continue to impress upon all operators the importance of applying proper land release principles to reduce clearance of uncontaminated areas.¹⁰⁴ In 2020, APOPO cleared two CHAs in Uige province totalling 363,400m² with no mines found.¹⁰⁵ The HALO Trust cleared ten areas totalling 184,551m² which proved to contain

no anti-personnel mines.¹⁰⁶ MAG cleared three minefields totalling 26,431m² which contained no anti-personnel mines but only one mined area of 4,940m² contained no explosive items while the other two areas contained a total of only three items of UXO.¹⁰⁷ NPA conducted clearance and technical survey of two mined areas measuring 151,765m² which proved to contain no anti-personnel mines, although approximately 4% of this area was cleared and the rest was reduced through technical survey.¹⁰⁸

PLANNING FOR RESIDUAL RISK AFTER COMPLETION

In accordance with Strategic Objective 4 of the draft National Mine Action Strategy 2020–2025, CNIDAH and the CED, with the participation of all relevant actors, aimed to establish a national strategy on the management of residual contamination by the end of 2020. This was delayed due to movement restrictions imposed by COVID-19 but, as at June 2021, CNIDAH reported that a residual management strategy had been developed and was planned to be completed by August 2021.¹⁰⁹ CNIDAH recognises the importance of establishing a residual contamination strategy because Angola lacks procedures for the declaration of completion within provinces and there is no common understanding of residual risk. CNIDAH prioritised the provinces of Huambo, where clearance has been completed, Malange, and Namibe,

which are approaching completion, and during 2020 held meetings with the political leadership in Luanda, Malange, and Namibe provinces to sensitise them to the terms of the treaty, set out their roles within the declaration process, and sought to allay any fears about job losses within demining. CNIDAH planned to hold these sensitisation workshops in all 18 provinces by the end of 2021.¹¹⁰

There were also targets for Angola to have a trained national capacity that can efficiently address residual contamination by the first quarter of 2021 but this has been delayed until after the completion of the residual management strategy.¹¹¹

1 Email from Robert Iga Afedra, Capacity Development Advisor, NPA, on behalf of CNIDAH, 22 March 2021.
 2 Email from Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, on behalf of CNIDAH, 22 March 2021; Article 7 Report (for 2020), Form C.
 3 This CHA in Huambo was cleared in 2015 but was only officially confirmed as cleared in 2021.
 4 Email from Robert Iga Afedra NPA, on behalf of CNIDAH, 1 April 2020.
 5 Emails from Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, on behalf of CNIDAH, 28 May 2021; and Miroslav Pisarević, Country Director, NPA, 5 April 2021; Jeanette Dijkstra, Country Director, MAG, 27 April 2021; and Rob Syfret, Programme Manager, HALO Trust, 26 April 2021.
 6 Emails from Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, on behalf of CNIDAH, 1 April 2020; Ralph Legg, Programme Manager, HALO Trust, 30 March 2020; Jeanette Dijkstra, MAG, 20 May 2020; and Miroslav Pisarević, NPA, 28 March 2020.
 7 Email from Miroslav Pisarević, NPA, 28 March 2020.
 8 Article 5 Implementation Work Plan 2020–2025, p. 6.
 9 Telephone interview with Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, 22 February 2021.
 10 Email from Ralph Legg, HALO Trust, 30 March 2020.
 11 CNIDAH, Article 5 Implementation Work Plan 2020–2025, November 2019, p. 4.

12 Comprising 934,525m² across 89 CHAs and 84,235m² across 21 SHAs. Article 7 Report (for 2020), Form C.
 13 Email from Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, on behalf of CNIDAH, 28 May 2021.
 14 Emails from Jeanette Dijkstra, MAG, 27 April 2021 and Rob Syfret, HALO Trust, 26 April 2021.
 15 Questionnaire response by Gerhard Zank, HALO Trust, 22 May 2017; and email, 17 May 2016.
 16 Telephone interview with Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, 22 February 2021; and email, 28 April 2021.
 17 Angola National Mine Action Strategy 2020–2025, pp. 5–6.
 18 Email from Robert Iga Afedra, (on behalf of CNIDAH), 14 July 2020.
 19 Angola National Mine Action Strategy 2020–2025, p. 10.
 20 Emails from Robert Iga Afedra (on behalf of CNIDAH), 1 April 2020; and Miroslav Pisarević, NPA, 28 March 2020.
 21 Interview with Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, 22 February 2021.
 22 Emails from Manuel João Agostinho, APOPO, 22 March 2021; Miroslav Pisarević, NPA, 5 April 2021; Jeanette Dijkstra, MAG, 27 April 2021; and Rob Syfret, HALO Trust, 26 April 2021.
 23 Email from Manuel João Agostinho, APOPO, 22 March 2021.

- 24 Email from Robert Iga Afedra (on behalf of CNIDAH), 1 April 2020.
- 25 Email from Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, on behalf of CNIDAH, 28 May 2021.
- 26 Interview with Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, 22 February 2021.
- 27 Email from GICHD, 30 April 2021.
- 28 Emails from Manuel João Agostinho, APOPO, 22 March 2021; Miroslav Pisarević, NPA, 5 April 2021; Jeanette Dijkstra, MAG, 27 April 2021; and Rob Syfret, HALO Trust, 26 April 2021.
- 29 Email from Rob Syfret, HALO Trust, 26 April 2021.
- 30 CNIDAH, Article 5 Implementation Work Plan 2020–2025, November 2019, p. 7.
- 31 CNIDAH, Updated Article 5 Implementation Work Plan 2020–2025, p. 7.
- 32 CNIDAH, Article 5 Implementation Work Plan 2020–2025, November 2019, p. 6; and email from Miroslav Pisarević, NPA, 5 April 2021.
- 33 Emails from Robert Iga Afedra (on behalf of CNIDAH), 1 April 2020; and Miroslav Pisarević, NPA, 5 April 2021.
- 34 Emails from Ralph Legg, HALO Trust, 30 March 2020; and Rob Syfret, HALO Trust, 26 April 2021.
- 35 Email from Robert Iga Afedra (on behalf of CNIDAH), 1 April 2020.
- 36 Angola National Mine Action Strategy 2020–2025, pp. 29–31.
- 37 Email from Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, on behalf of CNIDAH, 22 March 2021.
- 38 Email from Robert Iga Afedra (on behalf of CNIDAH), 1 April 2020.
- 39 ANAM, Updated Article 5 Implementation Work Plan 2020–2025, pp. 11–12.
- 40 Emails from Ralph Legg, HALO Trust, 30 March 2020; Manuel João Agostinho, APOPO, 9 March 2020; Miroslav Pisarević, NPA, 28 March 2020; and Jeanette Dijkstra, MAG, 20 May 2020.
- 41 Emails from Miroslav Pisarević, NPA, 5 April 2021; Jeanette Dijkstra, MAG, 27 April 2021; and Rob Syfret, HALO Trust, 26 April 2021.
- 42 Email from Rob Syfret, HALO Trust, 26 April 2021.
- 43 Email from Rob Syfret, HALO Trust, 26 April 2021.
- 44 Email from Miroslav Pisarević, NPA, 5 April 2021.
- 45 Email from Manuel João Agostinho, APOPO, 22 March 2021.
- 46 Email from Jeanette Dijkstra, MAG, 27 April 2021.
- 47 Emails from Ralph Legg, HALO Trust, 30 March 2020; Manuel João Agostinho, APOPO, 9 March 2020; Miroslav Pisarević, NPA, 28 March 2020; and Jeanette Dijkstra, MAG, 20 May 2020; and Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, on behalf of CNIDAH, 22 March 2021.
- 48 Email from Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, on behalf of CNIDAH, 22 March 2021.
- 49 Emails from Ralph Legg, HALO Trust, 30 March 2020; Manuel João Agostinho, APOPO, 9 March 2020; Jeanette Dijkstra, MAG, 20 May 2020; and Miroslav Pisarević, NPA, 28 March 2020.
- 50 Emails from Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, 3 June 2019; Ralph Legg, HALO Trust, 30 March 2020; and Jeanette Dijkstra, MAG, 20 May 2020.
- 51 Email from Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, on behalf of CNIDAH, 22 March 2021.
- 52 Emails from Manuel João Agostinho, APOPO, 22 March 2021; Miroslav Pisarević, NPA, 5 April 2021; Jeanette Dijkstra, MAG, 27 April 2021; and Rob Syfret, HALO Trust, 26 April 2021.
- 53 Angola National Mine Action Strategy 2020–2025, pp. 18–22.
- 54 Email from Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, on behalf of CNIDAH, 22 March 2021.
- 55 Emails from GICHD, 30 April 2021; and Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, on behalf of CNIDAH, 28 May 2021.
- 56 Angola National Mine Action Strategy 2020–2025, pp. 27–29.
- 57 *Ibid.*, pp. 29–31.
- 58 CNIDAH, Article 5 Implementation Work Plan 2020–2025, November 2019, p. 8.
- 59 *Ibid.*, p. 11.
- 60 Emails from Manuel João Agostinho, APOPO, 22 March 2021; Miroslav Pisarević, NPA, 5 April 2021; Jeanette Dijkstra, MAG, 27 April 2021; and Rob Syfret, HALO Trust, 26 April 2021; Article 7 Report (for 2020), Form C.
- 61 ANAM, Updated Article 5 Implementation Work Plan 2020–2025, p. 10.
- 62 Angola National Mine Action Strategy 2020–2025, p. 10.
- 63 Email from Ralph Legg, HALO Trust, 30 March 2020.
- 64 Email from Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, 4 July 2021.
- 65 Interview with Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, 22 February 2021.
- 66 CNIDAH, Minefield Tasking, Planning, and Prioritisation Guideline, 2021.
- 67 Email from Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, 3 June 2019.
- 68 *Ibid.*
- 69 Email from Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, on behalf of CNIDAH, 28 May 2021.
- 70 Email from Robert Iga Afedra (on behalf of CNIDAH), 1 April 2020.
- 71 Angola National Mine Action Strategy 2020–2025, pp. 11–12.
- 72 Emails from Ralph Legg, HALO, 21 May 2019; Shadreck Njamba, MAG, 22 May 2019; Joaquim da Costa, NPA, 6 May 2019; and Ashley Fitzpatrick, Programme Manager, APOPO Zimbabwe, 27 July 2019.
- 73 Telephone interview with Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, 22 February 2021.
- 74 Article 7 Report (for 2020), Form J.
- 75 Telephone interview with Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, 22 February 2021.
- 76 Email from Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, on behalf of CNIDAH, 22 March 2021.
- 77 Telephone interview with Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, 22 February 2021.
- 78 Emails from Manuel João Agostinho, APOPO, 22 March 2021; Miroslav Pisarević, NPA, 5 April 2021; Jeanette Dijkstra, MAG, 27 April 2021; and Rob Syfret, HALO Trust, 26 April 2021.
- 79 Email from Miroslav Pisarević, NPA, 5 April 2021.
- 80 Email from Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, on behalf of CNIDAH, 22 March 2021; Rob Syfret, HALO Trust, 26 April 2021.
- 81 Emails from Rob Syfret, HALO Trust, 26 April and 6 August 2021.
- 82 Email from Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, on behalf of CNIDAH, 22 March 2021.
- 83 *Ibid.*; and emails from Manuel João Agostinho, APOPO, 22 March 2021; and Miroslav Pisarević, NPA, 5 April 2021.
- 84 Email from Robert Iga Afedra (on behalf of CNIDAH), 1 April 2020.
- 85 Email from Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, on behalf of CNIDAH, 22 March 2021.
- 86 Email from Robert Iga Afedra (on behalf of CNIDAH), 1 April 2020.
- 87 Emails from Miroslav Pisarević, NPA, 5 April 2021; Jeanette Dijkstra, MAG, 27 April 2021; and Rob Syfret, HALO Trust, 26 April 2021.
- 88 Article 7 Report (for 2020), Form F; and emails from Manuel João Agostinho, APOPO, 22 March 2021; Miroslav Pisarević, NPA, 5 April 2021; Jeanette Dijkstra, MAG, 27 April 2021; and Rob Syfret, HALO Trust, 26 April 2021.
- 89 Article 7 Report (for 2020), Form F; and emails from Manuel João Agostinho, APOPO, 22 March 2021; Miroslav Pisarević, NPA, 5 April 2021; Jeanette Dijkstra, MAG, 27 April 2021; and Rob Syfret, HALO Trust, 26 April 2021.
- 90 Article 7 Report (for 2020), Form F; and emails from Manuel João Agostinho, APOPO, 22 March 2021; Miroslav Pisarević, NPA, 5 April 2021; Jeanette Dijkstra, MAG, 27 April 2021; and Rob Syfret, HALO Trust, 26 April 2021.
- 91 Email from Manuel João Agostinho, APOPO, 22 March 2021.
- 92 Email from Miroslav Pisarević, NPA, 5 April 2021.
- 93 Email from Rob Syfret, HALO Trust, 26 April 2021.
- 94 Email from Jeanette Dijkstra, MAG, 27 April 2021.
- 95 Email from Jeanette Dijkstra, MAG, 17 August 2021.
- 96 Email from Robert Iga Afedra (on behalf of CNIDAH), 1 April 2020 and 28 May 2021.
- 97 CNIDAH, Updated Article 5 Implementation Work Plan 2020–2025, p. 10.
- 98 *Ibid.*
- 99 CNIDAH, "Detailed work plan for the implementation of Article 5 of the Convention (2019-2025)", Annex 1.
- 100 ANAM, Updated Article 5 Implementation Work Plan 2020–2025, p. 10.
- 101 CNIDAH, Article 5 Implementation Work Plan 2020–2025, November 2019, p. 11.
- 102 Email from Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, on behalf of CNIDAH, 22 March 2021.
- 103 Article 7 Report (for 2020), Form J.
- 104 Article 7 Report (for 2019), Form J.
- 105 Email from Manuel João Agostinho, APOPO, 22 March 2021.
- 106 Email from Rob Syfret, HALO Trust, 26 April 2021.
- 107 Email from Jeanette Dijkstra, MAG, 27 April 2021.
- 108 Email from Miroslav Pisarević, NPA, 5 April 2021.
- 109 Telephone interview with Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, 8 June 2021; CNIDAH, Updated Article 5 Implementation Work Plan 2020–2025, p. 8.
- 110 Telephone interview with Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, 22 February 2021; and Article 7 Report (for 2020), Form J.
- 111 Angola National Mine Action Strategy 2020–2025, pp. 27–29; and email from Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, 4 July 2021.