ANGOLA

MINE ACTION REVIEW

CLEARING THE MINES 2026

KEY DATA

APMBC ARTICLE 5 DEADLINE: 31 DECEMBER 2030

Not on track to meet deadline

AP MINE CONTAMINATION: 30KM^2

Heavy (Mine Action Review estimate)

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS

Release of AP mined area	Release in 2025 (km^2)	Release in 2024 (km^2)
Clearance	1.95	3.03
Technical Survey	4.13	2.38
Non-Technical Survey	0.76	0.14

Destruction of AP mines during clearance, survey, and spot tasks	2025	2024
AP Mines destroyed	9,268 (incl. 648 in spot tasks)	5,680 (incl. 44 in spot tasks)

MAIN AP MINE SURVEY AND CLEARANCE OPERATORS IN 2025:

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

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

In 2025, Angola was granted a five-year extension to its Article 5 deadline. Land release targets were revised to an average of 10km^2 each year from 2026 to 2030. Land release output increased in 2025, driven by higher survey output, but was still 1km^2 below the annual target of 7.8km^2 then in force. Two provinces, Huambo and Zaire, were removed from the contaminated list but had not yet been declared mine-free. Despite a positive increase in survey output in 2025, large areas continue to be cleared without finding any anti-personnel (AP) mines.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

- **Angola should ensure all demining operators rigorously apply land release principles to reduce clearance of uncontaminated areas and improve efficiency.**
- **Angola should ensure that public operators, including the National Demining Centre (CND) and the Demining Brigade of the Armed Forces of Angola (FAA), align their activities with the State's obligations under Article 5 of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC). Public operators should be tasked by the National Mine Action Agency (ANAM) for release of mined areas within the national database, work in accordance with national standards, and report all activities to the national database held by ANAM.**
- **ANAM should complete the transition to the Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) Core, and integrate data from public, national, and commercial operators.**
- **Angola should finalise its residual risk management strategy and the national mine action standard (NMAS) for management of residual contamination.**
- **ANAM and operators should investigate recurring demining accidents, strengthen safety standards, and ensure the technical capacity and equipment needed to address minefields containing low-metal-content mines.**

ASSESSMENT OF NATIONAL PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE

Criterion	Score (2025)	Score (2024)	Performance Commentary
UNDERSTANDING OF AP MINE CONTAMINATION (20% of overall score)	8	8	Angola has a high ratio of confirmed hazardous areas (CHAs) to suspected hazardous areas (SHAs) and continues to improve the accuracy of the baseline through continued survey and data reconciliation. The discovery of new contamination is likely to continue over the coming years as clearance progresses and communities return to remote areas.
NATIONAL OWNERSHIP AND PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT (10% of overall score)	9	9	The national mine action programme is managed by ANAM. There is strong national ownership with Angola approving more than US$240 million from the national budget to the end of 2028 for demining operations. The two public operators, the Armed Forces of Angola (FAA) and the National Demining Centre (CND) are said to be undergoing training to align their practices with national standards, but their survey and clearance data were not integrated in Angola's 2025 reporting.
GENDER AND DIVERSITY (10% of overall score)	7	7	Gender and diversity are treated as cross-cutting issues in the national strategy, and ANAM's first gender equality and diversity policy was drafted in 2024 with support of NPA. Women's participation was highest among HALO and ANAM staff, and particularly low in APOPO, MAG, and NPA.
ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES AND ACTION (10% of overall score)	5	5	Angola does not have an environmental management policy or standard on environmental management but ensures operators comply with national environmental legislation. ANAM is planning to develop an NMAS on environmental management, in line with IMAS 07.13.
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING (10% of overall score)	8	8	ANAM, with support from the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) and NPA, is transitioning its database to IMSMA Core. New forms and workflows were developed and have already resulted in improved data quality, but as at July 2026, the migration was still ongoing. Angola submitted a detailed Article 5 deadline extension request and a timely Article 7 report. Data discrepancies, albeit minor, persisted in reporting.
PLANNING AND TASKING (10% of overall score)	7	7	A new National Strategy 2026–2030 is said to be awaiting approval by the Presidential Office. An accompanying updated work plan set an average land release annual target of 10km^2 and is prioritising land release in provinces that are closest to completion. Angola aims for a staged declaration of completion and transition to residual contamination upon the completion of clearance in each province, but has not yet approved a national residual contamination strategy.
LAND RELEASE SYSTEM (10% of overall score)	6	7	In 2024, the NMAS on residual contamination management was revised, the NMAS on monitoring of clearance activities was updated, and a new NMAS on accident investigation was elaborated. Large areas continue to be cleared without mines being found, and public operators' activities do not meet national standards. Demining accidents have occurred every year since 2020.
LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS AND ARTICLE 5 COMPLIANCE (20% of overall score)	6	6	Overall land release output increased by 23% in 2025, but remained below the 7.8km^2 target set for the year. A total of 3.5km^2 of AP mined area was reportedly cleared without finding any mines. The contamination baseline also continued to increase, with nearly 1km^2 of contamination discovered and added to the database in 2025. Angola needs to substantially increase its national capacities and apply rigorous land release methodologies if it is to meet its 2030 deadline.
Average Score	**7.0**	**7.1**	**Overall Programme Performance: GOOD**

AP MINE SURVEY AND CLEARANCE CAPACITY

MANAGEMENT CAPACITY

- National Mine Action Agency (Agência Nacional de Acção Contra as Minas, ANAM)

NATIONAL OPERATORS

- Association of Angolan Mine Professionals (Associação de Profissionais Angolanos de Acção Contra Minas, APACOMINAS) (NGO)
- National Demining Centre (Centro Nacional de Desminagem, CND)
- Demining Brigades of the Angolan Armed Forces (Forças Armadas Angolanas, FAA)

INTERNATIONAL OPERATORS

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

OTHER ACTORS

- Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD)

UNDERSTANDING OF AP MINE CONTAMINATION

At the end of 2025, a total of 966 AP mined areas covering an estimated 60.92km^2 remained in 19 of Angola's 21 provinces (see Table 1). Cuando and Moxico are believed to be the most heavily contaminated provinces.[1] The total contamination is an increase from the 1,016 AP mined areas covering an estimated 57km^2 that remained at the end of 2024.[2] This is not consistent with reported land release in 2025 and the new contamination added to the database, but ANAM says the decrease in AP mined area is also partly the result of reconciliation of the national database with operator data.[3]

Table 1: AP mined area by province (at end 2025)[4]

Province	CHAs	Area (m^2)	SHAs	Area (m^2)	Total HAs	Area of HA (m^2)
Bengo	32	1,936,564	0	0	32	1,936,564
Benguela	5	23,000	0	0	5	23,000
Bié	151	5,408,285	0	0	151	5,408,285
Cabinda	27	1,279,321	0	0	27	1,279,321
Cuando	111	10,932,689	0	0	111	10,932,689
Cuanza Norte	1	3,780	0	0	1	3,780
Cuanza Sul	75	5,252,913	0	0	75	5,252,913
Cubango	102	4,970,879	0	0	102	4,970,879
Cunene	35	2,505,156	9	0	44	2,505,156
Huila	40	3,011,349	0	0	40	3,011,349
Icolo e Bengo	8	728,888	0	0	8	728,888
Luanda	1	425,281	0	0	1	425,281
Lunda Norte	49	1,762,081	9	121,268	58	1,883,349
Lunda Sul	32	6,742,297	19	917,218	51	7,659,515
Malanje	9	173,395	0	0	9	173,395
Moxico	134	7,944,310	23	505,659	157	8,449,969
Moxico Leste	75	5,380,671	14	590,977	89	5,971,648
Namibe	1	34,403	1	0	2	34,403
Uíge	3	265,958	0	0	3	265,958
Totals	**891**	**58,781,220**	**75**	**2,135,122**	**966**	**60,916,342**

CHA = Confirmed hazardous area. SHA = Suspected hazardous area. HA = Hazardous area.

In its 2025 revised Article 5 deadline extension request, Angola said that the provinces of Huambo, Namibe, Uíge, Cuanza Norte, and Luanda would be officially declared mine-free by the end of 2026, followed by Bengo, Benguela, Malanje, and Zaire by the end of 2027.[5] By the end of 2025, however, only Huambo and Zaire had been removed from the list of contaminated provinces. Norwegian People's Aid (NPA) said it had completed clearance of the last known minefield in Cuanza Norte in 2025, and that no further contamination has been discovered since then. ANAM, however, has maintained Cuanza Norte on the list of contaminated areas by the end of 2025.[6] New contamination was also identified in Benguela, which Angola had previously expected to complete (together with Huambo) by the end of 2025.[7] Three minefields remained in Uíge: NPA was clearing one, while the other two were inaccessible by vehicle due to road conditions. NPA requested assistance from the provincial government to gain access, but this had not materialised as of writing.[8]

In 2019, non-technical survey (NTS) was completed in all provinces, reducing previously inflated estimates of mined areas by nearly 15km^2, and establishing the most accurate baseline of AP mine contamination to date.[9] Operators broadly do not consider a nationwide resurvey necessary, but call for continued survey efforts to further refine the contamination baseline and identify new contamination.

1 Email from Paula de Almeida Diogo, ANAM Deputy Administrative Director, ANAM, 14 July 2026.

2 Article 7 Report (covering 2025), Form C; and email from Paula de Almeida Diogo, ANAM, 14 July 2026.

3 Article 7 Report (covering 2024), Form J.

4 Article 7 Report (covering 2025), Form C (Angola's wrongly summed the total HAs to 60,866,147m^2); and email from Paula de Almeida Diogo, ANAM, 14 July 2026.

5 Revised 2025 Article 5 deadline extension request, Table 11.

6 Email from Robert Iga Afedra, Country Director, NPA, 3 August 2026.

7 Article 7 Report (covering 2025), Form J; and "Huambo and Benguela free of mines in 2025. Angola requires 240 million dollars" (in Portuguese), *Observador*, 20 April 2025, https://shorturl.at/isNK9.

8 Emails from Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, 2 September 2025 and 14 April 2026.

9 ANAM Updated Article 5 Implementation Work Plan 2020–2025, June 2021, p. 4; and 2025 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, Executive Summary, p. 1.

APOPO said that further survey/resurvey is needed to remove some hazardous areas from the database,[10] while HALO noted that first- and second-hand evidence is often incomplete and has to be supplemented by satellite and drone imagery. Resurvey is particularly needed in Cuando and Cubango provinces, where continued identification of previously unrecorded confirmed hazardous areas (CHAs) and suspected hazardous areas (SHAs) indicates significant new contamination in remote and hard-to-access locations.[11]

Mines Advisory Group (MAG) advocates for continued survey to confirm mined areas,[12] while NPA recommended engaging consistently with communities to ensure previously unknown contamination is discovered and recorded correctly. NPA believes that ANAM and operators should jointly assess new reports and apply strict evidence in recording new contamination to guard against the tendency to exaggerate findings due to "completion anxiety".[13] According to ANAM, however, given Angola's conflict history, many mined areas remain unknown to communities and were missed in baseline surveys, so the government mandates technical survey (TS) and clearance in areas designated for investment projects to ensure safety.[14]

A total of 972,235m^2 of newly discovered AP mined area was recorded and added to the database in 2025. Of this, HALO added 306,885m^2 across 15 hazardous areas and a further 219,926m^2 following resurvey in eight previously surveyed polygons. MAG added 426,889m^2 across six CHAs, and NPA added 18,535m^2 in Bengo province.[15]

Angola's contamination is the result of more than 40 years of internal armed conflict that ended in 2002, in the course of which a range of national and foreign armed movements and groups laid mines, often in a sporadic manner. Most of the AP mines used in Angola are manufactured by former Warsaw Pact countries, characterised by high metal content, and which are therefore relatively easy to detect. Angola's central, eastern, and south-eastern provinces (Bié, Cuando Cubango, Moxico, and Moxico Leste), however, contain large minefields with a frequent combination of AP mines and anti-vehicle (AV) mines, both with low metal content, requiring the use of more sophisticated detectors. This has resulted in an increase in demining accidents in the south-eastern region. Some of the contamination is also present on flat but sandy land, which complicates the logistical arrangements, or in locations with dense vegetation, mountains, or cliffs making it difficult to access or to prepare the soil using mechanical assets.[16]

OTHER EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE CONTAMINATION

Angola also has a significant problem of explosive remnants of war (ERW), especially unexploded ordnance (UXO). Evidence indicates that Angola now has only a residual threat from cluster munition remnants (CMR) rather than cluster munition-contaminated areas that would involve an Article 4 obligation under the Convention on Cluster Munitions (see Mine Action Review's *Clearing Cluster Munition Remnants 2024* report on Angola for further information).

NATIONAL OWNERSHIP AND PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT

The mine action programme is managed by ANAM, established by Presidential Decree in July 2021 following the dissolution of the National Intersectoral Commission for Demining and Humanitarian Assistance (CNIDAH). Its mandate is to regulate and supervise mine action work by public and private institutions as well as NGOs. ANAM is a government agency and is subject to the oversight of the president through the Minister of State and the Chief of Staff.[17]

The National Demining Centre (Centro Nacional de Desminagem, CND) was created by presidential decree in July 2022, resulting from the merger of the National Demining Institute, the Executive Demining Commission, the Demining Brigades of the Angolan Armed Forces and the Demining Brigades of the Military House of the President of the Republic.[18] Both the FAA and CND currently act as public operators and are mandated by the Government to demine and ensure the safety of areas dedicated for national construction or development projects.[19]

Operators continue to report smooth collaboration with the Angolan authorities, though securing visas remained challenging across the board. MAG initially benefitted from a fast-tracked visa process through an arrangement between ANAM and the Migration Services with visas issued within two months, but then faced delays following a major reshuffle of Migration Services' senior management and greater scrutiny of visa application processes, which ANAM is working on resolving.[20] The nationalisation of most of NPA's in-country positions, with the Country Director the only international staff member remaining, means that the programme is now less exposed to the bureaucracy around visas.[21]

10 Email from Manuel João Agostinho, Programme Manager, APOPO, 31 March 2026.
11 Email from Philippa Coates, HALO, 26 May 2026.
12 Email from Nelson Veríssimo, Country Director, MAG, 27 April 2026.
13 Email from Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, 14 April 2026.
14 Email from Mário Nunes (on behalf of ANAM), NPA, 10 May 2023.
15 Emails from Philippa Coates, HALO, 26 May 2026; Nelson Veríssimo, MAG, 27 April 2026; and Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, 14 April 2026.
16 Revised Article 5 deadline Extension Request, pp. 26–27.
17 Article 7 Report (covering 2021), Form A.
18 Revised 2025 Article 5 deadline extension request, p. 14.
19 Interview with Paula de Almeida Diogo, ANAM, Geneva, 17 June 2026; and Revised 2025 Article 5 deadline extension request, pp. 14–15.
20 Emails from Manuel João Agostinho, APOPO, 31 March 2026; Philippa Coates, HALO, 26 May 2026; Nelson Veríssimo, MAG, 27 April 2026; and Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, 14 April 2026.
21 Email from Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, 7 April 2025.

In 2023, NPA received a US$1.3 million grant from the Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement in the United States (US) Department of State's Bureau of Political-Military Affairs (PM/WRA) for an 18-month capacity development project for ANAM, which ended in January 2025, when the Stop-Work Order was issued.[22] The project's key objectives were to strengthen ANAM's capacity in quality management (QM), information management, residual contamination planning, and gender mainstreaming. These objectives were largely achieved with QM standards updated, 54 ANAM monitoring officers trained, and nearly 300 quality assurance (QA)/ quality control (QC) visits conducted, exceeding targets.

A new IMSMA Core system was established ahead of schedule, with trained staff and digital reporting tools introduced. An updated national residual contamination strategy was developed, provincial sensitisation workshops held, and the first-ever gender and diversity policy for ANAM drafted. However, some gaps remain as the national residual management strategy has not yet been formally adopted or operationalised and capacity to manage residual risk is still underdeveloped. The US Stop-Work Order delayed the full roll-out of IMSMA Core to all operators and caused a slight budget underspend, while long-term sustainability continues to depend heavily on external funding and technical support.[23] NPA is supporting ANAM's work by helping to update key strategy, policy, and standards' documents.[24]

ANAM leads quarterly mine action coordination meetings with national authorities, clearance operators, and occasionally donors.[25] In 2025, ANAM held quarterly coordination and planning meetings, technical working groups, and technical workshops on information management, demining, and QM, with participation of all accredited operators.[26]

FUNDING FOR AP MINE SURVEY AND CLEARANCE

The Government of Angola fully funds the two public operators—FAA and CND—in addition to funding ANAM's overheads and some of its operational costs, particularly for quality management. In addition, the Angolan government provided US$60 million to HALO for the demining project in the transboundary Okavango Zambeze area (Cuando Cubango province), which lasted 66 months, and concluded in October 2025. As for international funding, mine action in Angola continued to receive support from the United States, the United Kingdom, Norway, Belgium, Switzerland, and Japan.[27]

Angola has calculated that it needs more than US$197 million to clear all remaining mined areas by 2030. This amount was calculated taking into account the average cost of demining operations at US$3.10 per square metre.[28] Clearance operations in more remote and densely mined areas will cost more than clearance of low-density tasks with good road access.[29]

In October 2024, the President had announced in his annual "State of the Nation" address that Angola will invest US$240 million dollars of national funding in demining over the course of 2025 and 2026 so that the country can be declared mine-free in 2027.[30] The funding was primarily to support the public operators, but in 2025, MAG, APOPO, and NPA held discussions with ANAM and jointly submitted three concept notes seeking some of the funding.[31] In its revised 2025 Article 5 deadline extension request, Angola states that the US$240 million has been approved to fund demining operations from 2025 to 2028 and that it will be dispersed annually. Although mainly earmarked to procure equipment and to cover the running costs of ANAM and public operators, funding proposals from national and international operators APACOMINAS, APOPO, HALO, MAG, and NPA totalling over US$63 million have also been approved.[32]

In 2025, APOPO was funded by Belgium's Directorate-General for Development (DGD), UK's People's Postcode Lottery (UKPPL), the Silverman Foundation, Hawk Rock Foundation, and Japan, who joined as a new donor in 2025. APOPO has secured funds from Japan, DGD, and Caflisch Foundation until September 2026.[33] HALO was funded by the Angolan Government, PM/WRA, the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) (funding ended in March 2025), World Without Mines, Afentra, the Oak Foundation; and an anonymous private foundation. Three additional donors will support HALO in 2026: The Trafigura Foundation, Azule Energy, and Sonangol Foundation.[34]

NPA's activities in 2025 were supported by the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad), Japan (via the Japanese Embassy), and the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Funds from Belgium and Japan ended in February and May 2025, respectively, leaving Norad as the sole NPA funder in 2026.[35] MAG's operations in 2025 were funded by PM/WRA, FCDO, and Japan, whose funding ended in September 2025. MAG established a two-year partnership with the Digger Foundation in 2025, with funding commencing

22 Email from Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, 2 September 2025.

23 NPA, Final Report, Quality Management and Information Management Capacity Development of ANAM, 24 July 2025.

24 Email from Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, 14 April 2026.

25 Emails from Manuel João Agostinho, Programme Manager, APOPO, 29 April 2024; Sarah Coomb, HALO, 8 May 2024; Catherine Harris, MAG, 3 May 2024; and Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, 2 May 2024.

26 Emails from Paula de Almeida Diogo, ANAM, 14 July 2026; Manuel João Agostinho, APOPO, 31 March 2026; Philippa Coates, HALO, 26 May 2026; Nelson Veríssimo, MAG, 27 April 2026; and Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, 14 April 2026.

27 Email from Paula de Almeida Diogo, ANAM, 14 July 2026; and Article 7 Report (covering 2025), Form J.

28 Revised 2025 Article 5 deadline extension request, p. 34. Note: Angola provides a detailed budget breakdown in Table 9, p. 58, the sum of which, US$ 176.9 million, differs from the overall figure provided in the narrative on p. 34.

29 Email from Robert Syfret, Deputy Regional Director, HALO, 22 September 2025.

30 "President of the Republic wants the country to be free of mines by 2027", *Ver Angola*, 16 October 2024, http://bit.ly/4lljQwI.

31 Emails from Catherine Harris, MAG, 28 April 2025; and Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, 2 September 2025.

32 Revised 2025 Article 5 deadline extension request, p. 33; and email from Cristy McLennan, MAG, 7 October 2025.

33 Email from Manuel João Agostinho, APOPO, 31 March 2026.

34 Email from Philippa Coates, HALO, 26 May 2026.

35 Email from Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, 14 April 2026.

in January 2026. PM/WRA and the Digger Foundation support was continuing in 2026, while FCDO funding ended in March. Although the Government of Angola approved MAG's application for funding for 2026–27 in May 2025, no contract had been awarded or funding allocated as at the time of writing.[36]

For more information on funding, please see the country profile on Angola on the *Landmine and Cluster Munition Monitor* website.[37]

GENDER AND DIVERSITY

Gender and diversity are integrated as cross-cutting issues in Angola's National Mine Action Strategy 2020–25, which calls for activities to be designed so as to meet the distinct needs of different groups and requires sex- and age-disaggregated data collection across all standard operating procedures and tools.[38] In 2025, HALO and ANAM had the highest representation of women in their workforce, with HALO's operational teams nearly achieving gender parity. In contrast, women's representation in NPA teams, which was already weak in 2024, has dropped further in 2025 with only one woman in a managerial position in 2025 (see Table 2).

Table 2: Gender composition of operators in 2025[39]

Operator	Total staff	Women staff	Total managerial or supervisory staff	Women in managerial or supervisory positions	Total operational staff	Women in operational positions
ANAM	144	55 (38%)	9	3 (33%)	86	19 (22%)
APOPO	45	4 (9%)	8	0 (0%)	32	3 (9%)
HALO	443	156 (35%)	36	9 (25%)	268	125 (47%)
MAG	271	63 (23%)	37	6 (16%)	153	39 (25%)
NPA	76	20 (26%)	21	1 (5%)	61	17 (28%)
Totals	**979**	**298 (30%)**	**111**	**19 (17%)**	**600**	**203 (34%)**

In March 2025, HALO delivered a two-day workshop for ANAM representatives on unconscious bias, gender equality, disability, and inclusion. HALO introduced a range of professional development initiatives, including ICT and English-language training to support female staff career progression. Since 75% of HALO's female employees are primary income earners in their households, HALO provides childcare stipends and distributes baby and school boxes to improve staff retention and reduce absenteeism and financial and childcare-related pressures. HALO also upgraded sanitation and lighting at remote demining camps to improve women's safety and hygiene. A survey of 147 female operations staff found that 81% were still using reusable menstrual hygiene kits distributed in 2024 in collaboration with "Days for Girls" initiative, and HALO planned to provide replacement kits and training on their local production and repair in 2026.[40]

In 2025, MAG delivered a series of leadership training and EOD Level II training, offering equal opportunities to men and women to progress their careers. MAG's Global Gender, Diversity & Inclusion Advisor (GDI) visited the Angola programme to conduct a desktop assessment, and delivered a training on GDI and the development of a Gender Action Plan 2025–27.[41]

NPA provides conditions for breastfeeding mothers to be accompanied by their babies in field camps during operations. NPA also provides one additional month of paid maternity leave compared to the three-month stipulated by national regulations. The programme ensures that all task implementation plans and task dossiers include a section on gender and diversity safeguarding, and conducts annual gender and diversity refresher training for all its staff.[42]

36 Email from Nelson Veríssimo, MAG, 27 April 2026.

37 https://the-monitor.org.

38 Email from Robert Iga Afedra, NPA (on behalf of CNIDAH), 1 April 2020.

39 Emails Paula de Almeida Diogo, ANAM, 14 July 2026; Manuel João Agostinho, APOPO, 31 March 2026; Philippa Coates, HALO, 26 May 2026; Nelson Veríssimo, MAG, 27 April 2026; and Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, 3 August 2026.

40 Email from Philippa Coates, HALO, 26 May 2026.

41 Email from Nelson Veríssimo, MAG, 27 April 2026.

42 Email from Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, 3 August 2026.

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES AND ACTION

ANAM ensures demining complies with national environmental legislation, supporting reduced emissions, renewable energy use, and biodiversity conservation. Operators are required to apply environmentally responsible methods, including safe landfills, proper fuel storage, controlled demolitions and burning, limited vegetation cutting, protection of water sources and wildlife, safe battery disposal, and the use of solar power. To strengthen this framework, ANAM, in collaboration with the relevant ministries and mine action operators, is working on the development of an NMAS on environmental management in line with IMAS 07.13.[43] Extreme climate conditions present challenges to operations, with temperatures as high as 40°C during the rainy season, and floods inundating minefields, potentially displacing mines, or burying them at greater depths.[44]

Table 3: Environmental policies and action[45]

Operator	Environmental policy in place for country programme	Environmental assessments conducted to support planning and delivery of survey and clearance	Environmental focal point at country-programme level
APOPO	Yes	Yes	Yes
HALO	No – global policy in place; programme-wide plan under development	Yes	Yes
NPA	No – follows global guidelines, not country-specific	Yes	Yes
MAG	No – global Climate and Environment Strategy under development	No	Yes

APOPO's environmental management practices include promotion of syntropic agriculture in cleared areas, effective waste management and provision of sanitation facilities at demining camps, increased reliance on solar power, and reduced fuel consumption. APOPO also continued its analysis of greenhouse gas emissions through standardised reporting protocols.[46] HALO has a dedicated environment unit who works on biodiversity conservation and protected area management support. HALO also completed an environmental impact assessment (EIA) which informed its storage and disposal practices. Following the assessment, HALO identified a waste oil reuse company to manage oil disposal. Given that Angola has limited to non-existing recycling facilities, HALO is trialling demining camp improvements including waste-water soak away, effluent disposal with composting latrines, installation of solar panels, rainwater capture, organic vegetable gardens, and incinerators for plastic waste disposal. HALO has also moved to using public transport between cities and provinces to reduce carbon emissions from domestic flights and individual vehicle movements.[47]

MAG is working to strengthen links between mine action and biodiversity conservation in Cameia National Park and the Mussuma Conservation Area in Moxico province, and was working in partnership with an environmental organisation on community-based reforestation, soil recovery, and resilient agriculture. MAG Angola has also participated in the global piloting of carbon accounting to assess its environmental footprint and develop measures to reduce its environmental impact. Following the assessment, adopted measures included the increased use of solar power, recycling of all camps construction materials, waste segregation, and reducing fuel consumption. MAG had recruited a climate and environmental officer, but the position was discontinued due to funding constraints. MAG appointed an interim focal point while waiting for the renewal of funding.[48] NPA's programme integrates environmental conservation measures into its operations and office activities. These include waste management, reduced use of printing paper, and limited vegetation cutting. The programme has also implemented the requirement for a chapter on the environment in all task-level implementation planning.[49]

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING

Until 2025, Angola used IMSMA New Generation (NG) with operators submitting data to ANAM via digital files and excel spreadsheets, which ANAM staff then entered manually into the system. This heightened the risk of data entry errors, delayed data availability, and led to inconsistencies between operator data and the national database.[50]

In early 2025, with the support from the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) and NPA, ANAM started migrating its database from IMSMA NG to IMSMA Core.[51] As at July 2026, the migration process was still ongoing. Mine action activity forms have been created in the new system, with only the monthly progress and QC

43 Revised 2025 Article 5 deadline extension request, pp. 7–8; and email from Paula de Almeida Diogo, ANAM, 14 July 2026.

44 Revised 2025 Article 5 deadline extension request, p. 27.

45 Emails from Manuel João Agostinho, APOPO, 31 March 2026; Philippa Coates, HALO, 26 May 2026; Nelson Veríssimo, MAG, 27 April 2026; and Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, 14 April 2026.

46 Emails from Manuel João Agostinho, APOPO, 7 April 2025 and 31 March 2026.

47 Email from Philippa Coates, HALO, 26 May 2026.

48 Email from Nelson Veríssimo, MAG, 27 April 2026.

49 Email from Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, 14 April 2026.

50 Email from Philippa Coates, HALO, 26 May 2026.

51 Revised 2025 Article 5 deadline extension request, p. 22.

forms still awaiting validation and publication at the time of writing. ANAM technical staff were being trained, and ANAM was planning a gradual transition to the new system, beginning with mine risk education and ERW, data collection on accidents and casualties, and UXO and Abandoned Unexploded Ordnance (AXO) disposal.[52] ANAM convened a workshop on information management in October 2025, during which, the new forms and workflows were introduced, and operators were trained on their use.[53] As at July 2026, MAG continued to report to ANAM using IMSMA NG and had requested that ANAM's information management unit establish IMSMA Core accounts for its staff.[54] Both paper-based and digital forms developed using Survey123 are currently in use, with regular improvements and alignments between the two to ensure consistency.[55]

The ongoing migration to IMSMA Core and the introduction of data reconciliation processes between operators and ANAM have already resulted in improvements in data quality, but HALO noted that timeliness of data remained challenging and are heavily influenced by the operational context. For example, HALO operates in extremely remote areas with no internet connectivity and deployment cycles of up to six weeks. While the field data collection is generally accurate, the lack of connectivity resulted in delays in the monthly reporting.[56]

Before the restructuring of the mine action sector in Angola, ANAM's information management system did not capture all mine action data nationwide, an issue that ANAM said is being resolved with both public operators – FAA and CND – being tasked by and reporting to ANAM. ANAM was also implementing an IMSMA Core training plan for CND and FAA technicians, covering humanitarian demining and land release concepts, to align their activities with the national and international standards and enable the recording of their activities in the central database.[57] NPA, however, maintained its call for CND's activities to be streamlined and consistently reported to ANAM. According to NPA, many CND tasks are verification activities linked to construction projects that do not meet land release standards, and have nevertheless been counted within national clearance figures. NPA recommended that such "verification" outputs be reported separately to avoid misrepresenting actual land release figures.[58] In 2025, Angola reported on land release conducted by APOPO, HALO, MAG, and NPA, but not by the public operators.

Angola submitted a timely and detailed Article 7 report covering 2025, alongside a comprehensive Article 5 deadline extension request. The request was revised to respond to questions from the APMBC Committee on Article 5 Implementation.

PLANNING AND TASKING

Angola's National Mine Action Strategy 2020–2025 was drafted by CNIDAH with GICHD support in 2019 but was never formally adopted.[59] The strategy set five objectives, with specific targets for land release, residual contamination, and coordination, including completion of Article 5 obligations by the end of 2025. None has been achieved. A new national strategic mine action plan for 2026–30 was developed with the support of the GICHD and in consultation with operators and relevant government entities.[60] The new strategy was set to be launched by the end of 2025,[61] but as at July 2026, it was undergoing approval by the Civil House of the President of Angola, the body overseeing ANAM. Angola's plans and resource allocation foresee its progress until completion by its December 2030 deadline.[62]

Following its previous work plan developed in 2021, whose targets were not met, Angola developed a new work plan to 2030 as part of its 2025 Article 5 extension request. According to the new work plan, survey and clearance will be conducted by public operators, the FAA and CND, across all provinces, while national and international operators will be assigned the following provinces: Bengo, Uíge, and Cuanza Norte (NPA), Cuanza Sul (APOPO), Cuanza Sul and Huila (APACOMINAS), Bié and Cuando Cubango (HALO), and Lunda Norte, Lunda Sul, and Moxico (MAG). ANAM will oversee monitoring, QA, QC, and certification.[63] Angola aims to start working on the provinces with the least contamination, while strengthening the operational capacity to intervene in provinces with more contamination.[64]

Angola expects land release to average 10km^2 annually from 2026 until completion.[65] Its previous work plan had set a land release target of 7.8km^2 in 2025, which it did not achieve. At the submission of the extension request, Angola's plan covered 965 hazardous areas: 434 assigned to the FAA, 341 to the CND, and 190 to NGOs.[66] Nine provinces—Benguela, Cuanza Norte, Huambo, Icolo e Bengo, Luanda, Malanje, Namibe, Uíge, and Zaire—will be prioritised for completion, with contamination totalling 2,235,034m^2 across 34 mined areas.[67] Angola aims for a "Progressive declaration of provinces free of known mined areas",[68] yet, Huambo and Zaire, both of which are understood to be mine-free, are awaiting an official declaration of completion.

52 Email from Paula de Almeida Diogo, ANAM, 14 July 2026.
53 Emails from Paula de Almeida Diogo, ANAM, 14 July 2026; Manuel João Agostinho, APOPO, 31 March 2026; and Philippa Coates, HALO, 26 May 2026.
54 Email from Nelson Veríssimo, MAG, 27 April 2026.
55 Email from Philippa Coates, HALO, 26 May 2026.
56 Ibid.
57 Email from Christelle Mestre, GICHD, 4 May 202; and interview with Paula de Almeida Diogo, ANAM, in Geneva, 17 June 2026.
58 Email from Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, 7 April 2025.
59 Emails from Christelle Mestre, GICHD, 4 May 2022; and Narciso Paulo Simão Tiacafe, ANAM, 26 June 2024.
60 Email from Paula de Almeida Diogo, ANAM, 14 July 2026.
61 Email from Catherine Harris, MAG, 28 April 2025.
62 Email from Paula de Almeida Diogo, ANAM, 14 July 2026.
63 Revised 2025 Article 5 deadline extension request, pp. 28 and 29.
64 Ibid., p. 29.
65 Revised 2025 Article 5 deadline extension request, p. 28.
66 Ibid., Table 9, p. 58.
67 Ibid., pp. 28 and 29.
68 Ibid., p. 8.

Guidelines for a new tasking and prioritisation system were adopted in 2021.[69] A key feature of the new system is that provinces are assigned to operators, giving them responsibility over that province.[70] Operators reported that the prioritisation system is functioning effectively, and clearance and task dossiers are issued by ANAM in a timely and effective manner.[71] In February 2026, ANAM met with all operators and presented the task allocation per operator as part of the Government funding for 2026–27.[72]

LAND RELEASE SYSTEM

STANDARDS AND LAND RELEASE EFFICIENCY

Angola's NMAS contain 13 chapters.[73] Of these, ten were adopted in 2021.[74] Three additional standards on animal detection systems, EOD, and residual contamination management were drafted with GICHD support, with the first of these two launched in 2023.[75] The NMAS on residual contamination management was revised in 2024 to align it with the residual risk strategy. Also in 2024, the NMAS on monitoring of clearance activities was updated and a new NMAS on accident investigation was elaborated.[76] No further updates to NMAS have been made since.[77]

Angola's latest extension request places great emphasis on strengthening its QM capacities. The "Strengthening the implementation of the quality management system" will be one of six main "axes" of focus of its operations. Angola's QA is a three-stage process: organisational accreditation, operational accreditation, and monitoring during operations. ANAM said it would prioritise strengthening its QA and QC teams by investing in training and adequate equipment.[78]

OPERATORS AND OPERATIONAL TOOLS

The following operators conduct survey and clearance in Angola: national NGO APACOMINAS; four international NGOs: APOPO, HALO, MAG, and NPA; and two national operators: FAA and CND. In addition, 20 accredited commercial operators are occasionally contracted by ministerial departments or through private companies to work on reconstruction or development projects. These are also monitored and certified by ANAM.[79] In 2025, Angola reported on land release conducted by APOPO, HALO, MAG, and NPA, but not by the public operators.

Angola's TS and clearance combine manual, mechanical, and animal detection systems. Drones support mapping of areas during NTS. Ebex, Minelab F3, and Vallon detectors are used in technical survey and clearance. In an effort to mitigate demining incidents in high-density low-metallic content minefields, Angola purchased GPZ 7000 detectors and excavation machines, but these have not delivered the expected results. Rats continue to be used for mine detection, but the use of mine detection dogs (MDDs) has been discontinued due to the climatic conditions and costs associated to adapting them to the environment.[80]

Table 4: Operational survey capacities deployed in 2025[81]

Operator	NTS teams	NTS personnel	TS teams	TS personnel	Comments
APOPO	1	2	0	0	Clearance teams (Table 5) also conduct TS
HALO	8	8	0	0	Clearance teams (Table 5) also conduct TS
MAG	3	10	10	84	
NPA	1	2	4	35	Clearance teams (Table 5) also conduct TS
Totals	**13**	**22**	**14**	**119**	

69 Email from Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, 4 July 2021.

70 Interview with Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, 22 February 2021.

71 Emails from Manuel João Agostinho, APOPO, 31 March 2026; Philippa Coates, HALO, 26 May 2026; Nelson Veríssimo, MAG, 27 April 2026; and Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, 14 April 2026.

72 Email from Nelson Veríssimo, MAG, 27 April 2026.

73 Revised 2025 Article 5 deadline extension request, p. 16.

74 Article 7 Report (covering 2021), Form J.

75 Ibid.; and emails from Christelle Mestre, GICHD, 4 May 2022; Miroslav Pisarević, NPA, 10 March 2022; Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, 2 May 2024; and Manuel João Agostinho, APOPO, 29 April 2024.

76 Email from Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, 7 April 2025.

77 Email from Paula de Almeida Diogo, ANAM, 14 July 2026.

78 Revised 2025 Article 5 deadline extension request, pp. 8 and 18.

79 Ibid., pp. 15, 16, and 29.

80 Ibid., pp. 11, 16, and 17.

81 Emails from Manuel João Agostinho, APOPO, 31 March 2026; Philippa Coates, HALO, 26 May 2026; Nelson Veríssimo, MAG, 27 April 2026; and Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, 14 April 2026.

Table 5: Operational clearance capacities deployed in 2025[82]

Operator	Manual teams	Total deminers	Animal detection capacity	Machines	Comments
APOPO	2	20	5 handlers, 10 rats	1	Clearance teams also conduct TS.
APACOMINAS	N/R	255		1	
CND	N/R	847		39	
FAA	N/R	917		20	
HALO	64	512		4	Average number of demining teams during 2025. Clearance teams also conduct TS.
MAG	6	84		8	84 deminers include 60 manual deminers and 24 deployed with mechanical teams. Machines include 3 tillers and 5 excavators.
NPA	4	35			Clearance teams also conduct TS.
Totals	**76**	**2,670**	**5 handlers, 10 rats**	**73**	

N/R = Not reported.

APOPO maintained the same capacity as in the previous year and expected this to remain stable in 2026.[83] HALO significantly reduced its workforce during 2025 due to declining global funding and delays in finalising its second demining contract with the Government of Angola, but expected its workforce to increase substantially once the contract is finalised.[84] MAG expanded its capacity in 2025, deploying two additional manual teams and one multi-task team. In 2026, MAG expects to operate six manual TS and clearance teams and three NTS teams. Should the Angolan Government funding be allocated, MAG expects to add 12 TS and clearance teams and eight NTS teams.[85] NPA began 2025 with 63 deminers, but this fell to 35 by December following the end of Belgian and Japanese grants. It hoped to expand to eight teams of a total of 80 deminers in 2026 if the Government funding is approved.[86]

Following demining incidents caused by R2M2 mines, HALO introduced mini excavator-assisted clearance in 2025 for R2M2 and Type 72A AP mines. The method replaced manual excavation of standard signals—the most hazardous stage of clearance—with mechanical excavation. While this was safety-driven adaptation, productivity has remained constant despite massively increasing the number of excavations conducted as a result. HALO plans to explore mini excavators with autonomous and semi-autonomous capabilities in 2026 to further enhance operational safety.[87] MAG also expected to deploy a second Digger D-250 tiller in 2026 and, subject to government funding, procure four new excavators. Since January 2026, MAG has been deploying mechanical assets to support manual teams, providing ground preparation during the opening of TS survey lanes for manual teams. This approach proved more efficient and yielded higher clearance output.[88]

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS AND ARTICLE 5 COMPLIANCE

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS IN 2025

Table 6: Summary of land release outputs in 2025 (ANAM data)

Release of AP mined area	Release in 2025 (km²)	Comments
Clearance	1.95	
Technical survey	4.13	
Non-technical survey	0.76	
Destruction of AP mines during clearance, survey, and spot tasks	**2025**	
AP mines destroyed	9,268	Includes 648 during spot tasks

82 Emails from Paula de Almeida Diogo, ANAM, 14 July 2026; Manuel João Agostinho, APOPO, 31 March 2026; Philippa Coates, HALO, 26 May 2026; Nelson Veríssimo, MAG, 27 April 2026; and Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, 14 April 2026.

83 Email from Manuel João Agostinho, APOPO, 31 March 2026.

84 Email from Philippa Coates, HALO, 26 May 2026.

85 Email from Nelson Veríssimo, MAG, 27 April 2026.

86 Email from Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, 14 April 2026.

87 Email from Philippa Coates, HALO, 26 May 2026.

88 Email from Nelson Veríssimo, MAG, 27 April 2026.

SURVEY IN 2025

ANAM reported that a total of 4.89km² was released through survey in 2025, of which 0.76km² was cancelled through NTS (see Table 7) and 4.13km² reduced through TS (see Table 8).[89] This is a 94% increase from the 2.52km² released through survey in 2024.[90]

Of the total 0.76km² cancelled through NTS, HALO cancelled 0.65km², MAG 0.10km², and NPA cancelled 0.02km². Of the 4.13km² reduced, 1.69km² was reduced by HALO, 1.65km² by NPA, 0.13km² by MAG, and 0.67km² was reduced by APOPO.[91] There are slight discrepancies among the survey figures reported to Mine Action Review by ANAM, operators, and Angola's Article 7 report. These are indicated in the footnotes of Tables 7 and 8.

Considering the national survey that was completed in 2019, ANAM and operators believe that the remaining contamination should be released through a combined application of TS and clearance, with the expectation that the ratio of land cleared to that released through survey will increase over time.[92] A total of 0.97km² of newly discovered AP mine contamination was recorded and added to the database in 2025. Of this, HALO added 0.53km² across 15 areas, MAG added 6 areas totalling 0.43km², and NPA added 0.02km².[93]

Table 7: Release of mined area through NTS in 2025 (ANAM data)[94]

Province	Operator	Area cancelled (m²)
Bengo	NPA	15,385
Cuando	HALO	645,334
Moxico	MAG	98,078
Total		**758,797**

Table 8: Release of mined area through TS in 2025 (ANAM data)[95]

Province	Operator	Area reduced (m²)
Bengo	NPA	1,346,094
Bié	HALO	50,298
Cuando	HALO	1,634,096
Cuanza Sul	APOPO	666,312
Cuanza Norte	NPA	277,622
Cubango	HALO	3,335
Moxico	MAG	131,177
Uíge	NPA	23,806
Total		**4,132,740**

CLEARANCE IN 2025

ANAM reported that 1.95km² of AP mined area was cleared in 2025 (see Table 9), along with destruction of 8,620 AP mines, and a further 648 destroyed in EOD spot tasks.[96] The area cleared was a significant drop on 2024 clearance output (3.03km² cleared), although the number of AP mines destroyed in 2025 was much higher.[97]

According to ANAM data, of the total area cleared, HALO cleared 1.56km² and destroyed 9,013 APM mines (including 617 in EOD spot tasks), APOPO cleared 0.26km² and destroyed 103 AP mines (including 1 in an EOD spot task), NPA cleared 0.07km² and destroyed 146 AP mines (including 30 in EOD spot tasks), and MAG cleared 0.07km² and destroyed 6 AP mines.[98]

Similar to survey figures, clearance data also differed across what was reported by ANAM, operators, and Angola's Article 7 report. These differences are indicated in the footnote of Table 9.

In previous years, ANAM also reported on clearance by the CND, along with APACOMINAS and various commercial demining companies. These efforts have focused on areas not recorded in the IMSMA database and were not reported in its Article 7 report covering 2025.

89 Email from Paula de Almeida Diogo, ANAM, 14 July 2026.

90 Article 7 Report (covering 2024), Form F.

91 Email from Paula de Almeida Diogo, ANAM, 14 July 2026.

92 Emails from Mário Nunes on behalf of ANAM, NPA, 14 September 2022; Manuel João Agostinho, APOPO, 6 September 2022; Miroslav Pisarević, NPA, 14 September 2022; Jeanette Dijkstra, MAG, 6 September 2022; and Robert Syfret, HALO, 14 September 2022.

93 Emails from Philippa Coates, HALO, 26 May 2026; Nelson Veríssimo, MAG, 27 April 2026; and Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, 14 April 2026.

94 Email from Paula de Almeida Diogo, ANAM, 14 July 2026. According to Angola's Article 7 report (covering 2025), a total of 0.49km² was cancelled through NTS (0.37km² cancelled by HALO, 0.10km² by MAG, and 0.01km² by NPA). According to operators' data, a total of 0.61km² was cancelled through NTS. Of which, HALO cancelled 0.45km², MAG 0.10km², and NPA 0.06km²).

95 Email from Paula de Almeida Diogo, ANAM, 14 July 2026. According to Angola's Article 7 report (covering 2025), a total of 4.03km² was reduced through TS. Of this, APOPO reduced 0.30km², HALO 1.56km², MAG 0.66km², and NPA 1.51km². According to operators' data, a total of 4.48km² was reduced through TS in 2025, of which, APOPO reduced 0.30km², HALO 2.01km², MAG 0.66km², and NPA 1.51km².

96 Email from Paula de Almeida Diogo, ANAM, 14 July 2026.

97 Article 7 Report (covering 2023), Form F.

98 Email from Paula de Almeida Diogo, ANAM, 14 July 2026.

Table 9: Mine clearance in 2025 (ANAM data)[99]

Province	Operator	Area cleared (m²)	AP mines destroyed	AP mines destroyed in spot tasks
Bengo	NPA	28,620	98	0
Bié	HALO	98,273	1	437
Cuando	HALO	1,450,802	8,395	180
Cuanza Norte	NPA	13,374	18	0
Cuanza Sul	APOPO	256,181	102	1
Cubango	HALO	6,635	0	0
Moxico	MAG	73,338	6	0
Uíge	NPA	23,806	0	30
Totals		**1,951,029**	**8,620**	**648**

Land release outputs in 2025 increased by 23% year-on-year. i.e., a total of 6.84km² released in 2025 compared to 5.55km² in 2024. This was driven by a significant increase in survey output. Despite the smaller area cleared in 2025, the number of AP mines destroyed rose from 5,680 (including 44 in EOD spot tasks) in 2024 to 9,268 (including 648 in EOD spot tasks) in 2025. According to ANAM, the overall increase in outputs is due to a slight increase in funding for demining operations, although both APOPO and HALO reported a decrease of their respective outputs due to a commensurate decline in funding, and in the case of APOPO, an internal shift in priorities due to an initiation of a new project towards the end of 2025.[100]

Data indicate that this increase of output can be largely attributed to a significant cancellation of land conducted by MAG on agricultural land already in use by communities, alongside increased land reduction by NPA following a more rigorous application of land release methodology. The change of approach came as NPA applied experience learned from working in similarly less densely mined provinces, such as Bengo, and strengthening its community engagement. This allowed NPA to adjust its approach towards more evidence-based land reduction and reduce reliance on full clearance. NPA is observing a similar trend in 2026.[101]

In 2025, 3.47km² of AP mined area was reportedly cleared with no landmines found, more than double the 1.6km² area reported in 2024. This ill-directed clearance has not been included in the overall 1.95km² clearance figure reported by ANAM. According to operators, ANAM ensures consistent application of land release approaches through routine QA and QC visits to operators' tasks, review and approval of survey and completion reports, and coordination meetings with operators where methodologies are clarified and inefficiencies addressed.[102] Operators reported only 1.01km² of AP mined area cleared with no AP mines found.[103]

DEMINER SAFETY

In 2025, HALO reported three accidents during clearance operations, resulting in two non-fatal casualties and one fatality. On 10 January, a staff member sustained minor facial injuries following the detonation of an R2M2 AP blast mine. Following the incident, HALO and ANAM implemented a two-week refresher training for all operations staff, conducted casualty evacuation (CASEVAC) drills and delivered basic care provider training to all drivers and mechanics. On 13 May, another staff member suffered a severe injury to the right leg resulting in semi-amputation below the knee; the staff member later died in hospital due to complications stemming from inadequate treatment of a previously unknown medical condition. HALO provided full support to the affected family and operational staff were offered psychological care and support.

On 23 July, a third staff member sustained minor injuries to the hand and knee following the detonation of a suspected R2M2 AP mine. Comprehensive investigations were carried out with support of ANAM following all three mine accidents. Recommendations and safety actions were shared with ANAM and across clearance organisations to mitigate risks and prevent recurrence.[104]

HALO has reported demining accidents in Angola every year since 2020, many of which have occurred on two densely contaminated minefields which contain highly sensitive, minimal metal AP and AV mines (R2M2 AP mine and No. 8 AV mine). HALO has worked extensively to minimise the risk to deminers, including increasing the number of supervisory staff, and trialling and deploying new detectors (GPZ 7000) and mechanical assets. It continues trialling new technologies and advanced methodologies to counter the threat and improve safety. Refresher training is conducted annually for all operations staff and on an ad hoc basis for those who redeploy after periods of absence.[105]

99 Ibid. According to the Article 7 report covering 2025, a total of 1.57km² was cleared in 2025, during which, 6,954 AP mines, 560 AV mines, and 1,517 items of UXO and AXO were destroyed. According to operator data, 1.73km² was cleared in 2025, during which 7,059 AP mines were destroyed. A further 105 AP mines and 40 AV mines were destroyed in EOD spot tasks.

100 Email from Paula de Almeida Diogo, ANAM, 14 July 2026.

101 Emails from Nelson Veríssimo, MAG, 27 April 2026; and Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, 14 April and 3 August 2026.

102 Emails from Paula de Almeida Diogo, ANAM, 14 July 2026; Manuel João Agostinho, APOPO, 7 April 2025; Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, 7 April 2025; Catherine Harris, MAG, 28 April 2025; and Jack Lister, HALO, 25 July 2025.

103 Emails from Manuel João Agostinho, APOPO, 31 March 2026; Philippa Coates, HALO, 26 May 2026; Nelson Veríssimo, MAG, 27 April 2026; and Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, 14 April 2026. According to operators' data, a total of 1.01km² was cleared without finding any AP mines. Of this, APOPO cleared 5 tasks totalling 0.14km², HALO cleared 25 tasks of 0.24km², MAG cleared 13 tasks of 0.15km² (although UXO were found), and NPA cleared 12 tasks of 0.48km².

104 Emails from Philippa Coates, HALO, 26 May and 24 August 2026.

105 Email from Philippa Coates, HALO, 24 August 2026.

ARTICLE 5 DEADLINE AND COMPLIANCE

APMBC ENTRY INTO FORCE FOR ANGOLA: 1 JANUARY 2003

↓

ORIGINAL ARTICLE 5 DEADLINE: 1 JANUARY 2013

↓

FIRST EXTENDED DEADLINE (5 YEARS): 1 JANUARY 2018

↓

SECOND EXTENDED DEADLINE (8 YEARS): 31 DECEMBER 2025

↓

THIRD EXTENDED DEADLINE (5 YEARS): 31 DECEMBER 2030

NOT ON TRACK TO MEET ARTICLE 5 DEADLINE

Under Article 5 of the APMBC Angola is required to destroy all AP mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control as soon as possible, but not later than 31 December 2030.

In 2025, Angola released a total of 6.84km^2 of mined area, 23% more than in 2024 but still 0.96km^2 below the annual target of 7.8km^2. Despite reduced international funding and delays in signing of contracts, survey outputs increased markedly indicating a positive shift towards land cancellation and reduction, in line with the recommendations made to Angola in previous years. Clearance, on the other hand, fell by 36%, but despite the smaller area cancelled, the number of AP mines found and destroyed increased by 63%, reflecting clearance in densely contaminated areas, mostly conducted by HALO. At the same time, previously unrecorded mined areas continue to be added to the database each year (1km^2 in 2025, 1.5km^2 in 2024, 6.1km^2 in 2023, and 4.4km^2 in 2022), as operators discover contamination that was previously unknown to communities and was missed in baseline surveys. With operators expecting to continue finding new contamination, this means that Angola needs to continue updating its work plans and adjusting its annual targets in line with the updated contamination baseline.

ANAM has set new annual land release targets averaging 10km^2 per year, a level Angola has achieved in previous years. Meeting these targets will require sufficient capacity and improved targeting of clearance, particularly since reliance on clearance is expected to progressively increase as mined areas are better defined.

Angola has recently strengthened its national ownership by consolidating oversight under a single national authority, ANAM, to which national, international, and commercial operators are expected to report. Although ANAM said that the public operators—FAA and CND—were now reporting centrally and receiving training to align their activities with national standards, Angola's 2025 reporting did not provide survey or clearance by either operator, raising doubts about whether centralised reporting was yet indeed happening. In addition, public operators are reportedly being tasked with ensuring safety of infrastructure and development projects outside the IMSMA database, diverting capacity from registered mined areas. The Government of Angola's commitment to allocate US$240 million of national funding to demining is a very positive development, particularly as it comes amid declining international funds and weakening donor support, but delays in finalising government contracts have already reduced operator capacity and created funding gaps.

ANAM claimed that strict application of land release principles has improved operational efficiency.[106] But operators reported clearance of over 1.4km^2 in 2023, 1.6km^2 in 2024, and 3.5km^2 in 2025 without finding any mines, suggesting that survey and better targeting of clearance are still needed. Other obstacles include the high-density minefields containing mines with low metal content in very remote locations. These conditions increase both the technical difficulty and the safety risks. Demining accidents have continued to occur annually, including three accidents involving HALO personnel in 2025. Angola and its operators should therefore continue to trial and research new technologies to enhance operational safety on high-threat and densely contaminated minefields. All findings should continue to be shared at a country level with all demining operators.

The absence of an official declaration process has meant that despite Zaire and Huambo provinces having released all mined areas, neither province has been declared mine-free. Angola had elaborated a process for progressively declaring provinces free of mines, but the residual contamination strategy and accompanying national standard had not yet been formally adopted or operationalised to support this process.

Table 10: Five-year summary of AP mine clearance

Year	Area cleared (km^2)
2025	2.0
2024	3.0
2023	6.7
2022	5.9
2021	4.0
Total	**21.6**

106 ANAM, Updated Article 5 Implementation Work Plan 2020–2025, June 2021, p. 6.

PLANNING FOR MANAGEMENT OF RESIDUAL CONTAMINATION

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.[107] This has not materialised. According to Angola's revised Article 5 deadline extension request, the residual risk strategy has been drafted and was to be approved by September 2025, and implemented as soon as a province is declared free of known mined areas.[108] As at July 2026, neither activity had occurred.

A national standard on residual contamination management has been developed by the GICHD for the transition phase. This includes process maps that outline the responsibilities of the currently involved stakeholders.[109] According to Angola's revised 2025 Article 5 deadline extension request, completion of the standard will take place once the strategy has been approved.[110] An information management database for residual contamination will be established for each of the provinces that enters the residual phase, and regional rapid response teams will be trained to respond to call-outs.[111]

107 Telephone interview with Robert Iga Afedra, NPA, 8 June 2021; and ANAM, Updated Article 5 Implementation Work Plan 2020–2025, p. 8.

108 Revised 2025 Article 5 deadline extension request, p. 33.

109 Email from Christelle Mestre, GICHD, 4 May 2022.

110 Revised 2025 Article 5 deadline extension request, p. 33.

111 Ibid., Table 11.