

KEY DATA

ANTI-PERSONNEL (AP) MINE CONTAMINATION:

NATIONAL AUTHORITY ESTIMATE

3.3km²

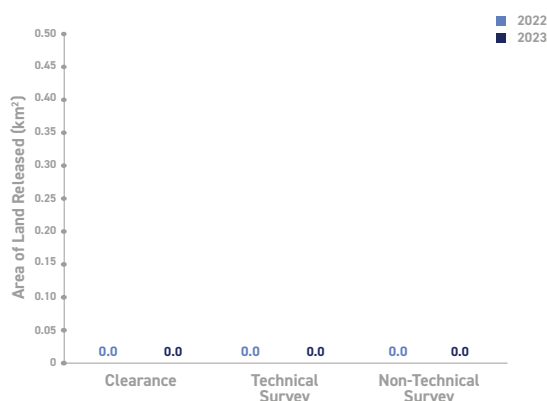
AP MINE
CLEARANCE IN 2023

0km²

AP MINES
DESTROYED IN 2023

0

LAND RELEASE OUTPUT



KEY DEVELOPMENTS

No anti-personnel (AP) mined area was released in Armenia in 2023 for a fourth consecutive year, due to a lack of funds and because Armenia is prioritising clearance of cluster munition remnants (CMR) and other explosive remnants of war (ERW). There have been no verified reports of Armenia using AP mines since 2022, when Armenia acknowledged that it used them for “self-defence purpose only”. In 2023, a new five-year national mine action strategy was adopted through to the end of 2027.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

- Armenia should commit never again to use AP mines and should accede to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC) as a matter of priority.
- In the meantime, Armenia should submit voluntary Article 7 reports annually under the APMBC.
- Armenia should comply with its obligations under international human rights law to clear AP mines on territory under its jurisdiction as soon as possible.
- Armenia should clarify the extent of remaining mine contamination.
- Armenia should expedite the adoption of national mine action legislation.

DEMINING CAPACITY

MANAGEMENT CAPACITY

- Center for Humanitarian Demining and Expertise (CHDE)

NATIONAL OPERATORS

- CHDE (survey and clearance)

INTERNATIONAL OPERATORS

- The HALO Trust (HALO)

OTHER ACTORS

- Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD)

UNDERSTANDING OF AP MINE CONTAMINATION

At the end of 2023, Armenia estimated that total combined AP and anti-vehicle (AV) mined area covered 9.83km² of its territory, up from 9.53km² at the end of 2021 (the previous point at which this information was provided).¹ More than 5.9km² was in confirmed hazardous area (CHA) while almost 3.93km² was in suspected hazardous area (SHA).²

Of the 92 CHAs, 56 contained AP mines or mixed AP and AV mines, covering a total of nearly 3.18km². The remaining 36 CHAs contained AV mines only.³ Four of the ten SHAs, totalling just over 0.13km², were thought to contain AP mines.⁴ Thus, of the total combined mined area, almost 3.31km² contained AP mines (including mixed AP and AV mines) (see Table 1).⁵

Table 1: Mined area (at end 2023)⁶

Type of contamination	CHAs	Area (m ²)	SHAs	Area (m ²)	Total CHAs/ SHAs	Totals (m ²)
AP mines	45	2,466,621	4	132,136	49	2,598,757
AV mines	36	2,724,156	6	3,795,894	42	6,520,050
AP and AV mines	11	709,609	0	0	11	709,609
Totals	92	5,900,386	10	3,928,030	102	9,828,416

Three of Armenia's eleven administrative areas, all situated along the eastern border with Azerbaijan, were recorded as having AP mined areas at the end of 2023. Syunik province was by far the most heavily contaminated according to publicly available—and partial—contamination data (see Table 2).

Table 2: AP mined area by province, excluding mixed AP and AV mined areas (at end 2023)⁷

Province	CHAs	Area (m ²)	SHAs	Area (m ²)	Total CHAs/ SHAs	Total area (m ²)
Syunik	33	1,669,884	2	27,013	35	1,696,897
Gegharkunik	6	629,186	2	105,123	8	734,309
Tavush	6	167,551	0	0	6	167,551
Totals	45	2,466,621	4	132,136	49	2,598,757

A Landmine Impact Survey (LIS) was conducted in Armenia in 2005, followed by partial survey of 17 sites by The HALO Trust in 2012, and again by the Fondation Suisse de Déminage (FSD) in 2012–13. FSD identified 17 SHAs estimated to cover 26km² and 114 CHAs that covered 21km² in four districts bordering Azerbaijan. Thirteen of these areas, totalling 1.8km², contained only unexploded ordnance (UXO) and not mines.⁸ In 2019, the Center for Humanitarian Demining and Expertise (CHDE) conducted non-technical survey (NTS) in Syunik province but military-restricted zones continued to be off limits for survey and clearance.⁹

Prior to the 2020 Forty-Four Day War with Azerbaijan (also known as the Second Karabakh War) in September–November 2020, there was only minimal mine clearance in Armenia, and no release of AP mined area occurred between 2019 and 2023 as Armenia prioritised clearance of CMR and other ERW.¹⁰ Reported contamination in Armenia remained constant in the two years to the end of 2021¹¹ but in 2022, two CHAs covering a total area of 271,524m² in Syunik were identified and added to the database.¹² Armenia has stated that the two minefields were the result of Azerbaijan's military action in 2020.¹³ Another three CHAs in Gegharkunik province covering a total of 45,648m² were identified and added to the database in 2022.¹⁴ No new hazardous area was added to the database of contamination in 2023.¹⁵

1 Emails from Vaghinak Sargsyan, Director, CHDE, 10 May 2024; and Karine Shamiryan, CHDE, 27 May 2022.

2 Email from Vaghinak Sargsyan, CHDE, 10 May 2024.

3 Ibid.

4 Ibid.

5 Email from Karine Shamiryan, Head of International Affairs, CHDE, 10 July 2024.

6 Ibid.

7 Ibid.

8 CHDE, "FSD non-technical mine action survey", Yerevan, 2013, p. 12.

9 Emails from Margaret Lazyan, CHDE, 19 April 2019 and 25 June 2020.

10 Email from Vaghinak Sargsyan, CHDE, 10 May 2024.

11 Emails from Margaret Lazyan, CHDE, 25 June 2020 and 26 April 2021.

12 Emails from Vaghinak Sargsyan, CHDE, 10 May 2024; and Karine Shamiryan, CHDE, 10 July 2024.

13 Email from Vaghinak Sargsyan, CHDE, 10 May 2024.

14 Email from Karine Shamiryan, CHDE, 10 July 2024. The HALO Trust indicated that following NTS across 46,643m² at three previously unrecorded AP mined areas in Gegharkunik province in 2022, it identified one AP mine in each area.

15 Email from Vaghinak Sargsyan, CHDE, 10 May 2024.

A baseline NTS of explosive ordnance (EO) contamination began in 2022,¹⁶ including new contamination arising from the 2020 conflict, and the CHDE has confirmed that this has been completed.¹⁷ The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) reported supporting the CHDE for NTS, technical survey (TS), and land release operations in 2022.¹⁸ The HALO Trust conducted NTS across 46,643m² at three previously unrecorded AP mined areas dating back to 1998 near Pambak village in Gegharkunik province in 2022. HALO discovered a single AP mine in each of the three areas,¹⁹ which it reported to the CHDE.²⁰ The CHDE has confirmed that further survey is still needed in areas under military control, and that this will only be conducted when there are appropriate security guarantees.²¹

Mine and ERW contamination in Armenia is primarily the consequence of armed conflict with Azerbaijan in 1988–94, in which both sides used mines. The heaviest contamination exists in areas in Nagorno-Karabakh regained by Azerbaijan during the armed conflict in 2020. The territory regained by Azerbaijan contains heavily contaminated land, including around Nagorno-Karabakh, and massive mined area along the 350km-long line of contact (LoC) that previously separated Armenian and Azerbaijani forces.

The Forty-Four Day War ended in November 2020 with Azerbaijan regaining control over most of its internationally recognised territories except for a part of Nagorno-Karabakh.²² Armenia acknowledged that it has laid mines since the end of 2020, contending that it has “carried out minelaying exclusively within the sovereign territory of the Republic of Armenia for self-defence purposes only”.²³ On 19 September 2023, Azerbaijan launched a 24-hour military offensive which resulted in it regaining control of the remainder of Nagorno-Karabakh.²⁴

Armenia's border with Georgia has been cleared of mines whereas the border with Türkiye, also mined during the Soviet era, is still contaminated.²⁵ While NTS in 2012–13 by FSD did not find evidence of mines outside the buffer zones in Ararat province, which borders Türkiye, certain areas on that border have not yet been surveyed because they were, until recently, controlled by Russian border troops.²⁶ The implications for AP mine survey and clearance of the withdrawal of Russian troops from Armenia's borders in 2024 were not known at the time of writing.²⁷

In late 2022, CHDE signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the national mine action centre of Iran (IRMAC).²⁸ It was reported in June 2023 that demining would begin in the near future at the border with Iran.²⁹

OTHER EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE CONTAMINATION

Armenia reported new CMR and other EO contamination in Gegharkunik, Syunik, and Tavush provinces as a result of the conflict with Azerbaijan in 2020 (see Mine Action Review's *Clearing Cluster Munition Remnants 2024* report on Armenia for further information).

NATIONAL OWNERSHIP AND PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT

The CHDE was established by the Armenian government in 2011 as a non-commercial State body responsible for conducting survey and clearance and identifying contaminated areas. In 2014, the CHDE was made Armenia's national mine action authority.³⁰ An Advisory Board oversees the CHDE at the Deputy Ministerial level, with

representation from key ministries.³¹ In 2013, in conformity with a government decree, the CHDE began developing national mine action legislation, but as at May 2024, the draft mine action law was still reported to be under development.³² Armenia has indicated that it has not acceded to the APMBC mainly for security reasons.³³

16 Emails from Vaghinak Sargsyan, CHDE, 11 May 2022; and Karine Shamiryan, CHDE, 27 May 2022.

17 CHDE, “Non-Technical Survey”, accessed 20 May 2024 at: <https://bit.ly/3QRwXPs>.

18 Emails from Karinée Khojayan, Project Coordinator, UNDP, 15 March and 10 July 2023.

19 Emails from Fiona Kilpatrick-Cooper, Head of Region – Europe (South Caucasus), HALO, 16 March 2022; and David Crawford, Programme Manager, Nagorno Karabakh and Armenia HALO, 14 July 2023.

20 Emails from David Crawford, HALO, 14 July 2023; and Karine Shamiryan, CHDE, 10 July 2024; and Armenia National Mine Action Strategy, 2023–2027, p. 14.

21 Email from Vaghinak Sargsyan, CHDE, 10 May 2024.

22 T. De Waal, “Unfinished Business in the Armenia-Azerbaijan Conflict”, Carnegie Europe, 11 February 2021, at: <https://bit.ly/3PFvArz>.

23 International Court of Justice, *Application of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Azerbaijan v. Armenia)*, Order, 23 February 2023, at <https://bit.ly/3NwBKEG>, para. 19.

24 “Azerbaijan halts Karabakh offensive after ceasefire deal with Armenian separatists”, *BBC*, 21 September 2023, at: <https://bbc.in/3rCVK0e>.

25 Emails from Ruben Arakelyan, Director, CHDE, 19 March 2014 and 28 April 2017; and interview in Geneva, 1 April 2014.

26 CHDE, “FSD non-technical mine action survey”, CHDE, Yerevan, 2013, p. 9; and emails from Varsine Miskaryan, Operations Officer, CHDE, 8 August 2016; and Ruben Arakelyan, CHDE, 28 April 2017.

27 “Russia to withdraw troops from Armenia's border”, *Politico*, 9 May 2024, at: <https://bit.ly/3X01JwX>.

28 “Iran, Armenia ink MoU on humanitarian demining cooperation”, *Iran Press News Agency*, 19 September 2022, at: <https://bit.ly/3WyeypJ>.

29 Email from Narges Jahanparast, Ambassadors for Development Without Borders, 6 June 2023.

30 Emails from Ruben Arakelyan, CHDE, 8 June 2015; and Margaret Lazyan, CHDE, 10 August 2020.

31 Emails from Stanislav Damjanovic, GICHD, 13 July 2022; and Ani Zakaryan, Head of Information Management, CHDE, 21 July 2022.

32 Email from Vaghinak Sargsyan, CHDE, 10 May 2024.

33 National Mine Action Strategy, 2023–2027, pp. 4 and 9.

Key decisions on mine action are taken centrally by the CHDE, although in December 2022, other stakeholders were invited to a strategy stakeholder workshop and to participate in future work.³⁴ In 2023, the CHDE received funding from the State budget, which also made an allocation for survey and clearance (the amounts were not disclosed),³⁵ although no AP mine clearance in fact took place during the year. The national authorities have not in the past provided direct funding to The HALO Trust, the only international clearance operator present in Armenia.³⁶ HALO is registered in Armenia where it maintains a small staff presence. It is working in partnership with the CHDE to seek funding for the sector.³⁷

UNDP provided a range of capacity development activities to the CHDE in 2023. This included funding new equipment and providing training in explosive ordnance disposal (EOD).³⁸ UNDP and the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) have assisted the CHDE to install the Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) Core and train staff on its use.³⁹ UNDP also supported the CHDE in drafting the "Humanitarian Mine Action Strategy of the National Mine Action Authority of the Republic of Armenia (2023–2027)",⁴⁰ and the GICHD was asked to provide feedback on the Strategy.⁴¹ In addition, UNDP supported CHDE with a review of the National Mine Action Standards (NMAS), and with establishing and managing the National Mine Action

Coordination Platform, which has separate technical working groups (TWGs).⁴²

A baseline capacity assessment of the Armenian mine action programme by the GICHD and the CHDE in 2022 contributed to the development of the new mine action strategy and the review of NMAS and standard operating procedures (SOPs), as well as a strengthening of the quality management (QM) system.⁴³ Under the new five-year mine action strategy, mobilising resources from national and international donors is a priority.⁴⁴

The CHDE has emphasised the importance that it gives to its "green label" approach, which places mine action within socio-economic development.⁴⁵ Under this approach, the CHDE has worked with UN organisations—UNDP, UNICEF, and the World Food Programme (WFP)—as well as local organisations and authorities to ensure that EO clearance brings long-term socio-economic and environmental benefits.⁴⁶ Pilot projects by the CHDE since 2022 at settlements in Davit Bek, Gegharkunik, Syunik, and Vayots Dzor have combined clearance operations with economic development projects, including the development of irrigation systems, greenhouse farming, and grassland restoration as well as targeted social programmes for vulnerable community members.⁴⁷

GENDER AND DIVERSITY

The CHDE reports that gender and diversity have been mainstreamed in Armenia's national mine action strategy, and that the needs of women and children in communities affected by EO are taken into account in the prioritisation, planning, and tasking of survey and clearance.⁴⁸ However, the strategy is not explicit about how gender and diversity are to be mainstreamed. The CHDE does not appear to have a gender and diversity policy in place, but it plans to establish

an all-female demining team and training was said to be underway in May 2024.⁴⁹ The CHDE reports that community liaison teams are inclusive and gender balanced and now include representatives from minority groups, ensuring participation by all sections of the population,⁵⁰ but has not provided further details. The CHDE has also confirmed that mine action data are disaggregated by sex and age.⁵¹

³⁴ Email from Fiona Kilpatrick-Cooper, HALO, 16 March 2023.

³⁵ Email from Vaghinak Sargsyan, CHDE, 10 May 2024.

³⁶ Email from Fiona Kilpatrick-Cooper, HALO, 16 March 2023; and interview with Tom Griffiths, Head of Region, HALO, in Geneva, 30 April 2024.

³⁷ Email from Tom Griffiths, HALO, Geneva, 16 May 2024.

³⁸ Email from Vaghinak Sargsyan, CHDE, 10 May 2024.

³⁹ Emails from Karinée Khojayan, UNDP, 15 March 2023; and Stanislav Damjanovic, GICHD, 25 May 2023.

⁴⁰ Ibid.

⁴¹ Email from Stanislav Damjanovic, GICHD, 7 June 2024.

⁴² Email from Karinée Khojayan, UNDP, 5 July 2024.

⁴³ Emails from Stanislav Damjanovic, GICHD, 25 May 2023 and 4 June 2024.

⁴⁴ CHDE, National Mine Action Strategy, 2023–2027, p. 10.

⁴⁵ Interview with Vaghinak Sargsyan, CHDE, Geneva, 28 April 2024; and CHDE website, "Greening Mine Action in Armenia as a component of sustainable development in the economy of the country", 21 May 2024, at: <https://bit.ly/3REVuHX>.

⁴⁶ CHDE, "Greening Mine Action in Armenia as a component of sustainable development in the economy of the country", 21 May 2024.

⁴⁷ Ibid.

⁴⁸ Email from Vaghinak Sargsyan, CHDE, 10 May 2024.

⁴⁹ Ibid.

⁵⁰ Ibid.

⁵¹ Ibid.

Table 3: Gender composition of the CHDE⁵²

Total staff	Women staff	Managerial or supervisory staff	Women in managerial or supervisory positions	Total operational staff	Women in operational positions
51	14 (27%)	17	4 (24%)	14	2 (14%)

The CHDE reports that it offers equal employment opportunities to both men and women. But as of May 2024, only 14 of 51 CHDE employees were women (27%, down from 32% in 2021), while women held 4 of 17 managerial positions and 2 of 14 operational positions.⁵³

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES AND ACTION

The CHDE indicates that it has developed an environmental management policy; that its NMA on environmental management in mine action is in line with International Mine Action Standard (IMAS) 7.13; that it conducts environmental assessments to support the planning and delivery of survey and clearance tasks; and that it implements measures to prevent and minimise environmental harm.⁵⁴ When planning and prioritising survey and clearance, the CHDE says it takes into account climate-related and extreme-weather risks.⁵⁵

The national mine action strategy lists 14 “environment protection priorities”, including the “green label” approach

outlined above. The first of these stipulates that: “During mine action activities, the NMAA implements environmental protection activities, ensuring the minimal impact of mine action on the environment and the intended use of these lands after clearance, land clearance (land release) “green label” rank that guarantees each person’s right of both present and future generations to live in a dignified environment conducive to health and well-being”.⁵⁶ The CHDE has previously reported deploying methods and tools to avoid damaging the environment where possible.⁵⁷

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING

The CHDE manages the national IMSMA database⁵⁸ and has established an information management and analytical department.⁵⁹ In 2023, with UNDP and GICHD support, IMSMA Core was installed on CHDE servers, and the migration of data and development of the system continued in 2024.⁶⁰

Armenia has not submitted a voluntary Article 7 report under the APMBC.

PLANNING AND TASKING

The five-year national mine action strategy and operational plans were finalised and adopted by the CHDE Board in June 2023.⁶¹ Among its 15 strategic objectives are clearance of all mines and ERW (which suggests that Armenia could join the

APMBC) and support for environmental protection.⁶² Urgent humanitarian demining and improving the coordination, regulatory, and management roles of the CHDE are two other key priorities.⁶³

52 Ibid.
53 Ibid.
54 Ibid.
55 Email from Karine Shamiryan, CHDE, 21 June 2024.
56 Armenia National Mine Action Strategy, 2023–2027, p. 23.
57 Email from Vaghinak Sargsyan, CHDE, 11 May 2022.
58 Email from Ruben Arakelyan, CHDE, 19 March 2014.
59 Email from Vaghinak Sargsyan, CHDE, 10 May 2024.
60 Emails from Stanislav Damjanovic, GICHD, 7 June 2024; and Karine Shamiryan, CHDE, 21 June 2024.
61 Email from Karinée Khojayan, UNDP, 5 July 2024.
62 Armenia National Mine Action Strategy, 2023–2027, p. 9.
63 Ibid., p. 10.

The strategy outlines EO contamination in the four provinces of Gegharkunik, Syunik, Tavush, and Vayots Dzor,⁶⁴ but the document does not clearly or consistently disaggregate mines from other EO. Under the strategy, the Jermuk and Kechut areas in the Vayots Dzor province (where the CHDE has not reported any AP mined area) and Davit Bek in Syunik province were deemed priorities for mine and ERW clearance in 2023–27, but the total area to be cleared (1.35km²) does not disaggregate mine clearance from ERW⁶⁵ and clearance targets are not provided for different areas annually.

The strategy does, however, indicate that in 2023, the CHDE planned to clear 50,000m² of mined and ERW-contaminated area using State funding and, if funds allow, in each subsequent year to add another 25,000m² of clearance to the target until the end of the strategy in 2027. With European Union (EU) support, UNDP was planning to support the clearance of 130,000m² of mined area in 2023,⁶⁶ but the CHDE has confirmed that UNDP funding actually ensured clearance of 155,354m² of area contaminated with CMR and other ERW.⁶⁷ The CHDE has since confirmed plans to clear 75,000m² of contaminated area in 2024.⁶⁸

LAND RELEASE SYSTEM

STANDARDS AND LAND RELEASE EFFICIENCY

NMAS developed by the CHDE were approved by the government in 2014.⁶⁹ In 2022 and 2023, UNDP supported a review of the standards.⁷⁰ The overall quality of Armenia's NMAS on land release varies, with some chapters overly prescriptive and more akin to SOPs. There are sections on "All Reasonable Effort", evidence of criteria, liability, and residual risk. Some standards are taken directly from the IMAS although the text has been adapted to the local context to a certain extent.⁷¹ The CHDE initiated a new review of the NMAS in 2023, which was ongoing as at May 2024. It intends to develop an NMAS on accreditation.⁷²

The CHDE has also been developing SOPs for several years.⁷³ SOPs on manual mine clearance, battle area clearance (BAC), the marking of hazardous areas, and medical support were all elaborated by 2018.⁷⁴ In 2020, the CHDE elaborated SOPs on Information Management, NTS, TS, EOD, and QM.⁷⁵ The CHDE reviews its SOPs regularly as necessary, updating them in 2023 and again in 2024, when additions were made to QM, marking, and BAC.⁷⁶

OPERATORS AND OPERATIONAL TOOLS

The CHDE was the only demining operator in Armenia in 2023⁷⁷ deploying two NTS teams with a total of twelve staff, and two clearance teams, with a total of fourteen deminers.⁷⁸ However, neither team conducted AP mine clearance due to the focus on clearing CMR and ERW, along with a lack of funding.⁷⁹ In 2024, the CHDE planned to increase its operational teams by one.⁸⁰

QM is conducted in accordance with IMAS and the NMAS. Quality assurance (QA) is conducted by dedicated officers who make regular field visits to inspect cleared land.⁸¹

64 Ibid., pp. 11–14.

65 Ibid., p. 21.

66 Email from Karinée Khojayan, UNDP, 15 March 2023.

67 Email from Karine Shamiryan, CHDE, 10 July 2024.

68 Email from Karine Shamiryan, CHDE, 21 June 2024.

69 Email from Margaret Lazyan, CHDE, 19 April 2019.

70 Emails from Karinée Khojayan, UNDP, 15 March 2023 and 5 July 2024.

71 Email from Stanislav Damjanovic, GICHD, 25 May 2023.

72 Emails from Stanislav Damjanovic, GICHD, 25 May and 23 June 2023; Vaghinak Sargsyan, CHDE, 10 May 2024; and Karine Shamiryan, CHDE, 10 July 2024.

73 Email from Varsine Miskaryan, CHDE, 8 August 2016.

74 Email from Margaret Lazyan, CHDE, 8 August 2018.

75 Email from Margaret Lazyan, CHDE, 26 April 2021.

76 Email from Vaghinak Sargsyan, CHDE, 10 May 2024.

77 Ibid.

78 Ibid.

79 Ibid.

80 Ibid.

81 Email from Ruben Arakelyan, CHDE, 8 June 2015.

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS AND PROGRESS TOWARDS COMPLETION

LAND RELEASE IN 2023

There was no release of AP mined area in 2023 for a fourth consecutive year.⁸² In 2022, as noted above, The HALO Trust identified three AP mines during NTS.⁸³ It is not known whether they were destroyed.⁸⁴

PROGRESS TOWARDS COMPLETION

The full extent of AP mine clearance remains unknown, with survey still needed in military-restricted areas to determine a national baseline, which CHDE says will only be conducted when there are appropriate security guarantees in place.⁸⁵ The National Mine Action Strategy 2023–2027 has not set a target date for even partial mine clearance. BAC has remained the focus since 2021, and there has been no mine clearance since 2019 (see Table 4).⁸⁶

Table 4: Five-year summary of AP mine clearance

Year	Area cleared (km²)
2023	0
2022	0
2021	0
2020	0
2019	*0.02
Total	0.02

* Area rounded up.

Armenia has in the past claimed that challenges in its mine clearance included the low level of contamination and the random distribution of mines, which created obstacles for the effective and efficient implementation of TS and clearance activities, and the absence of donor funding.⁸⁷

PLANNING FOR MANAGEMENT OF RESIDUAL CONTAMINATION

According to the CHDE, Armenia has included provisions for addressing previously unknown mined areas following completion in national strategies, though this is not clear from the new national mine action strategy. It is reported to have a limited but sustainable capacity to conduct survey and clearance. In addition to its own staff, the CHDE reports that it can also recruit additional staff from an internal roster of trained people.⁸⁸

82 Email from Vaghinak Sargsyan, CHDE, 10 May 2024.
83 Emails from Fiona Kilpatrick-Cooper, HALO, 16 March 2022; and David Crawford, HALO, 14 July 2023.
84 Email from David Crawford, HALO, 14 July 2023; and Armenia National Mine Action Strategy, 2023–2027, p. 14.
85 Email from Vaghinak Sargsyan, CHDE, 10 May 2024.
86 Ibid.
87 Emails from Margaret Lazyan, CHDE, 10 August 2020; and Ruben Arakelyan, CHDE, 28 April 2017.
88 Emails from Stanislav Damjanovic, GICHD, 25 May and 24 July 2023.