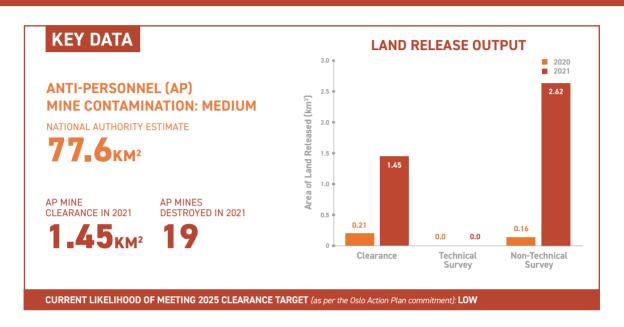
CHAD



ARTICLE 5 DEADLINE: 1 JANUARY 2025
NOT ON TRACK TO MEET DEADLINE



KEY DEVELOPMENTS

The European Union PRODECO programme which had funded mine action operations since 2017 officially ended in April 2022, although demining operations concluded already in October 2021. Operations have been at a standstill ever since as Chad seeks to reach a new agreement with an international donor for financial support. At the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC) Intersessional meetings in June 2022, Chad presented a three-year work plan which made clear it did not expect to complete mine clearance within its extended Article 5 deadline.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

- Chad's government should provide funding for continuing non-technical survey pending conclusion of a new agreement with an international donor to fund operations.
- The National High Commission for Demining (HCND) should ensure that demining assets are deployed to clear areas with known mine contamination.
- Chad should intensify and report on resource mobilisation to secure and diversify funding and attract international technical and operational support.

ASSESSMENT OF NATIONAL PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE

Criterion	Score (2021)	Score (2020)	Performance Commentary
UNDERSTANDING OF CONTAMINATION (20% of overall score)	5	5	Chad provided estimates of contamination broken down into confirmed hazardous areas (CHAs) and suspected hazardous areas (SHAs) for the first time in 2021. After a series of sharp fluctuations in earlier annual contamination estimates, Chad assessed its contamination in 2020 and 2021 at around 77km ² .
NATIONAL OWNERSHIP AND PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT (10% of overall score)	4	4	Chad's national mine action authority coordinates the sector and carried out further restructuring in 2019 to increase efficiency. The government pays salaries of national staff in the mine action sector but operations remain totally dependent on international funding.
GENDER AND DIVERSITY (10% of overall score)	3	4	Chad's last Article 5 deadline extension request did not address gender and diversity and at a point when the mine action has experienced major cuts in human resources they remain low on Chad's list of mine action priorities. The HCND employed nine women among more than 200 employees in 2019, and implementing partners who employ their staff on secondment from the HCND similarly have low numbers of women staff, with very few in operations.
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING (10% of overall score)	5	5	A clean-up of Chad's database by the Swiss Foundation for Mine Action (FSD) continued in 2020 and into 2021 and verification of survey results led to cancellation of more than 155,000m², but in 2021, only a year after Chad announced sharply reduced estimates of its mine challenge, down to 42km², it assessed mine contamination at almost double that amount.
PLANNING AND TASKING (10% of overall score)	4	4	Chad lacks a detailed mine action strategy but submitted an Article 5 deadline extension request in August 2019 setting out only general goals for survey and clearance that need to be enhanced by detailed annual work plans. Its ability to achieve its goals are dependent on attracting international donor support.
LAND RELEASE SYSTEM (20% of overall score)	6	5	Chad has national standards in place, which were updated by Humanity and Inclusion (HI) in 2017. These are said to comply with the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS). FSD completed the revision of 17 national standards in 2021.
LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS AND ARTICLE 5 COMPLIANCE (20% of overall score)	3	3	The progress of Chad's survey and clearance is unclear as official data bears little relation to available operator data. Chad reported releasing 2.3km² through non-technical survey and 1.5km² through clearance but it was unclear how much related to activity conducted in 2021 or if the totals included data relating to results of activities conducted in the previous year but only uploaded to the database in 2021.
Average Score	4.4	4.3	Overall Programme Performance: POOR

DEMINING CAPACITY

MANAGEMENT CAPACITY

National High Commission for Demining (HCND)

NATIONAL OPERATORS

HCND

INTERNATIONAL OPERATORS

- Humanity and Inclusion (HI)
- Mines Advisory Group (MAG)

OTHER ACTORS

- Swiss Foundation for Mine Action (FSD)
- Secours Catholique et Développement (SECADEV) (Victim Assistance)

UNDERSTANDING OF AP MINE CONTAMINATION

After years of fluctuating mine contamination estimates, Chad's assessment of its mine contamination in 2021–22 has settled on an estimate of 77km^2 . This marks a significant reduction from estimates in the Article 5 deadline extension request Chad submitted in August 2019 which said it had 137 mined areas affecting 111km^2 .

¹ Presentation of Chad, Individualised Approach side-event, Intersessional Meetings, Geneva, 20 June 2022.

² Revised Article 5 deadline Extension Request, August 2019, p. 9.

Chad reported in 2022 that it had anti-personnel mined area covering 77.6km² (see Table 1),³ a small drop from the 78.7km² reported a year earlier.⁴ The latest estimate comprises 72 confirmed hazardous areas (CHAs), the same number as at the end of 2020, covering a fractionally lower area of 56km², and 48 suspected hazardous areas (SHAs) covering 21.7km², a reduction of two SHAs and 1km². Maps accompanying the Article 5 deadline extension request identify most mines in Tibesti as being around Aouzou, Bardai, south-west of Goubonne, Wour, and Zouzou; in Borkou, particularly around Faya and Yarda; in Ennedi West, close to Fada; and one mined area each in the southern province of Moyen Chari and western Chari Baguirmi.⁵ Chad reports that Ennedi West's Wadi Doum minefield alone covers 16.4km².⁵

Table 1: Anti-personnel mine contamination (at end 2021)7

Province	CHAs	Area (m²)	SHAs	Area (m²)	Total area (m²)
Borkou	9	13,491,891	8	2,266,963	15,758,854
Ennedi	12	18,220,782	2	361,798	18,582,580
Tibesti	51	24,224,623	38	19,049,801	43,276,424
Totals	72	55,937,296	48	21,678,562	77,615,858

However, Chad's latest Article 7 transparency report, submitted in June 2021, noted that a clean-up of its database was continuing and that its estimate of contamination would undergo further changes.8 Data relating to Tibesti in particular, which accounts for more than half the current estimated total mined area, may require revision. The province has not been surveyed for a decade and then only partially.9

Chad reports a significant challenge from explosive remnants of war (ERW). It asserts that it has eliminated the problem of cluster munitions in all areas except Tibesti. It reported in June 2022 that it has 28 hazardous areas containing explosive ordnance contamination and covering 255,663,167m² in nine provinces: Borkou, Ennedi, Kanem, Lac, Ouaddaï, Salamat, Sila, Tibesti. and Wadi Fira.¹⁰

NATIONAL OWNERSHIP AND PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT

Chad's mine action programme is coordinated by the National High Commission for Demining (Haut Commissariat National de Déminage, HCND) which comes under the Ministry of Economy and Development Planning.¹¹ The National Demining Centre (Centre National de Déminage, CND), which earlier conducted clearance operations, appears to have been dissolved. The headquarters is supported by four regional centres and two sub-centres.¹²

The HCND is responsible for preparing a national demining strategy and annual work plans, and proposing a budget to support their implementation.¹³ Chad's 2019 Article 5 deadline extension request observed that its mine action programme had lacked a strategic vision, operational planning, and effective coordination, weakening its credibility nationally and internationally.¹⁴

A government decree in July 2017 ordered the HCND to restructure and it reduced the number of personnel by more than half from 744 to 329. By the time Chad submitted its revised Article 5 extension request in August 2019, the HCND reported having 320 staff, a number that was unchanged at the end of the year. ¹⁵ A June 2019 decree provided for re-organisation, resulting in four main divisions covering: Operations and Logistics, Planning, Administrative and Financial Affairs, and Human Resources. ¹⁶ Operators say constant changes in coordination staff have hampered efficiency. ¹⁷

- 3 Presentation of Chad, Individualised Approach side-event, Intersessional Meetings, Geneva, 20 June 2022.
- 4 Article 7 Report (covering 2020), p. 5.
- 5 Revised Article 5 deadline Extension Request, August 2019, Annexes 5-9.
- 6 Presentation of Chad, Individualised Approach side-event, Intersessional Meetings, Geneva, 20 June 2022.
- 7 Ibid.
- 8 Article 7 Report (covering 2020), p. 4.
- 9 Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) Article 4 deadline Extension Request, 30 May 2022, p. 3.
- 10 Presentation of Chad, Individualised Approach side-event, Intersessional Meetings, Geneva, 20 June 2022.
- 11 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, April 2019, p. 9.
- 12 Ibid., p. 12. The four centres are Abéché (Ouaddaï), Bardai (Tibesti), Fada (West Ennedi), and Faya-Largeau (Borkou region); the two sub-centres are at Am-timan (Salamat) and Zouar (Tibesti).
- 13 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, April 2019, p. 10.
- 14 Ibid., p. 26.
- 15 Ibid., p. 11; and emails from Soultani Moussa, HCND, 14 May 2019 and 27 April 2020.
- 16 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, April 2019, p. 10.
- 17 Email from Seydou Gaye, HI, 3 June 2020.

Government funding for mine action is limited to payment of salaries for national staff. The HCND reported payment of up to approximately US\$1.5 million in 2019¹⁸ and has committed to paying \$3.4 million for three years over 2022–24.¹⁹ However, the government's persistent non-payment of salaries in previous years negatively affected sector performance. A long-running strike by deminers in 2017 gave rise to threats by former deminers that prevented operations in areas of Tibesti earmarked for survey and clearance.²⁰

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES AND ACTION

It is not known whether Chad has a national mine action standard on environmental management and/or a policy on environmental management. It is also not known how, if at all, the environment is taken into consideration during planning and tasking of survey and clearance of anti-personnel mines in order to minimise potential harm from clearance. Mines Advisory Group (MAG) reported its teams operated in accordance with relevant IMAS on protection of the environment.²¹

GENDER AND DIVERSITY

Gender and diversity are not priority issues for the HCND. Chad's 2019 Article 5 deadline extension request did not address the issue. The HCND reported employing nine women among its 207 staff in 2019, the last year for which it provided information. They were employed in a range of management, administrative, and field roles and included the HCND's assistant director, the administration and finance assistant director, and the head of risk education.²²

The low level of female employment in the HCND carried over to international demining organisations, which take staff on secondment from the national authority. In 2020, the last year before operators started winding down activities under the PRODECO programme, MAG said it employed six women among its ninety-one staff in 2020, reporting female staff made up 21% of its 23 country office staff but had only one woman among 68 staff working in field operations. MAG's female deminer, who was also the first woman in Chad to attain an explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) Level 3 certification, was employed as a team leader.²³ Humanity and Inclusion (HI)'s humanitarian mine action programme in Chad employed only one woman among its 76 personnel. The female staff member worked as a community liaison officer.²⁴

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING

The HCND has an Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) database which, under the European Union-funded PRODECO project, operated with the support of the Swiss Foundation for Mine Action (FSD). Poor maintenance and shortages of trained information technology (IT) staff meant data available had become unreliable because of lost reports and duplication. FSD started a clean-up of the database in 2017, which resulted in cancellation of large numbers of duplicate entries.²⁵ The clean-up cancelled a total of 35 areas from the database over the course of the PRODECO programme totalling 2.5km², including eight areas deleted in 2021 alone.²⁶

To improve the quality of reporting and data, the HCND, with FSD support, introduced a system of comprehensive weekly and monthly reporting for the operators. FSD conducted two missions to Borkou province in 2020 to confirm non-technical survey results as well as a series of quality assurance (QA) and quality control (QC) missions to Borkou and Ennedi provinces. By the end of 2020, FSD gave the quality of data an informal mark of "6 out of 10".²⁷ It also supported the HCND by drafting Chad's Article 7 reports and by building a website for the HCND. The website had not been brought online as of mid 2022 because of lack of management interest.²⁸

- 18 Emails from Soultani Moussa, HCND, 14 May 2019 and 27 April 2020.
- 19 Presentation of Chad, Individualised Approach side event, Intersessional Meetings, Geneva, 20 June 2022.
- Email from Romain Coupez, MAG, 4 March 2019; "Tchad: grève des démineurs restés 10 mois sans salaire", ("Chad: deminers strike after 10 months without pay"), Agence de Presse Africaine, 10 May 2017, at: http://bit.ly/30Cz25g; and email from Julien Kempeneers, HI, 26 September 2017.
- 21 Email from Gérard Kerrien, Country Director, MAG, 4 April 2022.
- 22 Emails from Soultani Moussa, HCND, 14 May 2019 and 29 May 2020.
- 23 Email from Gerard Kerrien, MAG, 20 May 2021.
- 24 Email from Marie-Cécile Tournier, Programme Director, HI, 2 June 2021.
- 25 Email from Moussa Soltani, HCND, 27 April 2020.
- 26 Email from Eugenio Balsini, Programme Manager, FSD, 28 April 2022.
- 27 Email from Olivier Shu, Senior Technical Adviser, FSD, 18 May 2021.
- 28 Email from Eugenio Balsini, FSD, 28 April 2022.

PLANNING AND TASKING

Chad acknowledged in the Article 5 deadline extension request submitted in August 2019 that its mine action programme had lacked a strategic vision, operational planning, and effective coordination.²⁹ The request set out some very general goals and approximate timelines for survey and clearance, with a particular emphasis on Tibesti province (see Table 2) but did not set out an annual work plan or guide operations. From 2017 to 2021, Chad's mine action consisted of the PRODECO programme, which never operated in Tibesti due to security considerations. A Plan of Action for 2020–24 stated it was not possible to set detailed plans in the absence of clear data about the location and extent of contamination.³⁰

Table 2 Planning for the Extension Period 2020-2531

Region	Activities	Areas to be addressed	Timeline
Borkou	NTS, TS, clearance	39	January 2020-September 2021
Chagri	NTS, TS, clearance	1	January 2020-September 2021
Ennedi	NTS, TS, clearance	7	July 2020-December 2024
Moyen-Chari	NTS, TS, clearance	1	January 2020-September 2021
Tibesti	NTS, TS, clearance	89	January 2020-December 2024

NTS = Non-technical survey TS = Technical survey

The HCND prioritises tasks according to requests from local authorities. Under the PRODECO programme, it issued task orders to operators usually after receiving their input on technical and resource requirements of the task. Operators were usually able to physically review tasks with the HCND and local authorities prior to deploying staff. 32 HI said it prioritised tasks according to local community development priorities. 33

Chad unveiled a three-year work plan for 2022–24 at the Intersessional meetings in June 2022, but acknowledged at the time that it had no funding to implement it. The plan proposed to deploy nine "units", three to each of the Borkou, Ennedi and Tibesti regions, to survey and clear priority minefields. The work plan set out detailed annual targets for tackling a total of 33 CHAs and all 48 SHAs, including 22.6km² in 2022, 25.8km² in 2023, and 24.8km² in 2024 for a total of 73km². It also identified a number of priorities: in West Ennedi it planned that teams would install permanent marking of the Wadi Doum minefield and clear all other mined areas; in Tibesti, operations would focus on the Zouarké area covering important communications routes for the towns of Aouzou and Bardai, the main population centres in the extreme north. The plan projected total costs of €15.6 million, of which €3.4 million would be provided by Chad's government for salaries and administrative costs and €12.2 million would be required from international donors to fund operating costs.³4

LAND RELEASE SYSTEM

STANDARDS AND LAND RELEASE EFFICIENCY

Chad's national mine action standards are believed to be consistent with the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS). HI started a review of Chad's standards in 2016 and reported in September 2017 that 11 national mine action standards had been updated and issued, following HCND approval.³⁵ FSD also conducted a review of standards,³⁶ which it completed in November 2021 and in the course of which it revised 17 standards.³⁷ As at time of writing, the timeframe for the rollout of the revised standards was unclear. The HCND said it planned to update national standards for land release, supervision of organisations, and quality assurance, but gave no details.³⁸

- 29 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, April 2019, p. 30.
- 30 HCND, Provisional Plan of Action 2020-2024, July 2018, p. 24.
- 31 2019 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, pp. 33-34.
- 32 Email from Daniel Davies, MAG, 27 April 2020.
- 33 Email from Seydou Gaye, HI, 3 June 2020.
- 34 Presentation of Chad, Individualised Approach side event, Intersessional Meetings, Geneva, 20 June 2022.
- 35 Email from Julien Kempeneers, HI, 5 September 2017.
- 36 Email from Gérard Kerrien, MAG, 4 April 2022.
- 37 Email from Eugenio Balsini, Programme Manager, FSD, 28 April 2022.
- 38 Email from Moussa Soltani, HCND, 27 April 2020.

OPERATORS AND OPERATIONAL TOOLS

Mine action operations between 2017 and 2021 were conducted under the auspices of the EU-funded PRODECO project. The conclusion of that project without agreement on a successor or alternative source of donor funding appeared to leave Chad without any active survey and clearance capacity by the start of 2022.

The HCND can draw on a pool of trained demining personnel. In 2020, the last year it provided data to Mine Action Review, the HCND reported having four manual teams with 72 deminers, two EOD teams, two non-technical survey teams, and two mechanical demining units. ³⁹ Chad's 2022–24 work plan said it could deploy three clearance teams if the government decided to fund operations. ⁴⁰ FSD conducted a clean-up of the HCND's technical equipment storage facilities in the capital and Faya Regional Centre, checking all metal detectors and other equipment and separating out the equipment that was no longer in working order. FSD said the operation left the HCND with sufficient equipment for two demining teams. ⁴¹

FSD started 2021 with a total of 12 people (four international staff, four national programme staff, and four support

personnel) 42 but by the end of the year had reduced to an expatriate programme manager, two national administrative assistants, and an IT specialist. Its activities in 2021 focused on continued clean-up of the database and providing IT training for the HCND. 43

HI's mine action programme in Chad also cut back operations in 2021. It had employed three multi-task teams (MTTs) with 35 deminers and a five-person non-technical survey team and a mechanical team in 2020. HI worked on mine and battle area tasks, mainly in Ennedi West province, and particularly in the Fada and Wadi Doum areas.⁴⁴

MAG started 2021 with around 40 staff, including 13 internationals, continuing to work in the Fada and Kalaït areas of West Ennedi. It deployed three manual teams with 36 staff, a community liaison team and a mechanical demining team operating an Armtrac model 100-350 N/H 12 demining machine between January and August 2021. This was the last clearance work conducted by MAG under the PRODECO project and MAG wound down its operations closing the year with a total of 11 staff, including five internationals.

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS AND ARTICLE 5 COMPLIANCE

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS IN 2021

Chad reported that it released a total of 3.71km² in 2021, far exceeding the 0.37km² released in COVID-affected 2020. The total reportedly included 2.26km² cancelled through non-technical survey and 1.45km² through clearance. In the course of those operations, Chad reported it destroyed 15 anti-personnel mines, one anti-vehicle mine, and 103 items of UXO.⁴⁶ Those results, however, were inconsistent with the available operator data. MAG, one of the two international operators working in 2021, said it released a total of 0.6km² through survey and clearance in 2021.⁴⁷

SURVEY IN 2021

Chad said it cancelled eight areas totalling 2.62km² by non-technical survey in 2021, of which seven were released by HCND with technical support from FSD. The eighth area, covering 78,025m² was reportedly cancelled by MAG.⁴⁸

MAG said that it conducted some non-technical survey in 2021, assessing an area in Torboul in West Ennedi, which was suspected as contaminated but not listed as SHA in the database. However, MAG said the survey did not find any items and it did not cancel any areas in 2021. It reported conducting technical survey with an Armtrac machine in the Fada district of West Ennedi and reducing 480,172m².⁴⁹

CLEARANCE IN 2021

Chad reported clearing a total of 1.45km² in 2021, attributing 0.76km² to clearance by HI in Ennedi and Borkou and the remaining 0.69km² to clearance by MAG conducted entirely in Ennedi.⁵⁰

- 39 Ibid.
- 40 Presentation of Chad, Individualised Approach side event, Intersessional Meetings, Geneva, 20 June 2022.
- 41 Email from Eugenio Balsini, FSD, 28 April 2022.
- 42 Email from Olivier Shu, FSD, 18 May 2021.
- 43 Ibid.
- 44 Email from Marie-Cécile Tournier, HI, 2 June 2021.
- 45 Email from Gérard Kerrien, MAG, 4 April 2022.
- 46 Article 7 Report (covering 2021), Form 5.
- 47 Email from Gérard Kerrien, MAG, 4 April 2022.
- 48 Article 7 Report (covering 2021), Form 5.
- 49 Email from Gérard Kerrien, MAG, 4 April 2022.
- 50 Article 7 Report (covering 2021), Form 5.

MAG reported that it cleared a total of just under 0.1km² 2021, destroying 19 anti-personnel mines (see Table 3) before closing down its demining operations as the PRODECO programme came to an end. MAG had cleared 90,889m² of Fada's Haridjalla 1 minefield in 2020 and clearance in 2021 allowed release of a total area of 132,542m².51 HI expected to work in 2021 on tasks in Delbo and Wadi Ewou in addition to reinforcing the marking around Wadi Doum but it did not report on the results of its 2021 activities.52

Table 3: Mine clearance in 2021 (operator data)53

Operator	Province/district/MF	Areas released	Area released (m²)	Anti-personnel mines destroyed
MAG	Ennedi/Fada/Haridjalla 1	1	*41,653	14
	Ennedi/Fada/Haridjalla 2	1	1,478	0
	Ennedi/Fada/Chekinoura	1	54,296	5
	Totals	3	97,427	19

^{*} MAG released a total of 132,542m² in Haridjalla 1 in October 2021 but this included 90,889m² cleared in 2020.

ARTICLE 5 DEADLINE AND COMPLIANCE



Under Article 5 of the APMBC and in line with the fourth extension (for five years) of its clearance deadline, Chad is required to destroy all anti-personnel mines under its jurisdiction or control as soon as possible, but not later than 1 January 2025.

On its present trajectory, Chad's prospects for meeting its revised Article 5 deadline or the Oslo Action Plan commitment are slim. Mine action in Chad was at a standstill in 2022 after the closure of the EU-funded PRODECO programme and the absence of any renewal or replacement of international donor support. The HCND prepared a three-year work plan for 2022–24⁵⁴ setting annual benchmarks for the number of CHAs and SHAs to be tackled and detailing projected costs but it also makes clear Chad did not expect to complete clearance within its fourth extension which expires on 1 January 2025. The plan provided for tackling all Chad's identified SHAs by the end of 2024 but only

33 of its 72 CHAs. Moreover, the document was academic at the time of release because of a lack of international funding to implement it. The government only provides funding to cover HCND salaries and as of the end of July 2022 no new agreement had been concluded international funding for operations.

Lack of data prevents a precise determination of what Chad was able to release in 2021 but a provisional tally of results since 2017, when Chad embarked on the €23 million PRODECO programme, shows it has cleared a total of 0.3km² of anti-personnel mined area (see Table 4) and destroyed 58 anti-personnel mines. Operators additionally cleared modest amounts of anti-vehicle mines, cluster munition remnants, and other unexploded ordnance. One of the main benefits of the programme may have been the clean-up of Chad's IMSMA database, providing a clearer understanding of its outstanding mine challenge.

⁵¹ Email from Gérard Kerrien, MAG, 4 April 2022.

⁵² Email from Marie-Cécile Tournier, HI, 2 June 2021.

⁵³ Email from Gérard Kerrien, MAG, 4 April 2022.

⁵⁴ Presentation of Chad, Individualised Approach side-event, Intersessional Meetings, Geneva, 20 June 2022.

Table 4: Five-year summary of anti-personnel mine clearance

Year	Area cleared (km²)
2021	1.45
2020	0.2
2019	*0.0
2018	0.0
2017	0.0
Total	1.65

^{*} A total of 423,934m² cleared in 2019 was anti-vehicle mined area only.

PLANNING FOR MANAGEMENT OF RESIDUAL CONTAMINATION

Chad has not begun planning for the management of residual contamination.