

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

## KEY DATA

**ANTI-PERSONNEL (AP) MINE CONTAMINATION: MEDIUM**

NATIONAL AUTHORITY ESTIMATE

**77.6km<sup>2</sup>**

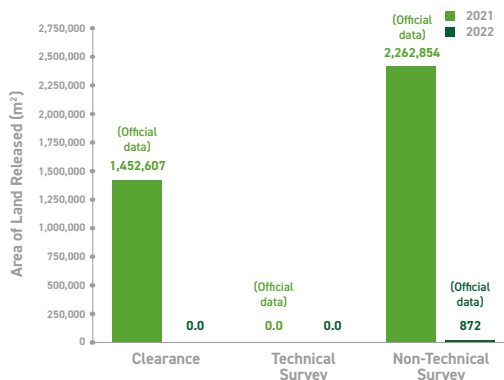
AP MINE CLEARANCE IN 2022

**0km<sup>2</sup>**

AP MINES DESTROYED IN 2022

**0**

## LAND RELEASE OUTPUT



**CURRENT LIKELIHOOD OF MEETING 2025 CLEARANCE TARGET (as per the Oslo Action Plan commitment): NONE**

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

The European Union (EU) PRODECO programme, which had funded mine action operations in Chad since 2017, officially ended in April 2022. No donor support has been provided since, leaving Chad's mine action programme at a standstill. The government funded some clearance of explosive ordnance, believed to be the first national funding of operations for some years.

## RECOMMENDATION FOR ACTION

- Chad should seek international support to re-establish a functioning mine action programme.

## ASSESSMENT OF NATIONAL PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE

Criterion	Score (2022)	Score (2021)	Performance Commentary
<b>UNDERSTANDING OF CONTAMINATION</b> (20% of overall score)	5	5	In 2020–21 Chad assessed its AP mine contamination at around 77km <sup>2</sup> . In 2022 the estimate increased marginally to 78km <sup>2</sup> but most of the mined area is in the northern Tibesti region where insecurity has prevented any survey for years.
<b>NATIONAL OWNERSHIP AND PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT</b> (10% of overall score)	4	4	Chad's national mine action authority coordinates the sector and since 2019 has downsized drastically because of funding constraints. The government pays salaries of national staff in the mine action sector but operations remain largely dependent on international funding.

Criterion	Score (2022)	Score (2021)	Performance Commentary
<b>GENDER AND DIVERSITY</b> (10% of overall score)	3	3	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.
<b>INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING</b> (10% of overall score)	5	5	A clean-up of Chad's database by FSD in 2020 and 2021 and verification of survey results led to cancellation of more than 155,000m <sup>2</sup> , but in 2021, only a year after Chad announced sharply reduced estimates of its mine challenge, down to 42km <sup>2</sup> , it assessed mine contamination at almost double that amount.
<b>PLANNING AND TASKING</b> (10% of overall score)	4	4	Chad's Article 5 deadline extension request in 2019 set general goals for survey and clearance and a 2022–24 work plan provided more detailed targets but its ability to implement them depends on attracting international donor support, which has not been forthcoming.
<b>LAND RELEASE SYSTEM</b> (20% of overall score)	6	6	Chad has national standards in place, which were updated by Humanity & 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.
<b>LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS AND ARTICLE 5 COMPLIANCE</b> (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 has reported no land release for 2022.
<b>Average Score</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>Overall Programme Performance: POOR</b>

## DEMINEING CAPACITY

### MANAGEMENT CAPACITY

- National High Commission for Demining (HCND)

### NATIONAL OPERATORS

- HCND

### INTERNATIONAL OPERATORS

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

### OTHER ACTORS

- Secours Catholique et Développement (SECADEV) (Victim Assistance)

## UNDERSTANDING OF AP MINE CONTAMINATION

Chad estimated its anti-personnel (AP) mine contamination amounted to 78.3km<sup>2</sup> at the end of 2022 (see Table 1).<sup>1</sup> The number of confirmed hazardous areas (CHAs) and suspected hazardous areas (SHAs) remained unchanged but this total represented a small increase from 77.6km<sup>2</sup> recorded at the end of 2021 after a sharp drop from 111km<sup>2</sup> in 2019. An increase of 0.7km<sup>2</sup> in estimates of Ennedi province's CHAs accounted for most of the increase.

**Table 1: AP mined area (at end 2022)<sup>2</sup>**

Province	CHAs	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )	SHAs	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )	Total area (m <sup>2</sup> )
Borkou	9	13,491,891	8	2,271,699	15,763,900
Ennedi	12	18,908,366	2	418,024	19,326,390
Tibesti	51	24,191,026	38	19,049,801	43,240,827
<b>Totals</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>56,591,283</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>21,739,524</b>	<b>78,331,117</b>

<sup>1</sup> Email from Souttani Moussa, Director of Operations and Logistics, HCND, 30 May 2023; Article 7 Report (covering 2022), #4. Chad reported CHAs totalling 56,016,433m<sup>2</sup> and SHAs totalling 21,678,562m<sup>2</sup> but the sum of contamination recorded in each of the provinces exceeds the recorded totals.

<sup>2</sup> Email from Souttani Moussa, HCND, 30 May 2023.

More than half Chad's mine contamination is located in its northern province of Tibesti. Maps accompanying Chad's April 2019 Article 5 deadline extension show most mines in Tibesti as being around Aouzou, Bardai, south-west of Goubonne, Wour, and Zouzou but no survey or clearance has been conducted in the province for more than a decade due in part to insecurity.<sup>3</sup> Mined areas in Borkou are

reported mainly around Faya and Yarda and in Ennedi West close to Fada. Chad also reported one mined area each in the southern province of Moyen Chari and western Chari Baguirmi.<sup>4</sup> Chad reported that Ennedi West's Wadi Doum minefield alone covers 16.4km<sup>2</sup>.<sup>5</sup> Unlike other countries in the region, Chad said it does not have any contamination from mines of an improvised nature.<sup>6</sup>

## 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.<sup>7</sup> 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.<sup>8</sup>

The HCND is responsible for preparing a national demining strategy and annual work plans, and proposing a budget to support their implementation.<sup>9</sup> 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.<sup>10</sup> Operators say constant changes in coordination staff have hampered efficiency.<sup>11</sup> A June 2019 decree provided for re-organisation, resulting in HCND setting up four main divisions covering: Operations and

Logistics, Planning, Administrative and Financial Affairs and Human Resources.<sup>12</sup>

HCND, meanwhile, has undergone drastic downsizing in recent years. 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 2019, the HCND reported having 320 staff, a number unchanged at the end of the year.<sup>13</sup> At the end of 2022, it reported employing a total of 113 people.<sup>14</sup>

Government funding for mine action has been limited to payment of salaries for national staff. The HCND reported the government paid approximately US\$1.5 million for salaries in 2019<sup>15</sup> and has committed to paying \$3.4 million for three years over 2022–24.<sup>16</sup> The HCND received a small amount of government funding for operations in 2022<sup>17</sup> but its director told the 2023 Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC) Intersessional Meetings that State funding was insufficient.<sup>18</sup>

## ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES AND ACTION

It is not known how, if at all, the environment is taken into consideration during planning and tasking of AP mine survey and clearance in order to minimise potential harm from clearance.

## 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 number of women employed by the HCND dropped from 9 among a total of 207 staff in 2019 to 7 among 113 staff at the end of 2022. They included a deputy director of administration, a personnel manager, an equipment officer, a training officer, an explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) Level 3-qualified demining team leader and two secretaries.<sup>19</sup>

3 Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) Article 4 deadline Extension Request, 30 May 2022, p. 3.

4 Revised Article 5 deadline Extension Request, August 2019, Annexes 5–9.

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

6 Email from Souttani Moussa, HCND, 30 May 2023.

7 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, April 2019, p. 9.

8 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).

9 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, April 2019, p. 10.

10 Ibid., p. 26.

11 Email from Seydou Gaye, HI, 3 June 2020.

12 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, April 2019, p. 10.

13 Ibid., p. 11; and emails from Souttani Moussa, HCND, 14 May 2019 and 27 April 2020.

14 Email from Souttani Moussa, HCND, 30 May 2023.

15 Emails from Souttani Moussa, HCND, 14 May 2019 and 27 April 2020.

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

17 Emails from Souttani Moussa, HCND, 30 May 2023; and Caroline Bruvier, MAG, 22 August 2023.

18 Statement to the MBT Intersessionals by Brahim Djibrine Brahim, Coordinator, HCND, 19 June 2023.

19 Email from Souttani Moussa, HCND, 30 May 2023.

## INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING

The HCND has an Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) database which underwent a substantial clean-up conducted by FSD between 2017 and 2021 under the European Union-funded PRODECO project. Poor maintenance and shortages of trained information technology (IT) staff meant data available had become unreliable because of lost reports and duplication. FSD's clean-up resulted in cancellation of large numbers of duplicate entries,<sup>20</sup> including eight areas deleted in 2021 alone.<sup>21</sup> International support for the database ended with the conclusion of the PRODECO project.

## PLANNING AND TASKING

Chad acknowledged in its 2019 Article 5 deadline extension request that its mine action programme had lacked a strategic vision, operational planning, and effective coordination.<sup>22</sup> 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 it 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.<sup>23</sup>

**Table 2: Planning for the Article 5 extension period 2020–25<sup>24</sup>**

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

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 out of 72 CHAs and all 48 SHAs, including 22.6km<sup>2</sup> in 2022, 25.8km<sup>2</sup> in 2023, and 24.8km<sup>2</sup> in 2024 for a total of 73km<sup>2</sup>.<sup>25</sup>

The plan laid out 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.<sup>26</sup> However, in a statement to the June 2023 Intersessionals, HCND's coordinator identified lack of donor enthusiasm as a challenge to its plans<sup>27</sup> and HCND has confirmed it had not attracted any additional funding in 2023.<sup>28</sup>

## LAND RELEASE SYSTEM

### STANDARDS AND LAND RELEASE EFFICIENCY

Chad introduced national mine action standards in April 2016. Humanity & Inclusion (HI) reported it conducted a review in 2016–17 and updated 11 standards<sup>29</sup> and FSD conducted a review of standards,<sup>30</sup> which it completed in November 2021 and in

20 Email from Moussa Soltani, HCND, 27 April 2020.

21 Email from Eugenio Balsini, Programme Manager, FSD, 28 April 2022.

22 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, April 2019, p. 30.

23 HCND, Provisional Plan of Action 2020–2024, July 2018, p. 24.

24 2019 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, pp. 33–34.

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

26 Ibid.

27 Statement to the MBT Intersessionals by Brahim Djibrine Brahim, HCND, Geneva, 19 June 2023.

28 Email from Soltani Moussa, HCND, 30 May 2023.

29 Email from Julien Kempeneers, HI, 5 September 2017.

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

the course of which it revised 17 standards.<sup>31</sup> HCND said in 2020 that it planned to update national standards for land release, supervision of organisations, and quality assurance, but gave no details and it was unclear if additional action was taken.<sup>32</sup>

### 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 with minimal active survey and clearance capacity in 2022.

The HCND reported it had 107 operations employees at the end of 2022, including 4 manual demining teams with 73 deminers. It also had 2 NTS teams with a total of 12 personnel, 2 EOD teams with 16 staff, and 2 mechanical teams.<sup>33</sup>

Mines Advisory Group (MAG) has a weapons and ammunition management operation in Chad but demobilised its demining team in April 2022 and maintained only a community liaison/NTS team with seven liaison staff.<sup>34</sup>

## LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS AND ARTICLE 5 COMPLIANCE

### LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS IN 2022

Chad's mine action programme continues to be crippled by a lack of funding or international donor interest since the end of the EU-funded PRODECO programme. The HCND reported cancelling a handful of small tasks in 2022 but in the absence of funding did not release any other mined area in 2022.

### SURVEY IN 2022

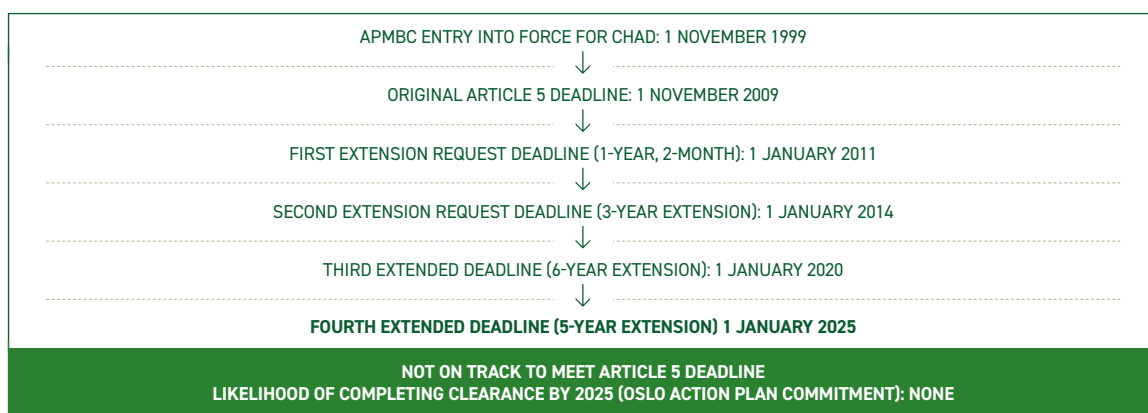
HCND reported that non-technical survey (NTS) led to cancellation of four tasks in Lake province totalling 1,005m<sup>2</sup>.<sup>35</sup> Chad's Article 7 report identified five NTS tasks undertaken in 2022 covering a total area of 872m<sup>2</sup>.<sup>36</sup>

MAG conducted NTS in seven locations in 2022 identifying five spot tasks and two SHAs around roads in Moudeina and Adé in south-eastern Chad but HCND did not include these areas in its Article 7 report.<sup>37</sup>

### CLEARANCE IN 2022

HCND reported release of 42.7km<sup>2</sup> through clearance in its latest Article 7 Report but it was not clear when the work was conducted and the tasks appear to have involved battle area clearance (BAC) and no AP mines were destroyed.<sup>38</sup>

### ARTICLE 5 DEADLINE AND COMPLIANCE



31 Email from Eugenio Balsini, Programme Manager, FSD, 28 April 2022.

32 Email from Moussa Soltani, HCND, 27 April 2020.

33 Email from Soltani Moussa, HCND, 30 May 2023.

34 Email from Caroline Bruvier, Project Manager, Lake Chad Basin, MAG, 24 July 2023.

35 Email from Soltani Moussa, HCND, 30 May 2023.

36 Article 7 Report (covering 2022), #5.

37 Email from Caroline Bruvier, MAG, 24 July 2023.

38 Article 7 Report (covering 2022), #5.

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

The prospects of Chad achieving its Article 5 deadline in the near to medium term are remote. Chad has not received any international donor funds since the closure of the PRODECO project in 2022. MAG has submitted proposals for a number of BAC and risk education projects but was awaiting funding.<sup>39</sup> The HCND's coordinator told the APMBBC Intersessional meetings in Geneva that Chad faced "enormous difficulties" that were primarily financial due to the lack of donor enthusiasm for supporting Chad and the insufficient funding allocated from the national budget.<sup>40</sup> The HCND three-year work plan for 2022–24<sup>41</sup> aimed to tackle all Chad's identified SHAs by the end of 2024 but only 33 of its 72 CHAs. In the absence of funding, it has already missed the plan's 2022 target of releasing 22.6km<sup>2</sup>.

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 1.65km<sup>2</sup> of AP mined area in the last five years (see Table 4). In the process, operators destroyed 58 AP mines along with modest amounts of anti-vehicle (AV) mines, cluster munition remnants, and other unexploded ordnance.

**Table 4: Five-year summary of AP mine clearance**

Year	Area cleared (km <sup>2</sup> )
2022	0
2021	1.45
2020	0.2
2019	*0.0
2018	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.65</b>

\* A total of 423,934m<sup>2</sup> cleared in 2019 was AV mined area only.

39 Email from Caroline Bruvier, MAG, 24 July 2023.

40 Statement of Brahim Djibrine Brahim, HCND, Intersessional Meetings, Geneva, 19 June 2023.

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