GUINEA-BISSAU

MINE ACTION REVIEW

CLEARING THE MINES 2026

KEY DATA

APMBC ARTICLE 5 DEADLINE: 31 DECEMBER 2027

Not on track to meet deadline

AP MINE CONTAMINATION: 1 KM²

Light
(Partial national estimate)

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS

Release of AP mined area	Release in 2025 (m²)	Release in 2024 (m²)
Clearance	0	0
Technical Survey	0	44,234
Non-Technical Survey	0	5 SHAs cancelled (no initial estimate of area)

Destruction of AP mines during clearance, survey, and spot tasks	2025	2024
AP Mines destroyed	0	2

MAIN AP MINE SURVEY AND CLEARANCE OPERATORS IN 2025:

- None

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

Mine action in Guinea-Bissau stalled in 2025 following the end of Mines Advisory Group (MAG)'s programme in December 2024. No anti-personnel (AP) mine survey or clearance was conducted during the year. Despite an Individualised Approach meeting held during the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC) Intersessional Meetings in June 2025, resources were not secured to resume survey and clearance. With support from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Guinea-Bissau adopted a new national humanitarian demining strategy, an action plan for 2026–32, and a resource mobilisation strategy in December 2025. Guinea-Bissau is not on track to meet its Article 5 deadline of 31 December 2027, and prospects for implementation remain uncertain due to lack of funding, weak national ownership, and political instability, further compounded by a coup in November 2025.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

- **Guinea-Bissau should provide adequate national funding and operational resources to the National Mine Action Coordination Centre (CAAMI), and strengthen its technical capacity to ensure effective functioning.**
- **Guinea-Bissau should resume non-technical survey (NTS) to identify all AP mined areas and establish an accurate contamination baseline. Available evidence suggests that AP mine contamination may be limited in extent, while explosive remnants of war (ERW) contamination is more widespread.**
- **Guinea-Bissau should urgently survey and clear the nine confirmed AP mined areas identified since 2014.**
- **Guinea-Bissau should implement its resource mobilisation strategy and pursue international support to secure the resources and operational capacity required for fulfilling its Article 5 obligations.**
- **Guinea-Bissau should clarify how it plans to address residual contamination after completion and ensure that adequate national capacity is maintained to respond to any subsequently identified contamination.**

ASSESSMENT OF NATIONAL PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE

Criterion	Score (2025)	Score (2024)	Performance Commentary
UNDERSTANDING OF AP MINE CONTAMINATION (20% of overall score)	5	6	No survey was conducted in 2025 and understanding of AP mine contamination, as opposed to explosive remnants of war (ERW), did not improve. Guinea-Bissau has nine confirmed hazardous areas (CHAs) containing AP mines, covering just over 1km^2. Inconsistencies remain on the number and size of suspected hazardous areas (SHAs), and further survey is required to establish an accurate baseline.
NATIONAL OWNERSHIP AND PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT (10% of overall score)	5	5	The National Mine Action Coordination Centre (CAAMI)'s capacity to coordinate, plan, and prioritise mine action remains limited, particularly following the end of MAG's support in December 2024. While a National Humanitarian Demining Strategy, Mine Action Plan for 2026–32, and Resource Mobilisation Strategy were adopted in 2025, CAAMI remained outside the State budget, and government funding pledged in June 2025 had not been provided as at September 2026.
GENDER AND DIVERSITY (10% of overall score)	4	5	Guinea-Bissau does not have a national policy or standard on gender inclusion in mine action, and gender and diversity considerations receive limited attention in its 2025 National Humanitarian Demining Strategy. Women represented 30% of CAAMI staff in 2025, although two of the five women were employed as cleaners. CAAMI has no designated gender focal point.
ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES AND ACTION (10% of overall score)	2	2	Guinea-Bissau has no specific environmental standard or policy for mine action. Environmental considerations remain absent from key programme documents, including the 2024 Article 5 deadline extension request and the 2025 National Humanitarian Demining Strategy.
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING (10% of overall score)	3	3	CAAMI continues to lack a functional national information management system and key technical capacity, with no progress reported in 2025 towards establishing a new system. While Guinea-Bissau has generally submitted its Article 7 reports on time, inconsistencies in contamination data persist, and the report covering 2025 did not incorporate the results of survey conducted in 2024.
PLANNING AND TASKING (10% of overall score)	6	7	Guinea-Bissau adopted a National Humanitarian Demining Strategy, Action Plan for 2026–32, and Resource Mobilisation Strategy in December 2025. However, the Action Plan does not set annual land release targets, while implementation remains contingent on securing substantial funding. No tasking was issued in 2025.
LAND RELEASE SYSTEM (10% of overall score)	6	7	Guinea-Bissau has 13 approved national mine action standards (developed with the support of MAG in 2023) covering key aspects of land release, including non-technical and technical survey, clearance, and quality management. However, the standards require stronger CAAMI ownership and with no survey or clearance conducted in 2025, the extent of their operational implementation could not be assessed.
LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS AND ARTICLE 5 COMPLIANCE (20% of overall score)	4	6	No AP mined area was released in 2025 following the end of international operational support, and Guinea-Bissau is not on track to meet its December 2027 Article 5 deadline. While a new National Humanitarian Demining Strategy and Action Plan were adopted in 2025, implementation remains dependent on CAAMI's sustained funding by the State and securing international funding and operational capacity.
Average Score	**4.4**	**5.3**	**Overall Programme Performance: POOR**

AP MINE SURVEY AND CLEARANCE CAPACITY

MANAGEMENT CAPACITY

- National Council for Humanitarian Demining (Concelho Nacional de Desminagem Humánitaria, CNDH)
- The National Mine Action Coordination Centre (Centro Nacional de Coordenação da Acção Anti-Minas, CAAMI)

NATIONAL OPERATORS

- Humanitarian Aid (HUMAID)
- National Association for Local and Urban Development (NADEL) (NTS and risk education only)

INTERNATIONAL OPERATORS

- None

OTHER ACTORS

- The HALO Trust (Weapons and Ammunition Management only)
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

UNDERSTANDING OF AP MINE CONTAMINATION

The extent of AP mine contamination in Guinea-Bissau remains only partially known. While believed to be limited, historical and recent evidence indicates that contamination is dispersed across much of the country. Further NTS is needed to determine the extent of the threat posed by AP mines as opposed to ERW, which are thought to be more widespread.[1]

As at the end of 2025, Guinea-Bissau recorded nine confirmed hazardous areas (CHAs) containing AP mines across five regions, covering 1,049,611m^2, unchanged from the previous year. In 2024, two CHAs were reduced through technical survey (TS) by national operator Humanitarian Aid (HUMAID), under MAG supervision. During TS, two AP mines were identified and destroyed. The remaining seven CHAs, covering 925,045m^2, were identified by HUMAID in 2014 (see Table 1).[2] Although classified as CHAs, they require further survey to confirm the presence of AP mine contamination, as opposed to ERW, and to more accurately determine the extent requiring clearance.

Table 1: Confirmed mined areas (at end 2025)

Province	Region	Sector	Community	CHAs	CHA areas (m^2)	Year of latest survey
North	Cacheu	São Domingos	Djequemondo	1	15,000	2014
North	Gabú	Pitche	Buruntuma	1	116,700	2014
North	Oio	Bissorã	Encheia	1	600,000	2014
North	Oio	Farim	Bricama	1	90,000	2014
North	Oio	Farim	Cuntima	1	50,000	2014
North	Oio	Farim	Demba Dabo	1	51,000	2014
South	Quinara	Empada	Gubia	1	2,345	2014
South	Tombali	Quebo	Imbai-Baila*	1	50,757	2024
South	Tombali	Quebo	Medjo*	1	73,809	2024
Totals				**9**	**1,049,611**	

* Imbai-Baila was reduced from 60,000m^2 and Medjo from 108,800m^2 through TS by HUMAID and MAG in 2024.

The number and extent of suspected hazardous areas (SHAs) are less clear. Since 2021, the National Mine Action Coordination Centre (CAAMI) has continued to report 43 SHAs of unknown size in its Article 7 reports, all identified by HUMAID in 2014. In 2024, five of these were cancelled through NTS by the National Association for Local and Urban Development (NADEL), with MAG support, leaving 38 SHAs.[3] NADEL also identified new SHAs covering 145,218m^2.[4] However, both developments were omitted from the Article 7 report covering 2025, which reverted to pre-2024 survey contamination data on SHA.

Guinea-Bissau's National Humanitarian Demining Strategy, published in December 2025, is based on the nine CHAs, but reports different data for SHAs.[5] Removing duplicated entries, the national strategy records eight SHAs.[6] Of these eight SHAs, two—Burmal, in Mansoa sector of Oio region, and Empada, in Quinara region—are among the 38 SHAs reported under Article 7. The origin and status of the other six areas are unclear, as they do not appear in previous Article 7 reports, the 2024 Article 5 deadline extension request, or among the areas identified through NTS in 2024. These inconsistencies between the different contamination datasets highlight the need to reconcile national records, particularly as the national database in use prior to Guinea-Bissau's 2012 declaration of completion could not be recovered. It remains unclear whether UNDP may have retained historical data from the former database that could account for some of the areas absent from more recent official reporting.

Mine contamination is primarily a legacy of the 1963–74 war of independence and the 1998–99 civil war, with landmines and unexploded ordnance (UXO) found mainly in the north and east, close to the borders with Senegal and Guinea. Further contamination in northern Guinea-Bissau resulted from conflict in Senegal's neighbouring Casamance region, which began in 1982. In 2006, according to military reports, a faction of the Movement of Democratic Forces of Casamance (MFDC) laid both factory-made AP mines and improvised devices designed to function as AP mines.[7]

1 2024 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 13; and APMBC Individualised Approach, Intersessional Meetings, 18 June 2025, p. 2.

2 Article 7 Report (covering 2025), pp. 4–5.

3 Article 7 Report (covering 2024), pp. 5–6.

4 Ibid., pp. 4–5. Table 5 lists 15 areas totalling 187,209m^2, but two areas (Bunhaque and Canjanco) were each listed twice. Excluding these duplicate entries gives 13 areas totalling 145,218m^2. The actual number of newly recorded SHAs may be lower than 13, as several very small areas (Badigue, Ponta Duarte, and Ondongol) may constitute spot tasks rather than SHAs.

5 National Humanitarian Demining Strategy (« Stratégie Nationale de Déminage Humanitaire »), Guinea-Bissau, December 2025, pp. 14 and 16.

6 The eight SHAs are Burmal (75,000m^2), Empada (Sede) (area not specified), Botchecul (44,025m^2), Queba Sutuba (70,000m^2), Bodje Djate (50,000m^2), Sintcham Pate (10,000m^2), Sutucó (area not specified), and Baio Mandinga (67,962m^2), covering a total known area of at least 316,987m^2.

7 2024 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 6; National Humanitarian Demining Strategy, Guinea-Bissau, December 2025, p. 1; and Declaration of completion of implementation of Article 5, APMBC Twelfth Meeting of States Parties (12MSP), Geneva, 3–7 December 2012, p. 2, para. 6.

Guinea-Bissau conducted several nationwide assessments of mine and ERW contamination between 2006 and 2011, including nationwide survey by Norwegian People's Aid (NPA) in 2010–11, under the coordination of the national mine action centre, CAAMI. After clearing 50 mined areas (6.52km^2) and destroying 3,973 AP mines, Guinea-Bissau declared completion of its Article 5 obligations in 2012, while acknowledging that residual contamination remained and that further battle area clearance (BAC) was required.[8]

In 2014, following continued explosive ordnance incidents, HUMAID conducted a survey that identified 1.09km^2 of contamination in CHAs and a further 43 SHAs across six regions. However, the survey relied largely on community reports, did not precisely delineate hazardous areas or distinguish between types of explosive ordnance, and did not capture all areas where subsequent incidents occurred.[9]

In June 2021, Guinea-Bissau informed States Parties of the discovery of previously unknown mined areas.[10] It has since submitted three Article 5 deadline extension requests and sought international support for nationwide NTS to establish an accurate contamination baseline. In 2024, two national operators, supervised by MAG, conducted NTS and TS, resulting in the cancellation of SHAs, the identification of new suspected areas, and the reduction of two CHAs in which AP mines were found. Operations subsequently ceased due to a lack of funding.[11]

Explosive ordnance incidents have continued since Guinea-Bissau's 2012 declaration, resulting in 78 casualties between 2012 and 2025. In November 2025, a 55-year-old man was killed in an AP mine accident in Bambadinca sector, Bafatá region.[12] For more information on casualties, please see the country profile on Guinea-Bissau on the *Landmine and Cluster Munition Monitor* website.[13]

OTHER EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE CONTAMINATION

According to the national authorities, ERW contamination is more widespread than AP mines. Guinea-Bissau's 2024 Article 5 deadline extension request indicated that survey of all hazardous areas, including those recorded as suspected or confirmed AP mined areas, is needed to determine whether they contain AP mines or other types of explosive ordnance.[14] At the end of 2025, Guinea-Bissau recorded four battle areas totalling 402,304m^2, unchanged from 2024.[15]

ERW continued to pose a threat to civilians in 2025. In March, two children were killed and a third injured in an ERW accident.[16] Separately, a 28-year-old man lost his right arm in a grenade accident in a cashew plantation in Cachungo sector, Cacheu region.[17]

NATIONAL OWNERSHIP AND PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT

Guinea-Bissau's national mine action authority is the National Council for Humanitarian Demining (CNDH), while CAAMI is responsible for operational coordination. Both were established in 2002, but remained largely inactive between Guinea-Bissau's declaration of Article 5 completion in 2012 and the resumption of international support in 2022.[18]

The CNDH is responsible for setting national mine action strategy and overseeing CAAMI. It comprises representatives of several ministries and is chaired by the Minister of Combatants for the Liberation of the Fatherland. Despite being mandated to meet quarterly, the CNDH met only once in 2023—its first meeting since 2012. It met again in October 2024, when it approved 13 national mine action standards (NMAS).[19]

The 2025 National Humanitarian Demining Strategy identified weaknesses in the CNDH's functioning, including limited knowledge of mine action among some members; institutional instability and frequent changes in ministerial representatives; and insufficient financial and logistical resources. Despite the introduction of a co-chairing arrangement with UNDP, changes in ministerial leadership have generally resulted in the replacement of focal points, affecting continuity and decision-making and leading to a loss of information, institutional knowledge, and familiarity with procedures. The Strategy highlighted the need to strengthen coordination between the CNDH and CAAMI and recommended reviewing the CNDH's founding decree to clarify its organisation and responsibilities and provide an adequate operating budget.[20]

CAAMI is the operational body responsible for implementing the national mine action strategy and serves as the CNDH's secretariat. It is responsible for planning, regulating, coordinating, monitoring, and evaluating mine action, as well as resource mobilisation and reporting. Its mandate also includes quality control (QC), the release of land to communities, coordination of victim assistance (VA) with relevant stakeholders, and advocacy with affected communities, donors, and other partners.[21]

8 Article 7 Report (covering 2010–11), Form C; and Declaration of completion of implementation of Article 5, 12MSP, Geneva, 3–7 December 2012, p. 4, paras. 12, 17 and 19.

9 2021 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, pp. 9–12; and 2022 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, pp. 11 and 30–31.

10 Statement of Guinea-Bissau on Article 5, Intersessional Meetings, Geneva, 22–24 June 2021.

11 Article 7 Report (covering 2024), p. 10.

12 2024 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 14; National Humanitarian Demining Strategy, Guinea-Bissau, December 2025, p. 19; and Article 7 Report (covering 2025), p. 8.

13 https://the-monitor.org.

14 2024 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 10.

15 Article 7 Report (covering 2025), pp. 6-7.

16 APMBC Individualised Approach, Intersessional Meetings, 18 June 2025; and National Humanitarian Demining Strategy, Guinea-Bissau, December 2025, p. 19.

17 Article 7 Report (covering 2025), p. 8.

18 2024 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 14.

19 Ibid.; Article 7 Report (covering 2024), p. 2; and interview with Nautan Mancabu, National Director, CAAMI, 15 June 2026.

20 National Humanitarian Demining Strategy, Guinea-Bissau, December 2025, pp. 4 and 29.

21 Ibid., p. 22; and 2024 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 14.

Following its reactivation with international support, CAAMI had 16 staff in 2023–24, organised across support, operations, risk education, VA and information management departments.[22] Two (the Director and Head of Operations) are CAAMI staff, while eight are civil servants seconded from other government institutions, and the remaining personnel are contracted staff.[23]

However, CAAMI lacks the resources and capacity required to fulfil this mandate effectively. Guinea-Bissau's Resource Mobilisation Strategy reports an annual national contribution of CFAF 14,123,280 (approximately US$23,000) in 2020–25, corresponding to CAAMI's operating budget.[24] Indeed, CAAMI does not have a dedicated line in the State budget.[25] The 2025 National Humanitarian Demining Strategy calls for a guaranteed and adequate annual budget and identifies three areas requiring urgent strengthening: staff skills, premises, and equipment. It also recommends reviewing CAAMI's founding decree and institutional positioning, alongside specialised training and improved conditions to retain qualified personnel.[26]

From 2022 to 2024, MAG played a central role in reactivating and strengthening CAAMI after almost a decade of inactivity. Its capacity-building support included information management, organisational accreditation, development of NMAS, recruitment of key staff, establishment of internet connectivity, and provision of equipment. MAG also supported the reactivation of two national operators. In 2023–24, CAAMI and MAG organised workshops on hazardous area classification, NTS, information management, community liaison, and gender and diversity.[27] MAG further supported resource mobilisation, treaty reporting, and international representation, including preparation of Guinea-Bissau's 2024 Article 5 deadline extension request and Article 7 reports. MAG ended its programme in Guinea-Bissau in December 2024.[28]

In 2025, UNDP supported Guinea-Bissau in strengthening its strategic framework for mine action. A National Humanitarian Demining Strategy, a Mine Action Plan for 2026–32, and Resource Mobilisation Strategy were developed and published in December 2025.

FUNDING FOR AP MINE SURVEY AND CLEARANCE

International funding was central to the reactivation of the mine action programme. From 2022 to 2024, MAG's programme, funded by Norway (€2 million) and the Netherlands (€800,000), included monthly financial support for CAAMI's basic operating costs as well as support for national capacity development and operations.[29]

MAG ended its programme in Guinea-Bissau in December 2024. In 2025, its Regional HMA Adviser for West Africa remained in remote contact with CAAMI's Director, providing ad hoc support. MAG continued to consider Guinea-Bissau a priority and sought funding to re-establish an in-country presence.[30]

At the Individualised Approach held during the APMBC Intersessional Meetings in June 2025, the Minister pledged US$100,000 to CAAMI to support implementation of its 2025–27 action plan, but this funding had not been disbursed. CAAMI subsequently reported that the Ministries of Economy, Planning and National Integration and of Finance had pledged €61,000 to resume risk education (EORE), NTS, and procure equipment. CAAMI indicated in mid-October 2026 that the request was with the Office of the Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, awaiting authorisation for disbursement.[31]

For more information on mine action funding, please see the country profile on Guinea-Bissau on the *Landmine and Cluster Munition Monitor* website.[32]

GENDER AND DIVERSITY

Guinea-Bissau does not have a national policy or standard on gender inclusion in mine action, and gender and diversity considerations receive limited attention in its 2025 National Humanitarian Demining Strategy and 2024 Article 5 deadline extension request. While both documents commit to promoting gender and diversity, neither contains measurable targets.[33] Article 7 reports disaggregate beneficiaries of EORE by sex.

CAAMI does not have a designated gender focal point. In 2025, five of CAAMI's 17 staff (30%) were women: the Executive Assistant, the Risk Education Manager, the VA and Information Management Manager, and two cleaners.[34] Among national operators, NADEL, which conducted community liaison, NTS, and risk education in 2024, had 12 staff, with equal representation of women and men in its NTS teams.[35] Its risk education materials were updated to address gender and diversity considerations and the needs of specific at-risk groups.[36] In contrast, all 12 HUMAID staff were men.[37]

22 2024 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 14.
23 National Humanitarian Demining Strategy, Guinea-Bissau, December 2025, p. 7.
24 Resource Mobilisation Strategy for Humanitarian Demining ("Stratégie de mobilisation des ressources pour le déminage"), Guinea-Bissau, December 2025, p. 5.
25 2024 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 9.
26 National Humanitarian Demining Strategy, Guinea-Bissau, December 2025, pp. 29–30.
27 2024 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, pp. 7 and 8.
28 Emails from Emilie Sauvanet, Country Director, MAG, 25 April 2025 and 9 June 2026.
29 National Humanitarian Demining Strategy, Guinea-Bissau, December 2025, p. 3.
30 Email from Emilie Sauvanet, MAG, 9 June 2026.
31 Article 7 Report (covering 2025), p. 3; and email from Nautan Mancabu, CAAMI, 16 October 2026.
32 https://the-monitor.org.
33 2024 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, pp. 17 and 21–25; National Humanitarian Demining Strategy, Guinea-Bissau, December 2025, p. 13.
34 National Humanitarian Demining Strategy, Guinea-Bissau, December 2025, p. 7.
35 2024 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, pp. 14 and 22.
36 Article 7 Report (covering 2023), p. 7.
37 Email from Emilie Sauvanet, MAG, 25 April 2025.

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES AND ACTION

Guinea-Bissau does not have specific environmental standards or policies for mine action, and environmental considerations are not addressed in key programme documents, including the 2024 Article 5 deadline extension request and the 2025 National Humanitarian Demining Strategy. Environmental considerations should be integrated into the planning and tasking of survey and clearance to minimise potential harm from land release activities.

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING

CAAMI has lacked a functional national information management system since Guinea-Bissau's declaration of Article 5 completion in 2012. The Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA), which was operational between 2001 and 2012, is no longer functional, and the data collected during this period could not be recovered. CAAMI's physical archives could not be digitised due to limited technical capacity and the absence of an information management system.[38] An attempt by MAG in 2023 to restore CAAMI's 2001–12 digital archives was unsuccessful. Although the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) conducted an assessment in 2022, no decision has been taken on the potential re-deployment of IMSMA considering the programme's weak capacity.[39]

In 2023–24, data from MAG-supported operations were managed through Excel and MAG's OMIS system designed for data collection, archiving, dissemination, and quality assurance (QA). MAG and CAAMI also developed standardised data collection forms for risk education, NTS, TS, spot tasks, and BAC.[40] Guinea-Bissau's 2024–27 work plan identified establishing a functional national information management system as a priority and allocated US$190,500 for its development.[41] CAAMI continued to lack key technical capacity in information management, including a database manager and Geographic Information System (GIS) expertise.[42] No progress towards establishing such a system was reported in 2025.

Since 2021, Guinea-Bissau has generally submitted its APMBC reports on time, with MAG supporting Article 5 deadline extension requests, Article 7 reports, and presentations at international meetings. However, inconsistencies remain in contamination data, and the Article 7 report covering 2025, unlike the previous report, did not incorporate the results of survey conducted in 2024.

PLANNING AND TASKING

In December 2025, Guinea-Bissau adopted a National Humanitarian Demining Strategy and accompanying Action Plan, with the objective of eliminating the threat from explosive ordnance by 2032. The Action Plan prioritises establishing an accurate contamination baseline through NTS and TS, followed by clearance, quality management, and land handover. These activities are complemented by EORE, VA, institutional strengthening, resource mobilisation, and the establishment of capacity to address residual contamination.

The plan schedules NTS for 2026–28 and clearance for 2027–28, with approximately US$16.6 million budgeted for clearance.[43] However, the Action Plan does not set annual land release targets. Operational planning therefore remains dependent on NTS to establish the extent of contamination. The Action Plan acknowledges that survey results will be needed to determine the overall contaminated area and estimate clearance costs for subsequent years.[44]

The National Humanitarian Demining Strategy is accompanied by a Resource Mobilisation Strategy intended to finance an estimated budget of US$18.08 million for 2026–32.[45]

The budget assumes that two years will be needed to mobilise sufficient resources to initiate activities, followed by five years of full implementation, based on the gradual deployment of five manual demining teams and two teams equipped with mechanical ground-preparation assets. The Resource Mobilisation Strategy does not specify the proportion of the budget expected to be financed nationally and the amount to be sought from international partners. However, the Action Plan indicates that CAAMI's annual operating costs, estimated at CFAF 44.7 million, are expected to be funded by the State, equivalent to approximately US$570,000 over seven years.[46] The overall 2026–32 budget averages approximately US$2.58 million per year, compared with US$1.91 million under the 2024–27 extension request work plan—an increase of approximately 35% on an annualised basis.

The new Strategy and Action Plan build on Guinea-Bissau's 2024 Article 5 deadline extension request, which included a 2024–27 work plan and budget.[47] That plan envisaged completing nationwide NTS by the end of 2026, alongside initial TS, marking, and spot tasks in the nine CHAs, followed

38 2024 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 10.
39 Email from François Fall, Regional HMA Advisor, MAG, 7 May 2024.
40 Email from Emilie Sauvanet, MAG, 25 April 2025.
41 2024 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 21.
42 Ibid.; and email from François Fall, MAG, 7 May 2024.
43 National Humanitarian Demining Strategy, Guinea-Bissau, December 2025, p. 11.
44 Humanitarian Demining Action Plan ("Plan d'Action de Déminage Humanitaire"), Guinea-Bissau, December 2025, p. 1.
45 Resource Mobilisation Strategy for Humanitarian Demining, Guinea-Bissau, December 2025, p. 3.
46 Humanitarian Demining Action Plan, Guinea-Bissau, December 2025, p. 6.
47 2024 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 26.

by expanded TS and clearance in 2026–27 based on survey results.[48] However, with no operations conducted in 2025 or 2026 (as at mid-October), this timeline is no longer feasible.

Implementation of the 2024–27 work plan was severely constrained by a lack of funding. Guinea-Bissau reported expenditure of US$1.7 million in 2024, while the remaining US$5.9 million required for 2025–27 remained unfunded.[49]

The end of international financial support, MAG's departure in December 2024, and the lack of national funding for CAAMI resulted in the suspension of survey and clearance in 2025, jeopardising implementation of the remaining activities. Guinea-Bissau will therefore need to submit a further Article 5 deadline extension request in 2027.[50]

LAND RELEASE SYSTEM

STANDARDS AND LAND RELEASE EFFICIENCY

CAAMI reported that 13 NMAS were approved by the CNDH in October 2024. Developed with MAG support and intended to align with the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) and the national context, they cover key areas including land release, NTS, TS, accreditation, BAC, marking, information management, risk education, quality management, and accident and incident investigation.[51]

Although formally approved, the NMAS were only partially reviewed by operators in 2023–24, principally MAG and The HALO Trust (HALO).[52] In its 2024 deadline extension request, Guinea-Bissau sought US$76,667 to finalise the development of the NMAS.[53] Strengthening CAAMI's understanding and ownership of the standards remains important for their effective implementation. Lessons learned from NTS, TS, and BAC operations in 2024 should also inform their review and, where necessary, revision.

The 2025 National Humanitarian Demining Strategy envisages a combination of mechanical and manual clearance and, where necessary, mine detection dogs (MDDs). According to the Strategy, the nature of the contamination and the vegetation in affected areas, which are often wetlands or forested, may require these different assets to accelerate land release and meet the planned timeframe.[54]

OPERATORS AND OPERATIONAL TOOLS

No AP mine survey or clearance were conducted in Guinea-Bissau in 2025 following the end of MAG's support and closure of its programme in December 2024. The two national operators previously supported by MAG—HUMAID for TS, clearance, BAC, and explosive ordnance disposal (EOD), and NADEL for community liaison, NTS, and risk education—were not operational in 2025.[55]

CAAMI has three EOD-trained personnel—Head of Operations, QA Manager and QC manager—who received refresher training from MAG in June 2023 and were qualified to conduct TS, BAC, and EOD spot tasks.[56]

HUMAID, Guinea-Bissau's national clearance operator, regained operational accreditation in 2023 with MAG support and received refresher training in TS, EOD Levels I–III, and QA/QC. Nine staff passed the training, including six deminers, one medic, and two drivers, enabling HUMAID to resume clearance, TS, BAC, and EOD spot tasks. HUMAID was equipped with vehicles, GPS devices, detectors, personal protective equipment, and explosives for destruction.[57]

NADEL worked with MAG since 2023 on community liaison, NTS, and risk education. Following training and accreditation, two NTS teams were deployed in 2024, conducting community liaison and NTS until the end of the year.[58]

Beside MAG, other international organisations had limited involvement in mine action in 2025. HALO remained present in Guinea-Bissau but focused on weapons and ammunition management (WAM) and training of defence and security forces rather than demining.[59] Humanity & Inclusion (HI), following an assessment mission in 2024, sought funding for a regional capacity-building project that could provide training and technical assistance to Guinea-Bissau, but funding had not been secured.[60] NPA, which had supported nationwide survey and clearance in 2010–12 before Guinea-Bissau declared completion of its Article 5 obligations, was no longer operational in the country.[61]

48 Ibid., p. 20.
49 Article 7 Report (covering 2024), p. 10; and APMBC Individualised Approach, Intersessional Meetings, 18 June 2025, p. 4.
50 Interview with Nautan Mancabu, CAAMI, in Geneva, 15 June 2026.
51 Article 7 Report (covering 2025), p. 9; email from Emilie Sauvanet, MAG, 25 April 2025; and 2024 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 21.
52 Email from Emilie Sauvanet, MAG, 25 April 2025.
53 2024 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, pp. 21 and 26.
54 National Humanitarian Demining Strategy, Guinea-Bissau, December 2025, p. 13.
55 Article 7 Report (covering 2025), p. 3.
56 2024 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 16.
57 2024 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 16; and email from François Fall, MAG, 7 May 2024.
58 2024 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, pp. 17 and 22.
59 Individualised Approach, Intersessional Meetings, 18 June 2025.
60 Email from Marianne Chmitelin, Regional Specialist in Armed Violence Reduction, HI, 17 March 2025; online interview with Emmanuel Sauvage, Interim Regional Director, HI, 8 May 2025.
61 Email from Hans Risser, NPA, 10 August 2021; and Article 7 Report (covering 2010), pp. 5 and 6.

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS AND ARTICLE 5 COMPLIANCE

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS IN 2025

No release of AP mined areas occurred in 2025. This contrasted with 2024, when HUMAID reduced 44,234m² through TS in two CHAs and destroyed two PMN AP mines in Medjo, Quebo sector, Tombali region.[62] NADEL also cancelled five of the 43 SHAs identified in 2014.[63]

ARTICLE 5 DEADLINE AND COMPLIANCE



Under Article 5 of the APMBC and in accordance with the three-year extension granted by States Parties at the Fifth Review Conference in November 2024, Guinea-Bissau 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 2027. With international support ending in 2024 and no survey or clearance conducted in 2025, Guinea-Bissau is not on track to meet its extended deadline.

Guinea-Bissau declared completion of its Article 5 obligations in December 2012, after clearing 50 mined areas and destroying 3,973 AP mines.[64] However, following further explosive ordnance incidents and the discovery of AP mines, Guinea-Bissau acknowledged that further mined areas remained to be addressed. It has since submitted three deadline extension requests, most recently receiving an extension to 31 December 2027.

International support, principally through MAG with funding from Norway and the Netherlands, helped reactivate the mine action programme and improve understanding of contamination between 2022 and 2024. However, progress stalled after MAG ended its programme in December 2024.

With UNDP support, Guinea-Bissau adopted a new National Humanitarian Demining Strategy and Action Plan for 2026–32, together with a Resource Mobilisation Strategy. However, implementation remains dependent on international assistance, while limited national funding and weak national ownership continue to hamper progress. Political instability, including the November 2025 coup, presents an additional challenge. Without stronger political will, renewed operational capacity, and sufficient funding, Guinea-Bissau will need to submit a further Article 5 deadline extension request.

Table 2: Five-year summary of AP mine clearance

Year	Area cleared (m²)
2025	0
2024	0
2023	0
2022	0
2021	0
Total	**0**

62 Imbai-Baila was reduced by 9,243m² and Medjo by 34,991m². Area calculated by comparing the size of the two CHAs reported in Guinea-Bissau's Article 7 reports covering 2023 and 2024. MAG confirmed that both areas were reduced through TS, rather than cancelled through NTS as incorrectly reported in the Article 7 report covering 2024.

63 Article 7 Report (covering 2024), p. 5.

64 Declaration of completion of implementation of Article 5, 12MSP, Geneva, 3–7 December 2012, pp. 2–4.

PLANNING FOR MANAGEMENT OF RESIDUAL CONTAMINATION

In its 2012 declaration of Article 5 completion, Guinea-Bissau acknowledged that residual contamination could remain and stated that CAAMI would address any subsequently identified mined areas.[65] However, the declaration was followed by a decade without funding for the national mine action programme, significantly weakening national capacity, even as previously unknown mined areas were identified.

Guinea-Bissau's 2025 National Humanitarian Demining Strategy includes an exit strategy for managing residual contamination after 2032. It envisages transferring responsibility for rapid response to newly discovered explosive ordnance to the military engineering corps, through its demining unit, rather than maintaining CAAMI. Relevant government ministries would assume responsibility for continued advocacy and support for victims. The Strategy therefore prioritises strengthening these institutions before CAAMI completes its mandate. Ensuring that the military engineering corps has the technical capacity, equipment, and resources required to provide a sustainable rapid-response capacity will be essential to the effective implementation of this exit strategy.[66]

65 Declaration of completion of implementation of Article 5, 12MSP, Geneva, 3–7 December 2012, p. 5.

66 National Humanitarian Demining Strategy, Guinea-Bissau, December 2025, p. 31.