TAJIKISTAN

MINE ACTION REVIEW

CLEARING THE MINES 2026

KEY DATA

APMBC ARTICLE 5 DEADLINE: 31 DECEMBER 2026

Not on track to meet deadline
Six-year extension requested to 31 December 2032. In December 2025, Tajikistan was only granted a one-year extension to 31 December 2026 due to late submission of its request (in October 2025).

AP MINE CONTAMINATION: 6KM^2

Medium
(Mine Action Review estimate)

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS (NATIONAL AUTHORITY DATA)

Release of AP mined area	Release in 2025 (km^2)	Release in 2024 (km^2)
Clearance	0.30	0.42
Technical Survey	0.36	0.64
Non-Technical Survey	0.01	0.64

Destruction of AP mines during clearance, survey, and spot tasks	2025	2024
AP Mines destroyed	2,576 (incl. 9 during spot tasks)	2,795 (incl. 18 during spot tasks)

MAIN AP MINE SURVEY AND CLEARANCE OPERATORS IN 2025:

- Ministry of Defence Humanitarian Demining Company (MoD HDC)
- Norwegian People's Aid (NPA)
- Fondation suisse de déminage (FSD)
- Union of Sappers Tajikistan (UST)

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

Tajikistan did not meet its previous Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC) Article 5 clearance deadline of 31 December 2025. Tajikistan submitted a request for a further seven-year extension, but only in mid-October 2025. At the Twenty-Second Meeting of States Parties (22MSP), Tajikistan was only granted a one-year extension to 31 December 2026, due to the delay in submission resulting from new internal approval procedures.[1] Tajikistan submitted a new request in March 2026 for a six-year extension for consideration at the Twenty-Third Meeting of States Parties (23MSP). Overall land release in Tajikistan in 2025 dropped more than 50% compared to 2024, primarily due to a 40-day suspension of operations in August–September linked to the suspension of United States (US) funding earlier in the year. Previously unknown areas of contamination continued to be found.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

- **The Tajikistan National Mine Action Centre (TNMAC) should continue to prioritise accelerated survey to reach a comprehensive national baseline estimate of mined area.**
- **Tajikistan should explore all possible ways to increase national demining capacity to the levels needed to fulfil its Article 5 commitments as soon as possible, and within its proposed six-year extension period.**
- **Tajikistan should continue working with key stakeholders to address shortfalls in funding.**

1 Email from Abdulmumin Asozoda, Director, Tajikistan National Mine Action Centre (TNMAC), 3 September 2026.

ASSESSMENT OF NATIONAL PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE

Criterion	Score (2025)	Score (2024)	Performance Commentary
UNDERSTANDING OF AP MINE CONTAMINATION (20% of overall score)	6	6	Tajikistan still requires a comprehensive baseline of contamination and new AP mined areas continue to be added to the database. A final assessment of some extremely high and hard-to-reach mountainous areas on the Tajik-Uzbek border will be conducted only after final delimitation and demarcation of the border.
NATIONAL OWNERSHIP AND PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT (10% of overall score)	8	7	Tajikistan has strong national ownership of mine action, led by the national mine action centre, TNMAC. It provides an enabling environment for Article 5 implementation but is heavily reliant on funding from only a few international donors. Tajikistan has set out a clear approach to resource mobilisation in its 2026 Article 5 deadline extension request.
GENDER AND DIVERSITY (10% of overall score)	6	6	Tajikistan's mine action programme has a gender and diversity working group, but few women are employed in mine action and none are in the Ministry of Defence Humanitarian Demining Company, the largest operator or in UST. International operators are making efforts to increase female staff.
ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES AND ACTION (10% of overall score)	7	7	Tajikistan has a national mine action standard (NMAS) on environmental management in mine action, which it planned to update in 2026. International operators undertake environmental assessments and all operators have measures in place to minimise environmental harm during survey and clearance. A multi-stakeholder working group on climate change and the environment is active.
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING (10% of overall score)	7	7	TNMAC has a well-functioning database and uses Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) Core. Having been granted only a one-year extension at 22MSP, Tajikistan submitted a new extension request in March 2026, providing additional information in August 2026.
PLANNING AND TASKING (10% of overall score)	7	6	Tajikistan has provided updated annual targets, including a comprehensive work plan, in its 2026 Article 5 deadline Extension request to end of 2032. The extension request work plan also includes three different options, each based on different assumptions.
LAND RELEASE SYSTEM (10% of overall score)	6	6	Tajikistan has NMAS that are compliant with the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS), last updated in 2023, with further updates planned for 2026. The standards are available in Russian and English.
LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS AND ARTICLE 5 COMPLIANCE (20% of overall score)	7	7	Land release in 2025 decreased to less than half that undertaken in 2024, primarily due to a 40-day suspension of operations in August-September 2025, linked to the US suspension of funding at the start of the year. Despite this, Tajikistan believes it can still meet the proposed 2032 deadline if it adopts operational efficiencies in land release activities, even taking account of new contamination, likely to be identified.
Average Score	**6.7**	**6.5**	**Overall Programme Performance: AVERAGE**

AP MINE SURVEY AND CLEARANCE CAPACITY

MANAGEMENT CAPACITY

- Commission for the Implementation of International Humanitarian Law (CIIHL)
- Tajikistan National Mine Action Centre (TNMAC)

NATIONAL OPERATORS

- Ministry of Defence Humanitarian Demining Company (MoD HDC)
- Border Guard Forces of Tajikistan*
- Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defence (CoES)*
- National Guard*
- Union of Sappers Tajikistan (UST)

INTERNATIONAL OPERATORS

- Norwegian People's Aid (NPA)
- Fondation Suisse de Déminage (FSD)

OTHER ACTORS

- Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD)
- Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)

* The National Guard and CoES provide staff to form the MoD HDC. Border Guard personnel are also seconded into NPA multi-task teams (MTTs).

UNDERSTANDING OF AP MINE CONTAMINATION

Tajikistan still requires a comprehensive baseline estimate of mined areas, although it has now surveyed all hazardous areas planned in its 2018 extension request. It plans to survey/resurvey, by the end of 2027, 32 previously unknown confirmed hazardous areas (CHAs) (without minefield records) discovered in the Afghan border region and in the Central Region. In 2025, it re-surveyed 12 of the 44 discovered in the Central Region.[2] In addition, some extremely high mountainous areas on the Uzbek border, which were inaccessible, will only be assessed and surveyed after final delimitation and demarcation of the border.[3]

Tajikistan reported 6.43km^2 of anti-personnel (AP) mined area at the end of 2025, consisting of 100 CHAs measuring 5.81km^2 and two suspected hazardous areas (SHAs) covering an estimated 0.62km^2 (see Table 1).[4] This is down from the 6.75km^2 across 109 CHAs and two SHAs a year earlier.[5] Tajikistan's 2026 Article 5 deadline Extension Request included detailed information on the remaining CHAs in each province, but did not include the 0.62km^2 of SHA from its Article 7 report.[6] TNMAC has since explained that it was not included because "survey activities for these areas are planned for 2026–2027".[7]

Table 1: AP mined area by district (at end 2025), excluding the Tajik-Uzbek border*[8]

		CHAs		SHAs		
Region	**District**	**No.**	**Area (m²)**	**No.**	**Area (m²)**	**Total area (m²)**
Region of Republican Subordination (DRS)	Sangvor	2	150,000	0	0	150,000
Subtotals	**1**	**2**	**150,000**	**0**	**0**	**150,000**
Badakhshan (also known as VMKB or GBAO)	Darvoz	8	691,600	2	621,000	1,312,600
	Vanj	6	908,119	0	0	908,119
	Shughnon	3	56,000	0	0	56,000
	Ishkoshim	1	250,000	0	0	250,000
Subtotals	**4**	**18**	**1,905,719**	**2**	**621,000**	**2,526,719**
Khatlon	Farkhor	1	1,556	0	0	1,556
	Hamadoni	3	120,259	0	0	120,259
	Panj	13	768,350	0	0	768,350
	Jayhun	9	153,405	0	0	153,405
	Sh. Shohin	53	2,705,975	0	0	2,705,975
	Qubodiyon	1	5,184	0	0	5,184
Subtotals	**6**	**80**	**3,754,729**	**0**	**0**	**3,754,729**
Totals	**11**	**100**	**5,810,448**	**2**	**621,000**	**6,431,448**

* As explained below, assessment in 2024 determined that mined areas are on the Uzbek side of the border. However, final assessment will be conducted only after the final delimitation and demarcation of the border.[9]

AP mined areas are located in three of Tajikistan's administrative regions, also referred to as provinces. The highly mountainous regions of Khatlon and Badakhshan (also known as Viloyati Muhtori Kuhistonii Badahshon (VMKB) or Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast (GBAO))[10] contain significant contamination; just over 58% and 39% of the total, respectively, while the smallest remaining proportion (2%) is in the Region of Republican Subordination (also known as the Districts of Republican Subordination or DRS). Contamination data are disaggregated by munition type in the national database.[11] Tajikistan notes in its 2025 extension request, however, that both in the more densely contaminated Tajik-Afghan border region (Khatlon and parts of Badakhshan), as well as in the central region (DRS, and

2 2026 Updated Annex, Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 171.

3 2025 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, pp. 10, 21, 25, 26, 31, 79, 97, 112, and 150.

4 Article 7 Report (covering 2025), Form D.

5 Article 7 Report (covering 2024), Form D.

6 The extension request provides a detailed breakdown of remaining hazardous areas by CHA ID number, exact location, area size where known (m²), APM type, and status (open or suspended). 2026 Updated Annex, Article 5 deadline Extension Request, pp. 183–88.

7 Email from Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 10 June 2026; and "Responses to the Questions and Clarifications of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation Concerning the Request for Extension of the Article 5 Deadline submitted by the Republic of Tajikistan", 3 August 2026, p. 12.

8 Article 7 Report (covering 2025), Form D; and email from Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 10 June 2026.

9 2025 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, pp. 10, 21, 25, 26, 31, 79, 97, 112, and 150.

10 GBAO originates from the Russia form. Viloyati Muhtori Kuhistonii Badahshon (VMKB) is the official Tajik name, so has been used in the remainder of this report.

11 Email from Muhabbat Ibrohimzoda, (then) Director, TNMAC, 16 June 2023.

other parts of Badakhshan), there remains a high possibility of re-classification of minefields to battle areas and vice versa, as some areas contain both mines and other explosive remnants of war (ERW).[12] It did not reclassify any in 2025.[13]

As mentioned, building a fully comprehensive baseline of contamination depends on the completion of delineation and demarcation of Tajikistan's 1,332km border with Uzbekistan. In 2013, Tajikistan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) stated that issues related to delineation had been settled but the process of demarcation was ongoing.[14] Meetings of the working groups of the Joint Tajik-Uzbek Demarcation Commission have taken place regularly, with a protocol signed in 2024.[15] Tajikistan and Uzbekistan agreed in 2018 to set up a joint commission to investigate mined areas along the border.[16] As TNMAC reiterated in August 2026, "final classification and any subsequent release of these areas will be possible only after the delimitation and demarcation of the border".[17]

Previously, information about mined areas on the Tajik-Uzbek border had been limited and based on the non-technical survey (NTS) conducted in 2011–15 by The Fondation suisse de déminage (FSD) and a needs assessment survey by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in 2013–15. However, the FSD survey only covered one part of the border in Sughd province, and although survey teams recorded 82 incidents they did not have access to the border and relied mainly on incident forms. As a result, records lack detail on the exact location where mine incidents occurred.[18] Recent progress has been made, however, and in 2024, TNMAC conducted a joint assessment and monitoring with other relevant Tajik Government entities, local authorities and communities, and implementing partners to determine the level of threat of mined areas on the Tajik-Uzbek border. This assessment determined that mined areas are on the Uzbek side of the border. However, as previously noted, final assessment will be conducted only after the final delimitation and demarcation of the border.[19] In September 2025, FSD conducted a joint accessibility and logistics assessment with TNMAC and Border Troops in the border district of Ayni. This concluded there to be only a short seasonal window of accessibility, with early snowfall and difficult mountainous terrain.[20]

Tajikistan is also delimiting and demarcating its border with Kyrgyzstan, with a Treaty between the Kyrgyz Republic and the Republic of Tajikistan on the state border signed in March 2025,[21] and a trilateral protocol signed regarding the border junction point between Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Uzbekistan in November 2025.[22] TNMAC states there is no unrecorded AP mine contamination along the border with Kyrgyzstan and that, in the event any is registered, it will inform relevant stakeholders of the mine action community.[23]

Most mined areas remaining are in the Tajik-Afghan border region. This includes mined areas on two islands in the Panj river on the Tajik-Afghan border. The islands were created by a change in the flow of the river, and have historically been inaccessible.[24] One of these areas, measuring 30,000m^2, was cancelled during resurvey in 2023.[25] TNMAC plans to resurvey the other as soon as possible during its proposed extension period to 2032.[26]

In July 2025, TNMAC pushed back its timeline for completing survey in the Central Region and in the Afghan-Tajik border region once again, and now plans to complete survey of the 32 CHAs only by the end of 2027, noting that previously unknown areas of contamination continued to be found.[27] Tajikistan has been consistently adding new areas to the database in recent years, and cites the discovery of new minefields for which no records existed (as well as some inaccurate minefield records) as one of the primary reasons that necessitates an Article 5 deadline extension request.[28] Also, in mountainous areas, natural phenomena have altered the locations and sizes of some hazardous areas, caused landmines to migrate, and, in some cases, rendered minefield records inaccurate, as mentioned.[29] A total of 141,000m^2 of previously unrecorded AP mined area was added to the national database in 2025,[30] significantly less than the 338,200m^2 added in 2024.[31] During 2025, national operator the Union of Sappers Tajikistan (UST) increased its focus on survey.[32]

12 2025 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, pp. 78–79.

13 Email from Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 10 June 2026.

14 "Tajikistan and Uzbekistan state boundary", MFA of the Republic of Tajikistan, 1 March 2023, https://tinyurl.com/4vpzt537. The 1,332km comprises 105km of river areas and 1,227.9km of land.

15 "Meeting of working groups on the demarcation of the Tajik-Uzbek State border" MFA of the Republic of Tajikistan, 27 November 2024, https://tinyurl.com/tbs8y9v2.

16 2019 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 16.

17 "Responses to the Questions and Clarifications of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation Concerning the Request for Extension of the Article 5 Deadline submitted by the Republic of Tajikistan", 3 August 2026, p. 19.

18 Interview with Muhabbat Ibrohimzoda and Murtazo Gurezov, TNMAC, Dushanbe, 25 May 2018; Statement of Tajikistan, 16MSP, Vienna, 20 December 2017; and 2019 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 33.

19 2025 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, pp. 10, 21, 25, 31, 37, and 79.

20 Email from Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 3 September 2026.

21 "Press Statement on Tajik-Kyrgyz Talks", MFA of the Republic of Tajikistan, 13 March 2025, https://tinyurl.com/5n9av9k7.

22 "Exchange of Instruments of Ratification of the Protocol to the Treaty on the Border Junction Point", MFA of the Republic of Tajikistan, 16 November 2025, https://tinyurl.com/snsptfcb.

23 Email from Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 3 September 2026.

24 Interview with Muhabbat Ibrohimzoda and Murtazo Gurezov, TNMAC, Dushanbe, 25 May 2018.

25 Email from Muhabbat Ibrohimzoda, TNMAC, 2 July 2025.

26 Email from Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 10 June 2026.

27 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 26; and 2026 Updated Annex, Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 171.

28 2025 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, pp. 96–97.

29 Email from Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 3 September 2026.

30 According to Tajikistan's Article 7 Report (covering 2025), Form D, 189,145m^2 was added to the database. However, TNMAC has since clarified to Mine Action Review that the amount was, in fact, 141,000m^2. Email from Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 3 September 2026.

31 TNMAC previously stated to Mine Action Review that it added 959,200m^2 of AP mined area to the database in 2024. Email from Muhabbat Ibrohimzoda, TNMAC, 2 July 2025. However, it has since adjusted this figure to 338,200m^2. Email from Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 3 September 2026.

32 Email from Zlatko Vezilic, Country Director, NPA, 9 April 2026.

Mine contamination in Tajikistan dates from conflicts in the 1990s. Tajikistan's border with Afghanistan was mined by Russian forces in 1992–98; the border with Uzbekistan was mined by Uzbek forces in 1999–2001 (though it was unclear whether Uzbek forces had laid mines on Tajik territory or only on the Uzbek side);[33] and the Central Region was contaminated during the 1992–97 civil war. In Khatlon region, which borders Afghanistan and Uzbekistan, mines were laid in and around military positions on hilltops overlooking the Panj river valley, mostly delivered remotely by helicopter or laid by troops who were moved in and out by helicopter. There are no established roads or tracks to access the minefields for survey or clearance.[34] Tajikistan's terrain can also present further challenges to determining an accurate baseline of contamination in a given area, as mudslides, landslides, avalanches, and rockfalls can cause mines to move or become more deeply buried.[35] This can sometimes result in the suspension of tasks.[36] Tajikistan has a good understanding of how to work in hard-to-reach mountainous areas, but is seeking support in the form of technical assistance and specialist equipment.[37]

Neither TNMAC nor operators report mines of an improvised nature in Tajikistan. However, booby-traps in minefields were recorded by FSD along the Tajik-Afghan border between 2008 and 2014.[38]

OTHER EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE CONTAMINATION

Tajikistan also has cluster munition remnants (CMR) remaining on its territory (see Mine Action Review's *Clearing Cluster Munition Remnants 2026* report on Tajikistan for further information).

NATIONAL OWNERSHIP AND PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT

TNMAC is Tajikistan's national mine action authority and the executive arm of the Commission for the Implementation of International Humanitarian Law (CIIHL), which is chaired by the First Deputy Prime Minister and comprises senior representatives from relevant line ministries.[39] TNMAC serves as the coordinating body for mine action, responsible for accreditation, risk management, the issuing of task orders, information management, quality assurance (QA), and quality control (QC).[40] The CIIHL convenes annual meetings of mine action stakeholders, including in 2025,[41] where the progress and annual work plans of TNMAC and its partners are discussed and approved.[42]

Tajikistan's Parliament adopted a Law on Humanitarian Mine Action in 2016.[43] The Ministry of Defence (MoD) plays a significant role in the mine actor sector through the Humanitarian Demining Company (HDC), the biggest national operator.[44]

The Government of Tajikistan and TNMAC are enabling and supportive of mine action. This includes the timely granting of visas, conclusion of memoranda of understanding with operators, facilitation of relevant imports, and the granting of access to border areas that require special permissions.[45] In 2025, TNMAC also supported FSD by jointly organising meetings with potential donors.[46]

TNMAC regularly receives support on topics such as information management from the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD).[47] The Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) also continued to provide support to the national programme in 2025, including training of MoD explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) personnel through the OSCE-funded Regional Explosive Hazards Training Centre (REHTC). OSCE's Integrated Co-operation on Explosive Hazards team also conducted on-site visits in several regions of Tajikistan to support local EOD training.[48] Norwegian People's Aid

33 Email from Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 3 September 2026.

34 Interview with Muhabbat Ibrohimzoda and Murtazo Gurezov, TNMAC, Dushanbe, 25 May 2018; and Statement of Tajikistan, 16MSP, Vienna, 20 December 2017.

35 Presentation by Muhabbat Ibrohimzoda, TNMAC, Intersessional Meetings, Geneva, 22 June 2022; email from Saynurridin Kalandarov, UST, 14 April 2023; and Article 5 deadline Extension Request, pp. 9, 25, and 35.

36 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 35.

37 Tajikistan requires technical assistance in mountain transport and logistics; high-altitude protective and medical equipment; and mechanical ground-preparation assets. Tajikistan also intends to deploy rope-access teams, drone-based aerial surveys, and lightweight, portable detection equipment, and requires capacity-building for staff in advanced survey and clearance techniques; risk assessment; and operational planning in rugged terrain. "Responses to the Questions and Clarifications of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation Concerning the Request for Extension of the Article 5 Deadline submitted by the Republic of Tajikistan", 3 August 2026, pp. 4-5.

38 Email from Nickhwah Din Mohammed, FSD, 11 April 2024.

39 Email from Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 3 September 2026.

40 2019 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, pp. 20–21; and "Tajikistan Mine Action Programme General Land Release Operational Plan for October 2023 to December 2025", p. 9.

41 Emails from Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 10 June 2026; and Saodat Asadova, National Programme Officer, Countering Security Threats and Regional Cooperation Unit, OSCE Programme Office in Dushanbe, 18 March 2026.

42 2026 Updated Annex, Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 41.

43 2019 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, pp. 20–21.

44 Ibid., p. 23.

45 Emails from Yoshiyuki Shiomi, Country Director for Tajikistan/ Programme Manager for Central Asia, FSD, 8 May 2026; Zlatko Vezilic, NPA, 21 March 2026; and Saodat Asadova, OSCE, 24 March 2025.

46 Email from Yoshiyuki Shiomi, FSD, 8 May 2026.

47 Email from Muhabbat Ibrohimzoda, TNMAC, 2 July 2025.

48 Email from Claudia Ditel, Junior Professional Officer, OSCE Programme Office in Dushanbe, 19 March 2026.

(NPA) provided the Basic Demining Course and battle area clearance (BAC) training for 13 Border Forces officers, prior to seconding them into NPA's operations, as it does annually.[49]

TNMAC has an agreement with a new partner, ITF Enhancing Human Security (ITF), for capacity development and mine action in 2026–28.[50]

FUNDING FOR AP MINE SURVEY AND CLEARANCE

National funding for humanitarian demining has remained modest but consistent. In 2025, in line with previous annual commitments, the government allocated US$69,208 to support mine action as well as US$500,000 in in-kind[51] support.[52] HDC continued to be funded by the United States[53] and the OSCE in 2025.[54] Tajikistan continues to seek to mobilise resources from a wider range of potential donors.[55]

Both FSD and NPA had their funding suspended by the US Department of State Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement (PM/WRA) in early 2025. It was not reinstated.[56] A summary of information provided by humanitarian operators on their funding for survey and clearance of AP mines in 2025 and forecast for 2026 is provided in Table 2.

Table 2: Funding for survey and clearance in Tajikistan (2025–26)[57]

Donor	2025	2026
Norway (Norad[58]/ MFA)	NPA	NPA
OSCE Programme Office in Dushanbe	HDC MoD	HDC MoD
PATRIP Foundation	FSD	FSD
UK Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office (FCDO)	FSD	FSD (project ended March 2025).
US Department of State (US DoS)	HDC MoD	HDC MoD
US PM/WRA	Funding withdrawn from FSD in January 2025 and from NPA in February 2025.	HDC MoD, UST*

* Funding to HDC MoD and UST is a sub-award to TNMAC, through ITF.

Tajikistan initiated an Individualised Approach at the Twenty-First Meeting of States Parties (21MSP) in November 2023,[59] but, as at August 2026, this had not yielded any new donor support.[60] TNMAC has sent its request to the government to distribute a letter seeking funding support and cooperation to donor countries and international organizations. This process is ongoing through Tajikistan's MFA.[61] In its 2026 extension request Tajikistan states that "preliminary calculations" suggest that implementation of its 2026–32 plan will require US$42 million. This amount is based on an assumption of US$7.74 on average per square meter of manual clearance, also taking into account an expected decrease of the "clearance ratio" given that much remaining contamination is in high altitude and/or hard-to-reach mountainous terrain.[62] TNMAC explains that this budget of US$42 million would allow for increased capacity and earlier completion by 2030, but that to maintain current capacity and complete clearance by 2032, a budget of just over US$27m is sufficient.[63]

Tajikistan has set out its strategy for resource mobilisation and provided a plan for how much is expected to be mobilised by each implementing partner, and how much the Government of Tajikistan will contribute during the proposed extension period.[64] For more information on funding, please see the country profile on Tajikistan on the *Landmine and Cluster Munition Monitor* website.[65]

49 Email from Zlatko Vezilic, NPA, 21 March 2026.

50 "Responses to the Questions and Clarifications of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation Concerning the Request for Extension of the Article 5 Deadline submitted by the Republic of Tajikistan", 3 August 2026, p. 8.

51 This in-kind support includes office space and secondment of qualified technical field staff from relevant ministries. "Responses to the Questions and Clarifications of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation Concerning the Request for Extension of the Article 5 Deadline submitted by the Republic of Tajikistan", 3 August 2026, p. 7.

52 Emails from Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 10 June 2026; and Muhabbat Ibrohimzoda, TNMAC, 31 March 2023, 15 April 2024, and 2 July 2025.

53 Following the US review of funding to mine action globally in early 2025, continued US funding of TNMAC, and of OSCE's implementation of the REHTC was approved. Interview with Saodat Asadova, OSCE, Geneva, 9 April 2025.

54 Email from Saodat Asadova, OSCE, 10 June 2024.

55 Interview with Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC; Murtazo Gurezov, Senior Officer Responsible for Land Release Operations, TNMAC; and Nazarov Murodzhon, Capacity Building Advisor, TNMAC, Geneva, 23 April 2026.

56 Emails from Zlatko Vezilic, NPA, 21 March 2026; and Yoshiyuki Shiomi, FSD, 8 May 2026.

57 Emails from Zlatko Vezilic, NPA, 21 March 2026; Yoshiyuki Shiomi, FSD, 8 May 2026; and Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 10 June and 3 September 2026.

58 Norad is the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation, under Norway's MFA. See www.norad.no.

59 "Tajikistan's Mine Action Programme: Overview of Remaining Challenges and Needs", Individualised Approach Meeting, 21MSP, 21 November 2023.

60 Email from Muhabbat Ibrohimzoda, TNMAC, 2 July 2025.

61 Email from Abdulmumin Asozoda, 3 September, 2026.

62 2026 Updated Annex, Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 13.

63 Email from Abdulmumin Asozoda, 3 September, 2026; and 2026 Updated Annex, Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 139.

64 2026 Updated Annex, Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 140; and "Responses to the Questions and Clarifications of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation Concerning the Request for Extension of the Article 5 Deadline submitted by the Republic of Tajikistan", 3 August 2026, p. 8.

65 https://the-monitor.org.

GENDER AND DIVERSITY

Gender and diversity considerations were integrated into Tajikistan's national mine action strategy for 2021 to 2030, with annual plans also addressing these issues.[66] Tajikistan states that gender is mainstreamed in all aspects of its mine action programme,[67] which is underpinned by national legislation on gender equality, the national development strategy to 2030, and other programme and strategy documents.[68] Tajikistan has committed to developing a gender and diversity policy for humanitarian mine action during 2026.[69] TNMAC also states that as information is being collected to establish an accurate baseline of contamination, various segments of the at-risk population are being consulted in the course of survey and risk education.[70] The basic demining course in Tajikistan includes content on gender and human rights.[71]

Table 3: Gender composition of operators in 2025[72]

Organisation	Total staff	Total women staff	Managerial or supervisory staff	Women managerial or supervisory staff	Operational staff	Women operational staff
TNMAC	25	7 (28%)	8	1 (13%)	7	0 (0%)
NPA	*73	13 (18%)	12	3 (25%)	66	11 (17%)
FSD	58	20 (34%)	16	6 (38%)	49	14 (29%)
UST	83	0 (0%)	15	0 (0%)	68	0 (0%)
MoD HDC	140	0 (0%)	13	0 (0%)	127	0 (0%)
Totals	**379**	**40 (11%)**	**64**	**10 (16%)**	**317**	**25 (8%)**

* Some NPA staff fulfil both managerial/supervisory and operational roles.

TNMAC asserts that men and women with relevant work experience and qualifications in demining have equal access to employment in the sector in Tajikistan. It acknowledges, however, that in view of the predominance of men in the military, where service is compulsory for men and voluntary for women, it is challenging to achieve gender balance.[73] As in previous years, no women were employed by MoD's HDC in 2025, nor in national humanitarian operator, UST.[74] The proportion of women employed in managerial or supervisory roles, across TNMAC and operators combined, fell by 10% between 2024 and 2025. However, employment of women as a proportion of all staff across the sector remained fairly consistent in 2025 (see Table 3), compared to 2024.[75]

Operators continue with efforts to integrate gender and diversity considerations and recruit more women into the sector in Tajikistan. NPA, FSD, and national operator UST all have a gender and diversity policy, and NPA Tajikistan has a country-specific gender implementation plan.[76] NPA collaborates with local women's associations to recruit and train female deminers[77] and FSD promotes recruitment opportunities in local communities, encouraging women to apply. FSD also prioritises equal access to training, to enable women to qualify for both operational and leadership roles.[78]

The multi-stakeholder Tajikistan Mine Action Programme Gender and Diversity Working Group did not meet in 2025,[79] due to capacity constraints and some staff turnover at TNMAC[80], but reconvened in May 2026. Priority areas of work for the group include: promoting gender balance and diversity in survey and clearance teams; ensuring equal participation of women and men in operational and managerial roles; and supporting inclusive community liaison.[81]

FSD and NPA deploy gender-mixed, multi-task teams, and NPA continued to deploy one all-female demining team in 2025. Operators emphasise that the presence of both male and female staff is important to facilitate dialogue in areas with certain cultural considerations.[82] NPA works in close coordination with TNMAC, local authorities, and community representatives to ensure that the needs of all groups,

66 Emails from Melissa Andersson, Country Director, NPA, 21 May 2022; and Muhabbat Ibrohimzoda, TNMAC, 19 June 2022.

67 APMBC Committee on the Implementation of Article 5, Preliminary Observations on Tajikistan, Intersessional meetings, Geneva, 20–22 June 2022.

68 Email from Muhabbat Ibrohimzoda, TNMAC, 2 July 2025.

69 2026 Updated Annex, Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 37.

70 Email from Muhabbat Ibrohimzoda, TNMAC, 2 July 2025.

71 Email from Saodat Asadova, OSCE, 18 June 2025.

72 Emails from Yoshiyuki Shiomi, FSD, 8 May and 24 June 2026; Zlatko Vezilic, NPA, 21 March and 17 June 2026; and Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 10 and 12 June, and 30 July 2026.

73 2026 Updated Annex, Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 37.

74 Emails from Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 10 and 12 June 2026; Saodat Asadova, OSCE, 3 June 2022; and Muhabbat Ibrohimzoda, TNMAC, 16 June 2023; 23 July 2024; and 2 July 2025.

75 Emails from Muhabbat Ibrohimzoda, TNMAC, 2 July 2025; Saynurridin Kalandarov, UST, 7 May 2024; Yoshiyuki Shiomi, FSD, 13 May 2025; and Azim Ibrohimov, NPA, 20 March 2025.

76 Emails from Yoshiyuki Shiomi, FSD, 8 May 2026; Saynurridin Kalandarov, UST, 14 April 2023 and 7 May 2024; and Zlatko Vezilic, NPA, 21 March 2026.

77 Email from Azim Ibrohimov, NPA, 20 March 2025.

78 Email from Yoshiyuki Shiomi, FSD, 8 May 2026.

79 Emails from Yoshiyuki Shiomi, FSD, 8 May 2026; Zlatko Vezilic, NPA, 21 March 2026; and Saodat Asadova, OSCE, 18 March 2026.

80 Email from Saodat Asadova, OSCE, 18 March 2026.

81 Email from Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 10 June 2026.

82 Emails from Yoshiyuki Shiomi, FSD, 8 May 2026; and Zlatko Vezilic, NPA, 21 March 2026.

including vulnerable community members, are considered during prioritisation and planning.[83] FSD teams are trained in inclusive and gender-sensitive approaches.[84]

In 2025, FSD expanded its socio-economic baseline assessment (SEBA) initiative, launched in areas along the Tajik-Kyrgyz border in 2024, to the Rasht Valley and parts of Khatlon, along the Tajik-Afghan border. The SEBA maps gender disparities and identifies the specific needs of women and men in surveyed areas. This is intended to inform future interventions, such as expanding employment and vocational training, and improving gender-sensitive mine action.[85] TNMAC emphasises that community considerations are being increasingly integrated into clearance operations in the country, including efforts to ensure gender-balanced teams and engagement with all groups in local populations, including women, children, and ethnic minorities.[86]

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES AND ACTION

Tajikistan has a national mine action standard (NMAS) on environmental management in mine action, which it planned to update during 2026, to be in line with the revised 2024 edition of International Mine Action Standard (IMAS) 07.13.[87] Chapter 20 of the current NMAS encompasses issues such as safeguarding of the environment during the establishment and removal of worksites and accommodation, waste disposal, air quality, and water supply.[88] Based on the standard, TNMAC monitors the demining activities of all operators to assess environmental implications and environmental protection requirements.[89]

Tajikistan's 2011 law on environmental protection and other regulatory documents define the legal basis for all State policy on the environment, but TNMAC still plans to develop an environmental management policy for mine action by the end of 2027.[90] A multi-stakeholder working group on climate change and the environment and mine action was established in 2024, with participation from TNMAC, operators, the OSCE, and the REHTC.[91] It did not meet in 2025, but reconvened in the first half of 2026.[92]

TNMAC has developed a proposed programme integrating mine action, glacier protection, and climate change. The programme proposes to clear hazardous areas of all types (including mine-affected areas in the GBAO) adjacent to glaciers, to facilitate access for climate change research; enable safe access to strategic water resources; support Tajikistan's national glacier protection policy; and promote sustainable development and eco-tourism in affected areas. The proposed timeline for implementation is 2026–2030, though Tajikistan was continuing to seek donor support as at the time of writing.[93]

All operators working in Tajikistan have an environmental standard operating procedure (SOP).[94] NPA Tajikistan has an annual environmental annual action plan linked to its environmental policy[95] and, in 2025, implemented its global Green Field Tool in the country, to conduct pre-clearance environmental screening and analyse its environmental impact.[96] NPA's assessments in 2025 focused on waste management, prevention of environmental contamination, and protection of land and water resources, concluding that its activities did not cause environmental harm.[97] FSD undertakes pre-clearance environmental and social assessments, regularly monitors environmental risks, and takes steps, such as controlled demolitions, to reduce its environmental impact. FSD also undertakes annual environmental refresher training with all staff.[98]

Table 4: Environmental policies and action[99]

Operator name	Environmental policy in place for country programme	Environmental assessments conducted to support survey and clearance	Environmental focal point at country-programme level
FSD	Yes	Yes	Yes
NPA	Yes	Yes	Yes

83 Email from Zlatko Vezilic, NPA, 21 March 2026.

84 Email from Yoshiyuki Shiomi, FSD, 8 May 2026.

85 Emails from Yoshiyuki Shiomi, FSD, 13 May 2025, and 8 May 2026; and "Activity Report 2024", FSD, https://bit.ly/4384LOE, pp. 18–19.

86 Email from Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 10 June 2026.

87 2026 Updated Annex, Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 38.

88 Emails from Saodat Asadova, OSCE, 3 and 9 June 2022; and Muhabbat Ibrohimzoda, TNMAC, 19 June 2022; and NMAS Chapter 20: "Environment, Health and Safety".

89 Email from Muhabbat Ibrohimzoda, TNMAC, 15 April 2024; and 2026 Updated Annex, Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 38.

90 2026 Updated Annex, Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 38. In addition to the 2011 Law on Environmental Protection and the NMAS and SOPs, other documents regulating environmental practices in mine action in Tajikistan include: the "State Environmental Programme of the Republic of Tajikistan for 2023–2028"; "Climate Change Adaptation Strategy of the Republic of Tajikistan up to 2030". Email from Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 10 June 2026.

91 Emails from Saodat Asadova, OSCE, 24 March 2025; and Muhabbat Ibrohimzoda, TNMAC, 2 July 2025.

92 Emails from Yoshiyuki Shiomi, FSD, 8 May 2026; Zlatko Vezilic, NPA, 21 March 2026; and Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 10 June and 30 July 2026.

93 Email from Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 30 July 2026; and TNMAC, "Draft Programme within the framework of climate change "Safe Mountains – Protected Glaciers"", pp. 5-7. Undated but provided to Mine Action Review 30 July 2026.

94 Emails from Saynurridin Kalandarov, UST, 7 May 2024; Yoshiyuki Shiomi, FSD, 8 May 2026; and Azim Ibrohimov, NPA, 20 March 2025.

95 Email from Melissa Andersson, NPA, 21 May 2022.

96 Emails from Azim Ibrohimov, NPA, 20 March and 2 April 2025; and online interview, 3 April 2025.

97 Email from Zlatko Vezilic, NPA, 21 March 2026.

98 Email from Yoshiyuki Shiomi, FSD, 8 May 2026.

99 Emails from Yoshiyuki Shiomi, FSD, 8 May and 24 June 2026; Zlatko Vezilic, NPA, 21 March and 25 August 2026; and Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 10 June and 30 July 2026.

Table 4 continued

Operator name	Environmental policy in place for country programme	Environmental assessments conducted to support survey and clearance	Environmental focal point at country-programme level
UST	Yes	No	No
HDC MoD	No	No	Yes*

* A Supervisor is assigned to this role on behalf of both TNMAC and HDC MoD.

Operators undertook various other measures to protect the environment in 2025. FSD, in projects along the Tajik-Kyrgyz border, provided solar panels and constructed a water reservoir for a hospital in Shurob, as well as a greenhouse in Chorkuh to support vegetable cultivation in an area with poor soil composition.[100] Operators and TNMAC continued to plant trees in cleared areas, collectively planting more than 1,600 trees by 2026.[101] TNMAC and operators routinely consider environmental conditions and climate-related risks during planning, particularly flooding, as certain areas are prone to this.[102] Environmental concerns and climate resilience are becoming increasingly pertinent for mine action in Tajikistan, as changes to weather patterns, including both extreme heat, early snow, and heavy rainfall, continue to shrink the previously nine-month-long window for demining operations.[103]

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING

TNMAC uses the latest version of the Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA Core) for its national mine action database, which is available to all implementing partners.[104] Data collection forms are reported to enable efficient collection of the requisite data[105] and both the database and information management by TNMAC generally are said to be functioning well.[106] Tajikistan's General Land Release Operations Plan sets out clear guidelines for operators on the required content and timelines for all types of operational reports to be sent to TNMAC on a daily, weekly, monthly, and as-needed basis.[107] In 2025, NPA and FSD both worked to review and clean legacy data.[108]

In recent years, Tajikistan has submitted detailed Article 7 reports of generally good quality. Tajikistan informally presented its 2025 Article 5 deadline extension request at the Intersessional Meetings in June 2025,[109] but did not formally submit it until mid-October. This is despite the 31 March 2025 deadline for submission of extension requests in order to give the Committee on Article 5 implementation and States Parties sufficient time to analyse and consider the request. As previously noted, this delay in submission was due to changes in Tajikistan's official approval procedures, which took longer than anticipated. At 22MSP, Tajikistan was only granted a one-year extension to 31 December 2026, due to the delayed submission of its Article 5 deadline extension request.[110] Tajikistan subsequently submitted a new request, on time, in March 2026, seeking a six-year extension to 31 December 2032, for consideration at the 23MSP. Tajikistan also provided additional information in August 2026.[111]

PLANNING AND TASKING

TNMAC's activities are guided by the National Strategy of the Republic of Tajikistan on Humanitarian Mine Action for 2021–2030.[112] An annual work plan was in place for 2025[113] A detailed work plan for 2026–32 is in Tajikistan's 2026 article 5 deadline Extension Request.[114]

100 Email from Yoshiyuki Shiomi, FSD, 8 May 2026.

101 Emails from Zlatko Vezilic, NPA, 21 March 2026; and Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 10 June 2026; and 2026 Updated Annex, Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 38.

102 Emails from Yoshiyuki Shiomi, FSD, 8 May 2026; Zlatko Vezilic, NPA, 21 March 2026; and Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 10 June 2026.

103 Interview with Faiz Mohammad Paktian, Country Director, Tajikistan, NPA, Geneva, 21 November 2023.

104 2026 Updated Annex, Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 68.

105 Emails from Melissa Andersson, NPA, 21 May 2022 and 29 March 2023.

106 Emails from Muhabbat Ibrohimzoda, TNMAC, 15 April 2024; Saynurridin Kalandarov, UST, 7 May 2024; and Yoshiyuki Shiomi, FSD, 8 May 2026.

107 Tajikistan Mine Action Programme General Land Release Operational Plan for October 2023 to December 2025, pp. 4–5.

108 Emails from Yoshiyuki Shiomi, FSD, 8 May 2026; and Zlatko Vezilic, NPA, 21 March 2026.

109 "Tajikistan National Mine Action Centre under the Government of Tajikistan, Tajikistan's Extension Request for 2026–2032", Muhabbat Ibrohimzoda, TNMAC, Intersessional Meetings, 17–22 June 2025.

110 "Decisions on the request submitted by Tajikistan for an extended deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in accordance with Article 5 of the Convention", 22MSP, 4 December 2025.

111 APMBC, "Tajikistan's Extension Request Process", accessed 11 August 2026, https://tinyurl.com/5y7bpczs.

112 Statement of Tajikistan on Political Commitment, Fifth Review Conference, 25–29 November 2024, p. 2.

113 Email from Muhabbat Ibrohimzoda, TNMAC, 2 July 2025.

114 2026 Updated Annex, Article 5 deadline Extension Request, pp. 116–87.

Tajikistan had previously set a target to release almost 8.85km^2 during its second extension period of 2019–25. In fact, it exceeded this target slightly, releasing 8.91km^2, by the end of 2025. However, between 2019 and 2025, Tajikistan also identified new AP mined areas amounting to a little over 5.33km^2. TNMAC cites these discoveries as one of the key reasons for not fulfilling its obligations during its second extension period.[115]

In its 2026 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, Tajikistan has provided a comprehensive work plan for 2025–2032, including its plan for survey/re-survey of 32 CHAs currently totalling 2.76km^2 in the Tajik-Afghan border region and Central Region;[116] a clear rationale for projected annual land release targets; anticipated challenges and measures to mitigate against these; personnel required; quality management (QM) measures; and detailed lists of minefields to be surveyed, re-surveyed, or cleared.[117]

Tajikistan outlined three work plan "options" (scenarios) within its 2026 extension request. The Option 1 work plan foresees the release of 5.81km^2 during the period 2026–32, based on current capacity. The Option 2 work plan assumes discovery of an additional 2.73km^2 of previously unrecorded mined areas (based on practical field experience).[118] This would bring the total amount of mined areas needing to be addressed during the extension period to 8.54km^2. This second option assumes completion by end of 2032, with existing capacity, which will be achieved through increasing the operational efficiency of land release and survey operations. The Option 3 work plan foresees the release of the 100 CHAs totalling 5.81km^2 by end of 2030 (rather than 2032), based on the assumption that funding levels are doubled and no previously unknown mined areas is added to the baseline.[119]

All three work plan options only include CHAs, and, as previously mentioned, exclude the 0.62km^2 of SHA contained in Tajikistan's Article 7 report covering 2025 (see Table 1), for which survey activities are planned for 2026–2027.[120] Both options 1 and 2 (i.e. without and with the discovery of new contaminated areas, respectively) are based on current capacity, with completion expected by the end of 2032.[121]

Whichever of the three options proves feasible, Tajikistan plans to undertake the following key activities during the proposed extension request period:

- Complete re-survey of all hazardous areas in the central region and in Tajik-Afghan border areas, by the end of 2027;
- Conduct detailed survey and assessment of minefields and battle areas, as some of them are contaminated with both landmines and UXOs;
- Establish multi-task teams to increase operational efficiency;
- Complete land release of the remaining hazardous areas.[122]

Tajikistan said it will also need to deploy mechanical assets in order to meet its proposed 2032 deadline.[123] It estimates that 10–20% of remaining contaminated areas are in lowlands with an altitude less than 800m above sea level, which could be processed using mechanical demining machines, particularly in flat areas with a high concentration of metal fragments and high levels of vegetation.[124] TNMAC said that at present it is impossible to use the mechanical demining machines available in Tajikistan, as they require funding for the purchase of spare parts and technical maintenance.[125] TNMAC seeks to secure funding for this, and has specified which minefields would be suitable for mechanical clearance, almost all of which are in the Khatlon region.[126]

Tajikistan also plans for the operators to establish sufficient multi-task teams (MTTs), to increase operational efficiency. MTTs are intended to work in hard-to-reach remote mountainous areas, camping in the field to reduce transportation time, and capable of conducting NTS/TS, clearance, EOD, explosive ordnance risk education (EORE), and completion and handover of the released hazardous area to TNMAC. Subject to the availability of funding, TNMAC planned to establish 10 MTTs.[127]

Tajikistan's annual land release targets for 2026–32 are summarised in Table 6. Tajikistan's foresees releasing 1.54km^2 (almost 27% of the total) through reduction; just over 1.26km^2 (almost 22%) through cancellation; and a little

115 Tajikistan released almost 8.24km^2 in 113 hazardous areas between 2019 and 2024, but also identified new AP mined areas amounting to 5.14km^2. "Tajikistan National Mine Action Centre under the Government of Tajikistan, Tajikistan's Extension Request for 2026–2032", Muhabbat Ibrohimzoda, TNMAC, Intersessional Meetings, 17–22 June 2025. With release of 0.67km^2 and the addition of 0.19km^2 of previously unrecorded contaminated area to the national database, as reported in Tajikistan's Article 7 Report, covering 2025, (Form F), this amounts to release of 8.91km^2 and new contamination of 5.33km^2, respectively, between 2019 and 2025.

116 2026 Updated Annex, Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 171.

117 Ibid, pp. 116 –87.

118 See also "Table 73. Projected approximate new hazard area identification, by year (2026–2032)", 2026 Updated Annex, Article 5 deadline Extension Request, pp. 170–71.

119 "Responses to the Questions and Clarifications of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation Concerning the Request for Extension of the Article 5 Deadline submitted by the Republic of Tajikistan", 3 August 2026, p. 15.

120 Email from Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 10 June 2026; and "Responses to the Questions and Clarifications of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation Concerning the Request for Extension of the Article 5 Deadline submitted by the Republic of Tajikistan", 3 August 2026, p. 12.

121 The three "options" are set out in detail in 2026 Updated Annex, Article 5 deadline Extension Request, pp. 118–19 and pp. 126–28. Elsewhere in the extension request, it says "to meet its projected 2032 deadline Tajikistan will need to increase its current capacity from 151 deminers to 261." 2026 Updated Annex, Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 14. Mine Action Review queried this and TNMAC confirmed that, as per options 1 and 2 outlined in the request, it will be possible to address the remaining AP mine challenge by the end of 2032 with existing capacity. Email from Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 3 September 2026.

122 "Tajikistan National Mine Action Centre under the Government of Tajikistan, Tajikistan's Extension Request for 2026–2032", Muhabbat Ibrohimzoda, TNMAC, Intersessional Meetings, 17–22 June 2025.

123 2025 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 11.

124 2026 Updated Annex, Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 92.

125 2025 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, pp. 11 and 27.

126 2026 Updated Annex, Article 5 deadline Extension Request, pp. 141–44.

127 2025 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, pp. 11, 90–92, and 120–121.

over 3km² (almost 52%) though clearance, totalling 5.81km². More than half of all cancellation over the proposed extension period has been planned for 2026 (almost 0.62km²), reflecting the planned focus on re-survey during this time. After fully establishing MTTs, Tajikistan expects that the amount of land that can be released through cancellation or reduction may increase above what has been planned.[128] In 2026–27, specifically, Tajikistan plans to clear 1.75km² across 42 CHAs in the GBAO, Khatlon, and Central regions (see Table 5).[129]

Table 5: Annual clearance targets for 2026–27[130]

	VMKB		Khatlon		Central region		Totals	
Year	Area (m²)	CHAs	Area (m²)	CHAs	Area (m²)	CHAs	Area (m²)	CHAs
2026	115,000	2	697,945	30	50,000	1	862,945	33
2027	464,800	3	325,000	5	100,000	1	889,800	9
Totals	**579,800**	**5**	**1,022,945**	**35**	**150,000**	**2**	**1,752,745**	**42**

Table 6: Annual land release targets for 2026–32[131]

Year	CHAs to be released	Manual clearance (m²)	Reduction (m²)	Cancellation (m²)	Total area (m²)
2026	18	349,336	181,922	615,837	1,147,095
2027	13	380,855	256,000	127,038	763,893
2028	17	395,623	201,500	94,782	691,905
2029	19	508,500	243,400	113,500	865,400
2030	17	437,000	245,780	140,975	823,755
2031	6	480,000	208,000	76,400	764,400
2032	10	452,000	205,000	97,000	754,000
Totals	**100**	**3,003,314**	**1,541,602**	**1,265,532**	**5,810,448**

Land release tasks are prioritised by TNMAC through application of Tajikistan's SOP 1.2 (Planning and Tasking of Mine Action Operations), taking into consideration the following criteria, reiterated in Tajikistan's 2025 and 2026 Article 5 extension requests:[132]

- Government and local authority requests
- The area's status in relation to the district-by-district approach
- Distance of the task site from populated areas
- The need to complete any previously suspended areas
- Altitude of the task site
- The local security situation (permission from the Border Forces)

Tajikistan particularly prioritises mined areas with high socio-economic and infrastructure impacts (i.e. agriculture lands, pastures, rice plantations, reconstruction and strengthening of river banks etc.), and states that, regarding clearance tasks, districts that have less remaining contamination will be cleared first.[133]

LAND RELEASE SYSTEM

STANDARDS AND LAND RELEASE EFFICIENCY

No updates were made to Tajikistan's NMAS in 2025,[134] but updates to NMAS and SOPs were planned for 2026 on survey and clearance of AP mines, risk assessment, land release prioritisation, and safety.[135] All areas cleared in Tajikistan in 2025 proved to contain AP mines.[136] By comparison, a total of 20,718m² was cleared in 2024, which proved to contain no AP mines, due to changes in the terrain of hazardous areas caused by natural phenomena.[137]

128 "Responses to the Questions and Clarifications of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation Concerning the Request for Extension of the Article 5 Deadline submitted by the Republic of Tajikistan", 3 August 2026, pp. 11–12.

129 Article 7 Report (covering 2025), Form F.

130 Ibid.

131 2026 Updated Annex, Article 5 deadline Extension Request, pp. 84 and 125–26.

132 2025 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, pp. 69 and 149; and 2026 Updated Annex, Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 114.

133 2025 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 149.

134 Emails from Yoshiyuki Shiomi, FSD, 8 May 2026; Zlatko Vezilic, NPA, 21 March 2026; and Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 10 June 2026.

135 Email from Zlatko Vezilic, NPA, 9 April 2026.

136 Emails from Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 10 June 2026; and Zlatko Vezilic, NPA, 9 April 2026.

137 Email from Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 3 September 2026. This is an adjustment to the figure of 30,719m² previously provided, which comprised 15,619m² cleared by NPA, which contained small arms ammunition but no AP mines, and 15,100m² cleared by FSD. Emails from Azim Ibrohimov, NPA, 20 March and 2 April 2025; and online interview on 3 April 2025; and email from Yoshiyuki Shiomi, FSD, 13 May 2025.

OPERATORS AND OPERATIONAL TOOLS

All HDC MoD, NPA, and FSD teams deployed for AP mines in Tajikistan are MTTs, capable of survey and clearance. National operator, UST, deploys dedicated NTS and clearance teams (see Table 7), though TNMAC planned to convert UST personnel to MTTs, to increase operational efficiency, in keeping with the work plan outlined in its 2026 extension request.[138] UST teams report directly to TNMAC, which funds UST's survey and clearance operations.[139] All AP mines discovered by UST are destroyed by other operators, as UST does not have a licence for the use of explosive materials and devices. TNMAC explains that, to date, there has been no need for this but that it plans that UST will obtain the licence during 2026–27, in accordance with the plan to convert UST teams into MTTs.[140] NPA continues to cooperate with Tajikistan's Border Guard Forces, with 13 officers trained in basic demining BAC, and 27 officers seconded into NPA's teams in 2025.[141]

Tajikistan's 2019 Article 5 deadline extension request set an ambitious target of doubling the number of deminers from 90 to 180.[142] Peak capacity stood higher than this, at 193 in 2025 (see Table 7), largely thanks to the addition of two UST teams.[143] However, Tajikistan cites overall capacity in 2025 (as opposed to peak) as 151 deminers,[144] and numbers have fluctuated up and down since 2019, impacting implementation.[145] TNMAC highlights that, despite these fluctuations in 2019–25, it foresees gains in operational efficiency during the proposed extension period, even if it remains at current capacity.[146]

NPA experienced a two-month delay in the start of 2025 demining operations, and a temporary 50% reduction in capacity, both due to the withdrawal of US funding,[147] but was able to increase back up to six MTTs later in the year. Both NPA and FSD were forced to reduce capacity in 2026, however, due to funding constraints. NPA would have only three teams, working on minefield tasks only.[148] FSD would reduce from three MTTs to just one from May 2026, but stresses that operators could scale up again quickly, should new resources become available.[149] UST was set to reduce from six to three teams from June 2026, but HDC MoD planned to deploy three additional teams in 2026, thanks to OSCE funding.[150]

HDC MoD has a Mini MineWolf, which is also available for use also by NPA. However, this was not deployed for clearance in 2025 or in recent years.[151] This machine has not been used to its full capacity due to a lack of funding,[152] hence, deployment of mechanical assets is one of the 2026–32 activities that Tajikistan is seeking funding for.[153] FSD introduced the use of drones for survey in 2025.[154]

Table 7: Operational survey and clearance capacities deployed in 2025*[155]

Operator	MTTs / clearance teams	Total manual deminers	Dedicated NTS teams	Dedicated NTS personnel	Comments
FSD	3	29	0	0	EOD quick response team in place within MTTs.
UST	3	27	3	27	Separate dedicated teams for NTS and clearance.
NPA	6	48	0	0	MTTs include Tajikistan Border Guard Forces officers, seconded into NPA teams.
HDC MoD	8	89	0	0	A Mini MineWolf machine is available but not in use due to lack of funds.
Totals	**20**	**193**	**3**	**27**	

* While peak capacity deployed was 193 deminers, this number fluctuated throughout the year due to funding constraints.

138 Email from Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 10 June 2026.
139 Email from Saynurridin Kalandarov, UST, 16 May 2023 and 7 May 2024.
140 Email from Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 3 September 2026.
141 Email from Zlatko Vezilic, NPA, 21 March 2026.
142 2019 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 8.
143 Emails from Muhabbat Ibrohimzoda, TNMAC, 2 July 2025; Yoshiyuki Shiomi, FSD, 13 May 2025; Azim Ibrohimov, NPA, 20 March 2025; Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 10 June 2026; Yoshiyuki Shiomi, FSD, 8 May 2026; and Zlatko Vezilic, NPA, 21 March 2026.
144 2025 Article 5 deadline Extension request, pp. 11, 108–09, 111–12, and 119.
145 Personnel across the combined survey and clearance teams of all operators had increased to 150 by 2021, then to 169 in 2022, but dropped again to 149 in 2023. Emails from Muhabbat Ibrohimzoda, TNMAC, 19 and 24 June 2022; and 17 April 2024; Nickhwah Din Mohammed, FSD, 11 April 2024; Saynurridin Kalandarov, UST, 7 May and 6 August 2024; and Faiz Mohammad Paktian, NPA, 6 May 2024.
146 Email from Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 3 September, 2026.
147 Emails from Azim Ibrohimov, NPA, 20 March and 26 June 2025.
148 Email from Zlatko Vezilic, NPA, 21 March 2026.
149 Teams interview with Yoshiyuki Shiomi, FSD, 5 May 2026; and email from Yoshiyuki Shiomi, FSD, 8 May 2026.
150 "Responses to the Questions and Clarifications of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation Concerning the Request for Extension of the Article 5 Deadline submitted by the Republic of Tajikistan", 3 August 2026, p. 9.
151 Emails from Muhabbat Ibrohimzoda, TNMAC, 31 March 2023; Melissa Andersson, NPA, 23 May 2023; Faiz Mohammad Paktian, NPA, 29 May 2024; Azim Ibrohimov, NPA, 20 March 2025; and Zlatko Vezilic, NPA, 21 March 2026.
152 Interview with Faiz Mohammad Paktian, NPA, Geneva, 21 November 2023.
153 2026 Updated Annex, Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 141.
154 Email from Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 10 June 2026.
155 Emails from Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 10 June and 30 July 2026; Yoshiyuki Shiomi, FSD, 8 May 2026; and Zlatko Vezilic, NPA, 21 March 2026.

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS AND ARTICLE 5 COMPLIANCE

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS IN 2025

Table 8: Summary of land release outputs in 2025 (national authority data)

Release of AP mined area	Release in 2025 (m^2)
Clearance	298,350
Technical survey	355,303
Non-technical survey	10,000
Destruction of AP mines during clearance, survey, and spot tasks	
AP mines destroyed	2,576 (including 9 destroyed in spot tasks)

TNMAC and operators reported land release totalling just over 0.66km^2 in 2025, of which 0.01km^2 was cancelled through NTS, a little over 0.35km^2 was reduced through technical survey (TS), and almost 0.30km^2 was cleared. A total of 2,567 AP mines and 16 items of UXO were destroyed during clearance and technical survey. A further nine AP mines were destroyed during spot tasks in 2025, bringing the total number of AP mines destroyed to 2,576.[156] Tajikistan added 141,000m^2 of CHAs to the national database in 2025.[157]

SURVEY IN 2025

According to national authority data, a total of 0.36km^2 was released through survey in 2025, of which almost all – 355,303m^2 – was reduced through TS, and only 10,000m^2 was cancelled through NTS (see Tables 9 and 10). Of this reduction, 269,137m^2 was undertaken by NPA, and 86,166m^2 by MoD HDC. UST undertook the cancellation.[158] Both cancellation and reduction decreased substantially compared to 2024, when Tajikistan released 1.28km^2 through survey, of which 640,961m^2 was cancelled through NTS and 643,212m^2 was reduced through TS.[159] As noted, land release output by all methods was significantly lower in 2025 compared to 2024, due to the 40-day suspension of HDC MoD and UST operations, and the late start of NPA operations (in June instead of April), due to the suspension of US funding. TNMAC also cites short-term border area access restrictions, poor weather, and challenging terrain.[160]

Tajikistan added 141,000m^2 of CHAs to the national database in 2025,[161] a decrease on the 338,200m^2 of CHAs added to the national database in 2024.[162]

Table 9: Release of mined area through NTS in 2025[163]

Region	District	Operator	SHAs cancelled	Area cancelled (m^2)
Khatlon	Sh. Shohin	UST	2	10,000
Totals			**2**	**10,000**

Table 10: Release of mined area through TS in 2025[164]

Region	District	Operator	Areas reduced	Area reduced (m^2)
Khatlon	Sh. Shohin	MoD HDC	8	86,166
	Sh. Shohin	NPA	1	30,696

156 Article 7 Report (covering 2025), Form F; and emails from Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 10 June 2026; Zlatko Vezilic, NPA, 9 April 2026; and Azim Ibrohimov, NPA, 12 August 2026.

157 Email from Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 3 September 2026.

158 Article 7 Report (covering 2025), Form F; and emails from Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 10 June and 3 September 2026; Zlatko Vezilic, NPA, 9 April 2026; and Azim Ibrohimov, NPA, 12 August 2026.

159 Article 7 Report (covering 2024), Form F; and emails from Muhabbat Ibrohimzoda, TNMAC, 2 July 2025; Yoshiyuki Shiomi, FSD, 13 May 2025; and Azim Ibrohimov, NPA, 20 March 2025.

160 Email from Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 3 September 2026.

161 Ibid.

162 TNMAC previously stated to Mine Action Review that it added 959,200m^2 of AP mined area to the database in 2024. Email from Muhabbat Ibrohimzoda, TNMAC, 2 July 2025. However, it has since adjusted this figure to 338,200m^2. Email from Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 3 September 2026.

163 Article 7 Report (covering 2025), Form F; and emails from Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 10 June and 3 September 2026.

164 Article 7 Report (covering 2025), Form F; and emails from Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 10 June 2026; Zlatko Vezilic, NPA, 9 April 2026; and Azim Ibrohimov, NPA, 12 August 2026.

Table 10 continued

Region	District	Operator	Areas reduced	Area reduced (m²)
VMKB	Darvoz	NPA	1	238,441
Totals			**10**	**355,303**

NPA reported 260,615m² as area reduced through TS. The differing figures are due to the way the TS lines are classified in NPA and TNMAC's respective reporting systems. Overall land release figures for 2025 remain consistent across TNMAC and NPA.[165]

CLEARANCE IN 2025

According to national authority data, Tajikistan cleared 298,350m² in 2025,[166] a significant decrease on the 415,853m² cleared in 2024[167] and in keeping with the overall drop in land release in 2025 compared to 2024, as explained above. Clearance resulted in the destruction of 2,567 AP mines and 16 items of UXO. Of this clearance, 135,061m² was undertaken by MoD HDC; 132,039m² by NPA; 21,895m² by FSD; and 9,355m² by UST (see Table 11).[168] A further nine AP mines were destroyed in spot tasks by MoD HDC (see Table 12),[169] bringing the total number of AP mines destroyed through clearance and spot tasks to 2,576.

Table 11: AP mine clearance in 2025[170]

Region	District	Operator	CHAs cleared	Area cleared (m²)	AP mines destroyed	UXO destroyed
VMKB	Darvoz	NPA	1	*113,905	1,726	0
Khatlon	Farkhor	FSD	0	3,444	13	0
	Hamadoni	FSD	0	14,741	0	2
	Sh. Shohin	NPA	6	18,134	53	12
	Sh. Shohin	MoD HDC	0	50,532	309	
	Sh. Shohin	UST	0	9,355		
	Panj	MoD HDC	1	69,463	336	2
	Panj	FSD	0	150	0	0
	Jayhun	MoD HDC	0	15,066	97	0
	Jayhun	FSD	0	3,560	33	0
Totals			**8**	**298,350**	**2,567**	**16**

* NPA reported 91,731m² as the area cleared. The differing figures are due to the way the TS lines are classified in NPA and TNMAC's respective reporting systems. Overall land release figures for 2025 remain consistent across TNMAC and NPA.[171]

Table 12: AP and AV mines destroyed in EOD spot tasks in 2025[172]

Operator	Region	District	AP mines destroyed
MoD HDC	Khatlon	Sh. Shohin	9
Total			**9**

165 For VMKB (Darvoz), NPA reported 260,615m² as area reduced through TS, and 91,731m² as area cleared (i.e. a combined total of 352,346m² released through TS and clearance). However, in Tajikistan's Article 7 Report (covering 2025) and in the information provided directly to Mine Action Review, TNMAC reported 238,441m² as area reduced by NPA in Darvoz, and 113,905m² as area cleared by NPA in Darvoz (again, a combined total of 352,346m²). NPA explains that these differences are due to the way the TS lines are classified in NPA and TNMAC's respective reporting systems. Email from Azim Ibrohimov, NPA, 12 August 2026.

166 Article 7 Report (covering 2025), Form F; and emails from Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 10 June 2026; Zlatko Vezilic, NPA, 9 April 2026; and Azim Ibrohimov, NPA, 12 August 2026.

167 Emails from Muhabbat Ibrohimzoda, 2 July 2025; Yoshiyuki Shiomi, FSD, 13 May 2025; Azim Ibrohimov, NPA, 20 March 2025; and Article 7 Report (covering 2024), Form F.

168 Article 7 Report (covering 2025), Form F; and emails from Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 10 June 2026; Zlatko Vezilic, NPA, 9 April 2026; and Azim Ibrohimov, NPA, 12 August 2026.

169 Email from Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 10 June 2026.

170 Article 7 Report (covering 2025), Form F; and emails from Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 10 June and 3 September 2026; and Zlatko Vezilic, NPA, 9 April 2026.

171 For VMKB (Darvoz), NPA reported 260,615m² as area reduced through TS, and 91,731m² as area cleared (i.e. a combined total of 352,346m² released through TS and clearance). However, in Tajikistan's Article 7 Report (covering 2025) and in the information provided directly to Mine Action Review for VMKB (Darvoz), TNMAC reported 238,441m² as area reduced and 113,905m² as area cleared (again, a combined total of 352,346m²). NPA explains that these differences are due to the way the TS lines are classified in NPA and TNMAC's respective reporting systems. Email from Azim Ibrohimov, NPA, 12 August 2026.

172 Email from Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 10 June 2026.

DEMINER SAFETY

In 2025, one NPA deminer was injured during mine clearance. The accident occurred in Darvoz District and involved a PFM-1 AP mine. Immediately after the accident, the NPA Operations Manager, together with the Director of TNMAC and two QA/QC officers, visited the site to investigate. In addition, NPA carried out a separate internal investigation, in accordance with its safety and operational procedures. Lessons learned from the accident were discussed, documented, and shared with the NPA Head Office, and with TNMAC.[173]

ARTICLE 5 DEADLINE AND COMPLIANCE

APMBC ENTRY INTO FORCE FOR TAJIKISTAN: 1 APRIL 2000

↓

ORIGINAL ARTICLE 5 DEADLINE: 1 APRIL 2010

↓

FIRST EXTENDED DEADLINE (10 YEARS): 1 APRIL 2020

↓

SECOND EXTENDED DEADLINE (5 YEARS, 9 MONTHS): 31 DECEMBER 2025

↓

THIRD EXTENDED DEADLINE: TAJIKISTAN REQUESTED A 7-YEAR EXTENSION, BUT WAS ONLY GRANTED A 1-YEAR EXTENSION TO 31 DECEMBER 2026 DUE TO LATE SUBMISSION OF ITS ARTICLE 5 DEADLINE EXTENSION REQUEST

↓

FOURTH EXTENDED DEADLINE REQUESTED (6 YEARS): 31 DECEMBER 2032

NOT ON TRACK TO MEET ARTICLE 5 DEADLINE (EXTENSION REQUESTED)

Under Article 5 of the APMBC (and in accordance with its second extension granted by States Parties in 2019), Tajikistan was required to destroy all AP mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control as soon as possible, but not later than 31 December 2025. It did not meet this deadline. As mentioned, Tajikistan requested a seven-year extension, but was only granted one-year to 31 December 2026, due to the delayed submission of its request. Tajikistan has since sought a further six-year extension to 31 December 2032 for consideration at 23MSP.

As it moves towards a new proposed extension period, the challenges that have severely impeded Tajikistan's capacity to fulfil its commitments under its second extended Article 5 deadline of the end of 2025 still remain and are reiterated in its 2025 and 2026 extension requests,[174] in summary: the pressing need to upscale and complete survey/re-survey; discovery of previously unknown minefields, in CHAs where there were no minefield records or other information; lack of additional funding, despite the need and capabilities to increase demining capacity/MTTs; challenging access to remote terrain; a short demining season due to weather conditions; natural phenomena, such as rock falls and landslides which can cause the migration of mines; and intermittent insecurity along the Tajik-Afghan border.

Table 13: Five-year summary of AP mine clearance

Year	Area cleared (km²)
2025	0.30
2024	0.42
2023	0.41
2022	0.58
2021	0.21
Total	**1.92**

PLANNING FOR MANAGEMENT OF RESIDUAL CONTAMINATION

TNMAC is developing the operational capacity of UST and plans that UST will deal with residual risk of mines upon completion of area clearance.[175] Tajikistan states that a residual-contamination policy will be formalised during the proposed extension period.[176]

173 Emails from Zlatko Vezilic, NPA, 9 April 2026; and Abdulmumin Asozoda, TNMAC, 10 June 2026.

174 2025 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, pp. 96–97 and 119; and 2026 Updated Annex, Article 5 deadline Extension Request, pp. 11–12, 94–95, and 100.

175 Email from Muhabbat Ibrohimzoda, TNMAC, 15 April 2024.

176 "Responses to the Questions and Clarifications of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation Concerning the Request for Extension of the Article 5 Deadline submitted by the Republic of Tajikistan", 3 August 2026, p. 22.