

A.S. YOV
Tajikistan
5/12
PM

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen!

First of all, using the opportunity, I would like to thank the organizers for the excellent preparation of this important meeting

This is a great moment to update you on mine action related activities in Tajikistan. As you may know 93% of Tajikistan's territory is mountainous and only 7% is land that can be used for agriculture and other development related activities. The geographic condition makes the people to depend on these lands.

The level of mine contamination area in Tajikistan is relatively high, mainly in Tajik-Afghan Border. Landmines and explosive remnants of war including cluster munition remnants are still affecting the lives of the people of Tajikistan. Mines and ERW continue to create problems both in social and economic aspects.

Slide 2

This slide shows the content of presentation. Following a brief introduction, I will discuss our capacity in 2012, the status of work which should be conducted as well as the conducted work in 2012. We present the contamination areas as of Nov 2012, financial support for this year and operational plan for 2013. Last but not least some information on MRE is presented for this year.

Slide 3

This slide shows the land release progress since 2004 as well as the remaining contamination in Tajikistan. You can see

ongoing activities which are shown in blue color, completed mined areas in green and remaining hazards in red.

1. AP mines laid by Uzbek authorities along parts of the Uzbek-Tajik border (1999 - 2000) – on the West and parts of the North
2. AP mines laid by Russian forces along Tajik –Afghan border (1991 - 1998) – on the South of Tajikistan
3. AP mines and ERW including from cluster bombs in the Central Region resulting from the civil war (1992 - 1997)
4. ERW from more recent internal clashes in Rasht Valley (2010) and in Khorog (2012)
5. UXO in the environs of army shooting ranges also caused recent casualties.

The Government of Tajikistan considers mine/ERW related problems one of the highest priorities.

Based on the available statistics since 1992 834 people were involved in mine/ERW accidents, out of which 470 people were injured and 364 people died. More than 30% of the overall victims were children at the time of the accident, mostly boys.

Slide 4

This slide indicates the land release capacity in 2012..

The continuous support received in the past has helped to increase the capacity of the program. The Government of Tajikistan is in the process of implementing mine clearance activities according to the Ottawa Convention obligations

through the international cooperation and assistance provided by various international organizations and donors including the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Swiss Foundation for Mine Clearance (FSD), Norwegian People's Aid (NPA)..

Slide 5

This slide shows the assumption for this year based on the 2009 Working Plan. As you see majority of Land release activities are concentrated in Tajik-Afghan border area. It shows number of minefields versus areas in square meters that were meant to be cleared. As you see all assets are available Machines , Manual teams and Dogs. In total 28 mined areas were to be cleared or reduced with 900 000m². This was the initial plan from 2009; in fact the capacity has increased substantially and our plan for 2012 was to reach 1,5 km².

Slide 6

This slide shows the actual land release progress as of Nov 2012. Again, the most land release activities are conducted in Tajik-Afghan border area. So far 19 mined areas are cleared with total size of more than 1,8 km². The land prepared by machines is not included in the statistics. So when you compare the plan with the actual progress you note we released less mined areas but more square meters.

Slide 7

This slide shows the clearance statistics since beginning of the program. You can see the trend which is gradually increasing on annual bases.

Since 2003 more than 1300 communities were surveyed and as a result 270 mine hazard areas were identified. The total area of 9,8 square km of land were checked, cleared and handed over to local authority. More than 4,000 mine warning signs were placed in the hazardous areas and 34,300 items of mines/ERW were identified and destroyed.

Slide 8

Here is the progress for this year by months. In Tajikistan due to the climate we cannot work throughout the entire year. As you can see there was no Battle Area Clearance in 2012.

In 2012 more than 1,8 km² were cleared and as a result more than 6,130 mines and ERW were found and destroyed. Tajikistan's remaining 191 contaminated areas have a total size of approximately 7,7 km².

In Cartagena, the request for extension in accordance with article 5 of the Ottawa Convention was accepted with the new deadline for Tajikistan on 1st April, 2020. The Government of Tajikistan tries its best to make the country free from all known mine contaminated areas. Therefore the Commission for the Implementation of the International Humanitarian Law of the Republic of Tajikistan has approved the 2010-2015 Mine Action

Strategy which was developed by Tajikistan Mine Action Centre and all stakeholders. This strategy includes all the important aspects of mine action activities.

Slide 9

This slide shows the remaining problem in Tajikistan. In Tajik-Afghan border 160 mined areas with an approximately 5.4 km², in the Central region 31 mined areas with about 2.3 km² remaining. In Tajik - Uzbek Border area 57 hazard areas were identified during the initial survey 2004-2005. This area has been partially re-surveyed and is still under final analysis.

Slide 10

Operational plans for 2013. We plan to conduct both clearance and BAC activities in the Central region, clearance in Tajik-Afghan border area as well as finalizing the Non-technical survey along Tajik-Uzbek border area.

Slide 11

This slide shows MRE activities in 2012 in Tajikistan. As you see three categories of volunteers are involved in MRE activities. MRE programme reached 153 at risk villages in 25 districts this year.

The Mine Risk Education and Victim Assistance programs are now conducted in a more efficient and effective manner. Many conferences, seminars, round tables and trainings including national and international events were organized and conducted accordingly. We had several events including participants from Afghanistan to improve the regional cooperation.

Slide12

Key donor countries include, Germany, Canada, Norway, United Kingdom, as well as Belgium, Switzerland, France, USA, Japan and Australia

On behalf of the Republic of Tajikistan, I would like to thank all our donors for their great contribution to the Tajikistan Mine Action Programme. Also we present our highest gratitude and appreciation to the international agencies that have been involved in implementation of mine action program in Tajikistan.

Last slide 13

There is still a lot of work to do for Tajikistan to fulfill its obligations. Tajikistan still needs international assistance in mine action in the coming future and invites the world community to continue its precious assistance for this important issue.

Thank you for your attention!



Tajikistan Mine Action Centre

TAJKISTAN



PROGRESS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF EXTENSION REQUEST IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 5 OF THE CONVENTION

***12th Meeting of the States Parties to the
Ottawa Convention
Geneva, 3 December – 7 December 2012***



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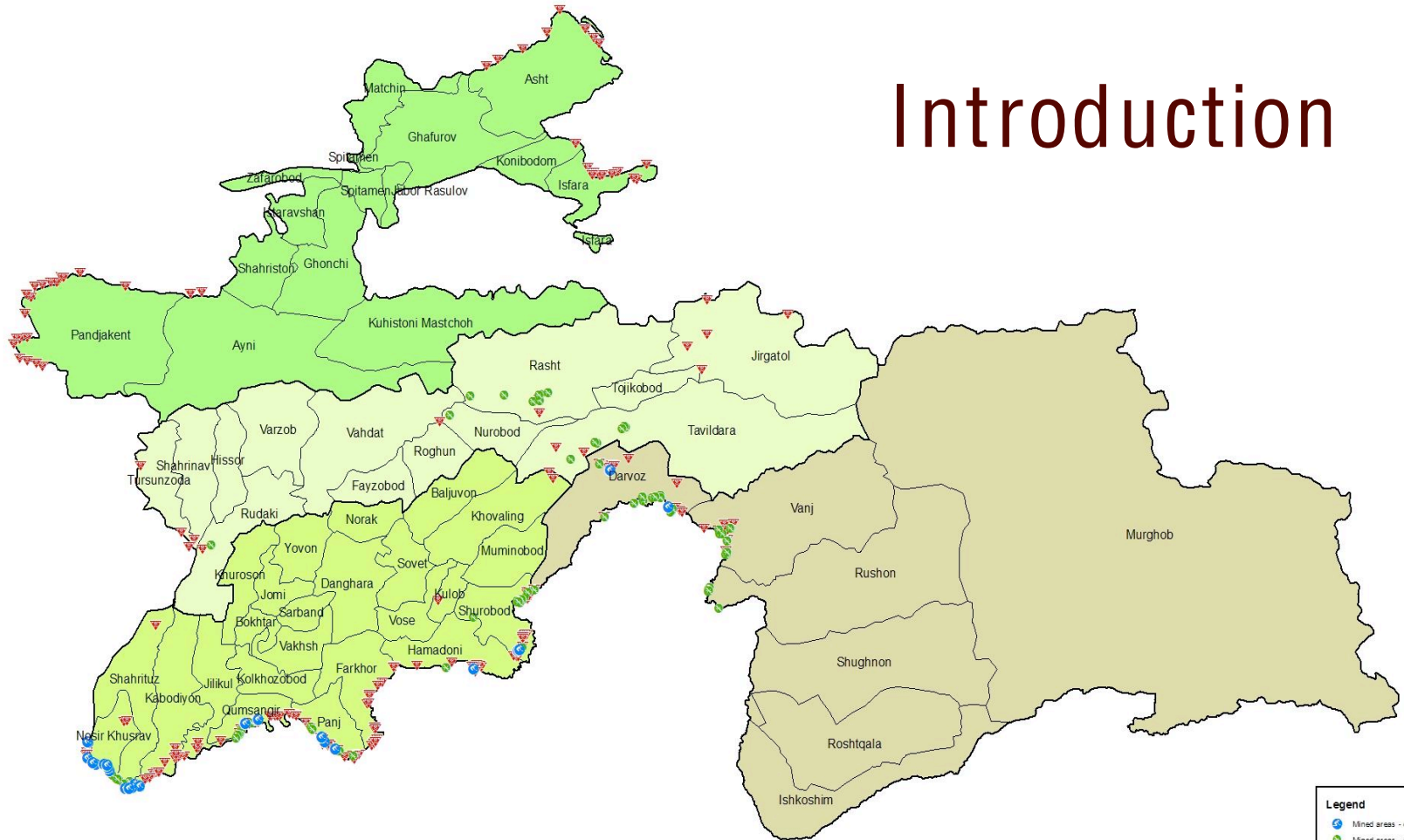


Mine/UXO threat in Tajikistan

Land Release progress since 2004

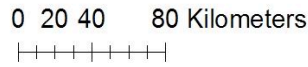


Introduction



Legend

- Mined areas - ongoing
- Mined areas - completed
- Mined areas - remaining
- Direct Rule Districts
- Gorno-Badkhashan
- Fkhaton
- Sughd
- Districts



Available land release capacity in 2012

- 2 FSD Survey Teams
- 8 FSD Multipurpose Teams
- 6 FSD MDD Teams (12 dogs)
- 2 FSD mechanical demining teams
 - 2 MV-4 machines
- 2 MoD Multipurpose Teams
- 1 MoD mechanical demining team
 - 1 Mini MineWolf machine
- 5 NPA Multipurpose Teams
- 5 NPA MDD teams (10 dogs)

Demining Operators:

- FSD – Swiss Foundation for Mine Action
- NPA – Norwegian Peoples' Aid
- MoD – Ministry of Defense

MDD = Mine Detection Dogs

Status of work to be conducted

Assumptions for 2012 in accordance with Work Plan of Extension Request

	Land to be released by	Number of areas to be cleared or reduced	Size to be cleared or reduced, m ²
Tajik Afghan border	MDM	0	0
	MDD	17	400,000
	Manual	9	200,000
Central Region	MDM	1	200,000
	Manual	1	100,000
Total		28	900,000

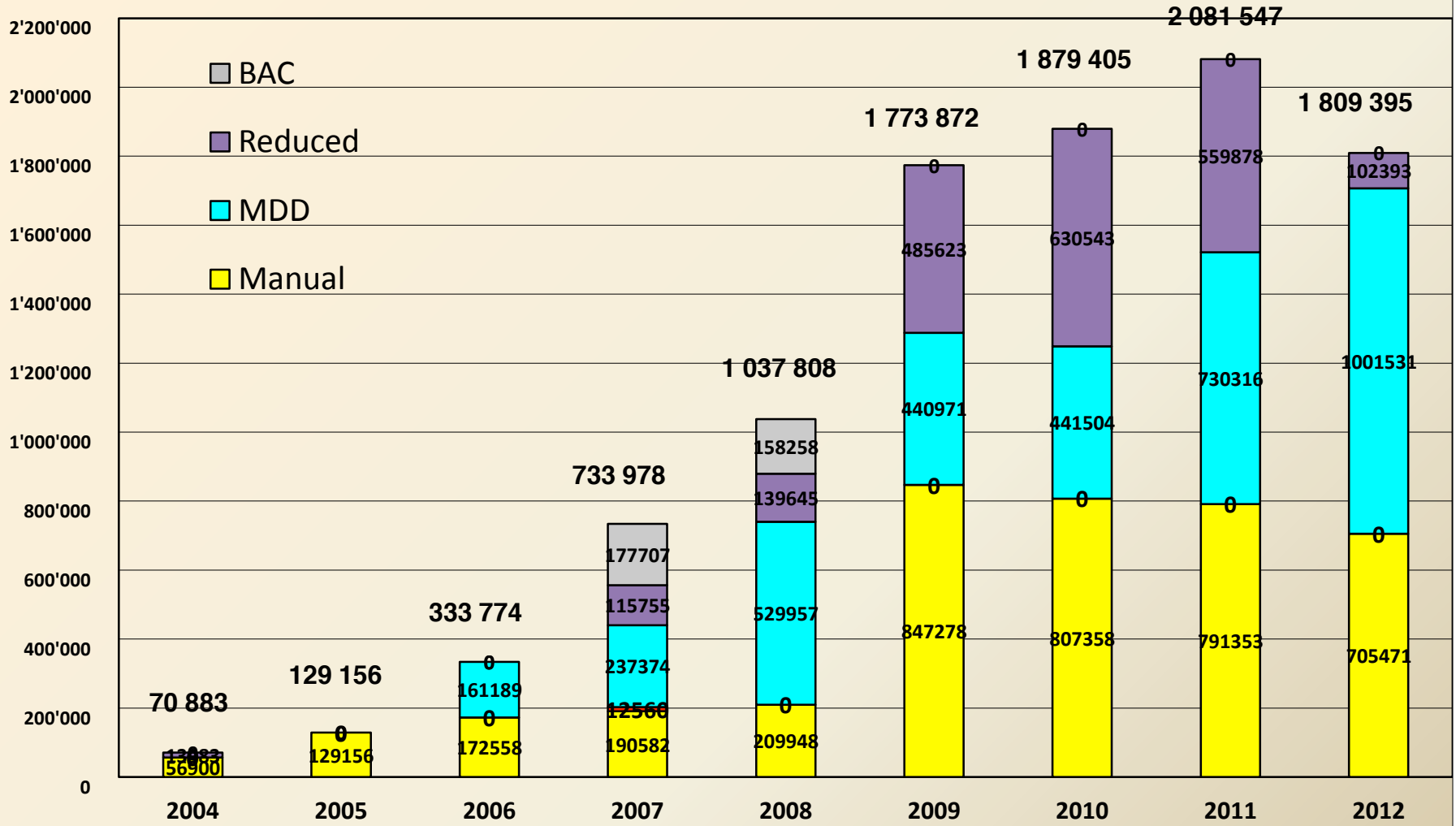
Status of work conducted

Progress made in 2012 by November

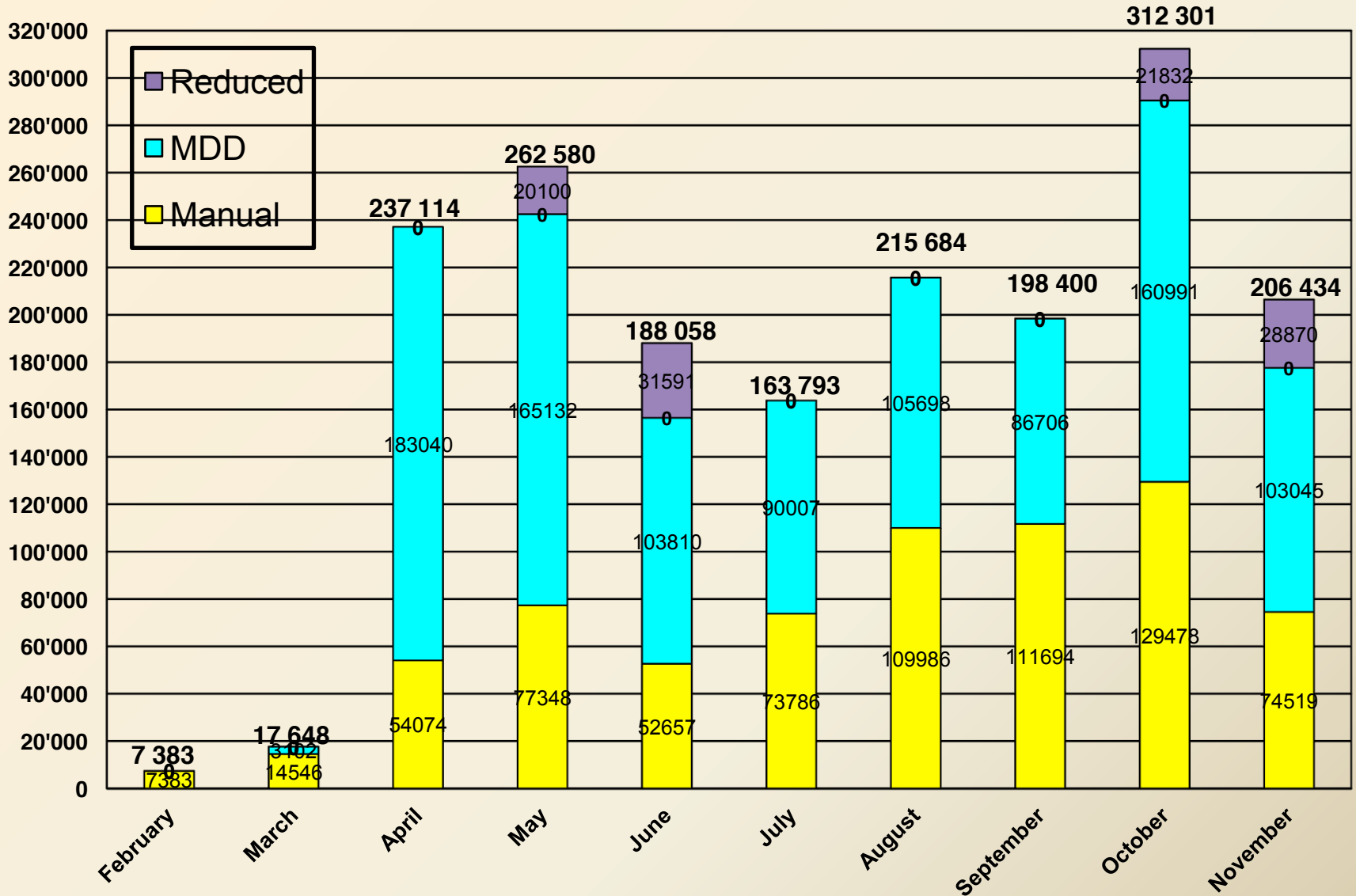
	Land released by	Number of cleared areas	Cleared size, m ²
	MDM	-	-
Tajik Afghan border	MDD	14	1 000 000
	Manual	4	694 000
	Area reduction	-	102 000
Central Region	MDM	-	-
	Manual	1	13 000
		19	1 809 000

Note: Mechanical demining machines (MDM) support clearance but are not sufficient for actual clearance. Land prepared by machines: 1 102 000 m².

Cleared area from beginning of activity as of 30 Nov 2012



Monthly statistics of the cleared areas in 2012 as of November





Contaminated areas as of November 2012

Total size of contaminated and leftover areas:

- **Tajik-Afghan Border: 160 areas – 5,4 km²**
- **Central region: 31 areas - 2,3 km²**
- **Tajik-Uzbek border: 57 areas - partially surveyed**

Main Development partners of Tajikistan Mine Action Programme

Canada



Switzerland



Germany



Sweden



UK



USA



Norway



Japan



OSCE



Belgium



UNDP



Australia





Operational plans for 2013

- **Clearance and BAC in Central Region**
- **Clearance along Tajik Afghan Border**
- **Finalize Non-technical Survey along the Tajik-Uzbek Border**
- Details on Survey and Clearance
 - not less than 500,000 m² manually;
 - not less than 500,000 m² by MDDs;
 - Technical survey and land preparation of not less than 1,000,000 m² by the MDM, followed by manual clearance or MDD verification.

Mine Risk Education in 2012

MRE implementing partners and facilitators:

- Red Crescent Society volunteers (43)
- Community volunteers (27)
- 165 teachers in 111 schools

153 at-risk villages reached in 25 districts

62 327 persons reached

- this total includes 20 900 pupils

Total of all MRE recipients	
62 327	
Men/ Boys	Women/ Girls
27 940	34 387



Thank you for your attention