Chad

Country Profile
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**Profile Chad**

T he mine and unexploded ordnance contamination in Chad’s is a result of decades of internal conflicts, the 1973 civil war, and the ongoing fighting during Libya's occupation of the Azawad Strip in the north from 1984 to 1987. Most of the known mined areas are in the Borkou-Ennedi-Tibesti region in the north and the Bifulka region, developed in the east. Areas such as the Wad Damioual Base are also contaminated with abandoned mines, munitions and other explosive remnants of war.

Chad signed the Ottawa Convention on May 6, 1999, and became a State Party Nov. 1, 1999. A Landmine Impact Survey conducted by December 1999 to May 2001 identified 249 mine-affected communities in 25 of the 28 departments surveyed and a total contamination of over 1,000 square kilometers (386 square miles), not including the Tibesti region. Chad is not known to have produced or exported anti-personnel mines and has not retained any mines for training purposes. The national mine contamination directly interfaces with the livelihood and safety of over 280,000 Chadians. Blocking access to water, pastures, agricultural land, roads and trails. A lack of comprehensive records and the shifting of mines due to rainfall and drifting sands make marking mine and unexploded ordnance locations difficult.

The Government of Chad has faced numerous challenges due to mines and explosive remnants of war in Chad; seven people were killed and 25 were wounded during unexploded ordnance accidents in Chad. Fourteen dead civilians and eight wounded. Government forces have also taken part in the conflict. Since 1992, Chad has been engaged in the fighting against the Sudan People’s Liberation Army (SPLA), which has taken a heavy toll on its civilian population. The conflict has displaced hundreds of thousands of people and has caused serious economic and social problems. The conflict has also led to a humanitarian crisis, with millions of people in need of aid. The conflict has also led to a humanitarian crisis, with millions of people in need of aid.

Mine-action Coordination

HCND has three regional offices, located in Fada, Barda and Wad Damioual, with a logistical center in Faya. Its role is to coordinate and plan mine-action activities and assure quality control. The organization prioritizes clearance and survey main activities according to impact scoring in the LIS, the discovery of new minefields, and the retrieval of soft-hats. Priority projects are agreed upon in consultation with local authorities and selection of survey areas is also based on developmental priorities.

In 2016, HCND implemented mine-action operations through the support of the United Nations Development Programme, the non-governmental organizations HELP and Mines Advisory Group, and the United Nations Mine Action Service. Chad is a member of the United Nations Development Programme and the Mine Action Committee.

Megan Wertz

**Egypt**

Egypt is one of the most heavily mined countries in the world, with estimated contamination ranging from 16.7 to 22 million landmine/UXO pieces of unexploded ordnance, or an estimated one-tenth of the world’s 200 million landmine/UXO pieces.2 Sixteen million landmine and pieces of UXO3 are estimated to be located in the Western Desert, a result of intense fighting during World War II between Allied and Axis forces at the Al-Ahram perimeter. Approximately five million additional landmines were spread across the Sinai Peninsula and Red Sea littoral, primarily from the 1967 to 1973 Middle Eastern wars, and many mines are low-metal UXO. Furthermore, there are no reliable records of anti-personnel mines, a fact that inhibits detection.1

Another challenge is the lack of national and international commitment to and funding for mine action/demining in Egypt. Egypt is the only country in the world to be actively involved in the humanitarian mine clearance of landmines.2

Egypt is also the only country in the world that has not acceded to the Mine Ban Treaty. Egypt has consistently refused to sign the treaty, citing concerns regarding security and general principle.2

The Egyptian government has regarded the mine contamination in Egypt as a sensitive issue and has limited its influence on the mine situation. However, the)...