









# THE ALBANIAN MINE ACTION PROGRAMME


## Clearance of mine/UXO contaminated areas in Northeast Albania


Presented by  
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## MINE CONTAMINATED AREAS





■ Contaminated areas (m2)  
■ Cleared and reduced areas (m2)

The threat emanated from the Kosovo conflict; the 1999 general survey identified:

- 120 km border with Kosovo**
- 102 contaminated areas**
- 15,250,000 m2**

It included:

**Anti-Personnel and Anti-tank mines, unexploded ordnance and sub-munitions**

*No records of minefields available to Albania*

Albania - General Overview of Mine/UXO Contamination



## MINE/UXO ACCIDENTS



Since 1999 there have been:

- **210** Mine/UXO accidents
- **238** injured
- **34** killed

The last accident in Northeast Albania is recorded in **June 2005**.



## ALBANIAN RESPONSE



Chairman of AMAC signing  
the Nairobi Action Plan



Chairman of AMAC at the States Parties  
Meeting of the AP Mine Ban Convention

- **General Survey and marking by indicating the total area contaminated.**
- **Surface clearance, which drastically reduced civilian casualties.**
- **Ratification of all relevant international treaties: Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, CCW and recently the CM Treaty.**
- **Establishment of a national mine action structures: AMAC and AMAE.**
- **Adoption of International Humanitarian Mine Action Standards.**



## Albania and the AP Mine Ban Convention



Disassembling fiber AP mines



APM bodies used for manhole covers

- Albania ratified the AP Mine Ban Treaty on 29 February 2000.
- Destruction of APM Stockpile was completed in April 2002, 2 years ahead of obligation (Art.4).
- Destruction of AP mines in the known mined areas completed by 2009 (Art.5)



## ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL STRUCTURES

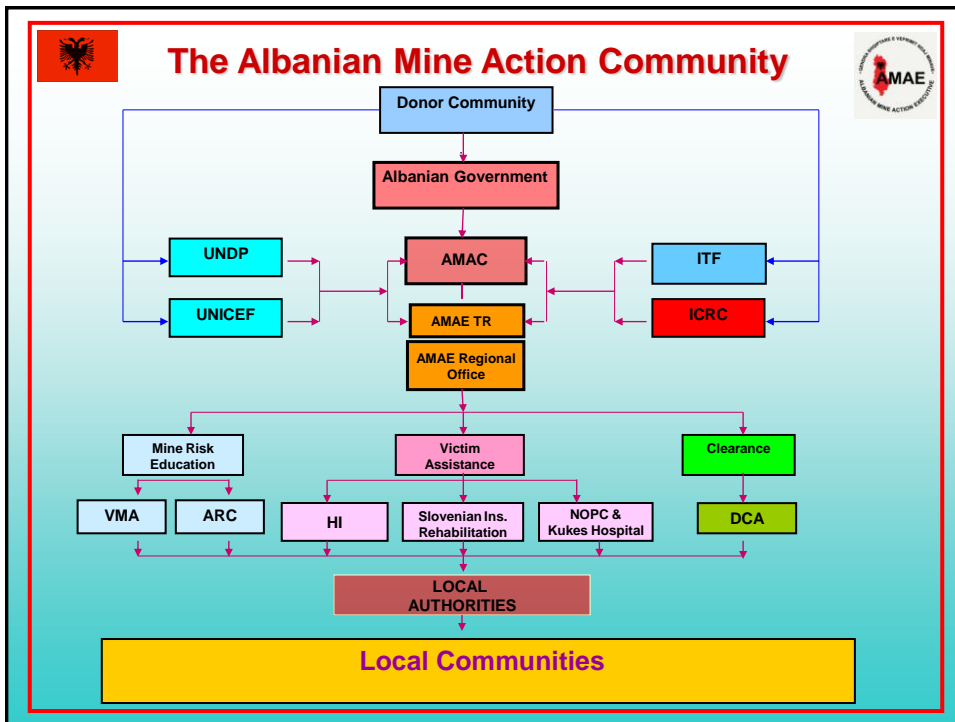


### AMAC – Albanian Mine Action Committee

- Provide the National focus of Mine Action.
- Seek donor funding and assistance to the Mine Action Programme.
- Prioritise Mine Action efforts in Albania.
- Sensitise the international community to the Mines/UXO threats in Albania.

### AMAE – Albanian Mine Action Executive

- Implement the Mine Action Programme under direction of the AMAC
- Assisting AMAC with policy, strategy, legal structure and priorities of Mine Action Programme.
- Coordinate and monitor Mine Action in Albania.
- Facilitate National Mine Action Planning & Implementation
- Resource Mobilization





# NATIONAL STRATEGY





National Mine Action Planning Workshop in Tirana - June 2002

**Programme Objectives :**

**Vision:**

Albania free from mines by August 2010, in compliance with the anti-personnel Mine Ban Convention

**Overall Strategic Goal:**

- Maintain zero level of landmine accidents and provide assistance to all landmines/ ERW survivors.

**Strategic Objective One:**

- Clear all known suspected hazard areas within 2009.

**Strategic Objective Two:**

- All landmines/ERW survivors receive medical care and have access to assistance that leads to full integration into community life.



## MA coordination and monitoring (AMAE) activities



- Update of MA Strategy and Mine Action Plan.
- Prioritization of tasking for Mine Action Activities.
- Accreditation of MA Implementing operators.
- Issue of task dossiers to demining operators.
- Quality Assurance and Quality Control of mine clearance operations based on NMAS.
- Coordination of all mine action operators & agencies in the country.
- Areas released as free of mines/unexploded ordnance are handed over to communities.
- Recording information of mine clearance progress (IMSMA).
- Resource mobilization (Portfolio, Donor Trip, Int.Meetings).
- Reporting under various international treaties.



## Support to coordination and monitoring structure - AMAE (1999-2010)



UNDP AL



ITF



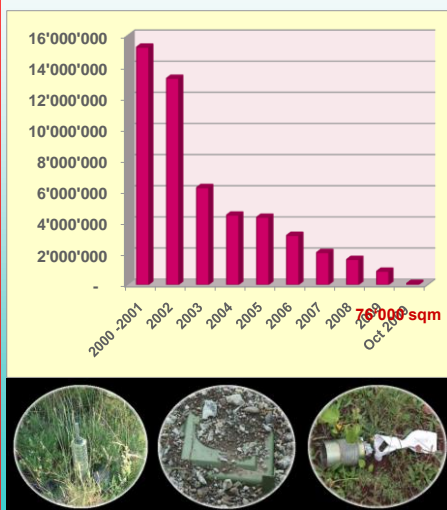
### DONORS





**Woman deminer of DCA working in Albania**

- Various international demining organizations have been working in Albania including: RONCO, HELP, FSD and DanChurchAid.
- Since 2004, Danchurchaid is carrying out humanitarian demining and battle area clearance operations with local demining operators.
- Clearance operations are based on the priorities and conducted in accordance with the international humanitarian standards.
- Mine/UXO clearance operations coordinated and monitored by the Albanian Mine Action Executive.



- Since 1999, some **15.17 million m2** of previously contaminated land has been released through surveys and clearance.
- More than **11,851 AP** mines, **152 AT** mines, and **4,805 UXO** have been found and destroyed.





# Clearance Projects 2000-2009



## IMPLEMENTED BY




**Bilaterally with operators**

## EXECUTED BY

Average yearly budget 1.3 million Euro

**RONCO**

**HELP**







## DONORS









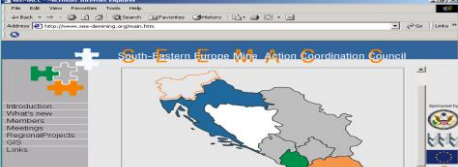


# REGIONAL COOPERATION




## SEEMACC

### Regional Cooperation:

- Sharing Information
- Sharing Experience
- Sharing Expertise
- Sharing Assets
- Cross- Border Demining
- Regional Workshops
- Regional Training Courses
- Fund Raising

[www.see-demining.org](http://www.see-demining.org)





## CONCLUSIONS



Mine affected districts in NE Albania

- By the end of 2009 all known minefields and cluster strike areas will be completed.
- The Mine/UXO clearance in Albania has clearly proven to be a successful programme.
- The support of the International Mine Action Community was essential for this success.
- Strategic Planning, transparency, cost efficiency, coordination and consistent reporting are among key elements to success.
- A national capacity has been built and equipped and can be used for other demilitarization programmes.



**None of this would have been possible without funding and the commitment from our partners!**

### Albania would like to thank:

- The European Union
- *The governments of:*
- United States of America
- Germany
- Canada
- Denmark
- Switzerland
- United Kingdom
- France
- Czech Republic
- Sweden
- Luxembourg
- Turkey
- Norway
- UNDP
- ITF
- DCA
- FSD
- Ronco
- HELP
- VMA
- ICRC
- UNMAS
- GICHD



**There is still a final effort to be done to  
complete also cluster munitions in Albania**



**Thank you**