Mine Landmines

Bosna i Hercegovina je najviše minirana zemlja u Evropi. Procjenjuje se da da bi ukupni broj minskih polja mogao biti 30.000, što je skoro dvostruko više od aktuelno poznatog broja. Najveći broj žrtava mina bili su muškarci, civili, između 19 i 60 godina starosti, i lokalni stanovnici. Stopa nesreća izazvanih minama opada nakon 1996 (ICBL, 2001).

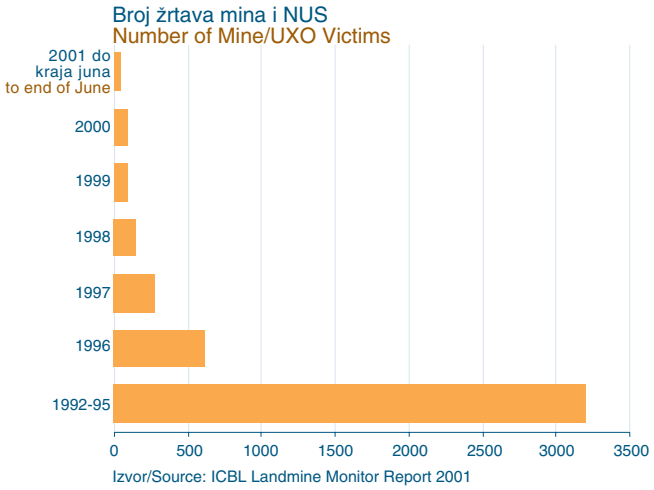
Bosnia and Herzegovina is the most heavily mined country in Europe. It is estimated that the total number of minefields may be 30,000, which is almost double the number currently known. Most of the landmine victims were male civilians, between 19 and 60 years old, and local residents. The landmine accident rate has fallen since 1996 (ICBL, 2001).

Glavni trendovi u BiH

Do septembra 2000, očišćeno je 16 kvadratnih kilometara zemljišta i uništeno 30.000 mina i 6.000 komada neeksplodiranih ubojitih sredstava (NUS).

Stopa nesreća opala je sa u prosjeku 50 mjesečno u 1996. na ispod 10 mjesečno krajem 1999.

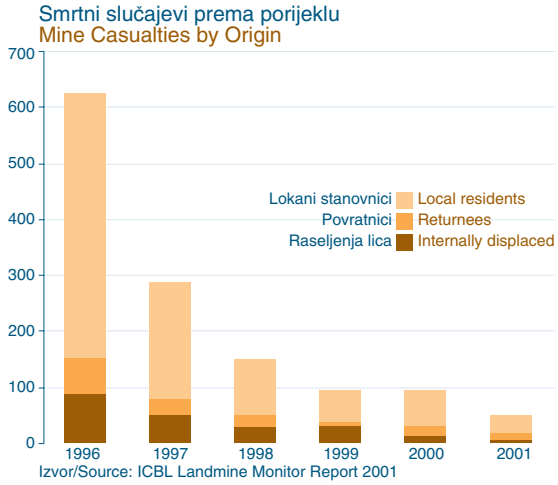
Do februara 2001, Bosansko-hercegovački Centar za uklanjanje mina (BHMAC) imao je na popisu 18.145 minskih polja. Oni procjenjuju da bi ukupan broj minskih polja mogao iznositi 30.000.

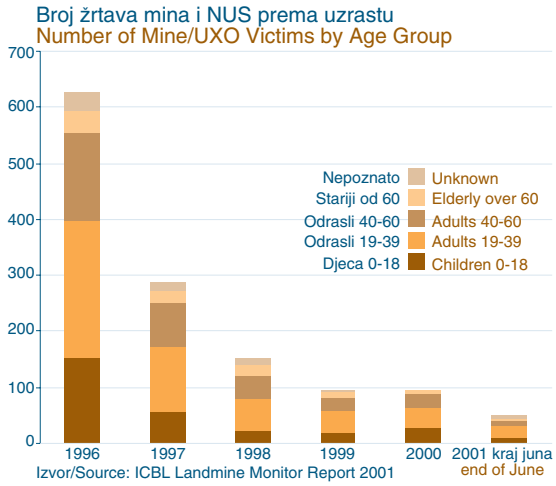


Prema podacima Federalnog Centra za uklanjanje mina (FMAC), 74% ukupnog poznatog broja minskih polja nalazi se na teritoriji Federacije BIH. Ima također i dva miliona neotkrivenih NUS.

UNDP smatra da je za operacije deminiranja u BiH potrebno oko 23 miliona US dolara godišnje (ICBL, 2001).

Mine Landmines





Main BIH Trends

Until September 2000, 16 square kilometers of land were cleared and 30,000 landmines and 6,000 pieces of unexploded ordnance (UXO) were destroyed.

The accident rate fell from an average of 50 per month in 1996 to less than 10 per month in late 1999.

By February 2001, the Bosnia and Herzegovina Mine Action Center (BHMAC) listed 18,145 minefields. They estimate that the total number of minefields might be as many as 30,000.

According to the Federation Mine Action Center (FMAC), 74% of the total known number of minefields is located on the territory of FBIH. There are also two million pieces of UXO, which have not been located.

UNDP estimates that around USD 23 million per year is necessary for landmine clearance activities in BIH (ICBL, 2001).

Mine

Bosna i Hercegovina je najviše minirana država u Evropi. Većina minskih polja zaostala je nakon rata koji je trajao od 1992. do 1995, ali mine su korištene i poslije, uglavnom da bi se spriječio povratak izbjeglica. Većina minskih polja situirana je u zoni razgraničenja koja je dugačka 1.100 km, a široka do četiri kilometra. Minska polja se zapravo mogu naći skoro po cijeloj zemlji s obzirom da su postavljana duž linija sukoba koje su se često mijenjale, kao i oko vojnih kampova i objekata i u naseljima u malim grupama. Sumnja se da se mine mogu naći na 11% (3.000 kvadratnih kilometara) cijele teritorije, ali da je samo 10% od teritorije na koju se sumnja stvarno kontaminirano. Federalni centar za uklanjanje mina (FMAC) tvrdi da se 74% ukupnog poznatog broja minskih polja nalazi u FBIH. Postoji također dva miliona nelociranih neeksplodiranih ubojitih sredstava (NUS) (ICBL, 2001).

Veoma je teško locirati sva minska polja, s obzirom da mnoga od njih nisu dokumentovana u vrijeme kada su postavljana, ili su dukumenti izgubljeni. Ovo znatno otežava situaciju za stanovništvo, posebno poljoprivrednike, djecu, radnike u šumarstvu i građevinarstvu, kao i izbjeglice koje se vraćaju svojim kućama.

Smrtni slučajevi i osjetljive grupe

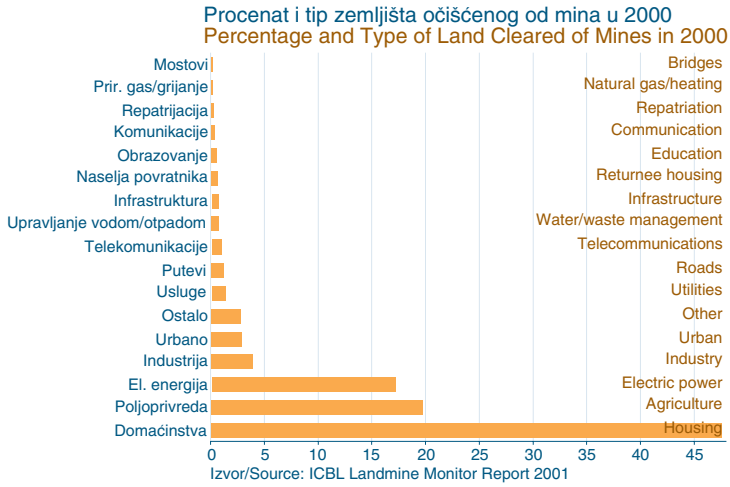
Prema podacima iz baze podataka Međunarodnog komiteta crvenog krsta (ICRC), stopa nesreća prouzrokovanih minama opala je sa prosječno 50 na manje od 10 slučajeva mjesečno između 1996. i 1999. Glavni problem je da stanovništvo, iako obučeno i dobro informisano o opasnosti, ne poklanja mnogo pažnje minama, zbog potrebe da, iz uglavnom ekonomskih razloga, kultivira zemljište. U najvećoj opasnosti su izbjeglice koje se vraćaju u svoje domove, koji su uglavnom na bivšim linijama sukoba, te zato sadrže najveći broj mina. Kako se sve više izbjeglica vraća, rizik od povreda minama se povećava. Proljeće i kasno ljeto su periodi visokog rizika (ICBL, 2001).

Za vrijeme rata, najveći broj žrtava bili su vojnici, što se može objasniti činjenicom da se većina minskih polja nalazila na linijama sukoba. Nakon rata, četiri od pet žrtava bili su civili (procenat civilnih žrtava je porastao od 21% tokom rata na 78% poslije rata). Žrtve su većinom muškarci koji se bave obradom zemlje. Relativno mali broj ljudi je podlegao povredama prouzrokovanim minama (samo 18%), vjerovatno zbog brze evakuacije u bolnice, zahvaljujući dobrim putevima i raspoloživim vozilima, kao i dobrom medicinskom tretmanu (ICRC, 1997).

Uticaji na poljoprivredu i privredu

BIH nije poljoprivredno bogata zemlja i uvozi dobar dio hrane. Ne postoje zvanični podaci o efektu mina na poljoprivredu, ali neke procjene su da se 10.000 hektara poljoprivrednog zemljišta ne može koristiti zbog kontaminacije minama ili oštećenja izazvanih kopanjem rovova i bombardovanjem (ICRC, 1997).

Informacije o efektima mina na privredu još uvijek nedostaju, ali je sigurno da to ima negativan uticaj na rekonstrukciju i ulaganja u privredu. Postojanje mina prouzrokuje odlaganja u popravci telekomunikacione infrastrukture. Takođe se odlaže i rekonstrukcija vozne mreže, kuća i fabrika. Uticaji na šumarstvo su ozbiljni - sječa i ostale aktivnosti su poremećene, a takođe su prijavljeni i napadi insekata na drveće u miniranim područjima (ICRC, 1997).



Institucionalno uređenje

BIH je potpisala Povelju o zabrani mina u decembru 1997, ratificirala je u septembru 1998, a postala član povelje u martu 1999. Državni centar za mine - BHMAC je odgovoran za koordinaciju aktivnosti na čišćenju mina na državnom nivou. BHMAC je direktno odgovoran Komisiji za deminiranje, koja je zakonodavno tijelo na nacionalnom nivou pod upravom Ministarstva za civilne poslove i komunikacije. Postoje dva entitetska centra (EMAC-a) - FMAC i RSMAC, koja su odgovorna svaki svojoj vladi. Entitetski centri su odgovorni za lociranje i bilježenje miniranih oblasti, ali ne i za čisćenje mina. Oni su takođe odgovorni za baze podataka o minskim poljima, deminiranju i žrtvama mina (ICBL, 2001).

U januaru 2000, usvojen je Standard za operacije čišćenja mina i uklanjanja eksplozivnih sredstava u BIH. Standard daje minimum sigurnosnih i tehničkih mjera koje treba inkorporirati u operacione procedure organizacija koje su uključene u čišćenje mina. Samo u FBIH postoji oko 1.000 deminera i specijalista za uklanjanje eksplozivnih sredstava koji su ovlašteni od strane vlade (ICBL, 2001).

Dva glavna kriterija za određivanje prioriteta u akcijama deminiranja su humanitarni (povratak izbjeglica) i ekonomski (poljoprivreda, rekonstrukcija i razvoj). Postoje tri nacionalna prioriteta: "1) lokacije pod stalnom civilnom upotrebom; repatrijacija izbjeglica i raseljenih lica; obnova i rekonstrukcija infrastrukture; 2) oblasti u neposrednoj blizini oblasti koje su u prvoj grupi, kao i oblasti koje omogućavaju ljudima da zarade za život, kao što su poljoprivredno zemljište i šume; 3) sve preostale oblasti." (ICBL, 2001).

Finansiranje

UNDP procjenjuje da je godišnje potrebno oko 23 miliona američkih dolara za akcije čišćenja mina u BIH, kao i dodatnih tri miliona za podršku MAC-ovima. Pošto domaći budžet nema stavku za ove aktivnosti, finansiranje dolazi pretežno od UNDP-a i ITF-a (Međunarodna fondacija za deminiranje i pomoć žrtvama). Svjetska banka je podržavala čišćenje mina u BIH od 1996-1999, ali projekat je zatvoren u 1999 (ICBL, 2001).

Aktivnosti na čišćenju mina se kreću veoma sporo. Veliki programi za deminiranje zahtijevaju mnogo napora na pripremi, kao što su dogovori sa vlastima, logistika, obučavanje i regrutovanje uposlenika, priprema ugovora i standardnih operacionih procedura. Pored toga, političke borbe između entiteta oko kontrole nad resursima za deminiranje su takođe problem. Zbog klime, operacije deminiranja mogu da se provode samo u jednom dijelu godine (nemoguće su između decembra i marta zbog oštrih zima) (ICRC, 1997).

Landmines

Bosnia and Herzegovina is the most heavily mined country in Europe. Most of the minefields remained after the 1992-1995 war, but some areas have been mined since then, mostly in order to prevent the return of refugees. The majority of the minefields are situated in the "zone of separation" which is 1,100 km long and up to four kilometers wide. Minefields can actually be found across most of the country, since they were laid along conflict lines that often changed, as well as around army camps, military objects, and around housing facilities in small groups. It is suspected that mines may be found in 11% (3,000 square kilometers) of the whole territory, but that 10% of the suspected territory is actually contaminated. The Federation Mine Action Center (FMAC) claims that 74% of the total known number of minefields are located in FBIH. There are also two million un-located pieces of unexploded ordnance (UXO) (ICBL, 2001).

It is very difficult to locate all minefields, since many of them were not documented during construction, or the records were lost. This makes the situation very difficult for the population, especially farmers, children, forestry and construction workers, as well as refugees returning to their homes. Mines are one of the main obstacles to the return of refugees and the development of agriculture.

Casualties and Vulnerable Groups

According to the ICRC database, the mine accident rate fell from an average of more than 50 to less than 10 per month between 1996 and 1999. The main problem is that the population, although educated and well informed about the danger is not paying much attention to it, because of the economic necessity to cultivate the land. The group most exposed to danger is that of refugees returning to their homes that are mostly on the former confrontation lines and so contain the highest concentration of landmines. As more refugees return to their homes, the risk of injury by landmines increases. Spring and late summer are the high-risk periods (ICBL, 2001).

During the war most of the victims were soldiers, which may be explained by the fact that most minefields were on the front lines. After the war, four out of five victims were civilians (the percentage of civilian victims rose from 21% during the war to 78% after the war). The victims are mostly men, engaged in agricultural activity. Relatively few people died from the injuries caused by landmines (only 18%). This is probably because of rapid evacuation to hospitals, thanks to good roads and vehicle accessibility, as well as good medical treatment (ICRC, 1997).

Impacts on Agriculture and Economy

BIH is not agriculturally rich country; it imports a great deal of food. There is no official data on the effects of mines on agriculture, but one estimate is that 10,000 hectares of agricultural land cannot be used due to mine contamination or damage caused by trenches and bombing (ICRC, 1997).

There is still a lack of information about the effects of landmines on the economy, but what is certain is that uncertainty on this score is having a negative effect on reconstruction efforts and investments in the economy. The presence of landmines causes delays in rebuilding the telecommunication infrastructure. It also delays the reconstruction of the railway network, houses, and factories. The impact on forestry is severe - logging and other activities are disrupted and there are also reports of insect attacks on the trees in mined areas (ICRC, 1997).

Institutional Arrangements

The country signed the Mine Ban Treaty in December 1997, ratified it in September 1998, and became a Party to it in March 1999. The State Mine Action Center - BHMAC is responsible for coordinating clearance activities at the state level. It is directly responsible to the De-mining Commission, which is the policy-making body at the national level, and which falls under the Ministry of Civil Affairs and Communications. There are two entity centers (EMACs) - FMAC and RSMAC, which are responsible to their respective entity governments. The EMACS are responsible for locating and recording mined areas, but not for carrying out mine clearance. They are also responsible for maintaining databases on minefields, progress in de-mining, and mine victims (ICBL, 2001).

In January 2000, the Standard for Mine Clearance and Explosive Ordnance Disposal Operations in BIH was approved. The Standard defines the minimum safety and technical measures that are to be incorporated into the operating procedures of the organizations involved in mine clearance. There are about 1000 government authorized de-miners and EOD specialists in FBIH alone (ICBL, 2001).

Two main criteria for prioritizing mine actions are the humanitarian (the return of refugees) and economic (agriculture, reconstruction, and development). There are three nationally agreed priorities: “1) locations in regular civilian use; repatriation of refugees and displaced persons; renewal and reconstruction of infrastructure; 2) areas in the immediate vicinity of Priority 1 areas, and areas which enable people to make a living, such as agricultural land and forestry; 3) all remaining areas.” (ICBL, 2001).

Funding

UNDP estimates that around USD 23 million per year is necessary for mine clearance activities in BIH, and USD three million is needed, in addition, to support the MACs. There is no domestic budget for these activities. Funding comes primarily through UNDP and ITF (International Trust Fund for De-mining and Victim Assistance). The World Bank supported mine clearance in BIH from 1996-1999, but the project was closed in 1999 (ICBL, 2001).

Clearance activities are moving forward very slowly. Large clearance programs need much preparation, such as agreements with authorities, logistics, training and recruitment of employees, contract preparations, and standard operating procedures preparation. In addition, political fights over control of de-mining resources between entities have also been a problem. Because of the climate, de-mining operations can be conducted only for a short period during a year (they are impossible between December and March because of the severe winters) (ICRC, 1997).