

LANDMINE PROBLEM WHY IS IT NECESSARY TO HAVE A CAMPAIGN TO CLEAR MINEFIELDS? LANDMINES CONTINUE TO CAUSE MANY COMMUNITIES WELL AFTER HOSTILITIES HAVE CEASED; ONE THIRD OF ALL VICTIMS ARE CHILDREN. THE PRESENCE OF LANDMINES CAN ALSO HINDER THE REDEVELOPMENT OF A COUNTRY AND ITS ECONOMY FOR MANY YEARS AFTER A CONFLICT. THERE ARE ESTIMATED TO BE OVER 70 MILLION LANDMINES IN THE GROUND IN AT LEAST 90 COUNTRIES. LANDMINES REPORTEDLY MAIM OR KILL 19,000 CIVILIANS EVERY YEAR. THOSE WHO SURVIVE ENDURE A LIFETIME OF PHYSICAL, PSYCHOLOGICAL, AND ECONOMIC HARDSHIP. LOCAL COMMUNITIES IN LANDMINE-AFFECTED COUNTRIES OFTEN DO NOT HAVE THE RESOURCES TO CLEAR THEIR OWN LAND AND TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE CARE FOR THEIR LANDMINE SURVIVORS. THEY DEPEND PRIMARILY UPON FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM GOVERNMENTS, INTERNATIONAL AND NON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS. WHAT IS MINE ACTION? MINE ACTION REFERS TO ALL THOSE ACTIVITIES, WHICH ADDRESS THE PROBLEMS FACED BY PEOPLE AS A RESULT OF LANDMINE/ UNEXPLODED ORDNANCE (UXO) CONTAMINATION. MINE ACTION IS NOT SO MUCH ABOUT LANDMINES, THOUGH, AS ABOUT PEOPLE AND THEIR INTERACTIONS WITH A MINE-CONTAMINATED ENVIRONMENT. IT AIMS TO RECREATE AN ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH PEOPLE CAN LIVE SAFELY, IN WHICH ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT CAN OCCUR FREE FROM CONSTRAINTS, AND IN WHICH LANDMINE SURVIVORS ARE FULLY INTEGRATED INTO THEIR SOCIETIES. MINE ACTION COMPRISES FIVE COMPLEMENTARY GROUPS OF ACTIVITIES: MINE RISK EDUCATION (MRE) THE EDUCATION PROCESS WHICH AIMS TO ENSURE THAT COMMUNITIES ARE NOT ONLY AWARE OF THE RISKS FROM LANDMINES AND UXO, AND TO ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO BEHAVE IN A WAY THAT REDUCES THE RISK TO PEOPLE, PROPERTY AND THE ENVIRONMENT. HUMANITARIAN DEMINING ACTIVITIES WHICH LEAD TO THE REMOVAL OF LANDMINE AND UXO HAZARDS, INCLUDING TECHNICAL SURVEY, MAPPING, CLEARANCE, MARKING, POST-CLEARANCE DOCUMENTATION, MINE ACTION LIAISON AND THE HANDOVER OF CLEARED LAND. DEMINING MAY BE EMERGENCY-BASED OR DEVELOPMENTAL. SURVIVOR ASSISTANCE REFERS TO ALL THE SUPPORT PROVIDED SURVIVORS WITH THE PURPOSE OF REDUCING THE IMMEDIATE AND LONG-TERM MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPLICATIONS OF THEIR TRAUMA. ARTICLE 4 OF THE MINE BAN TREATY (MBT) REQUIRES THAT SIGNATORIES UNDERTAKE TO DESTROY OR ENSURE THE DESTRUCTION OF ALL STOCKPILED ANTI-PERSONNEL LANDMINES, OR THAT ARE UNDER ITS JURISDICTION OR CONTROL, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE BUT NOT LATER THAN FOUR YEARS AFTER THE ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE MBT. ADVOCACY AGAINST THE USE OF ANTI-PERSONNEL LANDMINES. IN THE CONTEXT OF MINE ACTION, THE TERM REFERS TO ... PUBLIC SUPPORT, RECOMMENDATION ... THE AIM OF REMOVING, OR AT LEAST REDUCING, THE THREAT FROM, AND THE IMPACT OF, LANDMINES AND UXO. WHY CLEAR LANDMINES? THERE ARE ESTIMATED TO BE OVER 70 MILLION LANDMINES IN 90 COUNTRIES. THESE REPORTEDLY KILL OR INJUR 19,000 CIVILIANS EVERY YEAR. IT IS HOWEVER DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN ACCURATE STATISTICS. WE WON'T KNOW HOW MANY THERE ARE IN THE GROUND UNTIL WE'VE ACTUALLY FOUND THEM, AND MANY LANDMINE CASUALTIES ARE NOT REPORTED BECAUSE THEY HAPPEN IN REMOTE AREAS AND NO ONE EVEN FINDS OUT ABOUT THEM. THIS IMPACT GOES FAR BEYOND PHYSICAL INJURY AND DEATH – IT INCLUDES VIRTUALLY EVERY ASPECT OF LIFE AND PREVENTS MINES AFFECTED COMMUNITIES FROM FULLY RECOVERING AFTER ARMED CONFLICTS HAVE ENDED. ABOUT ONE THIRD OF ALL LANDMINE CASUALTIES ARE CHILDREN. MANY MORE LOSE PARENTS OR OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS AND SUDDENLY FIND THEMSELVES RESPONSIBLE FOR PROVIDING FOR THE FAMILY. IN ADDITION, LANDMINES HINDER INFRASTRUCTURE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCREASE A COUNTRY'S DEPENDENCY ON INTERNATIONAL AID, BLOCK THE DELIVERY OF RELIEF GOODS TO AREAS MOST IN NEED, PREVENT THE RETURN OF REFUGEES AND HAMPER THE PROCESS OF PEACE AND RECONCILIATION. LANDMINES HAVE A KNOCK ON EFFECT TO OTHER HUMANITARIAN ORGANISATIONS. AID CONVOYS WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ENTER AREAS SUSPECTED OF BEING MINED; THIS CAN MEAN AID FAILS TO REACH COMMUNITIES, AND OFTEN-EXPENSIVE ALTERNATIVES HAVE TO BE SOUGHT SUCH AS AIRDROPS. IN CENTRAL SUDAN IN JANUARY 2003, THE DANCHURCH AID (DCA) MINE ACTION TEAM, WORKING IN THE NUBA MOUNTAINS, WERE TASKED TO CLEAR THE ROAD FROM EL HAMRA TO THE VILLAGE OF UMM SERDIBA. THERE HAD BEEN TWO MINE STRIKES ON THIS ROAD, ONE DESTROYED A TRACTOR KILLING A NUMBER OF PEOPLE; THE OTHER DESTROYED A TRUCK. TO THE JMC, THE INTERNATIONAL BODY MONITORING THE 'NUBA CEASEFIRE' BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF SUDAN AND THE SUDANESE PEOPLES LIBERATION ARMY. ALTHOUGH THE ROAD HAD TO BE REGARDED AS MINED; THE LOCAL POPULATION HAD TO CONTINUE USING THE ROAD, IT WAS THE ONLY WAY THEY COULD GET TO THE MARKET AND THE AREA. OTHER HUMANITARIAN ORGANISATIONS WERE UNABLE TO ACCESS VAST AREAS OF THE NUBA MOUNTAINS; LEADING TO PROLONGED SUFFERING FOR THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE. THE JMC DEPLOYED A NUMBER OF DOG TEAMS ONTO THE ROAD, AND THE SUBSEQUENT CLEARANCE NOW PROVIDES THE LOCAL PEOPLE A SAFE ROUTE TO TRAVEL, THE JMC WITH THE PASSAGE ALLOWED THE DEVELOPMENT OF A 'HUMANITARIAN HIGHWAY' TO ALLOW OTHER ORGANISATIONS SAFE PASSAGE INTO THE AREA. IS MINE ACTION THE SAME IN ALL COUNTRIES? NO, IS THE SIMPLE ANSWER. MINE ACTION DIFFERS FROM ONE COUNTRY TO ANOTHER. COUNTRIES SUCH AS AFGHANISTAN OR MOZAMBIQUE HAVE LONG ESTABLISHED PROGRAMMES; MINE ACTION HAS BEEN CONDUCTED THERE FOR MANY YEARS. OFTEN THESE COUNTRIES HAVE THEIR OWN INDIGENOUS MINE ACTION ORGANISATION; SUCH AS THE AFGHAN TECHNICAL CONSULTANTS (ATC). AFTER THE WAR IN KOSOVO, A RAPID MINE ACTION RESPONSE WAS REQUIRED. A COUNTRYWIDE SURVEY WAS CONDUCTED BY A BRITISH MINE ACTION CHARITY. THIS GAVE THE UNITED NATIONS MINE ACTION CENTRE A GOOD IDEA OF THE MINE AND UXO PROBLEM THE MINE ACTION COMMUNITY WAS ACTUALLY FACING. WHERE THE PRIORITY CLEARANCE WAS AND WHICH MINEFIELDS NEEDED TO BE CLEARED FIRST. WITH A LARGE NUMBER OF INTERNATIONAL MINE ACTION ORGANISATIONS WORKING IN KOSOVO; THE MAJORITY OF THE LANDMINE AND UXO PROBLEM WAS DEALT WITH WITHIN ABOUT 2 YEARS. AN INDIGENOUS MINE ACTION CAPACITY NOW REMAINS TO DEAL WITH THE LOW PRIORITY MINEFIELDS THAT WERE LEFT. MINE CLEARANCE WHAT IS A LANDMINE? A LANDMINE IS AN EXPLOSIVE DEVICE, DESIGNED TO WOUND, KILL OR OTHERWISE INCAPACITATE PERSONNEL; OR DESIGNED TO DESTROY OR DAMAGE VEHICLES. WHAT DIFFERENT TYPES OF LANDMINES ARE THERE? WE KNOW THERE ARE TWO MAIN GROUPS OF LANDMINES, ANTI PERSONNEL AND ANTI TANK MINES. ALL LANDMINES HAVE SPECIFIC CHARACTERISTICS AND ARE DESIGNED TO OPERATE IN SPECIFIC WAYS; THEY ARE BLAST, FRAGMENTATION AND BOUNDING. BLAST MINES: THE BLAST EFFECT OF THE MINE EXPLODING IS THE MAIN CAUSE OF INJURY TO THE VICTIM. THE PMN ANTI-PERSONNEL MINE IS A BLAST MINE. FRAGMENTATION MINES: THE MINE HAS A METAL CASE, WHICH BREAKS INTO METAL FRAGMENTS AS THE MINE EXPLODES. THE SMALL FRAGMENTS OF METAL ARE FORCED OUT BY THE EXPLOSIVE FORCE OF THE MINE AND CAUSE INJURY TO THE VICTIMS. BOUNDING MINES: THE MINE, SIMILAR TO THE FRAGMENTATION, HAS A SMALL CHARGE THAT THROWS THE MINE OUT OF THE GROUND INTO THE AIR NORMALLY AT ABOUT HEAD HEIGHT. THEN THE MAIN CHARGE



ABOUT ONE THIRD OF ALL LANDMINE CASUALTIES ARE CHILDREN.



INTERNATIONAL TRUST FUND
for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance

Introduction

The International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF) is a humanitarian, non-profit organization devoted to the eradication of landmines and their impact in South-East Europe and other mine-affected regions in the world.

Established by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia in March 1998, the initial purpose of ITF was to help Bosnia and Herzegovina in the implementation of the peace agreement and to provide assistance and support in relation to post-conflict rehabilitation.

Since its inception, ITF has augmented its activities to include the rectification of landmine problems and helping landmine survivors with physical and socio-economic rehabilitation across the region i.e. in Croatia, Macedonia, Serbia, Montenegro and Albania. As the European Commission acknowledged ITF as the reference model of regional organization in mine action, ITF was asked by mine-affected countries and donors to expand operation to other mine-affected regions and countries as well e.g. Cyprus, the South Caucasus and Central Asia.

ITF has spread its activities of solving landmine problems and helping landmine victims with physical and socio-economic rehabilitation



Vision

ITF aims to free the region of South-East Europe from the impact of landmines and unexploded ordnance (UXO), and actively contribute to the eradication of the mine problem in other mine-affected parts of the world.

Mission

The mission of ITF is to raise funds and administer donations made by public and private donors for the implementation of mine action related activities by addressing the needs of mine-affected communities in accordance with donor's interests, as follows:

Activities	Goals
Mine/UXO clearance (demining, technical survey and battle area clearance)	To eradicate the landmine and UXO problem in the mine-affected regions to facilitate post-conflict rehabilitation so as to enable subsequent reconstruction and development in these regions.
Mine victims assistance	To provide landmine survivors with quality health services and sustainable physical and psycho-social rehabilitation, as well as economic reintegration.
Mine risk education	To prevent further mine casualties by raising mine awareness through Mine Risk Education programs.
Support to the national mine action capacities	To strengthen the ability of the national mine action centers to effectively deal with the mine problem on an ongoing basis.
Mine action related training	To train the local implementing agencies in all key elements of mine action so as to ensure a high level of expertise and to reduce the long-term dependence on international assistance.
Regional cooperation in relation to mine action through joint projects and the South-East Europe Mine Action Coordination Council (SEEMACC)	To interlink mine-affected countries in the region in order to enable them to address a number of mine action issues more efficiently and to avoid the duplication of effort. A regional approach builds confidence among the countries and effectively contributes to the stabilization of the region.
Destruction of stockpiled anti-personnel mines	To take part in projects involving the destruction of stockpiled landmines so as to foster trust between the neighboring countries.
Interconnect mine action with development projects	To incorporate mine action into broader development projects in order to enable their widespread sustainability and facilitate the recovery of the affected communities.

Why ITF?

Since its inception in 1998, ITF has gained extensive experience in the field of mine action and played a vital part in the implementation of over 1,700 mine/UXO clearance projects, demining over 79.6 million square meters of land. It has rehabilitated 15 % of mine/UXO survivors in SE Europe, trained more than 700 experts in the fields of mine action management, demining and rehabilitation, and is one of the founding members of the South-East Europe Mine Action Coordination Council (SEEMACC).

a. Tailor-Made Projects

The donor decides which of the mine action activities being implemented in the region they want to support. In line with the donor's wishes, ITF will then develop and submit a proposal for a project to be funded. Consequently, the project is designed in accordance with the preferences of each individual donor (country, activity etc.) while also taking into account the wishes and needs of the mine-affected country as well as the local community.

b. Coordination with National Authorities

ITF is working closely with the authorities responsible for mine action programs in order to ensure that help and assistance provided are in fact needed and that the programs being implemented are consistent with the national plans.

c. Transparency

ITF's tight internal financial management control and external audits carried out on an annual basis ensure that the donated funds are properly accounted for. Moreover, the tendering system adopted by ITF in relation to mine action projects, in particular in the field of humanitarian demining, serves to enhance the transparency of decision making while also contributing to a cost-effective use of donor funds.

d. Visibility of Donations

Donors are assured of the visibility of their donations through ITF publications, reports, website, on-site signs, ITF presentations and public media events.

e. Matching Fund Mechanism

The government of the United States has introduced a matching fund mechanism for SE Europe whereby every dollar raised by ITF is matched by an additional dollar provided by the US Government. These US funds can be spent on the same project as the original donation (if the project has been deemed to qualify for the Matching Fund by both ITF and the US) or alternatively, the money in the Matching Fund is used to finance another mine action project in SE Europe.

f. Monitoring and Evaluation

Prior to clearing, demining sites are inspected by ITF staff from the ITF implementation offices to evaluate the demining priority of a given area. Relevant assessments and other reports must be submitted in writing, taking into account various factors. If requested by the donor, ITF also employs a monitoring firm to oversee and monitor the work of the demining company on a daily basis. The purpose is to ensure that the removal of mines is being carried out in accordance with the applicable standards and safety requirements. Monitoring firms are selected by tender for a period of two years. In addition, ITF carries out post-clearance checks in order to determine and assess the results of mine-clearance activities. With minor modifications and tailoring, this model can also be applied to the evaluation and assessment of other mine action projects implemented by ITF.

g. Active Donor Involvement

The donor community provides guidelines and initiates proposals for further activities at the meetings of the ITF Board of Advisors where ITF operation and objectives are discussed.

h. Regional Approach

ITF promotes regional approach to mine action through SEEMACC to facilitate experience-sharing between the mine action communities of the mine-affected countries in the region and to promote cost-effective regional approaches to the planning and execution of clearance programs. Moreover, ITF's involvement fosters confidence building among the nations.



The donor is assured of the visibility of donations via periodic ITF publications, reports and other media.

How Is Your Donation Used?

Donors can make an earmarked or a non-earmarked contribution.

An earmarked contribution is a contribution designated for a chosen country, activity, minefield, implementing agency or a combination of the above.

A non-earmarked contribution or a contribution earmarked for general purposes is a contribution where a donation is made to the Fund without specifying a particular project or country. In accordance with the ITF policy, such funds are used to finance the highest-ranked projects on the established priority list.

In both instances the donor receives a final (end of the year) report as well as all periodical and special ITF publications. The donor is also guaranteed visibility through ITF publications, presentations, website and on-site signs.

The Mine Problem

Mines represent a major security-, humanitarian, environmental, economic and development problem for the international community. Mine-contaminated areas have a direct as well as indirect impact on people's lives: a huge number of civilian casualties and losses of livestock and arable land coupled with the overall detrimental effect on supplies, production and trade, and general poor health of the population as a result of constant fear and threat. All this breeds distrust and intolerance, and leads to the resumption of animosity. ITF's support for mine action activities addresses the humanitarian and safety concerns as well as the reconstruction and development needs of the affected communities.

Albania



Problem:

- Close to 2 km² of landmine/UXO contaminated areas in North-East Albania in 2007.
- Close to 80,000 people live in mine-affected communities.
- Over 270 mine/UXO victims in North-East Albania since 1999 (death rate almost 13 %).

Current activities supported through ITF:

- Mine/UXO clearance, mine victims assistance, mine risk education, training, structure support.

Vision:

- Mine-free by the end of 2009.

Bosnia and Herzegovina



Problem:

- Over 1,820 km² of landmine/UXO suspected areas in 2007.
- Over 1,375,000 people live in mine-affected communities.
- Close to 5,000 mine/UXO victims since 1992 (death rate almost 20 %).

Current activities supported through ITF:

- Mine/UXO clearance, mine victims assistance, mine risk education, training, structure support, support to Mine Detection Dog Center.

Vision:

- Bosnia and Herzegovina mine-impact free by the end of 2009.

Croatia



Problem:

- 1,044 km² of landmine/UXO suspected areas in 2007.
- Over 1,100,000 people live in mine-affected communities.
- Close to 1,900 mine/UXO victims since 1991 (25 % death rate).

Current activities supported through ITF:

- Mine/UXO clearance, mine victims assistance, mine risk education, training.

Vision:

- Mine-impact free by the end of 2009.

Macedonia



Problem:

- Significant UXO contamination from World Wars I and II in the southern regions along the 250 kilometers long border with Greece.
- The number of people living in the UXO contaminated areas is not known.
- Altogether 223 mine/UXO victims since 1965 (17 % death rate).

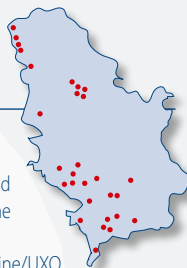
Current activities supported through ITF and future orientation:

- Structure support, training and UXO clearance.

Vision:

- Reducing the level of UXO threat.

Serbia (incl. Kosovo)



Problem:

- 3.5 km² of minefields, 23 km² of cluster bomb suspected areas and 43 air-bomb sites according to the Serbia MAC.
- Over 1,000,000 people live in mine/UXO affected communities.
- The number of mine victims among the refugee/IDP population is not known.

Current activities supported through ITF

- Mine/battle area clearance, structure support, training.

Vision:

- All minefields cleared by 2009.
- Battle area clearance completed by 2014.

Province of Kosovo (Serbia)



Problem:

- According to the Landmine Monitor 2006 (reported by UNMIK), there are 15 dangerous areas requiring either mine clearance or battle area clearance while 53 areas should be resurveyed.
- The number of people living in contaminated areas is not known.
- Over 520 mine/UXO/cluster bomb victims since 1999 (21 % death rate).

Current activities supported through ITF:

- Mine/UXO clearance, structure support, mine risk education, mine victims assistance, training.

Vision:

UNMIK EOD Management Section objectives:

1. To clear all the remaining dangerous areas in Kosovo.
2. To survey the remaining suspect- and dangerous areas.
3. To create a national mine action authority within a Kosovo government ministry.



Montenegro



Problem:

- 0.2 km² of landmine/UXO contaminated areas.
- Close to 500 people live in mine/UXO affected communities.
- Undetermined number of mine victims.

Current activities supported through ITF:

- Mine/Battle Area Clearance, Technical Survey, Training.

Vision:

- Mine-free by the end of 2007.

LEGEND

- Landmine/UXO affected communities and dangerous areas



South-East Europe

Support to Mine Action activities addresses humanitarian and safety concerns as well as reconstruction and development needs of affected communities.

Armenia

Problem:

- According to the LIS implemented by UNDP over 321.7 km² of landmine/UXO suspected areas in 2005.
- Over 68,737 people live in mine-affected communities.
- Over 550 mine survivors according to Armenian National Committee of ICBL.

Current activities supported through ITF

- Training, regional conference.

Vision:

- Mine-impact free Armenia.

Azerbaijan

Problem:

- Over 164 km² of landmine/UXO contaminated areas reported in April 2006.
- Over 514,000 people live in mine/UXO affected communities.
- Over 2,300 mine victims recorded by Azerbaijan National Agency for Mine Action.

Current activities supported through ITF

- Structure support, mine victims assistance, training, regional conference, Mine/UXO clearance.

Vision:

- Mine-impact free Azerbaijan.

Georgia

Problem:

- The majority of landmines in Georgia are located near the Ingur river, separating Abkhazia from the rest of Georgia. The other major mine threat to civilians comes from mines laid or abandoned around the existing and former Russian military bases.
- The number of people living in contaminated areas is not known.
- There is no official record of the number of people killed or injured by landmines and UXO in Georgia. ICBL-Georgian Committee has recorded over 380 casualties since 2001.

Current activities supported through ITF

- Training, regional conference.

Vision:

- Mine-impact free Georgia.



The South Caucasus

STAKEHOLDERS

The success of ITF's mine action activities depends on ensuring the involvement and successful coordination of various stakeholders sharing the common goal of making SE Europe and other mine affected regions in the world free from the impact of mines. The stakeholders include the donor community, mine/UXO affected countries, partners and implement- ing agencies/organisations, and the international mine action environment.

ITF donors are included in ITF Board of Advisors.

1. Donor Community

- ITF aims to meet the interests of donors while matching them to the needs of mine-affected countries.
- So far, over 100 donors including 27 countries, a number of international organizations as well as the European Union and UNDP, local authorities in mine-affected countries, private companies, non-government organizations and individuals have made donations to ITF.
- A matching fund mechanism for SE Europe is provided by the government of the United States of America.
- ITF donors have seats on the ITF Board of Advisors.



Public donors:

Austria; Belgium; Bosansko-Podrinjski canton Goražde; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Canada; Canton Sarajevo – Ministry of Town Planning and the Environment; Croatia; Denmark; EC Delegation in Croatia; Elektroprivreda HZ HB; Elektroprivreda Mostar; European Agency for Reconstruction; Czech Republic; CROMAC; European Union; Canada; France; Germany; Government of Central Bosnian Canton; Hercegbosanske Šume; Hungary; Ireland; The Organization of the Islamic Conference; Japan/ UNDP; Karlovac County; Korea; Kuwait; Liechtenstein; Luxembourg; Municipality Bihać; Municipality Ilidža; Municipality Sarajevo; Municipality Hadžići; Municipality Ilijaš; Municipality Novi grad Sarajevo; Municipality Stari grad; Municipality Vječe Vogošća; Municipality Trnovo; Norway; Qatar; Slovenian Institute for Rehabilitation; S.O.Subotica and MZ Palić; Slovak Republic; Slovenia; Sweden; Switzerland; Serbia; Spain; The Netherlands; United Kingdom; United Nations Development Programme in Albania and in Bosnia and Herzegovina; United States of America.



Private donors:

Adopt-a-Minefield, 4 Entity - Alma Suljevic, Accord 92, Adria Airways, Amway d.o.o., Arne Hodalić, Atelje D.I.A.L.O.G., BAGS ENERGETEHIKA, Bank Austria, BH MAC "Prijatelji protiv mina", Branko Đurić – Đuro, CARE International, Children of Armenia Fund, Cimermacić Zdenka, Coordinametni Donne, Croatia Without Mines, DAEWOO (in-kind donation), DanChurchAid, Dean Haas, Dijana Pleština, Diners Club Adriatic, Đurđa Otržan, Elting Pale, Euromarketing Pale, Europa Press Holding, foundation World Without Mines, fundraising event "Dobra žoga", Girl Scouts, Global Care Unlimited, Handicap International, Jaki and Ščetinin, Josef M.Laposa, architect Kampos Iztok, Landmine Survivors Network, Lawyer Miro Senica, Lions Club Brodanka, Lions Club Zrinjevac, Maraska d.d., The Marshall Legacy Institute, Miklošič, Mobitel d.d., Newspaper Finance, Night of a Thousand Dinners (Slovenia), Night of a Thousand Dinners (Albania), Nova Ljubljanska Banka, Otto Bock, Privata, Positive Play, prof. Janez Koželj, Raiffeisen Krekova Banka d.d., Rebele Rowland & Pat, Red Cross Slovenia, Roots of Peace, Rotary Club Karlovac, Rotary Club International Calvia, Rotary Club Ljubljana-Emona, Rotary Club of San Rafael, Rotary Club Wien-Nordost, Rotary International District 1910-4096, Sebastijan Gorenc, SIEMENS, Slovenian Table Tennis Association, SPEM, Swiss Federation for Mine Action, United Nations Association of the USA (UNA-USA), United States Tennis Association Inc., Victims of Mine and Arms Association, Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation, Walk Across Slovenia, Walnut Creek United Methodist Church.



2. Mine/UXO Affected Countries

- ITF activities in SE Europe have included Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, Serbia (incl. the province of Kosovo) and Macedonia.
- ITF has been working in the South Caucasus in Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia, as well as in Cyprus and Afghanistan.
- Close cooperation with responsible authorities and mine action centers (MAC) and/or government agencies, as follows: Albania Mine Action Center (AMAE), Croatia MAC (CROMAC), Bosnia and Herzegovina MAC (BH MAC), Regional Center for Underwater Demining in Montenegro (RCUD), Serbia MAC, Azerbaijan National Agency for Mine Action (ANAMA), Protection and Rescue Directorate of the Republic of Macedonia, UNMIK/EOD Management Section in the province of Kosovo (Serbia), Armenian National Center for Humanitarian Demining.
- ITF and other mine action centers and/or government agencies for mine action in SE Europe and Azerbaijan are members of the South-East Europe Mine Action Coordination Council (SEEMACC); UNMIK/EOD Management Section (the province of Kosovo, Serbia), CTRO - Center for Testing, Development and Training (Croatia) and the SE European MDDC – Mine Detection Dog Center (Bosnia) have been granted observer status.



3. Partners and Implementing Agencies/Organizations

- ITF has been developing and maintaining sincere and constructive relationships with all relevant partners and implementing agencies in our geographic area of operation with particular emphasis on SE Europe as well as other mine-affected regions, such as the South Caucasus.
- In the field of mine action, ITF has been working together with various local and international NGOs, health care institutions, academic and research institutes, commercial enterprises as well as international peacekeeping forces (UNMIK, KFOR, EUFOR).
- Whenever possible, a tendering system is used to select non-commercial and commercial agencies/organizations for the implementation of various mine action programs and projects, in particular when it comes to mine/UXO clearance.

Partners and Implementing Agencies/Organizations:

Adopt-A-Minefield, NGO Mine and Weapons Victims Association, NGO BH Demining, Canadian International Demining Corps, Center for Testing, Development and Training (Croatia), CISEF, Cranfield University, NGO Croatian Mine Victims Association, Danish Church Aid, Elegant Design and Solutions, NGO ECO Sport Group, European Agency for Reconstruction, Georgian Technical University, GICHD, Global Training Academy, HALO Trust, Handicap International, HMD RESPONSE, Humpty Dumpty Institute, ICRC, International Campaign to Ban Landmines, International Children Institute, INTERSOS, James Madison University, Landmine Survivors Network, Marshal Legacy Institute, Mine Detection Dog Center (Bosnia and Herzegovina), NGO Emergency, Slovenian NGO Foundation Together, Norwegian Peoples' Aid, NGO Provita, Slovenian Institute for Rehabilitation, Red Cross of Slovenia, Rehabilitation Center Fojnica (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Saybrook Productions Ltd., SPEM, Spirit of Soccer, Standing Tall Australia – International Rehabilitation & Research Support Services Ltd., NGO STOP MINES, Survey Action Center, Swiss Foundation for Mine Action, UNA Trust, UNICEF, UNDP, UNMAS, UNOPS, Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation and commercial demining companies.

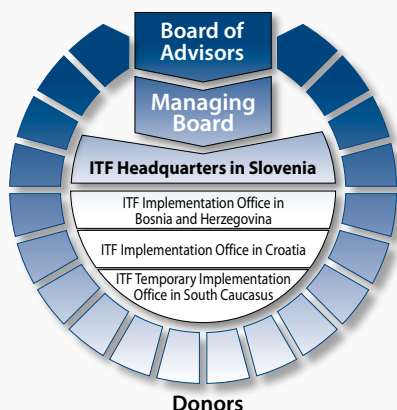
4. International Mine Action Environment

- ITF activities are planned and implemented in cooperation and coordination with the international organizations involved in mine action, conflict rehabilitation and development such as the UN family and OSCE.
- ITF actively and regularly attends various national, regional and international conferences and meetings on mine action activities – such as meetings of States Parties to Ottawa Convention and meetings of the Mine Action Support Group. By participating at these events ITF is ensured insight into the global mine action policies and an overview of the global mine action efforts.
- ITF has signed a partnership agreement with the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS). The latter serves as the UN focal point for mine action.



General Information and ITF Structure

ITF Structure



Address: **International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)**
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Email: ljubljana@itf-fund.si
Website: <http://www.itf-fund.si/>

Donate and Help

If you would like to make a contribution, please contact us through our website at www.itf-fund.si or send us your donation by depositing funds into the following bank account:

Nova Ljubljanska Banka
Trg Republike 2, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia
Account number: 02922-0051268569
VAT Number: SI43836127
SWIFT: LJBASI2X
IBAN: SI56029220051268569

Reference List of Supported Projects and Programs

Please find the list of ITF references on our website at <http://www.itf-fund.si/>.

Future Focus

- Fulfilling the commitment to put a stop to the mine problem in the region of SE Europe.
- Geographic expansion of our area of operation to provide assistance to other mine-affected regions.
- Maintaining the level of donations in order to complete the work in line with the time schedules specified in the mine-affected countries' national mine action plans.
- Providing donors with value added projects and programs, which will enable the rehabilitation and development of mine/UXO affected communities in a cost-effective and sustainable manner.
- Fostering a regional approach in addressing the mine problem in SE Europe, and furthering and promoting the adoption of a regional approach in other mine-affected regions.

THE USE OF THIS LAND TO THE LOCAL INHABITANTS. ONCE THE LAND HAS BEEN CLEARED IT IS THEN FREE TO BE USED. A LARGE PLOT OF LAND MAY BE DENIED TO THE LOCAL INHABITANTS BY ONLY A FEW LANDMINES, THEREFORE THE AREA CLEARED IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE NUMBER OF LANDMINES FOUND. HOW DO YOU LOCATE A MINE? THE MOST COMMON METHOD WILL BE A DEMINER USING A METAL DETECTOR. A DEMINER WILL USE A METAL DETECTOR AND A VARIETY OF OTHER TOOLS, QUIET OFTEN-SIMPLE GARDENING TOOLS. THE DETECTOR WILL INDICATE THE PRESENCE OF METAL IN THE GROUND. EVERY METAL INDICATION GIVEN BY THE METAL DETECTOR NEEDS TO BE CHECKED IN CASE IT'S A MINE. SO THE MORE METAL FRAGMENTS THERE ARE, THE MORE TIME IT MIGHT TAKE. THE DEMINER WILL THEN MARK THIS SPOT PRIOR TO EXCAVATING ON THAT LOCATION USING A PROBE AND EXCAVATION TOOLS. IF HE OR SHE FINDS A LANDMINE, A SUPERIOR WILL BE INFORMED. DO ALL MINES CONTAIN METAL? NO, THERE ARE SOME THAT DO NOT CONTAIN ANY METAL AT ALL. SO HOW DO YOU CLEAR MINES WITHOUT METAL IN THEM? THE DEMINERS WILL HAVE TO CARRY OUT A 100% EXCAVATION OF THE AREA; OR DOGS MAYBE USED IN SUCH AREAS. WHO ACTUALLY CLEARS THE MINES? IN MOST CASES DEMINERS WILL BE VOLUNTEERS FROM THE LOCAL COMMUNITY, HOWEVER SOMETIMES THEY ARE DEMOBILISED SOLDIERS. THESE PEOPLE WILL MAKE UP THE NATIONAL STAFF EMPLOYED BY MINE ACTION ORGANISATIONS. ALL ORGANISATIONS THAT ADOPT-A-MINEFIELD (UK) FUNDS EMPLOY NATIONAL STAFF, BOTH IN OPERATIONAL ROLES AND OPERATIONAL SUPPORT. MINE CLEARANCES ORGANISATIONS ARE COMMITTED TO CAPACITY BUILDING OF LOCAL STAFF; PROVIDING MANAGEMENT TRAINING NATIONAL STAFF, SO THAT THEY CAN ONE DAY RUN THE PROGRAMME WITHOUT THE PRESENCES OF INTERNATIONAL STAFF. MINES IN CAMBODIA, ARE A CAMBODIAN PROBLEM; IT IS THE KHMER PEOPLE, FAMILY, FRIENDS WHO ARE AFFECTED BY LANDMINES. WHAT DO THEY DO WHEN THEY FIND A LANDMINE?

ARE YOU WILLING TO HELP?



INTERNATIONAL TRUST FUND
for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance