Islamic Republic of Mauritania

Article 4 CCM Extension Request Template

A. Executive Summary

1. **Duration of the proposed extension:**
   a. The proposed extension period is from 01 August, 2026 to 01 August, 2028.
   b. If it's the second/third/ extension requested, please mention. It's the third extension request
2. **Rational and resource mobilization:**
   a. The proposed extension is necessary because

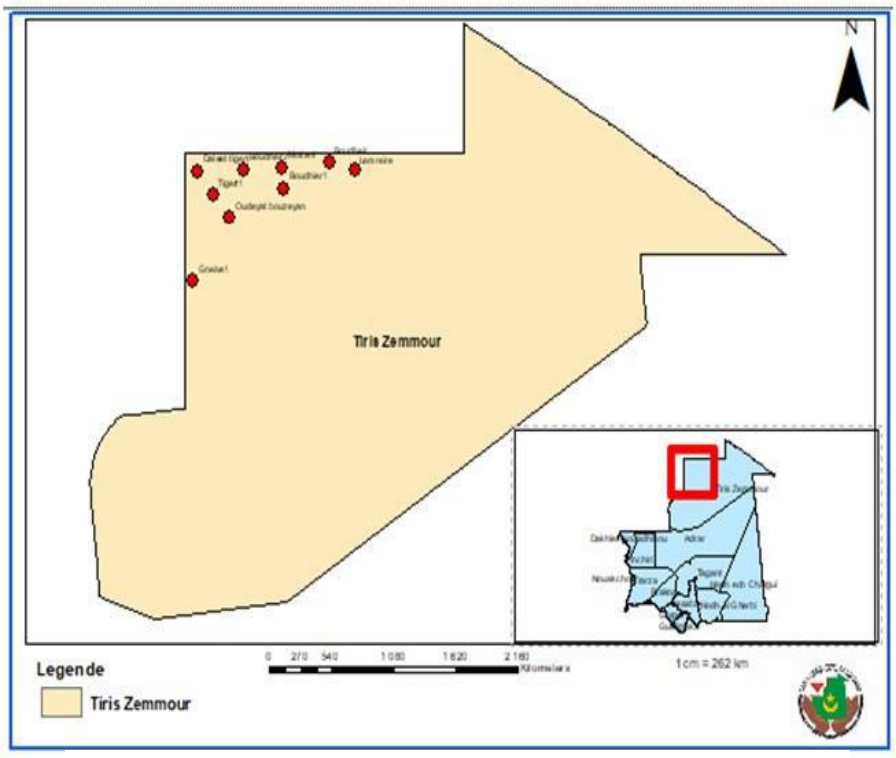
The PNDHD has received limited international financial support for the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) activities. While Mauritania initially declared completion in 2014, previously unknown cluster munition (CM) contamination was discovered in the country's far north in 2019.

Significant time was dedicated in 2020 and 2021 to conduct the initial survey work and estimate the remaining contamination. The joint assessment mission conducted by the PNDHD and the Norwegian People's Aid (NPA) NGO to assess the newly discovered CM contamination was completed in March 2021.

To date, Mauritania is in need of international assistance to completely clear the CM contamination. Additional time will be required to mobilize support from the international mine action community for further technical surveys and clearance activities in the identified areas. Therefore, Mauritania anticipates that completing the clearance before the CCM deadline of August 1, 2026, will not be possible.

Unfortunately, Mauritania has not secured any funding from the international community since the one obtained from NPA in 2012-2013 allowing the clearance of a certain number of territories. The PNDHD managed to decontaminate a certain area using the state's own resources, but the fact remains that without international assistance, significant progress will not be achieved.

Map 1: Mauritania Administrative division



Map 2: Location of cluster munitions contaminated areas

b. The State Party has the following financial and technical means available for the clearance and destruction of all cluster munition remnants during the proposed extension:

Table 1: Financial and technical means available

Designation	Quantity	Observation
Financial means		
Mauritania will participate by providing 540 000 $		
Human resource		
Operational staff	23[1]	4 teams
Support staff	17	
Equipment		
Detectors	19	8 news/11 olds
Deminer's toolkit	18	8 news/10 olds
Operational Vehicle	03	
Ambulance	01	

Note: These material and financial resources are allocated to the various activities of the PNDHD.

c. The State Party is requesting assistance for the following financial, technical and material resources:

Table 2: Financial resources required

Line Item	2026	2027	2028	Amount(USD)
Human Resources	200,000	380,000	380,000	960,000
PNDHD salaries, perdiem (including engineers)	200,000	380,000	380,000	960,000
Operations	875,000	265,000	265,000	1,405,000
Vehicles	380,000	30,000	30,000	440,000
Detectors and Clearance material	25,000	5,000	5,000	35,000
Personal Protection Equipment, Uniforms	30,000	5,000	5,000	40,000
Camping other field equipment	200,000	15,000	15,000	230,000
Marking	100,000	100,000	100,000	300,000
Risk Education	140,000	110,000	110,000	360,000
Support and admin costs	260,000	165,000	165,000	590,000
Operational running costs	160,000	120,000	120,000	400,000
Overhead Costs	100,000	45,000	45,000	190,000
Total Project Costs	1,335,000	810,000	810,000	2,955,000
Mauritania Governmental Contribution	180,000	180,000	180,000	540,000
Total Resources to mobilize from the International community	1,155,000	630,000	630,000	2,415,000

Note: These costs represent an estimate made by the PNDHD based on its previous demining and decontamination operations and the context of the mined areas. However, the PNDHD remains available, and any funding obtained, even if below these figures, would allow operations to be carried out based on a specific study with the partner, including the possibility of adjustments; nothing is set in stone.

3. **Preparation of future work and the status of work already conducted under national clearance and demining programmes during the initial 10-year period and any subsequent extensions:**
   a. The State Party has developed a comprehensive plan for the clearance and destruction of all cluster munition remnants during the proposed extension period.

[1] 1 Chief operation, 1 EOD expert, 1 platoon leader, 4 team leader and 16 deminers

Table 3: Plan for the clearance and destruction of cluster munitions remnants during the proposed extension

#	Name of Area	m^2	Type of Contamination	Location	Clearance Duration estimated (days)	Method to be employ
1	Boudheir	20,556	Blu63	Tires Zemmour	12	Manual
2	Boudheir1	38,667	Blu63		23	
3	Boudheir2	243,147	Blu63		39	
4	Gneive	4,683,196	Blu63		150	
5	Lemriera	2,587,276	Blu63		110	
6	Motlani	120,365	Blu63		30	
7	Oudeyat Lekhyame	5,326,856	MK118		170	
8	Tigert	651,830	MK118		45	
9	Dhbeiyatt	807,502	Blu63		70	
10	Dhbeiyatt1	693,670	Blu63		52	
	Total	15,173,065			701	

b. Mauritania has completed 49,95% of the clearance and destruction of all cluster munition remnants discovered in areas under its jurisdiction or control since entry into force of the Convention.

4. **Total area containing cluster munition remnants at the time of entry into force of the Convention for that State Party and any additional areas containing cluster munition remnants discovered after such entry into force:**

a. At the time of entry into force of the Convention, the total area containing cluster munition remnants in areas under the jurisdiction or control of the State Party was **10,180,108m²**

Tableau 4: Total area containing cluster munition at the time of entry into force of the convention

#	NAME OF AREA	Initial 2012 SHA Size in m²
1.	AYDIYATT	180,108[2]
2.	AGHWACHIN	1,000,000
3.	BIR MARIAM	1,250,000
4.	DOUEIK	1,200,000
5.	GHARET EL HEMAID	1,850,000
6.	OUDEYATT BOUZEYAN	1,200,000
7.	OUM DBEIATT	1,000,000
8.	TIGERT	1,500,000
9.	WINIGHET	1,000,000
	TOTAL AREA	**10,180,108m²**

b. Since entry into force of the Convention, the State Party has discovered additional areas containing cluster munitions remnants of **16 869 114m².**

5. **Total area containing cluster munition remnants cleared since entry into force of the Convention (land release methodologies applied):**

a. Since entry into force of the Convention, the State Party has cleared a total of **11,876,157m²** containing cluster munition remnants.

[2]Indeed, this figure was not included in our previous reports due to the omission of the Aydiyatt, which covers an area of 180,108 m². This result stems from work carried out by NPA in 2013, indicating that 30,000 m² were cleared through technical survey and 150,108 m² through clearance operations.

6. **Total area containing cluster munition remnants remaining to be cleared during the proposed extension:**
   a. The total area containing cluster munition remnants remaining to be cleared during the proposed extension **15,173,065 m²**

7. **Circumstances that have impeded the ability of the State Party to destroy all cluster munition remnants located in areas under its jurisdiction or control during the initial 10-year period, and those that may impede its ability during the proposed extension:**
   a. The State Party has faced a number of challenges in clearing and destroying cluster munition remnants, including
   - Staff training
   - Acquisition of equipment
   - Resources to conduct risk education, decontamination, and victim assistance.
   b. The State Party is planning to overcome these challenges and continue its efforts to clear and destroy all cluster munition remnants by.
   - Mobilize funding from partners and donors.
   - Capacity building for the PNDHD:
   - Training
   - Equipment
   - Vehicles (acquisition of necessary vehicles for transportation)

8. **The humanitarian, social, economic, and environmental implications of the proposed extension:**
The proposed extension will have a number of positive humanitarian, social, economic and environmental implications for the State Party, including

The impact of cluster munition (CM) contamination in Mauritania is primarily observed through its social and economic consequences, resulting in restricted access to crucial community resources, such as pasture, and occasional livestock fatalities. The period from 2021 to 2024 witnessed a number of human accidents leading to injuries (7 injured, including two in 2024). Upon completion of the clearance process, released land is predominantly utilized for pasture by nomadic and semi-nomadic communities.
The accomplished clearance operations have fostered an environment conducive to socio-economic advancement in the initially affected province. These achievements encompass enhanced freedom of movement for nomadic communities to access grazing areas, a significant reduction in accidents caused by contamination, and expanded opportunities for mining research.
Several areas have already been cleared by the PNDHD. All these cleared areas now provide local communities freedom to move safely and engage in activities such as transportation, livestock farming, and others. No incidents have been reported in these areas since their clearance.
Ensuring inclusivity, gender sensitivity, and diversity are integral considerations within the program in Mauritania. Engaging all segments of the population, including men, women, boys, and girls, will be sought during the design and implementation of all activities.

9. **Provide full contact details of the national focal person with whom follow-up will be conducted:**
Name: Colonel Mouhamedou Baham Mohamed Laghdaf
Title: PNDHD Coordinator
Email: pndhdmrt@gmail.com
Phone Number: +222 20505015

B. Detailed Narrative

The State Party signed the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) on 19 April, 2010, ratified it on 1 February 2012, and the Convention entered into force for it on 1 August 2012.

1. **Total area to be addressed** at entry into force, as defined in Article 2, paragraph 11, and Article 4, paragraph 6.e was

Table 5: Total area to be addressed at entry into force

Num	NAME OF AREA	Initial 2012 SHA Size (m^2)
1.	AYDIYATT	1,80,108
2.	AGHWACHIN	1,000,000
3.	BIR MARIAM	1,250,000
4.	DOUEIK	1,200,000
5.	GHARET EL HEMAID	1,850,000
6.	OUDEYATT BOUZEYAN	1,200,000
7.	OUM DBEIATT	1,000,000
8.	TIGERT	1,500,000
9.	WINIGHET	1,000,000
	TOTAL AREA	**10,180,108 m^2**

Total area discovered since the entry into force in accordance with Article 4, paragraph 6.d is **27,049,222 m².**

Total new contamination including date of contamination since entry into force in accordance with Article 4, paragraph 1.b**n**

2. **Table6: Areas identified and addressed since entry into force through NTS, TS, and clearance**

N°	Name of Area	Size (m^2)	Identified through NTS (m^2)	Reduced through TS (m^2)	Cleared (m^2)	Year
1.	Aghwachin	1,000,000	1,000,000	648,707	351,293	2012-2013
2.	Aydiyatt	180,108	180,108	30,000	150,108	2012-2013
3.	Bir Mariam	1,250,000	1,250,000	1,080,600	169,400	2012-2013
4.	Daalet Teghert	345,703	345,703	243,000	102,703	2024
5.	Dhbeiyatt	1,587,276	1,587,276	779774	planned[3]	2025
6.	Doueik	1,200,000	1,200,000	941,018	258,982	2012-2013
7.	Gharet el hemaid	1,850,000	1,850,000	1,573,046	276,954	2012-2013
8.	Gneive1	392,998	392,998	29,050	363,948	2022
9.	Gneive2	177,574	177,574	96,300	81,274	2021
10.	Oudeyatt bouzeyan	1,200,000	1,200,000	887,376	312,624	2012-2013
11.	Oum dbeiatt	1,000,000	1,000,000	966,428	33,572	2012-2013
12.	Tigert	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,194,788	305,212	2012-2013
13.	Winighet	1,000,000	1,000,000	893,405	106,595	2012-2013
Total		**12,683,659**	**12,683,659**	**9,363,492**	**2,512,665**	

[3] 807,502 m^2 of Dhbeiyatt remain to be addressed after the technical survey, and the clearance of this area is planned for 2025.

3. Quantity and type of cluster munitions destroyed.

Tableau 7: Quantity and type of cluster munitions destroyed

Num	Location	Type	Quantity	Destruction method (if information is available)
1.	Agwachin	BLU63	28	DSP
2.	Aldouik	M42	347	DSP
3.	Ayadiyatt	MK118	06	DSP
4.	Bir Mariam	BLU 63	48	DSP (Destruction conducted on-site)
5.	Daalet tegert	MK118	29	DSP
6.	Eweineget	MK118	01	DSP
7.	Gharet El hemeid	MK 118	481	DSP
8.	Gneive2	BLU63	07	DSP
9.	Gneive1	BLU63	113	DSP
10.	Teghert	MK118	91	DSP
11.	Oum Edhbaitt	BLU63	200	DSP
12.	Oudeyatt bozeyan	M42 BLU63	23 21	DSP
	Total		**1395**	

4. Estimated **area remaining to be addressed (specify SHA, CHA)** in accordance with Article 4, paragraph 6.f

Tableau 8: area remaining to be addressed

Num	Location	Type of Hazardous Area	Confirmed Hazardous Area	Comments(Types)	Year planned for clearance	Type of activy
1.	Dhbeiyatt	CHA	807502	Blu 63	2025	TS - Clearance
2.	Dhbeiyatt1	SHA	693670	Blu 63	2025	TS - Clearance
3.	Bodheir	CHA	20556	Blu 63	2026	TS - Clearance
4.	Boudheir 1	CHA	38667	Blu 63	2026	TS - Clearance
5.	Boudheir2	CHA	243147	Blu 63	2026	TS - Clearance
6.	Gneive	CHA	4683196	Blu 63	2027	TS - Clearance
7.	Lemreire	CHA	2587276	Blu 63	2027	TS - Clearance
8.	El motlani	CHA	120365	Blu 63	2028	TS - Clearance
9.	Oudeyat lekhyam	CHA	5326856	MK 118	2028	TS - Clearance
10.	Tighert 1	CHA	651830	MK 118	2028	TS - Clearance
	Total	**15 173 065m²**				

Note: You will notice that 2025 has been included in this table, unlike the action plan on page 12. This is because, even without funding, the PNDHD plans to work in these areas during the year 2025. The

planned activities include the decontamination of Dhbeiyatt and the technical survey of Dhbeiyatt 1, using the state's own resources if no funding is secured.

5. **Amount of time requested**, in accordance with Article 4, paragraph 6.a:
   c. 1 August, 2026 to 1 August, 2028.

6. **Circumstances which impeded the ability** of the requesting State Party to fulfil its obligations, in accordance with Article 4, paragraph 6.g
   Mauritania has been unable to fulfill its obligations due to a lack of funding. It is important to note that the country has received limited assistance from the international community. Unfortunately, it is through such funding that Mauritania would be able to decontaminate these areas and meet its obligations. The PNDHD has managed to decontaminate certain areas using the state's own limited resources, but progress has been slow due to these constraints. With support from the international community, Mauritania could fulfil its obligations within the set deadlines. However, without this assistance, the PNDHD will continue its decontamination efforts, but it will take longer to fully meet the country's commitments. Moreover, the Program carries out decontamination efforts, but without funding, relying solely on state resources. The duration of the decontamination process could be estimated at around ten years, with one area being decontaminated per year.

Table9: WORKPLAN WITH MAURITIAN OWN MEANS

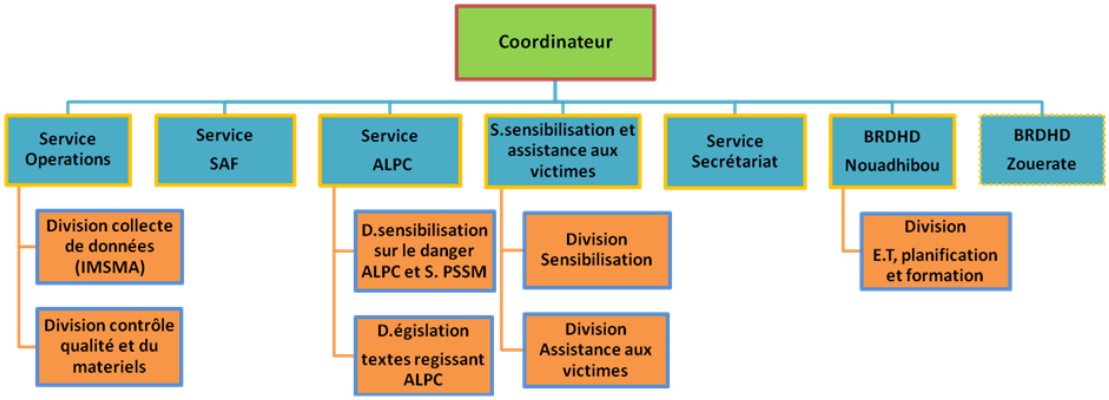
Activity	Responsible	2025-2027	2028-2030	2031-2032	2034-2035
Assessment and mapping of contaminated areas	Database manager		Update	Update	Update
Capacity building - Recycling	Operations department	Recycling	Recycling	Recycling	Recycling
Risk education	Technical teams	✓	✓	✓	✓
Technical survey	Technical teams	✓	✓	✓	✓
Clearance	Technical teams	✓	✓	✓	✓
Monitoring and evaluation	Quality management	✓	Update	Update	Update
Land release	Staff Local autority	✓	✓	✓	✓
Amount	1,800,000 USD	540,000 USD	540,000 USD	360,000 USD	360,000 USD

7. **National laws and standards in place? Info on national demining structure.**
   a. **National laws:** Law n° 2011-050 authorising the republic president to ratify the convention on cluster munitions.
   b. **National Mine Action Standards (NMAS);** and whether they based on the **International Mine Actions Standards (IMAS)**

In Mauritania, the clearance operations adhere to the Mauritanian Standards of Antimine Action (NOMAM), which align with the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) while being customized to suit the specific geographical and equipment-related conditions in Mauritania. The NOMAMs were developed and endorsed by the National Program for Humanitarian Demining and Development (PNDHD) and subsequently presented to the Government for approval in 2007. These standards undergo regular annual updates, incorporating valuable insights gained from field experiences. The revisions aim to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of clearance operations in Mauritania while maintaining compliance with international best practices outlined in the IMAS.
The PNDHD is led by an interministerial steering committee. This committee reviewed the standards for 2024. In its provisional schedule for 2025, an update of the standards is planned for June 2025. In

this context, the PNDHD is already in the process of revising its standards, which will ultimately be submitted to a partner for review.

c. National Demining Structure



Note: The regional office in Zoueratt is still a project, and the center has not yet been established. The PNDHD is still seeking a partner to secure funding for the establishment of this center, which is essential for the Program, as a large part of the PNDHD's interventions take place in this region.

8. Methodologies utilized are in compliance with international standards including IMAS in accordance with Article 4.3

(NTS, TS, clearance)

The methodologies used was developed by the PNDHD experts under the guidance of the Steering Committee. Developed methodologies are in line with international standards.

9. Annual projections of Cluster Munitions Remnants (CMR)contaminated areas to be addressed and by what method (NTS, TS, clearance), in accordance with Article 4, paragraph 6.b

Table 10: Annual projections

Number oh teams	Number of deminer per team	Daily capacity of a deminer in m^2	Daily capacity of a team in m^2	Observations
04	04	From 258 to 600	From 10,032 to 24,000	We would like to emphasize that the figures provided are preliminary, rough estimates and may not fully reflect the final clearance outcomes. The actual figures will depend on several factors, which have not been factored thus far as it would take time and resources to do so, including but to restricted to: the complexity and nature of the terrain, weather conditions, the density and type of contamination. These variables can significantly influence the pace and extent of clearance operations. Subsequently, this area was confirmed through a non-technical survey. During the technical survey, there is a strong likelihood that it will decrease. However, if funding is secured, the PNDHD will call upon the Military Engineering Corps, which can provide from 06 to 10 demining teams. This will help optimize personnel and daily productivity

Note: All decontamination operations carried out by the PNDHD include a technical survey to identify the actual contaminated area and ensure that the decontamination efforts are focused there. With reference to tables 9 and 10, where TS is not mentioned, it is important to note that all these areas have been identified by NTS.

Proposed Work Plan

Activities	2026					2027												2028							
	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Resource Mobilization / Identification of FTP / Advocacy/ Operators																									
Strengthening of the PNDHD's capacities & staff training																									
Non-technical survey																									
Technical survey																									
Risk Education																									
Clearance																									
Quality Assurance and Quality Control Activities																									
Establishment of Capacity to address residual risk																									
Finalization of database, reporting and documentation of results																									

Implementation period

Potential risk residual clearance

Activity planned in 2025

Activity	2025									2026						
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Resource Mobilization / Identification of FTP / Advocacy/ Operators																
Strengthening of the PNDHD's capacities & staff training																
Non-technical survey																
Technical survey																
Risk Education																
Clearance																
Quality Assurance and Quality Control Activities																
Establishment of Capacity to address residual risk																
Finalization of database, reporting and documentation of results																

Mauritania is requesting an extension period of two years in order to complete clearance of the newly identified confirmed hazardous areas.
To fulfil the obligations of the Government of Mauritania under the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM), the PNDHD will undertake a range of activities. These activities encompass clearance operations, non-technical survey (NTS), risk education, and marking.
The clearance operations will involve systematic and methodical removal of explosive remnants of war, including cluster munitions, from affected areas. This activity aims to mitigate the threat posed by these hazardous remnants and restore safety to the impacted regions.
The non-technical survey (NTS) will be conducted to assess and gather crucial information about the presence, extent, and nature of contamination. By employing a systematic approach, NTS enables targeted and efficient allocation of resources for subsequent clearance efforts.
Risk education will play a vital role in raising awareness among local communities and humanitarian actors about the dangers associated with explosive remnants, including cluster munitions. This educational component seeks to empower individuals to recognize, avoid, and report potential risks, thereby reducing the likelihood of accidents and injuries.
Marking contaminated areas with appropriate signage and indicators will be implemented to ensure their identification and avoidance. This marking activity serves as a visual reminder for both the local population and humanitarian workers to steer clear of these hazardous zones, contributing to their safety and well-being.
Through the implementation of these multifaceted activities, the PNDHD aims to achieve the Government of Mauritania's obligations under the CCM. These efforts underscore the commitment to promoting human security, safeguarding lives, and creating an environment free from the threat of cluster munitions, in alignment with the provisions of the international convention.

CLEARANCE

According to estimates, an initial mobilization period of three (3) months is anticipated to complete the necessary preparations. These preparations involve securing funding, assembling a skilled workforce, acquiring essential equipment, and allocating other required resources for the deployment of four (4) Battlefield Area Clearance (BAC) teams to address the remaining contamination. The composition of each BAC (Battle Area Clearance) team includes five members, consisting of four deminers who possess a minimum EOD1 capacity, and one team leader who holds either an EOD2 or EOD3 qualification. All deminers are affiliated with the PNDHD and have previous experience in the military Engineer Corps. If the need arises for additional personnel and sufficient funds are available, the PNDHD has the capability to request extra deminers from the military engineer corps, thereby allowing for a maximum management of seven (7) clearance teams. Operators can implement all humanitarian demining activities but priority will be given to the PNDHD and national deminers.
Once these four teams have been deployed, if the estimated amount of contamination remains the same, it will be possible to complete additional technical survey and clearance of the areas identified over the course of approximately 18 months. Implementation of activities will depend on the availability of fund to perform demining. An additional six-month timeframe will be allocated for the purpose of addressing any additional contamination that may be encountered during the demining process. This period will also be utilized for the finalization of reporting and documentation of the clearance activities, prior to the submission of the final completion report.
As the demining teams are formally affiliated with the Engineer Corps, the knowledge they acquire during ongoing operations with the PNDHD will greatly contribute to the effective management of future residual risks related to cluster munitions. This expertise will enable them to identify, handle, and mitigate potential risks associated with the presence of unexploded cluster munitions in the area. By leveraging their experience, the demining teams can employ best practices and implement appropriate measures to ensure the safety of the communities and minimize the long-term impact of residual risks. Their familiarity with the characteristics and behaviour of cluster munitions will enable them to develop comprehensive risk management strategies.
Discussions on how residual risk from cluster munitions will be managed will be conducted in collaboration with relevant authorities and stakeholders during the extension period. By engaging all key stakeholders, including local communities, experts, and international organizations,

comprehensive plans and strategies can be developed to address residual risks in a coordinated and effective manner. These efforts will prioritize the safety of the affected communities and support the long-term sustainable development of the region.

Below, a comprehensive working plan is provided, which outlines the estimated time required for each task/location identified. The calculations and estimations in the plan are based on informed assumptions derived from prior experience working in Mauritania.

In Mauritania, the clearance operations adhere to the Mauritanian Standards of Antimine Action (NMAM), which align with the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) while being customized to suit the specific geographical and equipment-related conditions in Mauritania. The NMAMs were developed and endorsed by the National Program for Humanitarian Demining and Development (PNDHD) and subsequently presented to the Government for approval in 2007. These standards undergo regular annual updates, incorporating valuable insights gained from field experiences. The revisions aim to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of clearance operations in Mauritania while maintaining compliance with international best practices outlined in the IMAS.

Note: Methods to be used to render CMR contaminated areas no longer dangerous, in accordance with Article 4, paragraph 6.b (ANNEX 1)

Table 11: Method to be used

Num	Localisation	Surface area in sqm	Types	Method employed
1.	Bodheir	20,556	Blu 63	Manual depollution Following the land release process (TS – Clearance – QC – RE) in accordance of the results
2.	Boudheir 1	38,667	Blu 63	
3.	Boudheir2	243,147	Blu 63	
4.	Gneive	4,683,196	Blu 63	
5.	Lemreira	2,587,276	Blu 63	
6.	El motlani	120,365	Blu 63	
7.	Oudeyat lekhyam	5,326,856	MK 118	
8.	Tighert 1	651,830	MK 118	
9.	Dhbeiyatt	807,502	Blu 63	
10.	Dhbeiyatt1	693,670	Blu 63	
Total		**15,173,065 m²**		

10. Financial, technical, material, personnel needs per year[4]

Financial requirements

Table 12: Financial requirements

Line Item	2026	2027	2028	Amount(USD)
Human Resources	200,000	380,000	380,000	960,000
PNDHD salaries, perdiem (inclus engineers)	200,000	380,000	380,000	960,000
Operations	875,000	265,000	265,000	1,405,000
Vehicles	380,000	30,000	30,000	440,000
Detectors and Clearance matérial	25,000	5,000	5,000	35,000
Personnal Protection Equipment, Uniforms	30,000	5,000	5,000	40,000
Camping other field equipment	200,000	15,000	15,000	230,000
Marking	100,000	100,000	100,000	300,000

[4] The PNDHD is continuously seeking partners through advocacy to support its efforts. In this regard, the Program collaborated with HAMAP HUMANITAIRE, particularly in demining, which led to the clearance of two minefields in the Dakhlet Nouadhibou region in 2023. In 2024, this collaboration continued and facilitated a technical study and the demining of part of a minefield. Unfortunately, operations were halted midway due to a lack of funding from HAMAP.
The Program also collaborates with MAG, which is currently conducting a technical survey and risk education in the Dakhlet Nouadhibou region.

Risk Education	140,000	110,000	110,000	360,000
Support and admin costs	260,000	165,000	165,000	590,000
Operationnal running costs	160,000	120,000	120,000	400,000
Overhead Costs	100,000	45,000	45,000	190,000
Total Project Costs	1,335,000	810,000	810,000	2,955,000
Mauritania Governemental Contribution	180,000	180,000	180,000	540,000
Total Resources to mobilize from the International community	1,155,000	630,000	630,000	2,415,000

Technical needs:

- Training
- Assistance

Table 13: Material requirements

Designation	Quantity	Observations
Operations		
Operational Vehicles	04	
Ambulance with medical equipment	02	
Water trucks	02	
Personal Protection Equipment	30	
Face shields	30	
Mine detectors	10	
Deminer kits	20	
Accommodation		
Electrogene Group	02	
Tents	10	
Prefabricated lodge	06	
Fridge	02	
Mobile split	10	
Kitchen equipment		
IT Equipment		
Computers	04	
Tablets	06	
Printer	02	
Photocopier	02	
TV	03	
Binoculars	10	
Furniture and equipment for operational camps		
Radio		

Table 14: Personnel needs

Num	Function	Number
1.	Coordinator	01
2.	Chief operations	01
3.	EOD Expert	01
4.	Data base manager	01
5.	Quality management	01
6.	Gender adviser	01
7.	Platoon leader	01
8.	Team leaders	04
9.	Deminers	16
10.	Medical personnel	02

11.	Drivers	05
12.	chef	02
13.	guardian	02
14.	Cleaner	02
Total		**40**

Table 15: Training program

Training course	Places	Observations	Estimated dates
IMAS and Conventions Training	10	Training	September 2026
IMSMA Core training	05	Training	October 2026
EOD 1	25	Refreshing	February 2026
EOD 2	08	Training	August 2027
EOD 3	03	Training	September 2027
QC - QA	05	Training	September 2027

11. **National financial resources** required, in accordance with Article 4, paragraph 6.b.
Currently, the Mauritanian state supports the PNDHD's activities with an amount of 180,000 USD/year.

Financial planning:
The PNDHD relies on its experience in the field of decontamination and its knowledge of the terrain, contaminated areas, and the environment to make estimates and determine the material and equipment needs.

Sustainability measures:
At the national level, the funds allocated to the PNDHD are integrated into the state's annual budget, while at the international level, the PNDHD is constantly seeking partners for a long-term agreement to enhance effectiveness. This portion, although very limited compared to the needs, still allows the PNDHD to decontaminate certain areas.

Financial accountability:
The PNDHD is a national program directed by an interministerial committee that ensures the proper functioning and diversity of the members of the steering committee, aiming to guarantee transparency regarding the use of funds. This committee holds periodic meetings for monitoring. The program produces regular reports on its activities, including achievements and action plans.

12. **Assistance needs incl. financial resources** required, in accordance with Article 4, paragraph 6.b

The State Party needs international assistance of 2,415,000 USD.

Table 16: Financial resources needed

Needs	Year1	Year 2	Year 3	Amount USD
Human resources	200,000	380,000	380,000	960,000
Operation	875,000	265,000	265,000	1,405,000
Support and admin costs	260,000	165,000	165,000	590,000
National allocation	180,000	180,000	180,000	540,000
Total international assistance required				2,415,000

13.Resource mobilization plan[5]

Despite the challenging international circumstances of recent years and the limited availability of national funding, the government of Mauritania has consistently allocated an annual contribution to the National Program for Humanitarian Demining and Development (PNDHD). This financial support has enabled the PNDHD to carry out essential activities in compliance with the obligations stipulated by the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM).

In 2024, an amount of $180,000 USD was allocated to the PNDHD, providing critical resources to fulfill its responsibilities. With this funding, the PNDHD successfully conducted clearance operations in two specific areas, namely Daaret Teghert (covering 345,703 m²) and a technical survey of Dhbeiyatt, reducing 779,774 m² of suspected contaminated land.

The allocated budget played a crucial role in facilitating the clearance of these areas, ensuring the safe removal of cluster munitions and contributing to the overall implementation of the CCM. Despite financial constraints, the Mauritanian government's commitment to maintaining this annual contribution underscores its determination to meet its obligations under the Convention and to promote a safe environment for its population.

In addition to clearance operations in Daaret Teghert and the technical survey in Dhbeiyatt, efforts were reinforced through the implementation of risk education campaigns and marking operations.

The current extension request for mine action activities in Mauritania requires a total budget of approximately 2,955,000 USD. Of this amount, Mauritania will allocate 540,000 USD (for the extension period) from the national budget, leaving 2,415,000 USD to be secured from external sources.

However, it is important to note that the international community has not yet provided the 1,765,000 USD of financial assistance anticipated in the previous extension request. This unmet funding component presents a significant challenge to the timely and comprehensive clearance of areas contaminated by cluster munitions.

Despite limited resources, Mauritania remains determined to contribute financially and in-kind to its mine action program, demonstrating strong political will.

The government, through the PNDHD, has provided demining teams, technical expertise, work equipment, support vehicles, regional offices, victim assistance, and logistical support.

International Assistance Requested

To complete the survey and clearance of identified cluster munition (CM) contaminated sites within the specified timeframe, $2,415,000 USD in external funding is required. The Mauritanian government and the PNDHD are seeking assistance from the international mine action community to mobilize these funds.

Mauritania plans to engage previous supporters, including Norway, Germany, the UK, France, and Japan. To this end, it proposes the establishment of a National Coalition, involving the government, interested donor governments, and international mine action NGOs.

This collaborative initiative would pool expertise and resources to complete demining operations and provide victim assistance. The National Coalition model has proven effective in other programs. Mauritania's efforts aim to ensure the comprehensive completion of its mine action program, promoting safety and security for its population.

Some PNDHD operations are already funded by foreign sources, contributing to global efforts in risk education, surveying, and clearance activities. For a detailed breakdown of the budget, please refer to the attached documentation.

Governmental Contribution

The government of Mauritania is committed to support the project by providing infrastructure and personnel. Staff members, primarily from the Corps of Engineers, will receive daily per-diems instead of regular salaries. The Corps of Engineers will also assist in transporting teams to remote areas by providing trucking services for fuel and water, especially in the northern regions of the country.

[5] PNDHD is in constant contact with several partners, including HAMAP, MAG, HALO TRUST, and the European Union, among others, to help secure funding for the mine action efforts in Mauritania. At the same time, the Program also relies on international meetings it participates in to establish connections with new partners or potential donors.

PNDHD personnel will actively contribute to the project, ensuring smooth implementation. They will be provided with office space and will take on responsibilities such as coordinating with national, local government, and military officials.

Resource Mobilization

Mauritania has initiated efforts to secure funding for its CM clearance program. These include:

- Presenting its extension request at future CCM meetings, highlighting existing gaps in implementation;
- Continuing outreach to international financial and technical partners and CCM States Parties in a position to provide assistance;
- Inviting partners with a presence in Mauritania to attend briefings on its humanitarian demining program;
- Regularly updating progress through its national website and the CCM's dedicated country page for transparency and accessibility;
- Providing updates during informal and formal CCM meetings and in its transparency reports.

Contingency Plan

Mauritania remains confident in its ability to meet its obligations within the proposed extension period but recognizes the need for alternative solutions if national and foreign donor support falls short. The option of requesting an additional extension remains open to ensure the successful completion of its CCM obligations. Based on Mauritania's own funds, the duration of the clearance is estimated at 10 years.

Justification for the Requested Extension

The PNDHD has received limited international financial support for CCM-related activities. While Mauritania initially declared completion in 2014, previously unknown cluster munition (CM) contamination was discovered in the country's northern regions in 2019.

A significant portion of 2020 and 2021 was devoted to conducting initial surveys and estimating the remaining contamination. A joint assessment mission between the PNDHD and the NGO "Norwegian People's Aid" (NPA) to evaluate this new cluster munition contamination was conducted in March 2021.

To date, Mauritania still requires international assistance to fully clear CM-contaminated areas. Additional time is needed to mobilize support from the international mine action community for further technical surveys and clearance operations. Therefore, Mauritania anticipates that it will not be able to complete clearance operations by the CCM deadline of August 1, 2026.

Monitoring and Evaluation:

For monitoring and evaluation, the PNDHD will carry out quality assurance missions. Periodic reports will also be produced to communicate the progress of the work.

14. **Humanitarian, social, economic and environmental implications** of the extension, in accordance with Article 4, paragraph 6.h

a. **Humanitarian implications**

The impact of cluster munition (CM) contamination in Mauritania is primarily observed through its social and economic consequences, resulting in restricted access to crucial community resources, such as pasture, and occasional livestock fatalities. The period from 2009 to 2023 witnessed a number of human accidents leading to injuries. Upon completion of the clearance process, released land is predominantly utilized for pasture by nomadic and semi-nomadic communities. Notably, Mauritania possesses substantial mineral deposits, which can be explored for development purposes following the successful clearance operations.

b. **Social implications**

The contamination of these lands is an obstacle to development and poses a threat to the safety of the population by restricting their freedom of movement. This extension would provide a new

opportunity; with the acquisition of funding, these lands could be decontaminated, allowing for their use and reducing the risk of accidents caused by Cluster Munitions. The clearance will enable populations to live in safe areas free from any accidents related to Cluster munitions. It will also contribute to social development by facilitating free movement and access to land for exploitation.
The removal of these explosive devices has multiple positive impacts.
First and foremost, it will enhance the safety of local populations who, along with their livestock, are at risk of accidents caused by these hazards. The presence of these devices also restricts people's freedom of movement.
Furthermore, these communities primarily rely on fishing, agriculture, livestock farming, and gold panning. This makes the land essential, either for direct exploitation or as passageways for transporters and herders leading their livestock to pasture. Clearing these lands will not only improve safety but also promote economic development by allowing these populations to carry out their activities without risk.
The environmental impact is also significant. In addition to harming people and livestock, these explosive remnants pose a threat to wildlife.
Finally, Mauritania has committed to decontaminating its territory to fulfill its obligations to the international community. Clearing these lands within the agreed timeframes will enable the country to meet its commitments.

c. Economic implications

Clearing these areas will contribute to development. Indeed, the presence of Cluster Munitions prevents the development and use of these lands, while the nearby populations mainly rely on livestock farming, transport, and agriculture. In addition to this, the contaminated areas are located in a mining region, which is one of the main industrial activities of the country.
As highlighted, landmines and Cluster munitions pose a significant danger to populations due to the accidents they cause, ranging from amputations to fatalities. At the same time, these explosive devices also act as an obstacle in areas where economic activities such as livestock farming, fishing, agriculture, gold panning, and transportation are well developed. With vehicles being the primary means of transporting people and goods, local populations remain exposed to this threat. In the preliminary phase, the PNDHD will conduct reconnaissance and meetings with local populations to gather information on gender dynamics, community impact, and environmental effects.

d. Environmental implications

Due to the low population density (0.22/sq mi) and the absence of permanent settlements in the Tires Zemmour area, there is currently no immediate requirement for decontamination in relation to environmental pollution. In accordance with international standards, waste sweeping operations related to hazardous waste will be conducted following each clearance.

e. Cross-cutting considerations

Ensuring inclusivity, gender sensitivity, and diversity are integral considerations within the program in Mauritania. Engaging all segments of the population, including men, women, boys, and girls, will be sought during the design and implementation of all activities. Striving for gender balance and diverse survey and battlefield area clearance (BAC) teams is a program objective, recognizing that attaining complete gender balance within the seconded staff from the Corps of Engineers might present certain limitations. The PNDHD actively integrates women into its activities, enabling them to participate in risk education campaigns, discussion groups, and international meetings. In 2024, two women were deployed in the field: one as a nurse and the other in logistical support.

f. Monitoring and mitigation

The PNDHD conducts monitoring through quality control missions. The PNDHD ensures rigorous monitoring of its operations through quality control missions, aimed at guaranteeing the effectiveness and compliance of the actions undertaken. These missions help assess adherence to demining and decontamination standards and identify potential improvements in the methods used.

In parallel, an impact study will be conducted to evaluate the concrete effects of the program's interventions on local populations and the environment. This study will rely on several approaches, including:
Discussions and exchanges with stakeholders (local authorities, economic actors, associations) to obtain feedback and identify any concerns or suggestions. An analysis of the socio-economic benefits of land clearance, particularly its impact on agriculture, livestock farming, fishing, and population mobility.
Through this monitoring and evaluation system, the PNDHD will be able to adapt its strategies and continuously improve the effectiveness of its interventions, ensuring the safety of populations and promoting the development of the affected areas.

g. **Research Studies Conducted**

In the preliminary phase, the PNDHD will conduct reconnaissance and meetings with local populations to gather information on gender dynamics, community impact, and environmental effects.

15. **Any other information** relevant to the request, in accordance with Article 4, paragraph 6.i

Other scenarios/ and inaccessible areas:

The contaminated region is characterized by difficult terrain and a desert climate, marked by extreme heat during certain times of the year. The PNDHD is committed to taking all necessary measures to overcome these challenges despite its limited resources.

Gender and diversity considerations:

Ensuring inclusivity, gender sensitivity, and diversity are integral considerations within the program in Mauritania. Engaging all segments of the population, including men, women, boys, and girls, will be sought during the design and implementation of all activities. Striving for gender balance and diverse survey and battlefield area clearance (BAC) teams is a program objective, recognizing that attaining complete gender balance within the seconded staff from the Corps of Engineers might present certain limitations.
The gender advisor contributes to the integration of women into the program's activities. They support teams in planning activities by ensuring that the gender aspect is considered and by promoting inclusion. The integration of this aspect is particularly important, especially in demining activities, but even more so in risk education, as it helps facilitate communication and dialogue with the affected populations.

National Mine Action Strategy Plan

Mauritania is requesting an extension period of two years in order to complete clearance of the newly identified confirmed hazardous areas.
To fulfil the obligations of the Government of Mauritania under the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM), the PNDHD will undertake a range of activities. These activities encompass clearance operations, non-technical survey (NTS), risk education, and marking.
The clearance operations will involve systematic and methodical removal of explosive remnants of war, including cluster munitions, from affected areas. This activity aims to mitigate the threat posed by these hazardous remnants and restore safety to the impacted regions.
The non-technical survey (NTS) will be conducted to assess and gather crucial information about the presence, extent, and nature of contamination. By employing a systematic approach, NTS enable targeted and efficient allocation of resources for subsequent clearance efforts.
Risk education will play a vital role in raising awareness among local communities and humanitarian actors about the dangers associated with explosive remnants, including cluster munitions. This educational component seeks to empower individuals to recognize, avoid, and report potential risks, thereby reducing the likelihood of accidents and injuries.

Residual contamination management

Given the vast and sparsely populated deserts in northern Mauritania, it has always been recognized that additional previously unknown contamination maybe discovered in the future. To effectively

tackle the residual risk, comprehensive discussions will be conducted with all relevant stakeholders, including those currently or potentially involved. The aim is for the PNDHD to develop a sustainable plan that can be implemented after the completion of clearance operations. Through inclusive engagement, Mauritania seeks to foster collaboration and ensure the establishment of a robust and enduring framework for managing residual risk. Even after clearing the newly identified areas, there is a possibility of new, currently unknown areas of cluster munition (CM) contamination emerging in the future. The Corps of Engineers will handle future residual risks, and the PNDHD will continue to enhance the capacity of this national entity to address any further contamination that may arise after completing the current CM tasks.

Mauritania is committed to maintaining and strengthening its in-country capacity to manage residual risk. If previously unidentified CM-contaminated areas are identified after the proposed deadline, Mauritania will take prompt action to accurately assess the extent of contamination and safely dispose of all discovered CM in line with international and national standards. Additionally, Mauritania will fulfill its obligations under Article 7 of the Convention by reporting any newly identified contaminated areas and sharing relevant information with stakeholders and States parties through formal and informal channels.

RISK EDUCATION

Picture 1: A PNDHD Community Liaison team during a Risk Education session

Risk Education is an initiative to reduce the risk of civilian casualties caused by CM. It involves providing information to the public about the dangers of CM and instructing people on how to identify, avoid, and reduce the risk of being harmed by these weapons. Risk education campaigns are most effective when they are carried out in locations where CM have been used, as this increases awareness and understanding of the issue. It is also important to ensure that the information provided is tailored to the age and level of understanding of the target audience, as this will help maximize the effectiveness of the campaign.

The PNDHD mobilizes its risk education teams to communities affected by the presence of cluster munitions. Each team consists of five (5) PNDHD personnel deployed at the community level. The training sessions are conducted in person, with a specific emphasis on school-aged children. Furthermore, community liaison officers provide training to local community focal points. This approach guarantees the continuity of message dissemination.

These risk education activities are carried out in various forms. Thus, the PNDHD conducts training sessions for trainers among the local population, particularly within associations and NGOs, to better disseminate the message. The program also organizes sessions in public places such as markets, schools, workshops, or any other gathering areas. Finally, during each campaign, awareness materials are distributed, including T-shirts, caps, notebooks, and posters. Additionally, signs with telephone numbers are displayed to allow people to contact the program in case of discovering explosive devices.

MARKING

Picture 2: A fixed marker indicating the presence of mines

In the context of humanitarian mine action, the marking of areas contaminated with explosive remnants of war, particularly cluster munitions, plays a pivotal role in the overall clearance process. By clearly demarcating and signifying these contaminated zones, local communities and humanitarian personnel are alerted to their presence, enabling them to avoid inadvertent contact and potential harm caused by CM. This proactive measure is crucial for ensuring the safety and protection of individuals within the affected areas.

Moreover, the act of marking a zone as contaminated with CM serves as a valuable source of information for humanitarian organizations engaged in clearance efforts. It provides essential data that aids in assessing the extent and severity of contamination within the specific area.

This information further facilitates the strategic allocation of resources and determination of appropriate measures required to effectively and safely clear the contaminated zone of CM.

Consequently, the act of marking contaminated areas with CM serves as a critical component in the comprehensive and systematic approach to humanitarian mine action. It not only safeguards lives but also contributes to the overall success of clearance operations by providing vital intelligence for planning and executing demining activities in a targeted and efficient manner.

Table 17: Victims data base

Region	Departement	Accident date	Type of ordonnance	Civilian - Military	Gender	Age	Status
Tires Zemmour	Bir Moghreine	11/26/2021	CM	Civilian	M	18	Injured
Tires Zemmour	Bir Moghreine	11/26/2021	CM	Civilian	M	17	Injured
Tires Zemmour	Bir Moghreine	03/20/2023	CM	Civilian	M	19	Injured
Tires Zemmour	Bir Moghreine	03/20/2023	CM	Civilian	M	48	Injured
Tires Zemmour	Bir Moghreine	06/12/2023	CM	Civilian	M	46	Injured
Tires Zemmour	Bir Moghreine	13/04/2024	CM	Civilian	M	23	Injured
Tires Zemmour	Bir Moghreine	12/06/2024	CM	Civilian	M	41	Injured

Table 18: Victim Assistance (VA)

Activities	*Description*	*Period*	*Needs*

- Orthopedic support for victims of cluster munitions - Integration of victims into active life	- Funding for income-generating activities - Psychological assistance - Integration of victims	*From 2020 to 2026*	Capacity building for the PNDHD (funding, equipment, and staff training) Acquisition of ambulances for the benefit of the PNDHD

Donors: past and present donors
Past donors: NPA
Present donors: n/a
Implementation Agencies: *Provide information on implementing agencies that are supporting your country to meet its obligations under Article 4 of the CCM.* [N.A]

16. Annexes

1. **Annex 1**: Battle Area Clearance (BAC) Methodology Summary
2. **Annex 2**: Picture of cluster munitions

ANNEX 1

Battle Area Clearance (BAC) Methodology Summary

Introduction
Battle Area Clearance (BAC) is the term used to describe a systematic search of an area contaminated by Explosive Remnants of War (ERW). BAC assets are an important component in any mine action operation. To be fully effective, BAC resources should be carefully managed and controlled to ensure that they are properly employed and that clearance is able to proceed safely, efficiently and effectively.

Aim
This chapter covers the minimum requirements for the conduct of BAC procedures by the Mauritania clearance teams. The aim of all activities is to release land that is confirmed to be, or suspected to be contaminated by ERW.

General Procedures
In general BAC methods are not used in an area with a threat from landmines. However, with appropriate risk management procedures or confirmation of the threat by technical survey, BAC methods can be used in areas contaminated with high-metal content landmines only.
BAC can be conducted in any of the following three (3) applications as described below (Visual Search, Instrument Aided Visual Search, Shallow Search) individually or in combination, depending on perceived threat, risk assessment and PNDHD requirements.

Surface Search Method
Visual Search is conducted as an effective method to locate surface ERW within an area with given boundaries.
Instrument Aided Visual Search is conducted as an effective method to locate surface and partially buried ERW within an area with given boundaries where vegetation and ground conditions may prevent an efficient visual search only. This method shall be assisted by the use of metal detectors/ locators.
The above two surface search methods are carried out in the same manner with the exception that the second method is assisted with metal detectors/ locators.

Subsurface Search Method
Shallow Search is conducted as an effective method to locate sub-surface buried ERW to a specified depth, normally 13cm, within an area with given boundaries. This method requires the use of metal detectors/ locators.

Procedures Surface Search Methods
Prior to searching the area, the BAC team should conduct the set up and marking of the search boxes/ areas.
The searchers should line up across the base line facing the area to be searched with the Team Leader (TL) suitably located to allow good command and control of the team. The surface search method should be conducted as a visual search or as an instrument aided visual search enabling a non-intrusive search of vegetation and other obstacles.
The search line shall progress forward and cover the full width of the defined search area. The search shall progress in a systematic manner to ensure that all the area is covered. Each searcher shall search the ground to the left and right and in front of him, ensuring overlap with the adjacent searcher. When reaching the end of the search area/lane, the search party should repeat the search until the whole area has been completed.
Start point and end point, left and right, for the search party shall be marked using flags, coloured small bags or wooden pickets. They shall be used as a guide for the search party ensuring a clear definition on what area that has been searched within the designated search area/box. The marking

will also aid the team ensuring that an appropriate overlap of a minimum of 1m is achieved throughout the search.
During the search, progressive marking may be used depending on the size of the search areas/ boxes, using the same marking material as for the start point. The search party should mark left-hand and right-right hand search perimeters. The marking should placed / inserted to the ground and be at a maximum every 15 m.
Any member of the search party, who identifies an ERW item and/or suspicious item, shall immediately stop, raise his hand and alert the remainder of the search party and the Team Leader. On hearing the alert, the remaining searchers in the party shall stop and stand still.
After an assessment by the Team Leader, the ERW shall be suitably marked and recorded before continuing with the search.
The ERW may be marked using a tall marker, in case the area is widely contaminated, with tape attached to it. The marker will be placed at a minimum 30 cm away from the item and the ground checked with an instrument before inserting the marker.
Once an area has been searched and all ERW located has been marked, the search party can move onto the next BAC search box/area.
Except for search instructions and on the identification of an ERW by one of the search party, searching shall always be carried out in complete silence.
Any number of working parties may be employed on an area provided that appropriate command and control is in place, and a minimum safety distance of 25m is maintained between each search party depending on the threat.
All items that have been located, investigated and identified should be either destroyed in situ or if determined safe to do so, moved to a central demolition site (CDS) for disposal.
Areas of thick vegetation or rubble that require an intrusive search shall be marked off and addressed at a later stage with an appropriate search method.
Procedures Subsurface Search Methods

Shallow Search Method
Shallow Search is normally subsequent to a visual search however, there may be situations whereby a site may not be first subjected to a visual search but may go directly to a shallow search. This may be dependent on the perceived threat.
The method used to conduct a shallow search should depend upon the location of the task and the ERW threat, i.e. built up areas, cultivated areas or open ground. The method employed should ensure that each search/clearance lane and/or box is systematically searched and all readings are investigated.
Search boxes/areas may be subdivided into search lanes with ropes, pickets and/or tape depending on the type of metal detector/ locator to be used.
Searchers should operate in search parties as per surface search procedures or individually.
When operating as individuals, searchers should be assigned a box/ lane where he should carry out the instrument search. Each searcher should be responsible for the movement of the box/lane marking ropes.
The lane should be marked with two lines 1m apart to a maximum of 50m in length, depending on the terrain. The lanes should be searched using a designated instrument/locator. On the completion of each lane, the left hand line (if search direction is to the right) should be moved over the right hand line by 1m to create the new working lane.
On completion of each lane, the searcher should close the lane with two crossed red-topped pickets or two rocks to indicate the boundary between cleared and un-cleared areas.
If the detector/ locator gives no signal, the searcher should progress along the 1m lane at a slow walking pace until he reaches the end of the lane at which point he should search a 1m wide overlap parallel to the base line and insert a peg 1m from the last. He should then move the left hand rope over the right hand rope and attach it to the peg. He should return to the base line through the cleared lane and move the left hand rope over the right rope on to the next peg whereby creating a new search lane. This procedure should be repeated until the box has been completed.
If the detector gives a signal, the searcher should investigate the signal and carry out investigation drills as per the Mauritania SOP for Manual Demining and apply the appropriate level of PPE.

All searchers in adjacent boxes should work in the same direction across the search box to maintain safety distances. The Worksite Supervisor or the Team Leader shall ensure that the minimum safety distances are maintained at all times.

If an ERW is confirmed during the investigation drill, it shall be marked in accordance with NPA procedures. The searcher should report the find to the Team Leader, who should confirm the type of ERW and ensure that the appropriate action is taken.

All items located, investigated and identified as ERW should either be destroyed in situ or if determined safe to do so, moved to a central demolition site (CDS) for disposal.

Investigating a Contact During BAC Search Methods

To investigate a reading/signal, a searcher equipped with a handheld detector (sensitivity set according to target) shall pinpoint the signal and investigate the indications. A minimum safety distance to other personnel should be applied based on the perceived threat.

In general, when unexploded munitions are encountered during BAC search operations, they have already malfunctioned and usually have a high metal content, on or near the surface and constitute less of a hazard than mines. A thorough risk assessment shall be made by the Operations Manager or Worksite Supervisor on what type of explosive ordnance could be encountered when investigating indications.

ANNEX 2

Pictures of cluster munitions funded this year