OSCE Office in Tajikistan

Case Studies in Cooperation 1: Tajikistan

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Role of the OSCE - As a Political Organization

OSCE is NOT a demining NGO
OSCE is NOT a mini-MAC

OSCE is a Political Organization that works within an agreed national mandate.

OSCE’s capacity as a Political Organization
- Interpretation of supporting demining as a CSBM.
- Encourage States to address AP mine problems
- Encourage the creation national capacities and national policies on dealing with land mine contamination.
- Encourage and support regional Mine Action cooperation.

Not to duplicate efforts of other organizations……Is there OSCE added value?
Role of the OSCE – Internal support

**OSCE Internally**
- Integrate a mine clearance component in existing/proposed OSCE projects/strategies.
  - SALW and CA
  - Borders (C. Asia)
- Development of a demining section
  - Provide institutional memory
  - Project continuation – Combating AP mines is a long term commitment
  - Mine Awareness for OSCE field presences)

Utilize OSCE members technical toolbox
- National capacity support.

OSCE Transition Strategy Mine Clearance OiT

Move from support for INGO towards: Supporting Tajikistan in meeting its obligations as a Signatory of the Ottawa Treaty. (CSBM)

- Direct Support for existing National Capacities.
- Direct Development of needed National Capacities.
  - Ministry of Defence humanitarian mine clearance and survey capacity
  - Border safe area mapping
- OSCE value added activities as a (regional) political player.
  - Regional Engagement
- Mine Action support for other OSCE supported activities
  - Borders management and security
Activities 2009 and 2010

Projects 2009:
- UB
  - MoD Tech Survey Teams - National Capacity Building
  - Regional Engagement Phase 0 (Consultation phase)
- ExB
  - Mapping and marking OSCE border support.
    > Production Area patrol maps
    > Verification MIF's through Tech Survey
    > MRE/MFE Instruction

Projects 2010:
- UB
  - MoD Tech Survey Teams - Operational support
  - Management & Operational Support for MoD Mechanical Ground Prep Tool.
  - Regional Engagement Phase 1 (Planning phase)
- ExB
  - Regional Engagement
    > Phase 2 (Implementation Phase)
  - Mapping and marking OSCE border support.
    > Production Area patrol maps
    > Verification MIF’s through Tech Survey
    > MRE/MFE Instruction

National Capacity Building MoD Eng. BATT.

- **Objective:**
  Ensure that Tajikistan develops a national capacity to conduct mine clearance activities according to IMAS standards.

- **Rationale:**
  Tajikistan will be clearing mines for decades to come, (Tajikistan is not Kosovo or Georgia etc), there is already a sense of donor fatigue.
Afghan Border Mine Fields

Scenario:
- 607 known mined areas.
- 242,000 AP mines.
- Contaminated area 11,000,000m²

Effect:
- Non-patrolled “cordon sanitaires” do not provide security.
- Larger area is denied to border enforcement activities due to lack of institutional knowledge of mine field location.
- Non-patrolled mined area provides “safe” infiltration/exfiltration zone for illegal cross border activities.
Mapping and Marking Tajik/Afghan Border: 3 Phases/Tasks

Objectives:

- O1: To create a safer border environment in support of operational border management activities.
- O2: To create an operationally feasible environment in support of operational border management activities.
- O3: To obtain a comprehensive picture of the antipersonnel mine contamination along the Tajik-Afghan border.
- O4: To create a national capacity to conduct minefield mapping and minefield technical survey.

3 Phases:

- Collation of tentative area patrol maps.
- Verification and marking of known mined areas
- MRE and Minefield Extraction training for relevant personnel.

Costs for Initial 15 months:

- Euro 355,000 (3 phases)

PREPATORY of MECHANICAL TECHNICAL SURVEY

Phase 1: Collation Safe Area Patrol Maps

Production of accurate area border patrol maps depicting delineation of safe and hazardous areas. This will result in a safer operational sphere for operational border personnel by providing accurate clarification between hazardous and safe areas along parts of the Tajik-Afghan border.

Task 1.1: Define, through liaison with State Committee on Borders, areas of responsibility for border units in regards to physical patrol and observation in border segments.

Task 1.2: Sort all 667 minefield sketches into various defined patrol areas.

Task 1.3: Collate all minefield sketches into draft area maps.

Task 1.4: Verify and mark reference points on the ground indicated in maps.

Task 1.5: Brief Technical Survey teams on indicated mined areas and hand over copy of draft maps.

Task 1.6: Analyse results from technical survey.

Task 1.7: Draft final version of area patrol maps accurately defining the boundaries of safe and hazardous areas indicating all benchmarks, reference points, and minefield marking.

Task 1.8: Enter information and maps into the International Management System for Mine Action in Tajikistan.

Task 1.9: Distribute Maps as required.
Phase 2: Verification and Marking

Technical Survey of recorded mined areas along the Tajik/Afghan Border. This will verify the accuracy of the military minefield sketches and enable the safe emplacement of durable and visible marking features on the turning points of investigated mined areas. The result of this activity will enable the production, through physical verification, of accurate area minefield maps.

Task 2.1: Procurement of equipment.
Task 2.2: Training and preparation of Technical Survey Teams.
Task 2.3: Operational deployment to the Tajik/Afghan border.
Task 2.4: Technical Survey of recorded mined areas with support of Mine Detector Dog Teams/Mechanical Asset.
Task 2.5: Placement of durable and visible minefield marking indicating the true extent of investigated and proven mined areas; including reference points and benchmarks.
Task 2.6: Provide Mapping team with accurate coordinates of the extent of investigated and proven mined areas.

(€ could be greatly reduced through comprehensive mechanical package).

Phase 3: Mine Field Extraction and MRE.

The provision of a comprehensive and Mine Risk Awareness and Mine Field Extraction courses for Border Guard Troops and related supervisory staff. (Also Within OSCE Border Staff College) This will ensure an increased awareness of the threat in their respective operational areas and provide border protection personnel with the knowledge on how to deal with an emergency mine field situation.

Task 3.1: Procurement of equipment.
Task 3.2: Training and preparation of MRE Team.
Task 3.3: Liaise with mapping and Technical survey teams.
Task 3.4: Operational deployment to the Tajik/Afghan border guard posts and Border Guard staff college in Dusharbe.
Task 3.5: Team conducts mine risk awareness, mine field extraction and basic emergency mine blast/shrapnel trauma first aid courses.