



Overview & Article 5 Implementation Clearing Mined Areas

**Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention: Twenty Second Meeting of States
Parties (22MSP), Geneva, Switzerland**

National Mine Action Center (NMAC)
Ministry of Housing, Construction and Water Supply



Vision & Mission



Vision

Women, girls, boys and men thrive in a mine free Sri Lanka where explosive ordnance (EO) victims are fully integrated into society and have their needs met.

Mission

To coordinate and implement mine action in line with international good practice to facilitate sustainable development and achieve completion.



Sri Lanka acceded to the
Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention
(APMBC) on 1 June 2018, officially
becoming a State Party to the convention



**PARLIAMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC
SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF
SRI LANKA**

**PROHIBITION OF ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES
ACT, No. 3 OF 2022**

[Certified on 17th of February, 2022]

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Sri Lanka Mine Action Completion Strategy 2023- 2027



Launched the Sri Lanka Reviewed Strategy on 28 August 2025 with the participation of the Hon. Minister and all international and national stakeholders in Sri Lanka, in collaboration with the GICHD, to support achieving Sri Lanka's Article 5 obligations



Survey & Progress



Completion Survey Launched in 2023

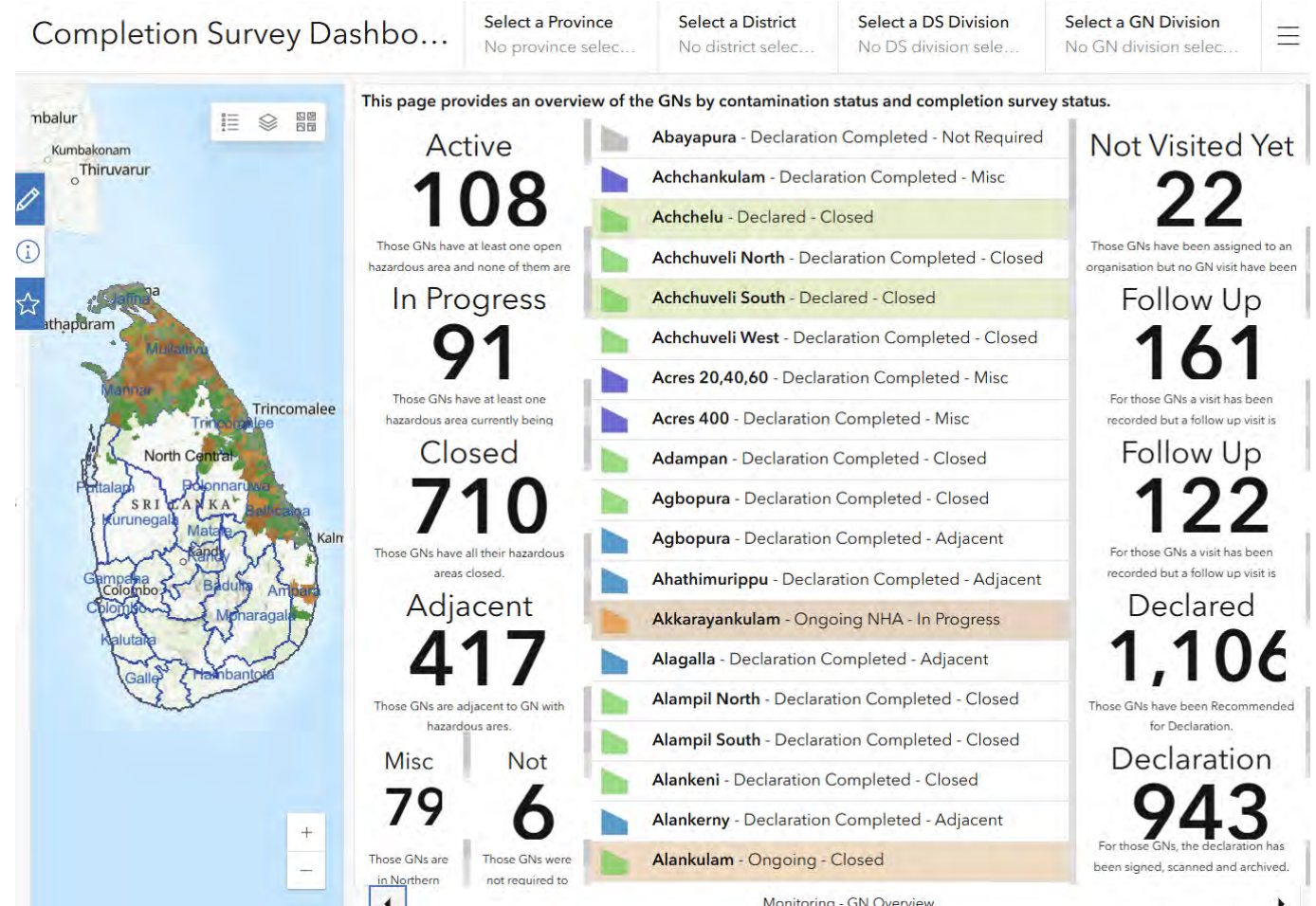
- Coverage: **11 Districts** (8 districts in the Northern and Eastern Provinces, & 3 adjoining districts)
- 1,411 Grama Niladhari Divisions assessed (The smallest administrative boundary)
- As of Today, **1,106 (78%)** recommended for declaration as a mine- and EO-free and endorsed declaring **943 (66%)** by the Government
- Remaining undergoing verification



Decision Support for Article 5 Implementation



This approach is a **scientifically designed, more accountable, and transparent system** developed by the GICHD on the IMSMA Core platform. It displays **IMSMA Core dashboard** that enable close monitoring from the bottom to the top levels, supporting Sri Lanka in achieving its **Article 5 obligations**





11 District Contamination & Mine Free Declaration Map



Strategic Plan

2025

Puttalam, A'Pura & Pollonnanruwa

2026

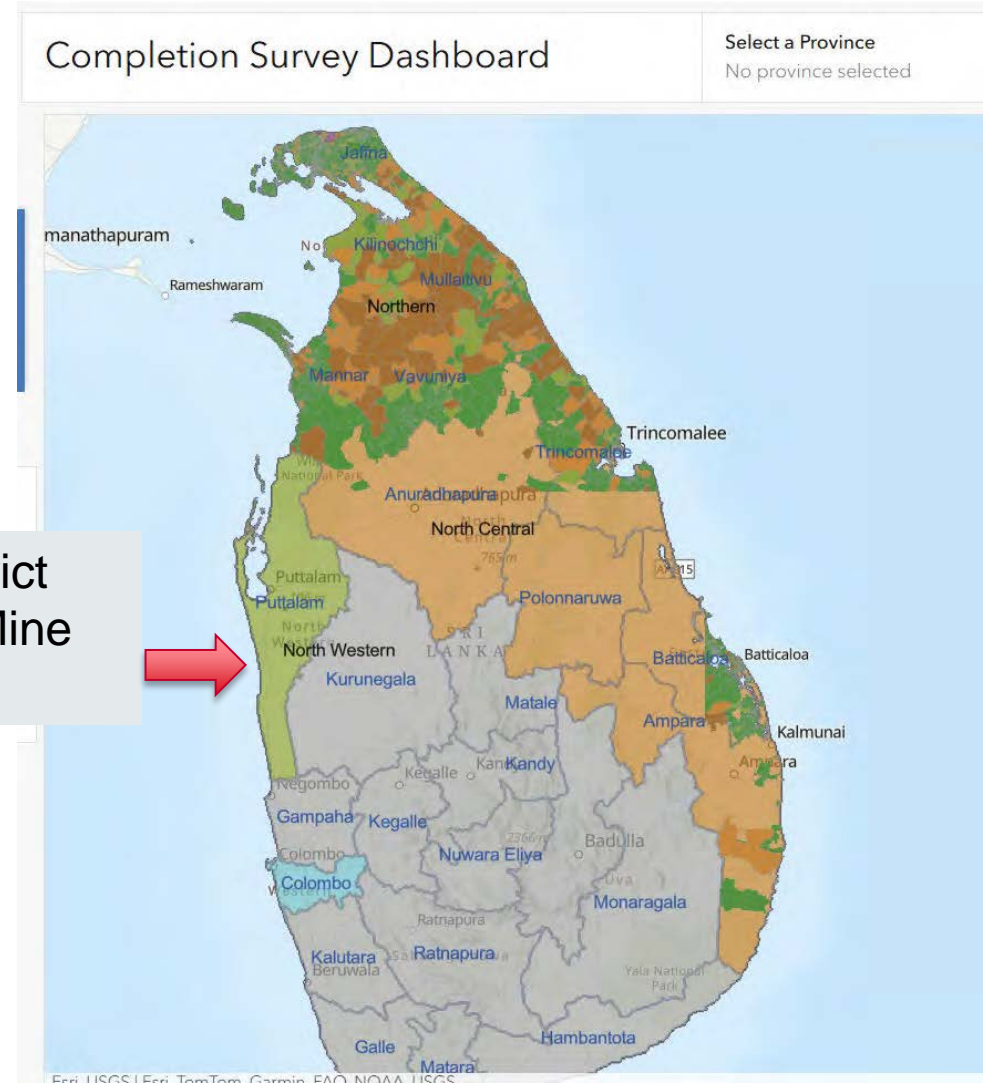
Trincomalee & Ampara

2027

Jaffna & Batticaloa

7 Districts and 3 Provinces will be declared by 2027

Puttalam District Declared as Mine and EO free





Contamination and Clearance



Contamination Identified and Addressed

Since September 2023:

- **8 km²** of previously unknown contamination identified
 - **12 km² released** via clearance, survey & cancellation
 - Direct benefit to communities: agriculture, housing, infrastructure

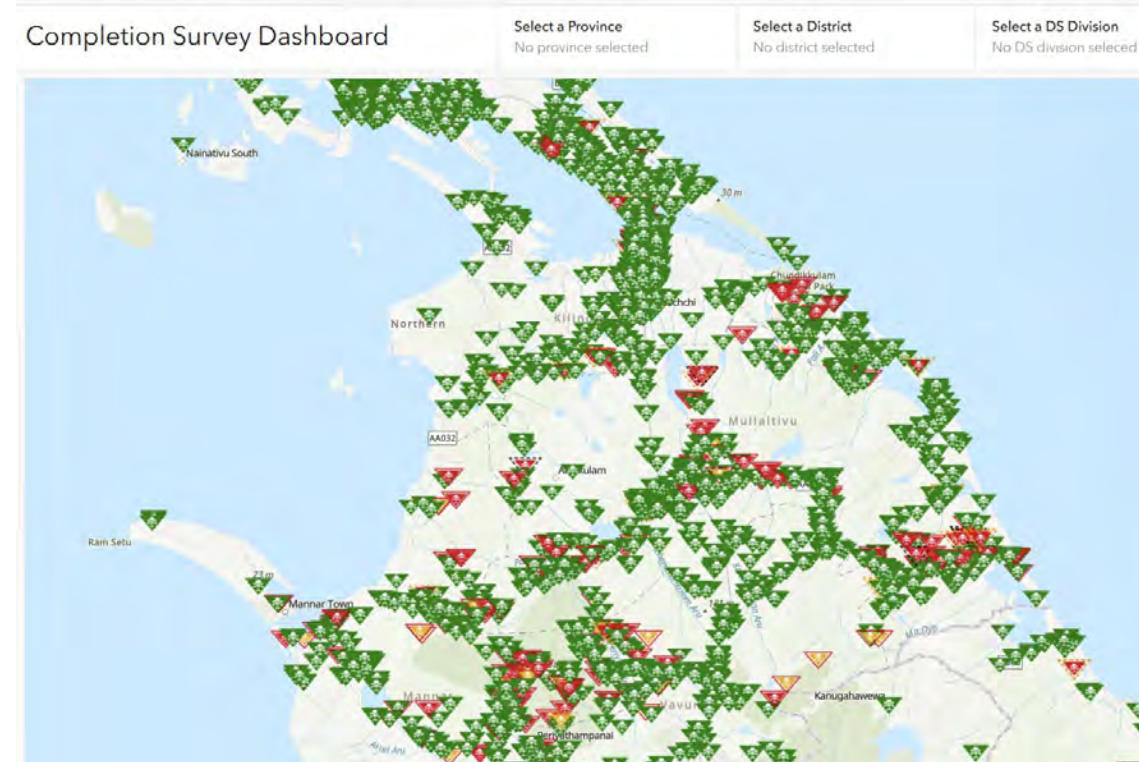


Challenges in Mine and EO Remaining Contamination



15 Nov 2025 – 22.1 km²

- **22.1 km²** of remaining contamination requires further survey and clearance activities.
- While priority districts are progressing, **other districts will only be completed beyond 2027.**
- Updated planning and resource allocation will be required to meet new **timelines.**



Mullaitivu 13.9 M2 (62%) , Mannar 2.9 (13.1%), Vavuniya 1.9 (8.8%), Kilinochchi 1.65 M2 (7.49%)



How Demining Transformed Sri Lanka-Overall Impact



Progress Since 2010

- Total land released: 1,302 km²
- Safe return of over 918,980 internally displaced persons (IDPs)
- Supports restoration of public services and economic recovery in post-conflict regions



Demolished items



Neally 1,000,000 landmines cleared

Anti Personal Mine (AP)	Anti-Tank Mine (AT)	Un Exploded Ordnance (UXO)	Small Arms Ammunition (SAA)
9,76,370	2,318	386,488	1,325,375



Demining as a Driver of Development



- Clearance directly enabled major infrastructure
 - Jaffna railway station & rail line
 - A9 highway reconnecting North–South
 - Sangupiddy Bridge linking Jaffna & Kilinochchi
 - Tourism expanding north; Jaffna named a Lonely Planet Top 25 Destination (2026)
-
- Safe land allows forest management, biodiversity recovery, and sustainable land use



Kopay division before clearance



Nagarkovil village before clearance



Kopay division after clearance



Nagarkovil village after clearance

Source : Mine Advisory Group (MAG)

Muhamalai



Kokavil communication tower



Rice bowl



Madu church





Key Findings, Challenges & Political Commitment



Current Challenges in Implementation

- Remaining challenge contamination area : 22.1 km²
- Emerging new contamination
- Funding shortfalls



Key Findings, Challenges & Political Commitment



Key Findings

Due to unknown or newly identified contamination and declining donor financial resources, it will not be possible for Sri Lanka to meet its Article 5 obligations by the current deadline of June 2028

Operational Challenges:

Unknown contamination, funding gaps, and limited operational capacity continue to delay progress.

Next Steps

- As stated in the reviewed National Mine Action Strategy, Sri Lanka will submit an Article 5 extension request by March 2027 based on ongoing progress and resources
- Strengthening operational planning, resource mobilization, and technical capacity will remain priorities.



Path to a Mine-Free Sri Lanka by 2030



- GoSL increasing national funding: **LKR 70M → LKR 150M (2026)**
- Donor support declining: **USD 18.5M (2023) → USD 14.9M (2025)**
- Additional **USD 3M/year** needed from 2026 to maintain momentum
- Completion of clearance will unlock **full economic potential** of the North and East



Official Handover of the Reviewed Sri Lanka Mine Action Completion Strategy (2025–2027)





Leadership and National Ownership in Sri Lanka's Mine Action Programme



Donor Appreciation



NMAC website launching :
www.slnmac.gov.lk



Awards Ceremony for Art Competition
Winners School in Northern Province



Ministerial Engagement at Operational Level



The Hon. Minister of Urban Development, Construction and Housing, conducted an official field visit to Mankulam in the Mullaitivu District on 24th April 2025



Conclusion and Way Forward



•Commitment to Mine Action

- Data-driven, community-centered approach despite challenges
- Continued support from donors, implementing partners, and technical advisors

•Sri Lanka's Full Commitment

- Upholds obligations under the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention
- Dedicated to a realistic, inclusive, and sustainable completion of Article 5 obligations



Donor Coordination, Technical Support, Strategic Planning & Information Management



GICHD

Geneva International Centre
for Humanitarian Demining



Donor Support for Mine Action in Sri Lanka





THANK YOU

