



This project is funded by the European Union.

EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE AND REMNANTS OF WAR DESTRUCTION (PROJECT EXPLODE)



Ministry of Defense
Bosnia and Herzegovina



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

osce Organizer for Security and
Co-operation in Europe
Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina

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1. PROBLEM WE TACKLE:

There are over 17,000 tons of military ammunition surpluses in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), much of which represents a high risk of uncontrolled explosion. This potential for explosion poses serious risks to civilians living in the proximity of the storage sites and to the soldiers who are guarding them.

Since 1998, explosions of this nature have been reported in more than a third of UN member states and on every continent except Australia and Antarctica. They occurred regularly, with an average of three incidents every two months over a ten year reporting period. Uncontrolled explosions are a safety hazard for the local population which can seriously impede their development prospects.

BiH is the only country in the region that has not had one of these incidents even though the ammunition stored is on average over 30 years old. Some of the BiH storage sites are close to the borders with Croatia, Serbia and Montenegro, so that an uncontrolled explosion may have a negative impact on the region as well. The low standards of safety in place at these facilities unfortunately contribute to the risks of such occurrences.



2. WHAT ARE WE DOING?

The Project EXPLODE develops and implements military logistical operations. Project EXPLODE supports the Ministry of Defense of Bosnia and Herzegovina efforts for improved munitions stockpile management aimed at prevention of uncontrolled explosion of old and unstable ammunition that could cause a humanitarian crisis.

The Project EXPLODE destroys high hazardous ammunition and complex weapons systems. It supports the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina to decrease its military ammunition stockpiles to manageable quantities. The Project conducts training for senior military officers and certifies ammunition specialists for ammunition life cycle management.

The Project EXPLODE implements construction engineering works to improve the safety and storage conditions at the military weapons and ammunition storage depots.

Project EXPLODE consists of three components:

- Component I* Ammunition Destruction and Demilitarization
- Component II* Development of Ammunition Control Capacities
- Component III* Munitions Stockpile Management

The lead organization for Components I and II of the Project is United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in BiH while the Component III will be implemented by UNDP in partnership with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Project EXPLODE is funded by the European Union (EU) in the amount of 3,85 million EUR for a period of 28 months.

The Project is a reflection of mutual efforts of other international organizations (NATO, EUFOR) and bilateral partners in BiH in disposal of munitions surpluses.

3. PREVIOUS RESULTS:

The Ministry of Defense of Bosnia and Herzegovina, with EU and UNDP support, disposed of over 10,500 tonnes of ammunition and 125,000 pieces of small arms and light weapons since 2006. Through this partnership, the Ministry successfully implemented a high hazardous munitions destruction project to include destruction of all known and reported quantities of cluster bombs, rockets and other cluster munitions. In 2010 2012 the capacities for ammunition disposal were doubled and high technology disposal machines were installed.

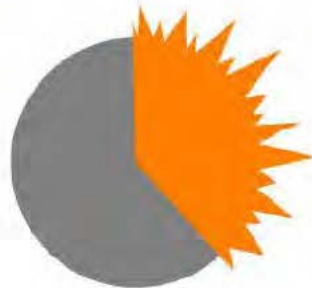
4. CALL TO ACTION:

The Ministry of Defense, UNDP and the OSCE call for expeditious disposal of all remaining unstable and hazardous munitions stockpiles through use of new technologies and application of the International Ammunition Technical Guidelines and rigorous safety standards.

Further improvement of weapons and ammunition storage depot conditions and continuous training of military personnel in physical safety and stockpile management will improve safety and decrease risks of accidental explosions at the storage sites. Through Project EXPLODE, the Ministry of Defense, with UNDP and OSCE support, will put significant additional efforts into mobilizing all capacities and capabilities in Bosnia and Herzegovina for disposal of ammunition.

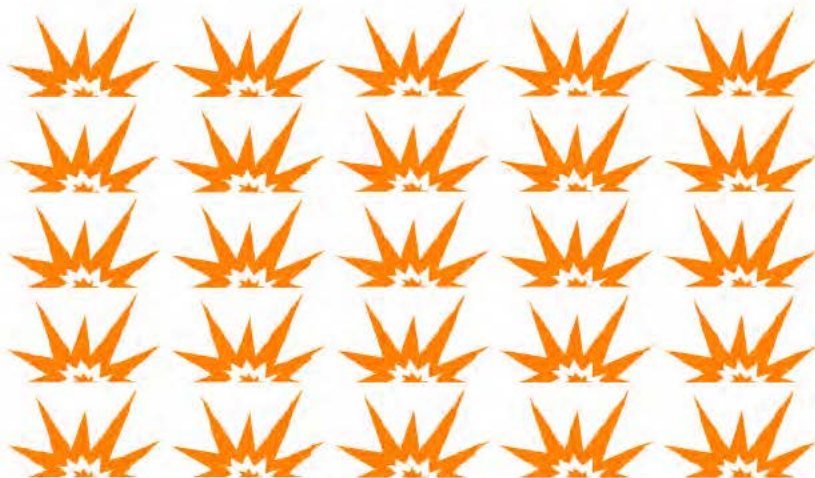
Iznenadne eksplozije se dešavaju i predstavljaju opasnost za građane (koji žive u blizini) i vojnike (koji čuvaju skladišta). Od 1998. godine, incidentni ove vrste su zabilježeni u više od jedne trećine zemalja članica UN a, na području svih kontinenata izuzev Australije i Antarktika.

Accidental explosions occur and pose risks to civilians (living in proximity) and soldiers (guarding the storage sites). Since 1998, incidents of this nature have been reported in more than a third of UN member states and on every continent except Australia and Antarctica.

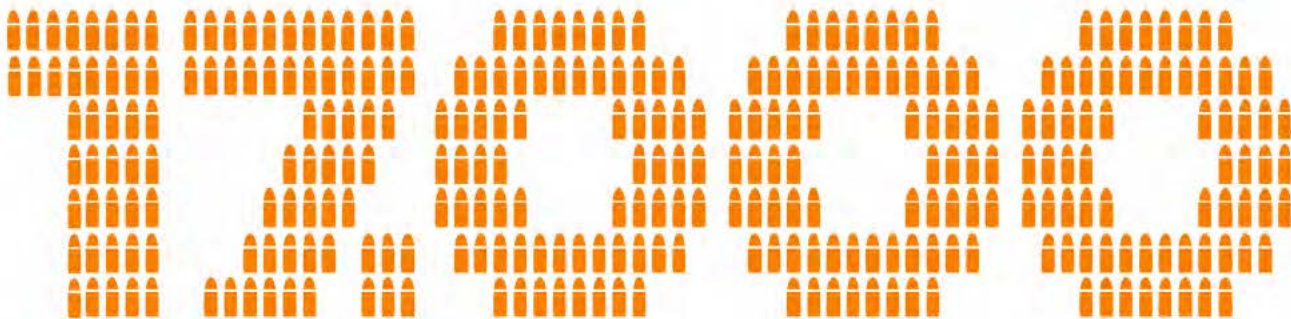


U periodu zadnja tri mjeseca 2011. godine, od augusta do oktobra, osam novih incidenata je prijavljeno, podižući ukupni broj prijavljenih incidenata na 35 u prvih 10 mjeseci 2011. godine. Ovo su alarmantni podaci.

During the three month period from August to October 2011, eight new incidents were recorded, bringing the total number of recorded incidents to 35 for the first 10 months of 2011. These are alarming statistics.



U Bosni i Hercegovni postoji preko 100.000 tona viškova municije koja je hemijski nestabilna, te predstavlja veliki rizik za nastanak nekontrolisane eksplozije. Ova municija predstavlja sigurnosnu opasnost po lokalno stanovništvo i ometa njihove razvojne perspektive.



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tons of military ammunition surpluses in BiH. They are chemically unstable and represent a high risk of uncontrolled explosion. These munitions present a safety hazard for the local population and impede their development prospects.

Eksplozije u Srbiji su prouzrokovale više od 10 smrtnih slučajeva i 40 ranjenih osoba, zagađujući pri tome okolna područja; u Albaniji je od 2008. godine smrtno stradalo 30 ljudi u pogonima za rastavljanje municije; u Hrvatskoj su od 1995. godine na lokacijama za uklanjanje municije 23 osobe smrtno stradale i 40 povrijeđeno.



The explosions that occurred in Serbia caused more than 10 deaths and 40 injured while heavily contaminating the surrounding areas; in Albania, 30 people have been killed at ammunition dismantling plants since 2008; in Croatia, more than 23 deaths and 40 injuries have occurred in ammunition disposal sites since 1995.



