



## Republic of Albania Ministry of Defense

# Demilitarization of Legacy Ammunition and Armaments Contributing to Security of Albania & Region



Ljubljana , 4<sup>th</sup> April 2013



# Background



- ❑ **16 million square meters contaminated**  
(Northern Albanian Border)
- ❑ **450 tons of Hazardous Chemicals & Rocket Fuel**  
(Not Chemical Weapons)
- ❑ **19 Hotspots** (mostly created in 1997)  
(Old Military Depots)
- ❑ **10,886 Major Armaments**  
(Artillery, Tanks, Aircrafts & Navy Vessels)
- ❑ **316,000 Light Weapons**  
(Rifles, Assault Weapons, Machineguns)
- ❑ **100,000 tons of Munitions** (Inventory in 2008)  
(95 % Over 40 years old)



# Armaments



**141,000 Light Weapons - Demilitarized and Scrapped**



**10,000 AK-47 – Donated to Afghanistan Police  
(Another 10,000 in-process for Donation to Afghanistan)**

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**7,431 Tanks, Artillery and Armored Vehicles  
Demilitarized and Scrapped**





# Chemicals and Hazardous Materials



**200 tons of Chemical Substances**  
**Destroyed by Armed Forces**



**1,000 items (12 tons)**

**Chemical Agents**

**Donated to Ministry of Education**

**for use in Albanian Schools**





# Aircraft and Logistics Items



**55 Aircraft - Demilitarized and Scrapped**



**38,000 Logistic Items – Segregated and Disposed**

**1,000 Logistic Items – Donated to Government / NGOs**





# Naval Operations



**32 Tons Munitions  
Cleared from Under Water in Vlorë**



**31 Ships and 3 Submarines  
Demilitarized and Scrapped**

**Other 7 Ships Sunk at Sea  
Creating an Artificial Reef**





# Chemicals and Hazardous Materials



Projects Sponsored by **OSCE**

**34 ton "MELANGE" SAM-2 Rocket Fuel** – Incinerated in Sweden

Donors: Denmark, Finland, Greece, Sweden



**120 tons of "DICLORETAN" Chemical** – Incinerated in Belgium

Donor: The Netherlands



**83 tons of Other Hazardous Materials** – Site to be Determined

Current Donors: Czech Republic, Turkey





# Risk and Environmental Assessments



- Experts conducted risk assessment of munitions depots
- Industrial demil lines projected to be environmentally friendly
- Environment License issued for every demilitarization line & factory
- Assessment and licensing of demolition ranges







# Ammunition Demilitarization



## Method and Steps Undertaken:

- 1) **Established Demilitarization Board**  
**Chaired by Deputy Minister**
- 2) **Risk Assessment Conducted**  
**Munitions, Explosives and Depots**
- 3) **Environmental Assessments Completed**
- 4) **Methods of Elimination Established:**  
**Industrial Demilitarization**  
**Open Burning and Open Detonation**  
**Sale & Donation**
- 5) **Development and Approval of ACTION PLAN**  
**Established Priorities**  
**Set Objectives and Targets**  
**Fixed Responsibilities**



# Action Plan



- Initial Plan Approved in December 2009
  - Updated Annually
- Approval of legislation and regulations
- Elimination of the most dangerous munitions in 2010
- Reduction of HIGH PRIORITY DEPOTS near civil houses
- Minimizing the RISK (each day, month ....)
- Complete Demilitarization of all excess munitions by 2013.
- Safety and Security is Paramount
- Public Relations and Transparency



# Mine Clearance (northern border) – 2009



## Albania Declared Free of Mines & Cluster Munitions Albanian Mine Action Programme



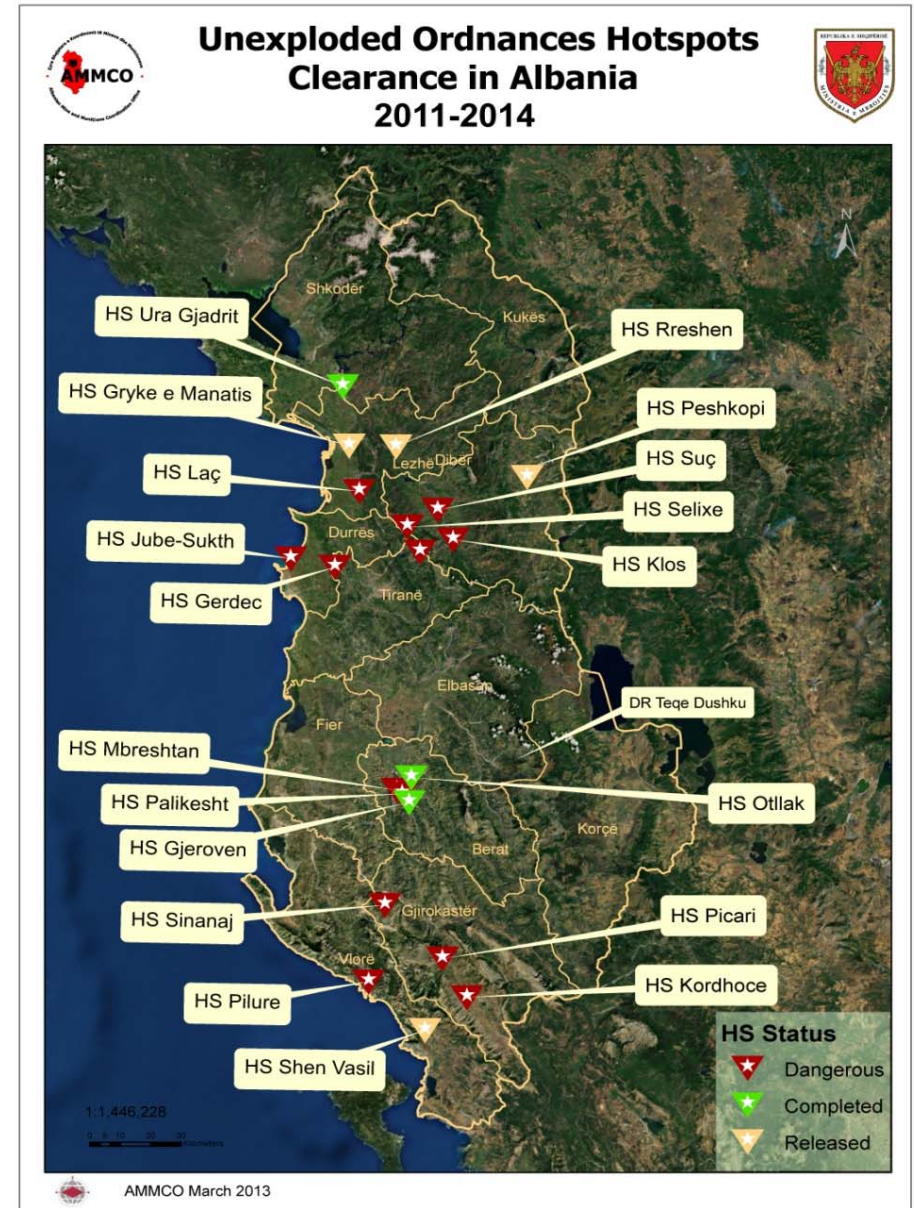
- **16 million m<sup>2</sup>** were cleared & handed over to Communities
- **12,452 AP Mines & 152 AT mines, 4,965 UXOs** found & destroyed
- Since 2005 **zero** accidents with mines and UXOs in northeast Albania



# UXO/ERW HOTSPOTS



- UXO/ERW hotspots are mainly a result of explosions at ammunition storage sites.
- AAF general surveys and AMMCO Technical Assessments have identified **19** UXO hotspots as to date.
- About 1,8 million sqm are estimated as contaminated in these hotspots.
- The contamination includes unexploded ordnance of various types.
- **110** people have been killed and **590** injured by unexploded ordnances throughout Albania.
- The last accident recorded in April 2012.





# Operation at Gërdec



**2008 Explosion – Five Years of Cleanup**

**Contract Clearance at Explosion Site (WRA/ITF)  
33,000 m<sup>2</sup> and Fuse Area – Ongoing (Albania)**



# Methods of Elimination



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Demolition Ranges  
Approved by Parliament

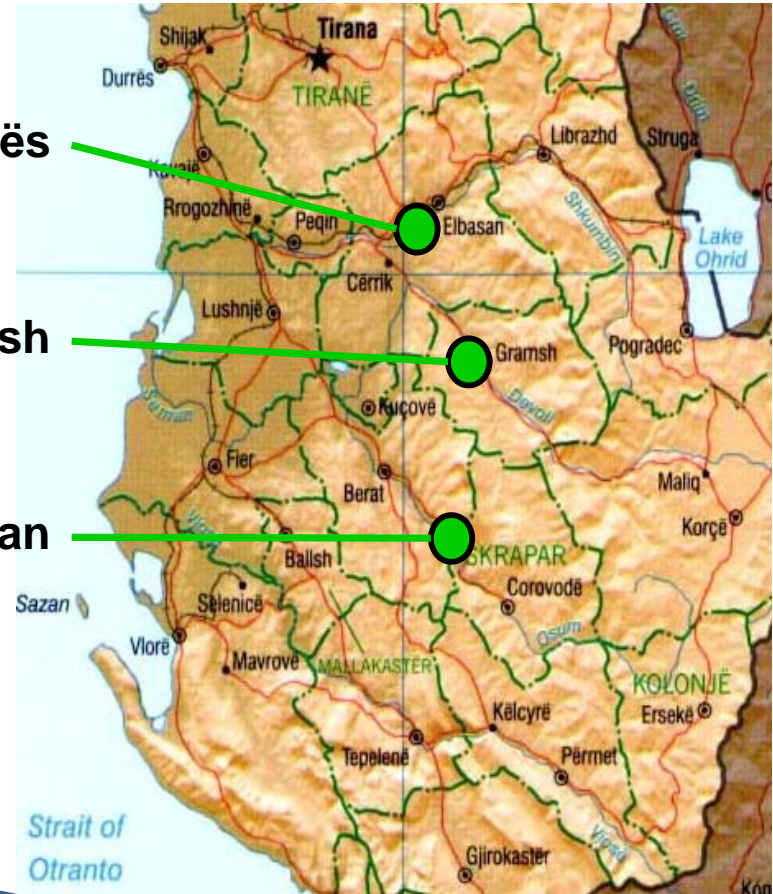


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- Industrial Factories

12

- Specialized Lines



Donation

- to partner countries

Sales

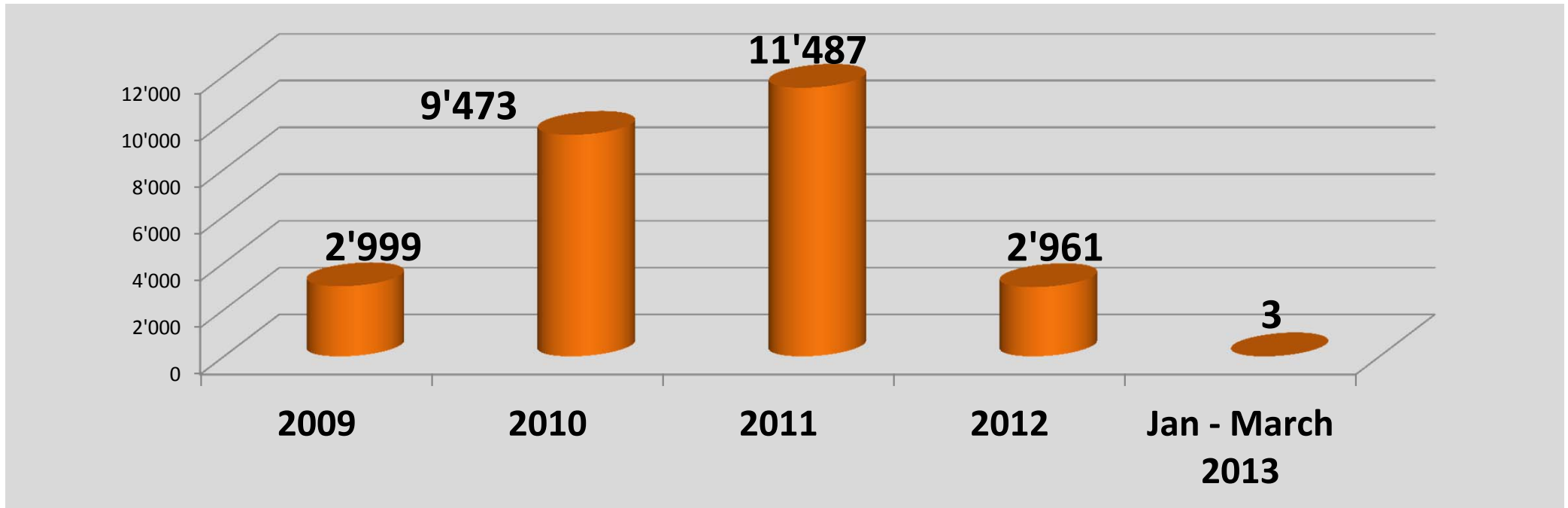
- based on National and International Legislation



# Demolition Ranges (OB / OD)



- EOD personnel received training – short to long term
- Only non industrialized munitions being destroyed



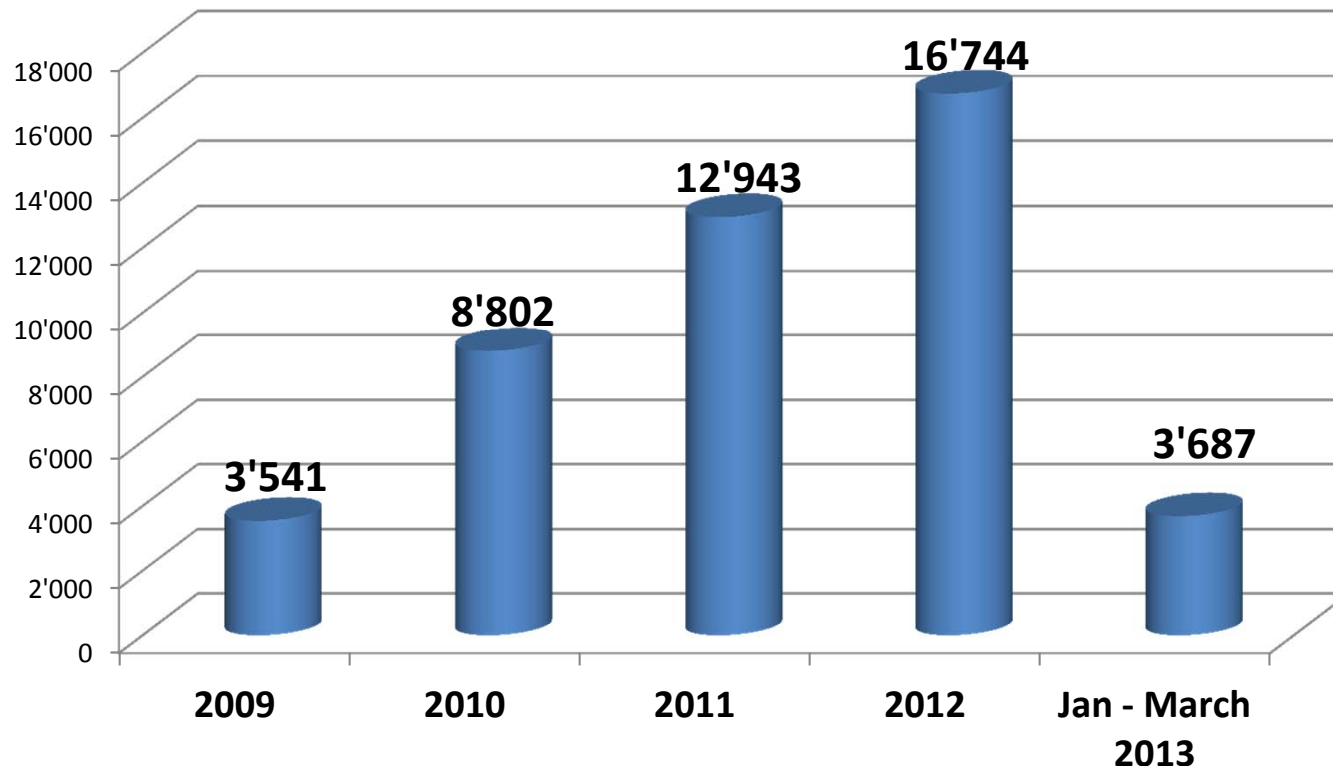
- Total Munitions Destroyed = 26,923 ton
- Two Accidents (Fully Investigated)
- Massive Destruction Completed in June 2012
- Cleanup of Ranges Underway



# Industrial Demilitarization



- Demilitarization Oversight – by Military Experts
- Incomes from Sale of Scrap / Explosives – Used for Demil
- SAFE, Cost Effective, Environmentally Friendly
- Total Munitions Demilitarized – 45,717 ton







# Ammunition Demilitarization



## Munitions Demilitarized 2009 – March 2013

**Total = 83,977 ton**

