



Unfortunately, a lack of comparable data makes it difficult to provide a detailed portrait of global progress in demining. But available figures leave room for optimism:

- In Afghanistan, approximately 64% of mined residential areas and irrigation systems and 33% of all mined roads were cleared between 1993 and 1998. Approximately 93% of cleared land is under productive use.
- In Cambodia, 23% of suspect land has been cleared or declared mine-free.
- In Croatia, 50% of all mined roads, infrastructure and inhabited areas have been cleared in spite of the fact that only 5% of suspect areas have been demined.
- In Mozambique, approximately 7400 kilometres of road have been made safe for productive use after being cleared of mines.
- In Nicaragua, almost 40% of suspected mines were removed in only four years of intensive operations.

Canada's contributions to land clearance are extensive and encompass the entire range of activities necessary to create the right pre-

conditions for demining: building local capacity; supporting survey and mapping work; providing protective gear and technical advice; providing mine detection dogs and other detective equipment; and engaging in research on, and testing and marketing of, new technologies for humanitarian mine clearance.

## Bosnia and Herzegovina

Part of the legacy of the disintegration of Yugoslavia is severe landmine infestation in Bosnia and Herzegovina. There are an estimated 30,000 minefields and a total of approximately 750,000 to 1 million mines in the ground according to the Bosnia-Herzegovina Mine Action Centre (BHMIC). To respond to this humanitarian crisis, Canada has earmarked \$10 million in assistance over a five-year period.

Bosnia has a significant indigenous capacity for mine action. Approximately 650 civilian deminers are trained in humanitarian mine clearance. In addition, the armies of the former warring factions (entity armed forces) have approximately 500 deminers in their

*Canadian support is helping to build local capacity in demining prime land such as this in Bosnia.*

*Simply by co-financing insurance costs, Canada and Norway effectively doubled the number of deminers deployed in Bosnia and Herzegovina.*