



- Laos: In 1999, 6.2 square kilometres were cleared.
- Mozambique: In 1999, 5 square kilometres were cleared, bringing the total area cleared to 194 square kilometres.

International progress in mine clearance is being aided by increased resources and coordination, more and better information, the development of best practices and new demining equipment and techniques. In 1999, 13 donors contributed over US\$75 million to mine clearance activities. Millions more were invested in developing new and improved technologies for detecting and removing landmines.

The Standing Committee on Mine Clearance, established by States Parties to the Ottawa Convention in May of 1999, spent a great deal of effort reviewing progress in the revision of international standards for humanitarian mine clearance. Work on these standards is continuing with a view to providing the necessary guidance to undertake mine clearance in a safer and more effective manner.

Canada's contributions to clearing priority

land cover a range of activities including support for mine action centres, Level One Socio-Economic Impact Surveys and database development; provision of technical expertise and protective equipment; fielding of clearance teams; and development of new technologies and approaches.

## Afghanistan

Afghanistan remains one of the most heavily mined countries in the world. With as many as 3,000 new injuries from landmines and unexploded ordnance in 1999, it is still essential to reduce risk to civilians from mines and UXO. Canada provided \$1 million in mine action funding in fiscal year 1999 to the United Nations Coordination Office for Humanitarian Assistance in Afghanistan (UNOCHA) from sources other than the Canadian Landmine Fund. Programming was implemented largely by Afghan NGOs. Since 1993-94 CIDA has provided a total amount of \$6.75 million for demining activities and mine awareness in Afghanistan through its international humanitarian assistance program.

The Canadian International Demining Corps training mine detection dogs in Bosnia.