

Demilitarization in Albania

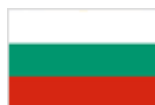
- ❖ Albania is proud to participate and host the **Regional Approach to Stockpile Reduction (RASR)** initiative for South East Europe. RASR is informal but pro-active and coordinated regional approach for senior military officers and munitions experts from throughout South East Europe to gather and share ideas and discuss challenges regarding unstable and excess stockpiles of conventional weapons and munitions.
- ❖ The 5th RASR Workshop in Albania includes an opportunity to visit and observe ULP Mjekes facility which shows the commitment of the Albanian Ministry of Defense and its partners to safely reduce stocks of old and excess munitions in a cost-effective way.
- ❖ The Workshop will give Defense Ministries and General Staff officials who are involved in stockpile management an opportunity to:
 - Build relationships with their counterparts in the region;
 - Share best practices and lessons learned;
 - Develop regional stockpile reduction efforts;
 - Obtain information about available technical and financial assistance in order to meet the stockpile reduction goals, and;
 - Network and coordinate as appropriate

The Albanian National Action Plan 2012-2013

FACTORY / DEMO RANGES	Qty	AMMUNITION	2012	2013
	ton		ton	ton
ULP Mjekes	5,865		5865	13,938
KM Polican	8,390		8390	
UM Gramsh	1,592		1592	
FACTORY (total)	15,847		15,847	
DEMO RANGES	3,533		3533	
EXPORT	20,938		7000	
TOTAL	40,318		26,380	

Gërdec Site Clearance

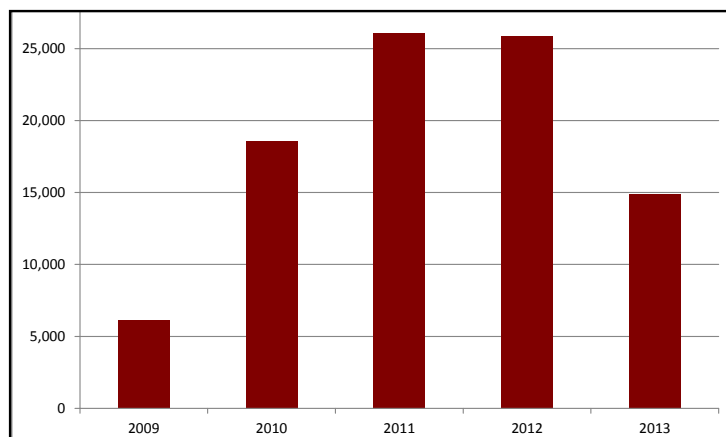
- ❖ Through its vigorous efforts to safely clear UXO and demilitarize munitions at Gërdec, and its efforts to safely and steadily demilitarize excess, unstable munitions at the ULP Mjekes facility and at other facilities in Albania, the Ministry of Defense is demonstrating its commitment to ensuring the safety of Albanian civilians and of its soldiers, reducing its spending on guarding munitions that no longer have any military value, and demonstrating that it is responsible member of NATO.
- ❖ The site of explosion is continuously on the way of becoming fully cleaned up and recovered. Majority of giant craters caused by massive explosions have been cleared of UXO and refilled with soil, thus establishing as much as possible the original condition of the landscape. Most of the areas adjoining and surrounding the explosion site have been recovered as well.
- ❖ The United States of America assistance at Gërdec is conducted through Slovenia based organization ITF Enhancing Human Security.



ULP Mjekes-Elbasan

- ❖ The United States assistance at ULP Mjekes has totaled \$4 million dollars since 2010. The assistance has been provided through a series of Grants to the NATO Maintenance and Supply Agency (NAMSA) and has encouraged the process for a safer and more secure Albania.
- ❖ Thanks to the technical assistance provided by NAMSA, Albanian's ULP Mjekes has developed the expertise, infrastructure, and potential to help fulfill the demilitarization needs of countries throughout South East Europe and around the world.

The Albanian Ministry of Defense demilitarized 26,600 tonnes in 2011. The goal for 2012 is 26,000 tonnes. This will leave less than 15,000 tonnes for disposal in 2013.



NATO Project at ULP Mjekes

- 601 tonnes demilitarized, funded by the project in the three months January to March 2012
- 5,509 tonnes demilitarized, funded by the project since the project started in January 2011
- Over 10 M separate items of mines, mortars, shell and SAA delivered since January 2011

January 2012 – March 2012 Ammunition disposal:

- ✓ Mjekes factory 1492 tonnes
- ✓ Polican factory 1815 tonnes
- ✓ Gramsh factory 375 tonnes
- ✓ Army EOD 222 tonnes
- ✓ Exported 1191 tonnes

Total 5095 tonnes

The focal point for United States conventional weapons destruction assistance to Albania:

The Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement in the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Political-Military Affairs (www.state.gov/t/pm/wra)

RASR website: <http://www.rasrinitiative.org/alb/rasr.php>

<http://www.rasrinitiative.org/pdfs/SAS-Research-Note-6-updated-ALB.pdf>

http://www.smallarmssurvey.org/fileadmin/docs/G-Issue-briefs/SAS-RASR-IB1_SE-European-Surplus-Arms-ALB-rev.pdf

<http://www.rasrinitiative.org/resources-PSSM-best-practice-cards-alb.php>

