

ARTICLE 4 DEADLINE: 1 NOVEMBER 2023
NOT ON TRACK TO MEET DEADLINE

KEY DATA

CLUSTER MUNITION CONTAMINATION: HEAVY

OFFICIAL ESTIMATE FOR FEDERAL IRAQ ONLY

163 KM²

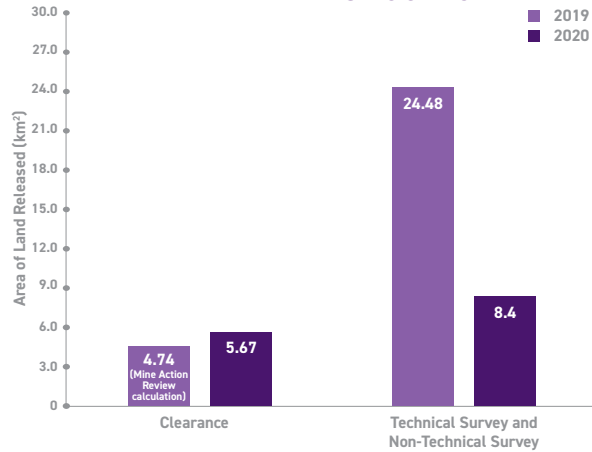
SUBMUNITION
CLEARANCE IN 2020

5.67 KM²

SUBMUNITIONS
DESTROYED IN 2020

5,831

LAND RELEASE OUTPUT



KEY DEVELOPMENTS

Iraq appointed a new Directorate of Mine Action (DMA) director in September 2020 and a majority of the heads of key DMA departments also changed. Measures to combat the spread of COVID-19, including international airport closure, lockdowns, curfews, and visa restrictions, led to temporary suspension of operations and hampered movements of international staff in and out of the country while obstructing the deployment of survey and clearance teams. The amount of cluster munition-contaminated area released through survey and clearance declined for the second successive year.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

- Iraq should provide timely and comprehensive reports on cluster munition remnants (CMR) survey and clearance, providing data disaggregated by operator and region for Federal Iraq and the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI).
- The DMA and implementing partners should address and resolve persistent data inconsistencies in reported results of survey and clearance.
- Iraq should provide an annual work plan setting out goals for CMR survey and clearance.

ASSESSMENT OF NATIONAL PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE

Criterion	Score (2020)	Score (2019)	Performance Commentary
UNDERSTANDING OF CMR CONTAMINATION (20% of overall score)	6	6	The progress of survey has provided a more accurate understanding of Federal Iraq's CMR contamination although it continued to find CMR contamination not previously recorded, underscoring the limitations of initial survey conducted after the 2003 war. The extent of CMR contamination in the KRI has not been reported by IKMAA to Mine Action Review since 2016.
NATIONAL OWNERSHIP AND PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT (10% of overall score)	6	6	The DMA is responsible for planning, tasking, and coordinating mine action but is overshadowed by powerful government ministries. CMR operations are concentrated in southern governorates overseen by the Regional Mine Action Centre-South (RMAC-S), which has engaged constructively with operators on land release methodologies and priorities. Authorities in the KRI have not provided information on developments in the mine action sector.
GENDER AND DIVERSITY (10% of overall score)	6	5	The DMA has engaged with international organisations to strengthen gender and diversity in mine action. Operators are slowly increasing the number of women employees, as they strive for more gender-sensitive and inclusive programming, encouraged by donors, and possibly also helped by economic pressures that appear to be increasing the number of female applicants for jobs in the mine action sector. International operators have also expanded the roles performed by female staff beyond office support tasks. Most operators have mixed gender community liaison, survey, and risk education teams and some employ female deminers and medics, but opportunities to hire women for field work vary according to region and are particularly limited in the main CMR-affected governorates in the south.
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING (10% of overall score)	5	5	Iraq's mine action authorities operate Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) data management systems but cumbersome procedures and reporting gaps can leave operators without access to timely or reliable data. The DMA says delays are also caused by major errors in many of the reports submitted by operators, which have to be sent back for correction. CMR data, which is concentrated in the Regional Mine Action Centre-South (RMAC-S) database where operators have reported improving access and accuracy. Iraq submitted an improved CCM Article 7 report in 2021 but gaps and inconsistencies in data continue to prevent an accurate determination of progress. Furthermore, Iraq does not disaggregate CMR-contaminated area cancelled through non-technical survey from that reduced through technical survey, and instead reports a combined total for both.
PLANNING AND TASKING (10% of overall score)	6	6	Planning and tasking for survey and clearance of cluster munition-contaminated areas have benefitted from good coordination between the RMAC-S and operators. However, there was no specific work plan for CMR.
LAND RELEASE SYSTEM (20% of overall score)	7	7	Federal Iraq adopted the Cluster Munition Remnant Survey (CMRS) methodology for survey and clearance as a national standard in 2019 and has reported benefits for accurate mapping, planning, and land release.
LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS AND ARTICLE 4 COMPLIANCE (20% of overall score)	5	5	Despite the impact of measures to curb the COVID-19 pandemic, Federal Iraq continued to make progress in CMR survey and clearance. Persistent inconsistencies in the data made it difficult to determine if the amount of land cleared in 2020 was more or less than the previous year but CMR areas cancelled or reduced through survey fell significantly.
Average Score	5.9	5.8	Overall Programme Performance: AVERAGE

CLUSTER MUNITION SURVEY AND CLEARANCE CAPACITY

MANAGEMENT

- Higher Council of Mine Action
- Directorate of Mine Action (DMA)
- Iraq Kurdistan Mine Action Agency (IKMAA)

NATIONAL OPERATORS

- Ministry of Defence
- Ministry of Interior (Civil Defence)
- Al Khebra Company for Demining
- Ta'az Demining Company

INTERNATIONAL OPERATORS

- Danish Refugee Council Humanitarian Disarmament and Peacebuilding (DRC) (formerly Danish Demining Group (DDG))
- Mines Advisory Group (MAG)
- Norwegian People's Aid (NPA)

OTHER ACTORS

- United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS)

UNDERSTANDING OF CMR CONTAMINATION

Iraq ranks as one of the nations most heavily contaminated by cluster munitions. Federal Iraq reported CMR contamination of nearly 163km² at the end of 2020 (see Table 1) and the northern KRI has a small, though unspecified amount of CMR contamination. CMR affect 11 of Federal Iraq's 15 governorates but around 90% of it is concentrated in the three governorates of Basrah, Muthanna, and Thi Qar.¹

Federal Iraq's end-2020 estimate of CMR contamination marked a drop of 15.8km² or about 9% less than a year earlier. A significantly higher estimate of the hazardous areas in Basrah governorate was offset by a substantial 18.4km² drop in Muthanna governorate and the elimination of a further 3.4km² previously reported in Kirkuk and Diyala.²

Iraq's Article 7 Report provided no data for the KRI and the overall national total will thus be slightly higher. The last data received from the Iraq Kurdistan Mine Action Agency (IKMAA) in 2016 indicated the KRI had identified CMR contamination totalling 1.85km² at the end of 2015: 10 confirmed hazardous areas (CHAs) affecting 1,176,128m²

and 11 suspected hazardous areas (SHAs) covering 672,158m².³ In addition, some conflict areas close to the Turkish border have yet to be surveyed. In subsequent years, IKMAA did not report on the extent of CMR contamination and Iraq's latest Article 7 report (covering 2020) did not include any data on CMR hazards or clearance in the KRI.

Federal Iraq's contamination dates back to the Gulf War of 1991 and the United States (US)-led invasion of Iraq in 2003, following the path of allied forces advance from the south to Baghdad. Coalition aircraft also struck Iraqi army positions in the northern governorate of Kirkuk but the latest data provided by Federal Iraq no longer identifies any CMR contamination in the governorate.⁴ The areas most heavily affected are the southern governorates of Basrah, Muthanna, and Thi Qar, which together account for nearly 90% of Iraq's CMR contamination. The most commonly found items there are BLU-63 and BLU-97 submunitions. Other CMR found in the area include BLU-61 and M42 submunitions.⁵

Table 1: Cluster munition-contaminated area in Federal Iraq (2018, 2019, and 2020⁶)

Province	End 2020 (m ²)	End 2019 (m ²)	End 2018 (m ²)
Anbar	15,726	15,726	N/R
Babylon	290,701	290,701	N/R
Basrah	36,365,119	30,512,131	27,851,470
Diyala	0	20,076	20,076
Karbala	2,107,444	2,107,444	2,107,444
Kirkuk	0	3,418,306	3,418,306
Missan	795,825	795,825	1,353,148
Muthanna	65,299,382	83,689,469	101,647,074
Najaf	5,157,539	5,010,038	5,321,629
Ninewa	4,157,090	4,157,090	N/R
Thi Qar	45,188,393	45,188,393	45,433,774
Qadisiya	3,137,824	3,137,824	3,966,337
Wassit	299,143	299,143	N/R
Totals	162,814,186	178,642,166	191,119,258

N/R = Not reported

OTHER EXPLOSIVE REMNANTS OF WAR AND LANDMINES

Cluster munitions make up only a modest part of Iraq's overall landmine and explosive remnants of war (ERW) contamination. Four southern governorates alone have close to 1,000km² of mined area and substantial areas affected by ERW. Central and northern areas liberated from Islamic State have hundreds of square kilometres affected by mines of an improvised nature and the KRI reports more than 200km² of known mined area as well as ERW contamination in areas bordering Turkey that have yet to be surveyed because of insecurity.⁷ See Mine Action Review's *Clearing the Mines* report on Iraq for further information on the mine problem.

NATIONAL OWNERSHIP AND PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT

The mine action programme in Iraq is managed along regional lines. The DMA represents Iraq internationally and oversees mine action for humanitarian purposes in Federal Iraq, covering 15 of the country's 19 governorates.⁸ Mine action in the KRI's four governorates is overseen by the Iraqi Kurdistan Mine Action Agency (IKMAA), which reports to the Council of Ministers and is led by a director general who has ministerial rank.

FEDERAL IRAQ

The inter-ministerial Higher Council of Mine Action,⁹ which reports to the Prime Minister, oversees and approves mine action strategy, policies, and plans. The DMA "plans, coordinates, supervises, monitors and follows up all the activities of mine action." It draws up the national strategy and is responsible for setting national standards, accrediting, and approving the standing operating procedures (SOPs) of demining organisations and certifying completion of clearance tasks.¹⁰

The DMA oversees three Regional Mine Action Centres (RMACs):

- North: covering the governorates of Anbar, Diyala, Kirkuk, Nineveh, and Salah ad-Din.
- Middle Euphrates (MEU): Babylon, Baghdad, Karbala, Najaf, Qadisiya, and Wassit.
- South: Basrah, Missan, Muthanna, and Thi-Qar.

RMAC South, located in Basra City, is the focal point for Iraq's response to cluster munitions contamination. It maintains its own database and is responsible for tasking operators in

its area of operations. RMAC North and MEU were located in Baghdad but RMAC North also opened a satellite office in Mosul in August 2019.¹¹

DMA coordination of mine action remains a challenge in a sector in which its formal status as a department of the Ministry of Health has less authority than the powerful ministries of Defence, Interior, and Oil, which are also major actors in the sector. Rapid turnover of directors has also affected management and policy continuity. Khaled Rashad Jabar al-Khaqani, appointed acting director in June 2019, was at least the twelfth director since 2003. He was replaced at the end of September 2020 by Dhafir Mahmood Khalaf, who was also appointed as acting director and as of May 2021 was awaiting confirmation in the post. The heads of five of nine DMA departments were also replaced in the course of 2020: Operations, Risk Education, RMAC-MEU, and Administration & Finance.¹²

KURDISTAN REGION OF IRAQ (KRI)

IKMAA functions as a regulator and operator in the KRI. It reports directly to the Kurdish Regional Government's Council of Ministers and coordinates four directorates in Dohuk, Erbil, Garmian, and Sulimaniya (Sleman). Financial constraints halved salaries for all staff for the last three years and resulted in a number of posts being left vacant, but in 2019 payment of salaries resumed and IKMAA planned to fill vacant posts.¹³ IKMAA did not respond to requests for information about its capacity, priorities, and operating results in 2019 or 2020.

GENDER AND DIVERSITY

The Iraq National Strategic Mine Action Plan specifically refers to gender equality and gender mainstreaming within mine action activities as objectives of an effective programmatic response.¹⁴ The DMA set up a gender unit in 2016, which was soon followed by female staff participation in a number of activities, particularly non-technical survey and risk education. The DMA's first Gender Unit Action Plan was adopted, and a concept of the Gender Task Force was approved by the DMA's director in early 2021.¹⁵

Most operators employ women in administrative office roles, many also have a significant representation of women in community liaison, survey, and risk education functions, and some also employ women in clearance teams, including as team leaders.¹⁶ This follows increased focus from operators and donors on more gender-sensitive and inclusive programming.¹⁷ Social barriers to women working alone in activities undertaken mostly by men remain an obstacle to recruiting women but it appears economic pressures and the pandemic have created greater demand among women for jobs in mine action. Mines Advisory Group (MAG) received more than 1,000 applications in two days for employment as deminers, of which 12% were from women.¹⁸

The extent to which women participate varies according to cultural sensitivities in different parts of the country. Employing women for office jobs in Baghdad is easier than for operational roles in socially conservative governorates. Still, Norwegian People's Aid (NPA), after extensive outreach

to local officials and families, has found it possible to employ mixed gender teams in even the most conservative areas, although not yet in southern Basrah governorate, and after initial hirings NPA has found it easier to recruit women.¹⁹ MAG has traditionally found it easier to recruit women in Federal Iraq, particularly in the Sinjar area where it has employed female deminers since 2016, but hired additional women staff in Mosul in February 2021 and planned to recruit more female staff in Sulaymaniyah later in the year.²⁰ By mid 2021, four women had progressed to become deputy team leaders and three women were team leaders.²¹

Most international operators are strengthening the contribution of women in their Iraq operations. The Swiss Foundation for Mine Action (FSD) set up a team of female deminers and a medic at the end of 2019 and has hired additional female staff for survey.²² HALO Trust employed 25 women out of a total staff of 125 and increased its female work force in 2020 after hiring women to work in multi-task teams undertaking EORE, survey and clearance in Anbar governorate.²³ In MAG, which employed a gender focal point in 2020, women make up 13% of its total staff in Iraq and 14% of its operations staff, a proportion expected to rise with the recruitment of more women in 2021.²⁴ One-third of NPA's 89 support staff are women as are one in twelve of its operational staff, including three female team leaders. NPA plans to increase the number of women in managerial positions.²⁵

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING

The DMA and IKMAA maintain databases using Information Management System for Mine Action New Generation (IMSMA NG) with technical support from iMMAP, a non-governmental organisation based in Erbil and working under contract to the US Department of State's Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement (WRA).

Federal Iraq's mine action database is located at the DMA's Baghdad headquarters. RMAC-S, the focal point for CMR survey and clearance, maintains a database in Basrah, which receives reports from demining organisations in its area of operations. The database is synchronised with Baghdad's every three months.²⁶

Operators are required to submit results to DMA in hard copy in Arabic delivered by hand every month. DMA then uploads results manually into the database. The procedure meets Iraqi legal requirements, but can cause delays uploading results of survey and clearance. As a result, operators say data available with task orders and online is often not up to date.²⁷ RMAC-S database has accepted data electronically since March 2019. The DMA says delays are caused by serious error and inaccuracies in thousands of operator reports which it needs to send back for correction.²⁸ For projects funded by UNMAS, operators

contracted submit reports electronically and in English to the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) which then provides data to the DMA.²⁹ However, interruptions and reduced hours of work caused by measures to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic have resulted in further serious delays in uploading survey and clearance results. As a result, operators report that delays uploading data which commonly ran to several months pre-COVID can now stretch to up to a year. The DMA disputes that there are such delays and says all reports are entered.³⁰

Since 2019, the DMA has given operators access to an online dashboard presenting mine action data and to an Online Task Management System developed by iMMAP. In December 2020, the DMA organised a workshop for mine action stakeholders to review information management. Operators say the Online Task Management System is easy to navigate, and enables them to obtain information on known contamination and the CHAs that are available for clearance. The system provides a clear indicator of DMA regional priorities and allows operators to get a snapshot of current activity in particular areas, but they say the data it presents are not up to date and the Online Task Management System does not record completed tasks, which prevents the identification of areas already cleared.³¹

PLANNING AND TASKING

Federal Iraq has a strategic plan for 2017–21 setting out general aims and guidelines for mine action and in 2021 has worked with the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) drafting a new strategic plan for 2022–28.³² Iraq does not have a strategic plan for clearance of CMR. Few resources have been available for survey and clearance of CMR as a result of the priority given in the last four years to clearance of areas liberated from Islamic State occupation.³³

Against that background, RMAC-S said it gave priority to survey to better define contamination and clearance of areas that are close to communities, which have experienced recent casualties, or where contamination hinders development projects.³⁴ RMAC-S works closely with operators on planning and task selection.

LAND RELEASE SYSTEM

STANDARDS AND LAND RELEASE EFFICIENCY

Iraq has national mine action standards for mine and battle area clearance (BAC), non-technical survey, and technical survey but they were written in 2004–05, exist in Arabic only, and do not specifically address cluster munitions. The DMA and UNMAS have started to review and update 13 chapters of Iraq's national mine action standards (NMAS) and bring them into line with international standards.³⁵ In the meantime, operators apply their own standing operating procedures (SOPs) approved by the DMA.

However, the DMA has applied the Cluster Munition Remnant Survey (CMRS) methodology to CM operations since 2018, and in 2019 adopted CMRS as a national standard citing the benefits it has delivered for survey, planning and clearance.³⁶

OPERATORS AND OPERATIONAL TOOLS

The DMA reported that two national organisations were involved in tackling cluster munitions in 2020, the Ministry of Interior's Civil Defence (survey) and the Ministry of Defence (survey and clearance), but it gave no details of the extent of their operations.³⁷ Three other organisations dealing with cluster munitions included NPA, Danish Demining Group (DDG) (now rebranded as Danish Refugee Council Humanitarian Disarmament and Peacebuilding Sector), and Taaz Demining Company,³⁸ a commercial operator believed to be contracted by the Ministry of Oil.

DDG operated in 2020 with a total staff of 61, including three Basra-based BAC teams with 35 personnel, two QA/QC teams, and four risk education teams. DDG's registration with the NGO Directorate, which was suspended in 2019, halting operations for several months, was renewed with effect from January 2020.³⁹

Most CMR survey and clearance was conducted by NPA, which employed a total of 96 staff based in Basrah, including seven multi-task teams with fifty-seven personnel and two non-technical survey and one technical survey teams working mainly in Basrah and Muthanna governorates.⁴⁰

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS AND ARTICLE 4 COMPLIANCE

COVID-19 response measures that severely affected Iraq's mine action sector included a countrywide lockdown between March and July 2020. The government stopped issuing visas to international staff for a period of some months after March 2020, which, together with closures of international airports, disrupted international staff deployments. Curfews and COVID-testing requirements restricted in-country movement of survey and clearance teams and inconsistent application of directives at checkpoints further complicated access.⁴¹

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS IN 2020

Iraq said it released a total of 14.07km² of cluster munition-contaminated area in 2020, of which 8,396,798m² was through survey and 5,671,250m² through clearance.⁴² If confirmed, this would be less than half the amount recorded in 2019 and represent a second successive year of sharp falls in productivity. International operators reported releasing a slightly higher total of 15.06km² of CMR-contaminated area, but also differed from national authorities over the amount of land release attributed to survey and clearance.⁴³

Iraq did not report any survey or clearance of cluster munitions in the KRI in 2020. It is unclear if IKMAA teams conducted any activity targeting CMR but the authority gives cluster munitions a lower priority than survey and clearance of mined areas.

SURVEY IN 2020

Federal Iraq's official data showed the biggest fall in results came in land released through survey with a total of 8.4km² cancelled or reduced in 2020, barely a quarter of the amount the DMA recorded the previous year. RMAC-S attributed the downturn to earlier progress releasing much of the hazardous area in the database.⁴⁴ NPA noted that two years earlier it had access to large, easily accessible hazardous areas in which it was possible to cancel large areas. In 2020, NPA reduced more area through technical survey than in 2019 but it reported working on smaller tasks located further away from bases and requiring more travel, as well as interruptions related to COVID-19 response restrictions.⁴⁵

The different data reported by the authorities and operators are set out in Tables 2 and 3.

Table 2: Area cancellation and reduction through survey in Federal Iraq in 2020 (government data)⁴⁶

	Activity	Area released (m ²)
RMAC-S	Cancellation by NTS	6,580,886
RMAC-N	Cancellation by NTS and reduction by TS	1,816,093
Total		8,396,979

Table 3: Area cancellation and reduction through survey in 2020 (international NGO data)⁴⁷

Operator	Governorate	Area cancelled through NTS (m ²)	Area reduced through TS (m ²)
NPA	Basrah	10,100	77,799
NPA	Muthanna	0	6,160,221
Totals		10,100	6,238,020

Survey and area reduction in 2020 occurred predominantly in the south but for the first time in recent years the DMA reported releasing a significant CMR-contaminated area in the northern Kirkuk governorate, but it was not immediately clear what brought about removal of 3.2km² previously reported in the area. Non-technical and technical survey by Ministry of Interior Civil Defence teams reportedly released 1.8km².⁴⁸

CLEARANCE IN 2020

Persistent discrepancies between results reported by national authorities and by their international implementing partners continue to prevent a clear determination about the progress of land release by clearance. The area that Federal Iraq said was cleared in 2020 amounted to 5.67km², representing a slight drop compared with the 6.58km² reported the previous year, but was consistent with the average annual clearance of 5km² over the past five years.⁴⁹ The 2020 result was, however, more than the 4.7km² that the Mine Action Review calculated was the real amount released by clearance in 2019. Iraq did not provide details of clearance disaggregated by operator.⁵⁰

Table 4: CMR clearance in Federal Iraq in 2020 (government data)⁵¹

Region	Authority	Operator	Area cleared (m ²)	Submunitions destroyed
Federal Iraq	RMAC South	DDG	20,236	N/R
		Ministry of Defence	78,358	N/R
		NPA	5,496,730	N/R
		Taaz	75,927	N/R
Totals			5,671,250	5,826

N/R = Not reported

Moreover, NPA, which conducted most of the survey and clearance of CMR in Iraq, reported clearing 8.82km² in 2020 (see Table 5), 55% more than the DMA's estimate of clearance. The difference is believed to be mostly due to delays in uploading results into the database. NPA's figure also included work on a major CHA that was conducted in 2019 but only recorded by NPA after it completed the task in 2020.⁵² DRC, which has previously conducted CMR clearance, said RMAC-S only tasked it for other BAC in 2020. In the course of those operations in Basrah governorate it reported clearing five submunitions.⁵³

Table 5: International NGO CMR clearance in 2020⁵⁴

Operator	Governorate	Area cleared (m ²)	Submunitions destroyed	Other UXO destroyed
NPA	Basrah, Muthanna	8,820,519	4,421	261
Totals		8,820,519	4,421	261

Similar discrepancies affect data on the number of CMR cleared in 2020. Federal Iraq reported 5,826 submunitions removed in clearance operations and a further 320 items cleared in the course of technical survey, for a total of 6,146 items cleared in 2020, a sharp fall from 9,905 submunitions cleared in 2019.⁵⁵ NPA's results show that the CMR it cleared rose from 1,533 in 2019 to 4,421 in 2020.⁵⁶

ARTICLE 4 DEADLINE AND COMPLIANCE



Under Article 4 of the CCM, Iraq is required to destroy all CMR in areas under its jurisdiction or control as soon as possible, but not later than 1 November 2023.

The DMA acknowledges that the extent of Federal Iraq's CMR contamination exceeds the capacity available for CMR survey and clearance to enable clearance by its Article 4 deadline in three years' time. With the adoption of CMRS methodology in 2019, Iraq increased the efficiency of survey and clearance but productivity remains constrained by the limited capacity deployed on CMR tasks. National authorities and donors have continued to give priority to clearing the dense mine contamination in areas liberated from Islamic State. As a result, the time needed to complete CMR clearance will depend largely on funding available for this sector of Iraq's extensive ERW challenge.

Table 6: Five-year summary of CMR clearance

Year	Federal Iraq (km ²)	KRI (km ²)	Totals (km ²)
2020	5.7	N/R	5.7
2019	4.3	0.4	*4.7
2018	7.2	0	7.2
2017	4.4	0.3	4.7
2016	2.9	0.2	3.1
Totals	24.5	0.9	25.4

* Based on Mine Action Review calculation

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- 1 CCM Article 7 Report (covering 2020), Form F.
- 2 Ibid.; and email from Haitham Lafta, Head of Operations, RMAC-S, 21 April 2021.
- 3 Email from Khatab Omer Ahmed, Planning Manager, Directorate General of Technical Affairs, Iraqi Kurdistan Mine Action Agency (IKMAA), 20 May 2016.
- 4 Ibid.; and email from Haitham Lafta, DMA/RMAC-S, 21 April 2021.
- 5 Interview with Nibras Fakhir Matrood, Director, DMA RMAC-S, and Haitham Fattah Lafta, RMAC-S, Basrah, 29 April 2019; and with Mats Hektor, Project Manager, NPA South Iraq, Basrah, 28 April 2019.
- 6 Article 7 Report (covering 2020), Form F.
- 7 Interviews with Nibras Fakhir Matrood and Haitham Fattah Lafta, RMAC-S, Basrah, 29 April 2019; and Siraj Barzani, Director General, IKMAA, in Erbil, 9 May 2019.
- 8 DMA presentation to 2015 Mine Action Country Planning Workshop for Iraq, Istanbul, 13 May 2015; Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), "Capacity Development Support to National Mine Action Authorities in Iraq, Phase 1: Initial Assessment Mission", February 2012.
- 9 The Council is led by the Prime Minister and includes representatives of the ministries of defence, interior, oil, and environment, as well as the National Security Adviser and the head of IKMAA.
- 10 "Document of roles and responsibilities", undated but 2019, received by email from the DMA, 13 May 2019.
- 11 Interview with Gus Guthrie, NPA, in Geneva, 12 February 2020.
- 12 Email from Ahmed Aljasim, Head of Planning and Information, DMA, 15 April 2021; DMA Facebook post, 30 September 2020, at: <https://bit.ly/3eKuljX>.
- 13 Interview with Siraj Barzani, IKMAA, Erbil, 9 May 2019.
- 14 National Strategic Mine Action Plan, pp. 12, 18, 20, and 30.
- 15 Emails from Hannane Boulmaoui, Head of Programme Section, UNMAS Iraq, 16 April 2021; and Ahmed Aljasim, DMA, 23 July 2021.
- 16 Interviews with mine action stakeholders in Iraq, 28 April–6 May 2019.
- 17 Email from Arianna Calza Bini, GICHD, 27 July 2021.
- 18 Email from Jack Morgan, Country Director, MAG, 19 April 2021.
- 19 Email from Gus Guthrie, Country Director, NPA, 23 March 2021.
- 20 Email from Jack Morgan, MAG, 19 April 2021.
- 21 Email from Katie Shaw, Programme Manager, MAG, 29 June 2021.
- 22 FSD Blog, "Demining: women make their mark", January 2021.
- 23 Email from Nicholas Torbet, Deputy Head of Region, Middle East, North Africa and Afghanistan, HALO Trust, 12 April 2021.
- 24 Email from Jack Morgan, MAG, 19 April 2021.
- 25 Email from Gus Guthrie, NPA, 23 March 2021.
- 26 Interview with Nibras Fakhir Matrood, DMA RMAC South, Basrah, 29 April 2019; and email from Ahmed Aljasim, DMA, 23 July 2021.
- 27 Interviews with operators in Iraq, 28 April–6 May 2019.
- 28 Email from Ahmed Aljasim, DMA, 23 July 2021.
- 29 Emails from international operators, April 2021.
- 30 Email from Ahmed Aljasim, DMA, 23 July 2021.
- 31 Emails from international operators, April 2021.
- 32 Email from Ahmed Aljasim, DMA, 15 March 2021.
- 33 Statement of Iraq to the Ninth Meeting of States Parties to the CCM, Geneva, 2 September 2019.
- 34 Interview with Nibras Fakhir Matrood and Haitham Fattah Lafta, RMAC-S, Basrah, 29 April 2019.
- 35 Emails from Ahmed Aljasim, DMA, 15 April 2021; and from Hannane Boulmaoui, UNMAS Iraq, 16 April 2021.
- 36 Email from Haitham Fattah Lafta, RMAC-S, 12 August 2020.
- 37 Email from Haitham Fattah Lafta, RMAC-S, 26 April 2021.
- 38 Ibid.
- 39 Email from Marie-Josée Hamel, Regional Coordinator – Humanitarian Disarmament and Peacebuilding, DRC, 4 May 2021.
- 40 Emails from Gus Guthrie, NPA, and Chris Ramsden, Project Manager NPA South, 11 August 2020.
- 41 Emails from mine action implementing partners, April 2021.
- 42 Article 7 Report (covering 2020), Form F.
- 43 Email from Gus Guthrie, NPA, 23 March 2021.
- 44 Email from Haitham Fattah Lafta, RMAC-S, 26 April 2021.
- 45 Email from Chris Ramsden, NPA, 6 May 2021.
- 46 Article 7 Report (covering 2020), Form F.
- 47 Email from Gus Guthrie, NPA, 23 March 2021.
- 48 Article 7 Report (covering 2020), Form F; email from Haitham Fattah Lafta, RMAC-S, 26 April 2021.
- 49 Email from Ahmed Aljasim, DMA, 15 April 2021.
- 50 Article 7 Report (covering 2020), Form F.
- 51 Ibid; email from Haitham Fattah Lafta, RMAC-S, 13 May 2021.
- 52 Emails from Gus Guthrie, NPA, 23 and 26 March 2021.
- 53 Email from Marie-Josée Hamel, DRC, 4 May 2021.
- 54 Emails from Gus Guthrie, NPA, 23 March 2021; and Marie-Josée Hamel, DRC, 4 May 2021.
- 55 Email from Ahmed Aljasim, DMA, 15 April 2021.
- 56 Emails from Gus Guthrie, NPA, 11 May 2020 and 23 March 2021.