CAMBODIA

MINE ACTION REVIEW

CLEARING CLUSTER MUNITION REMNANTS 2025

KEY DATA

NO CCM ARTICLE 4 DEADLINE:

State not party to the CCM

CMR CONTAMINATION:

681KM^2

Heavy

(National authority estimate)

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS

Release of cluster munition-contaminated area	Release in 2024 (km^2)*	Release in 2023 (km^2)**
Clearance	55.25	38.24
Technical Survey	4.44	7.74
Non-Technical Survey	9.21	0.31

Destruction of submunitions during clearance, survey, and spot tasks	2024	2023
Submunitions destroyed	8,678 (including 698 in spot tasks)	7,800 (including 507 in spot tasks)

* Official data

** Operator data

MAIN CMR SURVEY AND CLEARANCE OPERATORS IN 2024:

- APOPO
- The Cambodian Mine Action Centre (CMAC)
- The HALO Trust
- Mines Advisory Group (MAG)
- Norwegian People's Aid (NPA)

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

Cambodia released close to 70km^2 of cluster munition-contaminated area in 2024, an increase of at least one third over the previous year, while identifying 26km^2 of previously unrecorded contamination. The result was a 7% drop in Cambodia's estimate of area thought to contain cluster munition remnants (CMR) as at the end of 2024, compared to a year earlier. The Cambodian Mine Action Centre (CMAC) reported starting an 18-month survey in April 2024 of all air-dropped ordnance, including cluster munitions. Cambodia adopted a national standard for mainstreaming gender and diversity during the year.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

- **Cambodia should accede to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) as a matter of priority.**
- **Cambodia should accelerate technical survey (TS) to establish a comprehensive, evidence-based baseline estimate of CMR contamination.**
- **Cambodia should review its national standard on baseline survey of CMR to ensure it aligns with the International Mine Action Standard (IMAS) technical note on CMRS.**
- **Cambodia should deliver a clear strategy and institutional framework for managing residual contamination.**

CLUSTER MUNITION SURVEY AND CLEARANCE CAPACITY

MANAGEMENT

- Cambodian Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority (CMAA)

NATIONAL OPERATORS

- Cambodian Mine Action Centre (CMAC)
- Cambodia Self Help Demining (CSHD)

INTERNATIONAL OPERATORS

- APOPO
- The HALO Trust (HALO)
- Mines Advisory Group (MAG)
- Norwegian People's Aid (NPA)

OTHER ACTORS

- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

UNDERSTANDING OF CMR CONTAMINATION

Cambodia reports CMR in 21 of its 24 provinces. Although it continues to identify significant areas of previously unrecorded contamination, the 681km^2 recorded at the end of 2024 (see Table 1) was 7% less than at the end of the previous year.[1]

The contamination results mainly from intensive bombing by the United States (US) during the Vietnam War and is concentrated in provinces bordering the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR) and Vietnam. Developing an evidence-based baseline assessment of contamination, however, remains a work in progress. Survey has added 52km^2 to the database in the last two years (25.6km^2 of this in 2024), but it also cancelled or reduced almost 14km^2 of cluster munition-contaminated area.[2] In July 2025, during military clashes along their common border, Cambodia said Thailand used cluster munitions in two attacks carried out in the vicinity of Phnom Khmaouch in Pursat province and Techo Thammachart village in Prey Vihear province.[3]

The uneven progress has resulted from changes in survey methodology. More than three quarters (77%) of the recorded contamination in 2024 consisted of suspected hazardous areas (SHAs) identified in a baseline survey of explosive ordnance conducted between 2009 and 2020. That survey used a mine survey methodology ill-suited to CMR hazards, producing inflated polygons which included large amounts of land with no CMR while missing areas that do contain unexploded submunitions. Since 2015, Cambodia has been using Cluster Munition Remnants Survey (CMRS) methodology and TS to identify confirmed hazardous areas (CHAs), which accounted for roughly one quarter (23%) of the 2024 contamination, up from 21% a year earlier.[4]

Two provinces bordering Lao PDR—Prey Vihear and Stung Treng—account for more than 40% of total contamination, but it consists almost entirely of SHAs. Most CHAs are in the eight provinces bordering Vietnam though survey in 2024 added a small number of CHAs in western provinces of Battambang and Banteay Meanchey and central Kandal province and Phnom Penh municipality.[5] CMAC embarked on a country-wide survey of explosive ordnance in 2024 expected to provide additional data when completed in 2025.[6]

Table 1: Cluster munition-contaminated area by province or region (at end 2024)

Province or region	CHAs	Area (m^2)	SHAs	Area (m^2)	Total area (m^2)
Banteay Meanchey	2	2,713	1	145,394	148,107
Battambang	2	97,679	0	0	97,679
Kampong Cham	107	19,149,118	54	11,495,869	30,644,987
Kampong Chhnang	0	0	16	2,062,617	2,062,617
Kampong Speu	0	0	85	12,366,578	12,366,578
Kampong Thom	23	4,741,550	391	77,110,289	81,851,839
Kampot	0	0	2	103,392	103,392
Kandal	7	1,194,531	58	5,494,016	6,688,547

1 Email from Hean Kimsin, Director, Social and Economic Planning Department, Cambodian Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority (CMAA), 16 May 2025.
2 Ibid.
3 Niem Chheng, "CMAA condemns Thai use of cluster munitions", *Phnom Penh Post*, 25 July 2025.
4 Email from Hean Kimsin, CMAA, 16 May 2025.
5 Ibid.
6 Interview with Heng Ratana, Director, CMAC, in Phnom Penh, 27 May 2024.

Table 1 continued

Province or region	CHAs	Area (m²)	SHAs	Area (m²)	Total area (m²)
Kratie	77	22,096,493	87	33,045,142	55,141,635
Mondul Kiri	0	0	52	20,921,805	20,921,805
Oddar Meanchey	0	0	1	26,326	26,326
Phnom Penh	1	214,846	17	1,505,640	1,720,486
Preah Sihanouk	0	0	14	2,984,350	2,984,350
Preah Vihear	0	0	102	173,627,595	173,627,595
Prey Veng	81	39,402,337	37	7,167,747	46,570,084
Pursat	0	0	6	1,203,341	1,203,341
Ratanak Kiri	199	28,957,282	363	20,685,597	49,642,879
Stung Treng	18	3,642,396	107	106,069,243	109,711,639
Svay Rieng	110	22,595,600	76	17,352,002	39,947,602
Takeo	0	0	9	1,675,366	1,675,366
Tboung Khmum	88	16,005,792	136	28,075,471	44,081,263
Totals	**715**	**158,100,337**	**1,614**	**523,117,780**	**681,218,117**

OTHER EXPLOSIVE REMNANTS OF WAR AND LANDMINES

Cambodia has extensive contamination by other explosive remnants of war (ERW) and landmines. This consists mainly of anti-personnel (AP) and anti-vehicle (AV) mined areas provisionally estimated to cover 424km² at the end of 2024[7] and unexploded ordnance (UXO) reported in 2022 to amount to 333km² (see Mine Action Review's *Clearing the Mines* report on Cambodia for further information).[8] Deep-buried AV mines pose a particular threat to rural communities.[9]

NATIONAL OWNERSHIP AND PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT

The Cambodian Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority (CMAA), established by royal decree in 2000, has a mandate to regulate, monitor, and coordinate the mine action sector in Cambodia. The CMAA has Prime Minister Hun Manet as its President and a government minister, Ly Thuch, as first vice president. Its Secretary General, Ly Panharith, who was appointed in January 2023, manages CMAA's planning and operations.[10] Since 2000, CMAC has conducted humanitarian and commercial survey and clearance as well as risk education and training.[11] It remains Cambodia's largest mine action operator.[12]

Since 2004, Cambodia has had Provincial Mine Action Committees (PMACs) and Mine Action Planning Units (MAPUs) in mine- and CMR-affected areas. These bodies draw up work plans for the CMAA's priority areas in consultation with affected communities in order to ensure that clearance addresses their housing, agricultural, and infrastructure needs.[13] MAPUs meet regularly with all mine action operators to plan annual mine action activities.[14]

The Cambodian government established a Technical Working Group on Mine Action (TWG-MA) as a consultative mechanism facilitating coordination between the government and implementing partners.[15] The Mine Action Coordination Committee (MACC) and seven Technical Reference Groups (TRGs) have been established by the CMAA to facilitate coordination and feedback at a strategic and technical level in areas such as survey and clearance, risk education, victim assistance, information management, gender, cluster munitions, and capacity development.[16] The CMAA convened a meeting of the TRG on survey and clearance in 2024 to review progress in establishing a baseline of CMR contamination.[17]

7 Email from Hean Kimsin, CMAA, 16 May 2025. In 2025, CMAC embarked on a survey of border areas expected to add previously unrecorded mined areas to the total.

8 Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC) Article 7 Report (covering 2021), Annex B.

9 Interview with Heng Ratana, CMAC, Phnom Penh, 27 May 2024.

10 CMAA, "Legal framework and mandate", at: http://bit.ly/2W7r3dJ.

11 CMAC, "20 Years' Achievement in Mine Action 1998-2018 and Path Ahead", 2018.

12 Interview with Heng Rattana, CMAC, Phnom Penh, 25 April 2019.

13 APMBC Article 5 deadline Extension Request, 28 November 2024, p. 10; and Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), "Landmines and Land Rights in Cambodia", December 2010, pp. 9 and 13.

14 Email from Zlatko Vezilic, Programme Manager, Norwegian People's Aid (NPA), 5 May 2020.

15 CMAA, National Mine Action Strategy 2018–2025, p. 24; and email from Tong Try, National Mine Action Adviser, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), 18 June 2019.

16 CMAA, National Mine Action Strategy 2018–2025, p. 24; and emails from Tong Try, UNDP, 18 June 2019 and 27 July 2021.

17 Email from Hans Risser, Country Director, NPA, 16 May 2025.

The CMAA receives technical support from a range of international organisations. The Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) has supported the upgrade of the CMAA's information management system, gender mainstreaming, and the development of Cambodian national mine action standards (CMAS).[18] Norwegian People's Aid (NPA), with funding from the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, provided financial and technical support for the CMAA database unit, including paying the salaries of seven employees, and supported the CMAA's quality management (QM) department, providing refresher training after the pandemic and funding one of the CMAA's QM teams.[19] The HALO Trust (HALO) provided financial support to quality assurance (QA) officers and training on the HSTAMIDS detector as part of capacity development of the CMAA under the UK FCDO-funded Global Mine Action Programme (GMAP) project.[20]

FUNDING FOR CMR SURVEY AND CLEARANCE

The government did not provide funding for CMR survey and clearance in 2024.[21] Between 2020 and 2024, international donors provided almost three quarters (73%) of funding for the mine action sector. The government provided nearly US$32 million in 2023, enabling deployment of military deminers, but was unable to follow up as planned in 2024.[22]

GENDER AND DIVERSITY

The CMAA is implementing a Gender Mainstreaming in Mine Action Plan (GMMAP) in line with the objectives of the National Mine Action Strategy 2018–2025, focusing on training, inclusive participation, and gender-responsive action. In September 2024 it adopted a national mine action standard on mainstreaming of gender and diversity in mine action, the first country to do so.[23]

The CMAA established a Gender Mainstreaming Team (GMT) in 2019 to coordinate with the Technical Reference Group on Gender (TRG-G), which is composed of representatives from UNDP, the Ministry of Women's Affairs (MoWA), the Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation (MoSVY), MAPUs, operators, and organisations working in risk education and victim assistance.[24] The TRG-G met twice in 2024 to review the CMAS on Gender.[25]

Table 2: Gender composition of the CMAA and operators in 2024[26]

Operator	Total staff	Women staff	Total managerial or supervisory staff	Women managerial or supervisory staff	Total operational staff	Women operational staff
CMAA	181	40 (22%)	76	13 (17%)	N/A	N/A
CMAC[27]	1,799	368 (20%)	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R
APOPO	102	39 (38%)	7	2 (29%)	84	18 (21%)
HALO	1,190	483 (41%)	108	15 (14%)	978	443 (45%)
MAG	523	199 (38%)	28	10 (36%)	449	174 (39%)
NPA	117	56 (48%)	10	3 (30%)	111	53 (48%)
Totals	**3,912**	**1,185 (30%)**	**229**	**43 (19%)**	**1,622**	**688 (42%)**

N/A = Not applicable N/R = Not reported

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES AND ACTION

The CMAA issued a national standard on Environmental Management in Mine Action (CMAS 20) in 2022. This requires operators to minimise the adverse impact of their operations on the environment; identify steps necessary to mitigate harm; and ensure that land is left in a suitable condition for its intended use. Operators are required to take account of erosion or soil

18 Email from the GICHD, 1 July 2020.
19 Email from Sron Samrithea, Programme Manager, NPA, 6 May 2023.
20 Email from HALO, 24 July 2025.
21 Email from Hean Kimsin, CMAA, 16 May 2025.
22 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, 28 November 2024, p. 18.
23 Email from Hean Kimsin, CMAA, 16 May 2025.
24 CMAA, National Mine Action Strategy 2018–2025, p. 22.
25 Email from Hans Risser, NPA, 16 May 2025.
26 Emails from Hean Kimsin, CMAA, 16 May 2025; Alexey Kruk, Country Director, MAG, 22 April 2025; and Hans Risser, NPA, 16 May 2025.
27 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, 28 November 2024, p. 15. In 2023, women reportedly held 5% of CMAC managerial or supervisory positions (2 out of 38) and made up 16% of its operational staff (204 out 1,072).

degradation; possible pollution of air, water, or soil; and damage to infrastructure, wildlife, and vegetation, while also dealing with litter, debris, and other waste as well as damage to heritage sites or objects.[28] The CMAA held a two-day workshop with demining operators in 2024 on environmental management.[29]

Table 3: Environmental policies and action

Operator	Environmental policy in place	Environmental assessments conducted to support planning and delivery of survey and clearance	Environmental focal point at country programme level
APOPO	Yes	No	No
CMAC	N/R	N/R	N/R
MAG	Yes	Yes	No
NPA	Yes	Yes	No

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING

The CMAA began upgrading its database from Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) New Generation to Core in 2023, which is now used by most operators. This has helped to keep the database up to date with the progress of survey and clearance. It retains IMSMA NG as an interim platform to receive data from CMAC. International operators submit reports directly through digital platforms using Survey123.[30]

In 2023, the CMAA temporarily suspended survey in order to clear a backlog of more than 1,100 survey reports accumulated on the workbench pending quality assurance checks. In 2024, it sought to streamline the process requiring operators to inform the CMAA before surveying tasks to facilitate QA and then allowing checked results to be uploaded to the database.[31]

The CMAA database is operated by an information management unit of 15 staff with the support of Norway through NPA, which covers the salaries of seven staff. In March 2025, it assigned a technical advisor to the unit.[32]

PLANNING AND TASKING

Cambodia's National Mine Action Strategy 2018–2025, officially launched in May 2018, set out to release 80% of 624km^2 of priority CMR hazardous areas, amounting to 499km^2.[33] By 2025, Cambodia reported release of about 43% of the prioritised area (268km^2),[34] but in the meantime previously unrecorded area identified in survey had swollen the estimate of remaining contamination to 681km^2 (see Table 1 above). The final draft of the National Mine Action Strategy 2026–2035, released in early 2025, sets a revised target of clearing all known CMR contamination by 2035.[35]

Provinces prioritised for survey and clearance include Kampong Cham, Kampong Thom, Kratie, Mondul Kiri, Prey Veng, Ratanak Kiri, Stung Treng, Svay Rieng, and Tbong Khmum. Annual work plans continue to be drawn up by operators in consultation with MAPUs taking account of local priorities, accident data, population density, and development plans.[36]

LAND RELEASE SYSTEM

STANDARDS AND LAND RELEASE EFFICIENCY

Mine action is conducted according to Cambodian Mine Action Standards (CMAS), which are broadly consistent with the IMAS.[37] In 2017, the CMAA approved in principle the CMRS methodology, which combines non-technical survey (NTS) and TS and adopted a national mine action standard for CMRS (CMAS 16) in 2018.[38]

28 Email from Tep Kallyan, CMAA, 9 May 2023; and CMAS 20.
29 Email from Hean Kimsin, CMAA, 16 May 2025.
30 Ibid.
31 Ibid.
32 Emails from Hean Kimsin, CMAA, 16 May 2025; and Hans Risser, NPA, 16 May 2025.
33 CMAA, National Mine Action Strategy 2018–2025, p. 9.
34 Email from Hean Kimsin, CMAA, 16 May 2025.
35 National Mine Action Strategy 2026-2035 (final draft), April 2025, p. 10.
36 Email from Hean Kimsin, CMAA, 16 May 2025.
37 Emails from Rebecca Letven, MAG, 7 April 2020; and Zlatko Vezilic, NPA, 19 March 2020.
38 Emails from Ros Sophal, on behalf of Prum Sophakmonkol, CMAA, 6 September 2020; and Portia Stratton, NPA, 4 September 2020.

The CMAA revised its standard for Baseline Survey (CMAS 14) to focus solely on landmines and released a new national standard for cluster munitions baseline survey (CMAS 24) in May 2024, setting guidelines to strengthen evidence-based survey.[39] However, the CMAS still calls for the creation of SHAs even when direct evidence of CMR contamination is identified, which does not align with the IMAS technical note 08.20/02 on CMRS.[40]

OPERATORS AND OPERATIONAL TOOLS

Survey and clearance of CMR in 2024 was conducted by one national operator (CMAC) and three international operators (APOPO, MAG, and NPA).

Table 4: Operational clearance capacities deployed in 2024[41]

Operator	Manual clearance teams	Total deminers	Animal detection capacity (dogs and handlers)	Mechanical assets/machines	Comments
APOPO			1 TSD team with 4 dogs and 4 handlers in Rattanakiri province	0	In partnership with MAG
CMAC	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	
MAG	10 BAC teams	85	0	4 drones Scorpion detection systems	MAG also deployed 3 TS teams with 30 staff who do not release land. Drones are used for mapping.
NPA	8	32	3 teams totalling 6 dogs and 6 dog handlers		
Totals	**18**	**117**	**10 dogs**	**4 drones**	

BAC = battle area clearance

CMAC, Cambodia's biggest operator, did not provide information on capacity committed to CMR survey and clearance in 2024. CMAC's 2023 annual report said it deployed eight CMR land release teams and six TS dog teams but did not give details of the numbers of personnel they employed.[42]

MAG capacity remained at the same level as in 2023, but reported higher productivity, thanks in part to APOPO's technical survey dogs and handlers. The four dogs, working approximately 3.5 hours a day, achieved higher productivity than a 10-deminer TS team working normal hours. In a 17-month trial period, the dogs lost one month to accreditation procedures but still surveyed 5,722,500m^2 compared with 5,715,000m^2 surveyed by the TS team.[43] NPA outputs rose sharply in 2024 after expanding its multi-task teams from two to eight with two teams conducting TS.[44]

HALO survey teams funded by the US Department of State's Office of Weapons Abatement and Removal (PM/WRA) deployed to five eastern provinces (provinces (Kampong Thom, Kampong Cham, Kratie, Stung Treng, Tboung Khmum) in the fourth quarter of 2024, conducting pre-clearance assessments and spot EOD tasks. In 2025, HALO has had four CMRS-trained teams in Kampong Thom province and planned to move battle area clearance (BAC) teams onto cluster munition tasks.[45]

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS AND PROGRESS TOWARDS COMPLETION

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS IN 2024

Cambodia reported release of a total of 68.9km^2 of cluster munition-contaminated area through survey and clearance in 2024 (see Table 5).[46] This represents a 36% increase over the Mine Action Review's estimate of the CMR area released in 2023. Official data and operator figures, which previously suffered from major discrepancies as a result of delays uploading survey and clearance results, were more closely aligned in 2024. Official data, however, still appears to understate the CMR area released in 2024, which Mine Action Review estimates may have reached 70.7km^2.[47]

39 Email from Hean Kimsin, CMAA, 16 May 2025.

40 CMAS 24 states the purpose of the CM Baseline Survey is to identify, define, and report SHAs. The IMAS Technical Note on CMRS states: "The CMRS report is a combination of NTS and TS. Therefore, it is not necessary to produce separate reports for NTS and TS."

41 Emails from Mick Raine, APOPO, 8 April 2025; Alexey Kuk, MAG, 22 April 2025 and Hans Visser, NPA, 16 May 2025.

42 CMAC Annual Report 2023, p. 7.

43 Email from Alexey Kruk, MAG, 22 April 2025.

44 Emails from Sron Samrithea, NPA, 15 May 2024; and Hans Risser, NPA, 16 May 2025.

45 Email from Angus Coleman, Senior Operations Officer, HALO, 31 May 2025.

46 Email from Hean Kimsin, CMAA, 16 May 2025.

CMAA data showed 8,678 submunitions destroyed in 2024, including 698 destroyed in spot tasks. Operator results for 2024 recorded a total of 8,110 submunitions destroyed in 2024, about 4% more than the previous year, and included 491 items destroyed in spot tasks.[48]

Table 5: Land release outputs in 2024 (official data)[49]

Release of cluster munition-contaminated area	Release in 2024 (m²)	Comments
Clearance	55,246,106	Operator data points to clearance of 56.3km²
Technical Survey	4,436,132	
Non-Technical Survey	9,208,364	
Destruction of submunitions during clearance, survey, and spot tasks	**2024**	**Comments**
Submunitions destroyed	8,678	Includes 698 destroyed in spot tasks

SURVEY IN 2024

The CMAA recorded a total of 9.2km² cancelled in 2024, a sharp rise from the 0.3km² cancelled in 2023. The CMAA for the first time included The HALO Trust among operators engaged on CMR tasks (see Table 6).[50] Most of the area cancelled by NPA was in central Kampong Thom province, though NPA said it cancelled a total of 9.7km², aided by two NTS teams funded by US funding.[51]

Table 6: Area cancelled through NTS in 2024 (official data)[52]

Operator	Province	Area cancelled (m²)
HALO	Kampong Cham	81,396
NPA	Kampong Chnnang, Kampong Thom, Kampot, Preah Sihanouk, Ratanak Kiri	9,126,968
Total		**9,208,364**

Technical survey by MAG in 2024 confirmed 10.8km² of hazardous area in Ratanak Kiri province in 2024, but did not release any land through area reduction, in contrast to the previous year, when it reported reducing 5km².[53] CMAC results similarly dipped, reducing 2.2km² in 2024 compared with nearly 7km² in 2023.[54]

Table 7: Area reduced through TS in 2024 (official data)[55]

Operator	Provinces	Area reduced (m²)
CMAC	Kampong Cham, Mondul Kiri, Prey Veng, Stung Treng	2,214,499
NPA	Ratanak Kiri	2,221,633
Total		**4,436,132**

CLEARANCE IN 2024

The 55.25km² officially reported as release through clearance in 2024 (see Table 8) supposedly represents a 150% hike in output over the 19.4km² officially recorded as cleared in 2023, but the official data in that year suffered from long delays uploading operating results. Drawing on operator data, Mine Action Review estimated total clearance in 2023 at 38.2km² and while the CMAA reportedly made significant progress in cutting down the backlog of operating results in 2024, operator results still suggest a higher amount of clearance amounting to 56.3km², 47% more than the estimated 2023 result.[56]

47 Emails from Hean Kimsin, CMAA, 16 May 2025; Alexey Kruk, MAG, 22 April 2025; and Hans Risser, NPA, 16 May 2025.
48 Emails from Alexey Kruk, MAG, 22 April 2025; and Hans Risser, NPA, 16 May 2025.
49 Email from Hean Kimsin, CMAA, 16 May 2025.
50 Ibid.
51 Email from Hans Risser, NPA, 16 May 2025.
52 Email from Hean Kimsin, CMAA, 16 May 2025.
53 Emails from Alexey Kruk, MAG, 11 April 2024 and 22 April 2025.
54 Email from Hean Kimsin, CMAA, 16 May 2025.
55 Ibid.
56 Emails from Hean Kimsin, CMAA, 16 May 2025; Alexey Kruk, MAG, 22 April 2025; and Hans Risser, NPA, 16 May 2025.

Operator data suggests CMAC cleared 43.46km^2 in 2024, 46% higher than in 2023.[57] MAG reported slightly higher clearance in 2024 (8.67km^2), attributing the improvement to more favourable topographical conditions in its assigned tasks,[58] but NPA, aided by the sharp, US-funded increase in its clearance capacity recorded the biggest increase, recording clearance of 4,152,496m^2, nearly four times the previous year's result.[59]

Table 8: CMR clearance in 2024 (official data)[60]

Operator	Province	Area cleared (m^2)	Submunitions destroyed	Submunitions destroyed in spot tasks
CMAC	Battambang, Kampong Cham, Kampong Thom, Kratie, Mondul Kiri, Prey Vihear, Prey Veng, Ratanak Kiri, Stung Treng, Svay Rieng, Tboung Khmum	41,667,854	6,833	249
MAG	Ratanak Kiri	9,425,756	599	344
NPA	Ratanak Kiri	4,152,496	548	17
Other[61]	Kampong Cham, Kampong Speu, Kampong Thom, Kratie, Prey Vihear, Siem Reap	0	0	88
Totals		**55,246,106**	**7,980**	**698**

PROGRESS TOWARDS COMPLETION

Cambodia's National Mine Action Strategy 2018–2025 gives priority to completing mine clearance but set a target of releasing 80% of known CMR contamination by 2025. The remaining 20% would be considered as "residual". At the time, it estimated CMR contamination at 645km^2 and aimed to release 499km^2 by 2025. Cambodia believed 30% could be released through cancellation or land reclamation and called for release of 44km^2 a year through TS or clearance. Land release in 2025 surpassed that annual target for the first time (see Table 9). The National Strategy for 2026–2035 does not set targets for land release.

Table 9: Five-year summary of CMR clearance

Year	Area cleared (km^2)
2024	55.25
2023*	38.24
2022	30.36
2021	20.58
2020	30.99
Total	**175.42**

* Mine Action Review estimate

PLANNING FOR MANAGEMENT OF RESIDUAL CONTAMINATION

Goal Seven of Cambodia's National Mine Action Strategy 2018–2025 is to establish a sustainable national capacity to address residual threats after 2025. The Strategy for 2026–2035 largely repeats that objective and calls for "a review of Cambodia's established legal, institutional and operational frameworks as well as development of cost-effective systems, mechanisms and tools".[62]

57 NPA, which quality assures operations by CMAC Demining Unit 5 for the PM/WRA, reported clearing 34,035,268m^2 of CMR contamination. In provinces cleared by other CMAC demining units, CMAA data showed it cleared 9,428,906m^2, suggesting total CMR clearance of 43,464,174m^2.

58 Email from Alexey Kruk, MAG, 22 April 2025.

59 Email from Hans Risser, NPA, 16 May 2025.

60 Email from Hean Kimsin, CMAA, 16 May 2025.

61 The CMAA reported that HALO explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) tasks in six provinces (Kampong Cham, Kampong Speu, Kampong Thom, Kratie, Prey Vihear, Siem Reap) destroyed 78 submunitions and CSHD destroyed a total of 10 submunitions in EOD tasks in Prey Vihear and Siem Reap provinces.

62 National Mine Action Strategy 2026–2035 (Draft), p. 6.