

KEY DATA

NO ARTICLE 4 DEADLINE:

State not party to the CCM

CMR CONTAMINATION:

18,092m²

Light
(national authority partial estimate)

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS*

Release of cluster munition-contaminated area	Release in 2025 (m ²)	Release in 2024 (m ²)
Clearance	218,750	4,053
Technical Survey	0	0
Non-Technical Survey	2,336,537	1,895,937
Destruction of submunitions during clearance, survey, and spot tasks	2025	2024
Submunitions destroyed	1,405	14

* Does not include land release conducted by national operators.

MAIN CMR SURVEY AND CLEARANCE OPERATORS IN 2025

■ DanChurchAid (DCA) ■ Danish Refugee Council (DRC) ■ The HALO Trust

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

The extent of survey and clearance of cluster munition-contaminated area increased in 2025 for the second year in a row despite the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) working only for five months. National ownership also strengthened, with development of a national mine action strategy and review of the national mine action standards (NMAS). Funding and operational challenges, however, persisted. The suspension of operations of 10 humanitarian organisations ordered by the Internal Security Agency (ISA) since May 2025 has significantly hindered progress, while a fragile political and financial environment continues to restrict programme performance.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

- Libya should accede to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) as a matter of priority.
- Libya should conduct a baseline survey to identify the extent of contamination from cluster munition remnants (CMR) and begin systematic clearance based primarily on humanitarian priorities.
- Libya should strengthen the Libyan Mine Action Centre (LibMAC)'s authority to coordinate mine action nationwide, and ensure all actors are tasked and report through one national mechanism.
- National authorities and relevant security actors should facilitate survey and clearance by accredited operators across the country. This includes resolving visa delays, import restrictions, and arbitrary suspensions of operations.

CLUSTER MUNITION SURVEY AND CLEARANCE CAPACITY

MANAGEMENT CAPACITY

- Libyan Mine Action Centre (LibMAC)

NATIONAL OPERATORS

- Free Fields Foundation (3F)
- The Safe Trust (Al-Thiqa al-Amena) (accredited, and supported by DCA)
- Libya Peace Organisation (accredited, and supported by DRC)

INTERNATIONAL OPERATORS

- DanChurchAid (DCA)
- Danish Refugee Council (DRC)
- The HALO Trust (HALO)

OTHER ACTORS

- United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS)
- Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD)
- ITF Enhancing Human Security (ITF)

UNDERSTANDING OF CMR CONTAMINATION

CMR contamination in Libya is largely the consequence of use of cluster munitions in the armed conflicts in 2011 and in the course of renewed conflict since 2014. As of April 2024, LibMAC had identified 18,092m² of area contaminated by CMR.¹ No more recent estimate of contamination is available.

In 2011, armed forces used at least three types of cluster munition: MAT-120 mortar projectiles, RBK-250 PTAB-2.5M cluster bombs, and Dual-Purpose Improved Conventional Munitions (DPICMs), which were delivered by rocket.² In early 2015, fighting between Libya's rival armed groups included reported use of cluster munitions, including RBK-250 PTAB-2.5M cluster bombs. The concerned attacks were on Bin Jawad near the port of Es-Sidr in February, and in the vicinity of Sirte in March 2015. The Libyan Air Force, controlled by the internationally recognised government, bombed both locations, although it denied using cluster munitions.³

In July 2019, LibMAC reported use of RBK-250-275 cluster bombs in three areas: Al-Hira Bridge (Al-Sawani), the Bir al-Ghanam area south-west of Tripoli (Nafusa Mountains), and Aziziya (south of Tripoli).⁴ The same year, Humanity & Inclusion (HI) reported three areas containing CMR identified during its operations. One cluster munition-contaminated area was confirmed in 2017 through non-technical survey (NTS) in the Nafusa mountains region, near the town of Kikla, in north-west Libya. In 2018–19, HI found further cluster munition strikes in Tawargha and Al Karareem.⁵

In May 2019, the Libya National Army (LNA), led by Khalifa Haftar, was accused of using cluster bombs in attacks in and around Tripoli.⁶ On 15 and 16 August 2019, aircraft of forces affiliated with the LNA dropped cluster munitions on Zuwarah International Airport, according to the United Nations (UN) Panel of Experts.⁷ Human Rights Watch has

claimed that forces aligned to Haftar also used cluster munitions in an airstrike in a residential area in Tripoli on or around 2 December 2019. The organisation visited the site on 17 December 2019 and found remnants of two RBK-250 PTAB-2.5M cluster bombs. The area was not known to be contaminated by cluster munitions before the attack.⁸

The HALO Trust (HALO) reported that cluster munitions were kicked out from explosions in ammunition storage areas in Misrata and Mizdah (north). HALO clearance in Misrata has included both open and unopen cluster munition containers, as well as submunitions. In Sirte (north centre), there is minimal evidence of presence of CMR, although HALO found 22 DPICM submunitions in 2021 and 28 submunitions in 2022. Of the 58 explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) call-outs conducted in Sirte in 2025, none involved CMR, confirming the assessment of minimal CMR presence in the city.⁹

Following years of relative calm, two days of intense fighting broke out in Tripoli in May 2025, with clashes involving heavy weaponry in densely populated areas, including Abu Salim and other districts across the capital. In August of the same year, an ammunition depot in Misrata (Skeirat) exploded, causing further explosive ordnance (EO) contamination. According to the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL), the blast was caused by the ignition of unstable munitions and triggered a large secondary explosion, affecting a radius of up to four kilometres, injuring 16 people and damaging several homes and commercial buildings. Clearance teams subsequently disposed of 8,702 items of explosive remnants of war (ERW) and cleared 7,419m² of 18,367m² classified as hazardous at the blast site.¹⁰ As at July 2026, HALO had cleared 17,378 items of ERW, but had not encountered evidence of cluster munitions during its clearance at the Misrata ammunition depot. HALO had, however, found stockpiled cluster munitions at the Misrata

1 Presentation by LibMAC, 27th International Meeting of Mine Action National Directors and UN Advisors, Geneva, 9–11 April 2024.

2 *Cluster Munition Monitor*, "Libya: Cluster Munition Ban Policy", last updated 27 July 2019.

3 Human Rights Watch, "Libya: Evidence of new cluster bomb use", 15 March 2015.

4 Email from Col. Adel Elatwi, Chief of Operations, on behalf of Brig. Turjoman, LibMAC, 4 July 2019.

5 Email from Catherine Smith, Head of Mission, HI, 12 March 2019.

6 *Cluster Munition Monitor*, "Libya: Cluster Munition Ban Policy", Last updated 27 July 2019; and "Tripoli forces claim successes and accuse Haftar of using cluster bombs and internationally banned phosphorus bombs", *Libya Herald*, 20 June 2019.

7 Human Rights Watch, "Libya: Banned Cluster Munitions Used in Tripoli", 13 February 2020, <http://bit.ly/3gAfq9G>.

8 Human Rights Watch, "Libya: Banned Cluster Munitions Used in Tripoli", 13 February 2020.

9 Emails from Zita Andrassy, Programme Officer Libya, HALO, 27 February 2022; Charles Fowle, HALO, 5 May 2024; and Julia Eckelmann, Programme Manager, HALO, 30 April 2026.

10 UNSMIL, "UN and Italy review progress on clearing Misratah blast site", 30 November 2025, <https://bit.ly/4x5UcrK>.

Air College ammunition storage area, totalling 1,472 submunitions identified since the task was opened in 2022 and during further clearance from 2024 onwards. Some carriers were damaged or destroyed during the unplanned

explosion at the site. HALO has therefore found individual submunitions scattered around the area, alongside complete containers. Most have been destroyed, with the exception of exposed or damaged containers which are unsafe to move.¹¹

OTHER EXPLOSIVE REMNANTS OF WAR AND LANDMINES

Libya is also contaminated by other ERW and by anti-personnel (AP) mines, including those of an improvised nature (see Mine Action Review's *Clearing the Mines* report on Libya for further information on the mine problem). There is also a problem with remotely detonated improvised explosive devices (IEDs).¹²

NATIONAL OWNERSHIP AND PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT

Mine action in Libya exists in a fragmented and occasionally violent political context. Since 2014, the country has been effectively split between east and west, with rival administrations governing in each area; the UN-backed Government of National Unity (GNU) in Tripoli (west), and the Government of National Stability (GNS), based in the eastern city of Benghazi, which is supported by the House of Representatives and backed by the LNA.¹³

LibMAC was mandated by the Minister of Defence to coordinate mine action in 2011.¹⁴ Operating under the GNU, LibMAC has its headquarters in Tripoli, with sub-offices in Misrata and Benghazi.¹⁵ ITF Enhancing Human Security (ITF), which started its capacity-building project in Libya in 2014, pays the salary of 25 LibMAC employees and covers essential operational expenses.¹⁶ DRC is supporting the capacity development of LibMAC, focusing primarily on victim assistance and risk education.¹⁷

The Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) also supports the capacity development of LibMAC on information management, national mine action standards, strategic planning, gender and diversity, and risk education.¹⁸ In February 2025, LibMAC and the GICHD launched a consultation workshop to develop a national mine action strategy with the participation of governmental agencies, civil society, and international organisations.¹⁹ In November of the same year, 20 participants, including from LibMAC, the military engineering unit, the National Safety Authority (NSA), and local and international operators, received training on quality management (QM).²⁰ In April 2026, LibMAC and the GICHD, with the involvement of the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) and support from the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA), held a workshop on prioritising risk education and land release in Libya.²¹

HALO organised two workshops in 2025 in coordination with LibMAC. The first, in July, was held in partnership with the GICHD to review mechanical land release practices and standards with a view to encouraging a review and updating of NMAS. Following the workshop, a committee was formed by LibMAC to carry forward the National Mine Action Standards (LibMAS) review process and selected the local operator, Free Fields Foundation (3F) to represent operators on that committee. The second workshop in December, following the ammunition storage area explosion in Misrata, sought to raise awareness of the risks of poor ammunition storage among national authorities, including the Ministry of Defence Chief of Staff's office, the Military Engineers, Ministry of Interior Criminal Investigation Department, the NSA, and LibMAC.²²

Libya's operating environment has been progressively restrictive. In 2023, the LNA ordered the suspension of three national and international mine action organisations operating in Benghazi and Sirte—DanChurchAid (DCA), DRC, and 3F—and seized vehicles and demining equipment, leading DRC and other organisations to halt all operations and close their office.²³ The suspension lasted for seven months, with the equipment only being returned to the operators in May 2024.²⁴

One year on, in May 2025, the ISA issued a directive requiring the suspension and closure of offices of 10 international aid organisations, including DRC. This led DRC to close its offices between April and September 2025, stand down its operational teams, cease NTS, battle area clearance (BAC), EOD, and risk education in the west of the country. DRC resumed limited humanitarian mine action capacity from its office in Tripoli in late 2025.²⁵ An ISA spokesperson publicly framed the crackdown, using racially charged language,

11 Emails from Emmelyne van Hooijdonk, HALO, 24 July and 3 August 2026.

12 "Lives and Limbs Shattered by Libya Mines", *Asharq Al-Awsat*, 5 April 2018, <https://bit.ly/468rYkR>.

13 "Libya's UN Missions panel finalizes set of options aimed at resolving elections' issues", *Reuters*, 2 May 2025, <https://bit.ly/4g7eprp>; "UN expert criticizes Libya political division, national election delays", *Jurist News*, 23 April 2026; and "Power without a throne: how Khalifa Haftar controls Libya", *The Guardian*, 5 March 2026, <https://bit.ly/44XVZTM>.

14 LibMAC website, accessed 9 May 2024, <http://bit.ly/2JqVr0S>.

15 Presentation of LibMAC, 27th NDM, Geneva, 9–11 April 2024.

16 ITF, "Annual Report 2025", p. 115.

17 Email from Almedina Musić, Humanitarian Mine Action and Peacebuilding Coordinator, DRC, 6 April 2026.

18 Email from Christelle Mestre, Advisor, Strategic Planning, GICHD, 17 July 2025.

19 LibMAC, "Consultation workshop to develop a national strategy for mine action in Libya", 10 February 2025, <https://bit.ly/4wtKijl>; and GICHD, "GICHD Outlook report 2025", p. 20.

20 LibMAC, "A training course in quality management to enhance mine action in Libya", (in Arabic), 18 November 2025.

21 LibMAC, "Conclusion of Workshop on Prioritizing Risk Education and Land Release in Libya", 15 April 2026, <https://bit.ly/3RruChT>.

22 Email from Julia Eckelmann, HALO, 30 April 2026.

23 Emails from Wajdi Alkhatib, DRC, 19 April 2024; and Tess Bresnan, UNMAS, 7 June 2024.

24 Email from Graeme Ogilvie, Country Director, DCA, 20 May 2025.

25 Email from Almedina Musić, DRC, 6 April 2026.

as being related to allegations of “resettling migrants” in the country.²⁶ These allegations were rejected by a group of NGOs, who in a joint press release, called on the Libyan authorities to reverse their decision and ensure an enabling humanitarian environment.²⁷

UNMAS deployed to Libya in 2011 and was then integrated into UNSMIL. As UNSMIL’s Mine Action Section, the UNMAS programme operates under the mandate of UN Security Council Resolution 2796 (2025), which calls for securing and effectively managing stockpiles, and clearing EO and ERW. In 2025, UNMAS supported the 5+5 Training Centre for Humanitarian Demining²⁸ for the third time, delivering training on the role of NTS and the land release process.²⁹

UNMAS and LibMAC chair regular Implementing Partner (IP) meetings, which are attended by donors and key mine action stakeholders, including DCA, DRC, and HALO.³⁰ DCA sees the IP meetings as an effective platform for keeping operators informed and for presenting challenges and progress to donors. They also commend LibMAC’s strong coordination of tasking.³¹ HALO suggested that coordination could be strengthened by organising more operationally oriented coordination meetings, which should be attended by all operators.

As in previous years, there was limited engagement from the eastern national authorities in the coordination forums. For example, the LibMAC East Coordinator attended only one IP meeting in Tripoli in 2025 and convened a meeting with operators in Benghazi that was attended by only two organisations, and without participation of international staff due to short notice and security clearance requirements. On the other hand, HALO noted an improved participation in IP meetings, with the Libyan Red Crescent and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), among others, increasing visibility of their activities in the East.³²

FUNDING FOR CMR SURVEY AND CLEARANCE

DCA has been supported by the United States (US) Department of State’s Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement (PM/WRA) who granted new funding in 2025, continuing a nine-year relationship in Libya. This support faced a short hiatus in 2025 which was quickly lifted. In addition, the Netherlands MoFA granted DCA five-year funding. Both donors will continue funding DCA in 2026.³⁷ DRC was funded by the Netherlands MoFA and the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA). The Dutch multi-country grant that started in September 2020 officially concluded in March 2025. DANIDA funding will run until

Accounts from operators vary in their assessments of the operational environment in Libya. DCA said it operated in an enabling environment where LibMAC and the relevant ministries facilitated the granting of visas and importation of equipment.³³ DRC reported that visas for international staff were often delayed by security and bureaucratic hurdles. Requests, memos, and official registration approvals continued to progress slowly due to procedural complexity. HALO’s international staff were, however, able to obtain six-month multiple-entry visas without challenge.

DRC reported that importation of equipment was complicated by customs and tax regulations. Specific restrictions apply to certain types of equipment, such as thermite and other controlled materials, which require special approvals or are prohibited altogether, while the import of EOD materials was only possible via Turkish North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) forces. HALO similarly noted that the importation of sensitive equipment requires support from national authorities and an extensive customs clearance process, significantly extending timelines. Moreover, the logistical constraints of moving assets between eastern and western Libya persisted.³⁴

The limited access to cash and the weak financial system have remained a further, long-standing obstacle to operations. Delays in money transfers have complicated cooperation with DRC’s national partner, the Libyan Peace Organization (LPO). According to HALO, while international transfers to Libyan bank accounts were possible, withdrawal limits and approval processes for internal transfers and withdrawals remained “challenging”.³⁵

In its Article 7 report under the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC), Türkiye said it provided the Libyan Armed Forces personnel with mine and IED and EOD training.³⁶

September 2026, and additional funding is expected in mid-2026 from the Agenzia Italiana per la Cooperazione allo Sviluppo (AICS) through a consortium with INTERSOS and WeWorld. DRC has engaged with key donors for its 2026 funding. However, funding was yet to be secured given that DRC did not have any survey or clearance teams in 2026. All the funding secured by DRC for 2026 will be allocated for risk education and victim assistance, and none is planned for survey and clearance.³⁸

26 “Libyan authorities suspend 10 international aid groups providing crucial assistance to migrants”, *AP News*, 8 April 2025, <https://bit.ly/4hPTbjb>.

27 ICJ, “Libya: Stop the crackdown on NGOs supporting migrants, refugees and asylum seekers”, 17 April 2025, <https://bit.ly/3U8BQYI>.

28 The 5+5 Training Centre for Humanitarian Demining (THCD) operates under Libya’s Ministry of Defence and promotes cooperation among the 5+5 initiative member states: France, Italy, Portugal, Malta, Spain, and Algeria, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, and Tunisia.

29 UNMAS website, Libya, last updated February 2026, <https://bit.ly/4wEel8y>.

30 Emails from Graeme Ogilvie, DCA, 30 March 2026; Almedina Musić, DRC, 6 April 2026; and Julia Eckelmann, HALO, 30 April 2026.

31 Email from Graeme Ogilvie, DCA, 20 May 2025.

32 Emails from Julia Eckelmann, HALO, 23 May 2025 and 30 April 2026.

33 Email from Graeme Ogilvie, DCA, 30 March 2026.

34 Emails from Almedina Musić, DRC, 6 April 2026; and Julia Eckelmann, HALO, 30 April 2026.

35 Ibid.

36 Türkiye APMBC Article 7 Report (covering 2024), Form I.

37 Email from Graeme Ogilvie, DCA, 30 March 2026.

38 Email from Almedina Musić, DRC, 6 April 2026.

HALO was funded for survey and clearance in 2025 by PM/WRA. In 2025, US funding was paused for one month in January–February due to the Foreign Assistance Review, but was then resumed. Italy and Spain provided funding to HALO through an UNMAS grant which financed local partner organisation teams conducting survey, clearance, and risk education in Misrata and Tripoli. Both the PM/WRA funding to HALO and UNMAS's sub-contract to the local partner organisation were continuing through 2026.³⁹ UNMAS was funded in 2025 by the UNSMIL Regular Budget and bilateral donors, including Italy and Spain.⁴⁰

For more information on funding, please see the country profile on Libya on the *Landmine and Cluster Munition Monitor* website.⁴¹

GENDER AND DIVERSITY

LibMAC does not have a gender and diversity policy for mine action in place. LibMAC disaggregates mine action data by sex and age.⁴² In February 2026, LibMAC organised a risk education training programme targeting 19 female social and psychosocial specialists from the Ministry of Education.⁴³

Table 1: Gender composition of operators in 2025⁴⁴

Operator	Total staff	Women staff	Total managerial or supervisory staff	Women managerial or supervisory staff	Total operational staff	Women operational staff
DCA	23	8 (35%)	7	3 (43%)	14	0 (0%)
DRC*	2	1 (50%)	2	1 (50%)	0	0 (NA)
HALO	38	2 (5%)	12	2 (17%)	26	0 (0%)
Totals	63	11 (17%)	21	6 (29%)	40	0 (0%)

* DRC figures include only its Humanitarian Mine Action personnel (which have been drastically reduced due to the suspension of activities) and not its entire DRC capacity in Libya.

In 2024, DCA continued to build the capacity of its all-female EOD and risk education teams until the project concluded in August. In 2026, thanks to approved funding from the Netherlands, DCA was re-establishing the all-women risk education and all-women NTS teams.⁴⁵ DRC's Humanitarian Disarmament and Peacebuilding Strategy 2024–2025 and action plan for Algeria–Libya–Tunisia includes a chapter on age, gender, and diversity (AGDM). A new Strategy for 2026–28 is under development and will continue to incorporate AGDM priorities.

Since 2025, DRC has systematically integrated age and gender disaggregation in all humanitarian mine action proposals and reporting, in line with the Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) and International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) 5.10 minimum requirements, with age, gender, and diversity oversight strengthened through the monitoring and evaluation department. Efforts to promote inclusion also included encouraging women's recruitment and reinforcing age, gender, and diversity principles through staff induction and mandatory trainings.⁴⁶

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES AND ACTION

Libya does not have an NMAS or policy on environmental management.⁴⁷

39 Email from Julia Eckelmann, HALO, 30 April 2026.

40 UNMAS website, Libya, last updated February 2026.

41 <https://the-monitor.org>.

42 Email from Col. Adel Elatwi, LibMAC, 22 April 2021.

43 LibMAC, "Delivering a mine and explosive ordnance training course" (translation from Arabic), 5 February 2026.

44 Emails from Graeme Ogilvie, DCA, 30 March 2026; Almedina Musić, DRC, 6 April 2026; and Emmelyne van Hooijdonk, HALO, 24 July 2026.

45 Emails from Graeme Ogilvie, DCA, 20 May 2025 and 30 March 2026.

46 Email from Almedina Musić, DRC, 6 April 2026.

47 Emails from Graeme Ogilvie, DCA, 1 April 2022; Alessandro Di Giusto, DRC, 7 March 2022; and Zita Andrassy, HALO, 27 February 2022.

Table 2: Environmental policies and action⁴⁸

Operator	Environmental policy in place	Environmental assessments conducted to support survey and clearance	Environmental focal point at country-programme level
DCA	No (but SOPs exist)	Yes	Yes
DRC	No (but SOPs exist)	Yes	No (No current survey or clearance operations in Libya)
HALO	Yes	No (Environmental factors are included in risk assessment tools applied to every HALO activity)	No (HALO's global environmental manager advises on country-level initiatives)

Between 2024 and 2026, DCA introduced several environmentally conscious practices, including replacing plastic and synthetic fibre sandbags with sustainable hemp alternatives and continuing the use of thermite lances to limit explosive use and prevent soil contamination. It also transitioned its field offices to solar energy. Additionally, DCA teams have been clearing land in support of the government's agro-ecology project, contributing directly to Libya's one million tree-planting carbon sequestration initiative and supporting broader climate change mitigation.⁴⁹

DRC continued to implement environmental measures in Libya in 2025, which included measures on vegetation clearance, waste management, and the planning and use of vehicles and generators. DRC applies a "do no harm" approach to minimise its environmental footprint.⁵⁰

In 2025, HALO hosted a United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) consultant debris management expert to propose applications for rubble recycling in HALO's area of operations in Misrata in 2026.⁵¹

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING

LibMAC receives technical support in information management (IM) from the GICHD and UNMAS. In 2023, LibMAC successfully upgraded its IMSMA database from the New Generation (NG) version to IMSMA Core.⁵² While the database contains extensive information, it is largely focused on major cities.

Further NTS is needed in the north, and anecdotal reports suggest additional contamination in the south. In some cases, hazard polygons for EO exceed 10km², and the time elapsed since initial survey indicates a need for resurveying. To address this, DRC re-surveyed both confirmed hazardous areas (CHAs) and suspected hazardous areas (SHAs) until the end of May 2025, when survey and clearance operations ceased in the west too.⁵³

According to HALO, data collected and entered into IMSMA Core from 2023 onwards were accessible and provide sufficient information on ongoing activities. Information gaps exist, however, in data collected before 2023, indicating the need to resurvey. A re-survey was conducted in Sirte in 2025 in an effort to address the prevalence of outdated survey data from 2021. But the challenge remains in Tripoli. Contamination mapping in the east and south is also very limited, particularly in the south, where recorded contamination does not reflect the scale of previous conflicts.⁵⁴

Operators report adequate access to the database.⁵⁵ HALO noted that QM reports are accessible through IMSMA Core, though retrieving them directly requires IM expertise.⁵⁶

DRC had ongoing discussions between its IM team and LibMAC to improve data accuracy to include a more detailed ERW categories database. The dialogue continued until May 2025, when the IM team was discharged.⁵⁷ HALO shared its QM guidelines with LibMAC, who then made internal efforts to adopt them, but these efforts remained on the IM level and have not been applied to field operations. HALO's field teams also had sessions with LibMAC's QM officers to facilitate the use of Survey123 and explain concepts of QM.⁵⁸

Field data collection via Survey123 has enabled faster data submission and improved issue visibility.⁵⁹ LibMAC has introduced measures to strengthen data reliability, including mandatory geotagging and submission through Survey123's photo capture function. Despite these steps, HALO reports limited evidence of field validation of operator reports on newly identified hazardous areas, items found or destroyed, and other key metrics. Increased visibility of quality assurance (QA) visits and reporting would contribute to data quality.⁶⁰

48 Emails from Graeme Ogilvie, DCA, 30 March 2026; Almedina Musić, DRC, 6 April 2026; and Julia Eckelmann, HALO, 30 April 2026.

49 Emails from Graeme Ogilvie, DCA, 20 May 2025 and 30 March 2026.

50 Email from Almedina Musić, DRC, 6 April 2026.

51 Email from Julia Eckelmann, HALO, 30 April 2026.

52 Email from Tess Bresnan, UNMAS, 3 May 2024.

53 Email from Almedina Musić, DRC, 6 April 2026.

54 Email from Julia Eckelmann, HALO, 30 April 2026.

55 Emails from Graeme Ogilvie, DCA, 20 May 2025; Yeison Zuluaga Gomez, DRC, 4 June 2025; and Julia Eckelmann, HALO, 23 May 2025.

56 Email from Julia Eckelmann, HALO, 30 April 2026.

57 Emails from Yeison Zuluaga Gomez, DRC, 4 June 2025; and Almedina Musić, DRC, 6 April 2026.

58 Email from Julia Eckelmann, HALO, 30 April 2026.

59 Email from Josh Ridley, HALO, 16 May 2024.

60 Emails from Julia Eckelmann, HALO, 23 May 2025 and 30 April 2026.

PLANNING AND TASKING

Libya's national mine action strategy is said to be under development. In 2024, LibMAC announced plans to develop a strategy with support from the GICHD and UNMAS.⁶¹ The GICHD conducted a general assessment of Libya's mine action programme in the second half of 2024 and subsequently assisted LibMAC with strategic planning. A strategy stakeholder workshop was held in October 2024, followed by a consultation workshop in February 2025. Both were co-organised by LibMAC and the GICHD and included participation from operators. These workshops produced a strategic theory of change for Libya. In October 2025, LibMAC's Director presented progress in the strategy development during a meeting with Deputy Special Representative of the UN Secretary General, and said that "consultations with the Ministries of Health and Education were underway to ensure an inclusive approach".⁶²

LibMAC reviews implementation plans and issues task orders in a timely and effective manner.⁶³ ERW-contaminated areas

in Libya are prioritised for clearance based on criteria set by LibMAC, in coordination with national authorities and in alignment with Ministry of Defence and donor priorities and agreements.⁶⁴ The prioritisation of tasking considers humanitarian impact, requests from local authorities and affected communities, socio-economic land use, and security and access conditions.⁶⁵

In 2024, following the intervention of the Libyan Reconstruction Fund/National Development Agency in redevelopment of hazardous areas in Sirte, LibMAC advised HALO to focus on ammunition storage areas as priority for clearance, given its unique mechanical clearance capability and the high demand for such capability across Libya.⁶⁶ HALO has since continued to prioritise ammunition storage sites affected by explosions, including the Skeirat site which it surveyed in September 2025 and planned to clear mechanically in 2026.⁶⁷

LAND RELEASE SYSTEM

STANDARDS AND LAND RELEASE EFFICIENCY

National mine action standards (LibMAS), in Arabic and English, have been elaborated with the support of the GICHD and UNMAS, and were approved by the then Government of National Assembly (GNA) in 2017. The LibMAS are available on the LibMAC website.⁶⁸ According to international clearance operators, the LibMAS are sufficient and aligned to IMAS.⁶⁹ But the national standards have not been updated since being approved in 2017. The GICHD and LibMAC conducted a workshop in June 2025 on NMAS review with the inclusion

of operators.⁷⁰ As at May 2026, the groundwork to review NMAS appears to be underway. HALO held a joint workshop with the GICHD and LibMAC specific to the mechanical land release standards, and DRC was expected to engage in the development of victim assistance related NMAS. LibMAC formed a technical committee to follow up on the review process, and selected 3F to represent operators in following up on the review process.⁷¹

OPERATORS AND OPERATIONAL TOOLS

Mine action operations have been conducted by government entities, in particular LibMAC as a leader in mine action response, but also the NSA, which is mandated to conduct EOD in civilian areas.⁷² These institutions liaise with LibMAC but are not tasked or accredited by them, nor do they provide clearance reports to the Centre.⁷³ Three national operators are currently active in Libya: 3F, The Safe Trust (Al-Thiqat Al-Amena), and LPO.⁷⁴ LPO, which partners with DRC, is accredited by LibMAC to conduct NTS, BAC, EOD, and risk education.⁷⁵

In 2025, LibMAC personnel opened 100 tasks, primarily focused on rapid response and mine and unexploded ordnance (UXO) clearance activities implemented by international and national operators. These activities were concentrated in the southern parts of Tripoli following the LNA withdrawal, as well as in Benghazi, Sirte, and Tawergha. In addition, LibMAC conducted 180 QA/quality control missions and completed 11 accreditation procedures for international and national operators covering NTS, risk education, and EOD tasks. A total of 103 tasks were completed in 2025.⁷⁶

61 Presentation of LibMAC, 27th NDM meeting, Geneva, 9–11 April 2024.

62 "UN Official: it is essential to intensify mine action efforts in Libya" (translation from Arabic), 24 October 2025.

63 Emails from Graeme Ogilvie, DCA, 30 March 2026; Almedina Musić, DRC, 6 April 2026; and Julia Eckelmann, HALO, 30 April 2026.

64 Emails from Graeme Ogilvie, DCA, 20 May 2025; Yeison Zuluaga Gomez, DRC, 4 June 2025; and Julia Eckelmann, HALO, 23 May 2025.

65 Emails from Graeme Ogilvie, DCA, 20 May 2025; and Yeison Zuluaga Gomez, DRC, 4 June 2025.

66 Email from Julia Eckelmann, HALO, 23 May 2025.

67 Email from Julia Eckelmann, HALO, 30 April 2026.

68 LibMAC website, accessed 20 May 2022, <https://bit.ly/3ldhvx2>; Report of the Secretary-General on UNSMIL, UN doc. S/2018/140, 12 February 2018, p. 12; and UNMAS, "Programmes: Libya", accessed 14 May 2022.

69 Emails from Catherine Smith, HI, 12 March 2019; Nicholas Torbet, HALO, 14 April 2020, and Charles Fowle, HALO, 5 May 2023.

70 Emails from Julia Eckelmann, HALO, Libya, 23 May 2025; and Christelle Mestre, GICHD, 17 July 2025.

71 Emails from Julia Eckelmann, HALO, 30 April 2026; Almedina Musić, DRC, 6 April 2026; and LibMAC, "Workshop on the development of NMAS for mine action and ERW", 30 July 2025.

72 Interview with Brig. Turjoman, LibMAC, in Geneva, 10 January 2017; and email from Tess Bresnan, UNMAS, 3 May 2024.

73 Email from Col. Adel Elatwi, LibMAC, 22 April 2021.

74 Presentation of LibMAC to the 27th NDM meeting, Geneva, 9–11 April 2024; and email from Christelle Mestre, GICHD, 17 July 2025.

75 Free Fields Foundations (3F) website, accessed on 20 May 2024, <https://bit.ly/4bnui8h>; and email from Wajdi Alkhatib, DRC, 10 June 2024.

76 ITF, "Annual Report 2025", p. 113.

Table 3: Operational survey capacities deployed in 2025⁷⁷

Operator	NTS teams	Total NTS personnel	Comments
3F*	2	6	
DCA	1	8	NTS teams also conduct TS
DRC	1	3	Only deployed until May 2025
HALO	1	4	
LPO*	2	6	
Totals	7	27	

* This information was last updated in 2021.

Table 4: Operational clearance capacities deployed in 2025⁷⁸

Operator	Manual/mechanical clearance teams	Total deminers	Mechanical assets/machines	Comments
DCA	1	N/K	3	TS team is also BAC team.
DRC	1	4	0	BAC/EOD team deployed until the end of May 2025.
HALO	2	5	3	HALO has two mechanical clearance teams of 5 and 4 personnel, respectively.
Totals	4	9	6	

Now in its fifteenth year of working in Libya, DCA has offices in Misrata, and Tripoli, and is accredited to conduct clearance and EOD tasks.⁷⁹ DCA expected to increase its survey capacity by re-establishing the all-female NTS and EOD team in 2026.⁸⁰

DRC has been working in Libya since 2011 and has had three offices: in 2013–23 in Sabha (southern region); in 2018–23 in Benghazi (eastern region); and since 2011 in Tripoli. Both Sabha and Benghazi offices have been closed since 2023, with one staff member maintaining a remote presence in Benghazi. Prior to the disbandment of all its teams and discharge of personnel in May 2025 in Tripoli, DRC had the capacity of one EOD team, one NTS team, two risk education teams, and a capacity-building project with its partner organisation LPO. Following the suspension order in May 2025, DRC had no operational teams or staff in Libya until August 2025, when a national Humanitarian Mine Action (HMA) Coordinator was reassigned. An international Humanitarian and Disarmament Peacebuilding (HDP) Coordinator was subsequently recruited in October 2025.

As at May 2026, all DRC activities, including limited HMA, were managed from its main office in Tripoli, with HMA activities primarily focused on capacity building of national partners, including LPO and LibMAC. Subject to funding,

DRC plans to recruit one IM officer and one extended risk education team. Survey or clearance capacities were not foreseen for 2026.⁸¹

HALO has been present in Libya since 2018 and has offices in Misrata and Sirte, as well as liaison presence in Benghazi.⁸² In 2025, HALO's mechanical teams continued working at the Misrata Air College ammunition storage area and was continuing bunker clearance in 2026. HALO's multi-task team responded to EOD call-outs in Sirte throughout 2025 and conducted re-survey, as well as emergency EOD support following the Skeirat explosion in August 2025. Pending approval of funding in 2026, HALO was seeking to deploy a mechanical clearance team in Sirte to clear areas affecting the airport and Ibn Sina hospital as requested by the airport authority.⁸³

The national operator, 3F, was established in 2012 and began partnering with DCA in 2014. In 2018, 3F was accredited by LibMAC to conduct NTS, EOD, BAC, and risk education.⁸⁴ 3F completed a TS and clearance of landmines and ERW of Tripoli Zoo site in October 2025, where military points had been positioned during the May 2025 clashes in Tripoli.⁸⁵

⁷⁷ Emails from Col. Adel Elatwi, LibMAC, 22 April 2021; Graeme Ogilvie, DCA, 30 March 2026; Almedina Musić, DRC, 6 April 2026; and Julia Eckelmann, HALO, 30 April 2026.

⁷⁸ Emails from Graeme Ogilvie, DCA, 20 May 2025; and Julia Eckelmann, HALO, 23 May 2025.

⁷⁹ Email from Graeme Ogilvie, DCA, 22 July 2025.

⁸⁰ Email from Graeme Ogilvie, DCA, 20 May 2025.

⁸¹ Emails from Wajdi Alkhatib, DRC, 19 April and 10 June 2024; and Almedina Musić, DRC, 6 April 2026.

⁸² Email from Julia Eckelmann, HALO, Libya, 23 May 2025.

⁸³ Email from Julia Eckelmann, HALO, 30 April 2026.

⁸⁴ 3F website, accessed on 4 May 2026.

⁸⁵ LibMAC, "LibMAC continues clearing contaminated sites in Tripoli following the recent clashes" (translation from Arabic), 14 August 2025, <https://bit.ly/4xdcebv>; and LibMAC, "Libyan Center Issues Land Clearance Certificate for Tripoli Zoo Site", October 2025, <https://bit.ly/4wD9F2l>.

The Safe Trust organisation completed a task for clearing landmines and ERW in a land plot located at the wildlife park in Tripoli in 2025, and LibMAC issued a clearance certificate of the site in January 2026.⁸⁶ LPO disposed of two tons of UXO in April 2025 in a demolition site east of Misrata.⁸⁷ It was

not reported whether any of the EO cleared and disposed of by any of the national operators were CMR. All the three national operators, in addition to HALO, were part of the EOD emergency response to the Skeirat ammunition site explosion in Misrata.⁸⁸

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS AND PROGRESS TOWARDS COMPLETION

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS IN 2025

Table 5: Land release outputs in 2025*

Release of cluster munition-contaminated area	Release in 2025 (m ²)	Comments
Clearance	218,750	Operator data
Technical Survey	0	Operator data
Non-Technical Survey	2,336,537	Operator data
Destruction of submunitions during clearance, survey, and spot tasks	2025	Comments
Submunitions destroyed	1,405	Operator data

* Figures do not include land release conducted by national operators.

SURVEY IN 2025

A total of 2.3km² of cluster munition-contaminated area was cancelled through NTS by DRC in Libya (See Table 6).⁸⁹ Despite only operating during the first five months of the year, 2025 survey output increased significantly compared to 2024 when DRC cancelled 1.9km² of CMR-contaminated area. There has been no land reduction through TS in Libya in 2025 or 2024.⁹⁰

Table 6: Cancellation through NTS in 2025⁹¹

District	Operator	Areas cancelled	Area cancelled (m ²)	Comments
Tripoli (Tripoli wide)	DRC	3	2,336,537	TS team is also BAC team.
Totals		3	2,336,537	

CLEARANCE IN 2025

In 2025, a total of 218,750m² of cluster munition-contaminated area was cleared by DRC and HALO, with 1,405 submunitions, 1 AP mine, and 7,328 items of UXO destroyed in the process (see Table 7). This is a sharp increase from 2024 where nearly 4,053m² of cluster munition-contaminated area was cleared and 14 submunitions destroyed.⁹²

Table 7: CMR clearance in 2025⁹³

Area	Operator	Areas cleared	Area cleared (m ²)	Submunitions destroyed	AP mines destroyed	Other UXO destroyed
Tripoli/ Ain Zara	DRC	1	*214,462	**1,319	1	21
Misrata	HALO	6 (bunkers)	4,288	86	0	7,307
Totals		7	218,750	1,405	1	7,328

* DRC's total tasked area was 351,657m², of which 137,195m² remained uncleared due to suspension of operations. ** DRC team detected a total of 1,433 submunitions and other ERW. Of this, DRC managed one bulk demolition to destroy 1,341 various remnants (mainly 7.62mm and 14.5mm small arms ammunition). A total of 92 various types of ERW remain in temporary storage managed by LibMAC, which includes 80x 155mm projectiles, 1 rocket, 10 units of low explosive propellant, and 1 UXO mortar.

86 LibMAC, "Libyan Mine Action Center Hands Over Clearance Certificate for Land Plot at the Wildlife Park in Tripoli", January 2026, <https://bit.ly/4526VQk>.

87 LibMAC, "The disposal of two tons of unexploded ordnance" (translation from Arabic), 24 April 2025.

88 LibMAC, "EOD teams deal with over 3700 explosive ordnance during the EOD emergency response", 1 September 2025.

89 Email from Almedina Musić, DRC, 6 April 2025.

90 Emails from Yeison Zuluaga Gomez, DRC, 4 June 2025.

91 Email from Almedina Musić, DRC, 6 April 2026.

92 Emails from Almedina Musić, DRC, 6 April 2026; and Julia Eckelmann, HALO, 30 April 2026.

93 Email from Julia Eckelmann, HALO, 23 May 2025.

In 2025, both of HALO's mechanical clearance teams were deployed to Misrata Air College Ammunition Storage Area bunker tasks for the whole year. HALO had begun bunker clearance in August 2024.⁹⁴

PROGRESS TOWARDS COMPLETION

Libya is not yet a State Party to the CCM. Nonetheless, it has obligations under international human rights law to clear CMR as soon as possible.

Libya saw a steady increase in survey and clearance of cluster munition-contaminated areas in 2024 and 2025, following a year of inactivity in 2023. However, the understanding of the extent and location of CMR contamination in the country is still limited and a comprehensive survey is needed.

Progress towards developing a national mine action strategy and the ongoing efforts to review and update the NMAS are promising. Other areas of progress included the resurvey in Sirte and Tripoli which is helping improve the quality of IMSMA data, and the effective coordination of the emergency EOD response to the ammunition storage explosion in Misrata. There have also been signs of greater political engagement, with Libya's prime minister and cabinet participating in a roundtable on victim assistance, drawing increased involvement of ministries and decision makers into mine action discussions. LibMAC, for its part, has shown willingness to support international operators in mobilising funding. Greater engagement by Libya's national authorities

in international and global reporting processes is also important to provide visibility of Libya's mine action sector and maintain critically needed donor attention and support.⁹⁵

Yet, these advances are taking place in an increasingly restrictive operating environment. The repeated and unpredictable shutdowns of humanitarian actors continue to frustrate progress and further complicate the funding prospects. In addition, Libya's west-east political dynamics is an impediment to effective country-wide coordination. Administrative obstacles and a fragile financial system restrict access, delay operations, and complicate the movement of funds and resources.⁹⁶

Strengthening the political positioning and institutional role of LibMAC is critical, as it is the only national authority with a nationwide mandate across the civil-military divide. Enhanced support from operators and UNMAS to reinforce LibMAC's role as the central coordinating body and reporting authority would help ensure comprehensive data capture in IMSMA, improve nationwide coordination, and support efforts to address risks related to unsafe ammunition storage, an area of increasing donor focus.⁹⁷

94 Emails from Julia Eckelmann, HALO, 23 May 2025 and 30 April 2026.

95 Emails from Almedina Musić, DRC, 6 April 2026; and Julia Eckelmann, HALO, 30 April 2026.

96 Ibid.

97 Email from Julia Eckelmann, HALO, 30 April 2026.