

KEY DATA

APMBC ARTICLE 5 DEADLINE:

State not party to the APMBC

AP MINE CONTAMINATION:

215km²

Heavy

(National authority estimate)

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS

Release of AP mined area	Release in 2024 (km ²)	Release in 2023 (km ²)
Clearance	2.28	0.27
Technical Survey	0	0
Non-Technical Survey	*2.19	0.65

Destruction of AP mines during clearance, survey, and spot tasks	2024	2023
AP Mines destroyed	Not reported	(approx.) 17,480

*Conducted by the Israel Defence Forces (IDF) and the result of five years of survey.

MAIN AP MINE SURVEY AND CLEARANCE OPERATORS IN 2024:

- IMAG
- 4M
- Minefree
- AMAN
- QUADRO Projects & Technologies LTD
- IEOD
- The HALO Trust (HALO)

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

Israel reported almost 215km² of anti-personnel (AP) mined area as at the end of 2024, and said that 4.47km² of AP mined area had been released during the year. The Israeli Mine Action Authority (INMAA) oversaw clearance of 2.28km² while the Israel Defence Forces (IDF) Engineering Corps cancelled a further 2.19km² of hazardous area containing AP mines, the result of 5 years' survey efforts. This is a huge increase in the release of AP mine contamination from the previous year, when INMAA reported release of 924,000m² of AP mined area.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

- Israel should accede to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC) as a matter of priority.
- Israel should clear AP mines in areas under its jurisdiction or control as soon as possible, consonant with its obligations under international human rights law.
- Israel should refrain from laying AP mines.

AP MINE SURVEY AND CLEARANCE CAPACITY

MANAGEMENT

- Israeli Mine Action Authority (INMAA)

NATIONAL OPERATORS*

- Israel Defence Forces (IDF)
- IMAG
- 4M
- Minefree
- AMAN
- QUADRO Projects & Technologies LTD
- IEOD
- GA-MAN (Quality Assurance/Quality Control (QA/QC))
- 4CI SECURITY LTD (QA/QC)
- OpMS-Open Minded Solutions Ltd (QA/QC)

INTERNATIONAL OPERATORS

- The HALO Trust (HALO)

OTHER ACTORS

- None

*INMAA indicated in 2024 that only two of five active companies (IMAG and 4M) had won contracts to undertake mine clearance in the past two years, but did not name the other three active companies.¹

UNDERSTANDING OF AP MINE CONTAMINATION

INMAA reported comprehensive data on AP mined area and land release for a second consecutive year in 2024, declaring a total of more than 271.32km² of combined AP and anti-vehicle (AV) mined area across Israel (see Table 1), compared to the equivalent 271.84km² the previous year. Of the total mined area, 214.76km² contained AP mines, with 106.44km² across 2,900 confirmed hazardous areas (CHAs)

and 108.32km² across 383 suspected hazardous areas (SHAs) (see Table 2).² This compared to the equivalent figure for total mined area containing AP mines of 215.66km² the previous year. The difference in AP mine contamination between end of 2023 and end of 2024 does not, however, reconcile with the amount of land released in 2024.

Table 1: AP and AV mined area (at end 2024)³

Type of contamination	CHAs	Area (km ²)	SHAs	Area (km ²)	Total SHA and CHAs	Total Area (km ²)
AP mines only	2,898	107.25	0	0	2,898	107.25
AV mines only	1,713	55.28	0	0	1,713	55.28
AP and AV mines	16	0.47	383	108.32	399	108.79
Totals	4,627	163.00	383	108.32	5,010	271.32

Table 2: AP mined area by region (at end 2024)⁴

Region	CHAs	Area (km ²)	SHAs	Area (km ²)	Total SHA and CHAs	Total Area (km ²)
Central region	809	4.49	45	10.83	854	15.32
Northern region	2,034	101.90	281	9.13	2,315	111.03
Southern region	57	0.05	57	88.36	114	88.41
Totals	2,900	106.44	383	108.32	3,283	214.76

1 Email from Shahar Back, Director, INMAA, 15 July 2024.

2 INMAA questionnaire 2025.

3 Ibid.

4 Ibid. There is a small discrepancy between the sum of the area containing AP mines and mixed AP and AV mines from Table 1 (216.04km²) and the total size of SHAs and CHAs containing AP mines in Table 2 (214.75km²).

No previously unrecorded AP mined area was added to INMAA's contamination database in 2024.⁵

In its Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) Amended Protocol II Article 13 report covering 2023, Israel repeated that the IDF had again made "significant progress" in re-surveying mined areas and in examining the possibility of area cancellation, following the completion of a fully detailed non-technical survey (NTS),⁶ as it had stated in previous reports. It did not specifically reference such activities in its CCW Amended Protocol II Article 13 report covering 2024. It did, however, indicate that the IDF continued its annual programme to reduce the number of mined areas, and stated that INMAA continued clearance and land release operations intended for civil use.⁷

The head of INMAA told media in 2020 that of the estimated total of 200km² of mined area in Israel, half was essential to Israel's national security while the remaining 100km² was to be cleared in order of priority. An Israeli Ministry of Defence map shows mines planted in a series of hotspots along the eastern border. The minefields start from the north-eastern borders with Syria in the Golan Heights, with high concentration around the sea of Galilee (also known as the Tiberias Lake). Mined areas stretch southwards along the Jordan Valley (east) all the way to the southern region of Eilat bordering Egypt.⁸ It is not clear whether the Ministry of Defence map includes the minefields considered essential to Israel's security or only the ones that are to be cleared.

Israel's mine problem dates back to the Second World War. Subsequently, Israel laid significant numbers of mines along its borders, around military camps and training areas, and near civilian infrastructure. In August 2011, Israel's military reported planting new mines to reinforce minefields and

other defences along its de facto border with Syria in the Golan Heights.⁹ The extent of mines laid by Syrian forces remains largely unknown although certain areas have been fenced off by the IDF. According to a 2017 online media report, however, fencing is not always properly maintained with warning signs, and civilians occasionally cross into minefields looking for edible plants.¹⁰

In addition, Israel controls AP mined areas in the West Bank (see the *Clearing the Mines* report on Palestine for further details).

Following the Hamas attack on Israel on 7 October 2023, media reports claimed that the IDF had used mines to seal the border with Gaza, which was breached in the attack.¹¹ The unverified reports did not specify whether AP and/or AV mines were thought to have been used or if the mines extended into the Gaza Strip, and INMAA has categorically denied that Israel used mines to seal the border or that it had emplaced landmines in Gaza since October 2023.¹² No further reports alleging the emplacement of mines at the border with Gaza since October 2023 have been identified. In a statement to the Twenty-First Meeting of States Parties to the APMBC in November 2023, Israel acknowledged that some of its borders were "protected" by landmines and indicated that it continued to view AP mines as "an essential defensive tool".¹³

Media sources also reported, at the end of 2023 and beginning of 2024, that some security experts had proposed that landmines could prevent any future invasion of Israel,¹⁴ and that Israel was preparing to create a buffer zone, encroaching on territory in Gaza, using landmines.¹⁵ No further reports, though, have been identified which indicate that any such plans existed or were taken forward.

NATIONAL OWNERSHIP AND PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT

A March 2011 law on minefield clearance established the INMAA to undertake a "comprehensive programme of mine clearing projects inside Israel".¹⁶ The law's aim was "to create a normative infrastructure for the clearance of minefields that are not essential to national security, and to declare them as free from landmines with the highest degree

of safety to civilians, in accordance with the international obligations of the State of Israel, and within the shortest period of time possible."¹⁷ A National Minefield Clearance Fund was established in 2011 pursuant to the provisions of the Act, to receive, manage, and allocate donations.¹⁸

5 Ibid.

6 CCW Amended Protocol II Article 13 Report (covering 2023), Form B.

7 Amended Protocol II Article 13 Report (covering 2024), Form B.

8 "Below the surface: Israel's mine map is exposed", *N12*, 19 September 2020, at: <https://bit.ly/3xfQ9KV>.

9 "Israel army plants new mines along Syria border", *Associated Press*, 13 August 2011.

10 "New Golan mine-clearing project to begin this summer", *Jerusalem Post*, 16 March 2017, at: <http://bit.ly/2MyEKbc>.

11 "IDF says Gaza border finally sealed, bodies of 1,500 terrorists found inside Israel", *The Times of Israel*, 10 October 2023, at: <https://bit.ly/3XYrT08>; "Israeli forces plant mines after securing Gaza border as fighting continues to intensify", *SBS*, 10 October 2023, at: <https://bit.ly/4cT7aPq>; and "Hamas and Israel at war: what we know on day 4", *The Guardian*, 10 October 2024, at: <https://bit.ly/4cVKIL3>.

12 Email from Shahar Back, INMAA, 23 July 2024.

13 Statement of Israel on Universalisation, APMBC Twenty-First Meeting of States Parties, Geneva, 23 November 2023.

14 "Landmines proposed as solution for Israel's border protection", *Globes*, 12 December 2023, at <https://bit.ly/4bKzpzT>.

15 "Hamas blasts Israel's plan to create buffer zone in Gaza as a 'crime'", *Al Jazeera*, 25 January 2024, at: <https://bit.ly/3W4Ga8Z>.

16 Minefield Clearance Law 5771-2011 of March 2011, unofficial translation at: <http://bit.ly/2GD0QgJ>; Amended Protocol II Article 13 Report (covering 2010), Form A. Form A refers to details provided in Form D, but the information in Form D has been deleted.

17 Minefield Clearance Law 5771-2011.

18 Amended Protocol II Article 13 Report (covering 2024), Form D; and email from Shahar Back, INMAA, 23 July 2024.

In 2019, the director of INMAA reported that a new local law had given INMAA responsibility for clearing former military bases and for addressing abandoned explosive ordnance (AXO), unexploded ordnance (UXO), and AV mines. Prior to this, the INMAA had only had responsibility for addressing AP mines and mixed mined areas.¹⁹ Under the Minefield and Unexploded Ordnance Clearance Bill (Amendment 2), adopted by the Knesset in 2023, INMAA's responsibilities were extended to AV mined areas and UXO-contaminated areas. In addition, INMAA can now collect fees from developers for minefield clearance; a similar provision allowing INMAA to charge for UXO clearance was made permanent.²⁰

INMAA was established within the Ministry of Defence, with staff responsible for planning mine action.²¹ INMAA was charged with clearing and releasing land intended for civilian use.²² It assumed responsibility for the following:

- establishment of a national policy for mine clearance; liaison with operators to conduct demining
- oversight of clearance and contacting relevant military commanders to open military zones
- coordination with the IDF and government authorities
- managing the deployment of private contractors for clearance; earmarking of government budgets for such activities
- public relations so as to increase awareness of existing minefields; and
- preparation of annual and long-term demining plans.²³

The national authority seeks to build its capacity and expertise through collaboration with research institutions and universities, particularly in the field of explosive ordnance (EO) and object detection technologies.²⁴

FUNDING FOR AP MINE SURVEY AND CLEARANCE

INMAA said that it is dedicating substantial resources and employing all available means to ensure clearance of AP mines. In 2024, the Government of Israel allocated a budget of NIS37 million (approx. US\$11 million) to the INMAA, which includes funding for survey and clearance of mined areas.²⁵

This is a significant increase on INMAA's general budget in 2023 provided by the government, which was NIS27 million (approx. US\$7.5 million). In addition, HALO continued to receive international donor funding for AP mine clearance in the West Bank in 2024.²⁶

GENDER AND DIVERSITY

INMAA operates in accordance with the instructions of the Civil Service Commissioner on the issue of gender and diversity.²⁷ While none of INMAA's five operational positions were occupied by a woman in 2024, three of nine supervisor/managerial positions were held by women (see Table 3).²⁸ INMAA states that it actively promotes gender inclusion and diversity by integrating women into both clearance operations and site management roles and that there is a standing policy supporting the full integration of women in mine clearance and management roles across all planning frameworks.²⁹ INMAA does not have a gender and diversity policy and implementation plan tailored to mine action, but points to the Israel Open Government National Action Plan and the Advancing Equal Pay For Women and Men in the Workplace Employer's Manual as providing relevant policy and guidance. Mine action data, however, are not disaggregated by gender or age.³⁰

Under its contracts with operating companies, INMAA reports that, in theory, there is equal access to employment for women and men through tenders that are published by the State Commission. However, because of the way Israeli military service functions, more qualified men than women are able to compete in the process. In 2024, INMAA was to publish new qualification requirements for clearance operators, which would allow employees to be trained and approved by the operators or at professional schools in compliance with the INMAA national standards;³¹ no subsequent updates were available.

19 Interview with Marcel Aviv, Director, INMAA, in Geneva, 7 February 2019.

20 Email from Shahar Back, INMAA, 15 July 2024.

21 Email from Michael Heiman, formerly INMAA, 26 May 2018.

22 Amended Protocol II Article 13 Report (covering 2020), Form B.

23 IDF website, "Israel National Mine Action Authority", accessed 17 August 2022 at: <https://bit.ly/3AmMLAT>; and Amended Protocol II Article 13 Report (covering 2024), Form D.

24 INMAA questionnaire 2025.

25 Ibid.

26 Email from Ronen Shimoni, Programme Manager, HALO, 3 June 2025.

27 Email from Shahar Back, INMAA, 15 July 2024.

28 INMAA questionnaire 2025.

29 Ibid.

30 Ibid.

31 Email from Shahar Back, INMAA, 15 July 2024.

Table 3: Gender composition of INMAA (at end 2024)³²

Total staff	Women staff	Managerial or supervisory staff	Women managerial or supervisory staff	Total operational staff	Women operational staff
16	5 (31%)	9	3 (33%)	5	0 (0%)

INMAA has highlighted that its national standards include a chapter on "national distinction", which indicates how minefields are prioritised for release. The first criterion is the safety of the community (i.e. humanitarian) while the second relates to the needs of the community (i.e. development).³³ INMAA has confirmed that it has considered the needs of

minority groups in its planning of demining – for example, some mined areas were prioritised for release in the Golan Heights where Druze live.³⁴ Israel has said that risk education material is produced in both Hebrew and Arabic and that warning signs around minefields are also in English.³⁵

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES AND ACTION

Israel has an environmental management policy, which is published and enforced by the Ministry of the Environment. INMAA standards include Chapter 06.50: "Environmental Protection and Protecting Nature Values and Landscape". This is not currently aligned with International Mine Action Standard (IMAS) 07.13 (Second Edition, 2024) on environmental management in mine action. INMAA, however, is in the process of reviewing and updating all relevant National Mine Action Standards (NMAS – see the subsection below, "Standards and Land Release Efficiency").³⁶

Environmental assessments are conducted to support the planning and conduct of demining.³⁷ INMAA has highlighted that it works closely with the Israel Nature and Parks Authority to ensure minimal environmental impact and that the companies involved in clearance are required to follow detailed instructions and comply with all relevant regulations.³⁸

Table 4: Environmental policies and action³⁹

Environmental policy in place	Environmental assessments conducted to support planning and delivery of survey and clearance	Environmental focal point
Yes	Yes	Not disclosed

INMAA also reports that climate-related factors are considered in planning, noting that during the winter, special attention is given to minefields close to farms, residential areas, and hikers routes, where flooding

might carry mines into such areas.⁴⁰ INMAA has highlighted how it has collaborated with a company specialising in civil infrastructure and environmental engineering to develop a hydrology model to predict mine drift.⁴¹

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

Since the establishment of INMAA, Israel has made continuous efforts to collect and manage data through a dedicated geographic information system (GIS) and mine action information management system. INMAA reports that these systems support effective monitoring, learning, and the extraction of lessons learned across all activities.⁴²

INMAA's organisational database is partially accessible to the public. (i.e. mined areas and suspected mined areas).⁴³ Its "minefield information bank" is open for public queries concerning demining plans and programmes, and indicates measures taken to enhance public awareness of safety and security to minimise mine-related risks.⁴⁴ INMAA seeks to improve the accuracy of data in the mine action database by holding periodic meetings with IDF officials.⁴⁵

32 INMAA questionnaire 2025.

33 Email from Shahar Back, INMAA, 15 July 2024.

34 Ibid.

35 Amended Protocol II Article 13 Report (covering 2024), Form A.

36 INMAA questionnaire 2025.

37 Email from Shahar Back, INMAA, 15 July 2024.

38 INMAA questionnaire 2025.

39 Ibid.

40 Amended Protocol II Article 13 Report (covering 2024), Form A.

41 Email from Shahar Back, INMAA, 15 July 2024.

42 INMAA questionnaire 2025.

43 Amended Protocol II Article 13 Report (covering 2024), Forms A and B.

44 Email from Shahar Back, INMAA, 15 July 2024.

45 Ibid.

According to Israel, in 2024, the IDF's Engineering Corps continued to promote improved minefield global positioning system (GPS) recording and GIS capacity to build an "accurate archive of manually-emplaced minefields".⁴⁶ The IDF is said to provide information to local authorities and the general population on land rights and use, responding to requests for updated information on minefields "as appropriate".⁴⁷ The IDF maintains a set of detailed regulations

and instructions for recording minefields and mined areas.⁴⁸ The IDF has also continued its programme to preserve the history of the minefields, including in digital records, while the Israeli Mapping Centre (IMC) produces commercially available maps, with minefields said to be clearly marked. The locations of minefields are also said to be available on the official map site of the Government of Israel.⁴⁹

PLANNING AND TASKING

INMAA is "tasked with forming a national demining plan, which will be consistent with Israel's international obligations and based on IDF's demining procedures and instructions, as compatible as possible with International Mine Action Standards".⁵⁰ INMAA defines clearance policies, sets the national priorities, creates a work plan for mine clearance, and implements these in coordination with the relevant governmental ministries, the IDF, and local authorities.⁵¹

INMAA approves annual and multi-year mine clearance plans which are executed by "civilian local operators".⁵² INMAA's website indicated part of its plan since 2020 was to conduct mechanical and manual clearance of nearly 0.17km² across three minefields in the Golan Heights, and of 0.19km² in Naama Bell in the Jordan valley.⁵³ INMAA confirmed in 2024 that clearance at Naama Bell had been completed,⁵⁴ and has since confirmed that clearance at Mitzpe Gadot, in the Golan Heights was completed in 2023.⁵⁵

INMAA has a national demining plan for 2023–25 for the release of AP and AV mined areas, and has been developing a plan for 2026–30. Key elements of the current plan include the clearance of mined areas to support civilian safety and use, facilitate safe access for trekkers and travellers, enable economic expansion and demographic growth, and allow the development of critical infrastructure such as electricity, water, and energy systems — with particular focus on border regions.⁵⁶ No changes were made to Israel's national mine action strategy or demining plan during 2024 or to date in 2025, and the multi-year work plan for the survey and clearance of AP mined areas in 2026–30 has yet to be completed.⁵⁷

As noted above, clearance tasks are assigned according to a classification formula laid down by INMAA, largely based on the risk level and development potential of the affected areas.⁵⁸ Israeli's "National Specification" includes a chapter on the "National plan for clearing minefields and UXO fields" detailing the way INMAA determines its plans, and the principles for developing annual and multi-year plans.⁵⁹ INMAA assesses AP mined areas and prioritises clearance based on risks as set out in an evaluation table. The primary risk considered is that to the civilian population, while others include environmental risks, landmine type, the quality of the demarcation of the minefield, risk of mine drift, and land designation.⁶⁰

The IDF Engineering Corps follows its own annual programme of reducing the number of mined areas, while monitoring and maintaining protection of minefields and suspected areas.⁶¹ As mentioned, the IDF gives special attention in winter to flooding might cause mines to move. In 2024, Israel reported that the IDF conducted thousands of inspections of the fencing and marking of minefields, and that it had installed additional signs in the north of the country.⁶²

In circumstances where an unknown mined area is discovered, the IDF declares the area a minefield and as a "closed military area", and fences it off. INMAA assesses the risks the mined area poses and decides whether to prioritise release of the newly discovered mined area. Furthermore, INMAA has allocated a dedicated budget to fund occasional tasks that arise.⁶³

46 Amended Protocol II Article 13 Report (covering 2024), Form A.

47 Ibid., Forms A and B.

48 Ibid., Form A.

49 Ibid.

50 Ibid., Form D.

51 Ibid., Form B.

52 Ibid.

53 INMAA website, accessed on 6 July 2021.

54 Email from Shahar Back, INMAA, 23 July 2024.

55 INMAA questionnaire 2025.

56 Ibid.

57 Ibid.

58 Emails from Michael Heiman, INMAA, 23 July 2017; and Shahar Back, INMAA, 23 July 2024.

59 Email from Shahar Back, INMAA, 15 July 2024.

60 Ibid.; and National Plan for the removal of mines and minefields (Hebrew), Instruction 01.20, updated 05/23, at: <https://bit.ly/3SdfGRr>.

61 Amended Protocol II Article 13 Report (covering 2024), Form B.

62 Ibid., Forms A, B, and C.

63 Email from Shahar Back, INMAA, 15 July 2024.

LAND RELEASE SYSTEM

INMAA's NMAS, which concern rules and regulations on the law, insurance, clearance methods and quality management, appear in the Israeli National Mine Action Standards, which are updated "on occasion" on INMAA's website.⁶⁴ As indicated, INMAA states that these are based on IMAS.⁶⁵ INMAA is in the process of reviewing and updating its NMAS based on the latest IMAS, and INMAA's operational experience and knowledge, and aimed to complete the process by the end of 2025. Key updates made so far are in line with: IMAS 08.10: Non-Technical Survey; IMAS 06.10: Management of Training in Mine Action; IMAS 09.30.01/2022: EOD1 competences; and IMAS 05.10: Information Management for Mine Action. INMAA IMAS 06.10 was developed in coordination with clearance operators.⁶⁶

INMAA has also updated standard operating procedures (SOPs) including: 01.50: Qualification of personnel for

Mine Action; SOP 02.50: GIS information management for Mine Action; and SOP Task guidelines for INMAA's Project Manager.⁶⁷ INMAA approves the SOPs of its contracted operators every three years, or whenever an operator seeks to use a new clearance device or method. All updates are conducted in accordance with IMAS.⁶⁸

The IDF is said to conduct mine clearance according to its own mine action plans "that are executed by their military methods and techniques".⁶⁹ In 2023, the CCW Amended Protocol II Article 13 Report made specific mention of IDF regulations and orders concerning marking, fencing, and monitoring, as well as demining and disposing of mines, booby-traps, and other devices, but there was no specific mention of these in the Article 13 report covering 2024.⁷⁰ IDF's instructions and SOPs, however, are still reported to be regularly reviewed.⁷¹

OPERATORS AND OPERATIONAL TOOLS

Commercial companies are contracted to conduct clearance as well as quality assurance (QA) and quality control (QC). In recent years, INMAA has listed seven approved mine clearance companies and three QA/QC companies in its CCW Amended Protocol II Article 13 Report.⁷² In 2024, however, INMAA informed Mine Action Review that only two of five active companies (IMAG and 4M) had won demining contracts in the past two years. It did not reveal which other companies were active.⁷³

No operational staff were dedicated to survey in 2024, unlike in 2023, when a total of 110 personnel from IMAG and 4M were reported as undertaking survey.⁷⁴ INMAA did, though, report an increase in the number of deminers in 2024, to five teams with a total of 60 deminers, from three teams with a total of 40 deminers 2023.⁷⁵ The number of mechanical assets also increased by one, to a total of five machines.⁷⁶

Table 5: Mine clearance capacities deployed in 2024⁷⁷

Operator*	Manual clearance teams	Total deminers	No. of mechanical assets/machines
IMAG	2	30	2
4M	3	30	3
Totals	5	60	5

*In addition, HALO deployed one team of between 10 and 12 deminers in the West Bank in 2023 and 2024.⁷⁸

64 Amended Protocol II Article 13 Report (covering 2024), Form B.

65 Ibid., Form D.

66 INMAA questionnaire 2025.

67 Ibid.

68 Email from Shahar Back, INMAA, 15 July 2024.

69 Email from Eran Yuvan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 29 April 2014; and Amended Protocol II Article 13 Report (covering 2023), Form B.

70 Amended Protocol II Article 13 Report (covering 2023), Form D.

71 Amended Protocol II Article 13 Report (covering 2024), Form A.

72 CCW Amended Protocol II Article 13 reports (covering 2024, 2023, and 2022), Form G.

73 Email from Shahar Back, INMAA, 15 July 2024.

74 INMAA questionnaire 2025.

75 Ibid.

76 Ibid.

77 Ibid.

78 Emails from Ronen Shimoni, HALO, 30 June 2023 and 3 June 2025; and online interview, 5 August 2024.

HALO works under the auspices of both INMAA and the Palestine Mine Action Centre (PMAC) in the West Bank (see the *Clearing the Mines* report on Palestine for further information). Every mine clearance project in Israel has an INMAA supervisor, a QA/QC contractor, and a clearance operator.

Israel uses several types of machines in its mine clearance operations for ground preparation, survey, and clearance. They are said to include, as and where appropriate, screening and crushing systems, bucket loaders, excavators, sifters,

and flails/tillers. Israel has reported that all mine clearance machines are tested and approved by INMAA during the initial preparation period of an operation, and that it has a system of quality management and results based management for its mechanical operations.⁷⁹ A pilot project in 2017 using mine detection dogs (MDDs)⁸⁰ concluded that dogs would not be a valuable tool.⁸¹ After further research into animal detection and behaviour, INMAA planned to conduct further trials,⁸² but it subsequently reported that the pilot was stopped.⁸³

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS AND PROGRESS TOWARDS COMPLETION

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS IN 2024

INMAA reported that in 2024, almost 2.28km² of AP mined area was released through clearance in Israel (but the number of AP mines discovered and destroyed during clearance was not specified), and that a further 2.19km² was released through cancellation—the result of five years of survey.⁸⁴

Table 6: Summary of land release output in 2024

Release of AP mined area	Release in 2024 (km ²)	Comments
Clearance	2.28	
Technical survey	0	
Non-technical survey	2.19	Conducted by the IDF Combat Engineering Corps and the result of five years of survey.
Destruction of AP mines during clearance, survey, and spot tasks	2024	
AP mines destroyed	Not reported	

In addition, HALO cleared 29,710m² of CHA and destroyed 1,455 AP mines in the Jordan Valley in 2024, working with the support of INMAA and PMAC (see the *Clearing the Mines* report on Palestine for further details).⁸⁵

SURVEY IN 2024

INMAA contractors did not release any land through survey in 2024. However, the INMAA reported that IDF – Combat Engineering Corps, released 2,190,000m² of AP mined area in the Central region through NTS in 2024, which was the result of five years' work.⁸⁶ This is a significant increase on 2023, when INMAA oversaw cancellation of 650,000m² of SHA in Naama Bell in the Central district. As in 2023, in 2024 no land was reported to have been reduced through technical survey (TS).⁸⁷

The INMAA said that no additional areas of previously unrecorded AP mine contamination were added to Israel's information management database in 2024.⁸⁸

CLEARANCE IN 2024

INMAA reported that a total of 2,276,666m² of land was cleared of AP mines in Israel in 2024, with by far the largest area cleared in the Central Region (see Table 7). It did not, however, specify how many AP mines were destroyed or whether this includes any clearance data relating to the IDF.⁸⁹ This is a huge increase on the area cleared in 2023, when the INMAA reported that 274,000m² of AP mined area was cleared and "approximately" 17,480 AP mines were destroyed.⁹⁰

79 Amended Protocol II Article 13 Report (covering 2024), Form A.

80 Amended Protocol II Article 13 Report (covering 2023), Form C.

81 Email from Michael Heiman, formerly INMAA, 26 May 2018.

82 Interview with Marcel Aviv, INMAA, in Geneva, 7 February 2019.

83 Email from Shahar Back, INMAA, 4 May 2024.

84 INMAA questionnaire 2025.

85 Emails from Ronen Shimoni, HALO, 3 June 2025.

86 INMAA questionnaire 2025.

87 Ibid., and email from Shahar Back and email from Shahar Back, INMAA, 15 July 2024.

88 INMAA questionnaire 2025.

89 Ibid.

90 Email from Shahar Back, INMAA, 15 July 2024.

Table 7: Mine clearance in 2024⁹¹

Region	Operator	SHAs/CHAs	Area cleared (m ²)	AP mines destroyed
Northern	INMAA	9	40,848	Not reported
Central	INMAA	1	2,191,000	Not reported
Southern	INMAA	4	44,818	Not reported
Totals		14	2,276,666	Not reported

Media reports indicate that clearance in 2024 included operations on the Syrian border where in October 2024 the IDF is said to have cleared AP mines and erected new barriers at the border between the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights and a demilitarised strip bordering Syria.⁹² In addition, INMAA's website lists a number of AP minefields undergoing clearance, but it is not clear whether operations have been concluded. The AP minefields listed on the INMAA website undergoing recent clearance are the Amakim A + Supplements site (407,000m²) in the Northern district, where clearance company "Eitan Lidor" began mechanical clearance on 6 January 2024, and the Camp Peak and Susita site (32,000m²) in the Northern district, where IMAG began

manual and mechanical clearance on 1 April 2022. The other sites listed give clearance operations start dates in 2020 or earlier.⁹³

As mentioned, in 2024, HALO cleared 29,710m² of CHA and destroyed 1,455 AP mines in the Jordan Valley, at the Sokot AP minefield.⁹⁴ This is a significant increase on clearance in 2023, when HALO cleared 5,975m² of confirmed mixed AP and AV mined area in the West Bank, destroying 32 AP mines and 26 AV mines during clearance. HALO also cleared an additional estimated 15,945m² of AV mined area in the Jordan Valley in 2023.⁹⁵ (Please see the *Clearing the Mines report* on Palestine for more information).

PROGRESS TOWARDS COMPLETION

It is likely to take many decades just to clear AP mined areas in Israel in areas deemed not essential to Israel's security. The Director of INMAA acknowledged the extent of the challenge in January 2023, informing the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee that, "There are 150,000 dunams [150km²] of minefields in Israel, and the army has already given up on [sic] 100,000 [100km²]. With our existing resources, it will take us at least 100 years to clear all these areas. With such budgets, companies from abroad won't come, and additional Israeli companies will not be opened".⁹⁶

A December 2023 media report described Israel's main demining efforts as undertaken at a "sluggish pace", with a meagre annual budget and clearance companies' costs indicated as contributory factors. The same article goes on to claim that annually Israel clears between 0.3km² to 0.6km² of hazardous area, far less than the 100km² target set by INMAA, and indicates a 64% decline in the clearance rate between 2019 and 2022 due to increased costs.⁹⁷

In 2024, just two of the five active clearance companies were contracted by INMAA to undertake clearance. INMAA has said this does not affect progress as the two companies have the capacity to work on multiple sites.⁹⁸ In a positive development, 2024 saw more than an eightfold increase in AP mined area cleared, with a further 2.19km² cancelled through NTS – a more than threefold increase on the previous year. Despite the huge increase in the AP contaminated area released, and increased government funding to INMAA in 2024, completing clearance remains a long-term project.

91 INMAA questionnaire 2025.

92 See, e.g., "Israel's demining near Golan signals wider front against Hezbollah, sources say", *Reuters*, 15 October 2024, at: <http://bit.ly/4mmHwY5>.

93 INMAA website, accessed 30 July 2025, at: <http://bit.ly/4lPahwB>.

94 Emails from Ronen Shimoni, HALO, 3 June 2025.

95 Emails from Ronen Shimoni, HALO, 30 June and 5 August 2024; and online interview, 5 August 2024.

96 "Approved in final readings: Temporary provision regulating clearance of unexploded ordnance at the expense of developer interested in developing land—to become permanent provision", *Knesset News*, 14 February 2023.

97 "Landmines proposed as solution for Israel's border protection", *Globes*, 12 December 2023.

98 Email from Shahar Back, INMAA, 23 July 2024.