KOSOVO

KEY DATA

NO ARTICLE 4 DEADLINE:

Not party to the CCM

CMR CONTAMINATION: 6.11KM²

Light (national data)

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS

Release of cluster munition-contaminated area	Release in 2025 (km²)	Release in 2024 (km²)
Clearance	0.98	1.51
Technical Survey	0	0.08
Non-Technical Survey	0	5.54

Destruction of submunitions during clearance, survey, and spot tasks	2025	2024
Submunitions destroyed	126	89

MAIN CMR SURVEY AND CLEARANCE OPERATORS IN 2025

- Kosovo Security Force (KSF)
- Norwegian People's Aid (NPA)
- The HALO Trust

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

In 2025, Kosovo transitioned to implementing the Mine Action Strategy for 2025–30 it had launched a year before, which targets the completion of all landmine and cluster munition remnants (CMR) clearance by 2030. Clearance output fell in 2025 compared with the previous year and no land was released through survey. Funding cuts, particularly the suspension of United States (US) funding in 2025, led to reduced operational capacity. Kosovo continues to plan for completion of high and medium priority tasks by 2030, while seeking to mobilise international support.

RECOMMENDATION FOR ACTION

- **While formal accession to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) is not currently possible for Kosovo, as it is not recognised as a State by the depositary, Kosovo should submit a letter to the United Nations (UN) Secretary-General pledging to comply fully, on a voluntary basis, with the CCM and submit annual voluntary Article 7 transparency reports.**

CLUSTER MUNITION SURVEY AND CLEARANCE CAPACITY

MANAGEMENT CAPACITY

- Kosovo Mine Action Centre (KMAC)

NATIONAL OPERATORS

- Kosovo Security Force (KSF)

INTERNATIONAL OPERATORS

- The HALO Trust (HALO)
- Norwegian People's Aid (NPA)
- Kosovo Force (KFOR), a NATO-led international peacekeeping force

OTHER ACTORS

- Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD)

UNDERSTANDING OF CMR CONTAMINATION

At the end of 2025, Kosovo reported 6.11km^2 of CMR contamination across 32 hazardous areas, including 19 confirmed hazardous areas (CHAs) covering 3.69km^2 and 13 suspected hazardous areas (SHAs) covering 2.42km^2 (see Table 1).[1] The overall estimate has decreased by 0.16km^2 from the 6.27km^2 at the end of 2024.[2] The baseline at the end of 2025 could not be reconciled with the difference between the baseline at the end of 2024 and the area of land released since then, which totalled 0.98km^2. According to KMAC, the difference is due to the reporting of new hazardous areas.[3]

Table 1: Cluster munition-contaminated area at the end of 2025[4]

District	CHAs	Area (m^2)	SHAs	Area (m^2)	Total SHAs and CHAs	Total area (m^2)
South	3	346,168	3	436,400	6	350,532
North	4	1,952,880	3	1,391,930	7	3,344,810
Center	3	320,000	0	0	3	320,000
East	1	320,000	0	0	1	320,000
West	8	748614	7	595,375	15	1,343,989
Totals	**19**	**3,687,662**	**13**	**2,423,705**	**32**	**6,111,367**

CHA = confirmed hazardous area SHA = suspected hazardous area HA = hazardous area

Kosovo has a reasonable understanding of CMR contamination remaining on its territory after more than two decades of mine action, including surveys in 2013, 2015, 2022, and 2024. In 2013, HALO and KMAC jointly conducted non-technical survey (NTS) of cluster munition strikes and mined areas across Kosovo, with the exception of four municipalities in the north.[5] These four municipalities were subsequently surveyed in 2015 by the Norwegian People's Aid (NPA), in coordination with KMAC and local municipality authorities. CMR were found in Leposavic, Zubin Potok, and Zvecan, while none was found in Mitrovica North.[6]

In 2022, HALO completed an NTS project to create CHAs and SHAs, as this was not done during the 2013 survey, and up to that point there had been no classification of CHAs and SHAs in Kosovo.[7] In 2024, NPA completed NTS of nine hazardous areas in Leposavic, Mitrovica, and Zubin Potok, in line with Kosovo's newly launched national mine action strategy for 2025–30.[8] This was the first survey in these areas since the initial NTS in 2015, and it added a total of 151,914m^2 of cluster munition-contaminated area to the database.[9] NPA considers Kosovo's baseline of CMR contamination to be accurate,[10] while Kosovo's mine action strategy for 2025–30 states that "greater clarity on the remaining contamination in northern municipalities will be established", adding that KMAC will work with its partners to ensure that resurvey improves the quality of information.[11]

1 Email from Ahmet Sallova, Head, KMAC, 14 April 2026.
2 Email from Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 22 April 2025.
3 Email from Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 30 June 2026.
4 Email from Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 22 April 2025.
5 A. Moore, HALO, "Action on cluster munitions in Kosovo", Side event, First CCM Review Conference, Dubrovnik, 10 September 2015.
6 NPA, "Cluster Munition Remnants in Northern Kosovo: non-technical survey of contamination and impact", September 2015; and email from Goran Peršic, NPA Bosnia and Herzegovina, 13 May 2016.
7 Email from Michael Montañ, Programme Manager, HALO, 18 April 2023.
8 Emails from Claus Nielsen, Country Director, NPA, 10 April 2025; and Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 22 April 2025.
9 Email from Claus Nielsen, NPA, 25 April 2024.
10 Email from Claus Nielsen, NPA, 8 April 2026.
11 Kosovo Mine Action Strategy 2025–2030, 18 June 2024, p. 10.

Contamination is primarily a result of conflict between the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY) and the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) in the late 1990s; and between the FRY and North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in 1999. During Operation Allied Force, NATO aircraft bombed 333 locations between 24 March and 10 June 1999, dropping 1,392 bombs that released more than 295,700 submunitions.[12] FRY forces also used cluster munitions during the 1998–99 conflict in Kosovo. A large clearance programme followed in 1999 under a UN mandate, but this ended prematurely in 2001, leaving many CMR-contaminated areas still needing to be cleared.[13]

OTHER EXPLOSIVE REMNANTS OF WAR AND LANDMINES

Kosovo is also contaminated with anti-personnel (AP) mines (see Mine Action Review's *Clearing the Mines* report on Kosovo for further information) and remains affected by explosive remnants of war (ERW) other than CMR. Most ERW consist of unexploded aircraft bombs and items of abandoned explosive ordnance (AXO) from the conflicts in the 1990s.

However, explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) teams continue to encounter items of unexploded ordnance (UXO) dating back to the Second World War.[14] Kosovo Force (KFOR) and Kosovo Security Force (KSF) EOD teams regularly dispose of ERW in response to information provided by the public and demining organisations.[15]

NATIONAL OWNERSHIP AND PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT

KMAC is responsible for managing survey and clearance of mines and ERW throughout Kosovo. The Centre prepares an annual work plan in cooperation with the international demining non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and coordinates their operations along with the national demining teams of the KSF. It also coordinates survey, quality assurance (QA), risk education, public information, and victim assistance.[16] KMAC's role and responsibilities as head of the national mine action programme under the auspices of the Ministry of Defence were established and institutionalised by Kosovo's 2012 Law on Humanitarian Demining, which was amended in 2022.[17]

NGO operators in Kosovo report a constructive working relationship with KMAC and say there is an enabling environment for mine action in Kosovo with clear administrative processes in place for obtaining visas and annual accreditation.[18] NPA, however, noted that operators were not involved in key decision-making processes throughout 2025.[19]

FUNDING FOR CMR SURVEY AND CLEARANCE

In 2025, Kosovo's government provided €1.1 million in financial support to KMAC and the KSF for mine and CMR clearance, as in previous years.[20] HALO was funded by Switzerland and the United States (US) Department of State's Office of Weapon Removal and Abatement (PM/WRA) in 2025, but the PM/WRA funding ended in 2025. Switzerland was continuing to fund HALO's battle area clearance (BAC) team until the end of September 2026.[21]

In 2025, NPA's CMR survey and clearance activities were funded by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (NMFA), the European Union (EU), Japan, the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad), and the Swiss Embassy. As at April 2026, NPA was only being funded by Norad, but the European Union and Japan were expected to provide support later in the year.[22] NPA and HALO had both received funding from the PM/WRA, but this was discontinued in early 2025.[23]

It has been estimated that €3.5 million will be required on an annual basis to meet Kosovo's mine action strategy's objectives, totalling €21 million between 2025 and 2030. Of this €21 million, only 8% had been confirmed by the middle of 2024.[24] It is not known what proportion of requested funding was secured in 2025 or has been secured in 2026 to date, but KMAC says that donor support remains far short of the needs.[25]

For more information on funding, please see the profile on Kosovo on the *Landmine and Cluster Munition Monitor* website.[26]

12 ICRC, "Explosive Remnants of War, Cluster Bombs and Landmines in Kosovo", rev. June 2001, pp. 4 and 6; and HALO, "Action on cluster munitions in Kosovo", 10 September 2015.

13 A. Moore, HALO, "Action on cluster munitions in Kosovo", Side event, First CCM Review Conference, Dubrovnik, 10 September 2015.

14 UNMIK, "OKPCC EOD Management Section Annual Report 2008", Pristina, 12 January 2009, p. 4.

15 Email from Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 1 August 2012.

16 Ibid.

17 Emails from Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 16 June and 3 July 2017; Ministry of Defence, "Mine Action Strategy 2019–2024 in Republic of Kosovo", 4 April 2019, p. 3; and Kosovo Mine Action Strategy 2025–2030, 18 June 2024, p. 4.

18 Emails Claus Nielsen, NPA, 8 April 2026; and Atholl Stewart, Programme Manager, HALO, 13 May 2026.

19 Email from Claus Nielsen, NPA, 8 April 2026.

20 Email from Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 30 June 2026.

21 Email from Atholl Stewart, HALO, 13 May 2026.

22 Email from Claus Nielsen, NPA, 8 April 2026.

23 Emails from Claus Nielsen, NPA, 10 April 2025; and Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 22 April 2025.

24 Kosovo Mine Action Strategy 2025–2030, 18 June 2024, p. 16.

25 Email from Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 30 June 2026.

26 https://the-monitor.org.

GENDER AND DIVERSITY

Gender is mainstreamed into the first strategic objective "Land Release" of Kosovo's mine action strategy 2025–2030, which aims to retain 26% of female participation in the national workforce.[27] The strategy directs that mine action activities be sensitive to gender and inclusive of ethnic and disability considerations and that gender and diversity considerations should be integrated into all phases of planning, implementation, and follow-up.

Both KMAC and KSF have gender policies in place. KMAC reported that the KSF's gender policy aims to facilitate the consultation of all groups affected by mines and ERW – and explicitly women and children. KMAC has appointed a Gender and Safeguarding focal point since 2023.[28]

Table 2: Gender composition of operators in 2025[29]

Operator	Total staff	Women staff	Total managerial or supervisory staff	Women managerial or supervisory staff	Total operational staff	Women operational staff
HALO	43	10 (23%)	7	2 (29%)	39	7 (18%)
KMAC*	5	1 (20%)	4	1 (25%)	1	0 (0%)
KSF*	112	27 (24%)	N/A	14	60	9 (15%)
NPA	75	21 (28%)	5	3 (60%)	68	15 (22%)
Totals	**235**	**59 (25%)**	**16**	**6 (38%)****	**168**	**31 (18%)**

* KMAC and KSF data might contain inaccuracy from the source. ** Excluding KSF data.

Kosovo's mine action strategy recognises the lack of economic opportunities in Kosovo, with women and youth particularly impacted by limited employment prospects. This leads many to move abroad, posing both a challenge and an opportunity for the mine action sector. It poses a threat of losing valuable talent and human capital, although it provides an opportunity to recruit new talent within Kosovo.[30]

HALO's gender policy, developed with the Kosovo Women's Network, aims to improve recruitment and retention of women by addressing barriers such as childcare responsibilities.[31] HALO continued efforts to increase women's participation in operational roles and to strengthen inclusive employment practices in Kosovo. These included childcare stipends for female staff, introduced to help remove practical barriers to women entering mine action work, and continued promotion of mixed-gender teams and inclusive recruitment. Financial and operational pressures, however, led to redundancy processes in March and November 2025. The resulting staff cuts reduced the programme's overall capacity and led to the departure of several female employees, undermining progress made over the previous three years towards greater gender balance and diversity.[32]

NPA hired a Gender and Safeguarding focal point who began working in January 2024. In 2025, the adviser conducted an assessment visit for the European Union-funded project.[33] Both HALO and NPA continue to ensure inclusion of women, children, and ethnic minorities in community liaison (CL) activities and that survey and CL teams are multi-ethnic and gender balanced.[34]

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES AND ACTION

Kosovo has a national mine action standard on the environment although it has not yet been updated in line with the revised International Mine Action Standard (IMAS) 07.13 (second edition, 3 July 2024).[35] KMAC reported that it has an environmental policy in place in accordance with its national mine action standard (NMAS) on environmental management, and that environmental assessments are integrated into the planning and delivery of survey and clearance.[36] KMAC prioritises clearance based on risk reduction, development, environmental protection, and poverty reduction, with contaminated land whose clearance would reduce emissions by enabling better land management or support climate adaptation given the highest priority.[37] The Law on Climate Change, adopted in December 2023, seeks to reduce greenhouse gas emissions under the Ministry of Environment, Spatial Planning and Infrastructure.[38] Kosovo's Mine Action Strategy 2025–2030 requires that two at least two initiatives on environmental protection or restoration are explored by 2030, particularly as tasks expand into forested and natural heritage areas.[39]

27 Kosovo Mine Action Strategy 2025–2030, pp. 11 and 18.
28 Email from Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 14 April 2026.
29 Ibid.; and emails from Claus Nielsen, NPA, 8 April 2026; and Atholl Stewart, HALO, 13 May 2026.
30 Kosovo Mine Action Strategy 2025–2030, 18 June 2024, p. 5.
31 Email from Olivia Meader, HALO, 22 May 2020.
32 Email from Atholl Stewart, HALO, 13 May 2026.
33 Emails from Claus Nielsen, NPA, 25 April 2024, 10 April 2025, and 8 April 2026.
34 Emails from Vanja Sikirica, NPA, 1 June 2022; Claus Nielsen, NPA, 8 April 2026; and Atholl Stewart, HALO, 13 May 2026.
35 Email from Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 24 April 2023.
36 Email from Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 14 May 2024.
37 Mine Action and the Resilience of Communities to Climate Change, GICHD, December 2023, p. 40.
38 Kosovo Mine Action Strategy 2025–2030, 18 June 2024, p. 5.
39 Ibid., pp. 5 and 11.

Table 3: Environmental policies and action[40]

Operator	Environmental policy in place	Environmental assessments conducted to support survey and clearance	Environmental focal point at country-programme level
KMAC	Yes	Yes	No
HALO	No (but SOPs are in place)	Yes (HALO conducts recce on tasks before clearance)	No
NPA	Yes	Yes	Yes

Demining takes place from mid-March to November, but increasingly frequent and unpredictable weather due to climate change is affecting operations. NPA Kosovo has an environmental policy in place, conducts environmental assessments to support the planning and delivery of survey and clearance, and, since 2023, has an environmental focal point for the programme.[41]

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING

KMAC uses the Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) New Generation version for its national mine action database. Data are disaggregated between mines, CMR, and other ERW.[42] Operators were positive in their assessments of the quality and accessibility of data contained in the database and of KMAC's information management systems in general. Objective two of the national mine action strategy, on "National Capacities", was to upgrade to IMSMA Core by the beginning of 2025 and to train at least two KMAC and KSF staff members as administrators by the middle of 2025.[43] As at April 2026, the migration to IMSMA Core was still ongoing in collaboration with the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD). KMAC had incorporated completion reports and was migrating hazardous area records. KMAC also worked with GICHD experts to improve data quality in the database.[44]

Operators report to KMAC on a weekly basis; NPA reported all data collection forms are consistent and enable collection of the necessary data. HALO was similarly positive, adding that the database is checked against HALO's quarterly reports. Once a task is completed or when KMAC agrees and signs off on a re-survey or survey conducted by an NTS team, the data is fed into IMSMA. In 2025, NPA worked with KMAC to further develop the system and data collection forms.[45] The land release data reported to Mine Action Review by clearance operators and the KMAC was aligned in 2024 and 2025, showing a steady improvement from previous years when data frequently contained discrepancies.

KMAC reported to Mine Action Review that Kosovo was planning to submit a voluntary Article 7 report for the CCM.[46] As at April 2026, KMAC said it was still preparing the submission.[47]

PLANNING AND TASKING

Kosovo's Mine Action Strategy for 2025–2030, developed by KMAC in consultation with operators and with the support of the GICHD, declares that the risk of explosive ordnance contamination will be considered tolerable once all high and medium-priority tasks have been completed by 2030, and provided that there are no incidents for five years thereafter. A mid-term review of the strategy is due in mid-2027. The general expectation is that any remaining contamination after 2030 would be considered as residual.[48] Strategic objective 1 on land release is supported by four strategic outcomes:

- Greater clarity on the remaining contamination in Northern municipalities will be established;
- Mine action organisations will continue clearance operations to fulfil task completion, prioritising high and medium-priority tasks and concluding with low-priority tasks;
- In light of current efficiency challenges and anticipated obstacles posed by difficult terrain such as dense vegetation and steep slopes, KMAC will reassess clearance requirements to enhance efficiency and effectiveness; and
- Recognising that 2030 marks the conclusion of the international mine action organisations' presence in Kosovo, the mine action programme will implement staff transition plans.[49]

40 Emails from Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 14 April 2026; Atholl Stewart, HALO, 13 May 2026; and Claus Nielsen, NPA, 8 April 2026.
41 Email from Claus Nielsen, NPA, 8 April 2026.
42 Email from Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 30 April 2019.
43 Kosovo Mine Action Strategy 2025–2030, 18 June 2024, p. 12.
44 Email from Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 22 April 2025.
45 Emails from Olivia Meader, HALO, 1 May 2019; Atholl Stewart, HALO, 13 May 2026; and Claus Nielsen, NPA, 8 April 2026.
46 Email from Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 22 April 2025.
47 Email from Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 14 April 2026.
48 Kosovo Mine Action Strategy 2025–2030, 18 June 2024, pp. 8 and 19.
49 Kosovo Mine Action Strategy 2025–2030, 18 June 2024, p. 10.

The target of 1.8km^2 of annual BAC has been set, along with zero high and medium priority tasks remaining by 2030 and as few low priority tasks remaining as possible. It is planned that the 38 municipalities that were contaminated with mines and CMR when the strategy was drafted will be declared free from risk by 2030.[50]

KMAC elaborates an annual work plan for survey and clearance of CMR. The annual work plan for 2026 foresees release of approximately 450,000m^2.[51] Overall, survey and clearance dossiers are issued in a timely and effective manner.[52]

LAND RELEASE SYSTEM

STANDARDS AND LAND RELEASE EFFICIENCY

In 2024, the national mine action standard (NMAS) for land release in Kosovo was updated in accordance with IMAS and in consultation with clearance operators.[53] Key changes introduced by KMAC included reducing the required fade-out distance around component parts of BLU-97 and BL755 submunitions from 50m to 25m. Additionally, the required detection depth for munitions was increased from 50cm to 56cm. Detectors are able to locate a submunition when the top is 50cm subsurface and the base is at 56cm.[54] Since then, NMAS did not see further updates.[55]

HALO updated its SOPs in 2024 to reflect the changes. The excavation process was revised to require the first 10cm of soil to be removed in two 5cm increments, rather than a single 10cm layer. HALO also introduced two methods for lane preparation using the VMX10 and Schonstedt: the "pre-laid" and the "concurrent" methods. The concurrent method, used in open and flat terrain, involves laying a rope on one side of the lane before mapping, while the second rope is pulled by the operator during mapping. The pre-laid method, used in areas with obstacles, requires ropes to be laid on both sides prior to mapping.[56]

Since 2018, NPA has implemented the cluster munition remnant survey (CMRS) methodology for technical survey (TS) in Kosovo. Adapted to local conditions and aligned with IMAS, the approach allows operators to walk on ground with subsurface contamination within strike areas, improving survey efficiency and the accuracy of confirmed hazardous area definitions.[57] HALO uses the same approach following a field risk assessment.[58] In 2025, NPA introduced a handheld vegetation cutting machine.[59]

HALO Kosovo also conducts research and development to enhance safety and efficiency. The Scorpion detection system—developed by the US Humanitarian Demining Research and Development Program—was successfully trialled in 2019 and is now used in BAC. It combines a large-loop electromagnetic induction sensor, caesium vapour magnetometer, and differential geographic positioning system (GPS) for high-precision anomaly detection, mounted on a trolley for deployment over open terrain.[60]

The Scorpion system has notably increased BAC productivity in areas that are not densely vegetated or steep. In 2023, it achieved average clearance rates of 168m^2 per day, more than double that of the Large Loop Detector (82m^2/day).[61]

OPERATORS AND OPERATIONAL TOOLS

In 2025, Kosovo's national mine action programme's capacity consisted of two international operators, HALO and NPA, and a national operator, the KSF, which provided a round-the-clock EOD emergency response. KFOR also supports the KSF and Kosovo Police with EOD response tasks and organising mine and ERW demolitions.[62]

Table 4: Operational clearance capacities deployed in 2025[63]

Operator	Manual CMR clearance teams	Total CMR clearance personnel
KSF	4	50
HALO	4	40
NPA	5	50
Totals	**13**	**140**

50 Ibid., p. 11.
51 Emails from Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 22 April 2025 and 30 June 2026.
52 Email from Claus Nielsen, NPA, 8 April 2026.
53 Email from Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 22 April 2025.
54 Email from Fred Wellesley, HALO, 15 April 2025.
55 Email from Claus Nielsen, NPA, 8 April 2026.
56 Email from Fred Wellesley, HALO, 15 April 2025.
57 Interview with Terje Eldøen, NPA, Pristina, 5 April 2019; and email, 25 April 2019.
58 Email from Laura Moreno-González, HALO, 25 June 2024.
59 Email from Claus Nielsen, NPA, 8 April 2026.
60 Email from Michael Montañ, HALO, 7 May 2024.
61 Ibid.
62 "Mine Action Strategy 2019–2024 in Republic of Kosovo", 4 April 2019, p. 4; and interview with Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, Pristina, 5 April 2019.
63 Emails from Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 14 April 2026; Claus Nielsen, NPA, 8 April 2026; and Fred Wellesley, HALO, 15 April 2025.

HALO's operational personnel are cross-trained for mine clearance and BAC.[64] In 2025, HALO's capacity dropped significantly from the 58 personnel across nine teams it had deployed the previous year, following major funding cuts with two contracts expiring in 2025. HALO's clearance operations during 2025 and 2026 faced challenges of dense vegetation, highly contaminated urban tasks, and soil mineralisation. The deployment of experienced staff and the use of suitable equipment in highly contaminated BAC tasks, particularly Scorpion detectors, has helped mitigate some of these constraints.[65]

KMAC expected to sustain the same survey and clearance capacity in 2026.[66]

In 2025, NPA had no survey capacity but deployed five clearance teams comprising a total of 50 personnel. This is a reduction from 2024 where NPA deployed 1 NTS team of 3 personnel and 8 clearance teams totalling 80 personnel. The reduction is due to discontinuation of US funding.[67]

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 (km²)	Comments
Clearance	0.98	National authority data
Technical Survey*	0	National authority data
Non-Technical Survey	0	National authority data
Destruction of submunitions during clearance, survey, and spot tasks		**Comments**
Submunitions destroyed	126	National authority data

* NPA also reduced 0.28km² of CMR-contaminated land as a discontinuation of clearance efforts once fade-out was reached.

SURVEY IN 2025

According to KMAC, no CMR-contaminated land was released through survey in 2025.

CLEARANCE IN 2025

In 2025, 0.98km² of CMR-contaminated area was cleared with 126 submunitions and 459 items of UXO found and destroyed (see Table 5).[68] This is a reduction from 2024 where 1.51km² of cluster munition-contaminated area was cleared and 89 submunitions destroyed.[69] On the other hand, the number of submunitions found per square metre of clearance has nearly doubled, from one in every 16,967m² in 2024 to one in every 7,754m² in 2025. A total of 0.17km² was cleared by NPA with no CMR found,[70] which is nearly the same as in the previous year.

Table 6: CMR clearance in 2025[71]

District	Operator	Areas cleared	Area cleared (m²)	Submunitions destroyed	AP mines destroyed	Other UXO destroyed
Gjakove	HALO	3	89,523	18	0	0
Peje	HALO	0	167,331	41	0	0
Cvilen	KSF	0	7,730	1	0	0
Ferizaj	KSF	0	5,575	0	0	2
Muradem	KSF	0	53,700	0	0	0
Qerim	KSF	0	50,750	23	0	0
Mitrovica	NPA	3	232,180	14	0	4

64 Email from Megan Dwyer, HALO, 11 May 2022.
65 Email from Atholl Stewart, HALO, 13 May 2026.
66 Email from Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 14 April 2026.
67 Emails from Claus Nielsen, NPA, 10 April 2025 and 8 April 2026.
68 Email from Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 14 April 2026.
69 Emails from Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 22 April 2025; Claus Nielsen, NPA, 10 April 2025; and Fred Wellesley, HALO, 15 April 2025.
70 Emails from Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 14 April 2026; and Claus Nielsen, NPA, 8 April 2026.
71 Ibid.

Table 6 continued

District	Operator	Areas cleared	Area cleared (m²)	Submunitions destroyed	AP mines destroyed	Other UXO destroyed
Mitrovica	NPA	0	247,085	19	0	1
Prishtina	NPA	2	46,420	1	0	0
Prishtina	NPA	0	76,695	9	1	452
Totals		**8**	**976,989**	**126**	**1**	**459**

PROGRESS TOWARDS COMPLETION

Kosovo cannot formally adhere to the CCM and therefore does not have a specific clearance deadline under Article 4. Nonetheless, it has obligations under international human rights law to clear CMR as soon as possible.

In Kosovo's Mine Action Strategy 2025–2030 Kosovo has set a completion deadline for 2030. Operators expect that Kosovo will be able to meet this deadline as long as donor funding can be secured to maintain capacity.[72] The strategy cites political and economic stability, climate change-induced weather conditions, and discovery of previously unknown contamination as risks that could undermine its delivery.[73]

According to KMAC, securing sufficient donor support to clear the remaining mine and cluster munition contamination in Kosovo will be one of the primary challenges in 2026 and beyond.[74] This effort is seen as a crucial contributor to human security, economic development, and stability in Kosovo and the broader Western Balkans region.[75]

Table 7: Five-year summary of CMR clearance

Year	Area cleared (km²)
2025	0.98
2024	1.51
2023	1.92
2022	1.32
2021	1.30
Total	**7.03**

PLANNING FOR MANAGEMENT OF RESIDUAL CONTAMINATION

The second strategic objective of Kosovo's Mine Action Strategy 2025–2030, which focuses on enhancing national capacities, includes a strategic outcome on the management of residual contamination. As clearance operations conclude in 2030, Kosovo will shift from proactive clearance efforts to the reactive management of residual threats by KMAC with support from KSF units. Recognising the unique requirements of risk management, KMAC will seek to ensure that both KMAC and KSF are equipped, staffed, and resourced to address residual contamination effectively.[76] A comprehensive residual contamination strategy is planned for development and submission to the Government of Kosovo by 2029.[77]

72 Email from Claus Nielsen, NPA, 10 April 2025.
73 Kosovo Mine Action Strategy 2025–2030, 18 June 2024, p. 9.
74 Emails from Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 22 April 2025 and 14 April 2026.
75 Email from Michael Montañ, HALO, 7 May 2024.
76 Kosovo Mine Action Strategy 2025–2030, 18 June 2024, pp. 8 and 12.
77 Ibid., p. 13.