

KEY DATA

NO CCM ARTICLE 4 DEADLINE:

Not party to the CCM

CMR CONTAMINATION:

6.27km²

Medium
(National estimate)

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS

Release of cluster munition-contaminated area	Release in 2024 (km ²)	Release in 2023 (km ²)
Clearance	1.51	1.92
Technical Survey	0.08	0.31
Non-Technical Survey	5.54	0
Destruction of submunitions during clearance, survey, and spot tasks	2024	2023
Submunitions destroyed	89	196

MAIN CMR SURVEY AND CLEARANCE OPERATORS IN 2024:

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

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

In 2024, Kosovo launched its new Mine Action Strategy for 2025–30, which targets the completion of all landmine and cluster munition remnants (CMR) clearance by 2030. Clearance output was lower in 2024 than 2023 and the majority of land release output was due to cancellation through non-technical survey (NTS), which at the time of writing was still awaiting verification by the Kosovo Mine Action Centre (KMAC).

RECOMMENDATIONS 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, as is planned for this year, submit annual voluntary Article 7 reports.
- In addition to survey of suspected hazardous areas (SHAs), Kosovo should also review the basis on which confirmed hazardous areas (CHAs) are established. In particular, it should conduct survey to confirm contamination from CMR before embarking on full clearance and continue to release areas through survey where possible.

CLUSTER MUNITION SURVEY AND CLEARANCE CAPACITY

MANAGEMENT

- Kosovo Mine Action Centre (KMAC)

NATIONAL OPERATORS

- Kosovo Security Force (KSF)

INTERNATIONAL OPERATORS

- The HALO Trust (HALO)
- Norwegian People's Aid (NPA)
- The 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 2024, Kosovo reported 6.27km² of CMR contamination across 35 hazardous areas, comprising 22 CHAs covering 3.84km² and 13 SHAs covering 2.42km² (see Table 1).¹ The overall estimate has decreased by 2.51km² from the 8.78km² at the end of 2023.² This does not equate with the amount of area released through survey and clearance in

2024, which totalled 7.13km². According to KMAC, this is because the area ostensibly cancelled by Norwegian People's Aid (NPA) was not included in the national mine action database as contaminated area. At the time of writing, KMAC was awaiting the final NTS reports to verify the relevant figures.³

Table 1: Cluster munition-contaminated area (KMAC data) (at end 2024)⁴

District	CHAs	Area (m ²)	SHAs	Area (m ²)	Total areas	Total area (m ²)
South	3	346,168	3	436,400	6	782,568
North	5	2,062,880	3	1,391,903	8	3,454,783
Centre	5	363,952	0	0	5	363,952
East	1	320,000	0	0	1	320,000
West	8	748,614	7	595,375	15	1,343,989
Totals	22	3,841,614	13	2,423,678	35	6,269,292

Kosovo has a reasonable understanding of CMR contamination remaining on its territory over two decades of mine action activities, including surveys in 2013, 2015, 2022, and 2024. In 2013, HALO and KMAC conducted joint 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 NPA, in coordination with KMAC and local municipality authorities with CMR contamination found in Leposavic, Zubin Potok, and Zvecan, while no CMR contamination was found in Mitrovica North.⁶

In 2022, HALO completed a 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 2015.⁹ A total of 151,914m² of cluster munition-contaminated area was added to the database as a result of the survey.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.¹¹ 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.¹²

1 Email from Ahmet Sallova, Head, KMAC, 22 April 2025.

2 Email from Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 24 April 2023.

3 Email from Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 19 June 2025.

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 Peršić, NPA Bosnia and Herzegovina, 13 May 2016.

7 Email from Michael Montafi, 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 Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 22 April 2025.

11 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, at: <https://bit.ly/30P1X70>.

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

OTHER EXPLOSIVE REMNANTS OF WAR AND LANDMINES

Kosovo is also contaminated with anti-personnel 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 consists 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.¹³ The 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.¹⁴

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 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.¹⁵ 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 2022.¹⁶

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.¹⁷

FUNDING FOR CMR SURVEY AND CLEARANCE

In 2024, Kosovo's government provided €1.1 million in financial support to KMAC and the KSF for mine and CMR clearance, as in previous years.¹⁸ In 2025, NPA's CMR survey and clearance activities were funded by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (NMFA), the European Union (EU), and the Japanese Embassy, while the Swiss Embassy began funding HALO and NPA as a consortium.¹⁹ NPA and HALO had both received funding from the United States (US) Department of State's Office of Weapon Removal and Abatement (PM/WRA) but this was discontinued in early 2025. The grant from the EU was due to end in October 2025 and negotiations for a continuation were ongoing at the time of writing.²⁰

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. The programme currently has limited international funding that is confirmed beyond the middle of 2025. To address this gap, the mine action programme will actively seek to mobilise funds.²¹

GENDER AND DIVERSITY

Kosovo's mine action strategy for 2025–30 prioritises gender and diversity mainstreaming as a guiding principle. 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.²²

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 hired a Gender and Safeguarding focal point who began working in 2023.²³

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

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

15 Ibid.

16 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.

17 Emails from Vanja Sikirica, NPA, 30 March 2023; and Michael Montafi, HALO, 18 April 2023.

18 Email from Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 22 April 2025.

19 Email from Claus Nielsen, NPA, 10 April 2025.

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

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

22 Ibid., p. 18.

23 Email from Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 22 April 2025.

Table 2: Gender composition of operators in 2024²⁴

Operator	Total staff	Women staff	Total managerial or supervisory staff	Women managerial or supervisory staff	Total operational staff	Women operational staff
KMAC	5	1 (20%)	1	0 (0%)	3	0 (0%)
KSF	112	27 (24%)	14	2 (14%)	60	9 (15%)
NPA	76	27 (35%)	8	3 (38%)	67	20 (30%)
HALO*	155	42 (27%)	28	6 (21%)	134	36 (27%)
Totals	348	97 (28%)	51	11 (22%)	264	65 (25%)

* Data correct as at December 2024.

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 seek better prospects abroad, posing both a challenge and an opportunity for the mine action sector. It poses a threat of losing valuable talent and human capital, yet it also provides an opportunity to recruit new talent within Kosovo. By hiring both women and men from diverse ethnic groups and offering competitive salary packages and benefits, NPA and HALO actively promote gender equality and economic empowerment within local communities. This approach aligns with the principles outlined in their respective Gender and Diversity Policies.²⁵

KMAC recognises that explosive contamination affects women, girls, men and boys differently and that gender-specific mobility patterns, roles, and responsibilities mean that females and males of various ages and ethnic backgrounds have different information on contaminated areas in their communities – and also different priorities for clearance and land use.²⁶

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.²⁷ In 2024, HALO continued its provision of childcare stipends and explicitly mentioned them in job announcements to attract female applicants and support retention. Health insurance was also extended to all staff. In 2024, nine women received childcare stipends, two baby boxes were issued, and 92 school supply packages were distributed to employees' children during the spring and winter semesters.²⁸

NPA hired a Gender and Safeguarding focal point who began working in January 2024 after receiving training from the global advisor at NPA's Head Office.²⁹

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.³⁰

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 IMAS 07.13 (second edition, 3 July 2024).³¹ KMAC reported that environmental assessments are integrated into the planning and delivery of survey and clearance operations.³² It 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.³³ The Law on Climate Change, adopted in December 2023, seeks to reduce greenhouse gas emissions under the Ministry of Environment, Spatial Planning and Infrastructure.³⁴

Demining takes place from April 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.³⁵ In March 2024, HALO's Kosovo programme introduced a standard operating procedure (SOP) on Environmental Management for Operations, aligned with HALO's global environmental management SOP. This SOP aims to ensure minimal environmental impact and mitigates potential negative effects of survey and clearance operations.³⁶

24 Emails from Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 22 April 2025; Claus Nielsen, NPA, 10 April 2025; and Fred Wellesley, Programme Manager, HALO, 15 April 2025.

25 Kosovo Mine Action Strategy 2025–2030, 18 June 2024, p. 5.

26 Email from Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 24 April 2023.

27 Email from Olivia Meader, HALO, 22 May 2020.

28 Email from Fred Wellesley, HALO, 15 April 2025.

29 Emails from Claus Nielsen, NPA, 25 April 2024 and 10 April 2025.

30 Emails from Vanja Sikirica, NPA, 1 June 2022; and Megan Dwyer, HALO, 11 May 2022.

31 Email from Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 24 April 2023.

32 Email from Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 14 May 2024.

33 Mine Action and the Resilience of Communities to Climate Change, GICHD, December 2023, p. 40.

34 Kosovo Mine Action Strategy 2025–2030, 18 June 2024, p. 5.

35 Email from Claus Nielsen, NPA, 10 April 2025.

36 Email from Michael Montafi, HALO, 7 May 2024.

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.³⁷ 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. KMAC is collaborating with the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) to install IMSMA Core, which was expected to be operational by late 2024 but at the time of writing was still in development.³⁸

Operators report to KMAC on a weekly basis; NPA reported all data collection forms are consistent and enable collection of the necessary data.³⁹ 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.⁴⁰ The land release data reported to Mine Action Review by clearance operators and the KMAC was aligned, an improvement compared to previous years' reports, which typically contained discrepancies.

KMAC reported to Mine Action Review that Kosovo was planning to submit a voluntary Article 7 report for the CCM.⁴¹

PLANNING AND TASKING

Kosovo's Mine Action Strategy for 2025–30, 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. The general expectation is that any remaining contamination after 2030 would be considered as residual.⁴² 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.⁴³

The target of 1.8km² of annual battle area clearance (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 2030.⁴⁴

KMAC elaborates an annual work plan for survey and clearance of CMR. In 2024, it planned for release of 14 of the 38 hazardous areas, and in 2025 it planned for the release of a further 20.⁴⁵

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.⁴⁶ 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.⁴⁷

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.⁴⁸

37 Email from Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 30 April 2019.

38 Email from Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 22 April 2025.

39 Emails from Olivia Meader, HALO, 1 May 2019; Terje Eldøen, NPA, 25 April 2019; and Vanja Sikirica, NPA, 1 June 2022.

40 Email from Megan Dwyer, HALO, 11 May 2022.

41 Email from Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 22 April 2025.

42 Kosovo Mine Action Strategy 2025–2030, 18 June 2024, p. 8.

43 Ibid., p. 10.

44 Ibid., p. 11.

45 Emails from Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 14 May 2024 and 22 April 2025.

46 Email from Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 22 April 2025.

47 Email from Fred Wellesley, HALO, 15 April 2025.

48 Ibid.

Since 2018, NPA has implemented the Cluster Munition Remnants 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.⁴⁹ HALO uses the same approach following a field risk assessment.⁵⁰

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 GPS for high-precision anomaly detection, mounted on a trolley for deployment over open terrain.⁵¹

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 168m² per day, more than double that of the Large Loop Detector (82m²/day).⁵²

OPERATORS AND OPERATIONAL TOOLS

In 2024, 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 in Mitrovica and the north of Kosovo, including in NPA's areas of operations.⁵³

HALO's operational personnel are cross-trained for mine clearance and BAC and can move readily between the two.⁵⁴ There was no substantial change to the number of clearance personnel deployed by HALO in 2024 compared to the previous year. In 2025, two major funding contracts were due to expire. Unless new funding is secured, the programme may close by the end of the year.⁵⁵

In 2024, NPA deployed one NTS team of three personnel. Its clearance capacity was much the same as 2023 until

the end of 2024 when it was reduced to five teams due to discontinuation of US funding for Kosovo.⁵⁶

Table 3: Operational clearance capacities deployed in 2024⁵⁷

Operator	Manual CMR clearance teams	Total CMR clearance personnel
KSF	4	50
HALO	*9	**58
NPA	8	80
Totals	21	188

* Average across the year with 7 teams in March–April, 9 in May–June, and 10 in September–December.

** Average across the year with 48 personnel in March–April, 61 in July–September, and 62 in October–December.

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS AND PROGRESS TOWARDS COMPLETION

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS IN 2024

Table 4: Land release outputs in 2024

Release of cluster munition-contaminated area	Release in 2024 (km ²)	Comments
Clearance	1.51	National authority/operator data
Technical Survey	0.08	National authority/operator data
Non-Technical Survey	5.54	National authority/operator data
Destruction of submunitions during clearance, survey, and spot tasks	2024	Comments
Submunitions destroyed	89	National authority/operator data

49 Interview with Terje Eldøen, NPA, Pristina, 5 April 2019; and email, 25 April 2019.

50 Email from Laura Moreno-González, HALO, 25 June 2024.

51 Email from Michael Montañ, HALO, 7 May 2024.

52 Ibid.

53 "Mine Action Strategy 2019–2024 in Republic of Kosovo", 4 April 2019, p. 4; and interview with Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, Pristina, 5 April 2019.

54 Email from Megan Dwyer, HALO, 11 May 2022.

55 Email from Fred Wellesley, HALO, 15 April 2025.

56 Email from Claus Nielsen, NPA, 10 April 2025.

57 Emails from Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 22 April 2025; Claus Nielsen, NPA, 10 April 2025; and Fred Wellesley, HALO, 15 April 2025.

SURVEY IN 2024

In 2024, 5.54km² was cancelled through NTS (see Table 5), an increase from 2023 when no land was cancelled in this manner. A total of 0.08km² was reduced through TS (see Table 6), a reduction from the 0.31km² reduced in 2023.⁵⁸

Table 5: Cancellation through NTS in 2024⁵⁹

District	Operator	Area cancelled (m ²)
Mitrovica	NPA	2,417,021
Gracanica	NPA	0
Leposavic	NPA	1,831,558
Zubin Potok	NPA	1,294,410
Total		5,542,989

Table 6: Reduction through TS in 2024⁶⁰

District	Operator	Area reduced (m ²)
Pejë	HALO	47,216
Prizren	HALO	32,740
Total		79,956

CLEARANCE IN 2024

In 2024, more than 1.51km² of CMR-contaminated area was cleared with the destruction of 89 submunitions (see Table 7).⁶¹ This is a reduction from 2023 when over 1.93km² of CMR-contaminated area was cleared with 196 submunitions destroyed.⁶² The number of submunitions found per square metre of clearance has also dropped from 1 for every 9,813m² in 2023 to 1 in every 16,967m² in 2024. In addition, almost 0.2km² was cleared with no CMR found (see Table 8), which indicates a persistent problem with survey.

Table 7: CMR clearance in 2024⁶³

District	Operator	Areas cleared	Area cleared (m ²)	Submunitions destroyed	AP mines destroyed	Other UXO destroyed
East	KSF	1	36,400	0	0	185
South	KSF	2	66,100	8	0	0
Mitrovica	NPA	3	606,700	11	0	63
Gracanica	NPA	1	35,940	2	5	328
Prishtina	NPA	1	33,640	0	0	1
Zubin Potok	NPA	1	302,815	20	0	1
Gjakovë	HALO	3	217,186	38	0	0
Pejë	HALO	2	18,522	1	0	0
Prishtinë	HALO	2	64,572	9	0	0
Prizren	HALO	3	128,212	0	0	0
Totals		19	1,510,087	89	5	578

Table 8: Area cleared in 2024 in which no CMR were found⁶⁴

Operator	Area cleared (m ²)	Comments
NPA	33,640	
HALO	128,212	The area contained fragmentation from exploded submunitions and other direct evidence of contamination, such as craters from exploded submunitions.
KSF	36,400	185 other items of UXO were found and destroyed
Total	198,252	

58 Emails from Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 22 April 2025 and 14 May 2024; Claus Nielsen, NPA, 10 April 2025 and 25 April 2024; Fred Wellesley, HALO, 15 April 2025; and Michael Montafi, HALO, 7 May 2024.

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

60 Emails from Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 22 April 2025; and Fred Wellesley, HALO, 15 April 2025.

61 Emails from Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 22 April 2025; Claus Nielsen, NPA, 10 April 2025; and Fred Wellesley, HALO, 15 April 2025.

62 Emails from Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 14 May 2024; Claus Nielsen, NPA, 25 April 2024; and Michael Montafi, HALO, 7 May 2024.

63 Email from Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 22 April 2025.

64 Ibid.

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 2025-30 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.⁶⁵ 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.⁶⁶ This effort is seen as a crucial contributor to enhancing human security, economic development, and stability in Kosovo and the broader Western Balkans region.⁶⁷

Table 9: Five-year summary of CMR clearance

Year	Area cleared (km²)
2024	1.51
2023	1.92
2022	1.32
2021	1.30
2020	0.34
Total	6.39

PLANNING FOR MANAGEMENT OF RESIDUAL CONTAMINATION

The second strategic objective of Kosovo's Mine Action Strategy 2025–30, 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.⁶⁸ A comprehensive residual contamination strategy is planned for development and submission to the Government of Kosovo by 2029.⁶⁹

65 Email from Claus Nielsen, NPA, 10 April 2025.
66 Email from Ahmet Sallova, KMAC, 22 April 2025.
67 Email from Michael Montafi, HALO, 7 May 2024.
68 Kosovo Mine Action Strategy 2025–2030, 18 June 2024, pp. 8 and 12.
69 Ibid., p. 13.