LEBANON

MINE ACTION REVIEW

CLEARING THE MINES 2026

KEY DATA

APMBC ARTICLE 5 DEADLINE: 1 NOVEMBER 2036

Not on track to meet deadline
(Lack of effective control over some mined areas)

AP MINE CONTAMINATION: 7.6KM^2

Medium
(National authority estimate)

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS

Release of AP mined area	Release in 2025 (km^2)	Release in 2024 (km^2)
Clearance	0.07	0.20
Technical Survey	0.10	0.23
Non-Technical Survey	0.05	0.08

Destruction of AP mines during clearance, survey, and spot tasks	2025	2024
AP Mines destroyed	3,068 (incl. 2,151 in spot tasks)	435 (incl. 370 in spot tasks)

MAIN AP MINE SURVEY AND CLEARANCE OPERATORS IN 2025:

- Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF) Engineering Regiment
- DanChurchAid (DCA)
- Humanity & Inclusion (HI)
- Mines Advisory Group (MAG)
- Norwegian People's Aid (NPA)

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

On 1 May 2026, Lebanon deposited its instrument of accession to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC), becoming a State Party on 1 November 2026. Its Article 5 deadline is thus 1 November 2036. Access to areas along the southern borders where most of the minefields are located remains heavily restricted. The Blue Line areas were off limits for most of 2025, with only the United Nations Interim Forces for Lebanon (UNIFIL) resuming operations in September 2025. Land release outputs decreased in 2025, but the number of anti-personnel (AP) mines destroyed rose sharply. Operations for the most part of 2025 focused on emergency survey and clearance, rubble removal, and addressing new explosive remnants of war (ERW) contamination.

RECOMMENDATION FOR ACTION

- **Lebanon should finalise and adopt its 2026–30 Mine Action Strategy and develop an accompanying implementation plan containing updated land release targets based on the most recently updated baseline.**

ASSESSMENT OF NATIONAL PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE

Criterion	Score (2025)	Performance Commentary
UNDERSTANDING OF AP MINE CONTAMINATION (20% of overall score)	8	Lebanon's contamination baseline is reliable and evidence-based, but is subject to further refinement and possible increase. The Lebanon Mine Action Centre (LMAC) conducted a comprehensive survey and re-survey in accessible areas that were subject to the heavy Israeli bombardments and established a reviewed baseline which was adopted at the end of 2025. Areas along the southern borders, however, remained inaccessible for survey, and some affected minefields will likely require re-assessment once access permits.
NATIONAL OWNERSHIP AND PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT (10% of overall score)	8	LMAC continued to show strong national ownership and provide an enabling mine action environment. Coordination with implementing partners was maintained through regular technical working group (TWG) meetings, and a Humanitarian Mine Action Forum strengthens coordination and facilitates engagement with donors.
GENDER AND DIVERSITY (10% of overall score)	8	LMAC is committed to the mainstreaming of gender and diversity in Lebanon. Gender and diversity considerations were included in the National Mine Action Strategy 2020–25 and LMAC has a gender work plan, while the programme has a Gender, Diversity and Inclusion Steering Committee.
ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES AND ACTION (10% of overall score)	7	LMAC does not have an environmental management policy in place but has a National Mine Action Standard (NMAS) on "Safety and Occupational Health – Protection of the Environment" (10.70), although this has not yet been updated to align with the revised International Mine Action Standard (IMAS) 07.13. A workshop was scheduled in May 2026 to support this update, but had to be postponed due to the security situation.
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING (10% of overall score)	8	LMAC uses the Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) Core since 2021, and operators generally considered the system reliable, structured, and sufficiently accessible. GPS jamming was reported to have affected the accuracy of some data. Reporting tools and clearance-progress mapping were further developed in 2025. Lebanon is due to submit its first Article 7 report to the APMBC by 30 April 2027.
PLANNING AND TASKING (10% of overall score)	8	LMAC, with the support of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), is updating its Mine Action Strategy for 2026–30. In December 2025, Lebanon updated its prioritisation system in response to the escalation of conflict and changing needs.
LAND RELEASE SYSTEM (10% of overall score)	8	Lebanon's national standards (NMAS) provide a structured framework for evidence-based survey and clearance and are reviewed regularly. LMAC and operators tested and introduced new reporting tools in 2025. A new update for the NMAS was planned for the end of 2026 with the support of the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD).
LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS AND ARTICLE 5 COMPLIANCE (20% of overall score)	6	Lebanon released 0.22km^2 of AP mined area in 2025, a 57% drop on the previous year. Operations were constrained by restricted access to the southern areas where most of the minefields are located. Resources were diverted towards responding to emergency contamination. Lebanon will need to increase its annual land release outputs to meet its Article 5 deadline of 1 November 2036.
Average Score	**7.5**	**Overall Programme Performance: GOOD**

AP MINE SURVEY AND CLEARANCE CAPACITY

MANAGEMENT CAPACITY

- Lebanon Mine Action Authority (LMAA)
- Lebanon Mine Action Centre (LMAC)
- Regional Mine Action Centres (RMAC-N and RMAC-RB)

NATIONAL OPERATORS

- Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF) Engineering Regiment

INTERNATIONAL OPERATORS

- DanChurchAid (DCA)
- Humanity & Inclusion (HI)
- Mines Advisory Group (MAG)
- Norwegian People's Aid (NPA)

OTHER ACTORS

- Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD)
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL)
- United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) (now under UNIFIL and called UNMAS UNIFIL or UNIFIL Mine Action Unit)

UNDERSTANDING OF AP MINE CONTAMINATION

At the end of 2025, Lebanon had nearly 7.6km² of AP mined area across 766 hazardous areas –5.7km² in 654 confirmed hazardous areas (CHAs) and 1.9km² in 112 suspected hazardous areas (SHAs) (see Table 1).[1] This is a big reduction from the nearly 15.8km² of AP mined area reported at the end of 2024.[2] The difference of the end-2024 and end-2025 baselines is a result of a review process conducted by LMAC, in addition to the land released and contamination added in the course of 2025. In addition, to the AP mine contamination, Lebanon reported the presence of 107 CHAs of 6.8km² containing AV mines only (see Table 2).[3]

Table 1: AP mined area by province (at end 2025)[4]

Type of contamination	Province	CHAs	Area (m²)	SHAs	Area (m²)	Total number	Total area (m²)
AP mines	Beqaa	21	518,686	11	305,935	32	824,621
AP mines	Mount Lebanon	21	297,855	100	1,640,339	121	1,938,194
AP mines	Nabatiyeh	463	3,616,974	0	0	463	3,616,974
AP mines	South Lebanon	144	1,180,045	1	1,202	145	1,181,247
Mixed AP/AV mines	Not known	5	61,990	0	0	5	61,990
Totals		**654**	**5,675,550**	**112**	**1,947,476**	**766**	**7,623,026**

Table 2: Mined area by contamination type (at end 2025)[5]

Contamination type	CHAs	Area (m²)	SHAs	Area (m²)	Total number	Total area (m²)
AP mines	649	5,613,560	112	1,947,476	761	7,561,036
AV mines	107	6,767,751	0	0	107	6,767,751
Mixed AP and AV mines	5	61,990	0	0	5	61,990
Totals	**761**	**12,443,301**	**112**	**1,947,476**	**873**	**14,390,777**

A total of 427,602m² of AP mine contamination was added to the database in 2025. Of this, 17 previously unrecorded AP mined areas covering 413,736m² were identified. A further 13,866m² were added through corrections to existing polygons.[6]

Since the 7 October 2023 conflict, Lebanon has been subject to repeated Israeli airstrikes focused on the south but also reaching as far as Beirut.[7] The attacks resulted in widespread new contamination of explosive ordnance with large quantities buried under the rubble, but the strikes may have also disrupted the minefields along the Blue Line and caused some mines to move outside the defined polygons. LMAC have been conducting survey/re-survey across all accessible areas affected by the bombardments and produced a comprehensive baseline review, which was adopted at the end of 2025. The baseline review was done through desk assessments combined with field verification and review of classification of contamination recorded in the database. Yet, according to LMAC, Lebanon's contamination is still subject to ongoing refinement, and re-survey is needed particularly in areas with limited access where the contamination distribution may have been altered.[8]

Survey and clearance continue to be hampered by the ongoing occupation of areas of operation and the daily shelling, including along the Blue Line.[9] Efforts are further slowed by the extensive contamination from other ERW, the shifting of priorities to address emergency callouts, and the need to remove rubble from destroyed buildings.[10] LMAC continues conducting non-technical survey (NTS) on an area-by-area basis, prioritising locations that can be accessed safely, but many areas remain off limits for survey efforts.[11] In October 2025, United Nations (UN) Special Procedures mandate holders said that continued Israeli air and drone strikes in Lebanon "was undermining Lebanese authorities' efforts to implement effective disarmament".[12]

1 Email from Col. Charbel Njeim, Operations Section Head, LMAC, 31 March 2026.

2 Email from Lt.-Col. Ali Makki, LMAC, 16 May 2024.

3 Email from Col. Charbel Njeim, LMAC, 31 March 2026.

4 Ibid.

5 Ibid.

6 Ibid. According to operator data, DCA identified 36,217m² of previously unknown AP contamination, HI identified 185,790m² across 12 tasks, and MAG identified 41,289m² across six tasks in west Beqaa and Chouf. This brings the total AP mine contamination discovered by operators to 263,296m², all of which was a result of legacy contamination.

7 "At least 182 killed across Lebanon in large wave of Israeli strikes", *BBC*, 9 April 2026, https://tinyurl.com/348zvx4j, and "Israel-Hezbollah conflict in maps: Ceasefire in effect in Lebanon", *BBC*, 27 November 2025, https://tinyurl.com/u5szbwav.

8 LMAC, 2025 Annual Report, pp. 8 and 13; and email from Col. Charbel Njeim, LMAC, 28 August 2026.

9 Emails from Col. Charbel Njeim, LMAC, 31 March 2026; and Sylvain Lefort, MAG, 10 July 2025.

10 Email from Lt.-Col. Ali Makki, LMAC, 27 May 2025.

11 Email from Col. Charbel Njeim, LMAC, 31 March 2026.

12 Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), "UN experts warn against continued violations of ceasefire in Lebanon and urge protection of civilians", Press release, 17 October 2025, https://tinyurl.com/49v5buys.

Lebanon's mine problem is largely a legacy of 15 years of earlier civil conflict and the Israeli invasions of south Lebanon in 1978 and in 1982 and the subsequent occupation that ended in May 2000. Most of the mined areas are in the south of the country, in conventional minefields laid according to a pattern and with the location of the mines identified on minefield maps. The minefields in Mount Lebanon in the middle of the country are typically "militia" laid with scattered mines and for which minefield records and maps do not exist. Multiple actors emplaced these mines during the civil war.[13]

There had also been a small amount of new mine contamination in "Jroud Arsal" on the north-east border with Syria, resulting from spill-over of the Syrian conflict onto Lebanese territory in 2014–17.[14] The Lebanese territory in question was fully regained by the Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF) in August 2017 and assigned to the LMAC for survey and clearance. Following completion of land release, LMAC reported the area as free from explosive ordnance in June 2023.[15]

OTHER EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE CONTAMINATION

Lebanon is also contaminated with cluster munition remnants (CMR) and other ERW. Lebanon recorded new CMR contamination in 2024–25 as a result of Israeli airstrikes on weapons and munitions storage depots belonging to non-State armed groups during the conflict that began in October 2023. These storage depots contained unused cluster munitions, along with other explosive ordnance, and led to submunitions being ejected into the surrounding area. To date, there were allegations of us of cluster munition by Israel,[16] but LMAC had yet to report evidence of new use. For further details on CMR contamination, see Mine Action Review's *Clearing Cluster Munition Remnants 2026* report on Lebanon.

NATIONAL OWNERSHIP AND PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT

Lebanon's mine action programme is under the control of the military. The Lebanon Mine Action Authority (LMAA), which has overall responsibility for Lebanon's mine action programme, is the responsibility of, and chaired by, the Ministry of Defence. In 2007, a national mine action policy outlined the structure, roles, and responsibilities within the programme, and LMAC was tasked to execute and coordinate the programme on behalf of the LMAA.[17]

LMAC, part of the LAF, is based in Beirut. Since 2009, the Regional Mine Action Centre-Nabatiyeh (RMAC-N), which is a part of LMAC, has overseen operations in south Lebanon, under LMAC supervision.[18] At the end of 2018, the RMAC-Ras Baalbek (RMAC-RB) regional centre was established in north-east Lebanon to oversee mine action operations, but it closed in 2023 after the area was declared free of mines.[19]

LMAC has a capacity that, in general, functions well, but as the staff are army officers, typically many senior managers, including in RMAC, are rotated every two years or so, which hampers continuity in the management of the mine action centres.[20] The current director of LMAC took up his post in April 2025.[21] A new standard operating procedure (SOP) for LMAC was approved in 2020. The SOP specifies the roles of each section of LMAC and clarifies the responsibilities and cooperation between sections. It is hoped that it will help preserve institutional memory, assist new LMAC staff, and reduce the impact of staff rotations.[22]

Lebanon worked on strengthening its national capacity in 2025 through a localisation project supporting local organisations (Beeatoona, SHEILD), alongside the addition of a new clearance team under DanChurch Aid (DCA), improving overall survey and clearance capacities.[23]

There is good coordination and collaboration between LMAC/RMAC and clearance operators, with consultation before key decisions are taken, particularly in planning, prioritising areas for clearance, and ensuring security standards during operations.[24] International operators report that an enabling environment exists for mine action in Lebanon.

UNDP's mine action project runs from 2026 to 2030 and provides institutional support to LMAC, particularly in strategic planning, project management, resource mobilisation, coordination, and reporting.[25] In April 2026, UNDP signed a new support agreement with LMAC for 2026 to 2030.[26] The International Trust Fund (ITF) Enhancing Human Security provided institutional support to LMAC in 2025, helping to strengthen the LMAC's administrative,

13 Interview with Brig.-Gen. Elie Nassif and Brig.-Gen. Fakih, LMAC, Beirut, 11 April 2016.

14 Emails from Lt.-Col. Fadi Wazen, LMAC, 7 March 2019; David Willey, Country Director, MAG, 7 March 2019; and Emile Ollivier, Grants Coordinator, NPA, 19 March 2019.

15 Email from Lt.-Col. Charbel Njeim, LMAC, 7 September 2023.

16 "Israel used widely banned cluster munitions in Lebanon, photos of remnants suggest", *The Guardian*, 19 November 2025, https://tinyurl.com/vercwrw6.

17 LMAC, "Mid-term Review to Strategy 2011–2020, Milestone 2013", August 2014, pp. 4–5.

18 LMAC, "Lebanon Mine Action Strategy 2011–2020", September 2011, p. 4.

19 Emails from Lt.-Col. Fadi Wazen, LMAC, 21 August 2019; and Sylvain Lefort, Country Director, MAG, 10 July 2025.

20 LMAC, Lebanon Mine Action Strategy 2020–25, p. 4.

21 Email from Sylvain Lefort, MAG, 10 July 2025.

22 Emails from Lt.-Col. Fadi Wazen, LMAC, 19 March 2020 and 15 March 2021; and LMAC, "Annual Report 2020", p. 28.

23 Email from Col. Charbel Njeim, LMAC, 31 March 2026.

24 Emails from Mohamed Chour, DCA, 31 March 2026; Adnan Araji, Acting Chief of Operation, HI, 28 March 2026; and Southern Craib, NPA, 26 March 2026.

25 Emails from Lt.-Col. Ali Makki, LMAC, 27 May 2025, and Col. Charbel Njeim, LMAC, 31 March 2026; and UNDP Lebanon, "Mine Action", accessed 14 August 2026, https://shorturl.at/BPUBl.

26 UNDP, "UNDP and Minister of National Defense Sign Support Agreement for LMAC", Press release, 1 April 2026, https://tinyurl.com/ke96xhaj.

logistic, and technical capacity. A new Slovenia-funded project was launched in 2025. The project builds on previous assistance and focuses on clearing explosive hazards and strengthening LMAC.[27]

DCA's NTS teams are supporting LMAC by delivering NTS training and assisting with IMSMA Core implementation.[28] The GICHD supports Lebanon through technical training, compliance with the IMAS, operational planning, gender and diversity, and enhancement of the IMSMA database.[29]

In 2025, MAG organised training courses on the use of the VMX10 Large Loop Detector.[30] Norwegian People's Aid (NPA) continued supporting LMAC with a focus on information management.[31] Humanity & Inclusion (HI) trained the national authorities on the use of drones.[32]

A "Humanitarian Mine Action Forum" was established in Lebanon in close partnership between LMAC and Norway, helping strengthen coordination by bringing all stakeholders together, including donors, to discuss progress and challenges. The Netherlands assumed the role of co-chair in 2021.[33] The Forum met once in November 2025.[34]

A technical working group (TWG) where LMAC and the RMACs meet with clearance operators was established in 2018.[35] The group met each month in 2025 to enhance coordination, plan, review progress, and discuss operational challenges.[36] A risk education committee also meets regularly to discuss priorities and lessons learned, and to coordinate activities.[37]

FUNDING FOR AP MINE SURVEY AND CLEARANCE

The Lebanese government contributed approximately US$7.5 million in 2025 towards the mine action programme. This budget supports the operational costs of LMAC, including facilities and personnel, as well as the deployment of two mine clearance teams, and three companies from the LAF Engineering Regiment to ensure rapid response coverage across the country. It also supports risk education, victim assistance training, and advocacy efforts.[38] This is the same budgeted amount as 2024.

Funding for AP mines survey and clearance in 2025 came from the US Department of State's Political-Military Affairs Office of Weapon Removal and Abatement (PM/WRA), Japan's Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP), the German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO), the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (NMFA), the Luxembourg Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs (MOFALUX), the Netherlands, Canada, and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). GGP and GFFO ended their funding in July and March 2025, respectively. PM-WRA, NMFA, MOFALUX, the Netherlands, and Canada continued to fund Lebanon in 2026.[39] Lebanon has developed a new resource mobilisation plan in partnership with UNDP.[40]

In 2025, DCA received funding for survey and clearance from PM/WRA and the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA). Both donors were continuing to fund DCA's work in Lebanon in 2026.[41] HI's survey and clearance were funded by MOFALUX during 2025 and 2026. As at April 2025, HI was waiting on responses to its application for new funds from both the GGP and GFFO.[42] MAG's survey and clearance operations in 2025 were funded by PM/WRA, NMFA, the Netherlands MoFA, and United Kingdom (UK) funding through UNICEF, and as new donors in 2025, IF! Foundation and Canada. MAG was continuing to receive funding in 2026 from PM/WRA, NMFA, the Netherlands MoFA, Canada, and IF! Foundation. MAG submitted proposals to Japan and France. As at April 2026, both were awaiting a decision on approval.[43] For more information on funding, please see the Lebanon country profile on the *Landmine and Cluster Munition Monitor* website.[44]

GENDER AND DIVERSITY

The gender and diversity-related policy applied at LMAC is that of the LAF military rules.[45] Lebanon's National Mine Action Strategy 2020–25 includes considerations on gender and diversity.[46] LMAC acknowledges in the strategy that mine action "is a male-dominated environment and we have therefore a particular responsibility to empower women

27 Emails from Lt.-Col. Ali Makki, LMAC, 27 May 2025; and Col. Charbel Njeim, LMAC, 31 March 2026.
28 Email from Mohamed Chour, DCA, 31 March 2026.
29 Email from Col. Charbel Njeim, LMAC, 31 March 2026; and ITF, "Continuation of international support for humanitarian mine action efforts in South Lebanon", 28 August 2026, https://tinyurl.com/mbhehf59.
30 Email from Sylvain Lefort, MAG, 10 April 2026.
31 Email from Southern Craib, NPA, 26 March 2026.
32 Email from Adnan Araji, HI, 28 March 2026.
33 Email from Lt.-Col. Fadi Wazen, LMAC, 29 March 2022.
34 Emails from Col. Charbel Njeim, LMAC, 31 March 2026, and Mohamed Chour, DCA, 31 March 2026.
35 Email from Lt.-Col. Ali Makki, LMAC, 27 May 2025.
36 Email from Col. Charbel Njeim, LMAC, 31 March 2026.
37 Email from Hiba Ghandour, Programme Manager, MAG, 15 May 2026.
38 Email from Col. Charbel Njeim, LMAC, 31 March 2026.
39 Ibid.
40 Ibid.; and 2025 Article 4 deadline Extension Request, p. 20.
41 Email from Mohamed Chour, DCA, 31 March 2026.
42 Email from Adnan Araji, HI, 28 March 2026.
43 Email from Sylvain Lefort, MAG, 10 April 2026.
44 https://the-monitor.org.
45 Email from Lt.-Col. Fadi Wazen, LMAC, 19 March 2020.
46 Emails from Lt.-Col. Fadi Wazen, LMAC, 19 March and 22 July 2020.

and ensure that we have a gender sensitive approach to our work".[47] Gender and diversity considerations are also mainstreamed throughout the chapters of Lebanon's NMAS, including those reviewed and updated in 2024.[48]

LMAC appointed a trained gender focal point in 2025, and launched an initiative: "Empowering Voices, Embracing Diversity", which promoted gender diversity and inclusion through interactive sessions and facilitated discussions on challenges and opportunities. In parallel, UNDP, in collaboration with LMAC, conducted a comprehensive gender assessment of the Lebanon mine action programme, resulting in a set of short-, medium-, and long-term action points to further strengthen gender mainstreaming across the sector.[49] Survey and community liaison teams include personnel from different regions and communities across Lebanon, ensuring diversity and familiarity with local contexts. According to LMAC, no challenges related to ethnicity or minority representation have been encountered, nor are such challenges anticipated.[50] Notwithstanding these efforts, women's representation in LMAC declined slightly in 2025 compared to the previous year. The number of staff at LMAC is determined by the LAF headquarters, so LMAC has limited control over the number of women, but it consistently requests that the percentage of women be increased.[51]

DCA has a gender focal point who is active in the LMAC committee meetings.[52] In 2025, MAG started addressing persons with disability (PWDs) in risk education messaging more systematically. MAG produced and launched an awareness video in sign language on the International Day of Sign Languages, reinforcing the principle that everyone has the right to access risk education information. To further strengthen inclusion in field operations, MAG recruited two community liaison officers with prior experience working with PWDs. The newly recruited staff members were leading efforts to ensure that PWDs are actively included in all community engagement activities, including NTS, risk education, and post-clearance impact assessments.[53]

Table 3: Gender composition of operators in 2025[54]

Operator	Total staff	Women staff	Total managerial or supervisory staff	Women managerial or supervisory staff	Total operational staff	Women operational staff
DCA	91	17 (19%)	20	5 (25%)	72	12 (17%)
LMAC	149	14 (9%)	20	1 (5%)	46	1 (2%)
MAG	202	31 (15%)	49	6 (12%)	170	25 (15%)
NPA	77	15 (19%)	12	3 (25%)	56	11 (20%)
HI	20	6 (30%)	4	2 (50%)	3	1 (33%)
Totals	**539**	**83 (15%)**	**105**	**17 (16%)**	**347**	**50 (14%)**

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES AND ACTION

LMAC does not currently have an environmental management policy, but Lebanon has an NMAS on Safety and Occupational Health – Protection of the Environment (10.70) in place, which it plans to revise in line with IMAS 07.13 (Second Edition, 3 July 2024). A workshop scheduled for May 2026 to support this update was cancelled due to the escalation of conflict, and as at August 2026, its rescheduling was contingent on the security situation.[55]

LMAC and its implementing partners are required to coordinate with local authorities and landowners before operations start. All NTS reports and clearance plans include information on the climatic and weather characteristics of the region, their impact on the clearance operation, and the measures to be taken. After clearance has been completed at a worksite, operators must remove and appropriately dispose of all rubbish and large fragments of munitions, filling in any holes in the ground to stabilise the surface so that natural regeneration can take place.[56] Lebanon considers climate-related and extreme weather risks when planning and prioritising survey and clearance.[57]

47 LMAC, Lebanon Mine Action Strategy 2020–25, p. 8.

48 LMAC, 2025 Annual Report, p. 31.

49 Ibid.

50 Email from Col. Charbel Njeim, LMAC, 31 March 2026.

51 Emails from Lt.-Col. Fadi Wazen, LMAC, 19 March 2020 and 15 March 2021; and LMAC, "Plan for the Implementation and Monitoring of the LMAP Strategy (2020–25)", p. 19.

52 Email from Mohamed Chour, DCA, 31 March 2026.

53 Email from Sylvain Lefort, MAG, 10 April 2026.

54 Emails from Col. Charbel Njeim, LMAC, 31 March 2026; Mohamed Chour, DCA, 31 March 2026; Sylvain Lefort, MAG, 10 April 2026; Southern Craib, NPA, 26 March 2026; and Adnan Araji, HI, 28 March 2026.

55 Email from Col. Charbel Njeim, LMAC, 28 August 2026.

56 Emails from Lt.-Col. Fadi Wazen, LMAC, 29 March 2022 and 5 May 2023.

57 Email from Lt.-Col. Ali Makki, LMAC, 2 May 2024; and Col. Charbel Njeim, LMAC, 31 March 2026.

Table 4: Environmental policies and action[58]

Operator	Environmental policy in place	Environmental assessments conducted to support survey and clearance	Environmental focal point at country-programme level
DCA	Yes (organisation-wide)	Yes	Yes
HI	Yes	Yes	No
MAG	Yes	Yes	No (but MAG logistics manager supports environmental initiatives)
NPA	Yes (organisation-wide)	Yes	Yes

DCA conducted training on environmental policy and allocated an environmental focal point in November 2025. Operational measures included improved maintenance of field vehicles to reduce emissions and optimisation of travel planning to minimise unnecessary movements.[59]

MAG applies an environmental checklist across all operational tasks to assess and mitigate potential environmental impacts during clearance and field activities.

In 2025, MAG conducted a carbon footprint assessment using a MAG global tool to identify areas for improvement.[60] MAG integrates environmental and climate-related considerations into task planning and prioritisation, including contamination displacement risks which might alter contamination footprint; and community safety considerations such as risks of population movement due to environmental events that could increase the likelihood of people entering hazardous areas.[61]

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING

Since 2021, LMAC has been using IMSMA Core.[62] Key improvements in the new system included more accurate drawing of surveyed polygons using tools based on GPS and imagery base maps; reducing instances of double counting of polygons; and recording the depth at which ordnance was discovered, its condition, and whether it is safe to move.[63] In 2024, new emergency response forms were introduced.[64] Overall, operators consider Lebanon's IM system to be accurate and up to date, with HI assessing that data is up to 90% accurate, while noting that the ongoing security situation may affect accuracy in some areas and that updates are required as new field information becomes available. DCA similarly considered the system reliable and well-structured, with strong processes for data collection, validation, and centralised management, but reported that GPS jamming over the past two years has affected the accuracy of some data.[65]

Most operators reported having sufficient access to the database to support planning, decision-making, and reporting, but NPA noted that despite not having full and unfettered access, it has been able to operate effectively. DCA reported that data validation takes place on a daily basis through coordination between its IM team and LMAC. HI noted that LMAC shares data with organisations for verification, with gaps or inconsistencies resolved promptly. Standardised data entry guidelines are used, and LMAC contributes to training and provides immediate support when data inaccuracy issues arise. MAG said that even when access to the database is limited, LMAC is very cooperative in providing any requested data on time.[66] Operators indicate that data collection forms are consistent, standardised, and aligned with national standards and IMSMA requirements. MAG noted that disaggregation of data by disability, nationality and displacement status is not yet reflected in the national data collection forms.[67]

MAG worked closely with LMAC to develop new survey and daily operational reporting tools, and to enhance clearance progress mapping. These improvements supported closer data monitoring, reduced the margin for error, and enabled early identification and resolution of data discrepancies.[68] In 2025, LMAC launched its official website as the primary platform for communication and engagement with partners and stakeholders. LMAC hopes that the website will enhance its visibility and connectedness at the national, regional, and international levels.[69]

In the Lebanon Mine Action Strategy 2020–25 and the accompanying implementation plan, LMAC pledged to voluntarily submit Article 7 reports under the APMBC.[70] Lebanon did not submit these reports since then but in May 2026, it acceded to the Convention. Lebanon is due to submit its first Article 7 report to the APMBC by April 2027.

58 Emails from Mohamed Chour, DCA, 31 March 2026; Adnan Araji, HI, 28 March 2026; Sylvain Lefort, MAG, 10 April 2026; and Southern Craib, NPA, 26 March 2026.
59 Email from Mohamed Chour, DCA, 31 March 2026.
60 Email from Sylvain Lefort, MAG, 10 April 2026.
61 Ibid.
62 LMAC, "Annual Report 2022", p. 31.
63 Email from Lt.-Col. Fadi Wazen, LMAC, 15 May 2023.
64 Emails from Mohamed Chour, DCA, 31 March 2026; Adnan Araji, HI, 28 March 2026; Sylvain Lefort, MAG, 10 April 2026; and Southern Craib, NPA, 26 March 2026.
65 Emails from Mohamed Chour, DCA, 31 March 2026; Adnan Araji, HI, 28 March 2026; and Southern Craib, NPA, 26 March 2026.
66 Email from Sylvain Lefort, MAG, 10 April 2026.
67 Emails from Mohamed Chour, DCA, 31 March 2026; Adnan Araji, HI, 28 March 2026; and Sylvain Lefort, MAG, 10 April 2026.
68 Email from Sylvain Lefort, MAG, 10 April 2026.
69 LMAC, 2025 Annual Report, p. 24.
70 LMAC, Lebanon Mine Action Strategy 2020–25, June 2020, p. 4; and LMAC, "Plan for the Implementation and Monitoring of the LMAP Strategy (2020–2025)", p. 5.

PLANNING AND TASKING

LMAC had a National Mine Action Strategy for 2020–25 with a strategic implementation plan,[71] developed with support from the UNDP project funded by the European Union (EU).[72] LMAC has routinely developed a new strategy every five years to reassess unmet objectives and integrate emerging priorities.[73] At the time of writing, LMAC, with the support of UNDP, was laying the groundwork for the development of an updated Mine Action Strategy for 2026–30.

LMAC conducted a study in 2021 of tasking leading to the creation of a new national prioritisation system. The system is based on three strategic categories: safety, economy, and treaty compliance. Each category contains subcategories which take operational considerations and impact into account.[74] The prioritisation of actions and allocation of resources is standardised and automated in IMSMA Core.[75] Prioritisation criteria include the risk to civilians, the impact on livelihoods, the severity of threat, accessibility and feasibility, programmatic and strategic needs, the presence of water sources, and possible use of land.[76] LMAC introduced an additional prioritisation approach in 2025 that has been reviewed and updated for the emergency response in agreement with all implementing agencies. The prioritisation criteria included consideration for land use, proximity to civilians, conventions and treaties signed.[77]

For 2026, LMAC will focus on addressing capacity gaps through increased operational assets, completion of survey activities, and enhance international engagement. More concretely, Lebanon aims to increase the number of its operational teams, maintaining regular reporting and submissions at the international fora, and strengthening partnerships with donors and implementing partners.[78] Operators say that survey and clearance dossiers are provided in a timely and effective manner.[79]

Lebanon says that the capacity of the LAF Engineering Regiment has been significantly affected by the escalation of conflict due to shifting of priorities towards the emergency response and critical tasks.[80]

Prior to 2016, demining along the border with Israel had been said to depend on "political developments",[81] but the Lebanese government subsequently took the decision to initiate larger-scale, planned clearance on the Blue Line.[82] Clearance by humanitarian demining operators, which began in November 2016,[83] was suspended on 8 October 2023 with UNIFIL announcing that it would resume operations on the Blue Line in September 2025.[84]

Lebanon had a work plan in place for AP mine survey and clearance in 2024. Implementation was, however, severely impacted by the economic crisis and renewed conflicts, which led to a temporary suspension of operations in the last quarter of 2023 into 2024. The insecurity and emerging contamination also meant that no fixed plans could be laid out for 2025 or 2026. Instead, an emergency response mechanism was put in place, based on which NTS and clearance are decided on a case-by-case basis.[85]

LAND RELEASE SYSTEM

STANDARDS AND LAND RELEASE EFFICIENCY

Lebanon developed its first NMAS in 2010 and since then there have been regular revisions to ensure IMAS compliance, integrate lessons learned and case studies, and strengthen gender and diversity considerations.[86] The most recent updates to NMAS were finalised in late 2023. A new revision was planned for the end of 2026 and is already included in the forward planning process, with the support of the GICHD.[87]

Operators find Lebanon's NMAS to be generally well adapted to the local context and say they provide a structured framework for evidence-based survey, risk assessment, and clearance.[88] Lebanon introduced the use of drones as an innovative tool, but their operational application has thus far remained limited, particularly due to recent security constraints.

71 Emails from Lt.-Col. Fadi Wazen, LMAC, 22 July 2020 and 15 March 2021; and LMAC, "Plan for the Implementation and Monitoring of the LMAP Strategy (2020–25)", p. 3.

72 LMAC, Lebanon Mine Action Strategy 2020–25; and LMAC, "Annual Report 2019", p. 7.

73 Email from Lt.-Col. Ali Makki, LMAC, 27 May 2025; and 2025 Article 4 deadline Extension Request, Additional Information, 10 June 2025, p. 5.

74 Email from Lt.-Col. Fadi Wazen, LMAC, 15 March 2021; and LMAC, "Annual Report 2020", p. 35.

75 Email from Lt.-Col. Fadi Wazen, LMAC, 15 May 2023; and LMAC, "Annual Report 2022", p. 32.

76 Emails from Adnan Araji, HI, 28 March 2026; and Mohamed Chour, DCA, 31 March 2026.

77 Email from Col. Charbel Njeim, LMAC, 31 March 2026, and Sylvain Lefort, MAG, 10 April 2026.

78 LMAC, 2025 Annual Report, p. 10.

79 Emails from Mohamed Chour, DCA, 31 March 2026; Adnan Araji, HI, 28 March 2026; Sylvain Lefort, MAG, 10 April 2026; and Southern Craib, NPA, 26 March 2026.

80 LMAC, 2025 Annual Report, p. 11.

81 Presentation by Maj. Bou Maroun, RMAC, Nabatiyeh, 4 May 2012; and response to Landmine Monitor questionnaire by Leon Louw, Programme Manager, UN Mine Action Support Team (UNMAST), 7 May 2014.

82 Interview with Brig.-Gen. Elie Nassif and Brig.-Gen. Fakih, LMAC, Beirut, 11 April 2016.

83 Email from Brig.-Gen. Ziad Nasr, LMAC, 24 April 2017.

84 Emails from Lt.-Col. Ali Makki, LMAC, 16 May 2024; Sylvain Lefort, MAG, 30 April and 25 September 2025; and Mohamed Chour, DCA, 6 May 2025.

85 Emails from Lt.-Col. Ali Makki, LMAC, 8 May 2025; and Col. Charbel Njeim, LMAC, 31 March 2026.

86 Email from Lt.-Col. Ali Makki, LMAC, 2 May 2024.

87 Email from Col. Charbel Njeim, LMAC, 31 March 2026.

88 Ibid.

HI has developed innovative techniques to support land release, including use of advanced sensors to detect buried explosive ordnance, and has trained its teams and other operators on improved survey methodologies in collaboration with LMAC. In 2023–24, HI piloted and implemented body-worn cameras in demining, enhancing monitoring and oversight, strengthening quality assurance (QA) and compliance with SOPs, and supporting training and accountability through recorded field activities.[89]

MAG conducted an assessment on the use of mine detection dogs (MDDs) for land release of minefield tasks in west Beqaa and South Lebanon, including trials in difficult terrain. The assessment concluded that MDDs are well suited and enhance land release efficiency in challenging terrain.[90]

In 2025, LMAC QA teams conducted 736 field visits to monitor demining. Two quality control (QC) teams checked 155,000m^2 of released land, during which, two non-conformities in two tasks were found and corrective actions were taken. MDDs were deployed on 69,562m^2 of quality-controlled land in 2025, and were said to have significantly improved efficiency.[91]

Lebanon contains scattered/ militia minefields dating back to the civil war and to which no maps are available. LMAC says these minefields are already cleared from the northern provinces, which are by now declared free of explosive ordnance, while NTS is ongoing in the remaining ones. Since most of the tasks containing scattered minefields are old combat zones, LMAC sees that they are best addressed through technical survey (TS).[92]

OPERATORS AND OPERATIONAL TOOLS

In 2025, AP mine survey and clearance was conducted by international operators DCA, HI, MAG, and UNIFIL along with the Engineering Regiment of the LAF. There was a decrease in mine clearance capacity in Lebanon in 2025 compared to the previous year. This was due to redirection of resources to address new contamination and conduct urgent survey and battle area clearance (BAC).[93] Following the suspension of its operations since October 2023, UNIFIL resumed mine clearance in the Blue Line in September 2025.[94]

The LAF Engineering Regiment has two BAC teams. A further three Engineering Regiment companies conduct rapid response call-outs. In addition, each deployed combat brigade has its own combat engineering company which can also conduct rapid-response call-outs. The Engineering Regiment supports clearance operations through the deployment of mechanical assets and MDDs. This support is provided through the LMAC to all clearance organisations upon request. MDDs were used as a secondary (confirmation) asset contributing to the clearance of 15,300m^2 in 2025.[95]

Machines are primarily used as secondary assets to support clearance teams (e.g. for ground preparation, rubble removal, or fade-out); in areas where manual clearance is difficult; and for TS and low-threat hazardous areas.[96] During 2025, however, the use of these assets was largely focused on rubble removal and site preparation, particularly in areas affected by the hostilities. Some assets have also been subject to Israeli attacks and were consequently damaged or went out of service.[97] Clearance operators who are supported by mechanical assets from the LAF are providing fuel, maintenance, and spare parts for the machines.[98]

Table 5: Operational NTS capacities deployed in 2025[99]

Operator	NTS teams	Total NTS personnel
DCA	3	6
HI	1	2
LMAC	2	4
MAG	6	12
Totals	**12**	**24**

Table 6: Operational TS and clearance capacities deployed in 2025[100]

Operator	Manual teams	Total clearance personnel	Dogs and handlers	Machines	Comments
LAF ER	2	12	5 dogs and 5 handlers	0	Clearance teams also conduct TS
HI	1	6	0	0	Clearance teams also conduct TS

89 Email from Adnan Araji, HI, 28 March 2026.
90 Email from Sylvain Lefort, MAG, 10 April 2026.
91 LMAC, 2025 Annual report, pp. 18–19.
92 Email from Col. Charbel Njeim, LMAC, 31 March 2026.
93 Email from Lt.-Col. Ali Makki, LMAC, 8 May 2025.
94 Email from Col. Charbel Njeim, LMAC, 31 March 2026.
95 Emails from Lt.-Col. Fadi Wazen, LMAC, 29 March 2022 and 5 May 2023; LMAC; and LMAC, 2025 Annual Report, p. 11.
96 Emails from Lt.-Col. Fadi Wazen, LMAC, 29 March 2022; and Lt.-Col. Ali Makki, LMAC, 7 October 2024.
97 Email from Col. Charbel Njeim, LMAC, 31 March 2026.
98 Email from Lt.-Col. Fadi Wazen, LMAC, 29 March 2022.
99 Emails from Lt.-Col. Ali Makki, LMAC, 8 May 2025; and Sylvain Lefort, MAG, 24 August 2026.
100 Emails from Mohamed Chour, DCA, 31 March 2026; Adnan Araji, HI, 28 March 2026; Col. Charbel Njeim, LMAC, 31 March 2026; and Sylvain Lefort, MAG, 10 April 2026.

Table 6 continued

Operator	Manual teams	Total clearance personnel	Dogs and handlers	Machines	Comments
MAG	2	20	0	8	Clearance teams also conduct TS
UNIFIL	4	24	0	0	Clearance teams also conduct TS
Totals	**9**	**62**	**5 dogs and 5 handlers**	**8**	

ER = Engineering Regiment.

DCA has multi-tasking teams capable of conducting BAC and mine clearance. DCA's mine clearance capacity significantly decreased in 2025 due to the ongoing hostilities which prevented deployment in the Blue Line, and as focus shifted towards unexploded ordnance (UXO) debris and BAC on items kicked out from ammunition storages. DCA is currently in the process of buying new machinery for deployment along the Blue Line.[101]

HI had two clearance teams of 18 deminers until February 2025, but then had to reduce its capacity by more than half due to shortages of funding.[102] MAG's AP mine clearance capacity was also reduced in 2025 due to focus on the emergency response and inaccessibility to the Blue Line since October 2023. Subject to approvals, MAG expected to increase the number of its Mine Action Teams (MAT) by five and its community liaison teams by two. To improve operational efficiency, MAG integrated mechanical operator functions into the existing MAT structures. In the field, MAG was deploying a Vallon VMH4 detector with a 60cm search head for mine clearance.[103]

Insecurity has hindered access to AP mine survey and clearance in border areas, where the majority of AP minefields are located. As mentioned, the Blue Line has been sealed off since October 2023, with only UNIFEL resuming operations in some of its areas since September 2025. Minefields located in Mount Lebanon have not faced similar access constraints, and operations there continued without major interruptions.[104]

In March 2025, UNIFIL and the LAF renewed their MoU on demining in south Lebanon, extending cooperation until 31 December 2026. The MoU formalises UNIFIL's support to LMAC in mine clearance and explosive ordnance disposal (EOD), aimed at protecting civilians and UNIFIL personnel and ensuring operational mobility. Under the agreement, LMAC will identify priority hazardous areas, with joint reconnaissance conducted by UNIFIL, LMAC, and the Mine Action Unit at UNIFIL (previously called the UN Mine Action Service (UNMAS)), which also oversees QA. This marks the third renewal since the first MoU was signed in 2020.[105] In 2025, UNIFIL had six demining teams, six EOD teams, six explosive ordnance risk education teams. Of these, four manual clearance teams totalling 24 personnel are deployed in direct support of the LMAC's operations, with the remaining teams engaged in other operational tasks.[106]

DEMINER SAFETY

On 19 March 2025, the Lebanese National News Agency reported that a landmine injured a UNIFIL soldier between Yater and Zibqin without providing further details. On 21 July 2026, two Lebanese Red Cross paramedics were injured when their ambulance detonated a landmine in east Zawtar, Nabatiyeh.[107] Neither of the sources identified the types of mine that caused the incidents.

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS AND PROGRESS TOWARDS COMPLETION

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS IN 2025

Table 7: Summary of land release outputs in 2025

Release of AP mined area	Release in 2025 (m²)	Comments
Clearance	68,577	LMAC data
Technical survey	102,200	LMAC data
Non-technical survey	47,700	LMAC data
Destruction of AP mines during clearance, survey, and spot tasks	**2025**	
AP mines destroyed	3,068	Including 2,151 during spot tasks

101 Email from Mohamed Chour, DCA, 31 March 2026.

102 Email from Adnan Araji, HI, 28 March 2026.

103 Email from Sylvain Lefort, MAG, 10 April 2026.

104 Email from Col. Charbel Njeim, LMAC, 31 March 2026.

105 UNIFIL, "New understanding cements continued UNIFIL support in demining in south Lebanon", 25 March 2025, https://shorturl.at/z0DSf.

106 Emails from Aaron Buckly, UNMAS headquarters, 13 October 2025; and Col. Charbel Njeim, LMAC, 31 March 2026.

107 National News Agency, "UNIFIL Soldier Injured by Landmine Explosion in Southern Lebanon" (in Arabic), 19 March 2025, https://shorturl.at/ujHSq; and "The Red Cross: Injury of two paramedics in a landmine in East Zawter in the south of Lebanon" (in Arabic), *Anadolu Agency*, 21 July 2026, https://shorturl.at/QXPL3.

SURVEY IN 2025

In 2025, LMAC reported that a total of 149,900m² was released through survey, of which 47,700m² of mined area was cancelled through NTS and 102,200m² reduced through TS (see Tables 8 and 9).[108] This is a decrease from the 305,815m² released through survey in 2024, of which 80,443m² of mined area was cancelled through NTS and 225,372m² reduced through TS.[109]

A total of 427,602m² of AP mine contamination was added to the database in 2025. Of this, 17 previously unrecorded AP mine sites covering 413,736m² were identified. A further 13,866m² were added through corrections to existing site perimeters.[110]

Table 8: Release of mined area through NTS in 2025 (LMAC data)[111]

Province	Operator	Areas cancelled	Area cancelled (m²)
Mount Lebanon	DCA	1	8,020
	MAG	0	164
Beqaa	MAG	0	39,516
Totals		**1**	**47,700**

Table 9: Release of mined area through TS in 2025 (LMAC data)[112]

Province	Operator	Areas reduced	Area reduced (m²)
Beqaa	MAG	1	19,368
Mount Lebanon	MAG	3	55,276
	HI	3	27,556
Totals		**7**	**102,200**

CLEARANCE IN 2025

A total of 68,577m² of mined area was cleared in Lebanon in 2025, with 917 AP mines destroyed (see Table 10).[113] This is a 65% decrease from the 196,172m² of mined area cleared in 2024. The number of AP mines found, though, has increased sharply in 2025 compared to the 65 AP mines destroyed during clearance in the previous year.[114] In addition, 2,151 AP mines and 2,028 AV mines were destroyed during EOD spot tasks in 2025.[115] The increase in the number of AP mines destroyed in 2025 is ascribed to the rapid response operations which enabled the Engineering Regiment units to identify and then destroy a large number of AP mines, in addition to the resumption of clearance by UNIFIL along the Blue Line.[116]

UNIFIL resumed humanitarian demining in September 2025, following an interruption of nearly two years. By 26 February 2026, it had cleared and handed over five minefields in Blida and Maroun al-Ras. UNIFIL also continued EOD around its positions near Blue Line markers, and along roads and patrol routes.[117]

LMAC has its own category for improvised explosive devices (IED) tasks and they are not registered as mine clearance, but victim-activated IEDs discovered are included in the total of AP mines destroyed. None of the AP mines destroyed in 2025 was of an improvised nature.[118]

108 Email from Col. Charbel Njeim, LMAC, 31 March 2026.
109 Email from Lt.-Col. Ali Makki, LMAC, 16 May 2024.
110 Email from Col. Charbel Njeim, LMAC, 31 March 2026.
111 Ibid. According to operator data, MAG cancelled 1,579m² of AP mined area through NTS in Mount Lebanon, Chouf in 2025.
112 Email from Col. Charbel Njeim, LMAC, 31 March 2026.
113 Email from Lt.-Col. Ali Makki, LMAC, 8 May 2025.
114 Email from Lt.-Col. Ali Makki, LMAC, 16 May 2024.
115 Ibid.
116 Email from Col. Charbel Njeim, LMAC, 29 August 2026.
117 UNIFIL, "UNIFIL hands over last 2 of 5 cleared minefields to LAF", 27 February 2026, bit.ly/4A95RaF; and "Peacekeepers clear road of crashed armed drone amidst fighting", 27 March 2026, https://shorturl.at/Jl74P.
118 Email from Col. Charbel Njeim, LMAC, 31 March 2026.

Table 10: Mine clearance in 2025 (LMAC data)[119]

Province	Operator	Areas cleared	Area cleared (m²)	AP mines destroyed during clearance and TS	AP mines destroyed in spot tasks	UXO destroyed
Akkar	LAF ER	0	9,940	103	0	0
		0	0	0	1,675	0
	Army Unit	0	0	0	474	0
Beqaa	MAG	1	24,000	5	0	0
Mount Lebanon	MAG	6	15,460	23	0	9
	HI	4	13,630	0	0	1
South	NPA	0	0	0	2	0
South	UNIFIL	1	5,547	786	0	0
Totals		**12**	**68,577**	**917**	**2,151**	**10**

According to LMAC, an area of 24,651m² was cleared in 2025 without finding AP mines.[120] This is nearly 36% of the total area cleared in 2025. Operators, on the other hand, reported having cleared 114,537m² without finding AP mines in 2025 (see Table 11).

Table 11: Area cleared in 2025 in which no AP mines were found (operator data)[121]

Operator	Area cleared (m²)	Comments
DCA	0	
HI	13,630	Across 4 mined areas
MAG	100,907	Across 6 mined areas in Chouf (Mount Lebanon)
Total	**114,537**	

From 2024 to 2025, there was an overall decrease in land release output in terms of the areas released, although the number of AP mines found and destroyed has increased sharply, particularly as a result of EOD call-outs.[122] This is due to shifting of resources towards the emergency response and inaccessibility of the minefields located along the southern borders and in the Blue Line for the good part of 2025. While clearance resumed in Mount Lebanon, the operational outputs were lesser than in the South.[123]

ARTICLE 5 DEADLINE AND COMPLIANCE

APMBC ENTRY INTO FORCE FOR LEBANON: 1 NOVEMBER 2026

↓

ARTICLE 5 DEADLINE: 1 NOVEMBER 2036

NOT ON TRACK TO MEET ARTICLE 5 DEADLINE

At the Fourth Review Conference of the APMBC in 2019, Lebanon made a statement as an observer affirming its aspiration to become a State Party to the APMBC. The Minister of Defence, as head of the LMAA, confirmed he had no objections to accession, and LMAC pledged to act in the spirit of the Convention.[124] On 1 May 2026, Lebanon deposited its instrument of accession to the APMBC. The Convention entered into force for Lebanon on 1 November 2026, and its Article 5 deadline for the release of all mined areas is 1 November 2036.[125]

Clearance of mined areas was originally expected to be completed by the end of 2020, in accordance with the 2011–20 national strategy, but actual mine clearance capacity was far lower and progress against the strategy fell well behind schedule. Lebanon's National Mine Action Strategy 2020–25 aimed to release 81% of all known AP mined areas by the end of 2025.[126] This target was not achieved,[127] and Lebanon is currently developing its strategy for 2026–30. Based on its end-2025 baseline, Lebanon would need to release approximately 0.8km² annually over the next ten years –

119 Ibid.

120 Ibid.

121 Emails from Mohamed Chour, DCA, 31 March 2026; Adnan Araji, HI, 28 March 2026; and Sylvain Lefort, MAG, 10 April 2026.

122 Email from Col. Charbel Njeim, LMAC, 31 March 2026.

123 Emails from Col. Charbel Njeim, LMAC, 31 March 2026; Adnan Araji, HI, 28 March 2026; and Sylvain Lefort, MAG, 10 April 2026.

124 Lebanon Mine Action Strategy 2020–25, p. 4; and LMAC, "Plan for the Implementation and Monitoring of the LMAP Strategy (2020–2025)", p. 5.

125 APMBC, Lebanon, accessed 16 August 2026, https://shorturl.at/ZhJEd.

126 Lebanon Mine Action Strategy 2020 – 2025, p. 17.

127 Lebanon's reported AP mines baseline at the beginning of the 2020–25 strategic period (end of 2019) was 18.65km². The strategy aimed to release 81% of the known contamination by the end of 2025, that is approximately 15km². The total land released in 2021–25, however, was 2.8km².

without accounting for additions to the database – to meet its Article 5 deadline of November 2036. Historically, Lebanon's annual land release averaged at 0.6km² (see Table 13). This means that Lebanon will need to increase its annual land release output if it is to meet its deadline. Lebanon has the political will and national structures to increase its annual output, provided that the minimum conditions of security and stability are met. At the time of writing, only UNIFIL was able to operate along the Blue Line.

Table 12: Five-year summary of AP mine clearance

Year	Area cleared (km²)
2025	0.07
2024	0.20
2023	0.29
2022	0.22
2021	0.25
Total	**1.03**

Table 13: Five-year summary of AP mine land release

Year	Area released (km²)
2025	0.61
2024	0.80
2023	0.50
2022	0.22
2021	0.61
Annual average	**0.55**

At the current state of instability, Lebanon is unable to confirm a completion date for AP mine clearance. Access restrictions persisted for much of 2025, largely restricting operations in the south where most of the country's minefields are located. In addition, many affected minefields will need to be reassessed following the intense hostilities and the resulting ERW contamination.[128] While Lebanon continued to address legacy contamination in accessible areas, its resources were largely consumed by the emergency response. DCA cautioned that addressing the new ERW contamination, including items ejected from ammunition-storage sites, should not displace attention from legacy AP mine contamination.[129]

Strong national leadership and coordination in Lebanon continue to provide a positive environment for mine action. Following its accession to the APMBC, Lebanon will need to upscale its operational capacity and secure stable and multi-year funding to make progress towards its Article 5 deadline. Lebanon is also a State Party to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM), and will therefore need to advance its obligations under both Conventions while continuing to respond to emergencies and changing priorities.

PLANNING FOR MANAGEMENT OF RESIDUAL CONTAMINATION

According to LMAC, the strategic implementation plan, which will support the National Mine Action Strategy 2020–25, will address an exit strategy and long-term risk management.[130] LMAC presented a draft exit strategy with respect to addressing residual risk after CCM Article 4 fulfilment to all stakeholders including donors at a Mine Action Forum meeting in 2022.[131] The finalisation of the strategy has been postponed as it is dependent on a more accurate understanding of the extent of contamination and the availability of sufficient financial and technical support to complete clearance. LMAC says that under the current circumstances, it is very difficult to define a comprehensive exit strategy.[132]

128 Emails from Mohamed Chour, DCA, 31 March 2026; Adnan Araji, HI, 28 March 2026; Col. Charbel Njeim, LMAC, 31 March 2026; and Sylvain Lefort, MAG, 10 April 2026.
129 Email from Adnan Araji, HI, 28 March 2026.
130 Email from Lt.-Col. Fadi Wazen, LMAC, 19 March 2020.
131 Email from Lt.-Col. Fadi Wazen, LMAC, 29 March 2022.
132 Emails from Lt.-Col. Ali Makki, LMAC, 27 May 2025; and Col. Charbel Njeim, LMAC, 31 March 2026.