

KEY DATA

NO CCM ARTICLE 4 DEADLINE

State not party to the CCM

CMR CONTAMINATION:

18,092m²

Light
(National authority partial estimate)

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS

Release of cluster munition-contaminated area	Release in 2024 (m ²)	Release in 2023 (m ²)
Clearance	4,053	0
Technical Survey	0	0
Non-Technical Survey	1,895,937	0

Destruction of submunitions during clearance, survey, and spot tasks	2024	2023
Submunitions destroyed	14	0

MAIN CMR SURVEY AND CLEARANCE OPERATORS IN 2024:

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

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

There was both clearance and release through survey of cluster munition-contaminated area in 2024, an increase from 2023. The true extent of contamination from cluster munition remnants (CMR) remains unknown. Funding and operational challenges persisted, including the seven-month suspension imposed by the Libyan National Army (LNA) on three demining organisations operating in Benghazi and Sirte and the seizure of their vehicles and demining equipment, which was only resolved in May 2024, with the operators having their equipment returned to them and donors redirecting funds away from Libya to other crises.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

- Libya should accede to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) as a matter of priority.
- Libya should conduct a baseline survey to identify the extent of contamination from cluster munition remnants (CMR) and begin systematic clearance based primarily on humanitarian priorities.
- Libya should finalise and adopt a national mine action strategy that includes targets for CMR survey and clearance.
- National authorities and relevant security actors should facilitate survey and clearance by accredited operators across all areas of the country. This includes resolving visa delays, import restrictions, and arbitrary suspensions that hinder operations.

CLUSTER MUNITION SURVEY AND CLEARANCE CAPACITY

MANAGEMENT

- The Libyan Mine Action Centre (LibMAC)

NATIONAL OPERATORS

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

INTERNATIONAL OPERATORS

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

OTHER ACTORS

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

UNDERSTANDING OF CMR CONTAMINATION

CMR contamination in Libya is largely the consequence of use in the armed conflicts in 2011 and renewed conflict since 2014. As of April 2024, the Libyan Mine Action Centre (LibMAC) had identified 18,092m² of area contaminated by CMR.¹

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

In July 2019, LibMAC reported use of RBK-250-275 cluster bombs in three areas: Al-Hira Bridge (Al-Sawani), the Bir al-Ghanam area south-west of Tripoli (Nafusa Mountains), and Aziziya (south of Tripoli).⁴ The same year, Humanity & Inclusion (HI) reported three areas containing CMR on the basis of its own operations. One cluster

munition-contaminated area was confirmed in 2017 through non-technical survey (NTS) in the Nafusa mountains region, near the town of Kikla, in north-west Libya. In 2018–19, HI found further cluster munition strikes in Tawargha and Al Karareem.⁵

In May 2019, the LNA, led by commander Khalifa Haftar, was accused of using cluster bombs in attacks in and around Tripoli.⁶ On 15 and 16 August 2019, aircraft of forces affiliated with the LNA dropped cluster munitions on Zuwarah International Airport according to the United Nations (UN) Panel of Experts.⁷ Human Rights Watch has stated that forces aligned to Haftar also used cluster munitions in an airstrike in a residential area in Tripoli on or around 2 December 2019. The organisation visited the site on 17 December 2019 and found remnants of two RBK-250 PTAB-2.5M cluster bombs. The area was not known to be contaminated by cluster munitions before the attack.⁸

The HALO Trust (HALO) reports that cluster munitions were kicked out from ammunition storage areas in Misrata and Mizdah (north). In Sirte (north centre), there is minimal evidence of presence of CMR, although HALO found 22 DPICM submunitions in 2021 and a further 28 submunitions in 2022.⁹

OTHER EXPLOSIVE REMNANTS OF WAR AND LANDMINES

Libya is also contaminated by other explosive remnants of war (ERW) and by anti-personnel mines, including those of an improvised nature (see Mine Action Review's *Clearing the Mines* report on Libya for further information on the mine problem). There is also a problem with remotely detonated improvised explosive devices (IEDs).¹⁰

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

9 Emails from Zita Andrassy, Programme Officer Libya, HALO, 27 February 2022; and Charles Fowle, HALO, 5 May 2024.

10 "Lives and Limbs Shattered by Libya Mines", *Asharq Al-Awsat*, 5 April 2018, at: <https://bit.ly/3URCR5q>.

NATIONAL OWNERSHIP AND PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT

There is no national mine action legislation in Libya. Mine action exists in a fragmented and occasionally violent political context. Following years of armed conflict, a new UN-backed “unity” government, the Government of National Unity (GNU), was formally installed in Tripoli in early 2016. It has faced armed opposition from the LNA and a host of militia forces. The warring parties reached a ceasefire agreement to halt hostilities in October 2020, which culminated in the election of an interim government with a roadmap leading to national elections in December 2021. Since then, Libya’s progress towards elections has stalled with national elections still not held and recent outbreaks of violence in Tripoli between the GNU and the Stability Support Apparatus (SSA), a security institution affiliated with the Presidential Council.¹¹

LibMAC was mandated by the Minister of Defence to coordinate mine action in 2011.¹² Operating under the UN-backed GNA, LibMAC has its headquarters in Tripoli, with sub-offices in Misrata and Benghazi.¹³ ITF Enhancing Human Security (ITF), which started its capacity-building project in Libya in January 2014, pays the salary of 27 LibMAC employees and covers other overhead costs.¹⁴ Danish Refugee Council (DRC) is providing capacity development support to LibMAC through training in non-technical survey (NTS) and explosive ordnance disposal (EOD), as well as by supporting the standardisation of risk education.¹⁵ The Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) provides capacity development support to LibMAC on information management, national mine action standards, strategic planning, gender and diversity, and risk education.¹⁶

In August 2023, the LNA ordered the suspension of three national and international mine action organisations operating in Benghazi and Sirte—DanChurchAid (DCA), DRC, and Free Fields Foundation (3F)—and seized vehicles and demining equipment, leading DRC and other organisations to halt all operations and close their office.¹⁷ The suspension lasted for seven months, with operators receiving the return of their equipment only in May 2024.¹⁸

In 2025, ten international non-governmental organisations (INGOs) operating in the country were subjected to scrutiny by the Libyan Internal Security Agency (ISA), which led to the suspension of DRC’s activities nationwide. DRC reported that the investigation initiated by the ISA lacked transparency regarding its scope and justification and significantly affected their mine action operations.¹⁹

The United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS), which is integrated into the UN Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL), has maintained a presence in the country since October 2020. As the UNSMIL Mine Action Section, the UNMAS programme in Libya is mandated by UN Security Council Resolution 2755 (2024) to take action to secure and manage stockpiles; to conduct survey and clearance of ERW, EOD, and risk education at the request of Libyan institutions, and to support capacity development for mine action of Libyan institutions. In 2024, UNMAS conducted Advanced Device Scene Incident Management (DSIM), Individual First Aid Kit, and Training of Trainer DSIM courses for Forensic Police officers from across Libya. UNMAS also conducted an Operations and Quality Assurance training for LibMAC officers from all regional offices.²⁰ The GICHD was planning to hold a training for LibMAC on quality management in November 2025.²¹

UNMAS and LibMAC chair monthly virtual and quarterly in-person Implementing Partner (IP) meetings, attended by key mine action stakeholders.²² Since February 2025, these meetings have been held in Tripoli, which enables wider stakeholder participation.²³ DCA highlights the quarterly meetings as an effective platform for keeping operators informed and for presenting challenges and progress to donors. They also commend LibMAC’s strong coordination of tasking.²⁴

HALO maintains regular contact with LibMAC’s Chief of Operations and staff in Misrata. However, they suggest that coordination would be strengthened by formal operational meetings involving all operators.²⁵ DCA reports ongoing, constructive dialogue with LibMAC on both current and planned operations, noting that cooperation is strong with input from operators on operational priorities.²⁶ HALO also recommends that coordination mechanisms be expanded to include representatives from the east of Libya. Their inclusion would help ensure challenges are elevated to the appropriate authorities in Benghazi and that task prioritisation reflects operational needs across all geographic areas.²⁷ DRC also highlighted difficulties in coordination of mine action activities in the East.²⁸

The issuance of visas is variable between operators with HALO reporting that six-month multiple-entry visas are now obtainable without major issues, while DCA highlighted that visas are still typically of a short-duration of visas (typically one-month, single-entry) which remains a key barrier to

11 “UN launches new bid to revive Libya’s elections”, *Africanews*, 16 December 2024, at: <http://bit.ly/4k3SYpZ>; and “Libyans in Benghazi relay frustrations about the political and security situation to UNSMIL, propose solutions”, UNSMIL, 8 June 2025, at: <http://bit.ly/3TDtNzG>; and “Escalating conflict in Tripoli exposes the realities of false stability – and international neglect in Libya”, Blog post, Chatham House, 16 May 2025, at: <http://bit.ly/45TQxDb>.

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

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

14 ITF, “Annual Report 2024”, p. 113.

15 Email from Yeison Zuluaga Gomez, EORE-NTS Program Manager, DRC, 4 June 2025.

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

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

18 Email from Graeme Ogilvy, Country Director, DCA, 20 May 2025.

19 Email from Yeison Zuluaga Gomez, DRC, 4 June 2025.

20 UNMAS website, Libya, last updated January 2025, at: <http://bit.ly/3G7yRJE>.

21 Email from Christelle Mestre, GICHD, 17 July 2025.

22 Emails from Sharmela Aminath, UNMAS, 16 March 2023; Samir Becirovic, UNMAS, 10 June 2022, and Tess Bresnan, UNMAS, 3 May 2024.

23 Email from Julia Eckelmann, Programme Manager/Country Director, HALO, 23 May 2025.

24 Email from Graeme Ogilvy, DCA, 20 May 2025.

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

26 Email from Graeme Ogilvy, DCA, 20 May 2025.

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

28 Email from Yeison Zuluaga Gomez, DRC, 4 June 2025.

maintaining staffing. DRC reported that visas for international staff are often delayed due to a combination of security concerns and bureaucratic hurdles.²⁹ Both HALO and DRC have had issues and delays with the importation of equipment, particularly around sensitive materials.³⁰ HALO also reported that logistical constraints persist, particularly in moving assets between eastern and western Libya, and financial mechanisms are a significant obstacle.³¹ DRC has also faced difficulties importing equipment complicated by burdensome

customs and tax regulations and sanctions on certain types of equipment. In addition, the approval process for memoranda of understanding (MoUs) with national authorities can be slow and complex, further affecting operational timelines.³²

In its Article 7 report under the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC), Türkiye said it provided training on mine clearance, counter IED, and EOD in 2024 to Libyan Armed Forces personnel.³³

FUNDING FOR CMR SURVEY AND CLEARANCE

HALO was funded for survey and clearance in 2024 by the United States (US) Department of State's Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement (PM/WRA). In 2025, US funding was temporarily paused for one month (in January–February) due to the Foreign Assistance Review, and future support remains uncertain. Italy was co-chairing the Mine Action Support Group (MASG) in 2025, while most European Union (EU) donors, except the Netherlands, have redirected funding elsewhere.³⁴ DCA received funding from the EU and PM/WRA

in 2024, but EU support ceased in August 2024 when funds were reallocated to Gaza.³⁵ In 2025, DCA was being funded by PM/WRA and the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MinBuZa). DRC was funded by the Netherlands for survey and clearance in 2024. In March 2025, Dutch funding ended, but Denmark (DANIDA) provided new funding for April to June.³⁶ In 2024, UNMAS was funded by the UNSMIL Regular Budget and bilateral donors, including Italy and Spain.³⁷

GENDER AND DIVERSITY

LibMAC does not have a gender and diversity policy for mine action in place. LibMAC disaggregates mine action data by sex and age.³⁸

Table 1: Gender composition of operators in 2024³⁹

Operator	Total staff	Women staff	Total managerial or supervisory staff	Women managerial or supervisory staff	Total operational staff	Women operational staff
DCA	23	8 (35%)	7	3 (43%)	14	0 (0%)
DRC	22	4 (18%)	3	0 (0%)	16	3 (19%)
HALO	28	2 (7%)	8	1 (13%)	20	0 (0%)
Totals	73	14 (19%)	18	4 (22%)	50	3 (6%)

In 2024, DCA continued to build the capacity of its all-female EOD and risk education teams until the project concluded in August. This initiative was set to resume in July 2025 under new funding, which will also facilitate an increase in the number of women in operational roles to 16.⁴⁰ In 2023, DRC delivered Gender and Diversity training to LibMAC and local partners. In 2024, DRC followed up on the participation mechanism proposed during the workshop to support ongoing engagement and implementation.⁴¹

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

30 Emails from Yeison Zuluaga Gomez, DRC, 4 June 2025; and Julia Eckelmann, HALO, 23 May 2025.

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

32 Email from Yeison Zuluaga Gomez, DRC, 4 June 2025.

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

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

35 Email from Graeme Ogilvy, DCA, 20 May 2025.

36 Email from Yeison Zuluaga Gomez, DRC, 4 June 2025.

37 UNMAS website, Libya, last updated January 2025, at: <http://bit.ly/3G7yRJE>.

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

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

40 Email from Graeme Ogilvy, DCA, 20 May 2025.

41 Email from Yeison Zuluaga Gomez, DRC, 4 June 2025.

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES AND ACTION

Libya does not have a national mine action standard (NMAS) or a policy on environmental management.⁴²

Table 2: Environmental policies and action⁴³

Operator	Environmental policy in place	Environmental assessments conducted to support survey and clearance	Environmental focal point at country programme level
DCA	No – SOP	Yes	Yes
DRC	No – SOP	No	No
HALO	Yes	No	No

In 2024 and early 2025, DCA introduced several environmentally conscious practices, including replacing plastic and synthetic fibre sandbags with sustainable hemp alternatives and continuing the use of thermite lances to limit explosive use and prevent soil contamination. It also transitioned its field offices to solar energy. Additionally, DCA teams have been clearing land in support of the government's agro-ecology project, contributing directly to Libya's one million tree-planting carbon sequestration

initiative and supporting broader climate change mitigation.⁴⁴ In 2023, HALO developed its rubble recycling capabilities and secured funding for a pilot project aimed at reducing emissions, landfill use, and resource extraction by repurposing rubble for construction. However, implementation of the pilot project in Sirte in 2024 was disrupted due to redevelopment activities by the Libyan Reconstruction Fund in the target areas.⁴⁵

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING

LibMAC receives technical support in information management from the GICHD and UNMAS. In 2023, LibMAC successfully upgraded its Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) database from the New Generation (NG) version to IMSMA Core.⁴⁶ While the database contains extensive information, it is largely focused on major cities.

Further NTS is needed in the north, and anecdotal reports suggest additional contamination in the south. In some cases, hazard polygons exceed 10km², and the time elapsed since initial survey indicates a need for re-surveying.⁴⁷ To address this, DRC is re-surveying both confirmed hazardous areas (CHAs) and suspected hazardous areas (SHAs) to determine which should remain in the system and which can be cancelled. Some earlier surveys also appear to have been poorly conducted or lack sufficient detail.⁴⁸

Operators report adequate access to the database.⁴⁹ However, HALO notes a lack of access to quality management reports from LibMAC's external monitoring visits. Additionally, victim data is only accessible to the submitting organisation, with LibMAC citing confidentiality concerns.⁵⁰ DRC reported ongoing discussions between its Information Management team and LibMAC to improve data accuracy to include a more detailed ERW categories database.⁵¹

Field data collection via Survey123 has enabled faster data submission and improved issue visibility.⁵² LibMAC has introduced measures to strengthen data reliability, including mandatory geotagging and submission through Survey123's photo capture function. Despite these steps, HALO reports limited evidence of field validation of operator reports on newly identified hazardous areas, items found or destroyed, and other key metrics. Increased visibility of quality assurance (QA) visits and reporting would contribute to data quality.⁵³

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

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

44 Email from Graeme Ogilvy, DCA, 20 May 2025.

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

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

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

48 Email from Yeison Zuluaga Gomez, DRC, 4 June 2025.

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

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

51 Email from Yeison Zuluaga Gomez, DRC, 4 June 2025.

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

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

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

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

PLANNING AND TASKING

There is no national mine action strategy for Libya.⁵⁴ In 2024, LibMAC announced plans to develop a strategy with support from the GICHD and UNMAS.⁵⁵ The GICHD conducted a general assessment of Libya's mine action programme in the second half of 2024 and subsequently assisted LibMAC with strategic planning. A strategy stakeholder workshop was held in October 2024, followed by a consultation workshop in February 2025. Both were co-organised by LibMAC and the GICHD and included participation from operators. These workshops produced a strategic theory of change for Libya. In July 2025, the GICHD reported that LibMAC will lead the drafting of the strategy, based on the agreed theory of change, and the GICHD was awaiting further updates on next steps.⁵⁶

ERW-contaminated areas in Libya are prioritised for clearance based on criteria set by LibMAC, in coordination with national authorities and in alignment with Ministry of Defence and donor priorities and agreements. LibMAC is responsible for issuing task orders and operators report that LibMAC reviews implementation plans and issues task orders in a timely and effective manner.⁵⁷ The prioritisation of tasking considers humanitarian impact, requests from local authorities and affected communities, socio-economic land use, and security and access conditions.⁵⁸ In 2024, following the intervention of the Libyan Reconstruction Fund/National Development Agency in redevelopment of hazardous areas in Sirte, LibMAC advised HALO to focus on ammunition storage areas as priority for clearance, as HALO has a unique mechanical clearance capability and there is high need for this in multiple locations across Libya.⁵⁹

LAND RELEASE SYSTEM

STANDARDS AND LAND RELEASE EFFICIENCY

National mine action standards (LibMAS), in Arabic and English, have been elaborated with the support of the GICHD and UNMAS, and were approved by the GNA in 2017. The LibMAS are available on the LibMAC website.⁶⁰ According to international clearance operators, the LibMAS are sufficient and aligned to the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS).⁶¹ But the national standards have not been updated since being approved in 2017. The GICHD and LibMAC conducted a workshop in June 2025 on NMAS development and review with the inclusion of operators.⁶²

OPERATORS AND OPERATIONAL TOOLS

Mine action operations have been conducted by government entities, in particular LibMAC as a leader in mine action response, but also the National Safety Authority (NSA), which is mandated to conduct EOD in civilian areas.⁶³ These institutions liaise with LibMAC but are not tasked or accredited by them, nor do they provide clearance reports to the Centre.⁶⁴ Three national operators are currently active in Libya: 3F, The Safe Trust (Al-Thiqa Al-Amena), and Libya Peace Organisation.⁶⁵ Libya Peace Organisation, which partners with DRC, is accredited by LibMAC to conduct NTS, EOD, and risk education.⁶⁶

In 2024, LibMAC opened 117 tasks, mostly for quick response and NTS activities in southern parts of Tripoli after the LNA withdrawal, as well as in Tawargha, Sirte, and Benghazi. In addition, LibMAC personnel conducted 226 QA/QC missions and 23 accreditation procedures for international and local NGOs for NTS, risk education, and EOD tasks. During 2024, LibMAC recorded 112 completed tasks.⁶⁷

⁵⁶ Email from Christelle Mestre, GICHD, 1 July 2025.

⁵⁷ Emails from Graeme Ogilvy, DCA, 20 May 2025; Yeison Zuluaga Gomez, DRC, 4 June 2025; and Julia Eckelmann, HALO, 23 May 2025.

⁵⁸ Emails from Graeme Ogilvy, DCA, 20 May 2025; and Yeison Zuluaga Gomez, DRC, 4 June 2025.

⁵⁹ Email from Julia Eckelmann, HALO, 23 May 2025.

⁶⁰ LibMAC website, accessed 20 May 2022 at: <https://bit.ly/3ldhvx2>. Report of the Secretary-General on UNSMIL, UN doc. S/2018/140, 12 February 2018, p. 12; and UNMAS, "Programmes: Libya", accessed 14 May 2022 at: <http://bit.ly/31tU1tB>.

⁶¹ Emails from Catherine Smith, HI, 12 March 2019; Nicholas Torbet, HALO, 14 April 2020, and Charles Fowle, HALO, 5 May 2023.

⁶² Emails from Julia Eckelmann, HALO, Libya, 23 May 2025; and Christelle Mestre, GICHD, 17 July 2025.

⁶³ Interview with Brig. Turjoman, LibMAC, in Geneva, 10 January 2017; and email from Tess Bresnan, UNMAS, 3 May 2024.

⁶⁴ Email from Col. Adel Elatwi, LibMAC, 22 April 2021.

⁶⁵ Presentation of LibMAC to the 27th NDM meeting, Geneva, 9–11 April 2024; and email from Christelle Mestre, GICHD, 17 July 2025.

⁶⁶ Free Fields Foundations (3F) website, accessed on 20 May 2024, at: <https://bit.ly/4bnui8h>; and email from Wajdi Alkhatib, DRC, 10 June 2024.

⁶⁷ ITF, *Annual Report 2024*, p. 113.

Table 3: Operational survey capacities deployed in 2024⁶⁸

Operator	NTS teams	Total NTS personnel	TS teams	Total TS personnel
3F ⁶⁹	2	6	0	0
DRC	1	3	0	0
HALO	1	3	0	0
Libya Peace Organisation ⁷⁰	2	6	0	0
Totals	6	18	0	0

Table 4: Operational clearance capacities deployed in 2024⁷¹

Operator	Manual/mechanical clearance teams	Total deminers	Mechanical assets/machines	Comments
DCA	5	46	0	All clearance personnel function as multitask teams conducting NTS, TS, BAC, and EOD as required
HALO	2	9	3	Two mechanical clearance teams
Totals	7	55	3	

Now in its fourteenth year of working in Libya, DCA has offices in Benghazi, Misrata, Sirte, and Tripoli, and is accredited to conduct clearance and EOD tasks.⁷² DCA's capacity decreased in 2024 due to a reduction in funding. In 2025, capacity will increase by four teams, totalling approximately 48 personnel, including re-establishing the "all-female" EOD and NTS team, plus one "all-female" risk education team.⁷³

DRC has been working in Libya since 2011 and has had three offices: in 2013–21 in Sabha (southern region); in 2018–23 in Benghazi (eastern region); and since 2011 in Tripoli. DRC Tripoli office has a capacity of one EOD team, one NTS team, two risk education teams, and a capacity-building project with the partner Libya Peace Organisation. DRC intended to establish a new NTS team to operate in Tripoli in 2024.⁷⁴

HALO has been present in Libya since 2018 and has offices in Misrata and Sirte, as well as liaison presence in Benghazi. HALO's main operations focused on mechanical clearance in Sirte in the Jeeza Navy area and at a Misrata ammunition storage area where it found CMR in 2022. In March 2024, HALO recruited an additional mechanical clearance team, and cross-trained an EOD team in NTS. HALO's mechanical clearance teams continued work in Sirte until the Libyan Reconstruction Fund began redevelopment of the areas. In August 2024, teams shifted focus to a priority ammunition storage area in Misrata. One team returned to Sirte in December to respond to EOD call-outs and began conducting re-survey in March 2025. In 2024, HALO also procured mechanical ancillaries, such as a hydraulic grapple, which were expected to improve the efficiency of rubble removal and mechanical clearance in 2025.⁷⁵

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS AND PROGRESS TOWARDS COMPLETION

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS IN 2024

Table 5: Land release outputs in 2024

Release of cluster munition-contaminated area	Release in 2024 (m ²)	Comments
Clearance	4,053	Operator data
Technical Survey	0	Operator data
Non-Technical Survey	1,895,937	Operator data
Destruction of submunitions during clearance, survey, and spot tasks	2024	Comments
Submunitions destroyed	14	Operator data

68 Emails from Col. Adel Elatwi, LibMAC, 22 April 2021; Graeme Ogilvy, DCA, 20 May 2025; Yeison Zuluaga Gomez, DRC, 4 June 2025; and Julia Eckelmann, HALO, 23 May 2025.

69 This information was last updated in April 2021.

70 This information was last updated in April 2021.

71 Emails from Graeme Ogilvy, DCA, 20 May 2025; and Julia Eckelmann, HALO, 23 May 2025.

72 Email from Graeme Ogilvy, DCA, 22 July 2025.

73 Email from Graeme Ogilvy, DCA, 20 May 2025.

74 Emails from Wajdi AlKhatib, DRC, 19 April and 10 June 2024.

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

SURVEY IN 2024

In 2024, a total of 1,895,937m² of CMR-contaminated area was cancelled through NTS in Tripoli and no area was reduced through technical survey.⁷⁶ None of the international operators released area through survey in 2023.

Table 6: Cancellation through NTS in 2024⁷⁷

District	Operator	Areas cancelled	Area cancelled (m ²)
Tripoli (Airport Road)	DRC	4	1,345,121
Tripoli (Bab Alazizia)	DRC	2	550,816
Totals		6	1,895,937

CLEARANCE IN 2024

A total of nearly 4,053m² of cluster munition-contaminated area was cleared in 2024 with 14 submunitions destroyed (see Table 7).⁷⁸ In 2023, no CMR clearance was conducted.

Table 7: CMR clearance in 2024⁷⁹

District	Operator	Areas cleared	Area cleared (m ²)	Submunitions destroyed	Other UXO destroyed
Misrata	HALO	3	4,053	14	244
Totals		3	4,053	14	244

In 2024, HALO cleared three bunker areas totalling 4,053m² and located 14 submunitions, which were destroyed in situ using a low-order technique with T-jets. An additional 244 items of unexploded ordnance (UXO) were found; those assessed as safe to move were transferred to a temporary storage site and destroyed later by LibMAC.

The absence of containers and the condition of the submunitions suggest they were likely ejected during the 2020 explosion. However, the limited dispersion pattern

indicates that the bunkers may have contained the blast, confining the munitions to a relatively small area. It remains possible that, for bunkers that remained intact after the explosion, some submunitions found during clearance may have originated from different storage locations. Further insight into the extent of submunition dispersion—specifically, how many were expelled versus how many remained stored—could be gained from data collected by 3F, who conducted surface clearance operations between and around the bunkers.⁸⁰

PROGRESS TOWARDS COMPLETION

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

There was a notable increase in both survey and clearance of CMR-contaminated areas in 2024, following a year of inactivity in 2023. However, the understanding of the extent and location of CMR contamination in the country is still limited and a comprehensive nationwide baseline survey is urgently needed.

Although progress towards a national mine action strategy is promising, the political and security context remains a key challenge for implementation. Strengthening the capacity of LibMAC remains a priority, particularly its ability to coordinate mine action activities across all stakeholders and geographic areas.

⁷⁶ Email from Yeison Zuluaga Gomez, DRC, 4 June 2025.

⁷⁷ Ibid.

⁷⁸ Email from Julia Eckelmann, HALO, 23 May 2025.

⁷⁹ Ibid.

⁸⁰ Ibid.