

GENDER AND DIVERSITY IN THE CONVENTION ON CLUSTER MUNITIONS (CCM)

Cluster munition remnants continue to harm people and communities around the world. Gender norms and other identity factors – e.g., age, disability, race – can influence risk exposure, access to risk education, ownership and control of cleared land, as well as the ability for direct and indirect victims to access their rights and benefit from medical care, mental health and psychosocial support, rehabilitation and socioeconomic inclusion services.

GENDERED IMPACTS

- > Persons of different gender identities and expressions may be impacted differently by cluster munition remnant contamination.
- > Because of social and economic roles, men and boys are much more likely to be killed or injured in cluster munition remnant accidents.
- > Women and girls are more often indirect victims. Because of predominant gender norms, they are often expected to take on a caregiving role for survivors and provide financial support for their families when the main provider is injured or killed.

CLUSTER MUNITION REMNANTS CASUALTIES BY SEX AND/OR AGE IN 2022 ¹

ADULT			CHILD		
Female	Male	Unknown	Female	Male	Unknown
4	21	4	15	30	26
4%	21%	4%	15%	30%	26%

CLUSTER MUNITION REMNANTS FATALITIES BY SEX AND/OR AGE IN 2022 ²

ADULT			CHILD		
Female	Male	Unknown	Female	Male	Unknown
0	9	3	5	3	7
0%	33%	11%	19%	11%	26%

- > In some contexts, when family resources are limited after a cluster munition remnant accident, girls are the first ones to be taken out of school, and/or married at an early age.
- > Information on the differentiated impact on individuals who identify themselves beyond the gender binary is not yet available.
- > The interplay of gender and other identity factors (e.g. age, race, disability, socioeconomic class, sexual orientation, ethnic origin, language and urban/rural differences) can lead to further marginalisation and challenges for survivors, families of those killed and injured, and affected communities that share these identity characteristics.

WHY GENDER AND DIVERSITY MATTER IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CCM

LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND

Incorporating gender and diversity considerations into programming helps ensure that survey, clearance, risk education, advocacy and victim assistance activities deliver for all, including those that are often marginalised and face more obstacles to access their rights.

ACHIEVING THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs)

Mainstreaming gender and diversity in the implementation of the CCM contributes to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, particularly its SDG 5 on “Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment” and SDG 16 on “Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions”.

GENERATING EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL

Access to employment in addressing cluster munition remnant contamination can have a positive impact on the lives of individuals, particularly members of socioeconomically disadvantaged, marginalised and/or at risk groups.

ENHANCING EFFECTIVENESS

Persons of different gender identities and expressions from diverse groups may hold different information on land contamination and have different lived experiences. Recruiting teams that are gender balanced and diverse (ethnically, religiously, linguistically etc.) can ensure more effective communication and active participation in community-facing activities.

¹ Cluster Munition Coalition, Cluster Munition Monitor 2023 (ICBL-CMC: September 2023). Data on sex and age was not recorded for 71 casualties. Data on age was not recorded for 1 female casualty and for 13 male casualties.
² Cluster Munition Coalition, Cluster Munition Monitor 2023 (ICBL-CMC: September 2023). Data on sex and age was not recorded for 18 fatalities. Data on age was not recorded for 5 male fatalities.



THE CCM LAUSANNE ACTION PLAN

The CCM, in force since 2010, contains an obligation for States Parties to provide age- and gender-sensitive victim assistance, including medical care, rehabilitation and psychological support, and to ensure the social and economic inclusion of victims (Article 5).

The Lausanne Action Plan (2021-2026) adopted at the Second Review Conference of the CCM in 2020-21 takes gender and diversity mainstreaming further by calling on States Parties to:

- > Ensure an inclusive approach to the implementation of the Convention and strive to remove all barriers to full, equal, meaningful and gender-balanced participation (Action 4).
- > Integrate considerations on gender as well as on the diversity of populations in all appropriate survey and clearance activities (Action 23).

- > Implement context-specific, tailor-made risk education interventions which prioritise the most at-risk groups and are sensitive to gender, age, disability, as well as diversity of populations (Action 28).
- > Collect and analyse gender, age and disability disaggregated contamination and casualty data to inform risk education and victim assistance interventions (Actions 29 and 31).

The Second Review Conference also designated the Coordinators on General Status and Operation as focal points for gender mainstreaming.

SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE CCM & THE WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY (WPS) AGENDA



PARTICIPATION

The participation of women in policymaking related to mine action and their employment in different roles, including operations and management, can be transformative and contribute to women's economic empowerment, increased participation and decision making power.

PREVENTION & PROTECTION

The ban on the use of cluster munitions and the destruction of their stockpiles contribute to the prevention of and protection from armed violence. Gender and diversity sensitive education to the risks of cluster munition remnants contributes to preventing injuries and saving lives. Victim assistance and advocacy for rights of survivors help combat the high level of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) faced especially by women with disabilities.

RELIEF & RECOVERY

Clearance and handover of land previously contaminated by cluster munition remnants can redress gender imbalances and empower women in the community. The same applies to gender sensitive assistance to cluster munition remnant victims.



AREAS FOR ACTION

ALL STATES



DESIGN and implement initiatives aimed at promoting more diverse representation in leadership roles in Convention meetings, including that of survivors.



ENSURE that victim assistance programmes are gender and diversity responsive, and include actions to promote the mental health and psychosocial wellbeing of all victims, as well as actions to minimise stigma and discrimination based on gender, disability and other factors.



EXAMINE practical ways to strengthen synergies between the Convention and other international agreements and agendas, especially promoting gender equality and inclusion.



STRIVE for inclusive participation of all affected groups, for example by strengthening dialogue with representative organisations of marginalised groups.

AFFECTED STATES



REPORT on concrete measures taken to contribute to gender equality and inclusion in Article 4 extension requests and Article 7 transparency reports.



MOVE beyond data collection by sex to encompass individuals of different gender identities and expressions, and ensure that disaggregated data is used effectively to inform cluster munition remnant programmes.

DONOR STATES



SET clear and detailed requirements to ensure that project design, implementation and reporting by recipient States are at minimum sensitive to gender, age, disability, as well as the diversity of populations in affected communities.

