



REPUBLIC OF IRAQ

*Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) Article 4
Extension Request*

Ministry of Environment

Directorate of mine Action

IRAQ – Baghdad 2022



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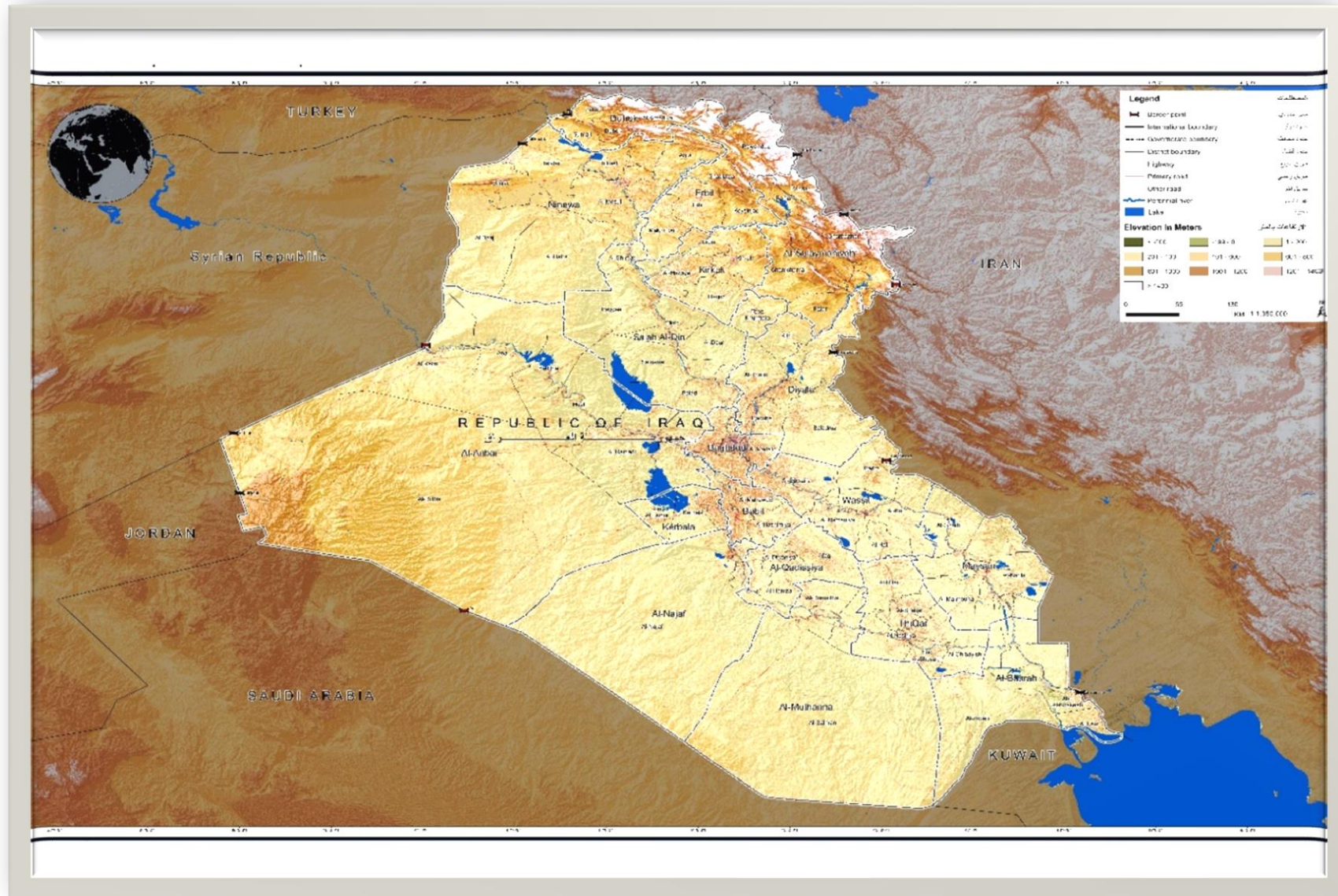
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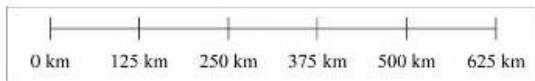
Table 1 – Abbreviations

Code	Name	Code	Name
APMBC	Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention	KRG	Kurdistan Regional Government
BAC	Battle Area Clearance	LIS	Impact Survey
CA	Contaminated Area	MDD	Mine Detection Dogs
CCM	Convention on Cluster Munitions	MECH. demining	Mechanical Demining
CCW	Carrying Concealed Weapon	MoD	Ministry of Defense
CHA	Confirmed Hazard Area	MoEnv	Ministry of Environment
CL	Clearance	Mol	Ministry of Interior
CM	Cluster Munitions	MoOil	Ministry of Oil
CRPD	Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities	MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
DMA	Directorate for Mine Action	MRE	Mine Risk Education
DMAC	Duhok Mine Action Center	MS	Management system
DS	Disposal/Destruction Site	NTS	Non-Technical survey
EMAC	Erbil Mine Action Center	QA	Quality Assurance
EN	European Normalization	QC	Quality Control
EOD	Explosive Ordnance Disposal	QM	Quality Management
ERW	Explosive Remnants of War	RMAC-M EU	Regional Mine Action Center – Middle of Euphrates
GM	Gender Mainstreaming	RMAC-N	Regional Mine Action Center – Northern
GoI	Government of Iraq	RMAC-S	Regional Mine Action Center – Southern
HCMA	Higher Committee for Mine Action Program	SHA	Suspected Hazard Area
HD	Humanitarian Demining	SMAC	Sleman Mine Action Center
IEDs	Improvised Explosive Device	SMF	Suspected minefield
IKMAA	Iraqi Kurdistan Mine Action Agency	TS	Technical survey
IM	Information Management	UNDP	United Nation Development Program
IMSMA	The Information Management System for Mine Action	UXO	Unexploded Ordnance
ITAG	International Ammunition Technical Guidelines		

Map 1 - General map of Iraq



Map 2 – Regional Mine Action Centers



1. Executive Summary

Iraq signed the Convention on 12 November 2009, ratified it on 14 May 2013 and the Convention entered into force on 1 November 2013.

Iraq is one of the most heavily cluster munitions contaminated countries following various conflicts. The major problem with CM in Iraq started after the attack of the coalition forces on the Iraqi forces after their withdrawal from Kuwait in 1991 and the second gulf war in 2003. This contamination killed a lot of civilians and caused a migration from huge agriculture and pasture lands which led to many losing their livelihoods and negatively affected the infrastructure and development projects in the country. The Directorate Mine Action in the Ministry of Environment in 2010 launched non-technical survey projects for six governorates: Basra, Thi-Qar, Missan, Diwaniyah, Najaf, Wasit, and Baghdad; in addition to some other surveys that included certain parts of other governorates. These surveys were conducted by Ministry of Defense / Directorate of Military Engineering, Ministry of Interior / Directorate of General Civil Defense, some non-governmental organizations, and authorized companies.

In accordance with CCM Article 4.1.(b), the deadline for Iraq to complete the clearance of all cluster munition contaminated areas is 1st November 2023. Multiple factors have impeded compliance with the Convention and the requirements to clear all cluster munitions within the initial ten years, and therefore Iraq submits this request under CCM Article 4.5 for its current deadline to be extended for 5 years up to 1st November 2028. Iraq is unable to meet its 2023 deadline due to the following:

- a) The huge area contaminated with cluster munitions, compared to the financial resources and available team capacities.
- b) Unstable security situation in Iraq posed by ISIS and other religious factions.
- c) Climatic factors - variety of climates and geographical factors. difficult mountains, hills, floods, and excessive heat.
- d) Lack of modern technologies (modern detectors and advanced heavy machinery) in clearance operations.
- e) Missing information, records, and maps of the cluster strike areas.
- f) Reduction of international support & international agencies working in Iraq.
- g) Shift in the priorities of traditional donors.
- h) Loss of productivity during the COVID-19 pandemic (2019-2021).

It is projected that as of 1st November 2023, Iraq will have 181,413,873 m² of known CM contamination. It is estimated that there will be an additional 78,963,391 m² of CM contamination identified via NTS/TS over the 5 years of this extension request, giving a total of 260,377,266 m² that requires clearance. For Iraq to meet its CCM obligation of no known areas of CM contamination for the requested 5 years extension period 1st November 2023 to 1st November 2028, it will require Government of Iraq financial support to the approximate value of \$23,170,000 (fully funded) and International financial support of \$41,970,000 (partially funded at this time), giving a total of \$65.14 million (at 2023 prices).

To continue to address Iraq's CM contamination with the existing capacity of 15 clearance teams it is estimated that it will take 15.2 years to complete (early 2039). This option would cost approximately \$32.9 million more to achieve the no known contamination requirement. This additional cost is related to maintaining the capacities for an extended duration of time and replacement costs for end of useful life equipment over the 15 years. It would also require Iraq to apply for and receive additional extension requests.

It is therefore more cost effective to invest \$65.14 million over the 5-year period, by funding an increase of 19 clearance teams and investing in innovation research and development to increase productivity.

2. The Level of Contamination

Iraq has more than 2,704 km² of confirmed and suspected hazard areas of all explosive types in the national IMSMA database. 9.6% of the overall contamination is directly attributable to CM. The baseline of the CM contamination in Iraq was established at the beginning of the year 2013 when the Convention entered into force was approximately 128 km². Updates to the information of the registered hazard areas have taken a place in accordance with the national standards (NMA) and based on the beneficiaries' requests to update the national database. The result of the survey since the Convention entered in to force in 2013 until July 2022 over the initial 10 years is approximately 248 km² of additional hazard area. The known extent of

CM contamination has changed dramatically and guided the action plan for educational and awareness operations near those sites, which are mostly Agricultural, Electrical Supply, Water, Primary Resources, Public Lands and Residential Areas.

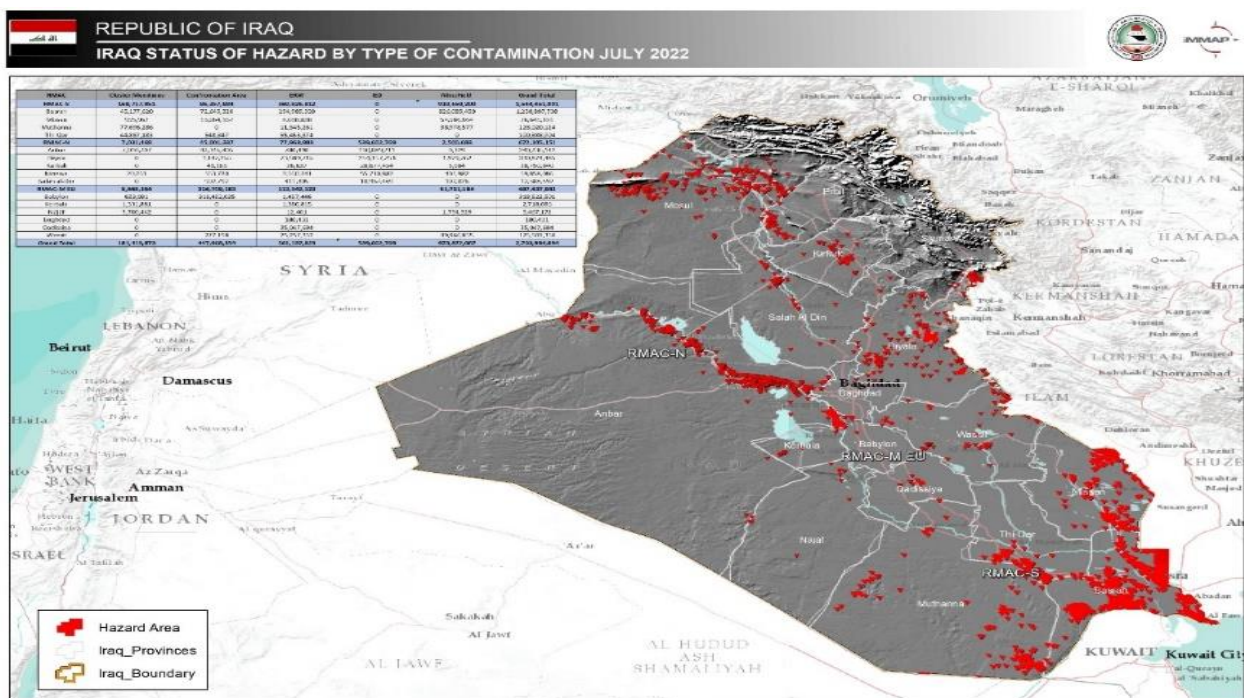
Table 2 - CM contamination for the first 10 years CCM Implementation.

Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Jul-22	Total without Baseline
Area Size(Sqm)	1,383,132	12,324,286	45,894,700	14,665,986	19,680,108	46,434,836	15,310,030	13,087,197	46,918,212	32,712,578	248,411,065

Table 3 - The area containing CM identified until June 2022

Baseline	2013-July 2022	Grand Total with Baseline
128,077,002	248,411,065	376,488,067

Map 3 – Total explosives contamination in Iraq



3. The Achievements

The size of areas released through various mine action activities (non-technical survey, technical survey, and clearance) from 2013 until July 2022 is approximately 195 Km². Suspected areas contaminated with cluster munitions were processed through non-technical survey, technical survey, and clearance. The total released land (which are mostly agricultural lands) has been handed over to the beneficiaries. The average rate of the annual land release over the past years is approximately 19 Km². Moreover, the known CM hazard area size has expanding due to people now trying to utilize areas that were previously inaccessible and the expansion of residential areas.

However, it became clear from the area size rate for all activities is approximately 19 Km² (the technical surveys played a major role in releasing the lands after the non-technical survey operations) this includes the cleared area at an annual clearance rate of approximately 10 Km². In contrast, the hazard area discovered within the above period is approximately 376.4 Km² and is included in the baseline, which is approximately double the area size of the clearance. Therefore, it has become clear from the square-meter rate that the new contaminated areas are greater than the annual clearance rate, and that Iraq will not be able to achieve the goal of locating, clearing, and destroying cluster munitions in all areas under its authority by 1st November 2023.

Table 4 - Area of CM cancelled, reduced, and cleared from 2013 to July 2022

Method of land release	Year	Area (Sqm) Total
NTS	2013-2022	72,694,119
TS	2013-2022	23,283,970
Clearance	2013-2022	99,096,105
Total Released	2013-2022	195,074,194

4. The Extension period plan

The remaining CM contamination for the purpose of this current contamination is therefore taken as 181.4 km². The projected average daily cleared is 5000 Sqm per team, based on the average area size achieved in previous years, despite the fact that the new methodologies adopted this operation according to the CMRS in dealing with CM hazard areas and releasing lands according to this method, this increase will be considered as compensation for the difficult terrain land. Innovation in technical procedures and the trial and use of new technologies has proven to be effective in increasing CM land release rates and will continue to be planned for the future.

5. Resource Mobilization Plan.

The National Resources:

The Iraqi government covers the costs of 11 teams working in the field of survey, clearance, and destruction, divided into 5 teams working in the field of survey and clearance (2 of which work in the field of technical survey and 3 in the field of clearance) plus 6 teams (EOD) dedicated to cluster munitions destruction (explosive demolition) operations on the ground.

The destruction operations are exclusively done by the Iraqi Ministry of Defense.

Financial allocations to cover the purchase of destruction materials which is approximately \$5 million over the past 5 years for the destruction of all types of contaminations, and the Ministry of Defense is still committed to providing the necessary fund to provide the destruction materials in the future when those materials run out, this fund allocated for all contamination. This equates to \$1 million per year, and as the number and productivity of the teams increases then the level of demolition support will be required to increase to meet the demand.

Individual staff from the RMAC and DMA level can also be utilized on an as needed basis for external QC. In addition, 2 teams funded by the international support to conduct the quality control activities.

The International Resources:

Funded and supported by the international community, international organizations currently provide 12 clearance teams, in addition to 1 x TS team, 2 x NTS teams and 2 EORE teams. It is requested that the funding for these teams is sustained, and additional funding made available in accordance with the Resource Mobilization Plan at Annex A.

The Iraqi Government encourages the international community to provide support and funds in the following manner:

- Encouraging international donors to “Adopt a Governorate”, to fund land release and EORE to reach the zero known CM contamination level.
- Encouraging donors and UNMAS to allocate at least 10% of the overall international funding for mine action activities in Iraq towards addressing the CCM requirements, for land release and EORE. In addition, we request to provide additional support for survivors.
- Provide development funding that includes funding for CM land release and EORE that integrates with the Iraq National Development plan.
- Facilitate the work of the organizations and companies working in this field by direct and supporting approaches to corporate donors, including Oil & Gas primary producers and related service companies.
- Facilitate support to the technical procedures within the national standards via international agencies and international organizations with specialized knowledge in these matters.

- Prioritize Technical Surveys for funding so that precise targets can be established to enable clearer action plans.
- Provide a forum for continued coordination on the overall contamination in Iraq and the CCM requirements, throughout the official meetings and workshops held in this regard.
- Provide to the DMA actual CM target locations, quantity, and type of CM utilized during previous conflicts in Iraq, so that the information can be utilized for better survey and planning via the IMSMA database.
- Provide funds and equipment to support innovation activities for CM land release including, this field is in process of research and testing to use these terminologies, after approving and authorization of these technologies and after testing it:
 - In coordination with the international organizations will use Simulation, design, construction and testing of a prototype Autonomous Ground Vehicle for use in Technical Survey, Clearance, and Quality Control activities, that will increase the speed at which ground can be searched, in a manner safer and more efficiently than current techniques. The aim is to triple the daily output of TS and Clearance teams equipped with the technology.
 - In coordination with the international organizations, will Use of artificial intelligence software and high-end computer hardware for the analysis of maps and imagery (satellite / drone) to support NTS and TS.
 - In coordination with the international organizations, will Use, trial and further development of improved Standard Operating Procedures, such as updated CMRS (Cluster Munition Remnant Survey – a type of TS activity) and clearance methodologies that integrate more accurate positioning and allocates more staff from existing teams into investigation of targets and

away from other team duties. The aim is to double the daily output of the TS and Clearance teams from current levels within 2 years.

- Investigate the use of non-explosive disposal methods that are as cost effective as explosive / thermite destruction techniques and lessen the impact on the environment.

Table 5 - The Approximate Annual Achievements for the extension period - current capacity

Daily productivity for 15 teams	75,000 sqm
Annual working days	230
Total annual productivity	17,250,000 sqm
Extension period (Years)	5
Total productivity for 5 years	86,250,000 sqm

The current capacity is not sufficient to release the planned 260 km² within the 5-year extension request timeframe.

A plan to clear all known and projected areas within 1 year is not realistic to attempt, due to lead times for equipment, recruitment and training requirements, and availability of funds. A sustainable capacity would not be established using this option.

Table 6 - Operational plan for 5 years 2024 – 2028 with the deadline Extension

Plan	Year	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	Total (\$)
Plan based on current capacities with increasing contamination - CM area remains to be released	Teams	15	15	15	15	15	15.2 year duration
	Cost (M\$)	6.14	5.89	5.77	5.54	5.24	83.81
Plan based on needed capacities with increasing contamination of 5 years – no CM area remains to be released.	Teams	15	34	34	34	12.2	5 year duration
	Cost (M\$)	12.4	13.6	13.0	12.0	4.6	55.71

Table 6 provides two options, with the first being to continue with the current capacity together with additional EORE activities, however it won't achieve the zero known CM hazard area's goal. This option would require additional extension requests to be approved and is estimated to take 15.2 years to complete all the current registered contamination in the Database. An increase in teams by 19, with the aim of meeting the 5-year extension request, will result in the clearance of all know CM hazard registered areas and is cheaper than a 15-year project. The main reason for the 15-team option being more expensive is that the equipment in use would require additional maintenance and replacement, sustaining the support requirements, together with additional training costs due to replacement of staff via natural attrition. Further details of both options are provided in Annexes A and B.

6. The humanitarian, economic, social, and environmental impacts of extension

Farming and agricultural wealth as a basic sector of the economy are directly affected by the difficulty of access to land, water resources, roads, and infrastructure, in addition to other economic sectors such as fishing. Secondary sectors are affected by the lack of resources produced by the main sectors and are forced to import raw materials and manufactured products from other regions or Countries. Discovering and clearing those areas will positively impact on the standard of living and ultimately leads to an increase in the levels of necessary basics of life for civilians affected by the contamination, and manufactured products by reopening

factories which will result in an increase in employment. This also affects the increasing purchasing power due to the variety of income, in addition to the internal resettlement for the population in Iraq.

7. Origin of the contamination

The source of CM contamination in Iraq is primarily due to two conflicts - the war of Kuwait in 1991 and the Second Gulf war in 2003. Most of the air strikes occurred during the withdrawal of the Iraqi army from Kuwait 1991. Directorate Mine Action launched non-technical survey projects for six governorates (Basra, Thi-Qar, Missan, Diwaniyah, Najaf, Wasit, and Baghdad) in addition to some other surveys that included certain parts of other governorates.

Table 7 - Results of the Non-Technical Surveys (2010-2016) – All EO Types

Regional Centers	Province	Hazard Area size(Sqm) discoved and confirmed From NTS
RMAC-N	Anbar	38,365,807
	Diyala	572,825,995
	Kirkuk	3,276
	Salahuddin	109,030,904
RMAC-C	Babylon	318,909,798
	Baghdad	9,563,316
	Karbala	2,237,778
	Najaf	6,940,600
	Qadisiyah	58,484,162
RMAC-S	Wasit	92,452,835
	Basra	1,306,388,683
	Missan	85,527,897
	Muthanna	174,128,176
	Thi-Qar	100,566,908
Grand Total		2,875,426,135

Baseline

The baseline for cluster munition contamination in Iraq was estimated at **128 km²** in 2013, and a recent analysis of the Directorate Mine Action database and maps indicated that this baseline is low regarding the number of cluster munitions dropped during the 1991 and 2003 wars. Therefore, the DMA conducted continuous surveys and recorded the information, The Non-Technical teams visited large areas to update the survey and in 2018 the Cluster Munition Remnants Survey (CMRS) methodology for improved TS was implemented. The baseline for cluster munition contamination was increasing even though clearance operations were ongoing and had occurred prior to 2013. The baseline continues to increase, and three main reasons have been identified:

Most of Iraq's contamination with cluster munitions was the result of the first Gulf War in 1991 and the second Gulf War in 2003. The Directorate of Mine Action did not accurately receive the locations of the strikes for the areas contaminated by the remnants of cluster munitions by the NATO / coalition forces, which made it difficult to determine the exact locations of the strikes during the survey activities. This affected the planning process for the clearance of sites contaminated with cluster munitions, according to a specific period.

New additional contaminated areas were identified from the clearance operations areas in areas adjacent to CHAs, and from new evidence provided by the local population. This led to an increase in the original size of the original contaminated area and added extra clearance m² to the related clearance task order.

After verifying and analyzing the data, it was found that there were changes in the areas size between the baseline in 2013 and the subsequent years until 2022. The main reasons behind these changes were the newly discovered contaminated areas from 1991 and 2003 when there was no information registered about it in the national IMSMA database. This number has increased over the years.

The increasing baseline makes the released areas (reduced through technical survey and cleared through clearance) seem to be less each year due to the discovering and the immediate clearing of the high priority contaminated areas (in which the area discovered and cleared in the same year). Below is an information map showing the current contamination for the Hazard areas registered in the Directorate of Mine Action IMSMA database, where the total area contaminated with cluster munitions, mines and war munitions is **2,704 km²**, and the cluster munitions contaminated areas until the end of July 2022 is **181.4 km²** as shown in the below.

Table 8 - Overall contamination by type and by RMAC.

RMAC	Cluster Munitions	Confrontation Area	ERW	IED	MineField	Grand Total
RMAC-S	168,717,051	86,257,834	369,826,812	0	919,650,200	1,544,451,901
Basrah	45,177,620	72,645,320	294,989,339	0	826,085,459	1,238,897,738
Missan	955,962	13,064,167	8,038,838	0	54,586,164	76,645,131
Muthanna	77,696,286	0	11,345,261	0	38,978,577	128,020,124
Thi-Qar	44,887,183	548,347	55,453,374	0	0	100,888,904
RMAC-N	7,031,468	45,001,337	77,968,888	539,602,769	2,500,683	672,105,151
Anbar	7,010,707	42,346,405	780,490	190,089,211	9,329	240,236,142
Diyala	0	1,147,255	73,589,715	254,157,753	1,979,762	330,874,485
Karkuk	0	41,165	26,637	28,677,454	5,584	28,750,840
Ninewa	20,761	563,720	3,160,741	55,710,882	401,982	59,858,086
Salah al-Din	0	902,792	411,305	10,967,469	107,026	12,388,592
RMAC-M EU	5,665,354	316,709,183	113,342,123	0	51,721,184	487,437,842
Babylon	633,031	316,432,025	1,457,446	0	0	318,522,501
Kerbala	1,331,881	0	1,386,815	0	0	2,718,696
Najaf	3,700,442	0	12,401	0	1,754,329	5,467,172
Baghdad	0	0	180,431	0	0	180,431
Qadisiya	0	0	35,047,694	0	0	35,047,694
Wassit	0	277,158	75,257,337	0	49,966,855	125,501,350
Grand Total	181,413,873	447,968,354	561,137,823	539,602,769	973,872,067	2,703,994,894

Map 4 – The current CM contamination in Iraq by hazard classification and RMAC

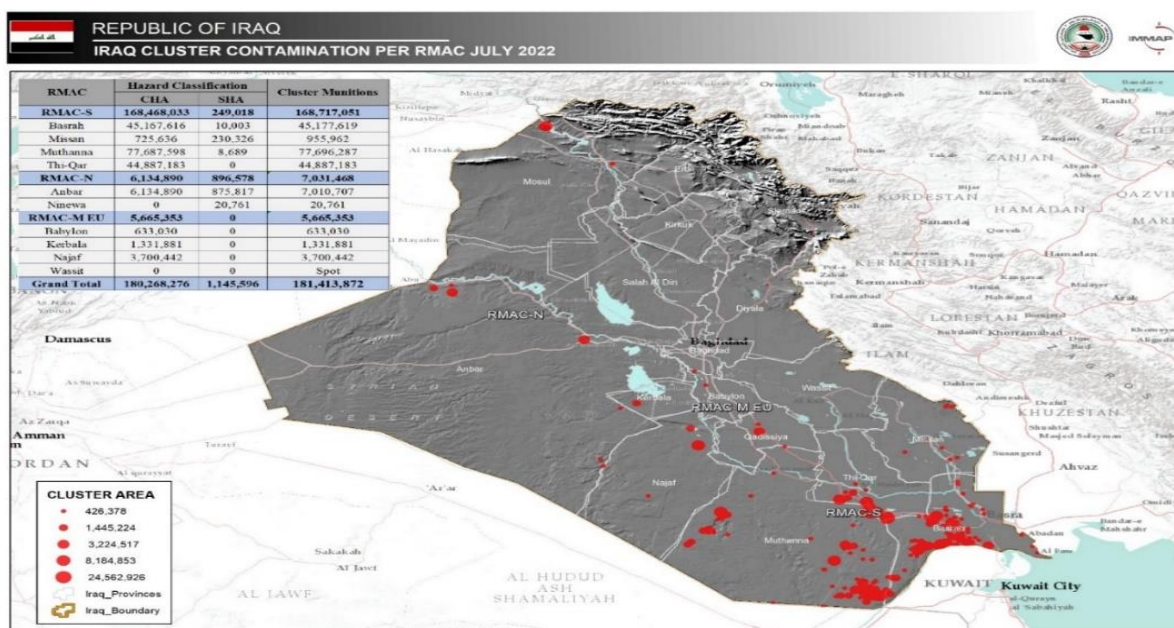


Table 9 - Total new CM area identified between 2013-2022 without the baseline.

Survey Method	Year	Hazard Area m²
NTS / TS	2013-2022	248,411,065

8. Newly discovered contamination since 2013

In June 2014, terrorist gangs occupied some governorates and separate areas of other governorates, which caused huge hazard areas and new types of contamination, as explosive devices, bombed houses, and bombed infrastructure, agricultural and residential areas, in addition to their use of some types of unconventional weapons. The hazard areas were discovered as a result of the non-technical survey activities conducted after the convention entered into force and were from the 1991 and 2003 wars. The size of the CM hazard increase was more than 98% beside the original baseline. After 2003 no airstrikes or any use of cluster munitions had occurred inside the internationally recognized national boundaries of the Republic of Iraq.

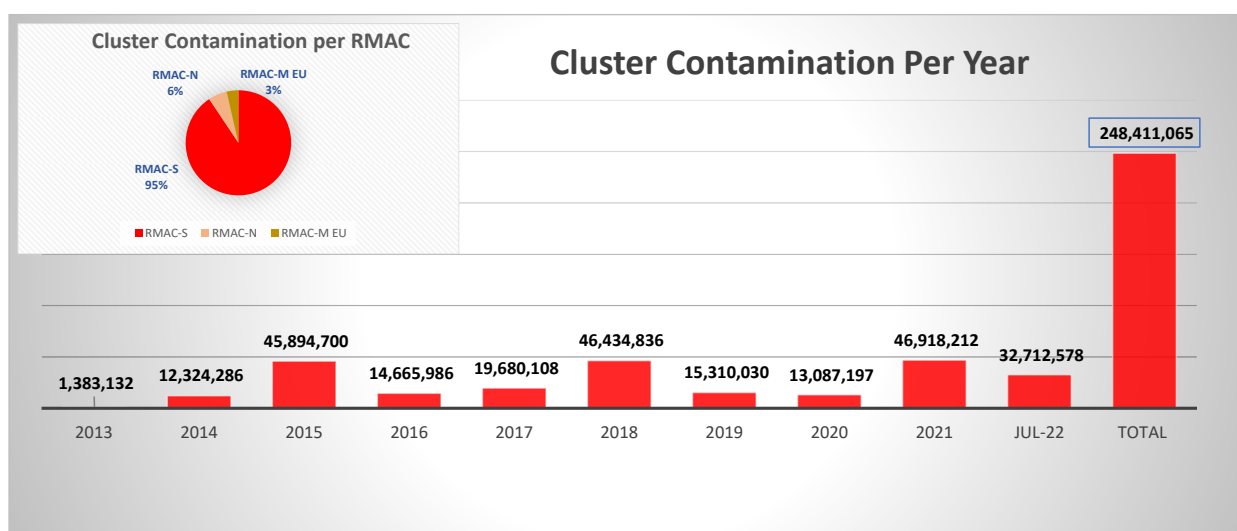
The results of this non-technical survey showed initial cluster munitions contamination of approximately 128 km², and updates with non-technical survey information continued. After 2015, the Directorate of Mine Action began to increasingly rely on non-technical survey (NTS) to enhance operational efficiency. NTS teams goals were to identify areas where land could be released by clearance or cancelation, with a greater focus on those areas contaminated with CM as opposed to other types of explosive contamination.

The total discovered and confirmed CM areas since the convention entry into force in 2013 until July 2022 is 248 km², and when adding the baseline of 2013, which is 128 km², then the total contaminated area with cluster munitions was approximately 376 km².

Table 10 - Baseline Plus the discovered contamination per year since 2013.

Year	Area size m ²
Baseline	128,077,002
2013	1,383,132
2014	12,324,286
2015	45,894,700
2016	14,665,986
2017	19,680,108
2018	46,434,836
2019	15,310,030
2020	13,087,197
2021	46,918,212
2022 (until July)	32,712,578
Total with Baseline	376,488,067

Diagram 1 - Cluster contamination identified per year.



9. The released area since Iraq's ratification of the convention

Information on released Areas& operations depends on the work of non-technical survey, technical survey, and the clearance activities in various regions of Iraq carried out by the various executive bodies (governmental, non-governmental organizations, commercial companies) since the ratification of the convention, with accomplishments (achieved) shown in the tables below. The procedures of releasing the lands were carried out according to the National Land Release standard, NMAS 07:11.

Table 11 - Size of area released through survey and clearance

Land release method	Year	Area (Sqm) Total
NTS	2013-2022	72,694,119
TS	2013-2022	23,283,970
Clearance	2013-2022	99,096,105
Total Released	2013-2022	195,074,194

Table 12 - The quantity and type of the destroyed cluster munitions

Model	Qty	Destruction method	Status of destruction program (including plans, timetable & completion date)
BLU-26	1	Using Thermites / Explosives	Destruction effort limited to military engineering
BLU-63	11,190	Using Thermites / Explosives	Destruction effort limited to military engineering
BLU-61	981	Using Thermites / Explosives	Destruction effort limited to military engineering
BLU-97	7,457	Using Thermites / Explosives	Destruction effort limited to military engineering
BLU-91	2315	Using Thermites / Explosives	Destruction effort limited to military engineering
BLU-92	1215	Using Thermites / Explosives	Destruction effort limited to military engineering
M42	13,679	Using Thermites / Explosives	Destruction effort limited to military engineering
M77	14,315	Using Thermites / Explosives	Destruction effort limited to military engineering
MK118	1730	Using Thermites / Explosives	Destruction effort limited to military engineering
M46	2,160	Using Thermites / Explosives	Destruction effort limited to military engineering
PM-1	190	Using Thermites / Explosives	Destruction effort limited to military engineering
AO 2.5RT	1,163	Using Thermites / Explosives	Destruction effort limited to military engineering
PTAB 2.5mm	302	Using Thermites / Explosives	Destruction effort limited to military engineering
PTAB-1M	508	Using Thermites / Explosives	Destruction effort limited to military engineering
PTAB-2.5 KO	809	Using Thermites / Explosives	Destruction effort limited to military engineering
Total	58,015		

Under current Iraq Government instruction in Federal Iraq, only National Government institutions are authorized to explosively destroy explosive ordnance – Iraqi Army and Civil Defense.

Table 13 - Cluster Munition Types and Quantity by RMAC

Total Devices per RMAC		
RMAC	Type	Quantity
RMAC-S	BLU26 - BLU63 - BLU61- BLU97- BLU91- BLU92- M42 - M77 - MK118 - M46 - MP-1 AO 2.5RT- PTAB 2.5mm – PTAB -1M-PTAB-2.5 KO – Cluster Bombs	48,903
RMAC-N	BLU63 - BLU97 - BLU26	427
RMAC-MU	BLU63 - BLU91 - M42	8,685
Total		58,015

Table 14 – Expected increase in contamination for the years of 2024 – 2028

Needs Capacity and Time For clearing the rigisted Cluster contaminated area in DMA with the expected increase in contamination						
Province	Total CM Contamination	Total WD Based on the Currunt Capacity	Years For Clearance	Total Need Teams to finsh Within # Years	Rate Of Increase	Area Based on the expected Rate per 5 years
Basrah	45,177,620	602	2.62	8	80%	36,142,096
Missan	955,962	13	0.06	0	10%	95,596
Muthanna	77,696,286	1,036	4.50	14	40%	31,078,515
Thi-Qar	44,887,183	598	2.60	8	20%	8,977,437
Kerbala	1,331,881	18	0.08	0	10%	133,188
Najaf	3,700,442	49	0.21	1	10%	370,044
Ninewa	20,762	0	0.00	0	0%	-
Anbar	7,010,708	93	0.41	1	30%	2,103,212
Babylon	633,031	8	0.04	0	10%	63,303
YEARS and Teams Needed within the available cabacity			10.52	32		
Total	181,413,873	2,419	10.52			78,963,391
Total Teams Needed to finish within			5	32		46

10. The current teams and capabilities

This paragraph includes a presentation of the capabilities of the government executive teams (the Ministry of Defense / Directorate of Military Engineering, the Ministry of Interior Civil Defense / and authorized international organizations) working in clearing the registered hazards contaminated with cluster munitions in the mine action program in Iraq.

Table 15 - Current available capacity working 2023

Org	Total CL Teams	Daily/Productivity/Team	Total daily Productivity
NPA	10	5000	50000
DRC-DDG	2	5000	10000
MOD	2	5000	10000
CD	1	5000	5000
Total Daily Productivity	75000 m ²		
Average WD/Year	230		

11. The National Resources

The Iraqi government covers the costs of 11 teams working in the field of survey, clearance and destruction, divided into 5 teams working in the field of survey and clearance (2 of which work in the field of technical survey and 3 in the field of clearance) plus 6 teams (EOD) dedicated to cluster destruction (explosive and thermite) operations on the ground. The destruction operations are the exclusively done by the Iraqi Ministry of Defense.

Financial Allocations to cover the purchase of destruction materials which is approximately \$5 million over the past 5 years for the destruction of munitions, and the Ministry of Defense is still committed to providing the necessary fund to provide the destruction materials in the future when those materials run out. An increase in the number of clearance teams will be supported by an increased number of EOD teams and associated explosives.

12. The International Resources

Funded and supported by international donors, international organizations provide 12 teams operating in southern Iraq. The Iraqi Government will encourage the international community to provide support and fund throughout several means included the listed below points:

- Facilitate the work of the organizations and companies working in this field,
- Facilitate the technical procedures within the national standards,
- Emphasis on Technical Surveys to be followed by clearance, and
- Providing a clear and accurate overview on the contamination in Iraq throughout the official meetings and workshops held in this regard.

13. Additional information on capacities

Six (EOD) teams were provided from the Ministry of Defense / Military Engineering specialized in destroying cluster munitions in sites. New teams can be added to the plan by adding new teams or new organizations that work in the field of survey and clearance.

In coordination with the NPA, a female team has been trained to work in the field of surveying and clearance cluster munitions, and there is a female team in DRC already working in the field of surveying and clearing other explosive ordnance. Gender and Diversity factors are embedded in organizations recruitment plans.

During 2022, DMA in cooperation with NPA organization, established & trained two mixed gender teams (TS and clearance).

In case of the absence of additional support and maintaining the current capabilities, it anticipated to take 15.2 years to clear the projected 260 km² of contamination.

To clear the area within the 5 years requested an additional 19 clearance teams, fully trained, and equipped will be required.

The average team productivity was calculated per day is 5000 m² and the number of working days was approximately 230 days per year. The average monthly cost of a TS / clearance team

was \$20,000, and the average monthly costs for an NTS/EORE team were \$10,000, based on the operations of the previous years.

To confirm the expected increase in CHA, NTS teams as shown in Table 16 will be initially required to support the 5-year plan. Clearance teams have the ability to conduct CMRS on an as required basis.

It is intended that any capacity established to address the CM contamination continue to be utilized past the completion of CM clearance operations, as the teams can then utilize the same equipment, and after a period of additional training, can conduct clearance operations to support Iraq's' APMBC obligations.

Table 16 - Required survey teams.

RMAC	Required Teams
RMAC-S	5 Teams
RMAC-N	2 Teams
RMAC-MU	3 Teams

14. Circumstances which impeded the ability of Iraq to fulfil its obligations.

Iraq has made progress in clearing contaminated areas, assisting victims, and reduce the dangers of cluster munitions, yet the Iraqi mine and cluster munition clearance program still faces a variety of obstacles on its way to clearing the entire country from all existing contamination, including hazard areas contaminated with cluster munitions. The most important of which is the lack of capacity. Although funding will always be the biggest challenge for the Iraq mine action program, we would like to point out that the lower than anticipated CM clearance outputs over the past ten years are due to several reasons:

- a. The Cluster munition contaminated areas and all the hazard areas in general are extremely large compared with the national capabilities currently available, in addition to the extremely large areas contaminated with mines, explosive remnants of war remain which led to the distribution of the operational capabilities among the different types of contaminated areas.
- b. Shifted priorities by moving the main national effort represented by the Ministry of Defense from the humanitarian clearance operations, and directing it to work in the liberated areas, as the clearance operations there constitute one of the most important priorities of the Iraqi government to ensure the return of the displaced population to the liberated areas and the resumption of the efforts of the reconstruction operations in those areas.
- c. The priority of funding by International Donors to the liberated areas for non-CM related activities.
- d. Lack of accurate maps and information of the cluster munitions contaminated areas which significantly affected clearance and planning efforts.
- e. Lack of humanitarian capacities and limited support for international and local organizations and agencies working in the field of the cluster munitions clearance, as the lack of organizations in Iraq and the number of their clearance teams have directly affected the survey work and clearance of areas contaminated with cluster munitions.
- f. Climate changes, natural, and geographical factors which lead to the spreading and expansion of the contaminated areas as a result of the migration of mines, cluster munitions and unexploded ordnance due to erosion factors such as rain and floods, which resulted in an increase in the size of contaminated areas.
- g. The national capacities available from the artificial limbs centers and health institutions is not commensurate with the increasing numbers of accident, victims and their needs, especially the victims of cluster munitions and mines after 2014.

h. The limited financial resources allocated to the clearance of areas contaminated with cluster munitions in addition to the resources allocated to other activities not related to operational clearance such as allocations for artificial limbs, victim assistance and risk education projects. All these projects will affect the amount of money allocated to clearance operation which impeded the ability of Iraq to fulfil its obligations. The financial factor is one of the essential elements to clear and reduce contaminated areas and return affected communities according to specific programs and time plans, which depends on the economic conditions of the concerned country as the clearance operations of contaminated areas cost huge amounts of money.

Finally, it is essential to take into consideration that the problem of clearance and victim assistance not related to the cluster munitions only. Iraq is a party of the Anti-Personnel Mine Convention and is contaminated with a large area of mines and unexploded ordnance. The Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) which may be excessively harmful or have indiscriminate effects. the five protocols attached to it specifically the amended Protocol number 2 on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, and other Devices (APII) and the fifth Protocol V on Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) which has many obligations related to these international instruments, which must be considered one of the challenges facing the implementation of all provisions of the Convention, whether regarding demining or assistance to victims. Therefore, the work must be done through a clear national vision to develop an integrated strategic plan for the coming years to free Iraq from cluster munitions, mines and explosive remnants of war including national capabilities and work to invest in the current international support, emphasizing that many indicators show that international support will not be unlimited and there is a possibility to transform it in to other regions and countries specially in a complex country environment and a world with many changes and ongoing conflicts.

The DMA has gained experience that enables us to achieve a lot with the available funds. DMA has developed a transparent and mutual trust relationship with donors through meetings and coordination, especially the mine action activities annual meeting. These meetings are based on presenting the average annual achievements over the past years, assuming it will be the same for the extension period. DMA will make every effort to raise the necessary funds.

After the end of the five-year strategy (2017-2021) on which the data of the previous period is based, the DMA is developing a new eight-year strategy (2022-2028) which implement clearance methods same as the ones currently used as the huge amount of anti-personnel mines, Improvised explosive devices, Cluster munitions and unexploded ordnance distributed over a wide geographical area and its affected a large numbers of the population adding new challenges to the previous ones faced by the DMA. NTS teams update information daily according to a systematic plan, and DMA is developing an EORE strategy to raise awareness among the population.

15. The Applicable National Laws & Standards

The geographic characteristics of cluster munition contaminated areas, especially sandy and shifting areas, grazing grounds and the environmental reserve's locations, is the major concern of the Directorate of Mine Action based on the concept of "all reasonable efforts" and concerns about the safety of those conducting clearance in such places. These areas present a real challenge and in response the DMA updated the standards for clearance and land release operations (NMAS 07:11) and by implementing the Cluster Munition Remnant Search (CMRS) methodology which is included in the Technical Survey Standard (NMAS 08:20).

16. Iraq legislation and standards supporting mine action.

The Iraqi Parliament and the Parliament of the Kurdistan Region have issued a set of laws and instructions in order to support the mine action program, which aims to achieve humanitarian implications effectively which derived from national concern on how to deal with mines, projectiles and cluster munitions and limit their social, economic and environmental impact in order to enabling the citizens to live in peace and achieve economic, social and health growth away from the obstacles imposed by the contamination with mines and war remnants. Iraq has also approved many national standards derived from international standards to include instructions and guidelines for mine action in line with the national, geographic, social, and economic specificity of the Republic of Iraq, and below is detailed of the legislations (1) administrative, legal and international conventions.

Table 17 - List of the important National Mine Action Laws

No	Law
1	Updating national and international standards and approved standard operating procedures
2	Public institution of mine action in Kurdistan /Iraq No.10 of 2007
3	Arms Law No.13 of 1992 (amended)
4	Law No (44) of 2013 Ministry of Interior / Civil Defense.
5	Social Protection Law No (11-12-13-14) of 2014
6	Law of the individuals with disabilities and special needs No.38 of 2013
7	Approved National conventions supporting the Mine Action Program
8	Higher Committees formation of the for Mine action in accordance with Diwani Order No. 15 / S headed by the Prime Minister and the membership of the relevant ministries
9	The Department of Mine Action's law in the process of approval
10	Law of Rights and Privileges for the Disabled and People with Special Needs in Kurdistan Region of Iraq No. (22) of 2011
11	Law of the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq No. (34) of 2004
12	Law No. (4) of 2012, the Law amending the implementation of the Retirement and Social Security Law for Workers No. (39) of 1971 in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq
13	Law of the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq No. (12) of 2007
14	Law of the rights and privileges of mine action personnel in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (under study)

Table 18 – CM related National Mine Action Standards

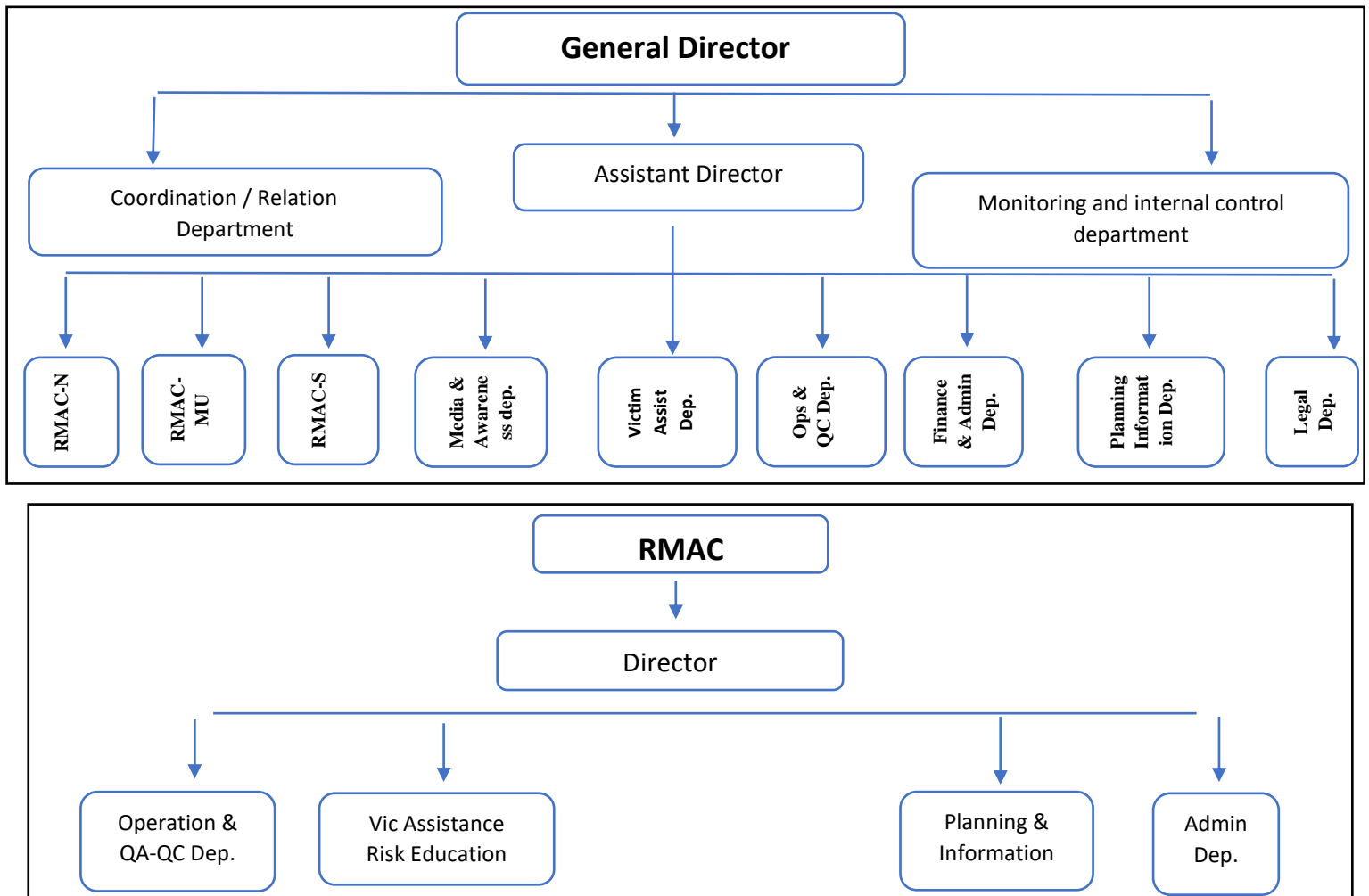
No	National Standard Name	Standard Number
1	Non-Technical survey (NTS)	NMAS 08:10
2	(TS) Technical Survey	NMAS 08:20
3	Battle Area Clearance (BAC)	NMAS 09:11
4	Land Release	NMAS 07:11

Iraq National Mine Action Standards are based on International Mine Action Standards and adapted to meet Iraq's specific needs. All listed NMASA have been updated in 2021 / 2022. All NMAS are available via the DMA website.

17. The National Structure of the Directorate of Mine Action

As there are no known CM hazard areas within the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, the structure shown is for Federal Iraq based Directorate of Mine Action.

Diagram 2 - Iraqi Mine Action Program DMA structure



18. The methods and standards used in land release of confirmed or suspected cluster munitions.

The Iraq's National Mine Action Standards (NMAS) were first developed in the form of technical standards and guidelines and written to align with IMAS and revised as needed to reflect modifications in IMAS. In addition, they incorporated changes in international obligations and local requirements in the years 2020-2022.

Updating and validating the 20 national NMAS, the most important of which are the Land Release Standard, the Technical and Non-Technical Survey Standard, Battlefield Clearance (BAC), and Quality Control (QA/QC) and the addition of a technical survey paragraph for cluster munitions (The methodology for searching for cluster munitions remnants (CMRS) with the support of experts and consultants from the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS), the new official version was approved, circulated and issued at the beginning of 2022.

The DMA prepared and issued a general plan and guidelines for the prevention and control of COVID-19 during mine action operations. A joint team was formed in 2021 by the DMA, the Ministry of Defense, Military Engineering (EOD) and the Norwegian People's Aid Organization (NPA) in the southern region to reduce the risks and destroy cluster munitions above the ground as a rapid measure by the DMA due to the increasing number of cluster incidents for the past years in cooperation with all partners.

The Non-Technical teams update information daily according to a systematic plan. DMA develops EORE strategy to raise awareness among the population. The geographical characteristics of cluster contaminated lands especially sandy, moving, drifting, grazing and conservation areas, is a major concern to DMA based on the concept of " All reasonable efforts" and concerns about the safety of those performing clearance in such places, these areas present a real challenge. DMA is part of the Ministry of Environment and provides technical support to land conservation efforts and planning as part of the wider Ministry. To meet these challenges, the DMA has updated the standards for clearance and land release operations (NMAS 07:11) with the use of the Cluster Munition Remnant Survey Methodology (CMRS)

and it has been included in the Technical Survey Standard (NMAAS 08:20) CMRC) manual. TS will be considered as an additional positive factor that will help achieve the objective of this application. Below are the methods used to identify areas containing cluster munitions:

19. Non-Technical Survey NMAAS 08:10

Areas contaminated with Cluster Munition

The methodology of non-technical survey for cluster munitions is carried out and has a special method that differs from minefield areas, taking into consideration the presence and direction of the cluster strike, the number of clusters strikes in one area, and the nature of the information and data about the actual location of the cluster strike. Sometimes there is need to verify above and below the surface of the ground, for example, there is information about the contamination of an area with cluster munitions with evidence of the location of the cluster strike, but not seeing any cluster munitions on the surface of the ground, which may cause the identification of a hazard area to maximize the recorded risk and increase the mine action effort in the future. In the area would then require additional financial resources but may not need full technical survey or clearance. In this case, a method can be used which is called the cluster munition remnant method, and the non-technical survey team can (provided that) in a condition of having a field work experiences using the detectors such as (Schonstedt, Large Loop, or any other BAC search instruments) to verify the area under the surface of the earth and reach confidence from the real area of the area of risk or release through a method that can be adopted in the technical work plan for non-technical survey submitted by the implementing agencies.

20. Technical Survey NMAS 08:20

The methodology and method for conducting a technical survey of areas containing or suspected to contain cluster munitions is CMRS. Technical survey on the remnants of cluster munitions is conducted on suspected cluster munitions affected areas (SHA) as well as confirmed hazard areas (CHA) that were identified in the non-technical survey (NTS) stage. Recent estimates and the ongoing work in Iraq for cluster munitions indicated that the rate of (30% - 50%) munitions fail to function as intended and can be in state where there is high contamination of hazard areas with cluster munitions and the hazard from ERW, are widespread. The weather at the time of deployment of the CM was very wet, and the ground was very soft resulting in “soft” landings and CM penetrating into the ground.

The methodology of technical survey and the search for remnants of cluster munitions (CMRS) is conducted and it has a special method that differs from minefield areas, taking into consideration the presence and direction of the cluster strike, the number of clusters strikes in one area, and the nature of information and data about the actual location of the cluster strike. Verification of above and below the surface of the earth.

21. The expected methods used to clear areas with cluster munition remnants.

From 2013 till July 2022 an amount of 195 km² were released from the suspected and confirmed hazard areas contaminated with cluster munitions through non-technical and technical survey and clearance activities. These areas were delivered to the beneficiaries during the past nine years since the convention entered into force. The historical annual rate for CM land release is approximately 19.5 km². The hazard area discovered within the same period, which is 248 km², or 25 km² annually. With the area discovered being more than the area released, Iraq was not able to fulfil the obligations of locating, clearing and destroying cluster munitions by 1st November 2023. Technical Survey operations are reducing as most of

the existing SHAs and CHAs have now been processed using CMRS methodology, and accurate dimensions of the hazard areas have been obtained.

Table 19 – Land Release Rate - Historical

Total area size released by (TS - NTS - Clearance) from 2013 till July 2022	Annual Release Rate by all Activities	Annual Clearance Rate by all Activities
195 km ²	10 km ²	9.5 km ²

22. The Humanitarian, Social, Economic and Environmental Impacts of the extension

Economic situations decline.

The presence and spread of explosive hazards in Iraq has affected the economy in all fields, with a noticeable negative impact on economic life such as agriculture, oil, infrastructure development and tourism in addition to a significant impact on equality in the daily lives of people by obstructing access to their sources of livelihood and employment opportunities such as Agricultural lands, factories, oil fields, grazing grounds, fishing and swamps, and as an overview of the World Bank for Iraq shows that “the Iraqi economy is facing serious and urgent challenges, the decline in oil prices for the years 2015 and 2016, and the war against ISIS terrorist gangs have contributed to a severe deterioration in economic activity and an increase in the financial deficit, in addition the population Vulnerable to continuous security problems have led to deterioration in living standards.

Environment pollution

Previous and ongoing wars have affected the environmental situation, and this has led to air, water, and soil pollution, which negatively affected citizens psychologically and physically, in addition to affecting agricultural crops due to the toxic materials caused by these munitions, in addition to the radiation contamination of some munitions and war equipment.

The humanitarian, economic, social, and environmental impacts of the remaining challenge

By explaining the extension request, the economic and social impact of the remaining contamination is the same as the impact identified in the initial challenge which is explained in “The nature and extent of the current contamination of cluster munitions, and the large areas contaminated have an economic and social negative impact which states that:

(With large areas of agricultural land, oil and gas fields and many public institutions and infrastructure are mined and contaminated with cluster munitions or remnants of war that will initially need to be cleared before sustainable economic development and diversification can occur on a large scale.

Farmers and agricultural wealth as a basic sector of the economy are directly affected by the difficulty of access to their land, water resources, roads, and infrastructure, in addition to some of the main economic sectors such as fishing. On the other hand, secondary sectors are affected by the lack of resources produced by the main sectors and are forced to import raw materials and manufacture products from other regions or Countries. This negative impact ultimately leads to an increase in the cost of living caused by the high prices of food and manufactured products that result from an increased demand for high wages, and also affects the increasing cost of living on unemployment through a lack of purchasing power due to the limited income, in addition to the internal displacement For the population in Iraq due to armed violence and the dropping of cluster munitions which places an additional burden on the government.

The social impact of hazard areas does not only cause psychological stress, but also destroys the traditional formation of the family unit and that the loss of one or both parents may affect the family's condition. The confusion that occurs to families in Iraq also affects children's education and receiving medical care, which affects the country's economy in the coming years.

23. Other information relevant to the extension request

Resources available to support progress made so far.

Article 6 of the Convention on Cluster Munitions clarifies the right of each state party to seek and receive assistance from other state parties in fulfilling their obligations. The following explains the sources of financial information and some of the challenges that were found in analyzing this data, in addition to a detail that shows the spending of funds in recent years in all five pillars of mine action in Iraq (mines, ERW, IED) and cluster munitions, but the support was limited in the field of cluster munitions, including clearance, victim assistance and risk education.

Source of Information

The financial assistance provided by other States Parties is allocated to international organizations and the funding has not been transferred through the various national mine action programs, or to the requesting State Party. It is difficult to track the allocation of funding through the structures of the regional centers.

The Annual budget:

There are financial allocations (for all activities) disbursed annually by the Iraqi Government to the Directorate of Mine Action to cover the expenses of the various mine action activities, and as noted in the table below, which shows the annual funding of the Government of Iraq. This section shows the annual funding allocated from the Iraqi Government for the all-mine action activities and due to unclear allocation of the governmental budget till now, the funding of the year 2022 is based on the previous year 2021.

Table 20 - DMA annual funding 2013 to 2022

YEAR	DMA
2013	12,878,407
2014	12,878,407
2015	16,927,321
2016	13,500,000
2017	4,131,292
2018	3,855,449
2019	4,634,677
2020	4,000,000
2021	3,893,252
2022 Based on 2021	3,893,252
Total (in Dollars \$)	80,592,057

The funding for the DMA has been reduced based on the priorities of the Iraqi Government in allocating funds to fighting terrorist groups, liberating large areas of the country, reconstruction, development, support to internally displaced persons, national COVID-19 response, and budget deadlock on multiple occasions since 2013.

Table 21 - DMA projected annual funding 2024 to 2028.

YEAR	DMA
2024	3,893,252
2025	3,893,252
2026	3,893,252
2027	3,893,252
2028	3,893,252
Total (in Dollars \$)	19,466,260

The funding allocated from the national budget to the DMA for all mine action activities in Iraq, for the 5 years of extension is based on the previous years because the government budget is not clear and has not been declared until now.

The measures to be taken to raise awareness and education to reduce risks.

- DMA, together with implementing partners, continue to provide awareness messages through the media, social media, and posters that have been suspended in public places and remote meetings due to the Coronavirus pandemic.
- Exploiting the pastoral seasons, where the largest possible number of nomadic / Bedouin residents gather within these areas to deliver the appropriate messages and means of awareness for them.
- Visiting accident locations and spreading awareness.
- Investment and assignment of organizations, national efforts, and the media to spread awareness.
- Training of trainees to carry out indirect education of the community.
- Funds have been allocated from the DMA budget for the purpose of supporting the DMA teams by spreading awareness for the affected communities.
- Focus on schools in awareness campaigns through social media.

24. The duration of the extension request

During the requested period, Iraq will work to cover all national lands, and the request for extension has been submitted for a period of five years, until 1st November 2028 based on:

- Land release of all remaining CM hazard areas
- Accurate Development consideration for work plans
- Expected funds according to the international and Governmental support.

25. Risk awareness, education, and victims assistance

Table 22 - Beneficiaries of Risk Education as of 2022

DMA	Adult between 18 and above 18		Adult between 13-18 years old		Children from 5-12 years old		Total Beneficiaries	Benefit Community
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female		
IKMAA	211,090	171,694	154,744	132,509	202,191	168,834	1,072,039	2,173
RMAC-M EU	38	20	32	15	38	28	171	10
RMAC-S	978	122	233	102	365	186	1986	17
RMAC-N	3080	3076	2818	2660	3105	3060	17799	13
Total	215,186	174,912	157,827	135,286	205,699	172,108	1,091,995	2,213

Table 23 - Beneficiaries of Risk Education materials distributed per regional center

RMAC	Posters	Booklets	Bags	T-Shirts	Magazin	snake ladder game	football	folders	school supplement	other material
IKMAA	126672	106482	164	0						479941
RMAC-M EU	61	45		3			16	37		7
RMAC-N	3349	1561	1272	1311	1273	1296	1317	3228	1273	237
RMAC-S	1165	246	6	13	1	39	160	30	7	1163
Total	131247	108334	1442	1327	1274	1335	1493	3295	1280	481348
Grand Total							732,375			

Plan for 5 years extension period from 2024 -2028 in addition to the measures taken to educate and warn civilians in contaminated areas.

Table 24 - Plan to distribute Risk Education materials 2024 - 2028.

DMA	T-Shirts	Bags	Booklets	Posters	Others
RMAC-M EU	6750	5417	8500	153	33861
RMAC-S	47,420	36,500	57000	915	321,905
RMAC-N	22500	22500	28500	540	113470
Total	76670	64417	94000	1608	469236

Table 25 - Plan to distribute Risk Education materials for Year 1 of 5-year plan

DMA	T-Shirts	Bags	Booklets	Posters	Others
RMAC-M EU	8000	6500	11000	200	40200
RMAC-S	9000	7000	12000	200	321905
RMAC-N	5000	5000	7000	125	28120
Total	22000	18500	30000	525	390225

Victim’s assistance plan from 2024-2028

1. Providing services and opportunities based on rights-based gender and diversity with equal opportunities to all victims of ordnance and explosive materials.
2. Preparing the National Standard for Victim Assistance NMAS in cooperation and coordination with all partners, approving and issuing it in 2023.
3. Collect and standardize data in cooperation with government agencies and organizations working in the field of mine action around mid-2023.
4. Work to complete a unified national database in cooperation with relevant business partners in the field of victim assistance and share that information with the executive authorities.
5. Strengthening cooperation and joint coordination with the authorities concerned with providing medical, rehabilitation, treatment, and social services to rehabilitate the victims and integrate them into society.
6. Continuous improvement of victim assistance through holding meetings and workshops with the relevant authorities to advance the reality of victim assistance services and equal opportunities to all victims to receive those services.
7. Follow-up on the implementation of laws, legislation and public policies related to patient assistance.
8. Providing victims of mines and war remnants with medical aids, high-quality orthopedic devices, and artificial limbs.
9. Providing athletes who are victims of mines and war remnants with high-quality sports prosthetic limbs.

10. Establishing prosthetic limb center in areas liberated from ISIS terrorist gangs.
11. Providing income-generating small projects for victims of mines and remnants of war.
12. Building and exchanging experiences with local and international bodies in the field of victim assistance to keep pace with the progress made in this field.

Table 26 - Distribution of victims of cluster munitions per age and gender

Region	Province	Gender	Killed or Injured	Child <12	Youth 12-19	Adult >=19
RMAC-M EU	Babylon	Male	Injured	0	0	2
	Kerbala	Female	Died	1	0	0
	Najaf	Male	Died	0	0	1
		Male	Injured	0	1	1
	Wassit	Female	Died	2	0	3
		Female	Injured	3	0	0
		Male	Died	6	2	14
RMAC-N	Anbar	Female	Died	1	0	1
		Male	Died	0	0	1
		Male	Injured	0	1	1
RMAC-S	Basrah	Female	Died	4	3	1
		Female	Injured	2	3	7
		Male	Died	10	11	6
		Male	Injured	14	14	57
		Male		0	0	4
	Missan	Female	Died	4	2	2
		Female	Injured	7	4	13
		Male	Died	7	2	7
		Male	Injured	10	17	117
	Muthanna	Female	Died	1	2	1
		Female	Injured	2	3	3
		Male	Died	6	3	6
		Male	Injured	9	9	40
	Thi-Qar	Female	Died	8	10	10
		Female	Injured	7	8	10
Male		Died	21	24	22	
Male		Injured	34	54	142	
Male			0	1	0	
IKMAA	Duhok	Male	Injured	0	0	0
		Male	Died	0	1	1
	Erbil	Male	Injured	1	0	0
		Male	Died	1	0	0
	Sulaymaniyah	Female	Injured	1	0	0
		Male	Injured	0	0	2
Total				166	183	512
Grand Total				861		

26. Notes on the extension plan.

1. The plan does not include areas contaminated with mines and other explosive devices.
2. The plan was developed based on the continuation of the executive parties (companies and organizations) with the same current capabilities and efforts available on a condition of providing the financial allocation for the implementation of the plan.
3. If the international support is available, the productivity of clearance activities will increase in accordance with the amount of funding provided, especially since the productivity of the five-year period for the extension of the current capabilities and efforts of the National Mine Action Program does not exceed 33% of the total area contaminated with cluster munitions recorded in the database without the potential increase. The estimated costs indicated in the above plan may change according to the information and data that may appear during the work plan.
4. Part of the developed plan will be supported by the government with financial allocations, but it is not sufficient to meet all the requirements set out in the above plan due to the large size of contamination.
5. It is expected to increase the areas of contamination in the areas of cluster munitions in some governorates as a result of updating the data for the suspected areas, which will require an increase in capabilities and efforts and a possible change in the work plan after the first extension year.
6. The work plan was developed assuming that all the working executive teams (governmental institutions, organizations and companies) are working with all their energies for the area specified in the set plan.
7. Locations in which air-dropped cluster munitions were used in Iraq, in addition to the cluster munitions fired by artillery within governorates and residential areas, have spread widely in the residential areas and within cities, especially in the southern governorates of Iraq.

Most of Iraq's contamination with cluster munitions was the result of the first Gulf war in 1991 and the second Gulf war in 2003. The Directorate of Mine Action did not accurately receive the locations of strikes for the areas contaminated by the remnants of cluster munitions by the NATO and US forces, which made it difficult to determine the exact locations of the strikes during Survey work, which affected the planning of the clearance of sites contaminated with cluster munitions, according to a specific time.

8. The difficulty of surveys, clearance, awareness, and victim assistance procedures in 2021 due to the spread of the COVID-19 virus which led to the lack of accurate information for surveys and victim information collection.

9. Discovering more new areas affected by CM, especially in the southern governorates, and the survey is still ongoing and continuing to find more cluster-affected areas that were not previously registered in our database, as shown in the above-mentioned tables, and this considered a major challenge in reducing the risk.

10. Obtaining accurate information on the locations of the strikes by the leaders of the coalition and the US forces will speed up the process of surveying, planning and removal, and thus saves the effort and time required for accurate determination of locations and accurate planning for clearing operations.

11. Continuation of work by the joint team formed last year by the DMA, the Ministry of Defense, Military Engineering, and the Norwegian Organization (NPA) in the southern region to reduce the risks and destroy cluster munitions above the ground as a measure of the Mine Action to reduce due to the increase in cluster accidents for the past years as a measure taken by the DMA to reduce accidents and risks to citizens, in cooperation with all partners.

27. Conclusion

The Government of the Republic of Iraq submitting the request to extend the deadline for the Cluster Munitions Convention in compliance with Article 4 emphasizes keenness on full compliance with this agreement and other related agreements and presents its efforts made during the previous period and the major obstacles that faced the mine action program during the past years to the presidency of the Convention and its Member States. Iraq has the intention to establish a country collation in referring to the eleventh meeting of State Parties which will be done throughout official side meetings and discussions.

The Government of the Republic of Iraq kindly requests all States parties to the Convention grant the extension request and calls on all countries of the world to provide Iraq with full support as part of the common humanitarian obligations. The Republic of Iraq extends its heartfelt thanks to the presidency of the Convention and its Member States for the support they provided in the past period, and thanks all the countries that provided “financial and technical assistance”, all partners from humanitarian organizations and others and invites them to continue and increase this support in the coming period. Iraq is looking forward to more cooperation after the end of the war against terrorism and to help overcome the heavy legacy left in Iraq.

ANNEXES:

ANNEX A – 5 YEAR PLAN

ANNEX B –16 YEAR PLAN