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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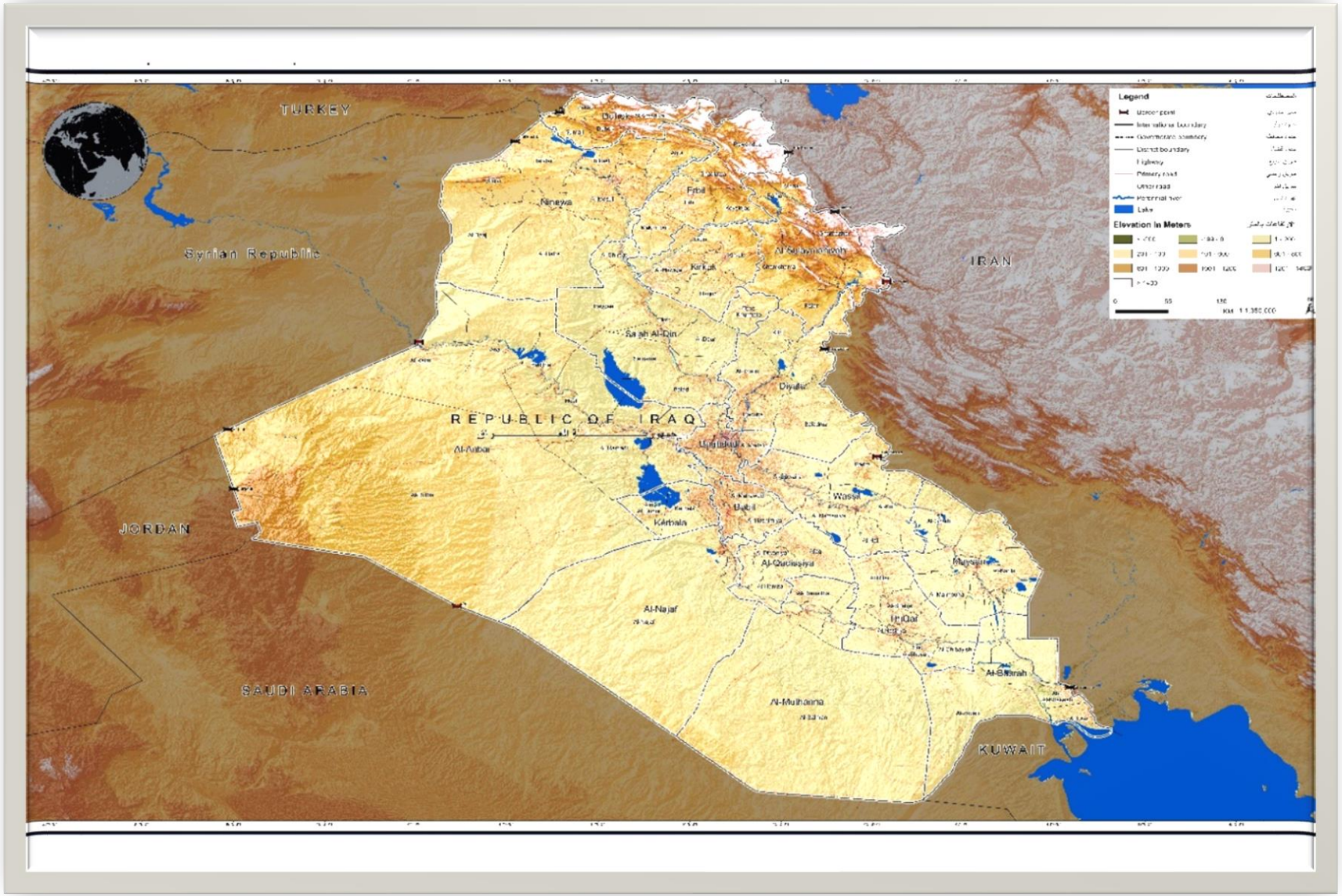
➢ Abbreviations:

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	Slemani Mine Action Center
IEDs	Improvised Explosive Device	SMF	Suspected mined field
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



➢ 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 problem 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, Dhi Qar, Maysan, Diwaniyah, Najaf, Wasit, and Baghdad) in addition to some other surveys that included certain parts of other governorates. These surveys were represented 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, the deadline for Iraq to complete the clearance of all cluster munition contaminated areas is 1 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 needs to submit a request for its current deadline to be extended for 5 years up to 1 November 2028. Some of the main reasons that Iraq will be unable to meet its 2023 deadline includes:

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).

1. The Level of Contamination

The realistic baseline of the CM contamination in Iraq at the beginning of the year 2013 when the Convention entered into force was approximately **128 km2.** updates to the information on the registered hazard areas has taken a place in accordance with the national standards NMAS 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 (table 1). The whole picture on CM contamination has changed dramatically and set a plan for educational and awareness operations near those sites, which are mostly Agriculture Area – Electric project - Water Resources Lands -and Residential Areas.

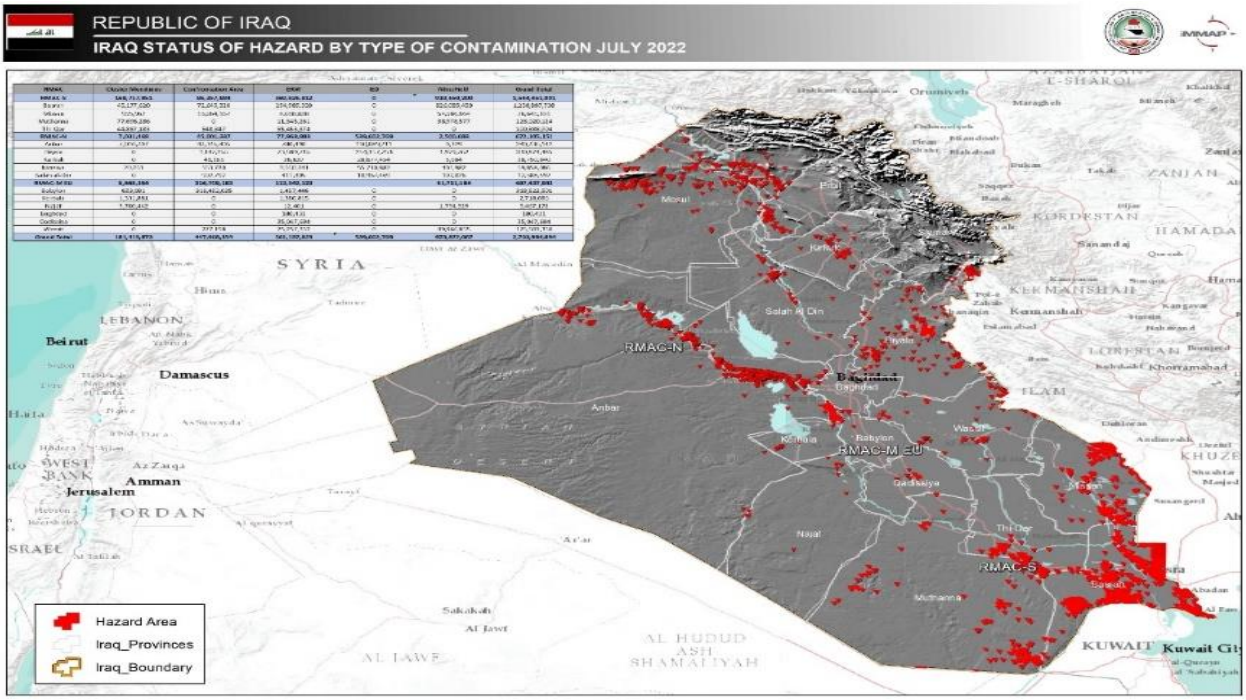
Table 1- CM contamination for the first 10 years CCM Implementation.

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 2 - The CM baseline in 2013 in Sqm .

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

Map 2 - Current CM contamination in Iraq



2. The Achievements

The size of areas cancelled through various mine action activities (area reduction and Clearance) from 2013 until July 2022 is approximately **195 Km^2** Suspected areas contaminated with cluster munitions were processed through non-technical and 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 reduction over the past years is approximately **19 Km^2** annually. Moreover, the CM is ever expanding due to the spread of the munitions all over the strike areas during the first and second gulf war.

However, it became clear from the area size rate for all activities is approximately **19 Km^2** (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 Km^2**, in contrast, the hazard area discovered within the above period is approximately **248.4 Km^2** and is included 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 November 1, 2023.

Table 3 - Areas of the CM Released , Canceled and Cleared areas from 2013 to July 2022.

Reduction by Survey and Clearance	Year	(Sqm) Total Area
NTS	2013-2022	72,694,119
TS	2013-2022	23,283,970
Clearance	2013-2022	99,096,105
Total Reduction	**2013-2022**	**195,074,194**

3. The Extension period plan

According to the clearance and reduction operations (TS, NTS & Clearance) conducted in the first 6 months of 2022, approximately **36 km^2** from old and newly discovered cluster contaminated hazard areas was reduced. The remaining CM contamination for the purpose of this current contamination is therefore taken as **181.4 km^2.** The projected average daily cleared is **5000** Sqm per team used is 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.

4. Resource Mobilization Plan.

A. 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 (explosion) operations on the ground. The destruction operations are exclusively done by the Iraqi Ministry of Defense, and you can find details in Item No. 15 (National Financial Resources Required for Cleansing (Annual Plan).

- 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.

- The Iraqi government covers the costs of two teams in the field of Quality Management to conduct quality control work on the 15 teams (clearance teams) according to the available capabilities during the 5-year extension period.

B. The International Resources: funded and supported by the international organizations which provides 12 teams supported by the donors as shown in item Number 9 (The current teams and Capabilities available working in the field of Mine action and in clearing the cluster munition contaminated areas) . The Iraqi Government will encourage the international community to provide support and fund throughout several means included in the points listed below:

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

Table 4 - The Approximate Annual Achievements for the extension period (for the current capacities)

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**

Table 5 – Operational plan for 2023 with in case Iraq received the ideal funding.

Plan	Year	2023
Ideal Future plan based on Needed capacities with increasing contamination of 1 years 2023	Teams	180
	Cost (M$)	43.2

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

Plan	Year	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	Total ($)
Realistic Plan based on current capacities with increasing contamination	Teams	15	15	15	15	15	15 each year
	Cost (M$)	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	18
Future plan based on Needed capacities with increasing contamination of 5 years as calculated in item #7 below	Teams	56	56	56	56	56	56 each year
	Cost (M$)	13.5	13.5	13.5	13.5	13.5	67.5

5. 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 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. 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.

- **Detailed Narrative**

Origin of the contamination

The source of 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, Dhi Qar, Maysan, 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 Survyes (2010-2016)

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
	Wasit	92,452,835
RMAC-S	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 km^2** 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 needs to conduct continuous surveys and record information, The Non-Technical teams visited large areas to update the survey and after 2018 the Cluster Munition Remnants Search (CMRS) methodology was implemented, the baseline for cluster munition contamination was increasing even though clearance operations were ongoing over the years before the year of 2013. The baseline continues to increase, and three main reasons have been identified:

The first: Most of Iraq's contamination with cluster munitions was the result of the first Gulf War in 1991 and 1998 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.

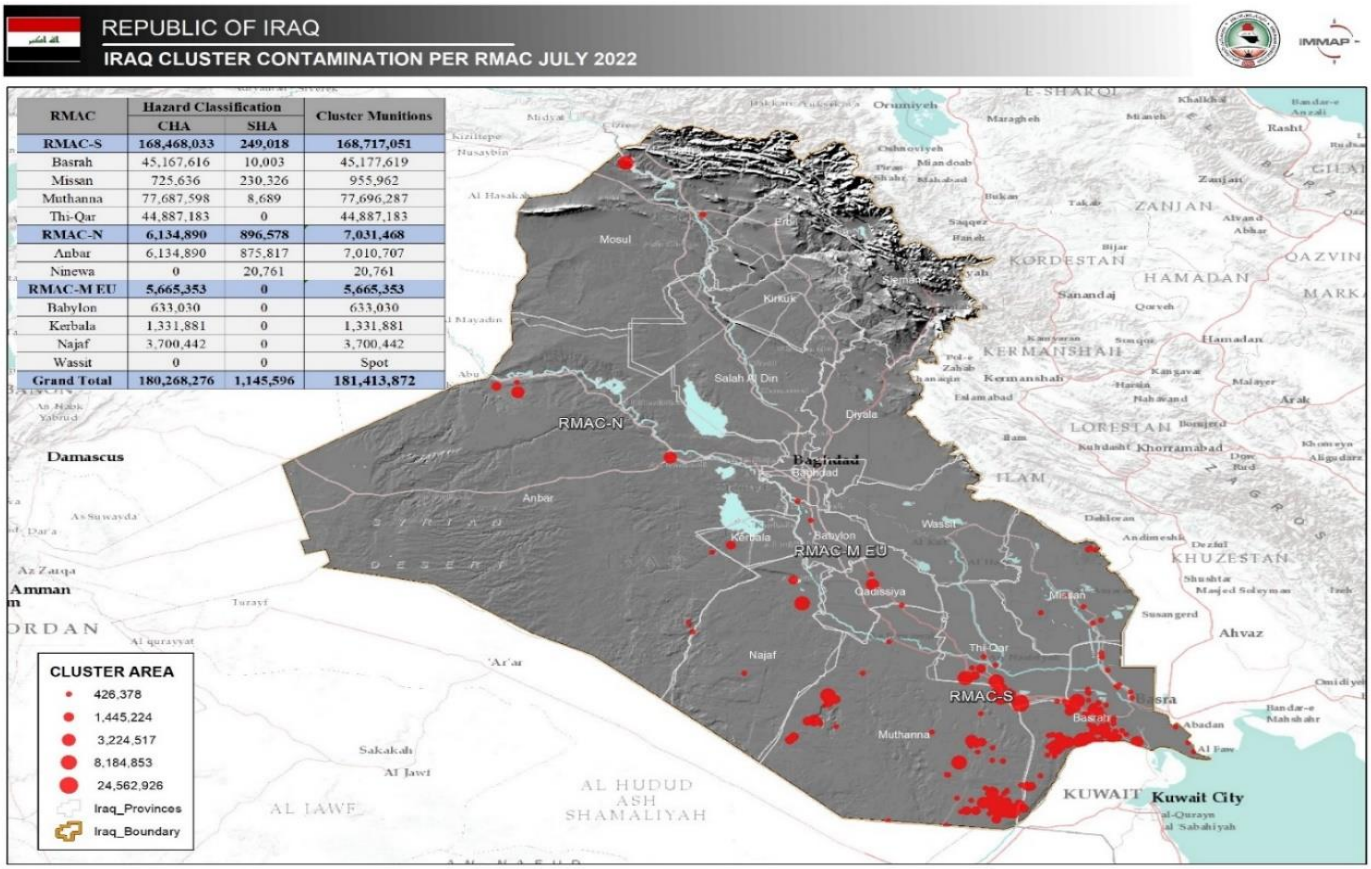
The Second: New additional contaminated areas which surround to the clearance operations areas and discovered during the clearance operations were consider as contaminated area in many cases This leads to an increase in the original size of the original contaminated area and added to the related task order.

The Third: 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 which is included within the contamination during the previous wars in 1991 and 2003 when there was no information registered about it , This number has increased over the years. The increasing baseline makes the cleared areas (Reduction areas) 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 at the same year). Below is an information map showing the current contamination for the Hazard areas registered in the Directorate of Mine Action database, where the total area contaminated with cluster munitions, mines and war munitions is **2704 KM^2** the cluster munitions contaminated areas until the end of July 2022 **181.4 KM^2** 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**		**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
Qadissiya	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 3 – The current CM contamination in Iraq by hazard Classification and RMAC



1. Table 9 - Total Area discovered between 2013-2022- without the baseline

Method Survey	Year	Hazard Area (Sqm)
NTS_TS	2013-2022	248,411,065

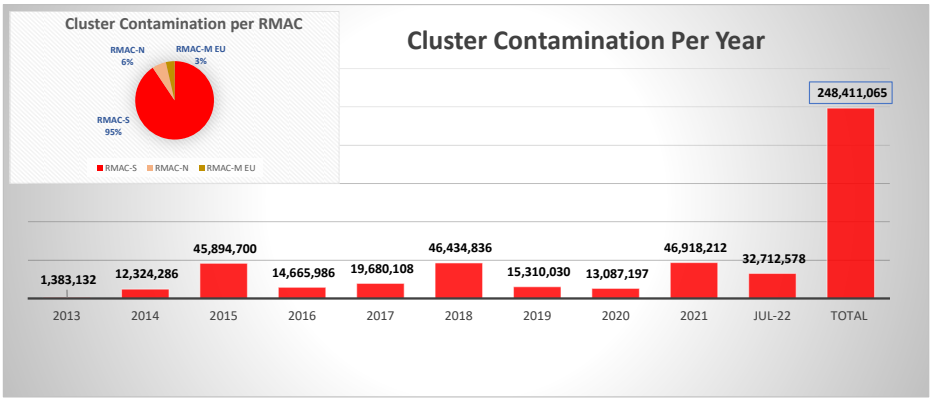
2. Newly discovered contamination since 2013.

In June 2014, terrorist gangs occupied some governorates and separate areas of other governorates have caused huge 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 after the convention enters into force are contaminated due to the two wars before 2003 in addition to a large number of areas contaminated with cluster munitions that were added to the baseline after the ratification of the convention, which makes the size of increase in contamination more than 98% beside the original baseline. After 2003 no airstrikes or any use of cluster munitions were occurred inside the Iraqi areas. all the discovered hazard areas and will be discovered in the future are the result of previous wars only

The results of this non-technical survey showed cluster munitions contamination with approximately **128 Km²** and that the update 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 at NTS teams, the goals were to identify areas where land could be released by clearance, with a greater focus on those contaminated with CM. The total discovered & confirmed 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 becomes approximately **376 Km².**

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

Year	Area size
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**



3. **The Released area since entry into force classified by survey method in to cancel by NTS, Reduced by TS and clearance Activities:** Information on the released areas by Non-Technical and Technical and Clearance Survey which is previously suspected with cluster munition contamination: The land release operation depends on the work of non-technical survey, technical survey, and the ongoing 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. The tables below show the completed (achieved) areas of non-technical and technical

survey activities and the clearance activities since the convention entering into force. the procedures of releasing the lands were carried out according to the lands release standard NMAS 07:11.

Table 11 - Reduction and Cleared area size by Method.

Reduction by Survey and Clearance	Year	(Sqm) Total Area
NTS	2013-2022	72,694,119
TS	2013-2022	23,283,970
Clearance	2013-2022	99,096,105
Total Reduction	**2013-2022**	**195,074,194**

4. 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**		

Table 13 - Destruction method of Cluster Munitions

Destruction method	Cluster munition remnants		Status of destruction program (including plans, timetable & completion date)
	Quantity	Type	
Using Thermites Explosives	**58,015**	BLU26 - BLU63 - BLU61- BLU97- BLU91- BLU92- BL755MK1 M42 - M77 - MK118 - M46 - MP-1 AO 2.5RT- PTAB 2.5mm – PTAB -1M-PTAB-2.5 KO – Cluster Bombs	Destruction effort limited to military engineering

Table 14 - 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**

5. Table 15 - Estimated Area Remaining to be surveyed (with identification of the SHA, CHA)

RMAC	Hazard Classification		Cluster Munitions
	CHA	SHA	
RMAC-S	**168,468,033**	**249,018**	**168,717,051**
Basrah	45,167,616	10,003	45,177,619
Missan	725,636	230,326	955,962
Muthanna	77,687,598	8,689	77,696,287
Thi-Qar	44,887,183	0	44,887,183
RMAC-N	**6,134,890**	**896,578**	**7,031,468**
Anbar	6,134,890	875,817	7,010,707
Ninewa	0	20,761	20,761
RMAC-M EU	**5,665,353**	**0**	**5,665,353**
Babylon	633,030	0	633,030
Kerbala	1,331,881	0	1,331,881
Najaf	3,700,442	0	3,700,442
Wassit	0	0	Spot
Grand Total	**180,268,276**	**1,145,596**	**181,413,872**

6. **Table 16 Estimated time required to clear the CM contaminated areas that already registered in the DB is (11) years according to the current available capabilities which is 15 teams.**

Province	Total CM Contamination	Total WD Basred on the Currunt Capacity	Years For Clearance	Total Need Teams to finsh Within # Years
Basrah	45,177,620	602	2.62	4
Missan	955,962	13	0.06	0
Muthanna	77,696,286	1,036	4.50	6
Thi-Qar	44,887,183	598	2.60	4
Kerbala	1,331,881	18	0.08	0
Najaf	3,700,442	49	0.21	0
Ninewa	20,762	0	0.00	0
Anbar	7,010,708	93	0.41	1
Babylon	633,031	8	0.04	0
YEARS and Teams Needed within the available cabacity			10.52	15
Total	181,413,873	2,419	10.52	
Total Teams Needed to finish within			11	15

7. **Table 17 - Estimated time required to clear CM contaminated areas registered in the DB in addition to the expected increase in contamination which is (24,963,390) Sqm by the 2023 deadline.**

Province	Total CM Contamination	Total WD Basred on the Currunt Capacity	Years For Clearance	Total Need Teams to finsh Within # Years
Basrah	45,177,620	602	2.62	39
Missan	955,962	13	0.06	1
Muthanna	102,659,676	1,369	5.95	89
Thi-Qar	44,887,183	598	2.60	39
Kerbala	1,331,881	18	0.08	1
Najaf	3,700,442	49	0.21	3
Ninewa	20,762	0	0.00	0
Anbar	7,010,708	93	0.41	6
Babylon	633,031	8	0.04	1
YEARS and Teams Needed within the available cabacity			11.96	180
Total	206,377,263	2,752	11.96	
Total Teams Needed to finish within			1	180

8. Table 18- Estimated time required to clear the Cluster contaminated areas that registered in the DB in addition to the expected increase in contamination 113,912,136 Sqm for the years of 2024 – 2028.

Province	Total CM Contamination	Total WD Basred on the Currunt Capacity	Years For Clearance	Rate Of Increase
Basrah	45,177,620	602	2.62	80%
Missan	955,962	13	0.06	10%
Muthanna	216,571,812	2,888	12.55	40%
Thi-Qar	44,887,183	598	2.60	20%
Kerbala	1,331,881	18	0.08	10%
Najaf	3,700,442	49	0.21	10%
Ninewa	20,762	0	0.00	0%
Anbar	7,010,708	93	0.41	30%
Babylon	633,031	8	0.04	10%
YEARS and Teams Needed within the available cabacity			18.57	56
Total	320,289,399	4,271	18.57	
Total Teams Needed to finish within			5	56

9. The current teams and Capabilities available working in the field of Mine action and in clearing the cluster munition contaminated areas:

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 areas contaminated with cluster munitions in the mine Action program in Iraq.

Table -19 Current available Capacity working (Teams) & Productivity in Sqm.

Org	Total BAC 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 Prouctivity	75000		
Avarage WD/Year	230		

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 (explosion) operations on the ground. The destruction operations are the exclusively done by the Iraqi Ministry of Defense, and you can find details in Item No. 15 (National Financial Resources Required for Cleansing (Annual Plan).
- 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.

The International Resources: funded and supported by the international organizations which provides 12 teams supported by the doners. 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.
- Providing a clear and accurate overview on the contamination in Iraq throughout the official meetings and workshops held in this regard.

Complementary Information on available capacities:

- Six (EOD) teams were provided from Ministry of defense / Military Engineering specialized in destroying cluster munitions in sites
- new teams can be added to the plan in case of 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 work in the field of surveying and clearing explosive ordnance. there is more than one Female team working in the field of demining for more than a year in cooperation with UNMAS.
- During 2022, DMA in cooperation with NPA organization, established & trained two female teams (technical and clearance).

The assistance required including the necessary financial resources:

Assumptions of the Clearance operations: plan 1 and plan 2 to clear the cluster munition contaminated areas for 5 years (extension period) from (2024 – 2028) for the areas registered in the DB:

Plan one – based on current capacity of 15 teams: in case of the absence of the support, the expected years required to clear the contaminated areas and according to the current available capabilities is **19 years**. Expected area contaminated throughout the extension period by the end of 2028 is **320 km^2**.

Plan Two – based on optimum capacity (Full Support) : Expected area contaminated throughout the extension period will reach **320 km^2** , which requires **56** teams each year for a period of (5 years).

The average team productivity was calculated per day is **5000 m^2** and the number of working days was approximately **230** days per year. The average monthly cost of the BAC team was **$20,000**, based on the clearance operations of the previous years. The estimated cost of the extension period is calculated as shown in the table below:

Table No 20 - Clearance plan of 2024 – 2028 Extension period

Plan	Year	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	Total ($)
Realistic Plan based on current capacities with increasing contamination	Teams	15	15	15	15	15	15 each year
	Cost (M$)	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	18
Ideal Future plan based on Needed capacities with increasing contamination of 5 years	Teams	56	56	56	56	56	56 each year
	Cost (M$)	13.5	13.5	13.5	13.5	13.5	67.5

Assumptions of the Quality Management operations: plan 1 and plan 2 for Quality management operations on cluster munition contaminated areas for 5 years (extension period) from (2024 – 2028) for the areas registered in the DB:

Plan one – based on current capacity of 2 teams: in case of the absence of the support. The current available capacity will be 2 teams to conduct the QM operations on the work of the clearance teams.

Plan Two – based on optimum capacity (Full Support) : in the case where Iraq obtains the full support ,6 teams will be allocated to conduct the QM operations on the Clearance teams. Quality management teams calculated based on 10% of the average number of Clearance teams.

Table No. 21, Quality control operations for the next five years within the extension period 2024-2028 - based on the estimated costs.

Plan	Year	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	Total ($)
Realistic Plan based on current capacities	Teams	2	2	2	2	2	2 Teams each year
	Cost (M$)	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	2.4
Future plan based on Needed capacities with 5 years	Teams	6	6	6	6	6	6 each year
	Cost (M$)	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.44	7

Assumptions of the Survey Operations (Required Teams):

The plan for distributing the teams required for the survey work (technical survey and non-technical survey) according to the regions and for one year only, and it can be applied successively for a period of five years, the extension period. Table No. 22.

RMAC	Required Teams
RMAC-S	6 Teams
RMAC-N	2 Teams
RMAC-MU	3 Teams

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

With all the efforts made, 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 every mine action program.

we would like to point out that the decline in clearance efforts over the past years and challenges is 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. Lack of accurate maps and information of the cluster munitions contaminated areas which significantly affected clearance and planning efforts.

d. 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.

e. 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.

f. 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.

g. 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 and 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 for clear and reduce contaminated areas and returning 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 to 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.

11. The Applicable National Laws & Standards? Information on the National Demining Structure

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. in this challenge, the DMA updated the standards for clearance and land release operations (NMAS 07:11) by implementing the Cluster Munition Remnant Search (CMRS) methodology, and they were included in the Technical Survey Standard (NMAS 08:20).

12. The National Structure of the Directorate of Mine Action:

a. The legislation and standards: 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.

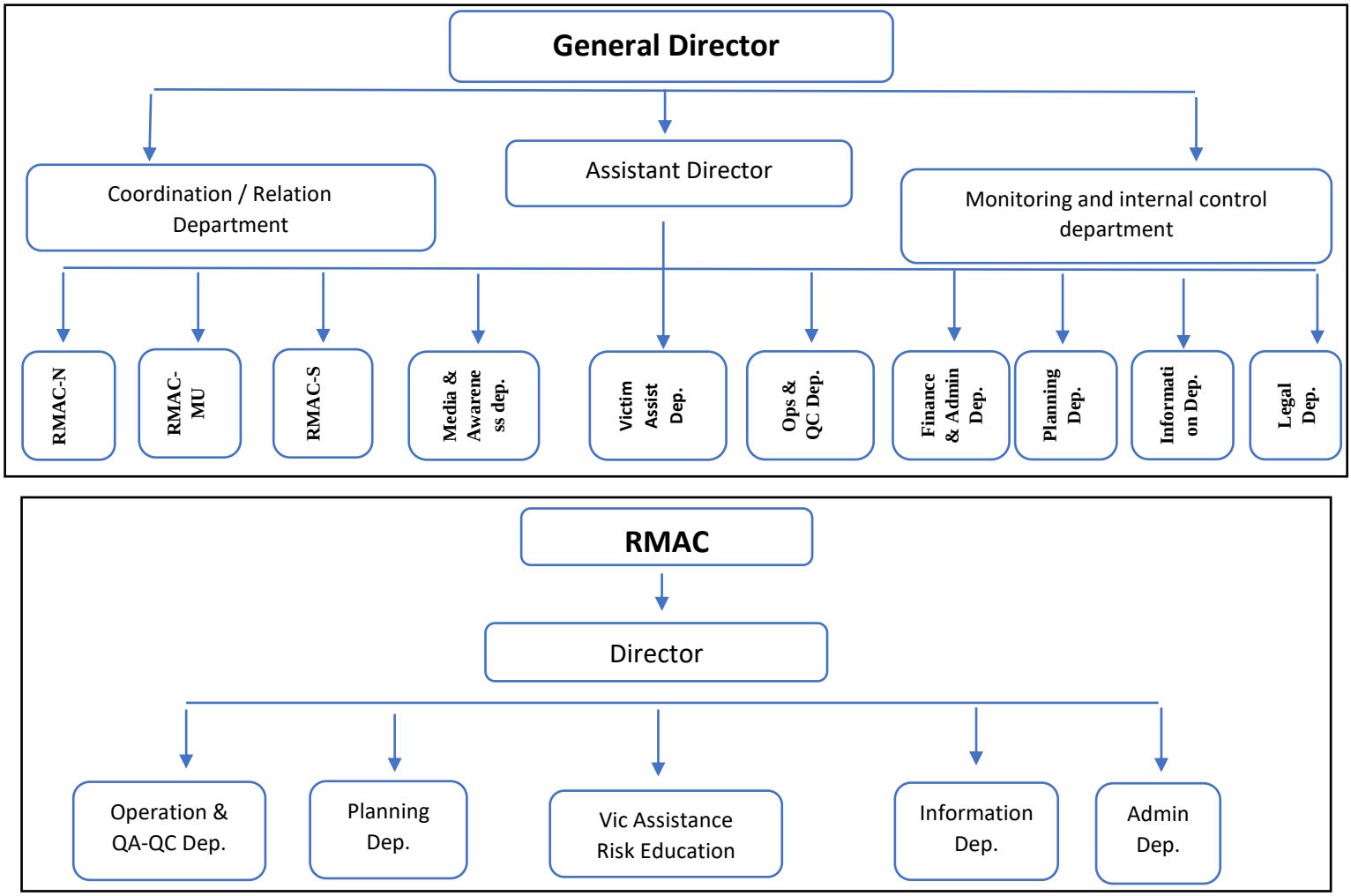
b. Table 23 - List of the important National Mine Action Standards (NMAS) updated at the end of 2021 and the beginning of 2022 related to land release:

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

Table 24 - 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 (defense, interior, oil, environment, National Security Adviser, director of the Public Authority for Mine Action / Kurdistan Region).
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).

Iraqi Mine Action Program is managed by the Directorate of Mine Action and the related centres.



13. The Methods and Standards used in land release of confirmed or suspected cluster munitions:

A. 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 to incorporating changes in international obligations and local requirements in the years of 2020-2022.

B. 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 & consultants from the

United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS), the new official version was approved, circulated and issued at the beginning of 2022.

C. Preparing a general plan and guidelines for the prevention and control of COVID-19 during mine action operations.

D. The formation of the joint team 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 .In this challenge, the DMA has updated the standards for clearance and land release operations **(NMAS 07:11)** with the use of the Cluster Munition Remnant Search Methodology (CMRS) and it has been included in the Technical Survey Standard **(NMAS 08:20)** CMRC) manual on a case-by-case basis. 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:

a. Non-Technical Survey according to the updated national Standard NMAS 08:10

Areas contaminated with Cluster Munition: The methodology of non-technical survey of 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 an 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 risk and increase the mine action effort in the future In the area which causes an increase in additional financial expenses that is, The area that may not need a (technical survey or clearance). In this case, a method can be used which called the cluster munition survey 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 devices) 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.

b. Technical survey of cluster munitions contaminated areas with and mines and explosive remnants of war according to the updated national standard NMAS 08:20.

Methodology and method for conducting a technical survey of areas containing or suspected to contain cluster bombs 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 and not explode when thrown and can be in state where there is high contamination of hazard areas with cluster munitions and the hazard from ERW, are widespread.

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. technical survey operations according to the mechanism approved in the technical survey standard NMAS 08:20.

14. The Expected methods used to clear areas with cluster munition remnants (non-technical survey, technical survey and clearance) :

from 2013 till July 2022 an amount of **195 km^2** were released from the suspected and confirmed areas contaminated with cluster munitions through non-technical and technical survey and clearance activities. these areas delivered to the beneficiaries during the past nine years since the convention enter into force. The clearance activities only the annual clearance rate is approximately **10 km^2**, and in comparing to the hazard area discovered within the above period which is **248 km^2** annually the area will be approximately **25 km^2** however, it has become clear from the square-meter rate that the new hazard areas are greater than the annual clearance rate and that Iraq will not be able to fulfil his obligations of locating, clearing and destroying cluster munitions by November 1, 2023. Table - 25.

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

15. The National financial resources required for clearance: (annual plan)

- In addition to the annual contribution through the annual budget of the Directorate of Mine action and the provision of the Ministry of Defense / Military Engineering teams **(6 teams of destruction (EOD)) differs from the 15 teams of Clearance currently working.** in addition to allocating approximately **5 million** dollars for purchasing destruction materials over the past 5 years and use it for destroying the cluster munitions(as the destruction operations in Iraq is assigned to MOD only) the Ministry of Defense is still committed to provide the necessary amount to provide the destruction materials in the future when those materials run out, in addition to providing teams from the Ministry of Defense resources for survey and clearance operations represented by **2 teams** for cluster munition operations due to the distribution of other capabilities of the teams to work in the field of clearance of explosive devices, clearance of mines, and war munitions.

- Despite the great efforts implemented by the Iraqi national authorities, donor countries, international organizations and civil society organizations, we note that the cluster munition contamination areas is **128 km2** upon Iraq's accession to the Convention on Cluster Munitions in November 2013, which is now **376 km2** and that is more than the double the initial contamination area, ten years after its accession , in accordance to all this facts we can see that the cluster munitions contamination in Iraq represents a challenge that will not be fulfilled within the next five years, according to **Article 4** of the extension request in the case where the current capabilities remains and the number of teams do not increase, as presented in the plan in the table shown above.

16. The Resources Mobilization & Preparation Plan:

The first six months of 2022 resulted in the discovery of an area of **32.7** km2 and an area of **36.5 km^2** were released. Therefore, the remaining contamination for the purpose of this study is **181, km^2** square meters, and the expected daily average of square meters for each team is the same as that which was carried out previously. Despite the fact that new methodologies adopted should exceeds this average, this increase will be considered as compensation for the rough terrain of the land and weather conditions.

The non-technical survey (NTS) teams will continue to update information for all existing contaminated sites depending on the "status" of each site, a certain probability of its cancellation is calculated. This study shows that with NTS teams available and according to the proposed plan, the survey of all sites will be updated by the end of 2027, in most cases the technical survey will complement and be an accompaniment to the non-technical survey to reach the actual areas of contamination, especially underground, and the technical survey will help in release some sites with a reduced percentage of the lands that need to be cleared due to the lack of evidence of contamination. Therefore, the areas that need clearance will be more accurate than the hazard areas in the previous stage, however the research will be applied manual for cluster munition remnants (TS.CMRC) on a case-by-case basis, the TS will be considered as an additional positive factor that will assist to achieve this request and the table below illustrates this need proposed during the extension period, with the continuation of the clearance operations for the five years extension. Table 26.

Activity	Description	Period	Needs
NTS	Update NTS result to determine the issue	4 years	10 Teams
TS	Accurate identification of the defined areas Contaminated with Custer munitions	4 years	10 Teams
BAC (Clearance)	Clearance of Confirmed hazard areas currently registered in the database which are **(320,289,399) Sqm** (within the timeline of OSLO treaty signed till the end of 2028) without the expected increase in contamination	5 years	56 Teams
Destruction	Under the responsibilities of military engineering	–	–

17. The Humanitarian, Social, Economic & 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 destroyed 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.

18. 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 article 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 of risks 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. Since 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 27 - The Annual Funding by Iraqi Government financial allocations for the past years

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

Table 28 - The Expected Annual Funding (based on previous years 2021-2022) of the coming 5 years

The fund for the 5 years of extension based on the previous years because the government budget is not clear and has not been declared until now.

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 Measures to be taken to raise awareness and education to reduce risks:**

- ✓ Continuing 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 Badia 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.

➢ **The Duration and Justifications 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 November 1, 2028) based on:

- Remaining Contaminated Areas
- Accurate Development consideration for work plans
- Expected funds according to the international and Governmental support.

19. Risk awareness, Education and Victims Assistance

Table 29 - Beneficiaries of Risk Education per communities, age, and gender for each regional center.

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 30 - 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

20. Suggested Strategic plan for 5 years extension period from 2024 -2028 in addition to the measures taken to educate and warren civilians in contaminated areas.

Table 31 - plan to distribute Risk Education materials for the extension (5 years) according to regional center:

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 32 - plan to distribute Risk Education materials for 1 year period according to each regional center:

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 strategic plan from 2024-2028 to and standards for developing annual plans.

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 2024.
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.

Tables 33 - 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
		Male	Injured	4	8	33
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
		Female	Injured	1	0	0
	Sulaymaniyah	Male	Injured	0	0	2
		Male	Died	0	0	4
Total				166	183	512
Grand Total				861		

- **Notes to consider when implementing the Extension plan:**

1. The plan does not include areas contaminated with mines and explosive devices and war munitions.
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 45% of the total area contaminated with cluster munitions recorded in the database without the potential increase.

4. The estimated costs indicated in the above plan may change according to the information and data that may appear during the work plan.
5. 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.
6. 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 change in the work plan after the first two years.
7. 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).
8. Stages 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 1998 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.
9. The difficulty of surveys, clearance, awareness, and victim assistance procedures in 2021 due to the spread of the Covid-19 virus, which is still ongoing until now, which led to the lack of accurate information for surveys and victim information collection.
10. Discovering more new areas affected by cluster, 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.

11. 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.
12. 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.

- **The 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.