



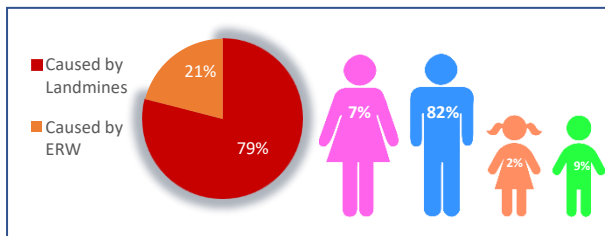
Cambodian Mine Action Sector Factsheet
Issue: July 2021

1. Background

Cambodia's landmine contamination is the result of a protracted sequence of internal and regional conflicts that affected the country from the mid-1960s until the end of 1998. The northwestern regions bordering Thailand are affected with the highest concentrations of anti-personnel mines in the world. Other areas of the country, mainly in the east, have been impacted primarily by the presence of explosive remnants of war (ERW), including cluster munitions (CM). This factsheet underscores data from 1992 to June 2021 unless a different period is stated.

2. Impact of the Contamination

Landmine and ERW have killed and injured 64,946 people in Cambodia since 1979. Although, the number of annual casualties has been brought down from **4,320** in 1996 to **65** in 2020, the number of annual casualties is still high compared with the total population. Among the casualties, 30% died.



The presence of landmines and ERW prevents reconstruction and development from taking place in a safe manner. Most community development projects would not have taken place without the support of landmine and ERW clearance. In an affected country like Cambodia, landmine and ERW clearance is the backbone for national socio-economic development.

3. Progress and Remaining Challenges

Humanitarian mine action in Cambodia started in 1992. Landmine and ERW clearance operators - CMAC, RCAF, HALO Trust, MAG, APOPO, CSHD and NPA released **2,236** km² of contaminated areas.

The following table presents accumulative numbers of explosive items found and destroyed by clearance and EOD teams:

Anti-personnel mines	1,104,873
Anti-tank mines	25,629
ERW including CM	2,914,946

The national database indicates that **2,092.35 km²** remains contaminated with the following specified areas:

Landmine area (km ²)	803.25
CM area (km ²)	719.01
ERW area (km ²)	570.09

4. Planning and Prioritization

Cambodia adopts the top-down and bottom-up approaches to planning and prioritization for landmine/ERW clearance. As the leader of the sector, CMAA identified priority villages where clearance assets should be directed to. CMAA did this in consultation with MAPU, clearance operators, relevant data and it is called the top-down approach. In line with the identified priority villages, the MAPU will work with the affected villages, clearance operators and development organizations to prioritize minefields to clear annually to ensure that needs and priorities of the affected communities are taken into consideration. This is the bottom-up approach. These two approaches are complementing one another.

5. Socio-Economic Contribution

About **82%** of the cleared land was used for agriculture and remainder was for housing, infrastructure development and risk reduction etc. The clearance directly and indirectly benefited 7,196,965 people, most of them living in the rural.



6. Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD)

Clearance operators in Cambodia have the capacity to conduct explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) in response to calls and reports from local authorities and communities living in affected areas. To date, **173,183** EOD tasks were conducted, and **1,555,708** explosive items (landmines and ERW) were found and destroyed by the EOD teams.

7. Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE)

There are ten organizations implementing EORE in Cambodia. The purpose of the EORE is to educate people about the danger of EO (landmines and ERW) and activities that may lead to accidents with the aim to change risky behavior. The EORE is integrated with other mine action activities such as land release, accident data collection and victim assistance and nationwide school curriculum. It is also delivered through formal sessions and house/field visits targeting the high-risk groups.

3,432,121 beneficiaries received EORE from 2018 to June 2021.



8. Landmine and ERW Victim Assistance

Assistance to person with disabilities is under the responsibility of the Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation. CMAA's mandate is to provide assistance to landmine/ERW survivors and indirect victims to complement the work of the former. Key activities include, inter alia, emergency support to victims and their families immediately after the accidents, documentation of quality of life of landmine/ERW survivors, documentation, and circulation of referral services to landmine and ERW survivors, and reporting to States Parties of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention.

From 2015 to 2020, **505** landmine/ERW survivors participated in economic inclusion trainings at 3 different vocational training centers. Physical Rehabilitation Centers and other service providers provided **18,654** prosthetics, **19,252** orthotics, **7,474** wheelchairs, and **16,084** assistive devices to landmine/ERW survivors and persons with disabilities. In Cambodia, there are 11 rehabilitation centers and 37 organizations providing services to landmine/ERW survivors and other persons with disabilities.

9. Gender Mainstreaming

Gender has been considered in all activities of mine action in Cambodia. About **23%** of the mine action workforce are women. The sector is working to increase the percentage of women presence by following the Gender Mainstreaming in Mine Action Plan and Guidelines. With regard to mine clearance, MAPU is working to increase women participation in the planning and prioritization process to ensure that the needs and priorities of women is taken into consideration.



10. Quality Management

Clearance operators conduct their own quality assurance (QA) and quality control (QC) to ensure that their mine action activities are carried out safely, effectively and efficiently and that the outputs (cleared land) is safe for use as intended. CMAA employs quality management teams to conduct external QA and QC of all operators' activities and products. This is to provide confidence to the donors and beneficiaries that the activities of the operators are conducted safely, and the cleared land is safe for productive use in line with Cambodian Mine Action Standards.

11. National Mine Action Strategy (NMAS 2018-2025)

The road map of the mine action sector is the National Mine Action Strategy (NMAS) 2018-2025, which was developed in line with Cambodia's national strategic plans and the Maputo +15 declaration that encourages all states parties to complete mine-free status by 2025. The NMAS aims to release all known landmine contaminated area and prioritized CM contaminated area by 2025 and to address the threats from other ERW. To ensure successful implementation of the NMAS, CMAA developed and executed the three-year implementation plan 2018-2020. The 2018-2020 implementation report indicated that 60% of fund was received from all sources compared to the requirement and land release which represents three main goals of the NMAS was 67% achieved against the targets. The next three-year implementation plan 2021-2023 has been launched in July 2021.

12. Sector Management and Coordination

To ensure proper management, effectiveness and efficiency of the mine action sector, the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) established CMAA in 2000 with the mandate to regulate, coordinate and monitor mine action activities. Further, the RGC established the Technical Working Group on Mine Action (TWG-MA) in 2004 to serve as a coordinating body and dialogue mechanism that brings together the RGC, development partners (DP), mine action operators, and development organizations to support mine action and ensure that it contributes to the attainment of the national development priorities. TWG-MA meet two times annually.

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