Cluster Munition Contamination in Lebanon

The nationwide survey was undertaken between September 2013 and April 2014 and was the first survey of its kind since the 2006 hostilities. The aims of the project were twofold. Firstly, accurately identify remaining contamination from cluster munition in Lebanon and, secondly, to identify the impact of remaining clearance on communities and socioeconomic development.

Status of remaining cluster munition tasks

Current land use types by size (m²)

Crop Cultivation
Livestock
Housing & Infrastructure
Recreational

Legend
- Inhabited Settlement
- Cluster Munition Task completed
- Completed clearing functions to National Mine Action Center
- Non-Technical Survey completed, tasks recommended for cancellation
- Cluster Munition Task requiring clearance

Human injuries and fatalities in contaminated areas surveyed by year of incidence

Saving lives
- Reduce risk of death and injury in 111 communities, with a population of over 370,000 and an additional seasonal population of over 250,000.
- Create safer conditions for over 54,000 refugees from the Syrian crisis.
- Approximately 85% of communities in south Lebanon are affected by cluster munition contamination.
- 71% of accidents involve males aged 18 and over, with most being farmers, construction workers or shepherds.

Building futures
- 284 of the 347 tasks recommended for clearance make access unsafe for farmers and block access altogether. Despite this, land in approximately half of the tasks is still used, mainly for agricultural production.

A cluster munition free Lebanon. What it will take...
- It should take just over four years to clear remaining cluster munition contamination with the current clearance capacity in Lebanon.
- This makes 2018 the potential date for completion of clearance.
- Expanding operational capacity would bring the completion date forward.
- Using new tools and machinery, coupled with integrated survey and clearance methodologies, may also improve operational efficiency and reduce the time taken to complete clearance.