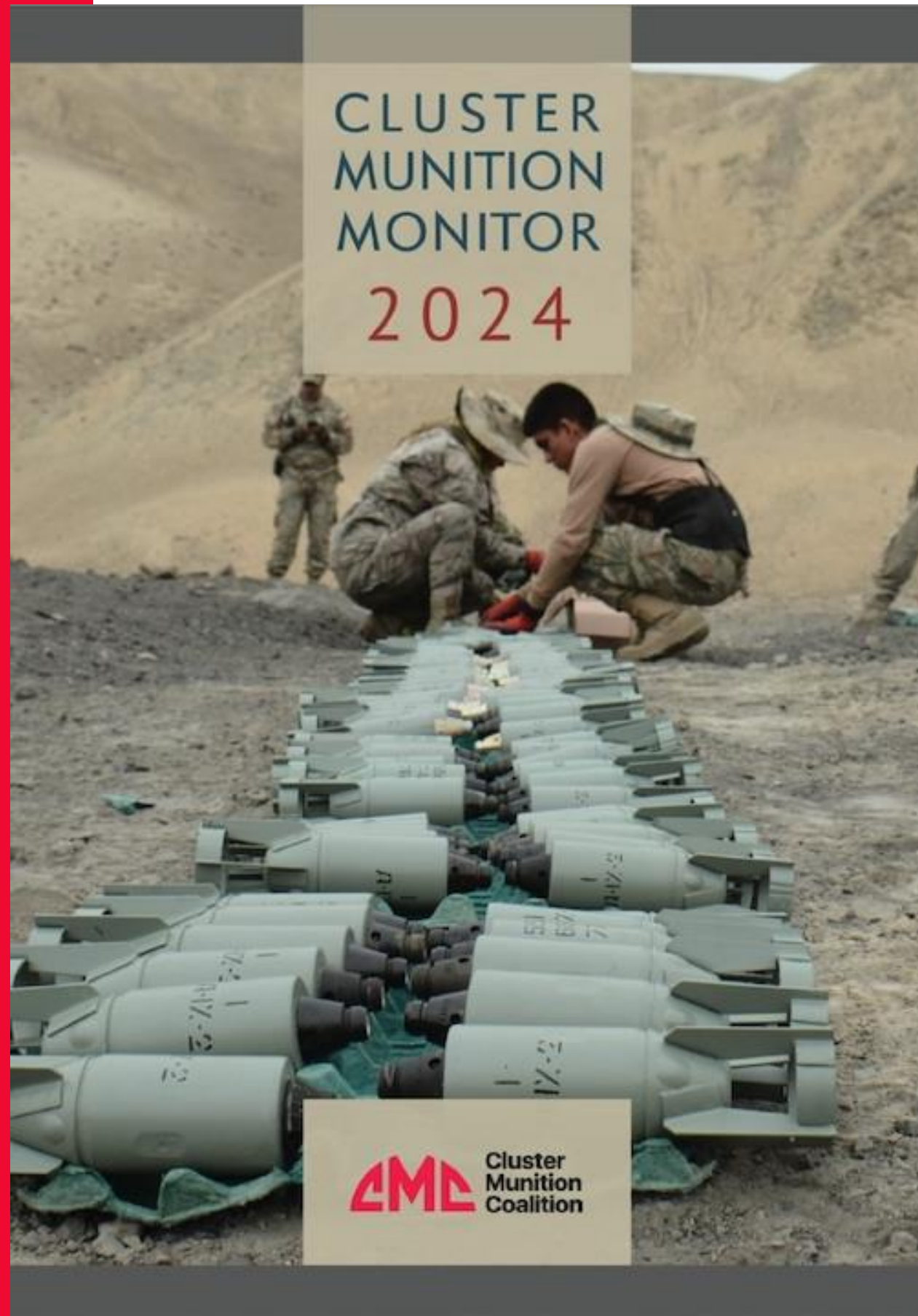


Cluster Munition Monitor 2024

Media Launch

9 September 2024



© 2023, Santiago Ocampo/NPA | AO-15Ch submunitions are prepared for destruction in Pisco, Peru. Peru completed the destruction of its stockpiled cluster munitions on 15 December 2023.

Landmine & Cluster Munition
MONITOR

Speakers

- **Mary WAREHAM**, Human Rights Watch and Monitor Ban Policy Team
- **Katrin ATKINS**, Senior Researcher, Monitor Impact Team
- **Loren PERSI VICENTIC**, Monitor Impact Team Lead
- **Charles BECHARA**, Communications and Media Manager, Cluster Munition Coalition

Moderator

- **Dr. Fiifi EDU-AFFUL**, Senior Researcher, Conventional Arms and Ammunition Programme, United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR)

© 2024, Rasmus Emil Gravesen/DCA | The tail section of a Smerch rocket in a field near the town Snihurivka, Mykolaiv oblast, Ukraine.

Status of the Convention

- There are **112 States Parties** and **12 signatories** to the Convention on Cluster Munitions.
- **South Sudan** acceded to the convention in August 2023, and Nigeria ratified the convention in February 2023.
- **Lithuania** enacted a law in July 2024 approving its withdrawal from the convention.



© 2023, CMC | Mine Action Fellows deliver a closing statement at the Eleventh Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions in Geneva, Switzerland.

Use of Cluster Munitions

- Russian and Ukrainian forces have both used cluster munitions in Ukraine during the reporting period (in 2023 and through July 2024).
- New use of cluster munitions was also recorded in Myanmar and Syria.
- There have been no reports or allegations of use of cluster munitions by any State Party since the convention was adopted in 2008.



© 2024, Rasmus Emil Gravesen/DCA | A survey team conducts non-technical survey in Mykolaiv oblast, Ukraine. The site was surveyed with a drone prior to marking.

Production

- 18 countries have ceased production; all former producers are now States Parties except non-signatory Argentina.
- 17 countries still produce cluster munitions or reserve the right to do so. None are party to the convention.

Brazil | China | Egypt | Greece | India | Iran | Israel
Myanmar | North Korea | Pakistan | Poland | Romania
Russia | Singapore | South Korea | Türkiye | United States

- Myanmar has been added to the list of producers.
- New cluster munition production was recorded in India, Myanmar, Russia, and South Korea.



© 2024, HAMAP-Humanitaire | A deminer measures an M77 submunition found during UXO spot task in the district of Sinjar in Iraq's Ninewa governorate.

Transfer

- Between July 2023 and April 2024, the **US approved five transfers to Ukraine** of US cluster munitions delivered by artillery projectiles and ballistic missiles.
- Ukraine may have acquired cluster munitions from other countries in the reporting period.
- At the **Eurosatory Arms Exhibition in Paris** in June 2024, companies from **India** and **South Korea** promoted their cluster munitions for sale



© 2023, Arne Hodalič/ITF Enhancing Human Security | A clearance operator from Norwegian People's Aid (NPA) uses a large-loop detector to search for cluster munition remnants in an orange orchard in Al Makiyeh in Lebanon's South governorate.

Stockpile Destruction

- All current States Parties have now completed destruction of their stocks, collectively destroying:
 - 1.49 million cluster munitions 179 million submunitions
 - 100% of all declared stocks
- Bulgaria, Peru, Slovakia, and South Africa destroyed the last of their cluster munition stockpile in 2023.
- At least 45 countries—42 States Parties, two signatories, and one non-signatory—that once possessed cluster munition stocks have now destroyed them.
- 50 countries are thought to still stockpile cluster munitions. None of them are party to the convention.



© 2023, Santiago Ocampo/NPA | BME-330 cluster munitions are prepared for destruction in Chiclayo, Peru.

Contamination

- 28 states/areas are known or suspected to be contaminated by cluster munition remnants, including **10 States Parties***:
 - **Massive**: Lao PDR
 - **Large**: Iraq
 - **Medium**: Chad | Chile | Mauritania | South Sudan
 - **Small**: Afghanistan | Germany | Lebanon | Somalia
- As of the end of 2023, **five States Parties had a clear understanding** of their contamination, while survey was still ongoing in Lao PDR and Mauritania.
- **BiH completed clearance** of cluster munition remnants in August 2023.
- **11 States Parties have completed clearance** of cluster munition contaminated land between 2008 and 2023.



© 2023, MAG | Mines Advisory Group (MAG) uses mechanical assets to conduct technical survey in Mount Lebanon governorate in Lebanon.

Clearance of Cluster Munition Remnants

- 8 States Parties reported clearance of at least **83.91km² and 73,348 submunitions destroyed in 2023** (compared to 93.49km² and 77,408 submunitions in 2022).
- Iraq, Lebanon, BiH, and South Sudan reported an additional **8.13km²** of cluster munitions contaminated land **released through non-technical and technical survey**.
- **Somalia** and **South Sudan** are the only States Parties working towards their **original clearance deadline**. The other 8 contaminated States Parties have all requested one or more extensions to their clearance deadline.
- In 2024, three States Parties requested an extension of their Article 4 deadline: **Chad until 2026**, **Germany until 2030**, and **Lao PDR until 2030**.



© 2023, Anna Phommachanthone/Legacies of War | A Humanity & Inclusion (HI) deminer works on steep, contaminated farmland in Houaphanh province, Lao PDR.

Risk Education

- All contaminated States Parties reported conducting risk education in 2023 except for Chile and Germany (contaminated areas are inaccessible to the public).
- Men remained a high-risk group due to their participation in activities that take them into contaminated areas.
- Children represented the largest number of beneficiaries (66%) of risk education in 2023.
- In most States Parties, boys remained a key target group because they often engage in activities in and near contaminated areas, whether for work or play.



© 2024, White Helmets (Syria Civil Defence) | In Syria's Idlib governorate, members of a Syria Civil Defence clearance team put up posters to help Ariha residents identify cluster munition remnants and other explosive devices.

Casualties

- Ukraine had the highest number of annual casualties globally for the second consecutive year.
 - Since the full-scale invasion of Ukraine by Russia in February 2022, over a thousand cluster munition casualties have been recorded in Ukraine.
- 219 cluster munitions casualties were recorded in 2023
 - The total number of casualties is likely significantly higher as many casualties go unreported.
- Civilians accounted for 93% of all casualties.
- Children accounted for almost half (47%) of all casualties from cluster munition remnants.
 - Children made up the majority of casualties from cluster munition remnants in Iraq, Lebanon, and Syria.
- Casualties caused by cluster munition attacks occurred in Myanmar, Syria, and Ukraine.
- Cluster munition remnant casualties were recorded in:
Azerbaijan | Iraq | Lao PDR | Lebanon
Mauritania | Syria | Ukraine | Yemen



© 2023, Arne Hodalič/ITF Enhancing Human Security | A farmer who suffered two cluster munition explosions in 2006 and 2007 while picking herbs and grazing his sheep in Al Abbasiyeh in Lebanon's South governorate. The contamination hinders the local communities' ability to farm their land.

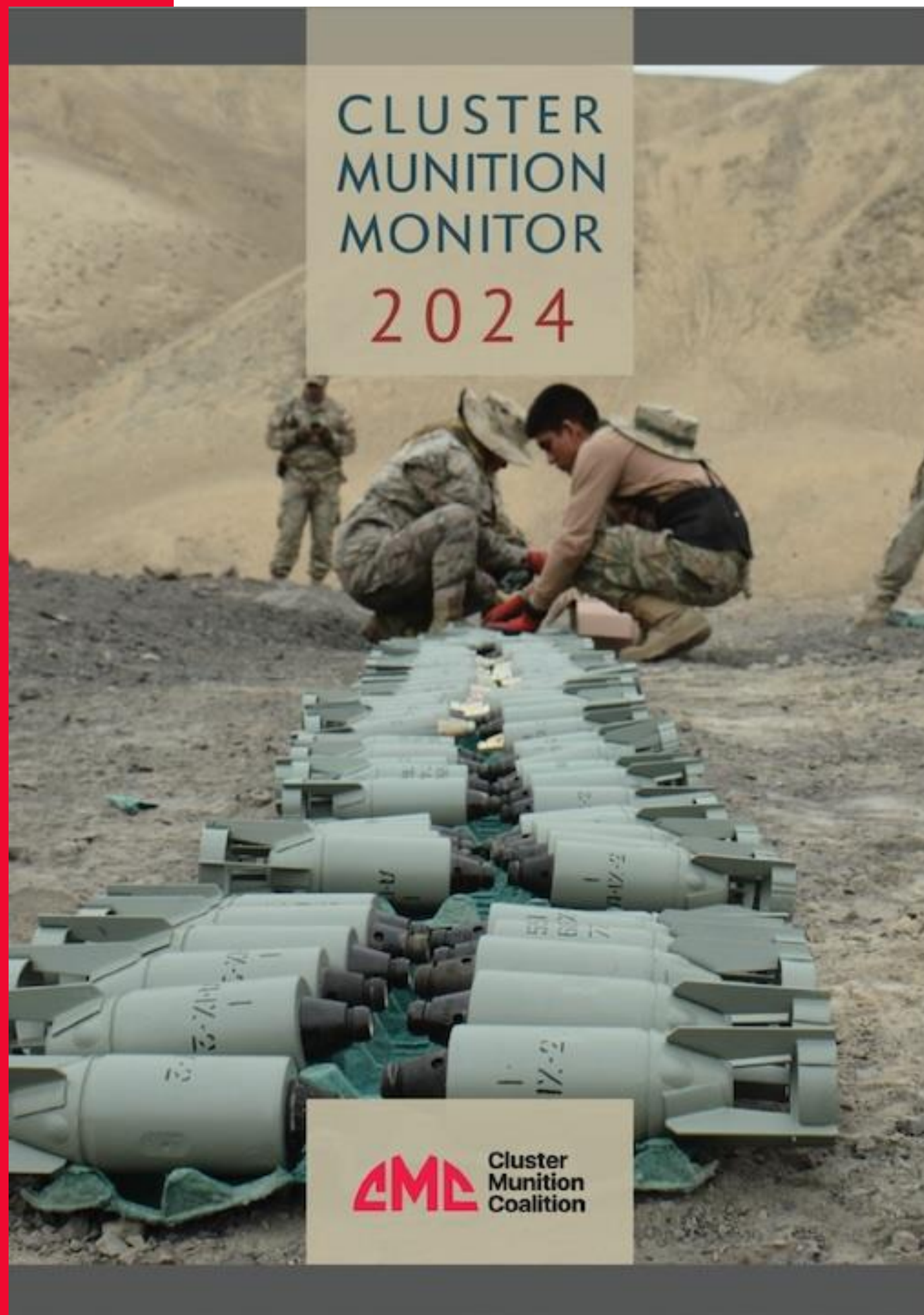
Victim Assistance

- **Fourteen States Parties** have reported having responsibility for cluster munition victims:

Afghanistan | Albania | BiH | Chad | Croatia
Guinea-Bissau | Iraq | Lao PDR | Lebanon | Mauritania
Montenegro | Sierra Leone | Somalia | South Sudan
- Despite some progress, **most States Parties encountered significant challenges** in providing adequate and accessible victim assistance services.
- **Crises in Afghanistan and Lebanon** have severely compromised healthcare systems.
- Measures to address the trauma and long-term mental health impact on cluster munition victims, including **peer-to-peer support**, **remained insufficient**.
- Needs in terms of **socio-economic inclusion remained severely under-addressed**.



© 2024, Till Mayer/HI | An ortho-prosthetist technician works on a lower limb prosthesis at the physiotherapy and prosthetics center in Aden, Yemen.



Questions and Contact Information

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