



Cluster Munition-Affected States with Responsibility for Victims

Introduction

At least 27 states and three other areas that have been affected by cluster munitions have reported cluster munition casualties.¹ There may have been casualties in other affected states as well. In addition, there have been both military and civilian cluster munition casualties from countries that are not themselves affected. There are no comprehensive, reliable statistics on cluster munition casualties. It is certain that there has been massive underreporting of casualties—military and civilian—both at the time of attack and those incurred from unexploded submunitions afterwards.

Victim Assistance and the Convention on Cluster Munitions

Article 5 of the Convention on Cluster Munitions specifies clear victim assistance obligations for all States Parties with victims, including:

- collecting data on people directly affected by cluster munitions, their families, and communities and assess their needs;
- developing and enforcing relevant legislation;
- designating a responsible focal point in government;
- developing a national plan and timeframe for implementation, and allocating a budget;
- providing adequate assistance on a non-discriminatory basis, including medical care, rehabilitation and psychological support, as well as providing for social and economic inclusion;
- systematically consulting with and including survivors in planning and implementation; and
- reporting on all aspects of implementation.

Of the 27 affected states with victims, six (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Lao PDR, Montenegro, and Sierra Leone) are States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions, with transparency reports due in early 2011. Nine affected states with victims had signed prior to the convention's entry into force in August 2010. A further 12 states with victims had not joined the convention as of November 2010.

| Region | Unexploded submunition casualties | Casualties during use of cluster munitions | Total |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--------|
| Asia-Pacific | 10,506 | 26 | 10,532 |
| Middle East-North Africa | 3,507 | 417 | 3,924 |
| Europe-CIS | 391 | 1,175 | 1,566 |

¹ Some of these states are no longer believed to be affected by unexploded submunitions including Albania, Ethiopia, Sierra Leone, and Uganda, and others are believed to have at most a small residual problem, including Eritrea, Israel, Kuwait, and Mozambique. Cluster munition casualties have been reported in Angola, Chad, Guinea-Bissau, and Mozambique, but no definite numbers were available.

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|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| Africa | 315 | 479 | 794 |
| Total | 14,719 | 2,097 | 16,816 |

Among affected states, those with the greatest numbers of confirmed casualties were: Lao PDR (7,186), Iraq (2,994), Vietnam (2,100), Afghanistan (769), and Lebanon (706). Of these, Lao PDR was a State Party to the Convention on Cluster Munitions as of November 2010, while Afghanistan, Iraq, and Lebanon had signed but not yet ratified.

In 2009, nearly all states and areas with cluster munition victims faced significant challenges providing holistic and accessible care to affected individuals, families, and communities. While the particular challenges varied, common challenges included a lack of economic inclusion and psychosocial support as well as insufficient availability or access to services for survivors based in rural areas. In nearly all cases, services targeted survivors themselves and not their families or affected communities. Among states that had signed or ratified the convention, at least seven struggled to provide services across all key areas of victim assistance.²

States Parties

| Country | Transparency report due by | Confirmed cluster munition casualties | Estimated number of cluster munition casualties | (Estimated) total mine/ERW survivors | Victim assistance focal point |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Albania | 27-Jan-11 | 55 | 55 | 824 | Albanian Mine Action Executive |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) | 7-Mar-11 | 95 | 155 | 5,703 | BiH Mine Action Center |
| Croatia | 27-Jan-11 | 238 | N/A | 1,420 | Croatian Mine Action Center |
| Lao PDR | 27-Jan-11 | 7,538 | N/A | 11,000 to 12,000 | National Regulatory Authority |
| Montenegro | 27-Jan-11 | 8 | N/A | N/A | None |
| Sierra Leone | 27-Jan-11 | 28 | N/A | N/A | None |

Signatories

| Country | Confirmed cluster munition casualties | Estimated number of cluster munition casualties | (Estimated) total mine/ERW survivors | Victim assistance focal point |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|---|
| Afghanistan | 769 | 2,814 to 4,132 | 52,000-60,000 | Ministry of Labor, Social Affairs, Martyrs and Disabled |
| Angola | N/A | N/A | Several thousand | Inter-sectoral Commission on Demining and Humanitarian Assistance |
| Chad | N/A | N/A | 1,633 | National Demining Commission |
| Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) | 202 | N/A | 1,333 | Ministry of Health, UN Mine Action Center <i>de facto</i> |

² Afghanistan, Chad, the DRC, Iraq, Lao PDR, Mozambique, and Uganda. All are countries in conflict or emerging from conflict and with low levels of economic development.

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|---------------|-------|----------------|------------------|---|
| Guinea-Bissau | N/A | N/A | 850 | National Mine Action Coordination Center |
| Iraq | 2,994 | 5,500 to 8,000 | several thousand | Directorate for Mine Action, Iraqi Kurdistan Mine Action Authority, General Directorate of Mine Action, with UNDP support |
| Lebanon | 706 | N/A | 2,897 | Lebanon Mine Action Center |
| Mozambique | N/A | N/A | N/A | National Demining Institute, with Ministry of Health and Ministry of Women and Social Affairs |
| Uganda | 49 | N/A | 865 | Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development |

Non-Signatories

| Country | Confirmed cluster munition casualties | Estimated number of cluster munition casualties | (Estimated) total mine/ERW survivors | Victim assistance focal point |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|---|
| Cambodia | 125 | N/A | 44,024 | Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation /Disability Action Council |
| Eritrea | 172 | N/A | 2,700 | Ministry of Labor and Human Welfare |
| Ethiopia | 272 | N/A | 7,399 | Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs |
| Georgia | 70 | N/A | 357 | Ministry of Labor, Health and Social Affairs |
| Israel | 13 | N/A | N/A | Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services |
| Kuwait | 198 | 4,000 | N/A | None |
| Russian Federation (<i>Chechnya</i>) | 638 | N/A | 2,388 (<i>Chechnya</i>) | None |
| Serbia | 191 | N/A | 1,300-8,000 | Special Hospital for Rehabilitation and Orthopedic Prosthetics |
| Sudan | 71 | up to 171 | 2,861 | National Mine Action Center, Ministry of Gender, Social Welfare, and Religious Affairs, with UN support |
| Syria | 5 | N/A | 210-330 | Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor |
| Tajikistan | 54 | N/A | 448 | Tajikistan Mine Action Center |
| Vietnam | 2,100 | over 34,000 | 66,000-100,000 | None |

Other Areas

Cluster munition casualties have also been identified in at least three other areas, Kosovo (203 confirmed casualties), Nagorno-Karabakh (14), and Western Sahara (8). None of these areas have victim assistance focal points.