



FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OF SOMALIA

UPDATED INFORMATION PROVIDED following ARTICLE 7, PARAGRAPH 2 OF THE CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE, STOCKPILING, PRODUCTION, AND TRANSFER OF ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION

SUBMITTED 7th June 2025 COVERING THE PERIOD 1 JANUARY 2024 TO 31 DECEMBER 2024

1. National implementation measures

Legislation and Administration:

Mine Action Parliamentary bill which has already been approved at the cabinet level and submitted to the lower parliament pending ratification, with expectations for its first reading and approval within the one-year period. The approval of the legislation will enable SEMA and Federal Government of Somalia to acquire financial support to undertake the requirement under the convention framework (Action #1 of the Siem Reap Angkor Action Plan).

Somalia has recently launched a National Transformation Plan (NTP 2025-2029) which requires activities of all government entities to be aligned to it, aiming to address systemic and structural challenges including weak institutional frameworks, limited resources and inadequate capacities, and persistent threats to national security from violent extremist groups that are obstructing movements. SEMA conducts quarterly coordination meetings focused on reviewing ongoing activities, identifying persistent challenges, and outlining the way forward. As part of its coordination efforts, SEMA has established the first Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) Technical Working Group, which is now operational and actively supporting risk education initiatives.

In November 2024, during the Fifth Review Conference held in Siem Reap, Cambodia, SEMA engaged with various international stakeholders, including donor representatives from Germany and the Netherlands, as well as United Nations agencies. These meetings provided an important platform for SEMA to present Somalia's Article 5 implementation priorities, highlighting the country's progress, challenges, and resource needs in fulfilling its obligations under the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention.

Furthermore, SEMA has consistently participated in all Meetings of States Parties, held both in Geneva and Cambodia, where it has delivered updates on Somalia's Article 5 implementation as well as progress made in the area of Victim Assistance (VA). These engagements reflect SEMA's commitment to transparency, international cooperation, and the advancement of mine action in Somalia.

2. Stockpiled anti-personnel mines.

Somalia does not hold any stockpiles of Anti-Personnel mines. As such, is compliant with the Article 4 of the Convention.

3. Anti-personnel mines retained or transferred for permitted purposes.

It is worth to mention the SEMA Implementing Partners (IP) have training mines, recovered during clearance operations, and made free from explosives (as per Action #16 of the SRAAP). To the knowledge of the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) and SEMA, there is no retaining or transfer of mines for permitted purposes in Somalia during 2024.

4. Areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines.

On 21-25 November 2022, during the 21st Meeting of State Parties Meeting in Geneva Switzerland, Somalia received a five years extension of its Article 5 mine clearance deadline to 1 October 2027. The Somali government is seized with the fighting against anti-government forces and since May 2022, vast areas of the country have been recovered from Anti-government elements, thus, expanding the operational area for the Mine Action agencies and increasing the need for financial resources to carry out NTS, EORE, and clearance.

The Federal Government of Somalia submitted a comprehensive Article-5 extension with a clear 5-year work plan to the state parties after consultations and validation by the mine action stakeholders in the country and the Implementation Support Unit of the APMBC. The work plan to 1 October 2027. In line with this, the mine action implementing partners in Somalia are prioritizing NTS and EORE, to understand the extent of the contamination and at the same time clearing and addressing the high priority areas to reduce the impact of the landmines and other ERWs to Somali people in order to meet the SRAAP Action #17,18,19, please refer to Table 1. below for the current identification of precise perimeter of mined areas, to the extent possible. This is expected to give a full understanding of the contamination which supports Somalia's current work plan to completion in line with Action #17,18, 19. This current workplan shall be supported by a national strategic plan planned to be formulated in 2025 (provide updates on timeline and approval process) which will clearly articulate the resources required for this workplan as well as time and resources required for Somalia to be landmine free. As such, this is partial fulfilment of Action #3 of the SRAAP. This will also include information on how Somalia works with different gender and diverse groups in the country when conducting mine action activities (Action #4).

5. Summary of work plan for 2025

As required by Action #4 of the SRAAP, Somalia has a set of national standards compiled in liaison with the implementing partners. However, these standards require updating and subsequent endorsement by the line ministry. This was initially planned for 2023 but failed to take off. However, this shall be worked on in 2025 (provide updates on timeline and approval process) to achieve the Action #4 of the SRAAP. So far, we finalized and approved with the NTS and the EORE chapters and in process for IM standard.

5.1 HALO Trust

The operational work plan for 2025 outlines planned key activities and goals across various states in Somalia, with a focus on landmine clearance and mine risk education. The following objectives will guide our efforts:

Galmudug and Puntland States

- Survey and Clearance:
In 2025, minefield surveys and clearance operations will be conducted with the objective of releasing **428,005 m²** of land through 100% clearance.

- **Non-Technical Survey (NTS):**
Additional efforts will include non-technical surveys aimed at releasing **35,689 m²** of land.

HirShabelle State

- **Non-Technical Survey (NTS):**
The plan includes conducting non-technical surveys to release **370,246 m²** of land.
- **Explosive Ordnance Destruction (EOD):**
EOD operations will be carried out to destroy **4,700 units** of unexploded ordnance (UXO) and abandoned explosive ordnance (AXO).
- **Small Arms Ammunition (SAA) Incineration:**
A total of **8,500 rounds** of SAA will be incinerated to mitigate risks to local populations.

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- **Battle Area Clearance (BAC):**
Planned BAC activities aim to release **2,892,046 m²** of land currently affected by explosive remnants of war.

Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE)

- **Community Awareness Sessions:**
A total of **3,457** mine risk education sessions will be conducted across all targeted regions to raise awareness and promote safe behavior among at-risk communities.

5.2 Jubaland Mine Action Network (JUMAN)

JUMAN aims to reduce the risk and impact of explosive ordnance (EO) across Somalia through community-based interventions, with a focus on vulnerable groups including children, IDPs, returnees, and pastoralists. The plan includes:

- 1. Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE):**
 - Delivering awareness sessions to 10,000 individuals (85% children).
 - Training teachers and Community Education Committees (CECs).
 - Distributing 10,000 pictorial EORE materials.
 - Broadcasting radio messages targeting mobile populations and pastoralists.
- 2. IED Risk Education (IED-RE):**
 - Integrating IED messaging into EORE, especially in high-risk areas like markets and transport hubs.
- 3. Victim Assistance (VA):**
 - Identifying and supporting 500 EO survivors.
 - Distributing assistive devices and providing psychosocial referrals.
 - Promoting disability rights and inclusion through dialogue sessions.
- 4. Incident Reporting System Strengthening:**
 - Establishing community-trusted EO reporting channels.
 - Producing monthly analytical reports to inform clearance and advocacy efforts.

5.3 UNMAS

Due to funding constraints, UNMAS did not conduct field clearance operations in 2025. However, it maintained critical support to the Somali Explosive Management Authority (SEMA) by continuing its capacity development initiatives. This included comprehensive training, mentoring, as well as technical and financial assistance.

For the remainder of 2025, UNMAS will prioritize the following strategic areas:

1. Capacity Development for the Somali Explosive Management Authority (SEMA)

UNMAS will continue to enhance SEMA's institutional capabilities through tailored technical assistance and on-the-job mentoring. This support will focus on key areas such as:

- Improved Explosive Device (IED) risk education
- Information management systems
- National standards development
- Strategic planning and coordination
- Advocacy and stakeholder engagement

By strengthening SEMA's operational and strategic frameworks, UNMAS aims to empower national authorities to take greater ownership of humanitarian mine action (HMA) efforts.

2. Improved Explosive Device Risk Education (IED RE)

Since 2023, UNMAS has been actively developing a dedicated IED Risk Education (IED RE) package for Somalia. This work includes:

- Civilian impact assessments
- Development of targeted messaging and Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials
- Development of Risk Education Talking Devices (RETDs)
- Production of training manuals and facilitator guides
- Distribution of IED RE materials
- Training of national mine action authority, HMA operators and front line workers

In 2025, UNMAS will initiate the rollout of this IED RE training program. The training will target national mine action authorities, humanitarian mine action operators, and protection-focused agencies working in high-risk areas.

5.4 iMMAP Capacity strengthening activities for Somali Explosive Management Authority (SEMA) (2025-2030)

- Advice on and support in developing National Mine Action Standards (NMAS);
- Technical and operational support to national mine action authorities with a view to increasing their effectiveness;
- Advice on and support in Information Management for the purpose of mapping, standardizing, and streamlining demining activities.

6. Resource Mobilization

To sustain and expand its operations in Somalia, UNMAS—working closely with SEMA, the Ministry of Internal Security, and the Office of the National Security Advisor—will focus on resource mobilization. This will involve:

- Developing concept notes and funding proposals
- Engaging international donors and partners
- Advocating for sustained support to key HMA pillars, including IED RE, Non-Technical Survey (NTS), and institutional capacity building.

UNMAS remains committed to supporting Somalia's pathway to stability and safety by addressing explosive threats through a nationally led approach.

7. Effectiveness and Efficiency of survey and clearance (Action #25).

The survey and clearance operations have been conducted along the Ethiopia–Somalia border, focusing on minefields dating back 40 to 50 years. Over time, these landmines have been affected by human activity, livestock movement, and natural elements. In some cases, residents have inadvertently triggered devices, intentionally burned them, or removed them to extract explosive materials.

While survey activities have been instrumental in identifying hazardous areas, the original number of mines laid by either Somali or Ethiopian forces remains unknown, as no maps or official records were preserved. Furthermore, the lack of a functioning government authority during the conflict period has resulted in limited and unreliable accident or casualty data.

Consequently, clearance teams are often required to work in large areas where contamination levels vary widely and may include few or no remaining landmines. As such, the effectiveness and efficiency of clearance operations must be evaluated on a case-by-case basis, rather than through generalized national assumptions.

8. IMSMA Core Implementation Process (Action #9)

SEMA has been reviewing the national mine action standards. So far, we have completed and officially approved the national standards for Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) and Non-Technical Survey (NTS). In addition, we have started developing the national standard for Information Management. We organized a series of online workshops to discuss this development, and following the online workshops, we will conduct an in-person workshop aimed at validating the IM standard with support from GICHD and implementing partners.

SEMA continues to provide IMSMA Core training to local organizations, including JUMAN and SOCBAL, for their EORE and Victim Assistance (VA) efforts. The training focuses on data collection and verification. SEMA has successfully migrated EORE, Accident/VA data, and Spot EOD information into IMSMA Core and finalized setting up the validation levels for reviewing reports, IMSMA core sites, and creating statistical dashboards for EORE, EOD, and Accident/VA. HALO Trust is pushing data into SEMA's IMSMA Core on a monthly basis. Finally, we expect to migrate the historical data pertaining to the remaining activities of NTS, Clearance, Cancellation, and Completion by 2025 to meet Action #9 of the SRAAP requirements.

9. Climate and Environment in MA (Action #6)

In alignment with IMAS and the environmental objectives outlined in the SRAAP, implementing partners are increasingly integrating environmental considerations into their mine clearance operations. SEMA is exploring the development of a National Mine Action Standard (NMAS) for environmental management to ensure a cohesive and sustainable national approach. At the HALO Trust, they prioritize environmental concerns in their mine action efforts. Recently, they appointed an Environment Project Manager to oversee this aspect. In April, they successfully conducted Environmental Awareness Training for their teams, emphasizing the importance of environmental conservation in their work. The training proved to be a valuable and productive course, enhancing their commitment to environmental sustainability in all their operations.

10. Remaining Challenges (see table 1 & 2)

Several key challenges in mine clearance operations across Somalia. SSC Katumo Interim Administration faces a critical issue with an extensive area of **66,696,565 m²** of hazard zones, necessitating urgent attention and resources. Galmudug State has a significant number of hazard areas, while Hirshabele shows a high count with no corresponding area reported, indicating potential gaps in assessment.

So far, NPA has completed non-technical survey (NTS) activities in Puntland State, and HALO has identified **80%** of hazardous areas in Galmudug State. If funding is secured, NTS activities will be carried out in South West, Hirshabele, and Jubaland States to identify the exact contaminated areas.

Overall, effective resource allocation and enhanced documentation practices are essential to address these challenges and ensure community safety.

Table 1. Summary of areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines as of 31 December 2023 (Somaliland data not included)

State	CHA		SHA	
	No. Hazard Area	Area (M2)	No. Hazard Area	Area (M2)
Banadir Regional Administration	0	-	0	0
Puntland State	27	2,783,363	176	4,833,052
Jubaland State	5	460,518	2	60,340,000
Galmudug State	77	10,601,648	23	2,907,984
Hirshabele State	63	15,001,650	3	420,246
South West State	34	5,306,428	39	3,013,169
SSC Katumo interim Administration	6	2,906,285	0	-
Total	212	37,059,892	243	71,514,451

**Table 2. Summary of areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines as of 31 December 2024
(Somaliland data not included)**

State	CHA			SHA		
	No. Area	Hazard	Area (M2)	No. Area	Hazard	Area (M2)
Banadir Regional Administration	-		-	-		-
Puntland State	12		2,316,566	176		4,833,052
Jubaland State	-		-	-		-
Galmudug State	73		22,767,076	13		2,360,690
Hirshabele State	56		14,032,775	-		-
South West State	26		4,905,190	39		3,013,169
SSC Katumo State	63		66,696,565	4		1,976,179
Total	230		110,718,172	232		12,183,090

SEMA is declaring that contaminated areas mentioned in the 2024 in above table for "Article 07" report are surveyed hazardous areas that have been recorded in the National mine action database (IMSMA).

In line with the submitted action plan to implement the article-5 obligation, Somalia will give priority to surveying mined and suspected areas, providing EORE to impacted communities, and capacity development for the national mine action institutions.

Nevertheless, A lot of national authority capacitation programmes have been availed to the SEMA staff by the HALO Trust, UNMAS as well as the GICHD. These include establishment of a an IMSMA database, operations field and management training courses, as well as establishment of structures to develop and coordinate EORE activities in Somalia. All these are meant to ensure the national authority is equipped to plan, manage and coordinate the mine action up to completion.

SEMA, Mine Action implementing partners and UNMAS continue to advocate to seek for funding support to overcome the persistent challenges of landmine contamination along the Somali-Ethiopia border and newly liberated areas in the country.

SEMA's vision and strategic goals on behalf of Somalia's Government include to effectively address challenges associated with landmines, Victim's operated IEDs (VOIED), and other explosive hazards, in compliance with the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention.

Table 3. Summary of area and released and devices destroyed, 1 January – 31 December 2024 (Somaliland data excluded)

State	Clearance	Cancelled Area	Total Area Released (clearance + cancellation)	AT/AVM	AP	UXO/AXO	SAA
Banadir Region	40,000		40,000	-	-	-	-
Galmadug State	572,597	855,955	1,428,552	14	3	96	85
Hirshabelle State	374,110	1,089,612	1,463,722	4	-	53	1
Jubaland State	115,028	60,340,000	60,455,028	1	-	4	-
Puntland	107,282	-	107,282	2	1	-	-
SSC Khatumo	2,894,884	-	2,894,884	-	-	656	1,408
South West State	151,423	642,135	793,558	-	-	-	-
Grand Total	4,253,324	62,927,702	67,183,026	21	4	809	1,494

11. Explosive Ordnance Risk Education and Reduction Efforts

The Mine Action partners in Somalia have reached a significant number of beneficiaries including IDPs, refugees, school children, agricultural communities, host communities throughout Somalia, the EORE messaging has been provided through face-to-face, radio broadcasts, and risk education talking devices. In Somalia, the following organisations provided EORE in 2024:

- a. HALO Trust
- b. JUMAN
- c. SOCBAL
- d. UNMAS (IED RE)

In 2025 project funded by UNICEF and implemented by JUMAN, includes activities focused on Victim Assistance and Physical Rehabilitation Support. These activities involve the identification and referral of children affected by Explosive Ordnance (EO), coordination with health institutions for assessments and assistive device support, and the orientation and follow-up on the use of these devices. The aim is to provide comprehensive support to children impacted by explosive ordnance.

Furthermore, in November 2024, SEMA organized workshop held in Nairobi with technical and financial support from GICHD. This workshop aimed to to finalize Somali National EORE Standard

As a next step in EORE assessment report, the GICHD will support SEMA in developing a plan of action to implement the recommendations of this report. Furthermore, SEMA and EORE partners can use the report, its findings, and recommendations for their advocacy efforts.

11.1 Behavior change

Beneficiaries of EORE sessions demonstrated improvement in their behavior toward explosive ordnance, including understanding the existing risks, avoiding risk areas, and reporting ERW/mines to mine action operators in their areas.

Table 4. The table below shows the EORE activities summary 2024 (Somaliland data not included).

Federal Member States	Men	Women	Boys	Girls	Total Beneficiaries
Galmudug State	2,079	2195	8,087	5,275	17,636
Hirshabele State	1867	902	10,590	3,657	17,016
Jubaland State	658	1,727	3,225	2,538	8,148
Puntland State	43	281	1782	1195	3,301
Benadir Regional	938	1663	1480	1358	5,439
SSC Khatumo State	151	265	3495	2421	6,332
Southwest State	2,007	4,819	4,241	2,223	13,290
Total Beneficiaries	7,743	11,852	32,900	18,667	71,162

As can be observed from the above activities, Somalia has done much effort towards achieving the OAP 28 to 31. However, a lot is still work in progress.

11.2 IED EORE

The ongoing conflict has great use of indiscriminating IEDs. These have claimed huge numbers of casualties either caught in crossfire, targeted or ignorantly tempering with them. There is a thin line to avoid being part of the conflict and ushering the much-needed humanitarian assistance. All mine action stakeholders in Somalia agree to the humanitarian need to educate people about these IEDs to reduce casualty numbers. However, the convenient approach is yet to be established to avoid the NGOs being targets.

In 2023 UNMAS worked on this area and came up with approach, material and information to be disseminated to communities at risk using various platforms to mitigate the numbers of casualties. This has been submitted to SEMA for review and approval in the year 2024.

12. Technical characteristics of anti-personnel mines

Technical characteristics of AP mines found in 2023 include:

In 2024, the use of Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) continued increasing in Somalia, resulting in significant civilian casualties in urban centers and main supply routes. This includes mine sof improvised nature as stipulated in the Oslo Action Plan. The extent of VoIEDs is not clear, however, civilians are impacted both in urban and rural areas of the country.

13. Conversion or decommissioning of anti-personnel mine production facilities

This matter is not applicable as Somalia never produced /owned or produced anti-personnel mines.

14. Victim assistance

In 2025, JUMAN is implementing a dedicated Victim Assistance (VA) initiative to support individuals and communities affected by explosive ordnance (EO) in conflict-impacted areas of Jubaland, particularly Kismayo and Qoryooley. This survivor-centered intervention aligns with national and international mine action standards and complements risk education and clearance efforts.

JUMAN's VA project focuses on enhancing the physical, psychological, and socio-economic well-being of EO survivors and persons with disabilities through a set of integrated, community-based activities. Key components include the identification and registration of victims; provision and facilitation of medical and psychosocial support; delivery of assistive devices and rehabilitation services; and targeted livelihood support to promote self-reliance. Survivors are referred to specialized service providers using established local networks and coordinated pathways.

The current project targets **500 persons with disabilities** for support through the **provision of all types of assistive devices**, ensuring that individuals with mobility, visual, hearing, or other impairments receive the equipment necessary to improve their daily functioning and independence.

The project also emphasizes disability inclusion and survivor advocacy by raising awareness within communities and working closely with local authorities, such as SEMA, and relevant health and protection actors. Public outreach activities promote understanding of victim rights and available services, while capacity-building efforts aim to strengthen local service delivery systems and community-based protection structures.

To date, JUMAN has successfully identified and supported dozens of EO survivors, improved access to essential services in high-risk areas, and fostered inclusive community engagement on victim assistance. Despite challenges such as limited medical infrastructure, stigma, and insecurity, the project has contributed significantly to the resilience and reintegration of affected individuals.

Through this work, JUMAN continues to play a critical role in advancing the humanitarian imperative of mine action by ensuring that **no victim is left behind**.

Furthermore, SEMA completed and launched the national action plan for victim and disability assistance on 4 April Mine Action Day in 2022, in Mogadishu, with the presence of civil society, DPOs, and mine action agencies. The plan is yet to receive financial resources to support the implementation of the action plan.

SEMA has consolidated the national data including data related to victims and accidents to have the full picture of the reported victims recorded in the national database. However, the number of victims is presumably under reported.

SEMA is closely working with victims and disability assistance organizations to coordinate the provision of available services and the following organizations are identified to support victims:

1. ICRC
2. SRCS
3. Ministry of Women and Human Rights

4. Somalia Coalition to Ban Landmines (SOCBAL)
5. National Disability Agency

Table 5. Disaggregated Data for Mine/ERW Casualties

State	Girls	Boys	Women	Men	Total
Galmudug	2	11	0	0	13
Hirshabelle	1	2	1	0	4
Jubaland	3	4	1	0	8
Southwest	2	7	1	2	12
SSC Khatumo	0	12	0	1	13
Puntland	0	3	0	0	3
Total Casualties					53

The Government has prioritized to establish a comprehensive information on the number and situation of persons with disability in Somalia. The National Disability Agency (NDA), which was established in 2021 with a mandate to implement the CRPD in Somalia, spearheaded a study to understand the perceptions and priorities of persons with disabilities across a range of sectors, launched the findings in December 2023.

Besides the mines and ERW casualties, Somalia has a challenge of IED casualties emerging from the ongoing conflict. While HMA seeks to avoid being involved in the conflict, there is an immediate humanitarian need to take care of the huge numbers of casualties from IEDs. The following table shows recorded IED casualties during the year 2023:

Table 6. Recorded IED casualties in 2024 by region

Region	Civilian Injured	Civilian Killed
Banadir	130	55
Bari	1	0
Bay	17	7
Galgaduud	2	0
Gedo	13	3
Hiraan	174	81
Lower Juba	10	5
Lower Shabelle	57	45
Middle Shabelle	3	5
Mudug	1	0
Grand Total	408	201

Mine of Improvised Nature

In 2024, UNMAS data base captured eight accidents of victim operated IEDs resulting the injury of 15 civilians and the death of eight others, while further details are not available, it shows the risk of encountering IEDs that kill indiscriminately still exists and data collection of IED accident remain an operational challenge in Somalia.

15. Cooperation and assistance

SEMA along with mine action partners continued to build relationships with international donors in and outside Somalia to increase the visibility of the mine action program and highlight the needs of the affected communities in Somalia.

Chinese Support to HMA in Somalia

In 2024, The Somalia's ongoing efforts to address the challenges posed by landmines and unexploded ordnance (UXO) through Non-Technical Survey (NTS) activities and Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) outreach. These initiatives are crucial for fulfilling Somalia's obligations under the Antipersonnel Mine Ban Treaty, particularly Article 5, which mandates the clearance of all anti-personnel mines. A significant contribution to these efforts comes from the Chinese government, which has provided substantial support, including funding for NTS and EORE activities and capacity development training for the Somalia Explosive Management Authority (SEMA).

The capacity development training, funded by the People's Republic of China, is directly linked to the Article 5 implementation work plans. It aims to enhance the skills and knowledge of SEMA staff in mine action, thereby strengthening Somalia's institutional capacity to manage and implement mine action programs effectively. This support ensures that SEMA can achieve its obligations under the Antipersonnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC) and the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM), promoting civilian protection and sustainable development in Somalia.

UNTMIS

The mandate of the United Nations Transitional Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNTMIS) in collaboration with the Somali Explosive Management Authority (SEMA), as detailed in the Security Council report (**S/2025/194**), focuses on mine action and mitigating explosive threats

The United Nations Transitional Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNTMIS), through its UN Mine Action Service (UNMAS) component, collaborates closely with the Somali Explosive Management Authority (SEMA) to mitigate explosive threats and advance mine action in Somalia. This includes providing technical and policy advice to the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) on improvised explosive device (IED) threats and supporting SEMA in coordinating and implementing mine action activities, particularly the national work-plan under Article 5 of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC). As part of a transition plan, UNMAS operations will shift to the United Nations Support Office in Somalia (UNSOS) by 1 July 2025, with UNSOS continuing operational and technical support. The UN Country Team (UNCT) will bolster this transition by supporting advocacy, capacity development, and resource mobilization to ensure sustained assistance to SEMA and the protection of civilians.

In 2022, GICHD and SEMA signed MoU to support information management capacity building for SEMA information management personnel and support licence and migration of the national database from IMSMA NG to IM core. The process is expected to complete end of 2023.

The Japan funded project implemented by HALO Trust has also a component of capacity development for SEMA and national mine action NGO based in Galmudug.

With the support of the ISU, Somalia held a second Individualised Approach event on 23 November 2023, on the margins of the Twenty-First Meeting of the States Parties in Geneva, Switzerland. This is yet to yield tangible results as donors have been pressed by other demanding priorities elsewhere. However, there are some prospects in the 2024 to 2025 period. Somalia remains optimistic of continued and increased support from the world in order to totally free the country of the landmine menace.

Japan, PMWRA, FCDO, Finland, Ireland, Norway, European Union, Dutch China and Germany, have supported the Somalian programme through funding both clearance and EORE by operators. Through this support HALO Trust and UNMAS have supported the SEMA operations by capacitating the authority to be able to conduct its role. HALO Trust continued providing incentives and support to SEMA HQ personnel to enable the coordination of the mine action activities in the country and improve information sharing.

Funding from these donors is expected to pull through into 2024. Further assistance to sustain the current capacity or increase is being sought to ensure the programme achieves the goal of a peaceful Somali free from these explosive hazards.

16. Challenges in implementation

- Contamination: as a result of the non-technical survey activities that have taken place across the FMS, there is a possibility of increase of hazard areas or decrease of the existing consolidated hazards through cancellation process by the implementing partners.
- Access Issues: some affected areas are difficult to access due to some hit-and-run attacks from weakened Al Shabab Militias, which hamper survey, EORE and clearance operations.
- Security Risks: Personnel face threats from armed groups while conducting field visits and surveys.
- Clearance of EO: the APMBC covers only anti-personnel (AP) mines; however, from a humanitarian perspective it is the position of SEMA that other explosive ordnance (EO) contamination that poses a risk to the Somali population must be equally addressed, including AP mines, AT mines and ERW. Lifting mines by some individuals for occasional harvest of explosive materials from AT mines has further complicated the accuracy of the previously recorded hazards.
- International funding: considering the global situation, the funding landscape for humanitarian mine action in Somalia is drained and causes untimely exit of the mine action operators.