



2024 FACTSHEET Kosovo



CONTEXT

Kosovo continues to be contaminated by landmines and explosive remnants of war (ERW), including cluster munition remnants, as a result of the armed conflicts between the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY) and the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) in the late 1990s and that of the FRY and NATO in 1999.

Kosovo's Mine Action Center (KMAC) reports that currently known cluster munition remnant (CMR) contaminated areas cover approximately 10.02 km² across 42 areas of the country (Mine Action Review 2023). This includes the ethnically diverse northern areas, which did not benefit from the initial and systematic land release efforts following the end of the armed conflicts. The population in Kosovo remains affected by the risk of physical harm, limited access to agricultural and grazing lands, forests, residential areas, as well as hampered development opportunities, hunting, recreational activities, and tourism.

Kosovo is not a State Party to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) due to its political status. NPA supports the Kosovo Government's efforts to achieve its objectives in its National Mine Action Strategy.

PROGRAMME

NPA was re-established in Kosovo in 2014 and conducted a non-technical survey (NTS) of cluster and explosives contamination in the northern areas of Kosovo the following year.

Since 2016 NPA has been focusing on implementing technical survey (TS) and battle area clearance (BAC) in high-impacted municipalities of Zubin Potok, Zvecan, Mitrovica and Podujevo – and in both ethnic Serbian and Albanian communities.

During this time NPA has released approximately 10,3 km² of land suspected or confirmed to be contaminated with cluster munitions. 795 cluster munitions remnants and other explosive ordnance have been found and destroyed (as of December 2023).

NPA has expanded to the current 110 staff members, including one expatriate, and employs eight multi-gender and multi-ethnic teams in northern Kosovo. 32% of the staff are female, including 28% of the operational staff, whereas 43% of national staff are Kosovo Serbs while 57% are Kosovo Albanians.



Overall results (2017-2023)

- | | |
|--|---------------------------|
| • Land Released (Through NTS, TS, and BAC) | 10,292,440 m ² |
| • Number of items destroyed | 800 |
| • Beneficiaries (Direct and Indirect) | 6,838 |
| • Tasks completed | 15 |

2023 results

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| • Land Released (Through NTS, TS, and BAC) | 1,192,676 m ² |
| • Number of items destroyed | 460 |
| • Beneficiaries (Direct and Indirect) | 852 |
| • Tasks completed | 2 |

DONORS and FUNDING

We thank our donors for their generous support of our work to protect civilians from explosive weapons in Kosovo. In 2023, NPA Kosovo received generous support from **Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, US Department of State, and the European Union.**

MORE INFORMATION

Programme webpage

[Norwegian People's Aid | Kosovo \(npaid.org\)](https://npaid.org/kosovo)

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MAR Clearing the CMR 2023

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