OVERVIEW:

Widespread conflict has resulted in widespread displacement of over 672,000 citizens, and significant damage to the country’s infrastructure.

Libya is heavily contaminated with Explosive Remnants of War. Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) presents a physical barrier for citizens to move freely around their communities and access essential services safely.

IDPs returning to former conflict areas are at high risk of exposure to the dangers of ERW. Explosive Ordnance Disposal and Mine Clearance is essential so that IDPs can make a dignified and safe return.

There is an urgent need to address protection issues. Through educating children and adults to the dangers of ERW and treating the psychological scars of enduring conflict, communities can recover from war and rebuild their livelihoods.

DCA IS FOCUSING ON THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES:

DCA works with Libyan communities to reduce the threat and consequence of conflict and armed violence by mitigating safety risks, improving access to blocked resources, providing victim assistance and strengthening state and community capacities.

Humanitarian Mine Action: DCA clears community land and priority sites such as hospitals, schools, and utility supply sites of mines and Explosive Remnants of War, increases safety awareness through Risk Education and Armed Violence Reduction, and addresses the psychosocial needs of post-conflict communities through culturally sensitive approaches.

Capacity Building of National and Local Actors: DCA empowers National Authorities and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) across Libya working in different fields through mentoring, training, and sub-granting. Through clearance, search, and Explosive Ordinance Disposal courses (among others), DCA is strengthening the capacity of national authorities to clear and release contaminated land in Libya and to properly deal with Unexploded Ordnance. CSOs design and implement their own projects under DCA’s guidance in the fields of Psychosocial Support, Risk Education and Armed Violence Reduction.

Quick Impact Projects (QIP): To address urgent needs in communities DCA implements Quick Impact Projects (QIPs). Rapid assessments are conducted, which are followed by NFI distribution or WASH projects, and impact measured through post distribution monitoring.

Through this specialized approach, DCA aims to build towards a safe and secure environment for the reconstruction of Libya together with our national and local partners.

FACTS:

DCA is registered as an INGO and Humanitarian Mine Action organisation, and has been active in Libya since 2011, when we first arrived to help clear explosive remnants of war. In 2019, our projects reached over 56,000 beneficiaries through activities in EOD Clearance, Risk Education (RE) and the training of national authorities.

- Projects: Currently, there are 7 active projects, which are funded by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the UK Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO), US Department of State, and the European Union.
- Offices in Country: With a wide-spread portfolio, DCA’s Libya programme operates in-country from offices located in Tripoli, Misrata, Sirte, Benghazi, and Derna (Al-Bayda).
- Partners: DCA is registered with the Libyan Civil Society Commission and is registered and accredited by the Libyan Mine Action Centre, with whom DCA also has a signed MOU. DCA also has close ties with ministries (Education and Health) and local authorities. Currently, DCA Libya is part of 1 active consortium.

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WHERE WE WORK AND WHAT WE DO

Clearance of Mines and Explosive Remnants of War: DCA teams work in areas affected by conflict with high levels of ERW contamination. Our teams clear residential, commercial, education, medical and agricultural sites, making communities regain safe access to resources and land and pay the foundations for reconstruction and stabilization.

Risk Education: Risk Education increases the level of awareness and knowledge among communities on the risks posed by explosive remnants of war and how communities can protect themselves. DCA trains its own staff and Libyan CSOs to educate their peers on the risks of ERW.

Training of National Authorities: DCA has trained Libyan national authorities to build their capacity to manage clearance of ERW and skills in awareness raising about the ERW threat. By providing these trainings, DCA ensures that national authorities have the skills and organisational capacity to operate in an independent manner.

Armed Violence Reduction: DCA works with civil society organizations to educate communities as to the risk of guns and teaching them peaceful conflict resolution.

Psychosocial Support: DCA’s civil society partners provide psychosocial support to adults and children in Sirte through community-based activities that are age and culturally appropriate.

Non-food Item Distribution: DCA Libya has previously delivered non-food items to the displaced in areas in Sirte, Benghazi and Derna. Specifically, DCA Libya programme implemented an NFI distribution to hospitals in response to decreasing standards of hygiene.

Beneficiaries reached in 2019:
- Over 56,023 men, women and children in Libya have directly or indirectly been impacted by DCA programs focussing on Mine Risk Education and EOD Clearance
- DCA Libya removed 1,957 items of Unexploded Ordinance (UXO) and 29,946 items of small arms ammunition (SAA)
- 10,234,901 SQM of land was confirmed as contaminated through Non-Technical Survey (NTS)
- 2,681,769 SQM of land contaminated with UXO was searched and/or cleared by clearance teams
- 558 Risk Education sessions to promote safe behaviour reaching 18,679 men, women and children
- A mass-media campaign including billboards, text messages, radio messages and public distributions of awareness raising messages reached over 40,000 men, women and children in at-risk communities reached, including IDP households.