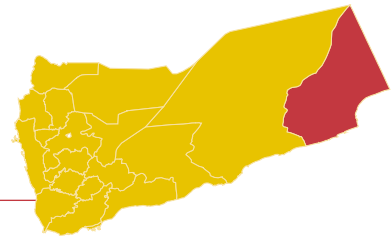


Al-Mahra Governorate



A. Summary

In Al-Mahra Governorate there are three communities with a total population of 911 impacted by landmine/UXO contamination. A total of 10 mined areas with a reported surface of 78,640 square meters have been identified. All the contaminated area is reported to be hillside, ridges, or gully overgrown, at least in part, with bushes and trees. There are no reports of recent¹ victims. However, 18 less-recent² mine victims were recorded by the survey in the affected communities.

B. Location

Al-Mahra Governorate is located in the easternmost part of the country, bordering Oman on the east and the Arabian Sea to the south. Al-Mahra covers an area of 67,306 square kilometers and has a population of approximately 56,425³.

C. Scope and history of the landmine contamination

Of the nine districts in Al-Mahra, two are affected by landmines/UXO. The impacted districts are Houf and Shahen. No landmine/UXO contamination has been reported from the remaining seven districts.

Of the 82 communities in the two affected districts, three reported landmine/UXO impacts. In these three communities, 10 mined areas are reportedly blocking access to an estimated 78,640 square meters of land. The survey information concurs that landmines/UXO in Al-Mahra were used during the 1973–1984 conflict.

D. Impact upon communities

Landmine/UXO contamination affects three communities with a total population of 911. The affected communities consist of two nomadic and one seasonal settlement. As per the survey's scoring mechanism, all three affected communities suffer a low level of impact.

Landmine/UXO contamination primarily blocks access to pastureland. Only one of the mined areas blocks access to both pasture and road.

In terms of mine victims, the survey reported 18 less-recent mine victims, while there have not been reports of recent victims.

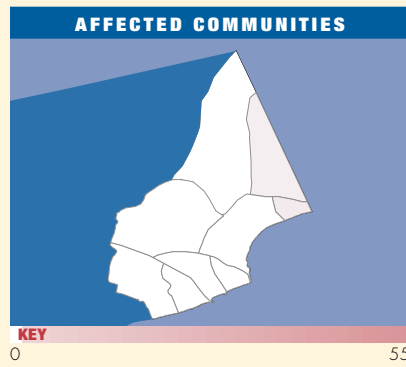
¹ During the past two years.

² Before the past two years.

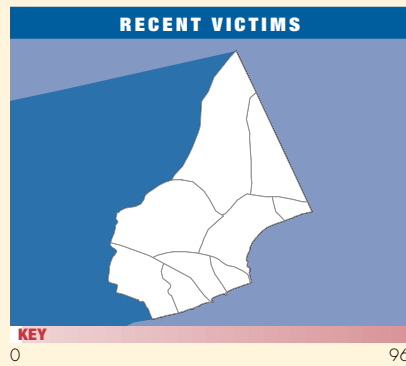
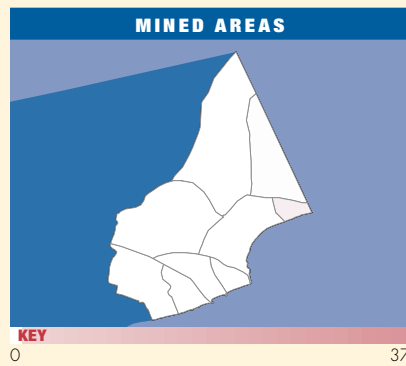
³ Population figures from the Central Statistics Organization (CSO).

Al-Mahra

AT A GLANCE: LANDMINE CONTAMINATION IN AL-MAHRA GOVERNORATE



District	Affected communities	Mined areas	All victims
Houf	2	9	10
Shahen	1	1	8



E. Implications for mine action

Landmines in Al-Mahra have been laid around former military positions during the 1973–1984 conflict. An estimated total surface of 78,640 square meters is reported to be contaminated by landmines/UXO. All of the contaminated area is hillside, ridge, or gully overgrown, at least in part, with bushes, and/or trees.

ESTIMATED CONTAMINATED SURFACE LAND IN SQUARE METERS BY VEGETATION AND GROUND PROFILE

Vegetation	Ground Profile		Total
	Flat land only	Hillside, ridge, and gully	
None	0	0	0
Short grass only	0	0	0
Tall grass, at least some	0	0	0
Bushes or trees, at least some	0	78,640	78,640
Grand total	0	78,640	78,640

Nine of the mined areas are reported to contain only AP mines, while one is reported to contain both mines/UXO.

Among the communities surveyed, none of them reported to have received any mine awareness training during the past two years. In addition, no victim assistance or mine survey/clearance program was evident during the same period. However, local people of Serfait community in Houf district reported to have attempted some mine/UXO clearance.

ESTIMATED AFFECTED SURFACE LAND BY TYPE OF DEVICES AND NUMBER OF MINED AREAS

Type of device	Mined areas	Surface land (Sqm)
Anti-personnel	9	68,640
Mines and UXO	1	10,000
Total	10	78,640

COMMUNITY-WIDE DETAILS OF LANDMINE/UXO CONTAMINATION IN AL-MAHRA

Communities affected	Population affected	Mined areas	Estimated surface area (Sqm)	Victims					
				Recently killed	Recently injured	Killed earlier	Injured earlier	All victims	
Houf	Serfait	245	4	37,600	0	0	8	1	9
	Sheno	266	5	31,040	0	0	1	0	1
	Total 2	511	9	68,640	0	0	9	1	10
Shahen	Wadi Habroot	400	1	10,000	0	0	1	7	8
	Total 1	400	1	10,000	0	0	1	7	8
Al-Mahra Total 3		911	10	78,640	0	0	10	8	18

MINE-AFFECTED COMMUNITIES IN AL-MAHRA GOVERNORATE, RANKED BY IMPACT

