Egypt

Country Profile

Center for International Stabilization and Recovery at JMU (CISR)

Follow this and additional works at: https://commons.lib.jmu.edu/cisr-journal

Part of the Defense and Security Studies Commons, Emergency and Disaster Management Commons, Other Public Affairs, Public Policy and Public Administration Commons, and the Peace and Conflict Studies Commons

Recommended Citation

Profile, Country (2006) "Egypt," Journal of Mine Action : Vol. 10 : Iss. 1 , Article 17. Available at: https://commons.lib.jmu.edu/cisr-journal/vol10/iss1/17

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Center for International Stabilization and Recovery at JMU Scholarly Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Journal of Conventional Weapons Destruction by an authorized editor of JMU Scholarly Commons. For more information, please contact dc_admin@jmu.edu.
Egypt

Egypt is one of the most heavily mined countries in the world. According to the 10th Edition of the Landmine Monitoring Network’s Global Inventory of landmines/UXO, as of 2006, Egypt has an estimated 19.7 million landmine/UXO casualties. Within the past five years, an estimated 18.7 million landmines and 6.7 million unexploded ordnance (UXO) were cleared worldwide, and Egypt accounted for over 6.25 million of those landmines cleared. As of 2007, an estimated 10.1 million landmines and 1.5 million UXO remained in the field. Although the number of landmines and UXO cleared from Egypt is lower than many other countries, Egypt is still facing a significant mine problem. The Egyptian government has not cleared the entire country of landmines, but in 2003, the government signed the Ottawa Convention, committing to clearing landmines and UXO.

Egypt’s mine problem is complex and multifaceted. Landmines were first planted in Egypt during the 1967 Six-Day War, and since then, they have been used in various conflicts, including the 1973 October War and the 1982 Lebanon War. The presence of landmines has a significant impact on the lives of Egyptians, particularly in rural areas where they pose a threat to civilians, especially children. The mine problem in Egypt is not limited to the country’s borders; neighboring countries, such as Libya and Sudan, have also been affected by landmine contamination.

In 2009, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) estimated that an estimated 10.1 million landmines and 1.5 million UXO remained in the field. As of 2008, an estimated 6.7 million landmines and 0.4 million UXO were cleared worldwide, and Egypt accounted for over 6.25 million of those landmines cleared. Although the number of landmines and UXO cleared from Egypt is lower than many other countries, Egypt is still facing a significant mine problem. The Egyptian government has not cleared the entire country of landmines, but in 2003, the government signed the Ottawa Convention, committing to clearing landmines and UXO.

The Egyptian government has made progress in clearing landmines and UXO, but significant challenges remain. The government has faced funding shortages, which have delayed clearance efforts. Additionally, the Egyptian military has refused to clear landmines from its own territory, which has limited the government’s ability to effectively address the mine problem.

Egypt

Egyptian deminers working in the field. (Photo: Mine Action Information Center)

Egypt

Egyptian deminers working in the field. (Photo: Mine Action Information Center)