

The Convention on Cluster Munitions

Cluster Munitions

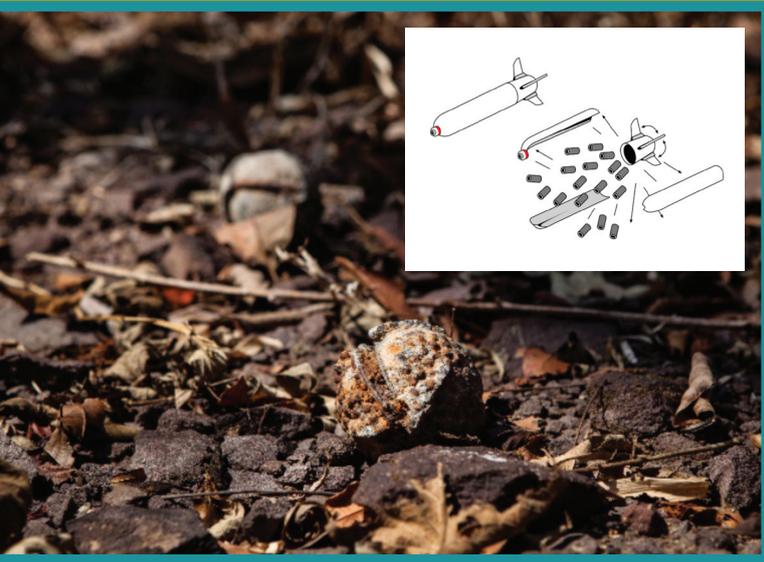


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A cluster munition, or cluster bomb, is a weapon containing multiple explosive submunitions.

The canister opens up in mid-air to release tens or hundreds of submunitions.

This saturates an area up to the size of several football fields. Anyone within the strike area – civilian or military – might get killed or injured.

A large percentage of submunitions do not explode on impact. They remain on the ground for an indefinite time, ready to explode when someone touches them.

Impact



Worldwide, 25 countries and areas are affected by cluster munition remnants.

Cluster munition remnants:

- Kill or maim civilians
- Obstruct economic and social development
- Impede post-conflict reconstruction
- Delay the return of displaced people
- Hamper humanitarian assistance efforts

This is why states have decided to ban this weapon by creating the 2008 Convention on Cluster Munitions.

