



2.4.6. Conflict-related infrastructure damage and explosive remnants of war

Latakia countryside was affected by widespread use of cluster munitions⁶⁹¹ and was among the areas most heavily contaminated with landmines in Syria.⁶⁹² Media reported several incidents with explosive remnants of war. On 17 February 2026 an explosion during a mine-clearing operation in Latakia countryside killed three people. Landmines were widespread in Latakia's mountains in the northeast of the governorate, particularly in the Jabal Al-Akrad and Jabal Al-Turkman areas.⁶⁹³ SOHR reported about two injured people during a landmine removing operation in Telat Nehshaba in northern Latakia in March 2026.⁶⁹⁴

Although maps of landmines generated by the Assad regime are accessible, the regime used its own coordinate system to protect the information, which complicates the localisation clearance of landmines. The SIRAJ research identified nine minefields covering around three square kilometres south of Kabana village and southeast of the villages of Aiko, Bouz Al-Kharba, and Basharfa in the Latakia countryside.⁶⁹⁵

As of January 2026, 62 % of key informants in an IOM assessment monitoring return movements and conditions for reintegration⁶⁹⁶ reported the presence of mines or unexploded ordnance. 77 % reported that no demining activities were ongoing.⁶⁹⁷

Furthermore, during the violent clashes in March 2025, property was damaged and destroyed in 15 locations in Tartous, Latakia, and Hama. Entire villages and residential areas were destroyed, including Sanobar, Ain Al Arous, Al Mukhtaria and Jableh in Latakia governorate.⁶⁹⁸

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SNHR, Deadly Legacy: The Explosive Remnants of War in Syria, 25 February 2026, [url](#)

- ⁶⁹²

SIRAJ, Secret maps left behind by Assad's army reveal the locations of minefields in the Latakia countryside, 7 April 2026, [url](#)

- ⁶⁹³

New Arab (The), Syria's Latakia villages struggle against unexploded mines and other war remnants, 19 March 2026, [url](#)

- ⁶⁹⁴

SOHR, Old ordnance | Two members injured in Latakia countryside and member killed in explosion of landmine in Al-Raqqa, 10 March 2026, [url](#)

- [695](#)

SIRAJ, Secret maps left behind by Assad's army reveal the locations of minefields in the Latakia countryside, 7 April 2026, [url](#)

- [696](#)

Data was collected between 1 January and 4 February 2026, including through a network 11 343 key informants in all 14 governorates. IOM, Syrian Arab Republic, Communities of Return Index, January 2026 – Round 4, 2 April 2026, [url](#), p. 20

- [697](#)

IOM, Syrian Arab Republic, Communities of Return Index, January 2026 – Round 4, 2 April 2026, [url](#), p. 7

- [698](#)

UN Human Rights Council, Report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic, A/HRC/61/62, 12 March 2026, [url](#), Annex I, p. 32