Widespread conflict has resulted in widespread displacement of over 672,000 citizens, and significant damage to the country’s infrastructure. Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) presents a physical barrier for citizens to move freely around their communities and access essential services safely. Explosive Ordnance Disposal and Mine Clearance is also essential for the dignified and safe return of IDPs.

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.

OPERATIONAL CONTEXT:
Since the revolution in 2011, Libya has seen much conflict and insecurity. Regional conflicts have erupted and resulted in a humanitarian crisis which has negatively affected all Libyans. The fighting has internally displaced several hundred thousand people and the explosive remnants of war (ERW) results in frequent injuries and fatalities, as well as presents an obstacle to reconstruction, access to healthcare and education. New conflicts that erupted in 2016 and 2020, increased ERW contamination significantly, specifically in the cities of Sirte, Benghazi, Derna, and Tripoli.

WHAT WE DO:
Capacity Building of Local Actors
Across Libya, DCA empowers Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) working in different fields through mentoring, training, and sub-granting. CSOs design and implement their own projects under DCA’s guidance.

Psychosocial Support
DCA provides Psychosocial Support (PSS) to victims of the conflict. Our projects focus on children and young adults, and IDPs in particular. PSS activities are implemented through the local CSOs.

Explosive Ordnance Risk Education
DCA trains its own staff and Libyan CSOs to educate communities as to the risks of ERW. Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) helps prevent injury and fatalities amongst the local population, IDPs, and returnees throughout Libya. Through training and education, communities experience an increase in the level of awareness and knowledge of how to adopt safe behaviour in areas of ERW contamination.

Quick Impact Projects
The programme implements QIPs such as Non-food Item Distributions in particularly vulnerable communities. During the pandemic, DCA teams have delivered WaSH items to hospitals and schools to increase levels of hygiene and sanitation, re-supplying much needed hand sanitizers, face masks, detergents and other cleaning items.

ERW Clearance
The programme works in Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD), clearing explosive remnants of war (ERW) through direct implementation and through building national capacity. Through these activities, the DCA teams ensure that communities regain safe access to essential resources such as medical and education facilities, and that property and land is returned to socioeconomic use.

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HOW AND WHERE WE WORK:
DCA Libya works in areas affected by conflict with high levels of ERW contamination and clears residential, commercial, education, medical and agricultural sites, ensuring that property and land is returned to socioeconomic use, contributing to stabilization.

Offices in Country:
With a wide-spread portfolio of projects, DCA’s Libya programme operates in-country from offices located in Tripoli, Misrata, Sirte, and Benghazi.

Projects:
Currently, DCA’s projects in Libya are funded by 4 donors, each project having its own unique elements, such as ERW clearance, EORE, or PSS. These are funded by the DANIDA, the US Department of State’s PMWRA, the UK Government’s CSSF, and the European Union.

Partners:
DCA is registered with the Libyan Civil Society Commission and is registered and accredited by the Libyan Mine Action Centre. DCA also has close ties with ministries (Education and Health) and local authorities. Currently, DCA Libya is part of 1 active consortium.

Focus:
The programme reaches the most vulnerable with its projects and targets IDPs, Female-headed households, people with disabilities, youth, and children.

Results from 2021:
- Over 130,791 men, women and children in Libya have directly benefitted from DCA’s Explosive Ordnance Risk Education and ERW Clearance.
- DCA Libya removed 4,349 items of Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) and 29,946 items of small arms ammunition (SAA).
- 609,502 SQM of land contaminated with UXO was searched and/or cleared by clearance teams.
- 1,145 Risk Education sessions to promote safe behaviour reaching 25,809 men, women and children were held.
- 17.5 tons of unexploded ordnance was destroyed by DCA teams in 2021.
- In 2020, DCA reached 42,862 direct beneficiaries.