



THE IMPACT YOU MADE



SAVING LIVES & PROTECTING
FAMILIES IN 2019





Dear HALO Partners,

In 2019, you touched the lives of over one million people by supporting our work on the front lines removing deadly landmines and destroying hazardous explosives. Together, we are making a huge difference to those affected by conflict.

Landmines are a tragic legacy of war. Scattered in their millions, they kill and maim thousands of unsuspecting victims even after the fighting has moved on. HALO continues to be a leader in humanitarian landmine clearance and, with our partners, we are saving lives and bringing hope to some of the most war-torn corners of the world.

Because of you, our work has transformed minefields into thriving communities. This was poignantly demonstrated in 2019 when Prince Harry retraced the footsteps of his mother, Princess Diana, in Angola. Once barren land staked with “Danger! Mines!” signs as far as the eye could see, is now a thriving community of homes and schools in the bustling city of Huambo, a testament to her legacy.

Thank you for all that you do, and I look forward to working with you in partnership to help make a difference in the world for many years to come.

*Yours sincerely,
James Cowan, CEO*

James Cowan, CEO of The HALO Trust, with Sasikala, who has now built a permanent house on cleared land in Kilinochchi, Sri Lanka.



Twenty-two years after Princess Diana walked through a minefield in Angola, Prince Harry continued his mother's legacy in September of 2019 when he visited HALO's Angolan program.

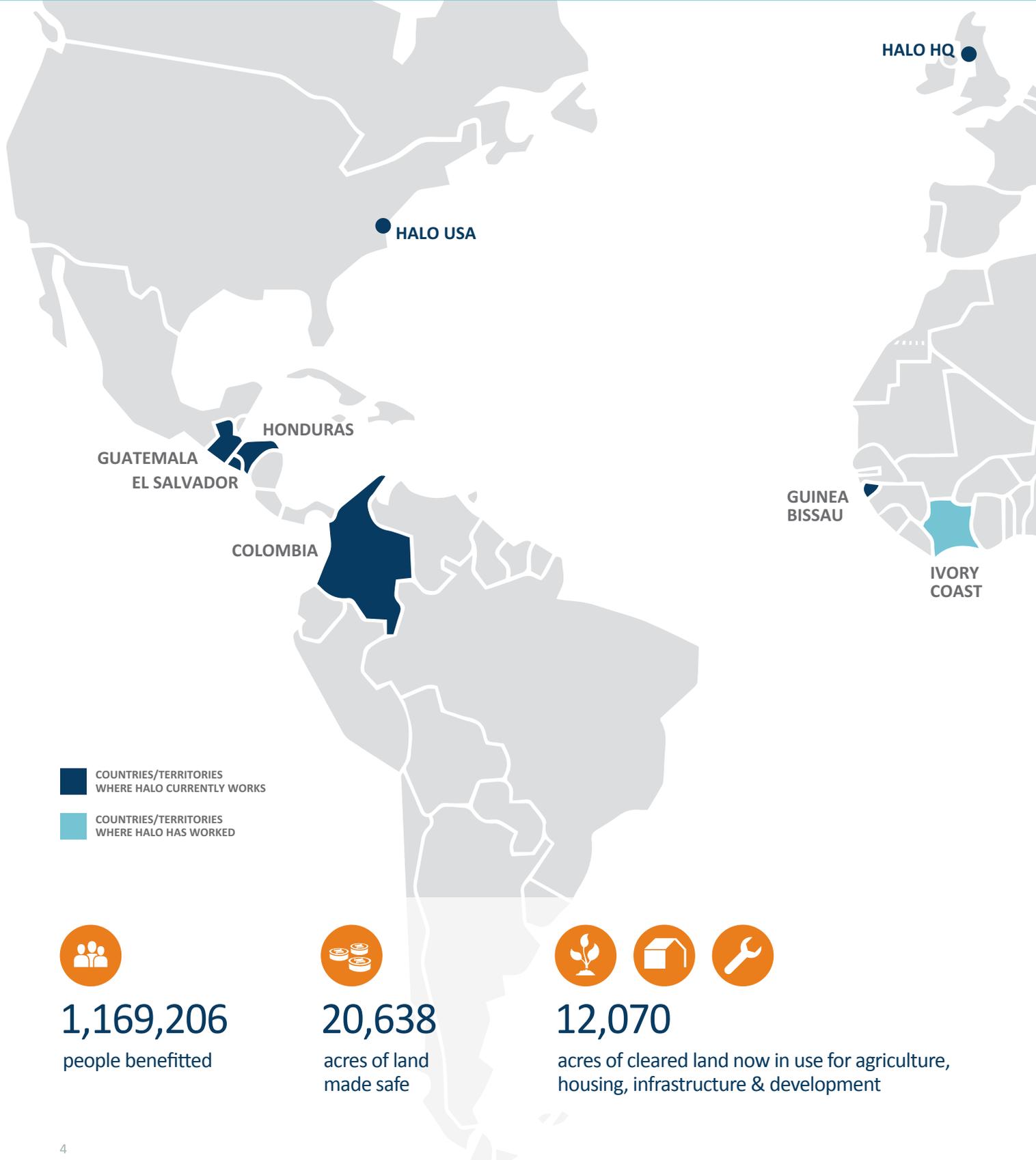
After camping by one of Africa's great rivers he visited a remote minefield being cleared by HALO in southern Angola. He then went on to Huambo, Angola's second city, to draw the world's attention to the scourge of landmines. Following in Diana's footsteps, he called on the international community to fulfil its commitment to the 60 million people around the world still living in fear of these weapons of war.

"It has been quite emotional retracing my mother's steps along this street 22 years on and to see the transformation that has taken place from an unsafe and desolate area to a vibrant community of local businesses and colleges."

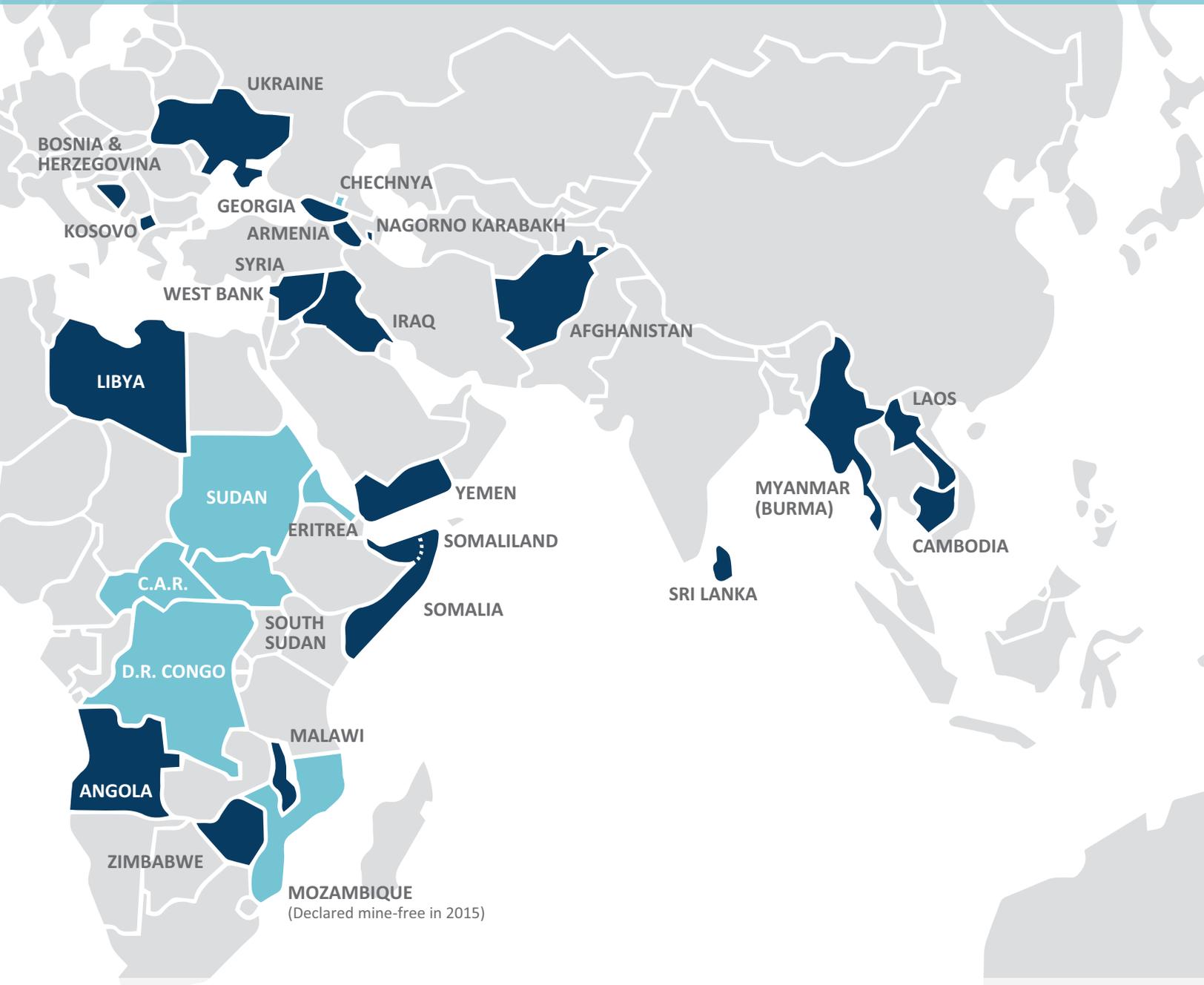
Prince Harry, at the site of a former minefield



WHERE WE WORK



The HALO Trust is the world's largest humanitarian landmine clearance organization. Our mission is to lead the effort to protect lives and restore the livelihoods of those affected by conflict. For over thirty years, we've been saving lives and helping war-torn communities recover by making their land safe. We employ over 8,600 staff and operate in more than 25 countries and territories.



126,965

landmines & unexploded ordnance destroyed



139,369

small arms ammunition destroyed



26,513

weapons marked & made safe



758,599

people received risk education



PROTECTING LIVES

Landmines, cluster bombs, and other explosives inflict appalling injuries that have a devastating impact on people's futures. HALO protects lives by destroying landmines and teaching people, particularly children, how to stay safe until our clearance work is done. In 2019, your support protected the lives of thousands affected by conflict and violence, particularly children in countries like Iraq and Ukraine.

IRAQ

The conflict with Islamic State caused immeasurable death and destruction in Iraq. Even after the defeat of the group's fighters, thousands of improvised explosive devices (IEDs) were left behind in streets, homes and schools. Families looking to return to their homes and find peace, now face constant danger in their daily lives.

Thanks to the legacy gift of an anonymous donor, HALO has opened operations to clear IEDs in and around major cities, like Ramadi, Fallujah, and Baiji. By using both armored machines and brave manual demining teams, we are carefully removing these deadly devices and protecting returnees. Families, like the one pictured above, can now allow their children to go to school safely and rebuild their homes.



UKRAINE

After five years of conflict, landmines and explosives continue to threaten the lives of families in eastern Ukraine. Since 2016 we have been working close to the front lines removing thousands of bombs, landmines, and other improvised explosives, such as tripwire grenades. We also provide lifesaving education to families and children to understand the dangers of these hazards and how to stay safe.

In 2019, HALO also cleared the first minefields in the Luhansk and Donetsk regions, helping thousands live in safety.

Danilo is a student in Kramatorsk in eastern Ukraine who is helping HALO teach an important lesson to families that live near dangerous landmines and explosives. He won a competition to design a poster on what to do if you come across a landmine or explosive. His design was printed and used by HALO to educate local people.



In 2019, HALO reached a milestone – by reaching 100,000 people in Ukraine with its message on how to avoid and report landmines and other dangerous debris.

A villager from Rai-Olexandrivka shows a grenade to a HALO team leader in the Donetsk region.



U.S.-funded deminer conducting clearance around destroyed houses in the Luhansk region, near the Russian border.

MAKING LAND SAFE

Clearing landmines is the essential first step in rebuilding lives after conflict. The fighting may be over, but if landmines and explosives are in the ground, people in war-torn communities continue to live in fear. HALO works with local communities to make land safe so that life can begin again. In 2019, you made land safer for thousands in the countries most affected by landmines and explosives.



150 Villagers

100 HALO Staff

200,000 Sandbags

4,000 Tons of Sand

1 750-pound Bomb Destroyed



LAOS

In the peaceful village of Nonsomboun, a hidden danger from a war that ended over 40 years ago threatened the lives of everyone. A 750-pound aircraft bomb was unearthed in the middle of the village, with the nearest house only a few yards away. Being too dangerous to move, the only option was to detonate it where it was found. For almost eight weeks, HALO worked with the villagers to build a huge protective barrier of sandbags around the bomb.

On day 53, the bomb was finally ready to be destroyed. After a brief countdown, an explosion echoed through the village.

With no damage or injuries, the bomb was destroyed for good and the people of Nonsomboun could continue to live in peace.

CAMBODIA

Landmines laid during after the fall of the Khmer Rouge in 1979 have resulted in over 64,000 casualties and more than 25,000 amputees in Cambodia. The country remains one of the most heavily impacted by landmines and large swaths of territory remain dangerous. For farmers like Seng Searn, the danger was hidden when they took over their land.

Seng has been raising her two children on their smallholding in Chob Kokir village. One day she began clearing land for a vegetable garden and very quickly discovered a landmine. After she reported this to the village, HALO was called out to assist. HALO found and destroyed 162 landmines on Seng's land. Luckily no one in her family had been hurt. Our work ensured that she can use their land to grow food for her family.

“It was frightening to see HALO finding mines every day, from the land all around my home. I feel lucky that my family hasn't had an accident, we didn't know how close the danger was.”





RESTORING LIVELIHOODS

People in war-torn communities are desperate to educate their children and put food on the table. If landmines and explosives are in the ground, the danger limits their opportunity to support themselves. They cannot plant crops, collect water, or let their children walk to school. HALO helps people rebuild their lives, and we keep communities at the center of what we do. Nearly 98 percent of our workforce is hired locally, providing a stable income and developing job skills. Over half the land we clear is used for agriculture or development, providing long term benefits for people like Sadzurai and Eisenhower.

ZIMBABWE

Nearly 40 years on from Zimbabwe's independence, minefields laid by the Rhodesian army have killed or injured over 1,500 people. Local farmers who depend on land to make an honest living must make a choice; starve or risk farming in a minefield.

Our dedicated teams of Zimbabwean deminers have worked tirelessly since 2013. In early 2020, we reached a major milestone—100,000 landmines cleared—making safe almost half the land on the affected northern border area. This is landmine clearance on a vast scale, freeing up enormous areas to be safely used by people like Sadzurai Kamoyo, a hardworking mother and farmer.

Sadzurai raised her two sons near a minefield and recalls the stress of knowing that hidden dangers lurk nearby. The danger also limited how much land she could use to cultivate crops that she could sell to support her family. By clearing her family's land of landmines, she can expand her farm to grow more cash crops. She can now provide a better life for her sons and help put them through school.

“We will be able to expand our plot by another hectare or two so we can grow a cash crop. With one more hectare we can make around 200 dollars per harvest, which would allow us to buy domestic products and pay for school fees much more easily.”

COLOMBIA

For more than five decades, the people of Colombia have suffered the consequences of conflict. Landmines laid in rural areas have killed or injured nearly 12,000 people since 1990—a casualty rate second only to Afghanistan.

“I want to thank HALO and their supporters for the work they are doing here in Tolima. There are no words to describe everything you have done for us.”

The extent of the contamination left over 700 of Colombia’s 1,122 municipalities contaminated by landmines. HALO and other organizations in the country have cleared nearly 400 of these municipalities. In 2019, HALO celebrated a major milestone by handing over 38 municipalities that had been freed of landmines and explosives. Local farmers like Eisenhower Cárdenas can now use their land without fear.

Eisenhower is from Cañón de las Hermosas, in the region of Tolima, and has lived through Colombia’s most violent days. The region saw some of the fiercest fighting during the country’s years of armed conflict. Even after the fighting stopped, Eisenhower discovered that his land was contaminated with landmines. Our teams worked to clear the area so that it could be returned to him free of landmines. Today, he is using his land to grow citrus fruits and is able to grow his income.





EMPOWERING WOMEN

Clearing landmines inspires confidence by making land safe. It is also empowering for men and women alike. With training and a living wage, they can take control of their lives.

Many incredible women join HALO to make their countries safe. Our work creates jobs for deminers, paramedics, mechanics, translators, and more. Often, the women we employ become agents of change in their own communities, empowered by their new found status, skills, and income. In 2017, HALO launched the 100 Women in Demining Project in Angola to train and employ all-female demining teams, empowering the women while clearing landmines and making land safe. Many women from this program have already been promoted to leadership roles.



"I come from a poor family, but thanks to my work with HALO, my husband and I are able to build our own house and raise our family." Lame Onleaud, HALO Team Leader, Laos



"I get a lot of satisfaction from my job. I am very proud, and it makes me feel so strong."

There are few regular work opportunities for women in Angola, leaving many families struggling to survive. All the women we recruit come from low-income communities, often single mothers, and for one-in-five, this is their first full-time job. Inês Tembo Chilumbo Chipucoto is a mother to four year old Pedro and a deminer in HALO Angola's 100 Women in Demining Project. She is proud that her job with HALO means she is now able to support her whole family and contribute to Angola's future.



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CONSERVING EARTH’S WILDERNESS

The Okavango Delta is an idyllic expanse that is home to thousands of species. But the presence of landmines around the river systems that feed the Delta threatens its future.

The vast watershed of the Okavango runs from the highlands of Angola, and across Namibia’s Caprivi Strip before flowing into landlocked Botswana to create a natural oasis. The basin is the main source of water and economic livelihood for more than a million people and home to the world’s largest remaining elephant population. Thousands of landmines, the deadly legacy of a forgotten war, cut off the natural migration route for Botswana’s growing elephant herd, separating Angolan communities from Africa’s multibillion-dollar sustainable tourism economy.



“Clearing the full watershed (of landmines) will take an international effort. Everyone who recognizes the priceless importance of safeguarding Africa’s most intact natural landscape should commit fully to this mission.”



In June 2019, Prince Harry joined HALO in announcing our ground-breaking project to clear the landmines so this wilderness can be properly protected. The government of Angola has already made a \$60 million commitment, which will cover approximately half of the planned clearance operations. Once the land is safe and conservation measures can be introduced, there is potential for the elephants to return.



PROTECTING CULTURAL HERITAGE

For over 50 years, landmines and booby traps planted after the Six Day War in 1967 rendered the churches at the Baptism Site of Christ too dangerous to approach. In 2018, this all changed.

Located on the Jordan River, Qasr al-Yahud is one of Christianity's holiest places. It is believed to be the site where Jesus was baptized, and over 670,000 pilgrims visit the area each year. The Six Day War left eight church compounds at the site surrounded by landmines and hazardous explosives. The clergy had to stay away as their buildings decayed. With the support of the Israeli and Palestinian authorities, HALO began to remove the landmines and explosives in 2018.



All of the churches have been cleared of landmines and unexploded debris. Once the area is made entirely safe and handed back to the churches that own them, they can be refurbished to serve the hundreds of thousands of pilgrims who visit the Baptism Site each year.

“Landmines mean a field of war and if the mines are cleared, it becomes a field of peace.”

Fr. Francesco Patton, Franciscan Church

HOW YOU CAN HELP

In 2019, you touched many lives. However, landmines still threaten people like Sylvia, a mother of six in Zimbabwe. Her son was injured by a landmine and many more still threaten her village. You can help give her a mine free future.

Donating directly to HALO is the most effective way to support our lifesaving work. There are many ways you can give.

DONATE TODAY	MONTHLY GIVING
LEAVE A LEGACY	CORPORATE PARTNERSHIPS

To make a gift, contact Lisa.Balestrieri@halousa.org



"I was heartbroken and even now it still pains me. What hurts me is he was unable to finish school. The schools are very far from home."

TAKE ACTION

Stand with HALO and tell Congress to create a world without landmines. HALO works closely with the U.S. Government which funds much of our work and helps us access the latest technology and machinery to save lives.

Contact your representatives and encourage them to support global humanitarian demining programs and promote innovation in demining through research and development.

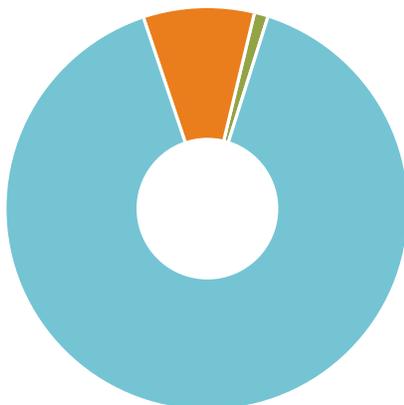
To get involved, visit halousa.quorum.us or email Kristen.Stevens@halousa.org



WE MAXIMIZE YOUR IMPACT

Your gift goes a long way. Unrestricted funding gives HALO the ability to dedicate resources to programs that need it the most, while responsibly investing in better, safer ways to remove landmines.

Ninety percent of HALO's funding goes directly to our programs to benefit the people we serve. Only one percent of our revenue is used for fundraising, well below the standard in the international development sector.



● FIELD PROGRAMMES - 90% ● PROGRAMME SUPPORT - 9% ● FUNDRAISING - 1%



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