In April, as part of Article 7 transparency reporting, the United Kingdom submitted information on its mine action programmes, in line with the Oslo Action Plan. The information remains unchanged. The United Kingdom would like to submit the following information under Cooperation and Assistance, as a donor.

Cooperation between the UK and other States in exchanging best practices and lessons learned

The UK commissioned research to examine the impact of landmine clearance on development outcomes in Afghanistan. This research has found a strong causal link between the release of areas from landmines and economic development in Afghanistan. The study helps address gaps in the available literature on the outcomes and impacts of mine clearance. It also builds on recent work using innovative analysis methods, including changes in the levels of night-time light (NTL) over extended periods as a proxy for development to examine the outcomes of mine clearance. The research was presented to the Mine Action Support Group on 28 May 2021 and to partners across the sector at a workshop on 15 June. The research and an accompanying policy brief are currently being finalised and will be published shortly.

Ukraine mine action programme funded through UK Conflict, Stability and Security Fund

The HALO Trust is funded by the UK to implement a mine action programme in Ukraine.

1,888 people directly benefitted from clearance activities undertaken with CSSF-funding between April 2020 and March 2021, and a further 42,224 people indirectly benefitted from these clearance activities. Direct beneficiaries of mine/ERW clearance are the civilians who will use the land productively or frequently once clearance takes place. Indirect beneficiaries are the civilian populations who live near hazardous areas and may use the land once it is cleared, but have not already been counted as direct beneficiaries.

In addition to beneficiaries of land clearance, the CSSF-funded MRE team conducted 686 risk education sessions reaching 14,710 people. COVID-19 restrictions limited access for teams to community centres and workplaces, and HALO suspended household MRE visits as a precautionary measure. Therefore,
MRE sessions under this project focused on schools and the majority of beneficiaries were children (13,763) and their teachers (928).

652,777m² of land released through clearance and reduction through the deployment of HALO manual clearance and technical survey teams.