

2COVER PAGE OF THE ANNUAL ARTICLE 7 REPORT

NAME OF STATE [PARTY]: United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

REPORTING PERIOD: 01/01/2022 to 31/12/2022
(dd/mm/yyyy) (dd/mm/yyyy)

Form A: National implementation measures: <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="width: 30px;"></td><td>changed</td></tr> <tr><td>X</td><td>unchanged (last reporting: 2007)</td></tr> </table>		changed	X	unchanged (last reporting: 2007)	Form F: Program of APM destruction: <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="width: 30px;"></td><td>changed</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>unchanged (last reporting: 2020)</td></tr> <tr><td>X</td><td>non applicable</td></tr> </table>		changed		unchanged (last reporting: 2020)	X	non applicable		
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Notes on using the cover page:

1. The cover page can be used as a **complement** to submitting detailed forms adopted at the First and Second Meetings of the States Parties in instances when the information to be provided in some of the forms in an annual report is the same as it would be in past reports. That is, when using the cover page, only forms within which there is new information needs to be submitted.
2. The cover page can be used as a **substitute** for submitting detailed forms adopted at the First and Second Meetings of the States Parties only if all of the information to be provided in an annual report is the same as in past reports.
3. If an indication is made on the cover sheet that the information to be provided with respect to a particular form is **unchanged** in relationship to a previous year's form, the **date of submission** of the previous form should be clearly indicated.

**CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE, STOCKPILING, PRODUCTION AND TRANSFER OF
ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION**

Reporting Formats for Article 7

STATE [PARTY]:

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

POINT OF CONTACT:

Conventional Arms Policy Officer
Counter Proliferation and Arms Control Centre
Ministry of Defence
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

(Name, organization, telephone, fax, email)

(ONLY FOR THE PURPOSES OF CLARIFICATION)

Form A National implementation measures

Article 7.1 "Each State Party shall report to the Secretary-General ... on:
a) The national implementation measures referred to in Article 9."

Remark: In accordance with Article 9, "Each State Party shall take all appropriate legal, administrative and other measures, including the imposition of penal sanctions, to prevent and suppress any activity prohibited to a State Party under this Convention undertaken by persons or on territory under its jurisdiction or control".

State [Party]: **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland** reporting for time period from **1 January 2022** to **31 December 2022**

Measures	Supplementary information (e.g., effective date of implementation & text of legislation attached).
Not applicable	

Form B Stockpiled anti-personnel mines

Article 7. 1 "Each State Party shall report to the Secretary-General ... on:

b) The total of all stockpiled anti-personnel mines owned or possessed by it, or under its jurisdiction or control, to include a breakdown of the type, quantity and, if possible, lot numbers of each type of anti-personnel mine stockpiled."

State [Party]: **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland** reporting for time period from **1 January 2022** to **31 December 2022**

1. Total of stockpiled anti-personnel mines

Type	Quantity	Lot # (if possible)	Supplementary information
Not applicable			
TOTAL			

2. Previously unknown stockpiles of anti-personnel mines discovered after the deadlines have passed. (*Action #15 of Nairobi Action Plan*) *

Type	Quantity	Lot # (if possible)	Supplementary information
Not applicable			
TOTAL			

* Pursuant to the decision of the 8MSP, as contained in paragraph 29 of the Final Report of the Meeting, document APLC/MSP.8/2007/6.

Form C Location of mined areas

Article 7.1 "Each State Party shall report to the Secretary-General ... on:

c) To the extent possible, the location of all mined areas that contain, or are suspected to contain, anti-personnel mines under its jurisdiction or control, to include as much detail as possible regarding the type and quantity of each type of anti-personnel mine in each mined area and when they were emplaced."

State [Party]: **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland** reporting for time period from **1 January 2022** to **31 December 2022**

1. Areas that contain mines*

Location	Type	Quantity	Date of emplacement	Supplementary information

2. Areas suspected to contain mines*

Location	Type	Quantity	Date of emplacement	Supplementary information

* If necessary, a separate table for each mined area may be provided

Form D **APMs retained or transferred**

Article 7.1 "Each State Party shall report to the Secretary-General ... on:

d) The types, quantities and, if possible, lot numbers of all anti-personnel mines retained or transferred for the development of and training in mine detection, mine clearance or mine destruction techniques, or transferred for the purpose of destruction, as well as the institutions authorized by a State Party to retain or transfer anti-personnel mines, in accordance with Article 3"

State [Party]: **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland** reporting for time period from **1 Jan 2022** to **31 Dec 2022**

1a. **Compulsory:** Retained for development of and training in (*Article 3, para.1*)

Institution authorized by State Party	Type	Quantity	Lot # (if possible)	Supplementary information
Not applicable				
TOTAL	-----			

1b. **Voluntary information** (Action #54 of Nairobi Action Plan)

Objectives	Activity / Project	Supplementary information <i>(Description of programs or activities, their objectives and progress, types of mines, time period if and when appropriate...)</i>
		“Information on the plans requiring the retention of mines for the development of and training in mine detection, mine clearance, or mine destruction techniques and report on the actual use of retained mines and the results of such use”

NOTE: Each State Party should provide information on plans and future activities if and when appropriate and reserves the right to modify it at any time

Form D (continued)

2. **Compulsory:** Transferred for development of and training in (*Article 3, para.1*)

Institution authorized by State Party	Type	Quantity	Lot # (if possible)	Supplementary information: e.g. transferred from, transferred to
TOTAL	-----			

3. **Compulsory:** Transferred for the purpose of destruction (*Article 3, para.2*)

Institution authorized by State Party	Type	Quantity	Lot # (if possible)	Supplementary information: e.g. transferred from, transferred to
TOTAL	-----			

Form E Status of programs for conversion or de-commissioning of APM production facilities

Article 7.1 "Each State Party shall report to the Secretary-General ... on:

e) The status of programs for the conversion or de-commissioning of anti-personnel mine production facilities."

State [Party]: **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland** reporting for time period from **1 January 2022** to **31 December 2022**

Indicate if to "convert" or "decommission"	Status (indicate if "in process" or "completed")	Supplementary information
Not applicable		

Form F Status of programs for destruction of APMs

Article 7.1 "Each State Party shall report to the Secretary-General ... on:

f) The status of programs for the destruction of anti-personnel mines in accordance with Articles 4 and 5, including details of the methods which will be used in destruction, the location of all destruction sites and the applicable safety and environmental standards to be observed."

State [Party]: **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland** reporting for time period from **01 Jan 2022** to **31 Dec 2022**

1. Status of programs for destruction of stockpiled APMs (*Article 4*)

A. Status of programs for destruction of stockpiled FHEMs (if none, "0")	
Description of the status of programs including:	Details of:
Location of destruction sites	
	Methods
	Applicable safety standards
	Applicable environmental standards

2. Status of programs for destruction of APMs in mined areas (*Article 5*)

Description of the status of programs including:	Details of:
Location of destruction sites	

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Form G APMs destroyed after entry into force

Article 7.1 "Each State Party shall report to the Secretary-General ... on:
 g) The types and quantities of all anti-personnel mines destroyed after the entry into force of this Convention for that State Party, to include a breakdown of the quantity of each type of anti-personnel mine destroyed, in accordance with Articles 4 and 5, respectively, along with, if possible, the lot numbers of each type anti-personnel mine in the case of destruction in accordance with Article 4"

State [Party]: **United Kingdom of Great Britain** reporting for time period from **01 Jan 2022** to **31 Dec 2022**
 and Northern Ireland

1. Destruction of stockpiled APMs (*Article 4*)

Type	Quantity	Lot # (if possible)	Supplementary information
Not applicable			
TOTAL			

2. Destruction of APMs in mined areas (*Article 5*)

Type	Quantity	Supplementary information

Form G (continued)

3. Previously unknown stockpiles of anti-personnel mines discovered and destroyed after the deadlines have passed. (*Action #15 of Nairobi Action Plan*)*

Type	Quantity	Lot # (if possible)	Supplementary information
Not applicable			
TOTAL			

* Pursuant to the decision of the 8MSP, as contained in paragraph 29 of the Final Report of the Meeting, document APLC/MSP.8/2007/6.

Form H Technical characteristics of each type produced/owned or possessed

Article 7.1 "Each State Party shall report to the Secretary-General ... on:

h) The technical characteristics of each type of anti-personnel mine produced, to the extent known, and those currently owned or possessed by a State Party, giving, where reasonably possible, such categories of information as may facilitate identification and clearance of anti-personnel mines; at a minimum, this information shall include the dimensions, fusing, explosive content, metallic content, colour photographs and other information which may facilitate mine clearance"

State [Party]: **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland** reporting for time period from **1 Jan 2022** to **31 Dec 2022**

1. Technical characteristics of each APM-type produced

Type	Dimensions	Fusing	Explosive content		Metallic content	Colour photo attached	Supplementary information to facilitate mine clearance.
			type	grams			
Not applicable							

2. Technical characteristics of each APM-type currently owned or possessed

Type	Dimensions	Fusing	Explosive content		Metallic content	Colour photo attached	Supplementary information to facilitate mine clearance.
			type	grams			
Not applicable							

Form I Measures to provide warning to the population

Article 7.1 "Each State Party shall report to the Secretary-General ... on:

- i) The measures taken to provide an immediate and effective warning to the population in relation to all areas identified under paragraph 2 of Article 5."

Remark: In accordance with Article 5, para.2: "Each State Party shall make every effort to identify all areas under its jurisdiction or control in which anti-personnel mines are known or suspected to be emplaced and shall ensure as soon as possible that all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control are perimeter-marked, monitored and protected by fencing or other means, to ensure the effective exclusion of civilians, until all anti-personnel mines contained therein have been destroyed. The marking shall at least be to the standards set out in the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices, as amended on 3 May 1996, annexed to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects".

State [Party]: **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland** reporting for time period from **1 Jan 2022** to **31 Dec 2022**

Form J Other relevant matters

Remark: States Parties may use this form to report voluntarily on other relevant matters, including matters pertaining to compliance and implementation not covered by the formal reporting requirements contained in Article 7. States Parties are encouraged to use this form to report on activities undertaken with respect to Article 6, and in particular to report on assistance provided for the care and rehabilitation, and social and economic reintegration, of mine victims.

State [Party]: United Kingdom reporting for time period from 01 Jan 2022 to 31 Dec 2022

The UK supports other states to meet their Convention obligations. The UK's "mine action" programmes collectively cover the clearance of cluster munitions, landmines and other explosive remnants of war, alongside risk education and other activities. It is not possible to separate out funds spent relating to anti-personnel mines alone. These projects take place through funds from the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office under its Global Mine Action Programme (GMAP), and the UK Government's Conflict, Security and Stability Fund (CSSF).

NB: the programmes marked with an asterisk represent payments made to UN voluntary trust funds; not the amount the UN, whose responsibility it is to spend, may or may not have spent in that calendar year through downstream implementing partners.

<i>Destination</i>	<i>Sector (stockpile destruction, clearance, risk education, victim assistance, advocacy)</i>	<i>Amount (list currency)</i>	<i>Type of cooperation or assistance (financial, material or in kind)</i>	<i>Details (including date allocated, intermediary destinations such as trust funds, project details, timeframes)</i>
Nigeria CSSF	Training	£15,300 Jan 2022 – Dec 2022	Financial	C-IED training courses
East Africa region CSSF	Training	£616,106 Jan 2022 – March 2022	Financial	C-IED training courses
Chad	Training	£24,600 Jan 2022 – Dec 2022	Financial	C-IED awareness course
Cameroon	Training	£435,000 Financial year 2022/2023	Financial	C-IED training

Libya CSSF	Clearance, risk education, EOD disposal, survey, mechanical and rubble removal, stockpile destruction.	£1,064,853.42 Jan 2022 – Dec 2022	Financial	Programmes with DanChurch Aid, HALO Trust and Free Fields Foundation (3F).
Abkhazia (Georgia) CSSF	explosive remnant of war, unexploded ordnance (UXO), survey, risk education	£220,975.46 Financial year 2022/2023	Financial	UXO disposal implemented by HALO Trust
Armenia and Azerbaijan CSSF	Mine awareness/risk education	£400,000 Jan 2022 – Dec 2022	Financial	Programme delivered by UNICEF
Sri Lanka CSSF	Clearance	£635,831.82 Jan 2022 – Dec 2022	Financial	Demining Project
Pakistan CSSF	Counter IED programmes, risk education	£696,303.02 Jan 2022 – Dec 2022	Financial	C-IED programme
Ukraine CSSF	Clearance, survey, risk education	£397,388.60 Jan 2022 – Dec 2022	Financial	Mine action programme – UNDP and Partnership Fund for a Resilient Ukraine
Somalia CSSF	Training	£671,500 Jan 2022 - Dec 2022	Financial	C-IED training and workshops
Yemen CSSF	Surveying	£77,000 Oct 2022 – Dec 2022	Financial	Funding was provided through the Yemen Support Fund.
Angola	Clearance, risk education, capacity building	£1,010,854 Jan 2022 – Dec 2022	Financial	Funded through contract with The HALO Trust. Start date July 2018 and continued throughout 2021 until March 2022. New GMAP3E agreement signed April 2022.

Cambodia	Clearance, risk education, capacity building	£1,796,397 Jan 2022 – Dec 2022	Financial	Funded through contract with The HALO Trust. Start date July 2018 and continued throughout 2021 until March 2022. New GMAP3E agreement signed April 2022.
Somalia	Clearance, risk education, capacity building	£1,275,448 Jan 2022 – Dec 2022	Financial	Funded through contract with The HALO Trust. Start date July 2018 and continued throughout 2021 until March 2022. New GMAP3E agreement signed April 2022.
Zimbabwe	Clearance, risk education	£2,234,323 Jan 2022 – Dec 2022	Financial	Funded through contract with The HALO Trust. Start date July 2018 and continued throughout 2021 until March 2022. New GMAP3E agreement signed April 2022.
Myanmar	Risk education	£606,666 Jan 2022 – Dec 2022	Financial	Funded through contract with Mines Advisory Group. Start date July 2018 and continued throughout 2021 until March 2022. New GMAP3E agreement signed April 2022.
Laos	Clearance, risk education, capacity building	£1,332,374 Jan 2022 – Dec 2022	Financial	Funded through contract with Mines Advisory Group. Start date July 2018 and continued throughout 2021 until March 2022. New GMAP3E agreement signed April 2022.
South Sudan	Clearance, risk education, capacity building	£570,186 Jan 2022 – Dec 2022	Financial	Funded through contract with Mines Advisory Group. Start date July 2018 and continued throughout 2021 until March 2022. New GMAP3E agreement signed April 2022.
Ukraine	Survey, clearance, risk education	£726,947 Jan 2022 – Dec 2022	Financial	Funded through accountable grant agreement with HALO Trust. Start date May 2022 and continued until March 2022. Extension for 3 months (until June 2022) in the works.
Vietnam	Clearance, risk education, capacity building	£351,947 Jan 2022 – Dec 2022	Financial	Funded through contract with Mines Advisory Group. Start date July 2018 and continued throughout 2021.
Afghanistan*	Clearance, risk education, capacity building	£5,000,000 Jan 2022 – Dec 2022	Financial	Funding provided via UN Voluntary Trust Fund; start date April 2018 and an accountable grant to The HALO Trust.

Sudan*	Clearance, risk education, capacity building	£500,000 Jan 2022 – Dec 2022	Financial	Funding provided via UN Voluntary Trust Fund start date April 2018 and continued throughout 2021 until March 2022.
Total in calendar year, not including funding across financial years	£20,004,024.86			
Total overall	£20,660,000.32			

In 2022, as part of its wider support to the Syria Civil Defence, the CSSF funded UXO identification and removal operations, as well as training on UXO identification and safety for communities in north-west Syria.

Cameroon CSSF – The training programme is only a fraction of what is delivered overall. It's not possible to apportion what percentage of training is C-IED related.

UK Article 7 – additional reporting for 2022

Global Mine Action Programme

1. What efforts the UK has made in integrating and mainstreaming gender consideration and taking the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities into account in mine action programming:

Unchanged since 2021

2. Victim assistance

Unchanged since 2021

3. Assistance provided by the UK to other States Parties in the implementation of their obligations

The UK's Global Mine Action Programme 2 (end March 2022) commissioned a study by Social Finance and the HALO Trust to explore the potential for innovative finance solutions to address funding shortfalls faced by countries with contamination, and to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of all stages of mine action. The FCDO, now operating through UK's Global Mine Action Programme 3 (start April 2022), was approached by APOPO and Cordaid (an agricultural NGO) with a concept note for an Impact Bond project, focussing on demining interventions in Cambodia, with a development intervention of organic rice farming on the cleared land. The intended outcomes of the project are to ensure livelihoods in the local areas of Cambodia are bettered, as well as display how an innovative approach to funding can be used widely in the sector to integrate demining with broader development goals.

In June 2022, FCDO held a side event at the annual Intersessional Meeting in Geneva, together with the US Director of APOPO, and Director of Social Finance, to socialise this proposal and appeal for Donors to partner as joint Outcomes Funders. It was attended by various Donor representatives, as well as various NGO representatives and was well received. FCDO also signed an agreement with Social Finance in November 2022 to conduct the Design work for this Impact Bond, which will be implemented in April 2023, including recommendations on how this type of project can be scaled up both in Cambodia, and more widely across the world (such as in Ukraine to aid reconstruction efforts).

4. Efforts made by the UK to coordinate support for the effective implementation of Convention obligations by affected States Parties

Unchanged since 2021

5. Cooperation between the UK and other States in exchanging best practices and lessons learned and the exchange of equipment, material and scientific and technological information

In March 2022, the UK hosted a Wilton Park Conference to raise awareness of the mine action sector's desire to explore innovative finance models to address funding

challenges. The conference brought together representatives from the mine action community, and innovative finance and development experts. Following this, through GMAP3, the FCDO socialised work between the UK and the Netherlands through Itad to standardise the mine action Theory of Change/Theory of Action to create an adaptive process that can be used by operators and donors to improve reporting standards. This included holding a side event at the APMBC Intersessional meeting.

The FCDO used this new ToC when going out to commercial tender for the Afghanistan component of GMAP3 in December 2022.

6. Mine Risk Education – Actions #28, #29 and #31 Oslo Action Plan

Where appropriate, the UK encourages mine action delivery partners to integrate risk education with wider activities.

Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention – additional reporting under Article 7
Libya Conflict, Stability and Security Fund mine action programmes

1. What efforts has the UK made in integrating and mainstreaming gender consideration and taking the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities into account in mine action programming?

To ensure that we can engage with and understand the needs of all in the community, our mine action delivery partners employ female Community Liaison Officers (CLO) in operational locations. UK-funded teams are predominantly male due to the cultural norms of mine clearance work in Libya and as a result, they are easily able to discuss and understand the needs of the male population as they conduct survey or clearance. The female CLOs specifically engage with women and children in areas of operation to understand the needs of all the community, which is then factored into operational planning. Our CSSF delivery partner found some difficulties to organise focus group discussions with only female members of the community in southern Tripoli due to strict social norms. The lack of this information was balanced by household data, most of which was collected during working hours, which gave the opportunity for women to talk in the comfort and privacy of their homes.

Another delivery partner – DanChurchAid (DCA) has continued delivering Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) in Sirte (coastal city between Tripoli and Benghazi), through the UK CSSF-funded all-female EORE team, showing that women can and should play a vital role in post conflict Libya.

Working with Mine Action in DCA does not only have an impact on the personal lives of women. They describe having gained influence and a voice across Sirte's communities. Through their jobs, they have met people who support their work and view it as a positive impact in their city. They are also able to discuss issues in places their male peers cannot.

DCA's inclusion of women creates real change for the communities in Sirte. It also sends a strong signal to the broader mine action community in Libya. The work of the female EORE team under CSSF funding has enabled DCA to effectively respond to the needs of at-risk communities, increasing their safety and increasing their confidence in overcoming the psychological barrier of explosive ordnance threats, indirectly enabling opportunities for socioeconomic development. DCA is committed to maintaining support for our female colleagues through employment and personal development, whilst continuing to push duty bearers to engage with and listen to women in Libya, to promote gender equality and to ensure the safety of at-risk communities.

The CSSF programme team has been encouraging its local partner Free Fields Foundation to develop a Gender Strategy for their organisation which they recently did. FCDO Gender Leads will provide recommendations on how to improve it.

2. Assistance provided by the UK

In 2022, the UK has been funding the HALO-Trust, DanChurchAid and Free Fields Foundation to implement mine action activities in Tripoli, Sirte, Benghazi and Misrata for a total value of approximately £1m. Our local partner Free Fields Foundation (3F) has officially been accepted as a member of the Global Protection Cluster's Mine Action Area of Responsibility and will begin participating in its meetings. 3F is the first member from the

Global South to be included in this forum. 3F has also recently become a member of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines and the Cluster Munitions Coalition (ICBL-CMC).

CSSF Libya programme team participates in a monthly coordination meeting hosted by the mine action local authority (LibMAC) and facilitated by UNMAS, which brings together all the donors from the international community and the implementing partners to share updates on humanitarian mine action activities being implemented in Libya and future plans. CSSF Libya programme team holds regular discussions with LibMAC to make sure our interventions address the priorities of humanitarian mine action in Libya. CSSF Libya programme team maintains and regularly updates a table of all mine action projects in the country.

3. Cooperation between the UK and other States in exchanging best practices and lessons learned and the exchange of equipment, material and scientific and technological information

CSSF Libya engages with the EU delegation, the Netherlands, Germany, the US government and other donors, to exchange information on activity, lessons learnt and best practice to avoid duplication and ensure complementary of efforts.

4. Mine risk education

In 2022, DCA's all-female Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) team ran 148 EORE sessions on the dangers of explosives in Sirte.

These were mainly in-depth classroom sessions, but some public distributions with a wider reach were delivered, to the benefit of 3,896 children and adults. An estimated 175,000 people were reached through the Explosive Remnants of War awareness raising campaign through billboards, radio spots and SMS, delivering a strong outreach for the EORE component.

This project ended in March 2022 and since then no CSSF funding has been used for risk education. It is well covered by other international donors.

The UK funds UNICEF to implement risk education through Free Fields Foundation using other sources of funding.

Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention – additional reporting under Article 7

Armenia and Azerbaijan Conflict, Stability and Security Fund (CSSF)

In 2022 CSSF continued to support an existing UN Global Project to help enhance UNDP's capacity to respond to the 2020 Nagorno-Karabakh conflict through mine action. The UK has contributed £400k in calendar year 2022, to ensure UNDP expertise can assist local actors in post-conflict responses. The funding supported non-technical surveys and risk education measures in Armenia and Azerbaijan.

What efforts has the UK made in integrating and mainstreaming gender consideration and taking the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities into account in mine action programming?

Gender is an important part of all CSSF responses. We are working with the UN to ensure the project meets OECD-DAC GEM1 criteria at minimum and the project has recently been marked as GESI D. Our approach recognises the need to ensure the different needs of women and girls and men and boys are understood and included in project design. In 2022 the Project was renewed with a new intervention including a heavy gender component: hiring an international gender consultant to embed her at the Azerbaijani state demining agency for gender policy support.

Assistance provided by the UK to other States Parties in the implementation of their obligations

Neither Armenia nor Azerbaijan is a state party to the three relevant UN non-proliferation conventions. The UK is urging both Azerbaijan and Armenia to become parties.

Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention – additional reporting under Article 7

Ukraine Conflict, Stability and Security Fund

This reporting describes the progress made during 2022, after the renewed fighting, which have had a severe impact on mine action in Ukraine. Since 24th February 2022, the Russian military offensive in Ukraine has led to humanitarian needs growing at an alarming pace with significant loss of life, injuries and mass movement of people throughout the country and to neighbouring countries. As a result, of the fighting, cities and rural areas are now littered with explosive items endangering lives. A wide variety of ammunition can be found, including aircraft bombs, rockets, various calibres of projectiles and cluster munitions. Furthermore, there have been reports of mines laid in agricultural areas and other areas of critical importance for the local population.

Since February 2022, the land area exposed to war in Ukraine has exceeded 160,000 square kilometres (about 25 per cent of the country)¹. Over 250,000 explosive devices have already been removed and destroyed since March 2022, but millions more persist, with explosive ordnance potentially present in all areas affected by the full-scale war. Of the hundreds of civilians who have had accidents involving explosive ordnance, approximately 40 per cent die from their injuries; with 22 per cent of these deaths attributed to women and children². From 24 February to 28 November 2022, the UNHRMM in Ukraine verified 429 civilian casualties caused by mines and ERW, including 132 killed and 297 injured³.

Already before the 2022 war, Ukraine was one of the world's most landmine/ERW contaminated countries, ranked fourth after Afghanistan, Mali and Yemen in mine/ERW casualties in 2020. The situation now is even more serious, with the war continuing to contaminate more land with explosive ordnance, impacting humanitarian access, safety of resident and returning populations and creating an impediment to early recovery, reconstruction and the revitalization of socio-economic activities where this may be feasible.

Ukraine is not on track to meet its extended Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC) Article 5 deadline of 1 December 2023 even in areas controlled by the Government of Ukraine.

1. What efforts has the UK made in integrating and mainstreaming gender consideration and taking the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities into account in mine action programming?

The UK integrates and mainstreams gender consideration and takes the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities into account through its mine action programme implemented by the HALO Trust. A major obstacle to employing women as deminers was overcome in early 2017 when, after extensive lobbying by HALO, permission was given for HALO to employ the first female deminers in Ukraine. Since then, the number of female staff has been increasing. As of December 2022, HALO employ around 25% female deminers of total staff.

Non-technical Survey (NTS):

Unchanged since 2021

¹ National Mine Action Authority, adapted from a presentation at NDM-UN25, June 2022

² HALO tracking project statistics received through the Mine Action Sub-Cluster, HNO input, October 2022.

³ OHCHR input to the HNO, 29 November 2022

Gender mainstreaming:

The UK-funded UNDP Mine Action Sub-cluster (MASC) project, a unique co-ordination platform for both National and International MA stakeholders, advocates for gender mainstreaming and in close co-operating with the UNDP mine action project on creation and implementation of gender mainstreaming guidelines as follows:

- *Survey and Clearance*: gender responsive data collection, gender responsive employment and team formation;
- *EORE*: disaggregation of data by sex and age, production and dissemination of gender responsive messages, distribution of gender responsive messages, gender responsive employment and partnerships with local communities
- *Advocacy*: dissemination of gender responsive messages, better communication on the main mine action issues among the key stakeholder groups, focus on the different impact of EO on diverse groups, ensuring gender parity during events and campaigns, employment, partnership building.
- *Victim assistance*: gender-responsive data collection, gender-responsive assistance, assisting indirect victims, advocacy, employment

2. Assistance provided by the UK to other States Parties in the implementation of their obligations

The government of Ukraine has made significant progress over the last few years in establishing architecture for mine action programme. Following amendments to the Law of Ukraine 'On Mine Action in Ukraine' in December 2020, an institutional structure for Mine Action was established with a dedicated National Mine Action Authority (NMAA), an inter-departmental body under the Cabinet of Ministers, responsible for the coordination of state regulation and planning of MA, chaired by the Minister of Defence (MoD) of Ukraine. Two National Mine Action Centres (NMACs), one under MoD and one under Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA)/State Emergency Service of Ukraine (SESU) were established. The Mine Action Law and the new structure however has not yet been completely operationalized, and institutional frameworks and sector coordination must now be significantly enhanced to respond to current and developing requirements.

On 1 June 2022, the new National Mine Action Authority in Ukraine met for the first time since the legal amendment to the Law on Mine Action was adopted that established it on paper in November 2021. It will require some time for it to take on the strategic role that it has been assigned in legislation. Direct operational coordination remains a contested role between the Mine Action Centre and the Centre for Humanitarian Demining.

In order to assist the Government of Ukraine, the UK extended its project "Delivering Mine Action through strengthened national and sub-national capacity and coordination in Ukraine" for one more year 2022/23. The project helps significantly to assist the NMAA strengthening existing MASC forum bringing together relevant government ministries⁴ and their implementing arms⁵, as well as UN Agencies⁶, international organisations like OSCE, ICRC and GICHD, including International and National NGOs (HALO, FSD, DRC, HI, NPA, MAG, DCA, UDA, Airlight).

⁴ For example: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Reintegration of Temporary occupied Territory; Ministry of Infrastructure

⁵ For example: State Transport Services, State Emergency Services of Ukraine, Police EOD units

⁶ For example: UNDP, UNICEF, OCHA

MASC supports NMAA to coordinate mine action activities between all actors, expanding thematic working groups in line with sector priorities, developing a communication plans and related activities based on thorough stakeholder analysis and needs. The sub-cluster also offers critical information exchange, coordination of interventions, prioritization of tasks, and ensures that standards are developed, and best practices are promoted.

In addition, as part of the Community Safety Project, a multi-donor Partnership Fund for Resilient Ukraine (PFRU) is supporting the expansion of the Humanitarian Demining and Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) capacity and capability of the State Emergency Services of Ukraine (SESU). PFRU has a global MOU with SESU and the Ministry of Interior for this purpose and other areas of support in Firefighting, Search and Rescue. Focus areas are Humanitarian Demining (Non-technical Survey, Mechanical Clearance & Explosive Ordnance Disposal) and Explosive Ordnance Risk Education.

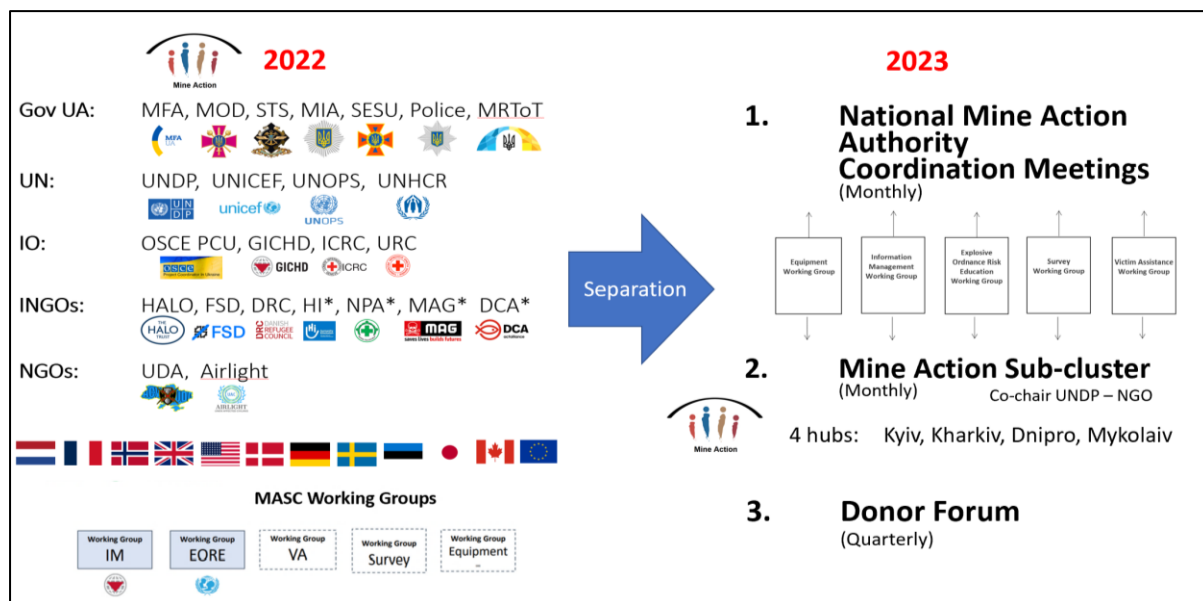
PFRU has launched a variety of activities with a particular focus on EOD in frontline areas and improving the capacity and capability of the SESU Interregional Centre for Humanitarian Demining and Rapid Response at Merefa, Kharkiv Region, to deliver training to International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) and will continue this work next year too.

3. Efforts made by the UK to coordinate support for the effective implementation of Convention obligations by affected States Parties.

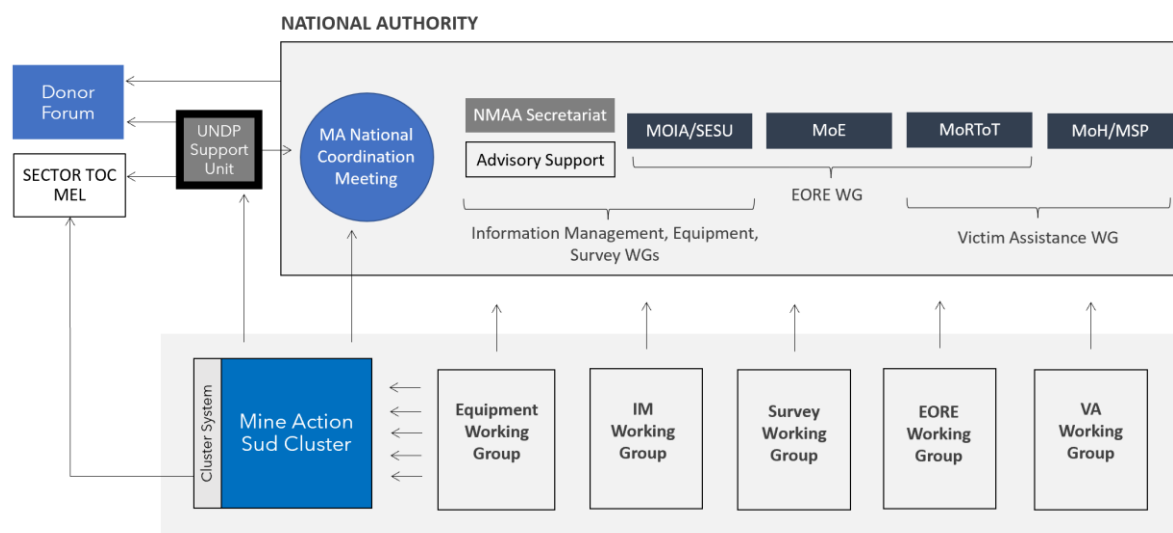
UK-funded Ukrainian demining programmes provide regular inputs into annual OCHA humanitarian needs overview for Ukraine and contributes to the Protection Cluster meetings and UN General Coordination meetings. The UK-funded UNDP MASC contributed to finalisation of Ukraine's Humanitarian planning cycle (HPC) 2022. MASC worked closely with OCHA, Protection cluster and mine action partners in order to facilitate the submission of mine action project in Humanitarian response plan (HRP) and Ukraine Humanitarian Fund (UHF) focusing on clearance, NTS, EORE and Mine victim assistance. MASC chair actively participated in ICCG and GCM meetings chaired by OCHA and provided updates on MA activities. The UK will continue to provide guidance and input for the establishment and implementation of the new national mine action regulatory framework.

4. Cooperation between the UK and other States in exchanging best practices and lessons learned and the exchange of equipment, material and scientific and technological information

With the UK's assistance, the coordination structure transformed from the monthly MASC meetings into three separate platforms as illustrated below:



MASC also empowers new thematic working groups to advance mine action priorities in the sector: Information Management, EORE, VA, NTS and Equipment, as illustrated below:



Enhancement of MASC platform with additional thematic groups helped to improve exchange of best practices and lessons learned, track procurement of equipment for national stakeholders, exchange material, survey finding and scientific and technological information more efficiently, etc.

Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention – additional reporting under Article 7

Sri Lanka Conflict, Stability and Security Fund mine action programme

1. What efforts has the UK made in integrating and mainstreaming gender consideration and taking the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities into account in mine action programming?

Since 2015, we have promoted gender equality through demining employment and projects in North and East in Sri Lanka with the support of our partners The HALO Trust and The Mines Advisory Group (MAG). In HALO and MAG Sri Lanka, women represent 40% and 24% of workforce, contributing to the inclusion, participation, and leadership of women in demining and recovery efforts. Furthermore, 7% of HALO and 4% of MAG staff report living with a disability. Because female deminers and Persons with Disabilities (PWD) can be considered a vulnerable group that might be affected by job losses when Sri Lanka is mine free, we aim to reduce their risk of having to revert to informal or precarious income sources.

Diversity and inclusivity are core values to our partners. Gender-sensitive approaches are integrated throughout operations to ensure that women, men, girls and boys can benefit equally from our work. To understand the differing impact of explosive hazards on each group in the community, our partners conduct gender-sensitive assessments of the intended beneficiary communities by deploying mixed gender community liaison teams. This involves the collection of sex, age and disability disaggregated beneficiary data to systematically inform operations. Our partners are also committed to employing a skilled and diverse workforce and strive towards the mainstreaming of gender equality in their workforce through targeted recruitment, skills development and merit-based promotion of female employees. Our partners ensure to adapt approaches in community facing activities to make sure they are inclusive of all groups within a community.

Our partners work with communities and groups who were directly affected by the war and exposed to violence, the mental trauma from which can persist for many years. With the support of CSSF-funding, both operators were able to go beyond the 'do no harm' principle; partnerships with independent local service providers were engaged by our partners to offer counselling sessions and support to the staff and their families. As the Sri Lankan mine action sector is among the largest employers in the Northern Province, such interventions have the potential to avoid unintended consequences and have a community level positive effect on improved gender equality, family and community relations and wellbeing.

As our partners are the large employer in a post-conflict context, safeguarding challenges (particularly domestic violence) are not uncommon. Numerous studies have shown that conflict affected communities are vulnerable to mental health challenges during the recovery from armed conflict. Both partners have put in place robust mechanisms to prevent safeguarding incidents and to manage these situations appropriately with mental health support when they do arise. Our support has strengthened partners' existing safeguarding measures by providing comprehensive safeguarding trainings for all national staff. Among the topics

included in the training are harassment, bullying, abuse of authority, drugs and alcohol, and domestic violence.

HALO has become aware of the challenges operational staff may face, in particular female staff, with balancing childcare and their employment. Women are often subject to the cultural expectation to take on the role of main caregiver in the household. In the case of separation or divorce, children are most likely to remain with the mother and there are many war widowed women in the Northern Province. HALO estimates that 90% of single-headed households in the current workforce are led by a female staff member. The cost for childcare services in Sri Lanka are often too high to carry on a single salary, and demining in a country with a warm climate involves early deployment or late returns. As a result HALO has received some reports of staff members struggling to balance their parental duties with HALO employment. Hence, to avoid single-parents having to decide between earning a steady income and parental responsibilities, and especially to ensure staff's children are never left unattended or under unreliable supervision, HALO has approached a local childcare centre in Kilinochchi to enquire about possibilities for such vulnerable HALO staff to access their services. The centre has agreed to adapt its opening hours to HALO's early morning and late afternoon shifts of operational staff and provides pre-school, day-care and after school care services. CSSF funding has enabled childcare services to vulnerable staff, in particular, female headed households.

MAG has a guiding safeguarding framework supporting diversity, including policies on Equal Opportunities, Dignity at Work, Personal Conduct, Protection of Vulnerable Adults and Children and the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse. MAG also has a global gender policy that aims to ensure equal participation and access for women, girls, boys and men without discrimination. MAG Sri Lanka programme recruited and deployed a mixed-gender safeguarding team and consolidated a complaint and feedback mechanism. The safeguarding reporting system encourages staff and communities to raise concerns through a variety of reporting channels, including a phone hotline, regular Focus Group Discussions with groups at higher risk, regular refresher training and complaint/feedback boxes. MAG Sri Lanka programme is also supported by a global advisor on Gender, Diversity and Inclusion.

The economic crisis and increased costs of food, fuel and other basic commodities impact all local employees, particularly the lowest paid. In order, to alleviate the burden, HALO and MAG started paying a flat rate Cost of Living allowance of LKR 10,000, which was introduced in April 22. Following the associated devaluation of the Sri Lankan rupee the temporary allowance was affordable. This has not affected the total awarded amount of this grant. HALO also introduced pick-up points for staff, so they could use HALO transport to report to work. This has reduced the number of absentees.

2. Efforts made by the UK to coordinate support for the effective implementation of Convention obligations by affected States Parties

The UK is committed to supporting Sri Lanka to reach its objective of being free from the threat of landmines and explosive remnants of war (ERW), following the adoption of the Ottawa Mine Ban Treaty in December 2017. Due to Sri Lanka's accession to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC) in December 2017, Sri Lanka has committed to identify and clear all anti-personnel mined areas by 1 June 2028, in line with its Article 5 obligations. According to the NMAC Sri Lanka's completion process document, Sri Lanka is confident that it will be able to full this obligation ahead of this date. This programme will enable the UK to continue to support landmine and ERW clearance and risk reduction in some of the poorest regions in the world.

Our support focuses on the peace, respect and inclusion campaign goal of the UK's Country Business Plan (CBP) and assist with implementation of the UNHRC resolution 51/1, for which the UK is the lead sponsor. This support is also in line with the UN Sustainable Development Goal (16) – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions.

The programme contributes to the CSSF outcome area – “Conflict and Instability: Building resilience and stability overseas, including catalysing political settlements, in order to mitigate threats to UK national interests”. In addition, due to consideration of gender-based issues, the programme also addresses the CSSF outcome area on “Women, Peace and Security: Protecting and promoting the rights and inclusion of women and girls to advance gender equality and build sustainable peace”.

More than two decades of armed conflict in Sri Lanka has resulted in significant areas of mine contaminated land, unexploded ordinance (UXO) and other explosive remnants of war (ERW). Sri Lanka's mine action programme started in 2002 with the assistance of UNDP, UNICEF, international and domestic NGOs and the support of several international donors - including the UK.

In 2016, the Sri Lankan National Mine Action Centre (NMAC) launched its 2016-2020 national mine action strategy with the objective of ensuring Sri Lanka is declared 'mine-risk free' by 2020, although current estimates are that this goal will now only be reached in 2027 at the earliest.

The NMAC, with support of international donors including the UK, has made progress in the effective clearance of mines UXO and ERW. According to the NMAC's progress report, at 30 April 2022, 202,619,752 Sqm of land had been cleared in Sri Lanka through a combination of Government and donor-led efforts. This has led to the release of land to local communities. However, there remains a significant amount of work to do. According to NMAC estimates by April 2022, over 14,126,709 Sqm of remaining Confirmed Hazardous Area (CHA) needs to be cleared, with thousands of IDPs and refugees also in India, some of whom are waiting to be resettled on currently mine-contaminated land.

BHC Colombo engaged the NMAC Sri Lanka, Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), local and international de-mining operators, like-

mindful diplomatic missions that fund de-mining work in Sri Lanka such as High Commission of Canada, U.S Embassy and Embassy of Switzerland to confirm the value the UK could add to the de-mining work in Sri Lanka. Sri Lanka's new national mine action strategy which was finalised by the GoSL highlight that Sri Lanka should reach its mine free goal by 2027. The NMAC, demining operators and other like-minded donors agree that support to the mine action sector until the country is 'mine-risk free' is important.

The UK has played a significant role within demining in Sri Lanka, since the early support given to Sri Lanka in 2002. Under the Conflict Security and Stability Fund (CSSF), UK support has enabled the release of around 2,680,000m² of mine-contaminated land which benefited more than 170,000 people in the North and East of Sri Lanka to date.

As the BHC Colombo CSSF Programme Document for the FY 2022/23-2024/25 outlines, the UK will continue to support Sri Lanka's "landmine free" goal and its commitment to the removal of landmines, prioritising land that enables the return of displaced populations. This also includes working with implementers to maintain a strong focus on women's employment (including many female heads of household). This will mitigate the (relatively low) landmine risk and enable Sri Lanka's goal to be "landmine risk free by 2027". Programming will work with implementers, Sri Lanka's National Mine Action Centre to achieve this goal, and to also ensure sustainable solutions to landmine operators exit, including ensuring that sustainable solutions to diversifying employment opportunities are in place.

On 29 October 2022, the British High Commission in Colombo hosted a reception to mark The HALO Trust and Mines Advisory Group (MAG)'s 20th anniversary of humanitarian mine clearance in Sri Lanka. The event drew participation from embassy representatives of donor governments, government ministries, and the NMAC Sri Lanka as well as humanitarian mine action operators.

Mine risk education

In 2019, CSSF stopped supporting mine risk education efforts to allow funds to be prioritised towards demining activities.