

EU Support to Mine Action in Ukraine and Future Perspectives

8 April 2024

Io Kerstin SCHMID, Head of Sector for Rapid Response in Europe and Central Asia EU Service for Foreign Policy Instruments

State of Play: EU and EU Member States support to Mine Action in Ukraine

EU and its Member States provide more than €110 million of support to Ukraine's mine action effort

Large parts via international NGOs and organisations performing survey and clearance tasks on government assignment

UA state mine action authorities and operators are strengthened with the provision of 1) equipment and 2) specialised trainings 3) human resources

Support to victims and the livelihoods of affected communities, prevention via explosive ordnance risk education (EORE)

Funding provided mostly from **emergency and humanitarian aid budgets**



EU Support for Mine Action in Ukraine (August 2023)



Unless otherwise specified, the map content has been prepared on the basis of open source information not officially confirmed

Distribution not permitted unless explicitly stated Feedback info to be sent to: JRC-science4peace@ec.europa.eu



European Commission

European

Commission

3

Production Date: 06 September 2023 Map Catalogue: https://science4peace.jrc.ec.europa.eu Data source: FPI, ESRI

with the financial support of the "Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument - Global Europe / Peace, Stability and Conflict Prevention thematic programme". The maps are stored in a restricted access portal and unauthorized use is not permitted. Distribution is not permitted unless explicitly stated. Map Scale 1:5,500,000 for A3 printing size



New EU Support: Innovation in Mine Action (€10 million adopted in December 2023)

- The latest EU support package to mine action of €10 million was adopted in December 2023 and contracts are currently under preparation
- Two main elements of support:
 - Supporting the use of innovative technologies in mine action, including the use of drones, including artificial intelligence and computer imagery, and demining dogs for non-technical survey
 - Preparing for the use of innovative financing models for mine action, e.g. public / private sector investments and loan/grant blending



Next Steps: Need for New Ways of Mine Action Support



With the adoption of the new mine action strategy, Ukraine is setting up the mine action sector to be fit for the challenges also in the medium to longer term



The effectiveness of the sector for freeing up land and availability of accredited mine action operators are crucial to put the provided support to the best possible use



Sustainable and foreseeable international support is needed to allow the planning and prioritisation of mine action operations



Examples: Innovative Funding Mechanisms for Mine Action

i.

The EU's newly established Ukraine Facility with a total value of €50 billion foresees support to investments in the demining of agricultural lands to put this back to productive use

ii.

Partnerships with the **private sector**, such as large agro-food businesses

- Support businesses who can finance the survey and clearance of their commercial properties
- Ensuring that vulnerability criteria are included to make support also accessible for small-scale and subsistence farmers

iii.

Blending operations

combining grant funding with loans from the European Financial Institutes, to make larger amounts of funding available to the mine action sector, while reducing burden on Ukraine



Conclusion: Elements needed for an Efficient Mine Action Sector

Mine action services need to be **readily available for affected citizens and businesses**

Effective quality control of operations and risk management approach are put in place by the Government

State Mine Action Operators are well-coordinated, using an integrated information management system (IMSA) for planning and prioritising of operations



Thank you!



© European Union 2020

Unless otherwise noted the reuse of this presentation is authorised under the <u>CC BY 4.0</u> license. For any use or reproduction of elements that are not owned by the EU, permission may need to be sought directly from the respective right holders.

European Commission

Slide xx: element concerned, source: e.g. Fotolia.com; Slide xx: element concerned, source: e.g. iStock.com