



**Support to Community Driven Mine Action in Ukraine**  
**MPTF OFFICE GENERIC ANNUAL PROGRAMME NARRATIVE PROGRESS REPORT**  
**REPORTING PERIOD: 1 JANUARY – 31 DECEMBER 2024**

<p align="center"><b>Programme Title &amp; Project Number</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Programme Title: <b>Support to Community Driven Mine Action in Ukraine</b></li> <li>Programme Number <i>(if applicable)</i></li> <li>MPTF Office Project Reference Number: <b>00140625</b></li> </ul>	<p align="center"><b>Country, Locality(s), Priority Area(s) / Strategic Results</b></p> <p><i>(if applicable)</i> Country/Region <b>Ukraine</b></p> <p>Priority area/ strategic results</p>
<p align="center"><b>Participating Organization(s)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UNDP</li> <li>UNOPS</li> <li>UNMAS</li> </ul>	<p align="center"><b>Implementing Partners</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National counterparts (government, private, NGOs &amp; others) and other International Organizations</li> </ul>
<p align="center"><b>Programme/Project Cost (US\$)</b></p> <p>Total approved budget as per project document: <b>1,175,815.00</b></p> <p>MPTF /JP Contribution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>by Agency <i>(if applicable)</i></li> </ul> <p>Agency Contribution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>by Agency <i>(if applicable)</i></li> </ul> <p>Government Contribution <i>(if applicable)</i> N/A</p> <p>Other Contributions (donors) <i>(if applicable)</i> N/A</p> <p><b>TOTAL: 1,175,815.00</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Programme Duration</b></p> <p>Overall Duration <b>16 months</b></p> <p>Start Date <b>01.03.2024</b></p> <p>Original End Date <b>01.09.2024</b></p> <p>Current End date <b>01.07.2025</b></p>
<p align="center"><b>Programme Assessment/Review/Mid-Term Eval.</b></p> <p>Assessment/Review - if applicable <i>please attach</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Date: dd.mm.yyyy</p> <p>Mid-Term Evaluation Report – if applicable <i>please attach</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Date: dd.mm.yyyy</p>	<p align="center"><b>Report Submitted By</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Name: Nadiia Polishchuk</li> <li>Title: Project Manager</li> <li>Participating Organization (Lead): UNOPS</li> <li>Email address: nadiiap@unops.org</li> </ul>

## NARRATIVE REPORT FORMAT

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Support to Community Driven Mine Action in Ukraine Project focused on strengthening Ukraine's national mine action capacity, a critical step for recovery and reconstruction. Key achievements include:

Strategic Coordination through:

- Deployment of a Senior Mine Action Advisor to enhance coordination and government ownership of mine action.
- Development and implementation of a national mine action strategy.
- Improved resource mobilization and data management systems.
- Integration of gender-responsive planning, securing \$15 million for a UN Women partnership, to increase women's participation in demining.

Logistics Base Development, namely:

- Completion of Phase 1 of the State Emergency Service of Ukraine (SESU) Logistics Base in Lviv, which included site assessment, fencing, security system installation (video surveillance and access control), and lighting.
- Detailed design and preparation for Phase 2, i.e construction of storage and administration facilities.
- Addressing challenges such as security concerns, power shortages, and unexpected underground infrastructure, implementing timely adjustments and putting in place effective mitigation measures.

Capacity Building:

- Support for local mine action capacity to address explosive ordnance threats.
- Focus on community resilience, peacebuilding, and economic developments.
- Focus on improving safety for civilians and humanitarian aid workers.

### I. Purpose

- The primary objective of the project is to strengthen the resilience of Ukrainian institutions in support of mine clearance throughout the whole territory of Ukraine, as a precondition and necessary step of recovery and reconstruction. The expected Outcome: National Mine Action Capacity is strengthened.

### II. Results

#### i) Narrative reporting on results:

The expected outcome of the Project is that National Mine Action Capacity is strengthened.

In 2024, through the deployment of a Senior Mine Action Advisor and the integration of gender-responsive planning across strategic and operational activities, the Project contributed to establishing a coordinated and inclusive One UN approach to mine action in Ukraine. In close collaboration with the UN Resident Coordinator's Office and national stakeholders, efforts focused on developing a national mine action strategy and laying the foundation for a logistics base to support future operations. A key focus throughout was the mainstreaming of gender considerations, in line with Ukraine's

National Mine Action Strategy, to ensure inclusivity and equity in all aspects of coordination, staffing, and planning.

The Project has two components and two respective Outputs:

## **Output 1. Community driven mine action coordination capacity (HR)**

### Activity 1: Provision of Principal Mine Action Advisor

The Senior Mine Action Advisor provided strategic advice to the RC, leading to several achievements as below:

Advancing the safety and security of civilians and humanitarian operations  
Increased government ownership of mine action

- Adoption and implementation of the national mine action strategy
- Enhanced resource mobilization for the mine action sector
- Adoption of new technologies and NTS methods to improve resource utilization
- Improved information management and data integration for resource allocation, prioritization, and impact measurement

Supporting local mine action capacity to address explosive ordnance threats

- Implementation of Ukraine's mine action strategy and meeting relevant treaty obligations
- Increased community resilience and support for peacebuilding
- Economic development and resilience in communities contributing to the SDGs
- Safer communities and reduced deaths/injuries from mines and explosive remnants of war (ERW)
- Increased sector efficiency to reduce national debt caused by the mine action crisis

## **Output 2. Phase 1 of the establishment of the SESU Logistics Base is completed.**

UNOPS was responsible for implementing this Component of the Project, collaborating with the Main Department of SESU in Lviv Region and particularly with the 2nd State Fire-Rescue Squad located in Lviv, which was identified as the location for the future Logistics Base. UNOPS Project Team identified several Activities aimed at successful delivery of the Output 2, namely:

Activity 1 - Site Assessment and Detailed Planning. The Project Engineers conducted a site assessment to validate the initial assumptions made at the start of the Project. This assessment also helped to verify cost estimations and define the scope for Phase 1, as well as the future Phase 2 (Logistics Base construction).

Activity 2 - Site Preparation. Initially, the Site Preparation included clearing and levelling the land; conducting soil testing and preparation; and setting up basic infrastructures such as temporary roads and drainage in preparation for the construction work. During the process of logistics hub design, site preparation was included as an integral part of Phase 2 of the Project, based on professional advice from engineers and architects considering the nature of works. Phase 1 site preparation instead focused on dismantling several existing structures and partial soil levelling as a part of the

Fencing the Security arrangements activity.

Activity 3 - Fencing the Site. The Project Team identified a provider of design service for the fence, entry and exit gates, outdoor street lighting, video surveillance, and access control to the site. The design was completed and approved by SESU on 31 May 2024. In June, quality assurance (design review) was conducted and all comments were addressed. In July 2024, the tender for installation of fencing, video surveillance, access control, and lighting was launched and the contract was awarded to the Kyiv-based company, KEENTEGRO LLC, and an agreement was signed on 25 September 2024.

In December 2024, the Contractor completed the main scope of works related to the site preparation and installing the fencing, street lighting, access control and video surveillance. Considering some obstacles that led to delays in construction - such as the conscription of several workers of the Contractor, discovery of strategic networks underground during the construction, and adverse weather conditions- , the main part of this Activity is completed and only some minor works remain to be finished in Q1 2025, namely final painting of the gates, leveling the ground in some areas as these activities require temperatures to be above zero.

The old fence, which was partially ruined, was demolished and a new fence was erected surrounding the territory of the Fire Squad and ensuring secure space for the future Logistics hub.

Based on the design, UNOPS installed more than one entry point to the territory of the Fire Squad: 1) access for personnel and supervised visitors through wickets, 2) automated gates that can be controlled from the main entrance as well as remotely and manually, and 3) a barrier in front of the gates. All access control points were completed in December 2024.

The territory of the Fire Squad had no lighting. New steel light poles were installed along the perimeter and in front of the building, allowing not only comfortable working conditions, but also ensuring the effectiveness of video surveillance. The lights can be turned on and off manually by the personnel and two sides of territory can be managed separately. This allows the responsible consumption of energy and is economical.

Modern CCTV equipment was installed around the entire territory of the future Logistics Hub and inside the administrative building. Outdated cameras and software were changed to new ones, meeting the technical and security requirements of the SESU. To ensure compatibility of the surveillance equipment at the upcoming Storage Hub (to be built), additional video cameras were procured and transferred to the Recipient during Phase 1. The IT equipment and software will be easily set up to incorporate the new cameras when they are installed in the new storage building.

In addition, some old IT equipment that supported the operators' daily work was complemented with a new monitor allowing the simultaneous surveillance of all cameras (both the ones currently installed and those to be installed in the Storage Hub).

Activity 4 - Detailed design and preparation of specifications documentation for subsequent tender of the construction works for the storage and administration facilities. The detailed design of the building, including storage, shelving and administration facilities was completed and underwent quality assurance review to ensure compliance with international standards, as well as health, safety, and

environmental requirements. The UNOPS Design Review Certificate was obtained in December 2024 and the Project plans to finalise the set of documents for the tender for the Construction of the Logistics Hub in Phase 2 of the project, pending availability of funding.

- **Delays in implementation, challenges, lessons learned & best practices:**

Component 1:

A core component of the UNMAS contribution to this project is the deployment of a Senior Mine Action Technical Advisor. While the advisor has been successfully recruited and is currently active, there is a risk that this institutional knowledge and leadership capacity could be disrupted. This risk could arise if the advisor is no longer able to remain in-country due to various reasons. Additionally, there is a possibility that the position could become unfunded in the future or remain unfilled due to hiring constraints.

To mitigate this risk, continued support and funding for the technical advisor's deployment should be ensured. In parallel, it is advisable to identify an alternative candidate who could step into the role if needed.

Component 2:

UNOPS identified several risks that had the potential to delay project implementation. Mitigation measures were put in place to minimize their impact:

- Deterioration of the security situation in general and in the Lviv Region specifically. The project team closely monitored the security situation to ensure all planned activities could be completed on time and without compromising the quality of works.
- Electricity shortages resulting from damage to the national energy infrastructure. UNOPS included the availability of diesel generators as a requirement to enable the contractor to continue during outages and helped avoid further delays.
- Conscription of male personnel of the contractor during the construction process. This risk unfortunately materialised and was beyond the control of UNOPS and the contractor, resulting in one week delay in completion of construction works.

In addition to the anticipated risks, an unforeseen issue was identified during the initial days of construction. The contractor discovered underground networks that were not indicated on available maps during the design preparation. These networks were classified in nature, thus not officially marked. This led to additional time required for investigation and for corresponding adjustments to the design.

To accommodate these delays, UNOPS requested and was granted a no-cost extension.

- **Qualitative assessment:**

Humanitarian demining is at the forefront of UN efforts to support national actors to bring back economic stability and restore livelihoods in the communities decimated by the war. The Senior Mine Action Advisor provided strategic advice to the RC, with the focus of the UN demining in 2024 on

integrating innovative technologies, enhancing land clearance, building local expertise, and supporting survivors.

Gender is a core component of Ukraine's National Mine Action Strategy, with gender considerations integrated across all aspects of project planning and implementation. To address the underrepresentation of women within the mine action sector, the Senior Mine Action Advisor has secured \$15 million in funding over three years, beginning 1 April 2025, for a strategic initiative in partnership with UN Women. This programme aims to challenge gender stereotypes, use social and media outreach to normalize women's roles in demining, provide training and mentoring, and offer social and psychological support to encourage women's entry and retention in the sector.

