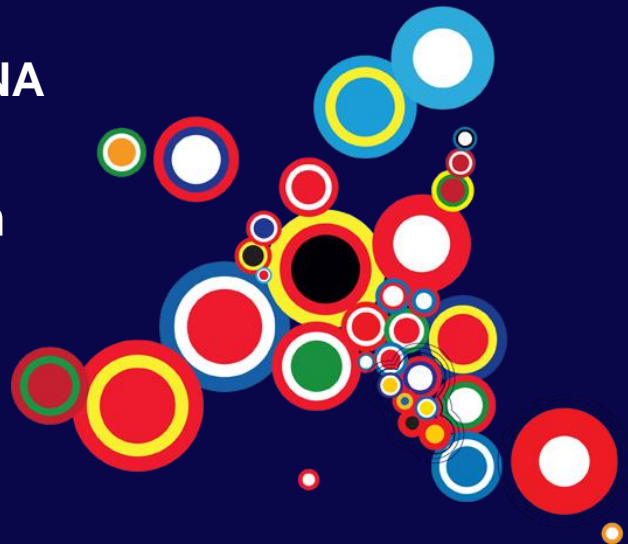




INSTRUMENT FOR PRE-ACCESSION ASSISTANCE (IPA II) 2014-2020

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

EU Support to Mine Action



Action summary

The Action will support Bosnia and Herzegovina in working towards the fulfilment of its commitments as a signatory of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention and in the implementation of the 2018-2025 Bosnia and Herzegovina Mine Action Strategy.

Mine Suspected Area (MSA) projects will be implemented at a surface of 100 square kilometers through activities of non-technical survey, technical survey and clearance of mine in order to eliminate mine threats in affected communities of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The capacity of the mine action authorities will be strengthened in order for them to carry out their operational activities and their controlling and oversight functions.

Action Identification	
Action Programme Title	Annual Action Programme for Bosnia and Herzegovina for the year 2018
Action Title	EU Support to Mine Action
Action ID	IPA 2018/decision number.sequence number/ Bosnia and Herzegovina/Mine Action
Sector Information	
IPA II Sector	Education, employment and social policies
DAC Sector	15250 – Removal of land mines and explosive remnants of war
Budget	
Total cost	EUR 10 000 000
EU contribution	EUR 10 000 000
Budget line(s)	22.020102
Management and Implementation	
Management mode	Direct
<i>Direct management:</i>	EU Delegation to Bosnia and Herzegovina
Implementation responsibilities	If possible, and if relevant, indicate the name of the person(s) in charge of management of the financial assistance
Location	
Zone benefiting from the action	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Specific implementation area(s)	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Timeline	
Final date for concluding Financing Agreement(s) with IPA II beneficiary	At the latest by 31 December 2019
Final date for concluding delegation agreements under indirect management	At the latest by 31 December 2019
Final date for concluding procurement and grant contracts	3 years following the date of conclusion of the Financing Agreement, with the exception of cases listed under Article 189(2) of the Financial Regulation
Final date for operational implementation	6 years following the conclusion of the Financing Agreement
Final date for implementing the Financing Agreement (date by which this programme should be de-committed and closed)	12 years following the conclusion of the Financing Agreement

Policy objectives / Markers (DAC form)			
General policy objective	Not targeted	Significant objective	Main objective
Participation development/good governance	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aid to environment	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gender equality (including <i>Women In Development</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trade Development	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reproductive, Maternal, New born and child health	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
RIO Convention markers	Not targeted	Significant objective	Main objective
Biological diversity	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Combat desertification	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Climate change mitigation	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Climate change adaptation	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

1. RATIONALE

PROBLEM AND STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS

Twenty three years after the end of the conflict in Bosnia and Herzegovina, mine contamination is still a serious problem with approx. 1,060 square km or roughly 2.2% of the national territory identified as suspected hazardous area. It is estimated that between 75,000 - 80,000 mines/and Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) are still in the soil. Mine contamination affects 1,398 vulnerable communities distributed in 127 municipalities. The majority of mine/ERW-affected communities are in rural areas directly affecting the security of 545,000 inhabitants or 15% of the total population. In the post-war period (1996-2017), 1,756 people were victims of mines/ERW in Bosnia and Herzegovina, of which 613 people died. Out of the total number of victims, 249 victims or 14% are children.

Mine contamination results in the blocking of natural resources, which makes it difficult for the socio-economic development of the community. Of the total suspected hazardous area, 63% is forest, 27% is potential agricultural land and 10% concerns other, mainly potential infrastructure areas. Urban populations have relatively safer economic and social life in comparison with rural populations who depend economically on the access to land. An analysis of mine accidents in BiH shows that individuals that are more economically vulnerable are also more exposed to mine/ERW contamination, as they often knowingly enter into contaminated areas for livelihoods activities.

Previous experience indicates that the strategic planning was not in line with the available financial resources. For example, between 2013 and 2015, BiH spent BAM 58 million on demining, around 25% of the planned funds. Donors have spent BAM 55 million for the same period, around 84% of the planned funds. During the period 2009-2016, only 48% of the planned land was mine cleared. Furthermore, although the government regulated mine action through the 2002 Demining Law, it has not defined sufficiently, in the law, the responsibility of the key actors. The Demining Commission, which, inter alia, has the mandate to monitor the work of BHMACH, has not developed a methodology on how to monitor the work of the BHMACH.¹

The end date to solve the mine problem was envisaged to be December 2019 as defined in the Mine Action Strategy of Bosnia and Herzegovina 2009-2019. Yet, observing the percentage of land released to end users, the degree of implementation of the mentioned Strategy in the period 2009-2017 is at the level of 48% with the total of 623 square km of suspected hazardous area released. As a result, Bosnia and Herzegovina will not be able to solve the mine problem within the prescribed time limit, and therefore, in March 2018, it submitted an interim application for the extension of time limit under Article 5 of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention.

In order to accelerate the process, the Mine Action Centre in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BHMACH), with the assistance of the European Union (IPA/2012/310-576), developed professional regulations for the implementation of Land Release concept - a more advanced, modern, and cost-effective approach.

International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) defines land release as ‘the process of applying all reasonable effort to identify, define, and remove all presence and suspicion of mines/ERW through non-technical survey, technical survey and/or clearance of mines. The criteria for “all reasonable effort” shall be defined by the National Mine Action Authorities.² Land release is an evidence-based decision-making process that helps determine with confidence which land needs further processing and which does not. It involves the identification of suspected and confirmed hazardous areas, the cancellation of land through non-technical survey, the reduction of land through technical survey and the clearance of mine/ERW contaminated land. The land release process should result in disaggregated reporting, distinguishing between the activities (NTS, TS and clearance) and the products they result in (cancelled, reduced and cleared).

¹ "Efficiency of the Demining System in BiH - Performance Audit Report", Audit Office of the Institutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the Committee on Finance and Budget of the House of Representatives of the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ref. no. 01-02-03-10-16-1-1101-1/16 from 4 November 2016

² IMAS 07.11 Land Release March 2013

<https://www.mineactionstandards.org/fileadmin/MAS/documents/imas-international-standards/english/series-07/IMAS-07-11-Ed1-Am3.pdf>

The results of Land Release concept in the period 2014-2017 indicate that the application of this concept will definitely speed up and make less costly the process of demining in Bosnia and Herzegovina. In the period 2014-2017, 11 pilot "land release projects" were implemented and 38.58 km² of suspected hazardous area were released. 1,144 pieces of various mines were found and destroyed. 91% of suspected hazardous area were treated with non-technical methods, while 9% (technical survey 8%, and mine clearance 1%) were treated with technical methods. The Land Release concept is expected to speed up and make less costly demining in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Despite the prominence of the Land Release concept in the last seven years, the consolidation of the approach was interrupted in January 2016 and only recently re-initiated. The Land Release Standards, financed by the European Union pilot programme (IPA 2012/310-576), were prepared by BHMAC and endorsed by the Demining Commission, but the Standards did not regulate the quality assurance and the quality control aspects, both essential elements to the Land Release approach. Due to this gap, the implementation and completion of the pilot land release projects in 2016 and 2017 has been slowed down significantly.

Despite shortfalls the preliminary results of the Land Release projects were the basis for drafting the new Mine Action Strategy of Bosnia and Herzegovina 2018-2025. The Strategy was drafted by the Mine Action Centre in BiH with the assistance of the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD). Strategic Goal 3 of the Strategy addresses the survey and clearance aspects. In addition, the Land Release concept was the basis for the drafting of the Interim Request of Bosnia and Herzegovina to extend the deadline for fulfilling obligations under Article 5 of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transport of Anti-Personnel Mines and their Destruction for the period 1 March 2019 – 1 March 2021.

The Demining Commission is the authority responsible for the long-term conduct of mine action activities and removal of mine danger in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Ministry of Civil Affairs and the Demining Commission initiated the consultation process for the formulation of the Action in close collaboration with its technical body BHMAC. The Demining Commission promoted and endorsed the concept of mine-free municipality after consultations with mayors countrywide. Local governments are a key stakeholder in past and on-going mine action programmes supported by the European Union. Also the Federal Administration of Civil Protection and the Civil Protection Administration of Republic of Srpska implement their mandate including mine and UXO clearance at the community and municipality level. Through this Action the Civil Protection agencies will coordinate their clearance plans with the municipalities and BHMAC contributing thus through efficient planning to the clearance and release of larger areas. BHMAC will coordinate through its headquarters in Sarajevo and the 8 regional offices in Banja Luka, Pale, Tuzla, Brčko, Mostar, Travnik and Bihać the implementation at the selected municipalities and will actively support the land release concept.

There are 26 organisations accredited for mine action in BiH: five government organisations (Armed Forces of BiH, Federal Administration of Civil Protection, Civil Protection Administration of Republic of Srpska, Brčko District Civil Protection, and the Red Cross Society of BiH); nine commercial companies (eight national and one international); and twelve non-governmental organisations (NGOs) (ten national and two international). Overall demining capacity totalled 1,056 persons in accredited organisations, comprising 792 deminers and 264 others (including team leaders, site leader, operational officers, quality assurance officers, and dog trainers).

Out of the 26 accredited organisations the European Union so far had projects implemented through eight locally registered NGOs (demining and mine risk education). Two other international NGOs implemented projects for socio-economic support to mine victims. The European Union collaborated in the past with the Civil Protection Agencies and more recently provided equipment to the Demining Battalion for its engagement in the Land Release process.

OUTLINE OF IPA II ASSISTANCE

The Action will contribute to the effective implementation of the Mine Action Strategy of Bosnia and Herzegovina 2018-2025, primarily its Strategic Goal 3, which relates to survey and clearance activities, but also to the mobilization of additional domestic resources, for the same goal, in the forthcoming period. Implementation of the Action will improve the safety of the population in the benefiting municipalities, as it will significantly reduce the mine threat potential of incidents and accidents. Furthermore, the

implementation of the Action will improve the living conditions of the local communities by making available currently blocked natural and infrastructure resources at the municipality scale.

Implementation of the Action from 2020 to 2022 foresees release of approximately 100 square kilometres or about 9% of the current size of the suspected hazardous area.

The basic assumption for this large scale land release programme is that the formal and operational requirements will be in place when this Action implementation would be due. The formal and operational conditions are spelled out in the Description of Activities chapter. In the event that the land release requirements are not fulfilled, the traditional approach will be applied to implement the Action through technical survey and clearance.

It is foreseen that during a transitional phase of two years (2018, 2019) Bosnia and Herzegovina will deploy all efforts to ensure that the land release process is fully implemented, resulting in more efficient survey and clearance operations. In its new mine action strategy, Bosnia and Herzegovina Mine Action Centre (BHMIC) also commits to ensuring that sound Information Management will enable relevant information regarding mines and suspicion of mines to be collected, stored, analysed, shared and used for efficient and effective planning, prioritisation, tasking and implementation of mine action activities.

In the operational domain, the programme will be based on the survey and clearance of mine suspected areas selected from the BHMIC official database. All organisations which are accredited in BiH to conduct demining, and eligible under the Financial Regulation, will be eligible to implement part of this Action.

To strengthen the capacity of the implementing partner organizations, equipment and technical assistance will be provided in line with the framework set by the new Mine Action Strategy 2018-2025.

In order to support BHMIC in the implementation of their mandate countrywide, but also specific to the release of approximately 100 square kilometres through non-technical survey, equipment and technical assistance will be made available. The equipment will contribute to the establishment and maintenance of sound information management standards, whereas the technical assistance will ensure the project quality assurance and reporting to the Contracting Authority.

For a long time, the EU has been one of the main partners of the government of Bosnia and Herzegovina in financing projects to address the mine problem. Through this Action, the EU continues the long-standing cooperation with BiH and remains a key partner in the mine action sector. In that respect, the Action includes an additional incentive for other international partners to engage in the sector and to commit funds and support for mine free Bosnia and Herzegovina.

RELEVANCE WITH THE IPA II STRATEGY PAPER AND OTHER KEY REFERENCES

The revised Indicative Strategy Paper for Bosnia Herzegovina 2014-2020 identifies the problem of mine contamination under the sector of education, employment and social policy.

Mine-contaminated areas are a severe legacy of the recent war and fatal casualties resulting from mine-related accidents continue to occur. Mine-contaminated areas also remain an impediment to economic and infrastructural development. Regrettably, the target for a mine-free Bosnia and Herzegovina by 2019 will not be achieved, but efforts are underway to review the target for 2025. Continued support should be provided to BiH in fulfilling its commitments as signatory to the Ottawa Convention and in the implementation of the BiH Mine Action Strategy.³

The land mine contamination is also addressed through the European Commission's Questionnaire for assessing the merit of Bosnia and Herzegovina's application for the EU Membership. Under Chapter 31: External, Security and Defence Policy the question 26 enquires about the position of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and which measures have been taken, with regard to the joint action of the Council 2008/487 / ZVSP dated 23 June 2008, in order to support the universalisation and implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their

³ Revised Indicative Strategy Paper for Bosnia and Herzegovina (adopted on xx/xx/2018), pages 5 and 48.

Destruction from 1997, and within the framework of the European Security Policy. Indeed, the levels of mine contamination and risk are unacceptable for a country aspiring to join the European Union.

Bosnia and Herzegovina has signed and ratified the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention. In 2008, the Council of Ministers of BiH adopted the Mine Action Strategy for 2009-2019, which is a sectorial strategic document. In 2017, BHMIC, in cooperation with the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), drafted an exit strategy for the mine action of Bosnia and Herzegovina 2018-2025, which is expected to be adopted in the course of 2018.

The 2018-2025 mine action strategy envisages the following five strategic areas: Information Management, National Ownership and Communications, Survey and Clearance, Mine Risk Education, Management of Residual Contamination.

LESSONS LEARNED AND LINK TO PREVIOUS FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

A key lesson flagged by the State Auditor, which was also observed in the previous IPA funded projects, is that "the number of demining projects resulting in the detection of one or no mines at all has not been small, while the initial information indicated a much larger number of mines. Of the 384 projects analysed, the percentage of successfully estimated number of mines against the number of expected mines was 2.5%".⁴ A case study carried jointly by the EU Delegation in Bosnia and Herzegovina and European Union Forces (EUFOR) Althea in 2016, demonstrated that over the last seven years the information on used, demined, high-risk and low-risk areas was not properly registered in the official Bosnia and Herzegovina Mine Action Centre (BHMIC) database. As main reasons were identified deficiencies in the quality control process, insufficient commitment by the field staff and ineffective use of resources.

In this context an exceptional assistance measure was approved in December 2017 under the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace (Programme ref: IcSP 2017 / 30). It was designed under the strong leadership of BHMIC and will be implemented by the Mine Action Centre in BiH, the Armed Forces of BiH, the Norwegian People's Aid and the United Nations Development Programme in the period 2018-2019. Through map review, collection of new evidence, interviews with local stakeholders and aerial imagery the non-technical survey of the complete suspected hazardous area will be conducted. This will provide new digital information and a more accurate mapping of the high risk areas. It is to be noted that the approximately 100 km² to be released under this Action will be selected from the 2019 new database. It is thus safe to say that the successful implementation of the IcSP funded project will contribute creating the operational conditions for large scale land release IPA funded programme, thus making the outmost use of the past experience and in complementarity with other European Union Instruments.

The 2018 Action builds on earlier IPA I assistance provided under the programmes "Support to Mine Activities in BiH", "Confidence building by demining", "Support to Mine Action in BiH" and project "Explode"⁵. Synergy will be ensured with the European Union Council Decision (CFSP) 2017/1428 of 4 August 2017⁶ which envisages support to five selected beneficiary countries. Bosnia and Herzegovina, will benefit from this European Union complementary support at global level through a Stakeholder Dialogue workshop to be conducted in BiH. Through this activity Bosnia and Herzegovina would gain additional understandings on how stakeholders can support its continued efforts to implement key aspects of the Convention. In particular, how donors and partners could participate and/or cooperate with Bosnia and Herzegovina to achieve the aim of mine clearance as soon as possible.

The absence of a system of coordination among government organizations affects negatively the effectiveness of demining operations. European Union's good record in mine action in BiH combined with ITF's long standing experience will contribute to improve coordination and predictability of donor funding.

⁴ "Efficiency of the Demining System in BiH - Performance Audit Report", Audit Office of the Institutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the Committee on Finance and Budget of the House of Representatives of the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ref. no. 01-02-03-10-16-1-1101-1/16 from 4 November 2016

⁵ EU Council Decision C(2013) 1740 from 23 March 2013.

⁶ Council Decision in support of the implementation of the Maputo Action Plan for the implementation of the 1997 Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction.

2. INTERVENTION LOGIC

LOGICAL FRAMEWORK MATRIX

OVERALL OBJECTIVE	OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATORS (*)	SOURCES OF VERIFICATION	
To contribute to the effective implementation of the 2018-2025 Bosnia and Herzegovina Mine Action Strategy	Execution rate of 2018-2025 Mine Action Plan	Annual reports on Mine Action approved by the Council of Ministers	
SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATORS (*)	SOURCES OF VERIFICATION	ASSUMPTIONS
1. Increase the number of mine free municipalities in BiH	1.1: Number of mine free municipalities	Annual reports on Mine Action approved by the Council of Ministers	Revised Mine Action Strategy endorsed by the Council of Ministers in 2018. Motivation of Mine Action institutions to achieve the goals of the Mine Action Strategy
2. Strengthen the capacity of national Mine Action authorities and operators	2.1. Productivity rate of the supported institutions	Annual reports on Mine Action approved by the Council of Ministers Ad-hoc reports provided by the supported institutions	Good level of communication, planning and coordination of mine action agency and civil protection agencies.
RESULTS	OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATORS (*)	SOURCES OF VERIFICATION	ASSUMPTIONS
Result 1: Targeted Mine Suspected Areas (MSA) per municipality released	1.1 Number of square kilometres cancelled through non-technical survey 1.2 Number of square kilometres reduced and cleared through technical methods (technical survey, clearance)	Project Implementation Reports	At least 70% of mine suspected areas are included in the official 2019 list BHMAL will conduct the non-technical survey in a timely manner, coordinated with all state and non-state operators who will be implementing the technical methods (technical survey, clearance)
Result 2: Performance of national mine action authorities increased in the targeted MSA	2.1 Number of selected (targeted) vis-a-vis number of released Mine Suspected Areas (MSA)	Project Implementation Reports	

(*) All indicators should be formulated as measurement, without specifying targets in the Logical Framework Matrix. The targets should be included in the performance measurement table in section 4. More detailed guidance on indicators is provided in Section 4 on performance measurement.

(**) Relevant activities have to be included only in the following sub-section.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES

The results of the Action aim to achieve releasing 100 km² in two years and declaring 20 municipalities mine-free by the end of Action implementation. The following activities will be carried out within the Action.

The **Result 1** will be implemented through the activities:

Activity 1.1:

Technical survey and clearance in the selected affected mine suspected areas will be conducted by the civil protection agencies and by accredited non-governmental organisations or/and commercial companies.

Non-technical survey in the selected affected mine suspected areas will be conducted by BHM MAC.

Activity 1.2:

Regular monitoring and quality assurance of implementation.

The **Result 2** will be implemented through the activity:

Activity 2.1: Equipment will be made available to the national mine action authorities and the civil protection agencies for the implementation of this Action. A needs assessment will be conducted and beneficiaries (i.e. BHM MAC, civil protection agencies) will be provided with inputs to increase the efficiency of their performance associated to the objectives of this Action.

RISKS

A low probability exists that an undesired explosive event or safety hazard may occur during field operations. The impact of such a risk would see temporary suspension of activities until an investigation is undertaken to identify causes and suggest additional safety measures/improvements. Activities under the Action may be delayed for a varying period, depending on the scope of the accident, its implications and recommended follow-up measures. Safety measures will be undertaken and minimize occurrence probability and reduce the risk. However, they will not completely eliminate the risk of an event occurring. Requirements for risk prevention have already been incorporated into the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) that will be applied during the Action implementation, and activities under the Action will be undertaken in accordance with SOP. Successful implementation of this action will depend on the timely adoption of the 2018-2025 Bosnia and Herzegovina Mine Action Strategy.

CONDITIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

The 40 Mine Suspected Area projects corresponding to an approximate suspected hazardous area of 100 km² and a maximum of 20 mine-affected municipalities will be selected from the official demining priority list for 2019. In the event of delays (country wide non-technical survey planned for 2018-2019 not concluded timely, 2019 priority list not containing sufficient number of Mine Suspected Areas/affected municipalities, etc) the 2018 official priority list will be used.

The condition set above will be implemented through the following indicative steps:

- a. The European Union, in coordination with BH MAC and the civil protection agencies, will consult the official priority list for 2019 and/or 2020, and identify 40 Mine Suspected Areas (MSA) corresponding to an approximate suspected hazardous area of 100 km².
- b. Maximum 20 mine-affected municipalities will be identified by applying a set of agreed upon criteria.
- c. The pre-selected municipalities will be consulted for their opinion and endorsement of the Land Release approach.

- d. The final list of municipalities will be endorsed by the European Union including the precise Mine Suspected Areas (MSA) corresponding to an approximate suspected hazardous area of 100 km².
- e. After the Mine Suspected Areas are endorsed BHM MAC will prepare the approximately 40 MSA with minimum 100,000,000 square meters suspected hazardous area for non-technical survey, technical survey and clearance. The documentation of the MSA will be prepared by BHM MAC for implementation/tendering/granting.
- f. Also a two years implementation plan will be prepared under the leadership of BHM MAC in coordination with the civil protection agencies. The implementation plan will specify the mine suspected areas to be undertaken by the civil protection agencies and the mine suspected areas to be outsourced through procurement or granting.

In the event of delays, and, in the case that the 2018 official priority list will be used, the value for money principle will be applied striving for the maximum number of mine-free municipalities. For example the municipalities with higher affected population density will be prioritised, in addition to those municipalities with existence of known minefields containing PROM mines. If the projects are drawn from the 2018 list the Action will be implemented exclusively through technical survey and clearance (classical demining) with the appropriate budget adjustments.

The Civil Protection Administration of FBiH and Civil Protection Administration of RS (without excluding the Civil Protection of District Brcko) will be associated to the implementation provided they have spare capacity for technical survey and clearance in 2020 and 2021. If unavailable, the budget of the Action foreseen under Activity 1.2. will be adjusted to tender out the tasks.

3. IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The leadership of implementation will be with BHM MAC supervised by the Ministry of Civil Affairs and the Demining Commission.

BH MAC a) will prepare the documentation of 40 mine suspected areas for implementation/tendering, b) will conduct non-technical survey to approximately 100 km², c) will perform quality control of the technical surveyed and cleared land, and, d) will issue certificates for the release of the land.

The Civil Protection Administration of FBiH and Civil Protection Administration of RS (without excluding the Civil Protection of District Brcko) will conduct technical survey and clearance.

The accredited non-governmental organisations or/and commercial companies will conduct technical survey and clearance.

Expertise will be contracted to perform regular monitoring and quality assurance of implementation. (This is different from the quality control performed by BHM MAC that is a legally regulated obligation).

Technical assistance will be contracted to conduct a needs assessment for the equipment (specific objective 2) and to prepare the tender specifications for all supply contracts.

Technical assistance will be contracted to prepare the Guidelines for the Call for Proposals.

A Steering Committee will be established in the inception phase of the implementation consisted of the Ministry of Civil Affairs, BHM MAC, Demining Commission, Civil Protection Agencies and Delegation of the EU in BiH. The Steering Committee will provide overall direction and management of the Action and will also monitor its implementation progress.

IMPLEMENTATION METHOD(S) AND TYPE(S) OF FINANCING

The Action will be implemented as follows:

Direct management by the EU Delegation to Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The expected contracting arrangements under complete EU direct management will indicatively be as follows:

For Result 1: Service contract for monitoring and quality assurance, Service contract for needs assessment/preparation of technical specification for the supply contracts, Service contract to prepare the guidelines for the Call for Proposals, and grants through a Call for Proposals. The total indicative value of the contracts for result 1 is EUR 9 150 000.

For Result 2: Supply contract/s of total value of EUR 850 000.

4. PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT

METHODOLOGY FOR MONITORING (AND EVALUATION)

The European Commission will carry out a final evaluation for this Action or its components through independent consultants. The evaluation will be carried out in accordance with the guidelines of the DG NEAR for evaluation. In addition, the Action may be subject to external monitoring in accordance with the rules and procedures of the European Commission established by the Financing Agreement. Given the technical nature of activities and the wide geographical scope of the Action, demining expertise will be engaged to enhance the monitoring.

INDICATOR MEASUREMENT

Indicator	Baseline (2017)	Target (2020)	Final Target (2022)	Source of information
OOI: Execution rate of 2018-2025 Mine Action Plan (%)	50%	65%	80%	Revised Mine Action Strategy 2018-2025
SOI: Number of mine free municipalities	0	10	20	Project Implementation Report
SOI: Productivity rate of the supported institutions	18,8 square km	61,5 square km	93 square km	Project Implementation Report
I 1.1: Number of square km cancelled through non-technical survey	18 square km	60 square km	91square km	Project Implementation Report
I 1.2: Number of square km reduced and cleared through technical methods	1,8 square km	6 square km	9 square km	Project Implementation Report
I 2.1: Number of selected (target) vis-à-vis number of released Mine Suspected Areas (MSA)	0 MSA	15 MSA	40 MSA	Project Implementation Report

(1) This is the related indicator as included in the Indicative Strategy Paper (for reference only)

(2) The agreed baseline year is 2010 (to be inserted in brackets in the top row). If for the chosen indicator, there are no available data for 2010, it is advisable to refer to the following years – 2011, 2012. The year of reference may not be the same either for all indicators selected due to a lack of data availability; in this case, the year should then be inserted in each cell in brackets. The baseline value may be "0" (i.e. no reference values are available as the Action represents a novelty for the beneficiary) but cannot be left empty or include references such as "N/A" or "will be determined later".

(3) The target year CANNOT be modified.

(4) This will be a useful reference to continue measuring the outcome of IPA II support beyond the 2014-2020 multi-annual financial period. If the Action is completed before 2020 (year for the performance reward), this value and that in the 2020 target column must be the same.

5. SECTOR APPROACH ASSESSMENT

The Action is part of the broader ISP cluster of education, employment and social sectors. The Action will contribute to the effective implementation of the Mine Action Strategy of Bosnia and Herzegovina 2018-2025.

The implementation of the Mine Action Strategy is monitored by the national mine action authorities with regular reporting at the Board of Donors. The Land Release Board is a complementary forum for Land Release issues. The Action will foster the coordinated sectorial planning. Local authorities will be consulted early in the process and requested to engage the mine action coordinators at the cantonal and municipal levels. The priority list of BHMACH takes into consideration the existing municipal mine action plans, in order to ensure sustainable results of mine action. The Action will aim to enable the effective take-up of critical functions by national authorities at different levels in partnership with civil society and the private sector. This will be based on increased capacity of major stakeholders.

6. CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

GENDER MAINSTREAMING

The project will cover both women and men in terms of eliminating mine threats and hazards through the implementation of the Action.

BiH recognises that women, girls, boys and men may be affected differently by mine/ERW contamination due to their roles and responsibilities and might therefore have specific and varying needs and priorities. Under the lead of BHMACH, relevant stakeholders will be encouraged to mainstream gender and diversity considerations throughout the planning, implementation and monitoring stages of all mine action activities. BHMACH will ensure that all mine/ERW accident data is collected and analysed in a sex and age disaggregated manner to allow for detailed reporting and effective targeting of activities and assistance. Gender-sensitive mine action will also contribute to the realisation of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 5 on gender equality, through mainstreaming gender in all operations and guaranteeing non-discriminatory employment opportunities.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

Based on the fundamental principles of promoting equality and combating discrimination, participation in the Action will be guaranteed on the basis of equal access regardless of sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation.

There will be equal gender participation of project beneficiaries and the principles of equal opportunities will be duly taken into account throughout the Action implementation.

The Action will help high risk mine affected communities and groups of population which also include remote rural population, IDPs and returnees.

MINORITIES AND VULNERABLE GROUPS

During the implementation of activities anticipated in the Action, full respect of minorities and vulnerable groups will be ensured. Thus, during the implementation of the Action, there shall be no direct or indirect discrimination against any person based on gender, age, marital status, language, sexual orientation, political affiliation or conviction, ethnic origin, religion, social origin or any other status. The Action will include a number of mine suspected areas that cover areas where IDPs and refugees are returning. The mine free municipality approach will significantly improve the safety and socio-economic security of entire geographical regions.

ENGAGEMENT WITH CIVIL SOCIETY (AND IF RELEVANT OTHER NON-STATE STAKEHOLDERS)

Civil society and local communities will be involved in the Action in the context of the non-technical survey to be conducted by BHMACH, while non-governmental and commercial organizations will be invited to implement the technical survey and clearance.

ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE (AND IF RELEVANT DISASTER RESILIENCE)

The Action will have positive impact on the environment as agricultural and forest land will be returned for use to the population and resources will be used in a regulated and controlled manner.

Climate action relevant budget allocation: EUR 0
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7. SUSTAINABILITY

The Action is embedded and fully aligned to the national priorities. The Mine Suspected Areas will be drawn from the official priority list in line with the Mine Action Strategy of BiH 2018-2025.

The operational capacity of BHMAL, will be improved providing for the sustainable implementation of Land Release towards the end date. Capacities of other stakeholders will also increase to ensure that the mine action authorities are up to the speed to implement their Strategy as required until 2025.

The positive outcome of this Action will be made available at an early stage to the local authorities at different levels, affected local communities, donors and international counterparts and will be used for further resource mobilisation.

8. COMMUNICATION AND VISIBILITY

Communication and visibility will be given high importance during the implementation of the Action. The implementation of the communication activities shall be funded from the amounts allocated to the Action. The status of the progress will be regularly communicated through the BHMAL and civil protections websites and other means deemed appropriate by the state implementing partners.

All necessary measures will be taken to publicise the fact that the Action has received funding from the EU in line with the EU communication and visibility requirements in force. All stakeholders and implementing partners shall ensure the visibility of EU financial assistance provided through IPA II throughout all phases of the programme cycle.

Visibility and communication actions shall demonstrate how the intervention contributes to the agreed programme objectives and the accession process. Actions shall be aimed at strengthening general public awareness and support of interventions financed and the objectives pursued. The actions shall aim at highlighting to the relevant target audiences the added value and impact of the EU's interventions and will promote transparency and accountability on the use of funds.

Visibility and communication aspects shall be complementary to the activities implemented by DG NEAR and the EU Delegations in the field. DG NEAR and the EU Delegations should be fully informed of the planning and implementation of the specific visibility and communication activities carried out by the beneficiaries and the implementing partners.