

Sida invites concept notes for Mine Action Project in Ukraine

Introduction

Sida – the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency – is a government agency working to create better living conditions for people living in poverty and under oppression around the world. Sida works on behalf of the Swedish government and parliament and the agency's activities are funded through Swedish tax revenue.

Sida announces a call for concept notes with the purpose to expand our support to mine action in Ukraine, in line with the *Strategy for Sweden's reconstruction and reform cooperation with Ukraine for 2023–2027* and with the purpose to support *Ukraine's National Mine Action Strategy*.

The key objectives of this call are to (1) strengthen non-state Ukrainian mine action organisations with a focus on land release and (2) further develop Ukraine's Mine Action Management System.

This call has been developed in consultation with the Ministry of Economy and Environment and the Center for Humanitarian Demining in Ukraine.

Sida's intention is to select at least **one** concept note for possible development into a full project proposal.

Eligibility and general instructions

Eligibility - who can apply

Eligible organisations must fulfil the following criteria:

- *not-for-profit organisations that are formally registered and democratically governed*
- *Valid certification to carry out Mine Action Operations in Ukraine. (sub-grantees may be non-mine action organisations)*
- *Ability to work in several regions of Ukraine*

The applying organisation must be a legal entity capable of entering into an agreement with Sida (the "agreement partner"). An organisation may only submit one concept note to Sida in which the organisation is the proposed Sida agreement partner. Applications by consortium of organisations is possible, Sida can however only sign agreements with one organisation. Hence consortia need to have a lead organisation. Please note that forwarding of Sida funds can only be done by the agreement partner to subgrantee(s), not from one subgrantee to another subgrantee.

The proposed agreement partner must possess strong administrative, internal management, and control capacities, in particular for preventing and handling all forms of fraud, corruption, and abuse. Furthermore, all partners to the initiative must meet Sida's transparency and accountability requirements and must not appear on the EU sanctions list.

Since Sida's work is guided by the OECD/DAC definitions of international development cooperation Sida's support need to be in line with the definition of mine action in the relevant sector code which includes the provision that "only activities for civilian purposes are ODA-eligible".

Linkages to Swedish policy priorities

- Strategy for Sweden's reconstruction and reform cooperation with Ukraine 2023–2027, specifically the objectives pertaining to Security and stabilisation.

The strategy can be found in the section [Documents](#).

General requirements and concept note evaluation criteria

The key objectives of this call are to (1) strengthen non-state Ukrainian mine action organisations with a focus on land release and (2) further develop Ukraine's Mine Action Management System. These key objectives should be addressed as part of all areas of work in the concept note.

The application shall include all of the following mandatory areas of work.

- Land release; including Non-Technical Survey, Technical Survey and Clearance;
- Social and/or economic recovery in the communities where land release work is done, in cooperation with local authorities. This area of work can be done both during operations and could include victim assistance, but should also contribute to putting land back into productive use;
- Development of Ukraine's Mine Action Management System. This includes providing support to key government institutions, like the Center for Humanitarian Demining and regional and local governments in improving the governance, prioritisation, oversight and quality assurance system of the mine action sector in Ukraine.

The application may also include the following optional areas:

- Victim Assistance (VA);
- Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE);
- Safe and responsible disposal and recycling of explosive ordnance (EO) and its components;
- Debris management of destroyed buildings/demolition waste.

Concept notes will be assessed according to their relevance for the call and the described criteria and requirements.

In the preparation of the concept notes, please consider the following when preparing the mandatory areas of work.

- Land release: indicate in which Ukrainian Oblast your organisation intends to work.
- Social and/or economic recovery: During the implementation stage the specific activities should be identified by local authorities based on their specific needs, circumstances, and local development strategies if/where applicable, and can include social, economic, and infrastructure recovery, such as restoration of schools, kindergartens, outpatient clinics, recovery and/or construction of local-level energy production and storage facilities, water and sanitation facilities, etc. These activities, ideally, need to demonstrate connection to land released. For the development of the concept note describe how your organisation will engage with local authorities to identify needs and your organisation's experience in managing similar projects.
- Development of Ukraine's Mine Action Management System. The exact list of needs and priorities in this direction is to be discussed and agreed on in consultations with Ukraine's government institutions at a later stage and in the course of the project implementation as

required. For the development of the concept note describe your organisation's approach and expertise to provide support to Ukrainian authorities.

The selection will be based on the following criteria:

- *The most significant selection criteria is the approach to strengthening non-state Ukrainian mine action organisation(s), including the share of budget which is planned to be implemented by Ukrainian organisations.*
- *Land release focus in the concept note*
- *Approach and described expertise to provide support to Ukrainian authorities*
- *Approach and described expertise to provide social and/or economic recovery in areas affected by explosive ordnance*
- *Allocation of the budget according to the instructions on budget distribution and Cost effectiveness (including factors such as expected results compared to budget, if clearance teams are already equipped and trained, degree of cost sharing of administrative and support costs with other donors)*
- *Integration of gender equality and environment perspective in the concept note*
- *Other added value, such as optional areas of work*

Project period, Budget and Concept note guidance

Tentative activity period: April 2027 – December 2029

Tentative budget: Up to 150,000,000 SEK

For each application, the distribution of total budget by components should be as follows:

- 1) Land release (the key priority): not less than 50% of the total budget;
- 2) Social and/or economic recovery: 20% of the total budget;
- 3) Development of Ukraine's Mine Action Management System: 10% of the total budget;
- 4) Optional areas: not more than 10 % if only EORE, if also other areas not more than 20% of the total budget.

The concept note should be short (maximum eight pages, 11 pt font, excluding possible cover page and table of content and including possible images and tables; no additional annexes) and in English. A tentative budget should be included. *Concept notes that do not comply with this requirement will not be assessed.*

The concept note should concisely describe the approach and experience of the applying organisation in Ukraine and how the mandatory areas of work will be addressed. Furthermore, it should describe the rationale, objectives, main activities and intended results of the suggested initiative. A tentative budget itemized according to general cost categories. The budget should be in the main operating currency of the organisation, with the exchange rate to SEK clearly indicated. The budget should be for the entire activity period, not broken down per financial year. If the agreement partner would forward Sida funds to other organisations, this should be visible in the tentative budget. Any expected co-financing from other sources should be noted.

The organisation that would act as Sida's agreement partner should be described, including its legal status and governance structure. Other partner organisations should be briefly described, including their roles in the initiative.

Important dates and information

To facilitate sharing of information about this call for concept notes, the call text with instructions for preparation of the concept note can be found as PDF file in the section Documents.

The call for concept notes will close on **26 October 2026 at 14:00 CET**. Please prepare and submit your application in good time before the deadline. Submission requires the answering of a brief questionnaire and upload of the concept note as a PDF file.

According to the Swedish law, all documents received or sent by a government agency, e.g. Sida, are in principle available to the public. Before a document is made available to the public, an assessment is made whether any information is classified and should therefore not be disclosed. Read more on <https://www.government.se/how-sweden-is-governed/the-principle-of-public-access-to-official-documents/>.

Contact and FAQ

For inquiries concerning the preparation of the concept note and the application process, please email ukraine@sida.se – **and indicate in the subject 'Call for concept notes: Mine Action in Ukraine'**.

Any questions asked will be published with the corresponding answers on this page on an ongoing basis. We recommend that you check back regularly as you work on your application.

To ensure fairness, the applicants are kindly requested to refrain from contacting Ukrainian government institutions regarding the development of concept notes for this call.

Selection and next steps

Sida will review all eligible concept notes tentatively during November and December 2026. All applicants will be informed about the outcome once the assessment process has been completed.

Sida's intention is to select at least **one** concept note for possible development into a full project proposal. During the development of a full proposal, Sida intend to organise dialogue between the selected organisation, Sida and relevant Ukrainian government institutions. Contingent on available budget additional organisations might be invited to submit full project proposals. **The preliminary submission deadline for full proposals is Mid-January 2027**. Details concerning the preparation of full proposals will be communicated later.

Sida makes no commitment at this point to further elaborate on or reach any agreement with any of the organisations submitting concept notes. **Sida's decision concerning the selection of concept notes cannot be appealed.**

List of Documents

- *ToR as a PDF*
- *Strategy for Sweden's reconstruction and reform cooperation with Ukraine 2023–2027*