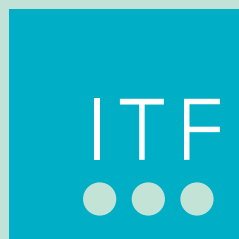


ANNUAL REPORT 2023



ENHANCING
HUMAN
SECURITY





We would like to express our deepest gratitude to everyone who has supported us in 2023 and has been part of our mission during 26 years of our work. The invaluable assistance from our donors, national partners, implementing agencies and relevant authorities enabled ITF to work diligently and tirelessly towards helping people and communities around the world.

We firmly believe that with relentless support and joint efforts, we can achieve a world free of threats to peace and security, where safety, well-being, prosperity, and dignity of individuals and communities is assured.

Thank you!



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1

INTRODUCTION



ITF Enhancing Human Security (ITF) is a humanitarian, non-profit organization specializing in landmine clearance, eradication of explosive remnants of war and other impacts from conflict. Established by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia in March 1998, ITF's initial purpose was to help Bosnia and Herzegovina in the implementation of the peace agreement and to provide assistance and support in post-conflict rehabilitation. Since its inception, ITF has been continuously developing and enhancing its mission by expanding the scope of its activities and geographic area. ITF's mission is to address the problems of an ever-changing human security environment, the needs of beneficiary countries, and the priorities of the donor community. In order to increase the impact on wider human security, the European Commission granted ITF the title of European Union Member States' Specialized Agency (MSSA), which opens up the possibilities to cooperate within humanitarian projects of the European Union (EU). With this status, ITF joins 11 other MSSA agencies under the humanitarian activities of Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations. In addition, ITF completed the EU Pillar Assessment in 2020, which determines that ITF is organizationally and financially compliant to work with EU funds under indirect management as EU's Pillar Assessed Agency.

Since 2012, when ITF officially changed its name to "ITF Enhancing Human Security" to address a broader range of challenges and objectives, ITF has defined a new purpose, which encompasses many different aspects of human security and post-conflict rehabilitation including risk education, surplus arms reduction, and capacity building.

The 2021–2025 ITF strategy was introduced to recognize and implement the unique advantages, capabilities and experience of ITF across the spectrum of post-conflict recovery including humanitarian mine action and conventional weapons destruction (CWD). It determines the following essential objectives of ITF's endeavor:

- ITF shall work in partnership with donors, international organizations, national authorities, local institutions, and others to strengthen human security and help build resilient communities.
- ITF shall reduce risks to peace and security through clearing landmines and other explosive remnants of war (ERW), assisting mine/ERW victims and responding to humanitarian needs of survivors, family members and communities.
- ITF shall protect civilian populations by disposing of obsolete weapons and ammunition in safe and environmentally sustainable ways, promoting secure ammunition stockpile management and preventing unplanned explosions at storage sites.
- Operating at the nexus of humanitarian, development and peaceful concerns shall remain our principal arena, improving livelihoods, promoting gender equality, protecting the environment, strengthening public health, and building resilience.

Humanitarian mine action and other forms of post-conflict assistance are proven contributors to human security and development. However, there is an opportunity for translating the close relationship between assistance, reconstruction and development efforts into more concrete inter-linked approaches and programs, broadening the areas of intervention. There is room for more and better all-encompassing coordination and collaboration between not only humanitarian mine action and CWD stakeholders, but also with other relevant developmental governmental and civil society actors. This approach increases efficiency, effectiveness and most importantly, leaves a positive impact on conflict-affected communities. This impact enhances safety, socio-economic development, and community empowerment, which further ensures the right to a peaceful and dignified life. The human security approach is about altering the traditional, more technical mode of assistance thinking. It is about mainstreaming mine action and CWD issues into broader humanitarian, development, and human rights issues with a holistic approach towards mine action and CWD more effectively with development initiatives.



Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic continued to worsen many of the most pressing humanitarian crises around the world. With the Russian invasion of Ukraine on 24 February 2022, a humanitarian, social, and economic crisis caused not only for the Ukrainian people but leaving serious impact on the global supply of commodities, increasing food and energy prices and threatening the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. These are challenging times for all of us, but they are especially challenging for people facing the threat of landmines and ERW, and numerous survivors of landmine explosions. The needs of people living in countries and regions affected by landmines and ERW are already complex; explosive hazards limit their mobility, the delivery of humanitarian aid, access to services or to safe land. In these difficult times, ITF did all in its power to continue with its life-saving work.

The human security approach creates a framework that mirrors the complexity and challenges of humanitarian and development interventions while working to reach the goal of a mine free country. It is a reminder of the pervasive impact of war on people and enables ITF to focus not only on saving lives and limbs but building resilient and empowered communities affected by conflict. A people-centered perspective of human security demonstrates that humanitarian mine action and CWD are not solely about clearance of ERW, risk awareness, or stockpile destruction. Rather, the impact of mines/ERW and deteriorating munitions touches upon all aspects of human security – health, personal security, livelihood, peace, and the environment. ITF continues to expand the scope of its work beyond clearance and CWD to address the development phase of communities that have emerged from war more directly.

MISSION

“Strengthening human security and building resilient communities by reducing risks to peace and security through compassion, innovation, transparency, and partnerships.”

The mission of ITF is to strengthen human security and build resilient communities by reducing risks to peace and security through compassion, innovation, transparency, and partnerships. Hand in hand with an expanding geographical presence, ITF also recognized the need to address a broader array of challenges that put societies affected by conflict and other crises at risk. ITF’s principal area of action is and will remain humanitarian-development-peace nexus with the aim of achieving a mine-free world, improving livelihoods, promoting gender equality, protecting the environment, strengthening public health, and building resilience. ITF’s vision is a world free of threats to peace and security, where safety, well-being, prosperity, and dignity of individuals and communities is assured.



GUIDING PRINCIPLES

HUMANITARIAN PRINCIPLES

Humanitarian assistance is an expression of ethical responsibility and international solidarity, reflecting fundamental principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality, and independence.

COMPASSION

Readiness to act and provide support with warmth and care to alleviate people's sufferings and restore and protect their human dignity.

INNOVATION

Improving efficiency and effectiveness through support of innovative tools, creating value added by applying novel solutions.

TRANSPARENCY

Effective and efficient use of donor funds through adherence to clear and concise organisational policies, results-based procedures, and professionalism of our staff.

PARTNERSHIPS

Global, regional, and local partnerships and cooperation to ensure agile implementation and sustainable outcomes.

CONSISTENCY WITH SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

ITF joins the pledge to Leave No One Behind, achieving balanced social, economic, and environmental sustainability within the framework of UN Sustainable Development Goals.



2

**ITF MANAGEMENT
AND ORGANIZATION**

ORGANIZATION OF ITF

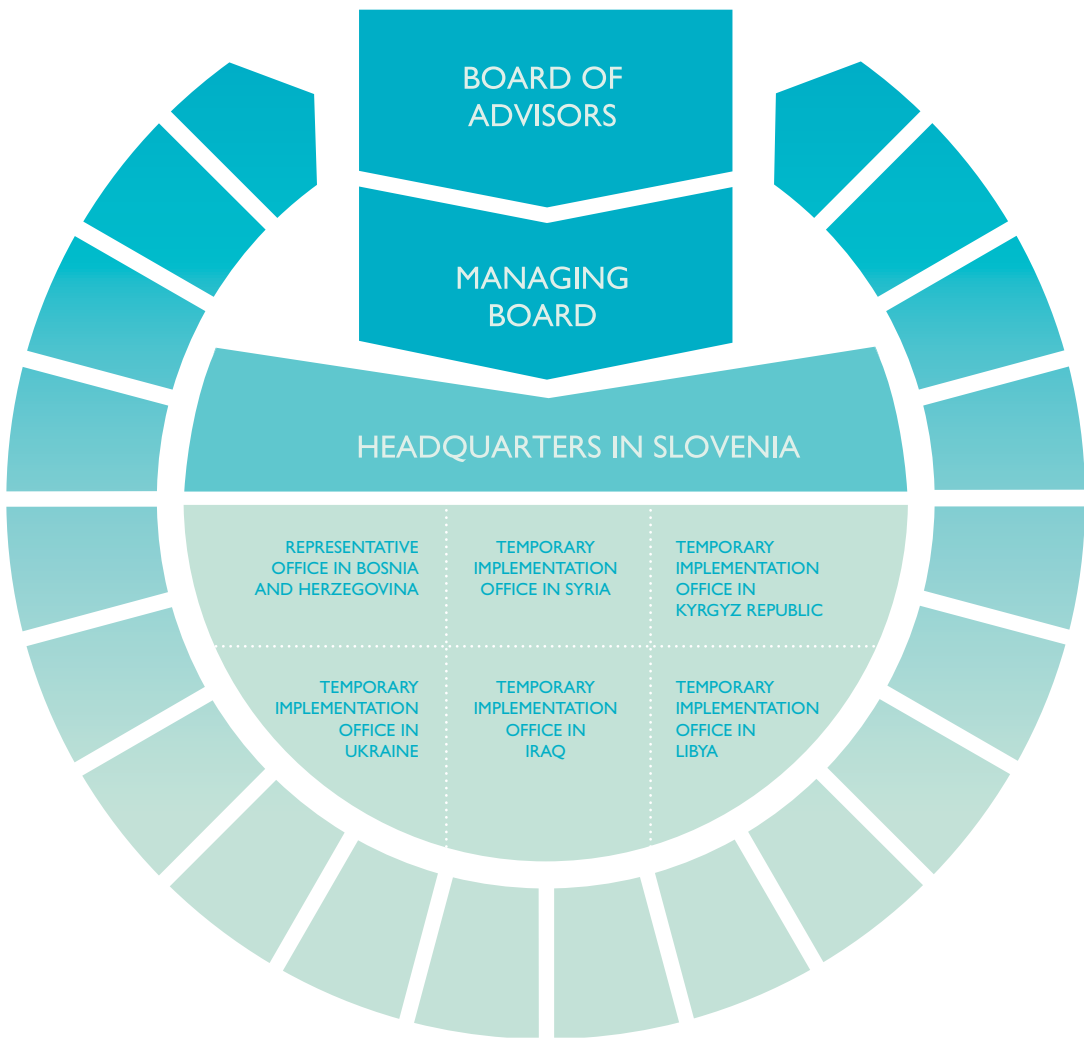
ITF's Headquarters is stationed in Ljubljana, Slovenia. In addition, ITF carries out its operations also from the representative office in Bosnia and Herzegovina and temporary implementation offices in Libya, Tunisia, Iraq, Syria, Ukraine, Lebanon, and Kyrgyz Republic

ITF Headquarters coordinates all of ITF's activities as well as the financial management of donations. The Headquarters also awards and manages contracts, carries out project reporting and evaluations, and organizes workshops, conferences, and meetings. Headquarters staff also monitor field operations and evaluate their effectiveness, both during and at the conclusion of each project, on average twice per project.

ITF project managers and (temporary) implementation offices facilitate operations in affected countries and enable efficient coordination with national authorities and other relevant stakeholders to achieve better results and ensure smoother project implementation.

ITF Headquarters and implementation offices evaluate projects before invitations/open calls for submission of offers are published, carry out on-site supervision during the actual implementation, and liaise with local donors. They are also involved in the administrative, technical, and financial evaluation of submitted offers for the projects carried out by ITF.

Altogether, in 2023, 14 people were employed at ITF Headquarters, and 88 in Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Libya, Lebanon, Syria, and Ukraine.





ITF MANAGING BOARD

The ITF Managing Board consists of 9 members who oversee the work of ITF and ensure that activities are implemented in a transparent and effective manner:

Sanja Štiglic,

representative of Slovenia, Chair of the Managing Board

Dr. Damir Črnčec,

representative of Slovenia, Vice Chairman

Andrej Slapničar,

representative of Slovenia, member

Leon Behin,

representative of Slovenia, member

Ada Čargo,

representative of Slovenia, member

Dr. Sc. Damir Trut,

representative of Croatia, member

TBD, representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina, member

TBD, representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina, member

TBD, representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina, member

ITF Managing Board conducted one correspondence session and one regular session, where it approved and adopted the ITF Annual Report 2022, the Plan for 2023, the ITF Intermediate Report for 2023, and Portfolio of Projects for 2024.



ITF BOARD OF ADVISORS

ITF's Board of Advisors (BoA) also represents ITF's Board of Donors. It has **33 members**:

Austria	Norway
Belgium	Qatar
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Serbia
Canada	Slovenia
Croatia	Red Cross of Slovenia
Croatia Without Mines	Slovakia
Czech Republic	Spain
Denmark	SPEM
European Union	Survey Action Center
France	Sweden
Germany	Switzerland
Geneva International Center for Humanitarian Demining	Turkey
Ireland	UNDP
Japan	United Kingdom
Korea	United States of America
Kuwait	University Rehabilitation Institute, Republic of Slovenia
Luxembourg	

BoA is a very important forum, particularly in terms of its advisory role in determining ITF's activities and future orientation. BoA draws attention to matters that are important to the donors and guides their desire and willingness to provide further assistance in relation to ITF's future projects.

BoA conducted two regular sessions and took note of the ITF Annual Report 2022, ITF Intermediate Report for 2023, and Portfolio of ITF Projects for 2024.

RELATIONSHIPS WITH STAKEHOLDERS

The success of ITF's activities depends on ensuring the participation and coordination of various stakeholders whose interests are aligned with the common goal of making the world free from post-conflict challenges and other human security threats. In order to achieve this, ITF has been focused on developing and maintaining close and sound working relationships with **beneficiary countries**, the **donor community**, **implementing partners and agencies**, universities, **human security milieu** (including Mine Action), and **employees**.

BENEFICIARY COUNTRIES

ITF ensures that the needs of affected communities are properly addressed by cooperating and coordinating with local and national authorities in affected areas and their governments. ITF promotes regional cooperation and joint projects by supporting the South-east Europe Mine Action Coordination Council (SEEMACC) and participates in other regional forums.

The organization's regional cooperation approach to mine action is widely recognized as a confidence- and security-building measure. Building confidence and security is seen as a potential solution to mitigate the problems present at a number of mine affected shared borders in Central Asia, which adversely affect the safety, stability, and development of individual communities, countries, and the region in general.

In 2023, ITF supported projects in Afghanistan, Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Gaza Strip, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Lebanon, Libya, Montenegro, Moldova, Serbia, NE Syria, North Macedonia, Iraq, Ukraine, and West Bank.

DONOR COMMUNITY

The donor community, through its solidarity and willingness to help, contributes to the eradication of post-conflict and disruptive challenges in affected countries. The mandate for fundraising and management has been repeatedly entrusted to ITF, as it has proven to be a constant, reliable, and trustworthy partner in fulfilling its obligations to donors.

Since the inception of the organization, more than 460 donors have trusted ITF in implementing their donations for various activities. More than 95 percent of donations originate from public donors – including 31 governments, the EU and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS), OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID), Central European Initiative (CEI), and many local authorities; the rest of the funds have been contributed by private donors: non-governmental (NGO) and humanitarian organizations, businesses, and individuals.

Donors, as members of the BoA, actively participate in the sessions of ITF's Board of Advisors where they determine guidelines for future humanitarian projects. They also voice their proposals for humanitarian/development activities in the countries of their particular interest. In 2023, all project activities were continued to be marked by global challenges, including geopolitical conflicts such as Russia's war against Ukraine and Israeli – Palestinian conflict, which is causing humanitarian, social, and economic crisis that forced realignment of donor assistance and priorities. In cooperation with the donor community and partners, ITF was able to confront the related challenges in 2023, adapt to the new reality, and continued to address dire human security risks.

PARTNERS AND IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES

During 2023, ITF collaborated with partners and implementing agencies – UN bodies, regional organizations, international and local NGOs, and other implementing agencies.

ITF believes in building long-term partnerships and relationships with implementing bodies based on the quality of their performance and reliability. In the field of mine action in particular, ITF utilizes an open call for submissions system, aimed at selecting agencies/organizations based on their competitive advantages.



HUMAN SECURITY ENVIRONMENT

The concept of “human security” is in principle fairly broad. Often referred to as ‘people-centered security’, human security places human beings at the center of security considerations including their physical safety, their economic and psychosocial well-being, and the protection of their inherent human rights and fundamental freedoms. Human security emphasizes the complex relationships and often-ignored connections between disarmament, human rights, and development. By definition, mine action, the control of small arms and light weapons (SALW), and other post-conflict operations all contribute to the goals of human security.

ITF continued to be actively involved in the work of the Mine Action Support Group, a UN mechanism for the coordination and monitoring of donor activities in relation to mine action.

ITF continued activities related to the implementation of Ottawa Convention process. As an observer, ITF also assumed an active role at the Intersessional meetings and the 21st Meeting of State Parties in Geneva, Switzerland.

ITF is also closely involved in the implementation of the Convention on Cluster Munitions treaty, which banned the use, production, stockpiling and transfer of cluster munitions, the destruction of stockpiles, the clearance of affected land and the provision of assistance to victims and affected communities. The Convention became a binding international treaty for the States Parties when it entered into force on 1 August 2010. ITF has been granted the status of an observer organization to the Convention.

Furthermore, ITF has been working on the integration of mine action into the framework of other international organizations and associations whose work addresses similar challenges to human security (e.g. the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe – OSCE). In addition, ITF is a part of the Franco-German initiative the Roadmap for a sustainable solution to the illegal possession, misuse and trafficking of SALW and their ammunition in the Western Balkans by 2024.

ITF also follows human security activities of the UN, the EU, the Organization of American States (OAS) and other relevant countries.

ITF EMPLOYEES

ITF has a small and dynamic team. The organization is committed to ensuring comprehensive employee development, ongoing training and education, good working conditions, improvement of individual capabilities, and employee creativity. By having capable and effective employees, ITF promotes teamwork and provides a positive environment that fosters sustainable long-term relationships and creates an adaptive organization.



3

**MANAGEMENT OF
ITF FUNDS**



FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND INTERNAL CONTROL

ITF has established efficient internal controls regarding financial management and administration of donations by applying the following procedures:

- **DONATIONS RECEIVING PROCEDURES** ensuring that all acquired donations are in fact received and accurately recorded;
- **MATCHING FUND PROCEDURES** to ensure that all valid claims for matched funds are made and that no ineligible claims are submitted;
- **BANKING AND RECONCILIATION PROCEDURES** to ensure safe custody of received donors' funds, by means of banking and reconciliation controls to prevent loss occasioned by error or fraud;
- **DISBURSEMENT PROCEDURES** to ensure that all disbursements of donors' funds are actually made, that they are made only for such purposes as stipulated by the donors, and that the disbursements are accurately recorded.

The mentioned procedures are subject to regular external audit control.

EXTERNAL AUDIT

ITF's financial accounts are subject to annual external audits. The 2023 ITF Auditors' Report is enclosed with this Annual Report under the "Statutory Annual Statements for the Financial Year 2023" section. The accounts are audited in accordance with the International Auditing Standards. The external auditing is carried out by BDO Revizija d.o.o., an independent audit firm, a member of the BDO international network of public accounting, tax, and advisory firms.

In addition to financial accounts, ITF is annually subjected to a comprehensive audit of ITF's internal procedures. The internal audit function of ITF's business system is implemented by an external contractor in accordance with the International Auditing Standards. Based upon that, the external auditor provides an annual report that assesses the internal performance of ITF, over adequacy and effectiveness of the organization, risk management and control, and the possible recommendations for future improvement.



DONATIONS IN 2023




In 2023, ITF raised a total of \$55,538,158.34 USD of donations, out of which \$21,507,450.93 USD were received to ITF account and the amount of \$34,030,707.41 USD is still pending to be received (due to the multiyear projects and changed donor policy on transferring funds).

These funds were contributed by 13 public donors (including governments, organizations, and local authorities), and 4 private donors (including private companies, organizations, and individuals).

DONATION REPORT 2023

Donor	Amount in USD	Purpose
Austrian Development Agency	\$299,791.50	Explosive Hazards Clearance & Explosive Ordnance Risk Education with Agricultural Recovery in North East Syria
Anonymous donors	\$193.34	Support of ITF operational activities
Czech Republic	\$13,766.23	Mine Clearance in Bosnia and Herzegovina
DroneDeploy - in-kind donation	\$2,961.00	PSSM in Kyrgyz Republic
European Commission – European Peace Facility	\$1,989,000.00	Capacity Building for BMTF – still pending to be received
	\$4,031,307.80	Capacity Building – Republic of North Macedonia
	\$6,082,742.54	Capacity Building – North Macedonia - still pending to be received
	\$12,103,050.34	Total received and still pending to be received
European Union – European Commission – IPA III	\$3,407,594.60	Support to Land Release on Targeted Mine Suspected Areas in Bosnia and Herzegovina
	\$6,707,774.83	Support to Land Release on Targeted Mine Suspected Areas in Bosnia and Herzegovina – still pending to be received
	\$10,115,369.43	Total received and still pending to be received
iMMAP France	\$424,200.00	Humanitarian Mine Action response in Northeast Syria
	\$26,520.00	Humanitarian Mine Action response in Northeast Syria – still pending to be received
	\$450,720.00	Total received and still pending to be received
Jody Robertson	\$309.43	Support of ITF Operational Activities
French Republic	\$1,084,000.00	Capacity Building/Demining in Northeast Syria
Knights of Columbus, USA	\$213,170.00	Mine/ERW Risk Education, Training in Ukraine
Mine Action Center of the Republic of Serbia	\$286,749.86	Demining activities in Serbia
Rene Schasse	\$324.24	Projects in BiH



 Permanent Mission of Austria to the OSCE	\$29,912.40	Victim Assistance/Mine Detection Dogs Program in Azerbaijan and Armenia
 Republic of Korea	\$413,153.86	Humanitarian Mine Action Activities in BiH, Palestine, Lebanon, Serbia, Ukraine, and Azerbaijan
Siegfried Reichholf	\$40.19	Support of ITF Operational Activities
 Republic of Slovenia	\$409,647.60	Psychosocial Support – Ukraine
	\$613,275.00	Psychosocial Support/Demining activities – Ukraine – still pending to be received
	\$107,802.00	Capacity Building/Psychosocial Support/Victim Assistance – Palestine
	\$110,500.00	Capacity Building/Psychosocial Support/Victim Assistance – Palestine – still pending to be received
	\$129,362.40	Capacity Building – Afghanistan
	\$132,600.00	Capacity Building – Afghanistan – still pending to be received
	\$53,901.00	Psychosocial support for Moldova
	\$27,625.00	Psychosocial support for Moldova – still pending to be received
	\$343,754.40	Capacity Building/Demining – Syria
	\$165,750.00	Capacity Building/Demining – Syria – still pending to be received
	\$161,703.00	Mine/ERW Risk Education – Lebanon
	\$143,650.00	Mine/ERW Risk Education – Lebanon – still pending to be received
	\$107,802.00	Capacity Building/Demining/Victim Assistance – Bosnia and Herzegovina
	\$110,500.00	Capacity Building/Demining/Victim Assistance – Bosnia and Herzegovina – still pending to be received
	\$32,340.60	Psychosocial Support, Victim Assistance – Armenia
	\$33,150.00	Psychosocial Support, Victim Assistance – Armenia – still pending to be received
	\$201,856.59	Demining activities – Iraq
	\$11,050.00	Demining activities – Iraq – still pending to be received
	\$327,375.50	Support of ITF Operational Activities
	\$3,223,645.09	Total received and still pending to be received



 **United States of America**

\$13,476.70	CWD/PSSM in Croatia
\$1,195,601.09	CWD/PSSM in Croatia - still pending to be received
\$1,521,013.11	Capacity Building/Mine Action in Bosnia and Herzegovina
\$3,931,643.90	Capacity Building/Mine Action in Bosnia and Herzegovina – still pending to be received
\$925,890.14	CWD in Kyrgyz Republic
\$1,250,612.30	CWD in Kyrgyz Republic – still pending to be received
\$17,543.54	Capacity Building/PSSM in Albania
\$597,552.87	Capacity Building/PSSM in Albania – still pending to be received
\$116,495.80	Humanitarian mine action activities in Serbia
\$1,809,898.02	Humanitarian mine action activities in Serbia – still pending to be received
\$290,603.47	CWD/PSSM in Montenegro
\$1,833,591.43	CWD/PSSM in Montenegro – still pending to be received
\$892,992.43	CWD/PSSM in Georgia
\$854,926.36	CWD/PSSM in Georgia – still pending to be received
\$1,847,541.92	Capacity Building in Kazakhstan
\$3,158,444.71	Capacity Building in Kazakhstan – still pending to be received
\$917,374.54	Victim Assistance in Syria
\$559,076.86	Victim Assistance in Syria – still pending to be received
\$996,068.00	Capacity Support of Libyan MAC
\$1,334,275.82	Capacity Support of Libyan MAC – still pending to be received
\$401,428.15	Quality Assurance and Quality Control (QA/QC) of West Bank Demining Program
\$118,404.35	Quality Assurance and Quality Control (QA/QC) of West Bank Demining Program – still pending to be received
\$545,556.25	Capacity Building/Psychosocial Support/Victim Assistance in Afghanistan



 **United States of America**
(continued)

\$86,138.58	Psychosocial Support/Victim Assistance in Afghanistan – still pending to be received
\$900,035.34	Capacity Building – Lebanon
\$1,043,284.75	Capacity Building – Lebanon – still pending to be received
\$38,412.00	Psychosocial Support – Ukraine
\$103,119.00	Psychosocial Support – Ukraine – still pending to be received
\$27,301,001.43	Total received and still pending to be received

\$55,538,158.34

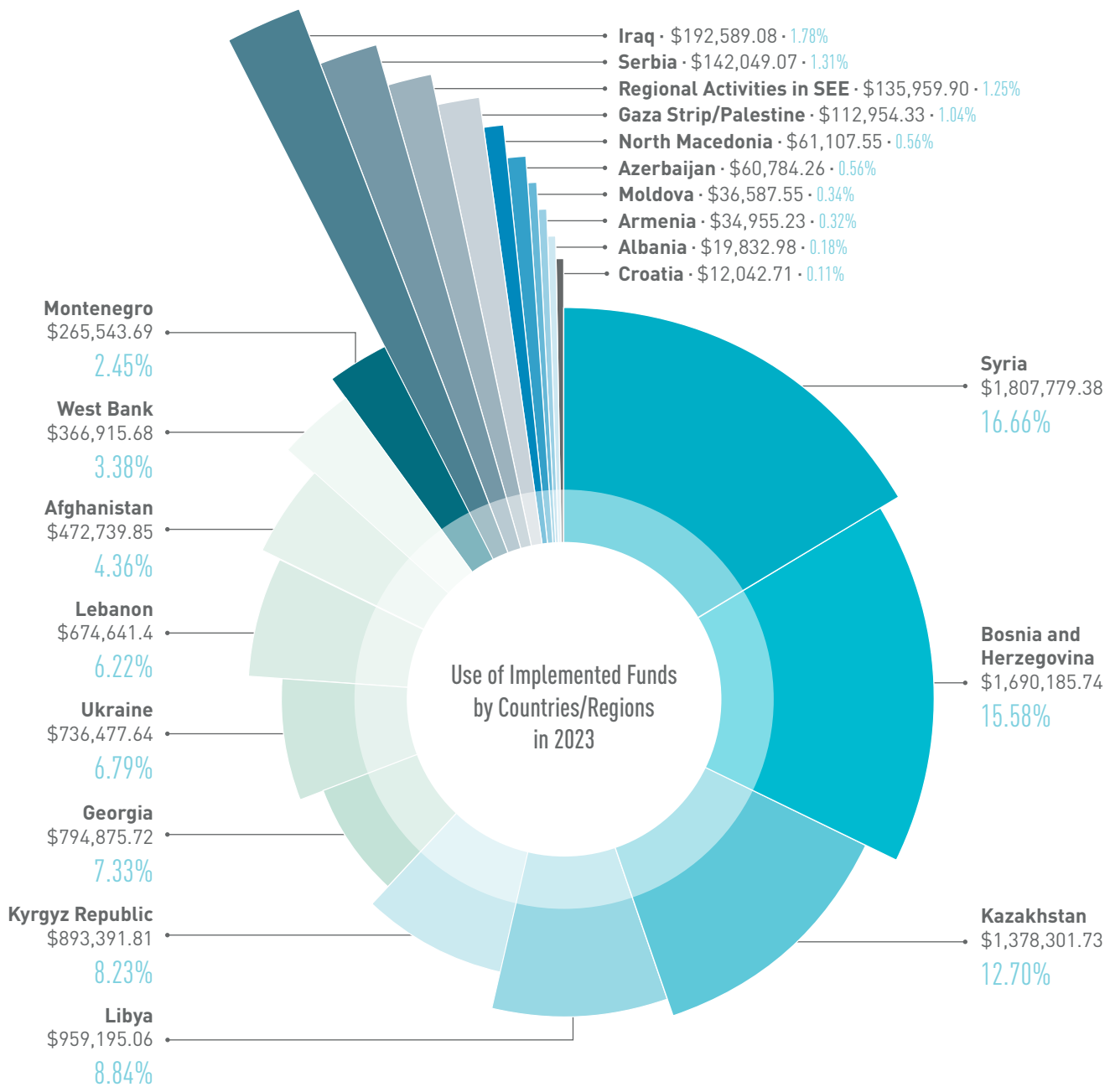


ALLOCATION OF DONATIONS BY COUNTRIES/REGIONS IN 2023

In 2023, ITF implemented activities in the sum of \$10,848,910.36 USD in the following countries/regions:

Syria	\$1,807,779.38	16.66%
Bosnia and Herzegovina	\$1,690,185.74	15.58%
Kazakhstan	\$1,378,301.73	12.70%
Libya	\$959,195.06	8.84%
Kyrgyz Republic	\$893,391.81	8.23%
Georgia	\$794,875.72	7.33%
Ukraine	\$736,477.64	6.79%
Lebanon	\$674,641.40	6.22%
Afghanistan	\$472,739.85	4.36%
West Bank	\$366,915.68	3.38%
Montenegro	\$265,543.69	2.45%
Iraq	\$192,589.08	1.78%
Serbia	\$142,049.07	1.31%
Regional Activities in SEE	\$135,959.90	1.25%
Gaza Strip/Palestine	\$112,954.33	1.04%
North Macedonia	\$61,107.55	0.56%
Azerbaijan	\$60,784.26	0.56%
Moldova	\$36,587.55	0.34%
Armenia	\$34,955.23	0.32%
Albania	\$19,832.98	0.18%
Croatia	\$12,042.71	0.11%

\$10,848,910.36



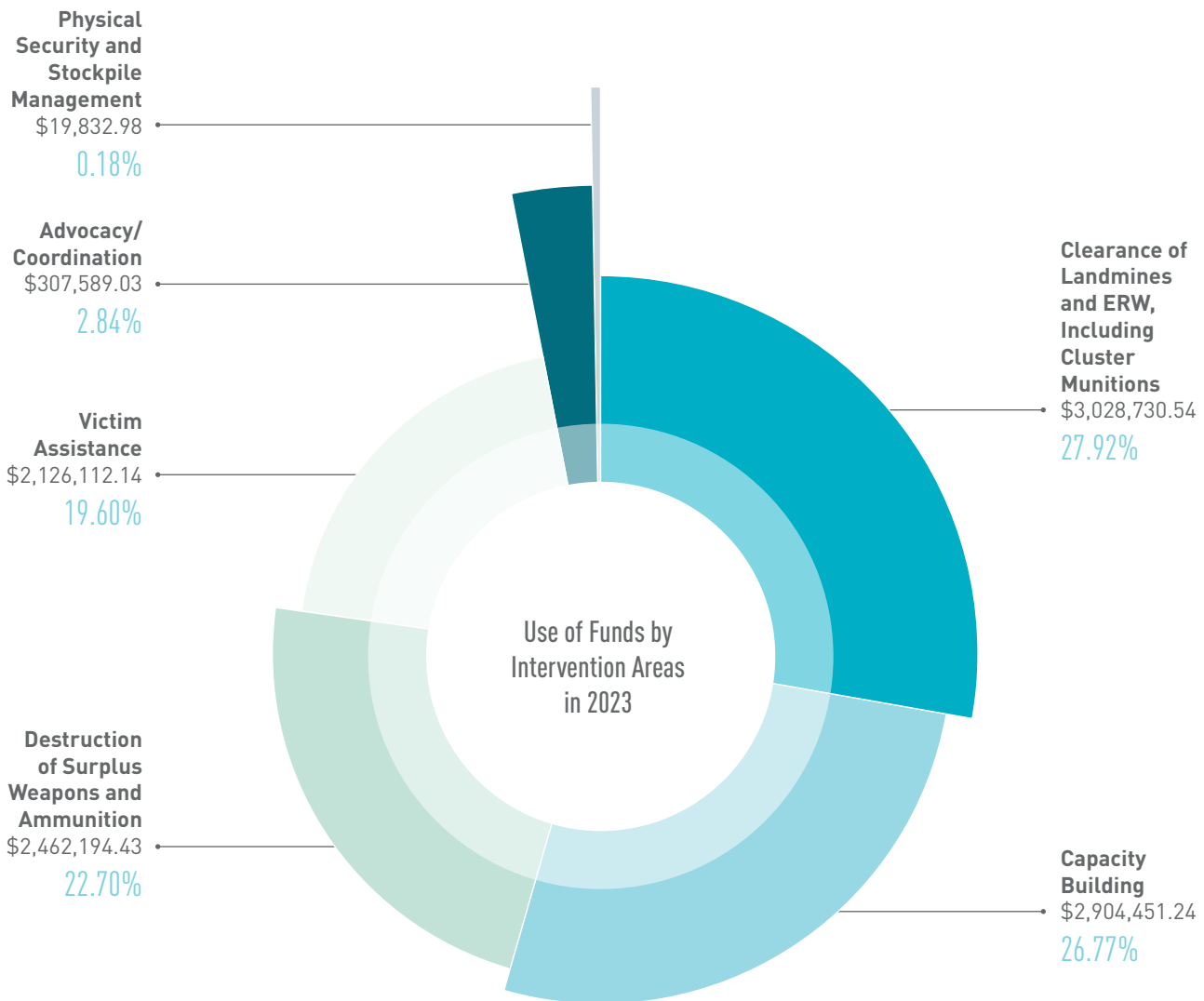


ALLOCATION OF DONATIONS BY PURPOSE IN 2023

In 2023, ITF activities in the sum of \$10,848,910.36 USD were implemented for the following purpose:

Clearance of Landmines and ERW, Including Cluster Munitions	\$3,028,730.54	27.92%
Capacity Building	\$2,904,451.24	26.77%
Destruction of Surplus Weapons and Ammunition	\$2,462,194.43	22.70%
Victim Assistance	\$2,126,112.14	19.60%
Advocacy/Coordination	\$307,589.03	2.84%
Physical Security and Stockpile Management	\$19,832.98	0.18%
Risk Education	-	-

\$10,848,910.36



ITF ADMINISTRATION AND PROJECT COSTS

The ITF administration fee is set to cover all ITF costs related to individual donations, i.e. the open calls for submission of offers, contract awarding procedures, contract monitoring and supervision, project management, evaluation, and reporting. The administration and project costs covered by the fee also include the operating expenses of the ITF Headquarters in Slovenia and ITF Representative Office in Bosnia and Herzegovina, monitoring visits by ITF staff in the field, conferences, seminars, ITF publications, and related activities. In addition, the fee covers the organization of meetings of the Board of Advisors and all generated reports and corresponding materials.

In 2023, the amount of \$1,632,793.31 USD was spent for ITF administration and project costs. ITF Temporary Offices in Libya, Tunisia, Iraq, Syria, Ukraine, Lebanon, and Kyrgyz Republic were directly supported within the projects.

4

ITF OPERATIONAL OVERVIEW BY REGIONS/COUNTRIES

This chapter covers ITF Activities implemented with donor funds listed by regions/countries in accordance with the ITF Strategy 2021–2025 and ITF Portfolio of Projects 2023.

SOUTH EAST EUROPE



ALBANIA
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA
MONTENEGRO
NORTH MACEDONIA
SERBIA

REGIONAL ASPECT OF ITF ACTIVITIES IN SOUTHEAST EUROPE

ALBANIA

PROBLEM

Since 1999, there have been 210 mine/unexploded ordnance (UXO) accidents, in which 238 persons were injured and 34 killed. There have been no mine/UXO accidents since 2006 due to extensive mine risk education programs. By the end of 2009, all areas in north-eastern Albania along the border area were cleared, surveyed or released. On 1 December 2009, Albania officially declared "Mine Free Status" and successful completion of Ottawa Convention article 5 obligations at Cartagena Summit in Columbia.

Surplus ammunition, UXO and ERW contamination are still a nationwide problem in Albania. A series of ammunition depot explosions, looting of weapons and ammunition by civilians as well as finding explosive remnants of the WWII, are among the causes. The crucial problem in Albania remains also victim assistance support.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

PHYSICAL SECURITY AND STOCKPILE MANAGEMENT

Physical Security and Stockpile Management (PSSM) Support in Albania

The overall goal of the project is to reduce the threats to human security through protecting the environment by finding sustainable solutions for disposal of waste generated by conventional weapons destruction in Albania. 150 metric tons of waste (ash) (from incineration of ammunition 2005–2015; packed in bags and plastic cans) will be safely transported from ULP Mjekës, Elbasan, Albania to the disposal site and permanently disposed.

In December 2023, all permissions and documentation necessary to get the export, transit, and import-licenses for the ash-material were received. The actual transport of ash is planned to start in April 2024.



Visit and inspection of the waste at ULP Mjekës

OVERVIEW OF DONOR ASSISTANCE

Physical Security and
Stockpile Management

United States of America

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

PROBLEM

Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) remains one of the most mine-contaminated countries in the World and the most mine-contaminated in Europe. The presence of mines and UXO, even though reduced each year, remains a major problem for personal security of residents, hinders socio-economic development, and prevents steady and continuous reconstruction.

As of end 2023, according to official data by Bosnia and Herzegovina Mine Action Centre, the mine suspected area amounts to 838 square kilometers (1996 initial estimation: 4,200 square kilometers) where over 170,600 mines and UXO are still expected.

The lives and livelihoods of around 845,000 people are still impacted by mines and UXO, with approximately 132,000 residents directly jeopardized.

Since 1996 mine and UXO accidents severed lives of 1,781 local residents, turning them into mine/UXO victims/survivors (624 residents were fatally injured/killed)¹.

In March 2023, one mine/UXO/ERW accident occurred – in which 1 person suffered fatal injuries/death.

Thus far, no mine accidents have occurred in 2023 on ITF managed projects.

¹ Based to the latest BHMACH data – the number of registered accidents and fatalities increased as in 2022 new additional past accidents (previously not registered or were registered under different type) were reported to BHMACH.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

CLEARANCE OF LANDMINES AND ERW AND LAND RELEASE

MINE CLEARANCE AND TECHNICAL SURVEY

ITF support to Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2023 (01 January – 31 December) continued by release of land through:

- 129,970 square meters mine cleared/demined (9 project locations – 19 mines, 107 UXO),
- 569,483 square meters of technical survey operations (20 project locations - 20 mines, 65 UXO).

LAND RELEASE

Overall, on Land Release (certified) projects – 2,031,266 square meters of land was released, on 9 locations, removing 15 mines and 17 UXO as follows:

*Field works completed and certified.

Mine suspected area / MSP Hodbina – Municipality of Mostar performed by MDDC

The Land Release Project on the Mine Suspected Area Project – Hodbina in Mostar Municipality, field activities commenced in March 2023 and completed in September 2023 with a total area of 1,651,717 square meters released, removing 10 mines and 12 UXO, on 7 project locations by applying combined land release methods (mine clearance, technical survey, targeted investigation, systematic investigation).



Mine suspected area / MSP Fojnica – Municipality of Fojnica performed by MDDC

- Mine Suspected Area Project – Fojnica in Fojnica Most Municipality

The Land Release Project on the Mine Suspected Area Project – Fojnica in Fojnica Municipality, field activities commenced in August 2023 and completed in October 2023 with a total area of 379,549 square meters released, removing 5 mines and 5 UXO, on 2 project locations by applying combined land release methods (mine clearance, technical survey, targeted investigation, systematic investigation).

*Field works completed and certified.



Mine suspected area / MSP Čojluk-Ljusina – Municipality of Bosanska Krupa performed by MDDC

The Land Release Project on the Mine Suspected Area Project – Čojluk-Ljusina in Bosanska Krupa Municipality, field activities commenced in November 2023 with a total targeted area of 590,482 square meters, on 8 project locations by applying combined land release methods (mine clearance, technical survey, targeted investigation, systematic investigation).

The project field activities were winter-paused, and shall resume upon favorable weather conditions*.

*Field works in progress/not yet completed. Project is in progress and the final certified results will be reported on in ITF 2024 Intermediate and Annual Report (upon completion and BHMAC certification). By the end of 2023, thus far, 2 mines and 22 UXO were found and removed.



Čojluk-Ljusina, Bosnia and Herzegovina

In Total, in the reporting period of (1 January to December 2023), on Mine Clearance, Technical Survey and Land Release (certified) projects – 2,730,719 square meters of land was released, on 38 locations, removing 54 mines and 189 UXO.

VICTIM ASSISTANCE

Organization of the XXII International Sitting Volleyball Tournament “Sarajevo Open 2023”

Between 26 and 28 May 2023, the XXII Sitting Volleyball Tournament – Sarajevo Open 2023, has taken place in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, organized by Sitting Volleyball Club Fantomi from Sarajevo (OKI Fantomi). The aim of the tournament was to raise the level of quality and popularization of sitting volleyball both in Bosnia and Herzegovina and abroad, and to raise awareness on the threats of mines and other explosive remnants of war and the importance of mine action projects.

Eight teams (about 120 people with disabilities) from Germany, Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina competed at 2023 tournament. The participants played excellent matches and showed great sportsmanship and team spirit. At the end, the OKI Fantomi outplayed their opponents and were crowned champions. Sports present an excellent opportunity for the social inclusion of landmine survivors and people with disabilities and are an important part in their rehabilitation process.

Along with the activities of the preparation and organization of the XXII International Sitting Volleyball Tournament, OKI Fantomi has successfully completed the replacement-purchase of a van. A 5-year-old van was purchased that fully meets the club's needs.



The XXII International Tournament in Sitting Volleyball “Sarajevo Open 2023” 28.05.2023

Beekeeping as Empowerment Tool for People with Disabilities from Bosnia and Herzegovina (Phase 3)

The aim of the project was to enable mine victims to run small businesses in the field of beekeeping and networking for the mine victims engaged in beekeeping. As beekeeping requires little initial investments and there is no need for complex technologies to operate, it is a great way to establish a stable household income and improve the quality of life for vulnerable social groups.

In the frame of the project a beekeeping center for mine/UXO survivors was opened as part of a project aiming to empower people with disabilities through beekeeping. An official ceremony was held on 29 March 2023 in Banja Luka in the premises of ITF's partner organization NGO UDAS.

After the official ceremony a two-day educational training on beekeeping for mine victims from Bosnia and Herzegovina was held in Banja Luka. Training was carried out by professional team from the Beekeeping Academy of Slovenia. At the end of the two-day training all mine victims received equipment needed for beekeeping.

In the frame of the project, ITF together with partners, Beekeeping Academy of Slovenia and NGO UDAS, organized a four-day study visit in Slovenia between 6 and 9 June 2023 that was attended by 11 representatives from Bosnia and Herzegovina.

In December 2023, additional equipment for beekeeping center survivors was purchased (honey bottling machine, self-turning honey extractors, duplicator with mixer, wax sterilizer, wax melter, honey pump, sublimation Oxalic Acid, and computer for beekeeping centre).

Project will continue also in 2024.



Official ceremony



Opening of beekeeping center for mine/UXO survivors in Banja Luka



Study visit in Slovenia

RISK EDUCATION

Digitalization of Demining Land Management in Brcko District BiH

The project was aimed to contribute to the development of rural communities previously affected by landmines through better solutions for land use in the area of the district as well as to contribute to transparency in the field of land management.

NGO "Posavina bez mina" started with the implementation of this project on 01 February 2023. The project was finished on 30 November 2023. The following activities were implemented:

- GIS database has been established, filled with the data obtained from BHMACH and the Government and transferred to GIS format. GIS database is stored on the cloud server.
- Public Security department with installed desktop GIS program and 12 members. All members of Civil protection have access to the GIS through their mobile phones which increases their safety in areas still contaminated with landmines and also offers transparent information about the released land.
- 29 local communities visited in the area of Brcko District BiH. During the visits, the implementing partner collected information about the use of demined land, flooding areas, landslides, illegal dumpsites and mine victims.
- Three radio stories and seven TV stories were broadcasted. 1,000 brochures and 32 cadastral maps were printed and distributed in 29 local communities.
- 14 mine victims' families were visited.
- The existing information on mine victims and their families living in the area of the Brčko District was updated.



Field work in Brčko District



CAPACITY BUILDING

Provision of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for Bosnia and Herzegovina Armed Forces – demining battalion (AFBiH)

As a continuation of the support to the Bosnia and Herzegovina national mine action capacities for the purpose of enhanced mine action activities and safer field-work operational activities of Armed Forces of Bosnia-Herzegovina Demining Battalion personnel, 220 protective visors were procured and delivered in June 2023.

OTHER

Support of Republic of Slovenia to ITF Representative Office in Bosnia and Herzegovina Gračanica, BiH

Support of Republic Slovenia to ITF Representative Office in BiH enables continuous execution of operations and procedures required for work of ITF in Bosnia and Herzegovina, including administrative procedures for invitation of submission of offers, regular supervision and monitoring of the projects, liaison with donors, national and international organizations and authorities, as well as presence of ITF as one of the key factors in resolving of mine and UXO problem in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the region of South-eastern Europe.



Visors donated to Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina Demining Battalion

OVERVIEW OF DONOR ASSISTANCE

Clearance of Landmines and ERW and Land Release	United States of America
Victim Assistance	Korea, Slovenia
Mine Risk Education	Korea
Capacity Building	United States of America
Other	Slovenia

MONTENEGRO

PROBLEM

Montenegro still faces contamination from unexploded sub-munitions and underwater explosive remnants of WW II located of shore. There is significant amount of aged, unstable, deteriorated and for other reasons unserviceable ERW in Montenegro, which pose a hazard to the local population and require demilitarization or destruction.

A particular problem presents a significant amount of aged, unstable, deteriorated, and unserviceable ERW, which pose a hazard to the local population and require demilitarization or destruction. Therefore, it was determined that is of great importance to address and improve physical security and stockpile management of aging weapons and found/seized explosive ordnances and, thus, reduce the direct threat posed by inappropriately stored ERW.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

PHYSICAL SECURITY AND STOCKPILE MANAGEMENT AND DESTRUCTION OF SURPLUS WEAPONS AND AMMUNITION

Disposal and/or Demilitarization of ERW for Ministry of Interior

During first half of 2023, Ministry of Interior was preparing and subsequently delivered the new list of outdated and hazardous ERW items collected during end 2022 and early 2023, which require destruction and/or demilitarization, and are temporarily stored by Ministry of Interior.

ITF prepared the required administrative procedures for publishing the Invitation for Submission of Offers, and published it in August 2023. The administrative procedures were ongoing during second half of 2023, while the implementation of demilitarization is ex-

pected for 2024.

In total, more than 44,000 pieces of ERW is listed for destruction and/or demilitarization, weighting over 17 metric tons (or 18.8 short tons / US).



Demilitarization of Ammunition for Ministry of Defense

The initial list of ammunitions of surplus and/or outdated ammunitions stored by and under jurisdiction of Ministry of Defense (MoD), was delivered to ITF during 2022, however this initial list was subsequently amended and reduced, therefore once the new list was approved (during first half of 2023), ITF commenced with the administrative procedure and coordination required for issuing the Invitation for Submission of Offers. Thus, in June 2023, the Invitation for Submission of Offers was issued, the administrative procedures and implementation preparations were performed during second half of 2023, while the implementation of demilitarization shall commence in early 2024.

Under the earmarked MoD ammunitions demilitarization project, 64.73 metric tons (71 short tons / US), with 203,351 items is planned to be delaborated.



Stored ERW planned for disposal



Part of ammunition in storage ready for transport and delaboration



Capacity Development for the Ministry of Interior, Directorate for Emergency Situations, Department for UXO – Equipment Provision

Based on defined needs, technical specifications and operational requirements of the Rescue and Protection Directorate – Department for UXO, Ministry of Interior of Montenegro, for the Low Order Technique equipment and UXO Transport Vehicle, ITF implemented the relevant administrative procedures and offers selection processes during second half of 2022 and first half of 2023.

The transport vehicle, Toyota Hilux, was delivered in August 2023. One segment of the Low Order Equipment was handed-over in December 2023, while the delivery of the other portion is anticipated for first half of 2024.

Capacity Development for the Ministry of Interior, Directorate for Emergency Situations, Department for UXO – Storage Adaptation

Based on defined needs, technical specifications, and requirements of the Ministry of Interior – Directorate for Emergency Management – Department for UXO, and based on the previously prepared architectural Project Design, the repeated Invitation for Submission of Offers for Construction of a Plateau Based on the Project Design for Adaptation and Technical Equipping of ERW Storage Facility in Rogami was prepared during first half of 2023 and published in August 2023.

The administrative procedures were ongoing during the second half of 2023, while the storage adaptation works and equipping is anticipated to be implemented in 2024.



Transport Vehicle

OVERVIEW OF DONOR ASSISTANCE

Conventional Weapons Destruction and Physical Security and Stockpile Management	United States of America
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NORTH MACEDONIA

PROBLEM

The Army of the Republic of North Macedonia (ARMK) is in the process of restructuring to reduce number of active troops and equip them, thus increasing the ARMK's capacity to maintain and enhance operating standards to participate in EU military common security and defence policy (CSDP) missions. The Assistance Measure will enhance and upgrade the equipment of the ARMK, in particular of the Light Infantry Battalion Group, thus enabling North Macedonia to protect its citizens better and increase its possible contribution to military Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) operations and missions.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

CAPACITY BUILDING

Capacity Building

On 16 March 2023, the Council of the EU adopted Decision (CFSP) 2023/599 on an assistance measure under the European Peace Facility to strengthen the capacities of the Army of the Republic of North Macedonia in compliance with relevant international law, in particular international human rights and international humanitarian law.

The objective of the assistance measure is to strengthen the capacities of the Armed Forces of North Macedonia by enhancing and upgrading its technical non-lethal equipment. Through the provision of adequate equipment, the assistance measure (AM) will contribute to increasing the capacities of the Armed Forces of North Macedonia to contribute to CSDP missions and operations, complementary to support provided by other international partners bilaterally.

The AM is being implemented in indirect management by ITF, within the project implementation period of 30 months.

OVERVIEW OF DONOR ASSISTANCE

Capacity Building	European Peace Facility
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SERBIA

PROBLEM

Cluster Munitions

During the 1999 armed conflict, cluster bombs were dropped on targets in 16 municipalities in the Republic of Serbia. During and immediately following the bombing campaign, initial removal of unexploded cluster munitions from the surface was implemented by the members of the armed and police forces in order to provide basic security to local inhabitants from danger of cluster munitions and UXO, thus substantially reducing occurrence of injuries and deadly accidents of civilian population. Today, removal of cluster munitions and UXO is still being implemented throughout Serbia in order to completely eliminate the residual threat for the local population.

Currently, 610,137 square meters of land (known areas) is affected by cluster munitions in Užice and Bujanovac municipalities.

Mines

Demining of minefields in the Municipality of Šid (villages of Jamena, Morović, and Batrovci - border area with Croatia), covering an area of over 5.9 million square meters, was completed in the period 2003 – 2009, on 44 project locations, removing 5,139 items of various types of mines and UXO.

In 2009, the Mine Action Centre of Serbia (MACS) obtained information that there are mine suspected areas remaining also in Municipalities of Bujanovac and Preševo, containing various types of mines (groups of mines). After survey of these areas, 10 locations were confirmed as mine hazardous areas in extent of 3.5 million square meters at the time.

As of December 2023, the area of 390,300 square meters remains as landmines Confirmed Hazardous Area or Suspected Hazardous Area in the municipality of Bujanovac (Đorđevac area).

There is also information on new mine Suspected Hazardous Areas in Bujanovac municipality where, according to the local residents and also reported to the official institutions, explosions were heard during summer grass and bushfires in 2019 and again in summer 2021. In addition, the local residents were also reporting of having knowledge of more mined areas. Non-technical survey of these areas is envisaged during 2024–25.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

CLEARANCE OF LANDMINES AND ERW

In the period from 01 January to 31 December 2023 in Serbia (Municipality of Tutin) on 1 project location, in total 134,900 square meters of land was cleared, removing 16 parts and fragments of cluster munitions and cluster bomb container (0 mines, 0 UXO, 0 cluster munitions).

ITF support to Serbia in 2023 was realized by clearance and release of land through:

Technical Survey (cluster munitions)

Tutin – Istočni Mojstir- Ponor I, project task area of 131,900 square meters - field works implemented during May 2023. 16 parts and fragments of cluster munitions and cluster bomb container found and removed (0 mines, 0 UXO, 0 CM).



Field operations at Tutin – Istočni Mojstir – Ponor I project task location

Technical Survey (mines)

Bujanovac – Bujanovac North / Đorđevac – I, project task area of 122,200 square meters - field works commenced in December 2023 and were winter-paused. 3,000 square meters cleared, no mines, UXO nor cluster munitions were found.

VICTIM ASSISTANCE

Rehabilitation Treatment at University Rehabilitation Institute Republic of Slovenia (URI Soča)

During 2023, two cluster bomblet accident survivors from Serbia underwent various types of measurements and treatments. As a result, each received a new, modern, and high-quality prosthesis (one below knee, the other above knee), produced by expert engineers at University Rehabilitation Institute of Republic of Slovenia (URI Soča). The technically more advanced prostheses will enable easier mobility and a better quality of life.



Cluster bomblet accident survivor with URI Soča prosthesis engineer

OVERVIEW OF DONOR ASSISTANCE

Clearance of Landmines and ERW	Korea, Serbia, United States of America
Victim Assistance	Korea
Capacity Building	United States of America



REGIONAL ASPECT OF ITF ACTIVITIES IN SOUTHEAST EUROPE

SOUTHEASTERN EUROPE MINE ACTION COORDINATION COUNCIL (SEEMACC)

One of the key components of ITF operations is the regional strategy put in place by SEEMACC. ITF thinks regional cooperation is essential because it can address various important challenges more effectively and economically. Through fostering international cooperation, SEEMACC advances initiatives targeted at achieving mine-free Southeast Europe and beyond.

The SEEMACC group held two meetings in 2023 under the project "Exchange of know-how and experience in implementation of mine action projects in South-Eastern Europe," which was co-financed by the CEI.

The 30th meeting of the SEEMACC group was organized by ITF and held in Vodice, Croatia, in May 2023. A general discussion on the difficulties of mine action in the region was attended by participants from Mine Action Centers located in the SEE geographical area including Croatia, Bosnia Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, and ITF. The representative of Azerbaijan also took part in the meeting and gave a short presentation and an update of the activities carried out in 2023 by Azerbaijan Mine Action Center.

The participants were also informed about the implementation of a project in North Macedonia that was implemented by the North Macedonia Protection and Rescue Directorate and Serbian MAC in February 2023. The project's goal was to locate and identify old, unexploded aircraft bombs in North Macedonia. The cooperation between Mine Action Centers from Serbia and North Macedonia, which developed during the SEEMACC summit in Belgrade in December 2022, is directly responsible for the implementation of this particular project.





31st SEEMACC meeting in Ljubljana, Slovenia

The 31st SEEMACC meeting took place on 20 December 2023, in Ljubljana, Slovenia, where the representatives shared information on achieved results and developments in 2023 and outlined their plans for 2024. During the meeting, participants outlined strategies and discussed in particular the North Macedonia mine action problem, placing a major focus on regional collaboration for joint mine removal projects. The Republic of North Macedonia's Protection and Rescue Directorate gave an update on current initiatives and emphasized areas that need more attention in 2024, with a special emphasis on locating and identifying unexploded bombs and unexploded remnants of war (ERW) in the country.

BALKAN MEDICAL TASK FORCE (BMTF)

The Balkan Medical Task Force (BMTF) was set up as a regional initiative bringing together six countries, namely Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, and Slovenia, with the aim of providing a quick and effective response to disaster-struck countries or regions by using already existing military medical capacities of Participating Nations (PNs). North Macedonia, Serbia and Slovenia, having a field hospital capacity, take over the role of 'Framework Nation' on a two-year rotating basis. North Macedonia covered that role for the period from June 2020 until June 2022, and Slovenia assumed a 'Framework Nation' position on 1 July 2022 until 30 June 2024.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

CAPACITY BUILDING

Strengthening the Capacities of the Balkan Medical Task Force (BMTF)

On 9 June 2022, the Council of the EU adopted Decision (CFSP) 2022/906 on an AM under the European Peace Facility (EPF) to strengthen the capacities of the BMTF. This AM would empower the BMTF non-EU PNs to respond autonomously to crises. By bringing together five WB countries, this AM would also feed into the broader goals of CFSP/CSDP in the region, such as promoting regional cooperation and dialogue and compliance with provisions of international humanitarian law and international human rights law.

The objective of the AM is to support capacity building of the BMTF by procuring the necessary equipment and materiel for the medical units of the Armed Forces of the non-EU2 PNs, namely Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia, and Serbia, to strengthen the military medical capabilities of the region and ultimately civilian relief efforts. To achieve the above stated objective, the assistance is financing:

- Mobility assets (medical and terrain vehicles);
- Role 2 hospitals;
- Laboratory equipment and supplies;
- IT and Communication equipment.

The AM is being implemented in indirect management by ITF, within the project implementation period of 36 months.

OVERVIEW OF DONOR ASSISTANCE

Capacity Building	European Peace Facility
Other	Central European Initiative – CEI

SOUTH CAUCASUS



AZERBAIJAN
ARMENIA
GEORGIA

AZERBAIJAN

PROBLEM

Azerbaijan is counted among the small group of in the world affected by cluster munitions, still haunted to this day by the legacy of a war. According to the Landmine Monitor Report, Azerbaijan is also among the top 10 countries in the world in terms of the level and number of landmines. The estimated total area to be cleared of mines is 11,286 square kilometers, 1,479 square kilometers of which is confirmed minefields. As a result of landmine accidents, there continues to be monthly reports of new cases of deaths and injuries. The total number of mine victims in the country between 1991–2020 is estimated to be over 3,445 people, 639 of whom died. This includes both civilians and military. 38 of mine victims are women and 357 are children.

Cluster munitions victims require significant medical care and physical, psychological, and social rehabilitation. Their injuries result in significant economic losses, both to the individuals and their families, and also to the country as a whole.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

VICTIM ASSISTANCE

Creating Economic Opportunities for Landmine Victims – Phase 2

The objective of the project was to provide the financial means for the economic integration of landmine victims who live in the rural regions of Azerbaijan. Through financing small entrepreneurship activities that have been designed and implemented by landmine victims themselves, this project has not only enhanced the economic and social life of these people and their families, but also provided all necessary tools for their empowerment and becoming fully-functioning, self-sufficient members of the community.

NGO “The Azerbaijan Campaign to Ban Landmines (AzCBL)” started with the project on 1 April 2023 and successfully completed all activities on 31 July 2023.

Small business interest-free loans were allotted to each region and distributed among chosen group of beneficiaries – those who exhibited a clear, realistic, and detailed business plan. 5 beneficiaries - landmine victims from Aghdam, Aghjabedi, Terter, Fizuli, and Tovuz region, were chosen to receive interest-free loans. Beneficiaries bought dairy cattle, calves, and materials and equipment to start with small entrepreneurship activities which will improve their financial situation and quality of life.





CAPACITY BUILDING

Mine Detection Dog Training Program for Mine Action Agency of the Republic of Azerbaijan – ANAMA

The project goal was to deliver two fully trained mine detection dogs (Belgian shepherds) to Mine Action Agency of the Republic of Azerbaijan (ANAMA), ready to start work with local handlers over the period of one week, thus improving the mine detection dog capacity of ANAMA.

Mine Detection Dog Center in Bosnia and Herzegovina started with the implementation of this project on 1 May 2023. Mine detection dogs were delivered to ANAMA on 19 September 2023.

Following mine detection dogs were delivered to ANAMA:

- Felix; Date of Birth: 20. 5. 2020;
Breed: Belgian Shepherd – Malinois; Gender: Male.
- Leo; Date of Birth: 20. 12. 2021;
Breed: Belgian Shepherd – Malinois; Gender: Male.



MDDs Leo and Felix

OVERVIEW OF DONOR ASSISTANCE

Victim Assistance	Korea
Capacity Building	Austrian Permanent Mission to the OSCE, Korea

ARMENIA

PROBLEM

Based on official statements and reports, the 2020 war led to more than 6,000 combat deaths (about 3,360 Armenians and 2,820 Azerbaijanis) and more than 150 civilian deaths. Many civilians, including children, were wounded during the six-week war.

On 12 September 2022, a series of clashes erupted between Armenian and Azerbaijani troops along the Armenia–Azerbaijan border, marking a major escalation in the current border crisis between Armenia–Azerbaijan and resulting in nearly 300 deaths and dozens of injuries on both sides by 14 September 2022.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

VICTIM ASSISTANCE

Psychosocial rehabilitation of children, victims of armed conflict

The project objective was to enable children an adequate medical rehabilitation program carried out at the Slovenian Red Cross Health and Youth Resort in Debeli Rtič, Slovenia.

17 children from Armenia that were affected by conflict in September 2022 arrived together with 3 companions to Slovenia on 26 August 2023. Group participated at 9 days Psychosocial Rehabilitation program to improve their mental and physical wellbeing after being traumatized by the on-going conflict.

With the help of Slovenian psychology specialists and other therapists, the children received group and individual therapy, which will contribute to their reintegration into the community. Therefore, activities such as swimming classes and hydrotherapy, psychology workshops, various sports activities, and competitions (such as kayak, archery, volleyball and basketball), etc. were organized.

On Sunday, 27 August 2023, representatives of Armenia, Austria and Slovenia visited the children at Debeli Rtič.



Beneficiaries of the project

OVERVIEW OF DONOR ASSISTANCE

Victim Assistance	Austrian Permanent Mission to the OSCE, Slovenia
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GEORGIA

PROBLEM

Georgia is affected by landmines and ERW because of complex and interlocking past and recent armed conflicts over the breakaway areas of Abkhazia and South Ossetia. More than 2.3 square kilometres of land is still contaminated by mines and ERW (territories controlled by Georgian central government) where over 344,000 people live. Until today, over 1,307 mine and ERW victims have been identified by the nation-wide survey.

In addition, Georgia inherited a notable stockpile of munitions from the Soviet Union due to its strategic geographic location. They range from small arms and light weapons, artillery and mortar projectiles, to aircraft rockets and missiles. Outdated, unserviceable and hazardous for storage ammunition pose a serious threat to human security due to potential inadequate storage conditions and expired shelf life. These factors could result in unplanned explosions at munition sites or smuggling and so the willingness of Georgian authorities to solve the issues in a sustainable way is greatly appreciated.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

PHYSICAL SECURITY AND STOCKPILE MANAGEMENT AND DESTRUCTION OF SURPLUS WEAPONS AND AMMUNITION

Physical Security and Stockpile Management and Conventional Weapons Destruction in Georgia

ITF partnered with Delta, a Georgian state enterprise tasked by the President of Georgia for solving CWD related issues in Georgia, with the aim to establish national capacities, that will in the future allow sustainable and comprehensive disposal of outdated and dangerous for storage weapons and ammunition.

The project envisions disposal of earmarked ammunition at the bases of Phonichala (disposal of aircraft bombs), and Dedoplistskaro (disposal of other earmarked ammunition). The disposal at Dedoplistskaro is dependent on the construction of adequate PSSM conditions. For this purpose, the construction and renovation of the base and the perimeter took place that will allow safe handling of ammunition. Renovation and construction works at Dedoplistskaro base were completely finished.



Arial shot of the newly constructed storage



Finished entry gate to Dedoplistskaro base

The official handover ceremony was held on 22 May 2023, attended by representatives of Georgian Ministry of Defense, U.S. Embassy in Tbilisi, STC Delta and ITF. All the participants had the opportunity to observe the Dedoplistskaro base PSSM upgrades, with 6 new PSSM and CWD buildings, while 1 existing building was renovated and upgraded.



Aerial shot of the newly constructed storage

During the reporting period, altogether 225.46 metric tons of ammunitions were also disposed in Georgia. External monitoring was jointly completed by ITF and the representatives of U.S. Embassy in Tbilisi in February, April, May, July, and December 2023, where the process of disposal activities was observed.



Monitoring of Dedoplistskaro base in December 2023



Handover ceremony of finished Dedoplistskaro base in May 2023



Disposal of outdated and hazardous ammunition with rotary device



Disposal of artillery ammunition

OVERVIEW OF DONOR ASSISTANCE

Conventional Weapons Destruction and Physical Security and Stockpile Management	United States of America
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EASTERN EUROPE



MOLDOVA
UKRAINE

MOLDOVA

PROBLEM

Due to the ongoing war in Ukraine, a sizable population of refugees—mostly mothers and their children—remain in the border areas between Moldova and Ukraine. Moldova has limited capacity to give children the much-needed medications and basic psychosocial treatment, as well as help for their mothers and companions. The migrants who are fleeing from Ukraine to Moldova are severely traumatized, and they are in desperate need of prescription drugs and medical care. Apart from the scarcity of pharmaceuticals, children and their companions face the psychological aftermath of war and the challenges of being refugees.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

VICTIM ASSISTANCE

Medical and psychosocial assistance to Ukrainian refugee children in Moldova

Based on the assessments of the situation at the Ukraine - Moldova border, ITF prepared a project aimed at victims' assistance in Moldova. In cooperation with the local NGO "Interaction" from Moldova, the project started in June 2023. Several workshops will be implemented during the project with medicine distribution already underway for those most vulnerable and in need of urgent medical aid.

Children's activities are designed to lessen the psychological effects of war by providing educational and other activities. Up to 160 youths and 60 escorts—mostly moms and senior friends—are expected to get critical prescription drugs as well as much-needed mental support and counseling. Psycho-social support workshops will be held over the course of the project.



During 2023, NGO Interaction organized medical examinations and distribution of urgently needed medicines for children and their companions.

The most often distributed medications were those for antiviral infections, chronic illnesses (high blood pressure, diabetes, heart failure, liver, and rheumatic disorders), and sleeplessness. The distribution of medications and accessories went ahead without any difficulties since the procedures for diagnosing health issues and distributing required medications had been properly put into place.

In November 2023 a small group of Ukrainian refugee children attended a Romanian language course and actively participated in a workshop that enabled them to socialize and learn.

Throughout 2024, the initiative will provide psycho-social support, workshops for traumatized children and adults, and distribution of necessary medications to those in need.

OVERVIEW OF DONOR ASSISTANCE

Victims Assistance	Slovenia
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UKRAINE

PROBLEM

According to current Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) data, Russian war on Ukraine has caused at least 30,010 civilian casualties, including at least 10,378 killed – including 579 children – and at least 19,632 injured. More than 80 % of all casualties (injured or killed) since 24 February 2022 have been recorded in areas controlled by the Ukrainian Government. The actual number of civilian casualties across Ukraine is likely to be higher, as receipt of information from locations with intense hostilities has been limited or delayed. An escalation throughout the entire 2023 of hostilities and fighting, strikes hitting civilian infrastructure, and major incidents, including the destruction of the Kakhovka Dam in southern Ukraine in June 2023, led to a deterioration of the humanitarian situation in regions where people already face acute needs. Over 14.6 million people – about 40 % of the Ukrainian population living in Ukraine – will need humanitarian assistance in 2024, including IDPs. The most peril thematic areas remain provision of basic services, victims' assistance, housing, food security and non-food items, mental health, and psychosocial support. One-third of households' report having at least one member experiencing mental health or psychosocial problems, especially among children, who are also not accessing formal education.

The aftermath of the ongoing military actions is the widespread deployment of cluster munitions in densely populated areas in Ukraine, unmarked placement of minefields, urban mine contamination, with improvised explosive device, explosive remnants of war, and unexploded ordnance across the whole Ukraine. Anti-personnel and anti-vehicle mines, as well as other unexploded or abandoned ammunition left behind in Ukraine, threaten the lives of millions of people. According to the last information available by National Mine Action Authority, approximately 175,000 square kilometres (7,000 before February 2022) of land in Ukraine is suspected to be contaminated with either cluster munitions, landmines, or other explosive remnants of war.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

CLEARANCE OF LANDMINES AND ERW

Humanitarian Mine Action Program – Non-Technical Survey, Battle Area Clearance and Capacity Building in Ukraine

ITF has partnered with Safe Path Group (SPG), NGO in Ukraine to address the area of mine clearance in Ukraine, with the objective to assist the Ukrainian people by identifying the location of ordnance, marking, and record this for future render safe and disposal or removal (non-technical survey and technical survey activities). Operations focused mainly on the Kharkiv region.

Project started in October 2022 and was completed by the of the August 2023. In the starting months SPG established the base near Kharkiv, commenced the accreditation procedure for non-technical survey (NTS) and technical survey (TS), and started working together with State Emergency Service of Ukraine (SESU).

With the established base and the successful accreditation for NTS and TS activities, SPG created two teams of local staff for the NTS and TS activities. In the reporting period SPG achieved the following results:

- During January and March 2023, 11 members of SPG team have undergone an IMAS training (level II) at the SESU facility located near the town of Merefa to qualify for humanitarian demining (Technical Survey and Non-Technical Survey) and information management functions.
- SPG completed seven NTS tasks in Kharkiv Oblast resulting in 69,988.09 square meters surveyed and 13,850 square meters of those identified as a Suspected Hazardous Area (SHA). The following explosive elements were detected:
 - a 1 x 81 mm High Explosive Mortar;
 - 7 x Russian VOG 26 projected HE grenades;
 - 2 x Russian F1 HE grenades;
 - Several RPG remnants;
 - 4 x Russian KPGU main body carriers;
 - 2 x Russian KPGU carriers (tail sections);
 - 2 x Russian TM62M anti-vehicle / anti-tank mines.



SPG Technical Survey Team on the training field



SPG-NTS tasking around the university residential accommodation compound



SPG SoP training site



High Explosive Mortar Located within the reconnaissance area

VICTIM ASSISTANCE / OTHER

Psychosocial Rehabilitation of Refugees from Ukraine

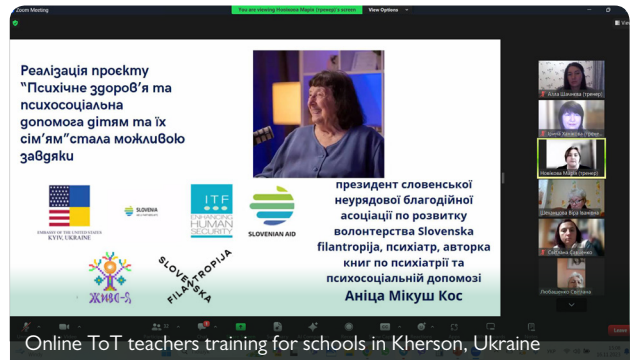
In 2023, ITF has partnered up with Slovene Philanthropy (SP) and local NGO Zhiva-YA in Odesa region to provide mental health and psychosocial assistance (MHPSA). The objective of the project is to develop a school and community-based model of MHPSA accessible to all children and their parents in the region of Izmail and Kherson, Ukraine. To achieve that, the project aims to mobilize and build capacities of those who can reach a critical number of children in distress, as well as their parents. It will target local mental health professionals, schools and other related public institutions, school workers, civil society organizations, and volunteers and empower them to help all children in distress and their parents/caregivers, mostly women/mothers.

The main set of activities in the project involve capacity building of local mental health professionals, capacity building and empowerment of school's workers to better address the needs of children within the school system, mobilization of local volunteers to provide community-based assistance to children and families, and implementation of different psychosocial activities for children and their parents.

During the reporting period the first training for 20 participating schools from Odesa and Kherson was implemented and reached the following results:

- 20 local professionals were trained for Mental Health and Psychosocial Specialist (MHPS) in order to adequately provide psychosocial support to children;
- 106 teachers (train the trainer – ToT) from Kherson and Izmail were trained by 20 local MHPS (train the trainers -ToT), as they started to develop school and community-based models of mental health and psychosocial assistance;
- 156 teachers from 20 participating schools received basic understanding and tools to identify and address psychosocial needs of children during their every day's work;
- 928 Ukrainian children from 20 participating schools received psychosocial assistance under supervision of 20 local MHPS and 106 ToT teachers.

- 233 parents were included in 24 workshops held on psychosocial assistance and support.



Capacity Building of Ukraine at Humanitarian Demining

In July 2023 ITF signed an agreement with Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia, and later in August 2023 with Austrian Development Agency in area of capacity building of Ukraine at humanitarian demining. The project activities foreseen the purchase of demining equipment with corresponding training of staff for State Emergency Service of Ukraine (SESU), which would enable the safe demining of contaminated areas in Ukraine.

In October 2023, ITF notified both donors that the envisioned provision of equipment and training for SESU was not achievable due to the inability to implement "ITF Open Call Procedure" in accordance with ITFs' core principles of transparency, independence, accountability, and the standards of a prudent and sound process. The whole donation was returned back to the donors in October and November 2023.

Mine Action in Ukraine in 2023 and 2024

In order to better address the needs Ukrainian civilians and assist the local authorities with severe mine contamination, ITF has re-established its office in Kyiv in September 2023. The essential goal of the project is to support mine action efforts, coordinate with local and international mine action stakeholders. In the reporting period ITF has achieved the following:

- Physical establishment of ITF office in Kyiv, Ukraine;
- Inclusion of 2x local staff;
- Participation of ITF at key mine coordination bodies under the supervision of UNDP;
 - Mine Action Area of Responsibility for Victims Assistance
 - Mine Action Area of Responsibility for Capacity Building
- Cooperation with relevant local and international mine action stakeholders: Ministry of Economy of Ukraine, Ministry of Health of Ukraine, SESU, STSS, UNDP Ukraine, OSCE Ukraine, National Mine Action Authority, DRC, UN OHCHR and UNICEF among others.

In terms of important milestones for ITF office Kyiv in 2023 was the official opening of the office, the visit of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of Republic of Slovenia (MFEA RS) delegation, and the renewal of MoU between ITF and SESU.

ITF office was officially opened on 5th September 2023, as ITF was honoured by the presence of dr. Aleš Musar, spouse of the President of the Republic of Slovenia. The new ITF office in Ukraine is strategically located to partner with local authorities, particularly the SESU, the national agency responsible for civil protection and disaster management.



Courtesy meeting at SESU HQ Kyiv, Ukraine

In October 2023, the delegation from MFEA RS visited the ITF office. Ms Tanja Fajon, Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Slovenia and Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia, was joined on the visit by Mateja Norčič Štamcar, Director General of the Directorate for Political Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia, and Mateja Prevolšek, Ambassador of the Republic of Slovenia to Ukraine. The delegation was briefed on the ongoing activities, challenges, and priorities of ITF in Ukraine, including national capacity building in mine action, assistance to mine/ERW victims, and mental health and psychosocial rehabilitation among the affected population. October 2023 also marked an important milestone for the ITF's work in Ukraine, as new MoU between ITF and SESU was signed.



Opening of ITF office in September 2023



Visit of MFEA RS delegation to ITF office in Kyiv, Ukraine



Handover of MoU between ITF and SESU

In addition to establishment of ITF office, the project has a key component of provision of medical rehabilitation for the victims of armed conflict in Ukraine. In cooperation with University Rehabilitation Institute of Republic of Slovenia (URI Soča), medical rehabilitation and support will be provided to victims aiming for their successful reintegration into society. Furthermore, URI Soča offers also training programs for Ukrainian medical personnel in order to enhance their local capacities and national ownership.

In the reporting period URI Soča has achieved the following results:

- Comprehensive medical rehabilitation for 1 victim in October 2023, with the fabrication, fitting, and testing of a right below-knee prosthesis.
- Implementation of two trainings on “Contemporary approach to rehabilitation of patients after severe injuries” for the medical personnel from 3 rehabilitation centres in Ukraine with attendance of 99 persons.



Visit of ITF and MFEA RS representative to URI Soča



Online training for medical personnel from Ukraine

OVERVIEW OF DONOR ASSISTANCE

Clearance of Landmines and ERW	Knights of Columbus
Victims Assistance	Slovenia, United States of America
Other	Slovenia

CENTRAL ASIA



AFGHANISTAN
KAZAKHSTAN
KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

AFGHANISTAN

PROBLEM

From May to July 2021, all international forces withdrew from Afghanistan and Taliban took control over all major cities in Afghanistan. On 15 August 2021, Taliban entered Kabul and took over the Government of President Ghani and his administration fell.

That had significant effect also on a mine action environment. Many Donors withdrew their support to Mine action activities in Afghanistan. There was complete shutdown of projects supporting national mine action authorities. On the other hand, clearance activities through support of national and few international NGO continued on smaller scale.

According to UNMAS data, around 81 % of minefields have been cleared in previous years, the 19 % that remain define Afghanistan as one of the country's most affected by landmines and explosive remnants of war. Remaining 4,109 identified hazard areas are threatening about 1,529 communities, impeding development by delaying the construction of new road networks, transmission lines, and returnee settlement. This data might change because of at least two reasons. Namely, recently finished conflict further presents a possibility of an increase in contamination and secondly, a vast territory which was previously inaccessible is now accessible for land release processes to be conducted.

According to latest UNAMA report, despite an overall and significant reduction in armed violence, UNAMA recorded 292 civilian casualties (88 killed and 204 wounded), where majority of casualties were caused by improvised explosive devices and UXO.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

VICTIM ASSISTANCE

Mine Detection Polyclinic Support

ITF has been supporting NGO Mine Detection Center (MDC) in Kabul since 2016. Main purpose of project is to support MDC Polyclinic personnel with salaries in order to provide medical services to deminers, their family members and other deprived Kabul inhabitants. Within the project, salaries for 23 medical staff and support personnel were provided in the reporting period. More than 53,200 medical services/examines/counselling were delivered in the period January 2023 – December 2023. It must be specially underlined that nearly half of previously mentioned services/examines/counselling were delivered to Kabul female population, which was provided by 8 MDC Polyclinic female doctors and nurses. MDC Polyclinic provides gynaecologic services, female dentist services, female physiotherapy, and psychotherapy for women.

Actual political crises reflected in a work of MDC Polyclinic as well. Many similar clinics and hospitals shut down due to lack of funding and consequently the number of MDC Polyclinic patients significantly increased in the reporting period.



Physiotherapy in MDC Polyclinic, Kabul, Afghanistan

Provision of emergency mobile physical rehabilitation and psychosocial support and Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) to highly vulnerable individuals

The project seeks to address the most urgent needs of the population in Kabul, Kandahar, and Nimroz province, where needs have escalated since August 2021, and where internal displacement has added pressure to an already strained healthcare system. In order to reach vulnerable communities in areas with limited access to services, as well as women and girls who will continue to face significant barriers, Humanity and Inclusion (HI), as Implementing partner, deployed an emergency mobile teams (EMT) to deliver urgent physical rehabilitation and psychosocial support to individuals with medium to long-term disabilities located in rural areas of Kabul province, Kandahar province, and Nimroz province that would otherwise be unable to access services. Through a community-based approach, the gender-balanced EMT composed of physiotherapists (PTs), psychosocial support (PSS) counsellors, EORE specialists and Social Workers provided the following services:

- Conducted 725 explosive ordnance risk awareness sessions reaching 10,699 individuals (2,629 males, 3,136 females, 1,971 male children and 2,963 female children);
- Conducted 717 sensitiveness awareness sessions, through which individuals for PT and PSS were identified (reaching more than 7,900 potential beneficiaries).
- Through above mentioned sensitiveness awareness sessions, social workers assessed potential participants and identified individuals with various types of impairments with different pathologies (orthopedic deformities, arthritis or arthrosis, stroke cases, cerebral palsy, traumatic brain injury, paralysees cases, cases with burn, peripheral nerve injuries, upper and low limb fractures, amputation cases, open wound cases, spinal cord injury...). Physiotherapists conducted 6,618 physiotherapy sessions, reaching out to 2,319 beneficiaries and also provided a number of assistive devices such as wheelchairs, elbow crutches, walkers with frames, walking sticks...

- Through sensitiveness awareness sessions, social workers assessed potential participants and identified individuals with various types of psychosocial problems. Psychosocial therapists conducted 4,787 individual psychosocial sessions, 256 family, and 177 group psychosocial sessions. Psychosocial support was thus given to 1,428 male beneficiaries, 2,406 female beneficiaries, 383 male children and 342 female children – all together 4,559 beneficiaries.
- In Nimroz, was successfully established Prosthetic and Orthotics (P&O) Workshop inside Nimroz provincial hospital in Zaranj city in May 2023. Through 305 sensitization sessions on disabilities and P&O services 4,870 individuals were reached, and based on that, 479 individuals received P&O services. Some of them, along with P&O services, received also complementary physiotherapy services. 225 beneficiaries received the mentioned PT service through 672 PT sessions.
- 20 beneficiaries were referred to external actors for advanced services in order to enhance coordination and facilitate a comprehensive response to their needs.

Throughout the implementation of the intervention, HI worked in close collaboration with the Health Cluster to mitigate the negative effect of the suspension of the certain number of health support projects by referring people in need of primary health care to the remaining functioning health centers.





Individual psychosocial session



3 female HI experts with an IED patient from Kabul, Afghanistan



ITF representative with HI personnel in P&O workshop



Repaired prosthesis in the P&O workshop

OVERVIEW OF DONOR ASSISTANCE

Victim Assistance	Korea, Slovenia, United States of America
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KAZAKHSTAN

PROBLEM

Kazakhstan suffers from a substantial amount of outdated, unserviceable, and hazardous ammunition left behind after the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991. These stockpiles pose a serious threat to human security due to the proximity of land used for housing, and more crucially inadequate storage conditions, resulting in theft, smuggling, infrastructure deterioration and other challenges of PSSM. This fact was painfully visible with the latest explosions in Arys and Taraz.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

PHYSICAL SECURITY AND STOCKPILE MANAGEMENT AND DESTRUCTION OF SURPLUS WEAPONS AND AMMUNITION

ITF is assisting Kazakhstan in their endeavor to reduce the stockpiles of excess, obsolete and unserviceable small arms, light weapons, and large caliber munitions. The project is developing institutional and operational capacities with the aim for Kazakhstan to take full ownership of the issue in the future.

Following the calls for offers conducted by ITF and completion of procurement process in 2022, the manufacturing process of equipment for disposal of RDX containing landmines was successfully terminated in the first half of 2023. Before shipment of equipment, the contracted company has accordingly conducted the testing for the disposal of anti-tank landmines.



Produced presses for explosives pressing of landmines

During field visit to project site in Arys, Kazakhstan, ITF applied the new method of monitoring and progress tracking with applying drone technology to create a quick scheme of the whole base where the equipment is to be placed. The initial tests gave incredible results and material to be used for planning and ITF plans to utilize these tools in the future as well.

The equipment was shipped to Kazakhstan and installed throughout December 2023. The works with calibration are planned to be finalized in the first quarter of 2024 and the training of personnel and start of disposal of anti-tank landmines are foreseen in March 2024.



Location of equipment for anti-tank mines disposal

OVERVIEW OF DONOR ASSISTANCE

Conventional Weapons
Destruction and Physical
Security and Stockpile
Management

United States of America

KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

PROBLEM

In Central Asia, the Soviet legacy of substantial amount of outdated, unserviceable, and hazardous for storage ammunition remains. The stockpiles lying in deteriorating warehouses, originally built on city outskirts but moved towards the general population due to urbanization, present considerable threats to safety and security not only in the region, but also internationally. The old explosives and ammunition are a ticking timebomb due to their age and consequential deterioration. Simultaneously, military grade weapons and ammunition present lucrative targets for theft and smuggling. Kyrgyz Republic is aware of these threats and has undertaken important steps in PSSM. Simultaneously, the disposal of dangerous for storage ammunition, way past its shelf life, is ongoing with methods that lessen the burden on the environment. Still, the number of weapons and ammunition remains substantial, and thus further improvements in CWD are required to ensure that Kyrgyz Republic remains free of unplanned explosions at munition sites (UEMS).

The most basic methods of disposal of ammunition are open burning and detonation. Not only are these methods costly, but they also present a big toll on the environment. There is particle contamination with metals or other compounds, gases, or other chemicals polluting the air and soil, and more dangerous cases of pollutants like acids of mercury. While environmental standards usually don't apply to military processes, showing the advantages of recycling ammunition for the environment and economies leads to mostly positive outcomes.

ITF aims to build upon previously achieved results and push all countries, not just Kyrgyz Republic, where CWD and PSSM projects are implemented towards implementing, greener alternatives.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

PHYSICAL SECURITY AND STOCKPILE MANAGEMENT AND DESTRUCTION OF SURPLUS WEAPONS AND AMMUNITION

Conventional Weapons Destruction in Kyrgyz Republic

In 2023, ITF continued with implementation of Protocol on Cooperation, which was signed with Ministry of Defense of the Kyrgyz Republic on 23 June 2015, with an overall goal to reduce the threats posed by weak storage conditions and huge stockpiles of surplus ammunition in Kyrgyz Republic.

In the period January – December 2023, altogether 129.11 tons of 122 mm were destroyed, marking the disposal of all 5,734 earmarked high-explosive fragmentation, shrapnel, cumulative ammunition of this caliber containing TNT and RDX charges in Kyrgyz Republic.

The bulk of the work in Kyrgyz Republic was done in Osh and Balykchy disposal sites throughout the year, with well-equipped and educated Kyrgyz nationals. The team is especially proud that all the ammunition was disposed using reverse engineering methods that ensured only the components too dangerous for disassembly were destroyed in metal furnaces or at the fire range by open detonation/open burning methods. Other parts of the projectiles were disassembled, and the materials recycled, providing another income stream for Kyrgyz Republic to continue developing.



Different types of ammunition with expired shelf life for disposal



Corrosion of old ammunition with expired shelf life

Some of the ammunition types were not coherent with their holding medium. RDX and TNT types were mixed, which is another indicator of the future project of ammunition inventory that is planned for Kyrgyz Republic in 2024 and beyond.



Preparation to open detonation action at the fire range

Internal monitoring was conducted by Kyrgyz officers in accordance with their regulations, while external monitoring was implemented by ITF experts. Monitoring confirmed that employees were properly trained and conducting all tasks in line with procedures and safety measures that were revamped in 2023.

Physical Security and Stockpile Management Improvements in Kyrgyz Republic

In 2023 the initiative for PSSM improvements in Kyrgyz Republic continued, with the core idea being to provide the Kyrgyz MOD with updated storing facilities that highlight the benefits of following IATGs. This resulted in one warehouse, one guard house, one duty post being renovated and a new watch tower, new external/internal fences with barbwire, and new ates constructed in Osh. Besides, the whole electricity infrastructure of this military base in Osh is renovated and reinforced with a new electricity transformer equipment of high voltage together with a new generator for electrical cutouts. Furthermore, the security alarm, fire safety, and video surveillance system are newly installed and functioning. Within the first half of 2023 the procurement processes for the construction partner were concluded, with renovation and construction completed at the end of 2023.



Renovated storage in Osh, Kyrgyz Republic



New watch tower and external/internal fences with barbwire in Osh, Kyrgyz Republic



New storage in Balykchy, Kyrgyz Republic

In July 2023, the donor delegation from the U.S. Government PM/ WRA, U.S. Embassy in Kyrgyzstan and ITF HQ have conducted an external monitoring activity to Balykchy and Osh project sites. Following this mission, the official handover ceremony of a newly constructed ammunition warehouse in Balykchy was carried out and attended by the above-mentioned delegation, including the U.S. Ambassador to Kyrgyz Republic.

Noticing the project achievements, the Minister of Defense of the Kyrgyz Republic has expressed his great gratitude to the U.S. Government and ITF for all the provided aid and expressed readiness for further cooperation. U.S. Ambassador and ITF Deputy Director also highlighted the fruitful, efficient cooperation and commitment to promote the human security projects in Kyrgyzstan in future.

Inventory of Engineering Stockpiles in the Kyrgyz Republic

In May 2023, the Project Agreement between ITF and Engineering Department of the Ministry of Defense was signed on implementation of the inventory of engineering stockpiles. This is the second phase of this activity as continuation of inventory process that was started in 2021, with first phase conducted in North Kyrgyzstan. In 2023, the engineering project activities are started in South Kyrgyzstan and fulfilled the inventory of more than 70% of engineering stockpiles in this region.

The engineering working group worked there till the end of November 2023 and stopped the activities due to harsh weather conditions. The rest of the activities will be continued in 2024, when the weather improves in spring of 2024.



Kyrgyz Defense Minister, ITF Deputy Director and U.S. Ambassador in the Kyrgyz Republic



Engineering inventory process in South Kyrgyzstan



Engineering stockpiles following the inventory process

In 2023, within this inventory process, the additional computer equipment was transferred to Kyrgyz military engineers. Main set of computer equipment was already granted in 2021 during the first phase. With these supplies all the local ammunition storehouses will have a computer set where the results of the inventory can be recorded.



Handover of additional computer equipment to engineering department

OVERVIEW OF DONOR ASSISTANCE

Conventional Weapons Destruction and Physical Security and Stockpile Management	United States of America
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MIDDLE EAST



GAZA STRIP
IRAQ
LEBANON
SYRIA
WEST BANK

GAZA STRIP

PROBLEM

Generations of Palestinians in Gaza have been subject to repeated conflict, displacement, and occupation. Thousands of civilians were injured during the conflicts, with the large majority of children/young adults in Gaza Strip. Some of them had severe injuries, leading to amputations of limbs. Although the physical and medical rehabilitation system has been developing through the years in Gaza Strip, injured persons, especially children, were still unable to benefit from proper treatment and the use of medical devices. The large number of casualties among civilians, including a high percentage of them hit by live ammunition, has raised serious concerns about excessive use of force by Israeli troops.

All of these attacks wrecked and continue to wreck civilian infrastructure. Families are constantly under strain and the repeated bombings and “targeted” killings have given them repeated traumas without allowing the time for a proper recovery process to take hold. 1.5 million of the Gaza Strip population lives in overcrowded conditions, with poor housing and deteriorating infrastructure. Nearly 50 % of the population are children under the age of 14, according to the World Health Organization.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

VICTIM ASSISTANCE AND CAPACITY BUILDING

Treating victims of war and their families in the Gaza Strip

ITF is implementing this project with its local partner NGO “Mental Health Promotion & Capacity Building Center” (MHPC) and the Slovenian Expert Dr. Anica Mikuš Kos, pediatrician, and child psychologist.

The project aims to improve the lives of the people affected by war through providing psychosocial support and rehabilitation services, to both the wounded people and their families. The project’s main target group will be the wounded children and adolescents during the last conflict, especially children with disabilities, their families, and workers of rehabilitations centers.

During the project, five-day training was successfully conducted, which provided proper knowledge on how to provide the needed psychosocial support to war victims, both the wounded/disabled people and their families or victims who are suffering from trauma.

A total of 25 trainees from different NGOs participated on a training, which was held between 23 and 28 May 2023. Lectures were delivered by local expert dr. Sami Owaida with the support of Slovenian child psychiatrist dr. Anica Mikuš Kos (online). Trainees who finished training already started with providing psychiatric and psychotherapeutic services for severely wounded/disabled children and adolescents through group and individual sessions.

During the project, a manual and four brochures were developed. Additionally, 12 counseling sessions were conducted with families of wounded/disabled cases, and psychiatric and psychotherapeutic services were provided for severely wounded/disabled children and adolescents during 25 therapeutic sessions.

The project started in January 2023. In October 2023 all activities stopped due to the Israeli – Palestinian conflict.



Training for NGO workers



Counselling sessions with families of the wounded/disabled cases

Knowledge without borders – smarter approach in community-based rehabilitation

The primary goal of this project is to contribute to professional skills of Palestinian medical workers and IT engineers and educate and empower them for providing support to their clients. Trainers who participate at training will help disabled Palestinian children at their home. These children do not have suitable health-care facilities in their place.

As a part of the project between 24 July to 30 August 2023, thirteen physiotherapy professionals from Gaza Strip have successfully concluded the online training program "Spiral Stabilization of the Spine." Online training was organized by the NUR Institute in a joined effort with local partner Al- Azhar University- Gaza and practical part led by Slovenian physiotherapy expert Ms. Barbka Zrnec.

Trainers who participated at training help disabled Palestinian children at their home. These children do not have suitable health-care facilities in their place. Until now, 90 triage sessions were organized for patients and 75 children received rehabilitation treatment at their homes.

On 01 August 2023, Zavod NUR together with international experts started with the training course "Inclusive Smart Homes: Adapting for Accessibility and Disabilities". 30 students registered for this online course.

In October 2023 all activities stopped due to the Israeli – Palestinian conflict.



Training in Gaza "Kinesiology Tape – Taping technique"

OVERVIEW OF DONOR ASSISTANCE

Victim Assistance	Korea, Slovenia
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IRAQ

PROBLEM

Following decades of consecutive wars and the occupation of Islamic State for several years since 2014, Iraq is among the countries with the largest ERW-contaminated area in the world. In the north of the country, in the Iraqi Kurdistan Region, the most serious concern is so-called legacy contamination, i.e., contamination dating back to before 2014. According to existing estimates, more than 260 square kilometers of territory is polluted by ERW, negatively affecting over 600 local communities. Over the past years, the Iraqi Kurdistan Mine Action Agency (IKMAA) has reported several tens of ERW casualties in the Iraqi Kurdistan Region alone, a testament to the great danger that ERW poses to the lives of local people. ERW contamination prevents the use of land for agriculture or socio-economic activities, the delivery of aid to vulnerable people, and hinders the functioning of basic public infrastructure.

The Republic of Iraq is a State Party to the Convention on Anti-Personnel Mines, committing itself to clear all known mined areas in its territory. However, the extent of the contamination and the current capacity prevent the country – including Iraqi Kurdistan – from accomplishing the currently set deadlines and meeting the objectives of the convention. Despite international commitments, the progress of demining work has slowed down considerably in Iraqi Kurdistan during recent years.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

CLEARANCE OF LANDMINES AND ERW AND LAND RELEASE

Explosive Remnants of War Clearance in Iraq

Officially commencing on 1 April 2022, ITF continued with the implementation of a project in support of ERW clearance efforts in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI) until the end of 2023, when the

project concluded. The aim of the project was to contribute to a safer environment in which socio-economic development can take place without the threat of ERW, and communities can build their long-term resilience.

Complementing the activities of other NGOs that are active in mine action in KRI, this project promoted local ownership and existing structures in that it directly contributed to the activation of existing demining teams within KRI and existing IKMAA resources.

During 2023, ITF provided logistics and operational support to IKMAA that was able to deploy to the field over half of its own demining and QA/QC teams. In 2023, IKMAA's demining and QA/QC teams were active in 27 locations in all four provinces of KRI: Duhok, Erbil, Sulaymaniyah, and Garmian. During the year, and with the support extended through this project, IKMAA's teams cleared 1,008,314 square meters and destroyed 1,951 anti-personnel mines and 1,729 various types of UXO. The project was formally concluded on 31 December 2023.



Deminer in the province of Erbil during preparatory works (vegetation removal)



Deminers during a briefing session prior to the commencement of daily operations



A deminer during operations and anti-personnel mines located



Valmara 69 is one of the most common types of mines removed and destroyed in KRI

OVERVIEW OF DONOR ASSISTANCE

Explosive Hazards Clearance and Capacity Support Slovenia

LEBANON

PROBLEM

The Syrian crisis has substantially increased Lebanon's population, contributing to the already severe socio-economic situation and putting serious pressure on already overburdened public services and host communities, including health and education services and access to employment. This situation was further exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic and explosion in the port of Beirut with devastating health, psychological, and material consequences. Due to a deep economic and financial crisis, the poverty rates increased. Combined with the growing costs of living, access to basic services like health and education became almost impossible, causing the need for support of vulnerable groups to be immense. In addition, mine contamination in the country has had serious consequences for the health and well-being of the population. Furthermore, recent years have shown a surge in mine victims caused by increased risky behavior due to increasing economic pressure – people are knowingly entering marked minefields in order to gather wood for heating or scrap metal.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

CLEARANCE OF LANDMINES AND ERW AND LAND RELEASE

Supporting social stability and economic development through Mine Action in Southern EBANON

Decades of armed conflict in Lebanon have left behind a legacy of landmines, cluster munitions and other ERW, not only posing a direct danger to local communities but also limiting access to usable land, thus hindering agricultural development and food security. Most of the land in South Lebanon is arable and very fertile, hence invaluable for agricultural use. This is of crucial importance especially during current economic hardships. A total of 30,064 square meters of land suspected to be contaminated with cluster munitions has been cleared.



A female deminer at work

Photo: Yme Hodalić

VICTIM ASSISTANCE

Addressing the Needs of Vulnerable Groups in Lebanon

The project is a continuation of previous activities and addresses the urgent health, psychosocial and economic needs of mine victims in Lebanon to help improve the overall quality of their lives and facilitate their reintegration into social, political, and economic life. During 2023, 84 beneficiaries received psychosocial, medical, and income generation support.

In addition, ITF continued with the distribution of medication to mine victims and other most vulnerable individuals in Lebanon that started in 2022, delivering 6-months-worth of life-saving medication, including cancer treatment, to chronically ill patients.



A mine victim with the received medication

CAPACITY BUILDING

Capacity Support to Lebanese Mine Action Center

Working in this severe economic crisis, Lebanese Mine Action Center (LMAC) has been underserved and is in urgent need of capacity support in terms of equipment, supplies, and staff training, in order to overcome the present crisis and sustain the national mine action program. The project identifies, evaluates, and provides the required capacity support in close cooperation with LMAC and their prioritization of needs.



Olive trees distributed as part of income generation support



Repairing and maintaining LMAC vehicles to sustain the mine action program

Photo: Arne Hodalić



Installation of the solar system to support LMAC's operations and sustain the national mine action program

Photo: Arne Hodalić



Update of LMAC CCTV system

Photo: Arne Hodalič



Providing support to LMAC MDD teams (kennels, medicine, toys, leashes, crates and bowls)

Photo: Arne Hodalič

OVERVIEW OF DONOR ASSISTANCE

Clearance of landmines and ERW	Korea
Victim Assistance	Korea, Slovenia
Capacity Building	United States of America

SYRIA

PROBLEM

Over ten years into the civil war, Syria remains one of the largest protracted crises of our time, with a staggering severity and complexity of humanitarian needs across the country. As of 2023, 15.3 million people in Syria are in need of humanitarian assistance. This is an increase compared to 2022 as the needs are exacerbated by economic downturn and the effects of the devastating earthquake that affected especially Northwest Syria. Around 12 million people across Syria are food insecure. In Northeast Syria (NES) alone, over 2.5 million people are estimated to require humanitarian assistance.

Conflict and displacement remain the key drivers of humanitarian needs, with economic crisis compounding them; the intricate humanitarian situation has been further complicated with climatic shocks affecting natural resources. On 6 February 2023, an earthquake struck Syria and Türkiye, affecting especially the northwestern part of the country with smaller-scale tremors affecting parts of NES. These seismic events worsened the situation in the country, causing extensive damage and displacement, rendering homes uninhabitable, and disrupting crucial infrastructure.

The widespread and continuous use of various types of weaponry throughout Syria, including in NES, has left behind a range of explosive hazards including IEDs, landmines, and ERW. Explosive ordnance contamination is estimated to affect one third of populated communities. In 2020, an average of 76 explosive incidents per day were recorded in Syria. Destruction or contamination of key infrastructure, such as hospitals, has deprived civilians of basic services, and the presence of explosive hazards is a lethal barrier to movement, the delivery of humanitarian aid, and to those seeking refuge from violence, as well as to those wishing to cultivate their land.

The total number of mine/ERW casualties and survivors in Syria is unknown. In NES, iMMAP has been tracking the number of victims reported through victim reports and open sources, and according to this mechanism over 4,800 victims were killed or injured by explosive ordnance since 2017.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

EXPLOSIVE HAZARDS CLEARANCE

Humanitarian Mine Action Response in Northeast Syria

Since January 2023, ITF has been participating in a consortium project focusing on improving the prioritization of humanitarian mine action response, especially clearance efforts, in NES, and building them on evidence-based information. The consortium is led by iMMAP France as the project coordinator, and includes DanChurchAid and Humanity & Inclusion as partners.

Assuming its role in the project, and during the reporting period ITF has recruited and trained ten gender-balanced NTS teams (two members each) in order to visit communities in the target area, interview community members and gather other information on possible explosive ordnance contamination. Following the recruitment and training, the ten ITF NTS teams generated 285 community surveys, 281 NTS reports, as well as 2 confirmed hazardous area reports and 5 suspected hazardous area reports until the end of the reporting period.

The information collected by ITF NTS teams will feed into a broader NTS report, analyzing systematically gathered data from all accessible areas in NES. This will then inform future prioritization of clearance efforts.



NTS team during a meeting with community members



All accessible areas of NES are included in this systematic NTS project

Localization of Humanitarian Mine Action Response in Northeast Syria (Clear then Grow Phase III)

The project, which commenced on 15 August 2023, has the objective of conducting humanitarian mine action operations on suspected or confirmed explosive hazards contaminated former agricultural land or infrastructure in ISIS liberated areas and to return cleared land to local population for their safe and productive use. This objective focuses on the delivery of EORE, NTS, TS, and clearance operations in prioritized local communities, as agreed and coordinated with the local authorities and through participatory community liaison processes. The delivery under this specific objective shall also support possible follow-on agricultural support activities, that shall in turn further support communities' livelihoods and food security.

At the same time, the project aims to enhance the capacity of a local humanitarian mine action NGO (Reachout) in effectively implementing humanitarian mine action operations and managing projects, leading to improved efficiency, safety, and sustainability in NES's demining sector. The focus of these efforts is on strengthening the organizational and institutional capacity of the local NGO in terms of their internal structures, policies and procedures, and individual technical knowledge and skills in order to ensure their ability to carry out HMA operations efficiently and sustainably, while prioritizing safety measures.

The achievements until the end of 2023 include:

Non-Technical Survey, Technical Survey and Clearance of Explosive Ordnance

After recruitment and training of the clearance teams, clearance operations started on 1 November 2023 in several locations in NES, where former agricultural lands were contaminated in recent conflicts and were therefore not being used. The works were interrupted briefly several times due to deteriorated security situation or suspensions for other reasons enacted by the local authorities. Altogether, during the project implemented between 15 August 2023 and 31 December 2023, two clearance teams, one NTS team and one EORE teams, were recruited and trained. During this period, 101,697 square meters of land was released during technical survey and clearance of explosive ordnance.



Explosive Ordnance (improvised mine) found and removed during clearance operations project



Improvised Explosive Device with Radio Control switch found and removed during clearance operations

Explosive Ordnance Risk Education

EORE activities continued from 1 November 2023 until 31 December 2023, with exceptions of suspensions during heightened security risks to the team and local populations. One mixed-gender risk education team regularly carried out interactive EORE sessions for children and adult populations and targeted the messaging to the populations' individual conditions. During the period, 1,187 boys, girls, men, and women were reached through EORE sessions.



Capacity Building

A systematic and comprehensive assessment of the technical skills and knowledge gaps within the NGO and its staff and identification of specific areas for improvement in HMA technical expertise, project management skills, and processes was conducted in September 2023 and thereafter a capacity building development plan was drafted and implemented.

Also, a comprehensive assessment of the existing (informal) organizational structure, processes and control mechanisms within the local NGO was conducted during November and December 2023. Identification of areas for improvement and determination of specific needs for establishing internal structures, control processes and operational policies was set in place, and is intended to be followed-up by thematic workshops and planning sessions throughout 2024.

VICTIM ASSISTANCE

Addressing the Needs of Vulnerable Communities in the Aftermath of the NW Syria Earthquake

In response to the devastating earthquake, ITF, in partnership with the implementing partner in the field, swiftly intervened to address the needs of vulnerable communities. The objective was to provide essential services such as shelter, healthcare, and other non-food assistance.

This emergency response project was implemented between March and July 2023 and yielded positive results; through the support provided within the project, 100 tents were set up, providing refuge for families who lost their homes. Over 1,750 individuals received vital non-food packages, consisting of blankets, mattresses, pillows, water jerry cans, solar lamps, and kitchen utensils for displaced families, while at least 2,000 individuals received basic healthcare support and essential medicine. During the project duration, Berxwadan and Sardam clinics conducted a total of 11,467 consultations covering emergency assistance, internal medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics, and gynecology.





Additional tents in the process of being set up to welcome families, displaced by the earthquake

Capacity Building

A systematic and comprehensive assessment of the technical skills and knowledge gaps within the NGO and its staff, and identification of specific areas for improvement in HMA technical expertise, project management skills, and processes was conducted in September 2023 and thereafter a capacity building development plan was drafted and implemented.

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OVERVIEW OF DONOR ASSISTANCE

Explosive Hazards Clearance	iMMAP France, French Republic, Slovenia
Victim Assistance	Slovenia
Capacity Building	French Republic, Slovenia



WEST BANK

PROBLEM

Since the 1950s and 1960s, when more than 1.5 million land mines were planted across a total area of over 202 million square meters in the Arava Valley, the Golan Heights, and along the Jordan River, landmines have been an issue in the region. This includes 20 million square meters of residential and agricultural land in the West Bank being contaminated by more than 300,000 landmines and UXO, further rendering certain locations unusable.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

EXPLOSIVE HAZARDS CLEARANCE

Quality Assurance and Quality Control (QA/QC) of West Bank Demining Program

The project's overarching objective is to implement QA/QC (quality assurance and control) demining work in the West Bank under the auspices of the HALO Trust, verify that the work is being carried out in compliance with national and international mine action standards, and confirm that the suspected mine land is no longer a threat to the local population.

In 2023, QA/QC supervisors conducted Quality Assurance (QA) and Quality Control (QC) on project sites in the West Bank, implementing regular examinations and monitoring. Regular assessments of the clearance plans and their conformity with Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) were carried out; perimeter markings and signages were checked daily in the presence of a QA officer.

In March 2023, the ITF team visited project sites on the West Bank, accompanied by representatives of the donor and the QA/QC implementing agency.

Due to the Hamas attack on 7 October 2023, the works were suspended for a month and were successfully resumed in mid-November 2023. ITF is following the situation closely and will adjust activities accordingly.



Demining and QA/QC activities in the West Bank

VICTIM ASSISTANCE

Psychosocial Support & Skills of dealing with traumatized students in West Bank

The first 3-day seminar on Psychosocial Support and Skills for Dealing with Traumatized Students in the West Bank was successfully concluded in February 2023.

The seminar brought together 12 female teachers and psychologists who work with students in the West Bank. Through a series of workshops, the participants addressed the psychological and physical harm they and their students have experienced as a result of various reasons, such as war, conflict, violence, death trauma, and bullying. The seminar implemented Palestinian expert, Dr. Thawra Ahmad Enjass, together with local NGO and with help of Slovenian Representative Office in Palestine.

Due to good results, ITF together with local expert, Dr. Thawra Ahmad Enjass and Slovenian Representative Office in Palestine, implemented a second seminar for Palestinian teachers from West bank in December 2023.

The focus was made on education and mental health, particularly for the well-being of Palestinian children and women amidst the prevalent psychological traumas in Palestinian society. Discussions at the workshop delved into the intricacies of psychological trauma and symptoms, spanning psychological, social, and physical dimensions. The stages of trauma and grief, from denial to acceptance, were explored, providing a comprehensive understanding. 16 dedicated Palestinian teachers from schools in West Bank participated in the second seminar.

At the end of the second seminar, a ceremony was held in Ramallah on 27 December 2023. Present at the ceremony were teachers from schools that participated in the seminar, Ms. Footna Abeer, school director from Al Awael School, ITF director Tomaž Lovrenčič, Dr. Thawra Ahmad Enjass, local expert, and Mr. Vojko from the Slovenian Representative Office in Palestine. Slovenian president Nataša Pirc Musar sent an encouraging letter to the participants of the seminar.



Seminar on Psychosocial Support for teachers and final ceremony

CAPACITY BUILDING

Purchase of Equipment for Bethlehem Hospital

Based on the donation earmarked for the project "Support of Palestine at capacity building in the field of comprehensive rehabilitation and mental health of victims of conflict" on 02 June 2023, ITF published the Invitation notice for submission of offers for purchase of equipment for the hospital in Bethlehem – Harmalah (Rehabilitation unit).

By the end of December 2023, all rehabilitation equipment was successfully delivered to the hospital. Purchased equipment will be used for the rehabilitation of patients' victims of conflict from West Bank.



Delivery of equipment to Bethlehem Hospital – Rehabilitation Unit

OVERVIEW OF DONOR ASSISTANCE

QA/QC	United States of America
Victim Assistance	Korea, Slovenia
Capacity Building	Korea, Slovenia

AFRICA



LIBYA

LIBYA

PROBLEM

In the course of the Libyan revolution in 2011, Gaddafi regime lost control over large parts of its conventional weapons arsenal. Weapons storage sites were accessible to opposition fighters, civilians and soldiers alike. Since the end of the fighting, central control over the weapons arsenal has not been re-established and the spread and trafficking of arms is affecting conflicts and security not only in Libya, but also in wider region.

Following the failure of political processes, Libya's situation became increasingly anarchic, culminating in the collapse of a fragile central authority and the emergence of two rival centers of power in mid-2014. After a long negotiation process during 2015, Libyan political agreement was signed on 17 December 2015 under the UN supervision and guidance. Unfortunately, this did not halt heavy fighting in Benghazi and operations against ISIL forces in Sirt during summer and autumn of 2016. Clashes in Tripoli between rival militias deteriorated strongly in 2019, as heavy armed conflict started with Libyan National Army (LNA) at the forefront. LNA surrounded Tripoli in January 2020 with constant artillery and rocket attacks. In May 2020, Government of National Accord (GNA) forces started with counterattack, which ended with LNA withdrawing from Tripoli.

LNA left behind an unknown number of IEDs. Consequently, between May 2020 and December 2022, 182 separate accidents happened with 369 victims recorded (144 people were killed and 225 injured). As consequence of fighting and damaged infrastructure, cash insolvency is present from 2014 and severe difficulties with electricity and water supply, what affected the majority of Tripoli population. Another consequence of divided Libyan society are roadblocks between different militia-controlled areas in Tripoli and wider throughout Libya with occasional clashes between them.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

CAPACITY BUILDING

ITF officially started with the implementation of the capacity-building project in Libya in January 2014. On behalf of donor, ITF regularly executed salary payments for 27 Lib MAC employees in the period January – December 2023. In the same period, ITF was covering all costs related with Lib MAC daily functioning (travel costs, per-diems, rent costs, vehicle maintenance costs etc.).

During reporting period (January 2023 – December 2023), Lib MAC personnel opened 92 tasks mostly for non – technical survey activities and EOD Spot tasks performed by international and local NGOs in southern parts of Tripoli after LNA withdrawal, Tawargha, Sirte and Benghazi. In addition, Lib MAC personnel conducted 112 QA/QC missions. Lib MAC also conducted 18 accreditation procedures for international and local NGOs for NTS, risk education and EOD tasks. In addition, there were 4 desk accreditations conducted as well. Lib MAC recorded 98 finished tasks during 2023.



LibMAC QA Visit Tripoli, March 2023

Lib MAC Risk Education section was very proactive during reporting period and conducted numerous meetings with implementing partners in order to coordinate risk education activities all over Libya. Different refreshment trainings and conducted risk education accreditations for local and international NGOs, as well as collecting data on ERW victims were implemented.

Risk education section also organized celebration of Mine Action Day - 4 April 2022 in Corinthia Hotel in Tripoli, with attendance of

250 highly profiled guests from various Libyan Ministries, Embassies, and International organizations.

During the reporting period, Lib MAC together with UNMAS organized 7 regular monthly Implementing partners meetings, where Lib MAC and implementing partners presented achievements during the past month. Several Lib MAC personnel attended training abroad as well as certain meetings abroad such as National Directors Meeting (NDM), held in Geneva in June 2023.



Lib MAC Director addressed participants of 4 April 2023 celebration



Participants of two days EORE workshop in Mizdah city in June 2023, organized by HI, where Lib MAC representatives presented mechanisms of VA data collection. Mizdah city (150 km south of Tripoli) is highly contaminated by ERW/mines and requires increased delivery of EORE activities

OVERVIEW OF DONOR ASSISTANCE

Capacity Building	United States of America
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5

**OTHER
ACTIVITIES**

PUBLICATIONS

ITF issues various publications, either in hard copy or in electronic version with the aim of providing information to donor community and general public on ITF activities and on the problem of landmines and ERW in the region of Southeast Europe and other affected regions.

In the period between 1 January and 31 December 2023, ITF published the following publication:

- ITF Annual Report 2022, April 2023

All ITF publications can be obtained at ITF web site: www.itf.si.

OTHER

ITF MARKED 25TH ANNIVERSARY WITH THE PRESIDENT OF SLOVENIA

On International Mine Awareness Day, the President of the Republic of Slovenia, Dr. Nataša Pirc Musar, hosted a reception for donors and partners of ITF. ITF celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2023.

ITF was established in 1998 on the Government of the Republic of Slovenia initiative to assist Bosnia and Herzegovina in implementing the peace agreement and help clear land contaminated with landmines. Over the last 25 years, ITF has expanded its activities to many other countries and territories. Today, with humanitarian and human security programmes that go beyond mine action, ITF operates in 19 countries around the world, including Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, Jordan, Israel and Palestine, Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Lebanon, Libya, Jordan, all Western Balkan countries, and also in Moldova and Ukraine.





“Since 1998, ITF has grown into one of the most internationally recognised Slovenian institutions. ITF is a beacon of Slovenian foreign policy, through which we are trying to bring elements of peace and reconciliation to places where guns and explosions have drowned out silence. It also strives to restore a modicum of human security and human dignity to the victims of conflicts around the world. Since we are currently witnessing a time of great international crisis, this mission is invaluable. Thank you to the ITF for its work over the last 25 years, and above all, thank you to the donor countries who make this indispensable institution possible. Your donations, as well as your presence here today, confirm the high level of consensus among the countries you represent in Slovenia on the importance of humanitarian action as one of the central themes of foreign policy,” the President of the Republic of Slovenia Dr. Nataša Pirc Musar stressed.

President Dr. Pirc Musar called on ITF donors and partners to continue and intensify their humanitarian work: “Today, unimaginable human rights violations are taking place before our eyes. Adults and children, especially in Ukraine, are the victims of indiscriminate attacks with every weapon imaginable, entire communities and countries are in dire need, and the importance of individuals deprived of the most basic human dignity, unfortunately especially women, is steadily sliding down a slippery slope with no end in sight. I urge you as an international community founded on the universal human rights principle, to continue your noble work of helping the victims of conflict, especially children and women. Strengthen the universal framework of human rights and human dignity values, which should be integral to our foreign policy. Continue to work actively for the implementation of an international system which, without exception or excuse, guarantees all such basic rights as the right to peace, the right to protection from the horrors of war and from the explosive remnants of war, the right to basic human dignity, the right to human security”.



On the event of the 25th anniversary of the organization, ITF Director, Amb. Tomaž Lovrenčič began by thanking his colleagues and collaborators from all 19 countries where ITF is currently implementing its humanitarian programmes. He paid special tribute to the ITF's most vital donors in recent years, namely Slovenia, the United States of America, the European Commission, Germany, Austria, the Republic of Korea, Japan, the Czech Republic, Serbia, the Central European Initiative, and in the previous years, Turkey, Spain, Hungary, OPEC, Luxembourg, Switzerland, Canada, Norway, and others, including several private donors.

“Over the past 25 years, we have cleared over 191 million square metres of mine-contaminated areas, assisted in physically rehabilitating 1,600 people, and provided emergency psychosocial support to 32,000 individuals through our humanitarian programmes. We have removed nearly 350,000 mines and other UXO, saving at least an equal number of lives or limbs. None of this would have been possible without our donors and partners, to whom we extend

our gratitude, especially on behalf of the individuals and communities we support”. Lovrenčič emphasized that “when faced with war, with conflict, with injustice, with suffering, we cannot look the other way. In the case of human suffering, we cannot be neutral. We have to act!” He added that “some crises go beyond our capacity to understand and process. But every long journey starts with the first step and help after every catastrophe starts with the first handshake and the first embrace”. He kindly asked the donors of ITF to maintain their “humanitarian ideals as a strong basis for their foreign policy, to remain committed to those who have been robbed of their happiness, security, and freedom, and to join forces, as a coalition of humanity, to help those in greatest need”.

The reception hosted by the President of the Republic of Slovenia Dr. Nataša Pirc Musar was attended by ambassadors of countries that support the ITF. On this occasion, President Dr. Pirc Musar opened an exhibition of photographs showing the work of ITF in different countries.



ITF AT MINEBANIM AND NDMUN26

Two significant meetings took place in June 2023 in Geneva, highlighting the global efforts to address the issue of landmines.

The Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention 2023 Intersessional Meetings (MineBanIM) brought together delegates from various countries, international organizations, and NGOs dedicated to achieving a world free of anti-personnel mines. Shortly after, the 26th International Meeting of Mine Action National Directors and United Nations Advisers (NDMUN26) gathered key stakeholders to discuss progress and challenges in mine action, including cross-cutting issues like climate, environment, and innovation. These meetings provided crucial opportunities for collaboration, knowledge sharing, and partnerships among experts in the field.

During MineBanIM on 20 June 2023, ITF participated in the Panel on Mine Victim Assistance, sharing insights on good practices in mental health and psychological support based on numerous projects

implemented in over 10 countries, which you can watch down below. The following day, at the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Slovenia, ITF Director and Mr. Dahir Abdirahman Abdulle, the National Director General of the Somali Explosive Management Authority (SEMA), signed a Memorandum of Understanding to strengthen cooperation between ITF and the Government of Somalia in the field of Mine Action.

Throughout NDM26, ITF engaged in bilateral meetings to discuss project implementations in various countries. Collaborative discussions took place with organizations including the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), representatives of the UNMAS, National Mine Action Authorities/Centers, NGOs and the donors of the ongoing projects.

Both meetings served as valuable platforms for exchanging ideas, fostering collaboration, and strengthening partnerships in the field of mine action.



ITF AT APIMONDIA IN SANTIAGO, CHILE

ITF showcased its commitment to empowerment and inclusivity at the 48th Apimondia congress in Santiago, Chile, which brought together global experts and stakeholders in apiculture. Teaming up with the Beekeeping Academy of Slovenia and UDAS, a Bosnian non-governmental organization, ITF demonstrated the transformative potential of beekeeping for vulnerable communities.

On 07 September 2023 during the 'Slovenian day at Apimondia', ITF presented its project 'Beekeeping as an Empowerment Tool for People with Disabilities from Bosnia and Herzegovina'. The event not only celebrated Slovenian beekeeping's inclusion on the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage but also underscored the importance of inclusive practices within apicul-

ture. The project, designed to support mine and UXO survivors in Bosnia and Herzegovina, aims to equip them with the necessary skills to establish small-scale beekeeping businesses. Through comprehensive training provided by the Slovenian Beekeeping Academy, survivors and their families are empowered to generate stable incomes and improve their quality of life.

Beekeeping emerges as more than just a means of economic sustenance; it serves as a vehicle for social inclusion and empowerment. By fostering networks among survivors and providing them with tangible skills, this project exemplifies ITF's dedication to creating sustainable solutions for vulnerable groups. Moreover, the collaboration between ITF, the Beekeeping Academy of Slovenia, and UDAS underscores the significance of international partnerships in driving positive change.





All ITF's activities are regularly posted on www.itf.si and ITF's social media outlets.

f facebook	ITFsi
@ instagram	itf_si
X X (twitter)	ITFsi
in LinkedIn	ITF Enhancing Human Security



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**STATUTORY ANNUAL
STATEMENTS FOR THE
FINANCIAL YEAR 2023**

1. INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT



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SI-1000 Ljubljana
Slovenija

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (Translation from the original in Slovene language)*

To the founder of
ITF Enhancing human security
Trg republike 3
1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Fund ITF Enhancing human security (the Fund), which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2023, the statement of comprehensive income and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and the notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Fund as at December 31, 2023, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Slovene accounting standards.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Fund in accordance with the International Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including International Independence Standards), issued by the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants (IESBA Code) and other ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Slovenia, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the IESBA Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Managing board for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Slovene accounting standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Fund or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Managing board accepts financial statements/ annual financial report.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not

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Okrajšano sodišče v Ljubljani, v.l.st.: 1726892/00, osnovni kapital: 9.736,66 EUR, matična št.: 5913691, ID št. za DDV: SI94637920.



detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit of financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Fund's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Fund to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure, content of the financial statements including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We Communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Ljubljana, March 18, 2024

BDO Revizija d.o.o.,
Cesta v Mestni log 1, Ljubljana



Blaž Velcl
Certified auditor

*auditor's report relates to accounting part of annual report

2. STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Note	31 Dec 2023	31 Dec 2022
ASSETS		14,289,824	6,840,656
A. LONG-TERM ASSETS		246,663	144,753
I. Intangible assets and long-term deferred costs and accrued revenues	1	0	17
II. Tangible fixed assets	2	244,779	142,851
4. Other plant and equipment		244,779	142,851
III. Long-term investments		1,884	1,884
Long-term loans		1,884	1,884
B. CURRENT ASSETS		14,043,161	6,695,050
5. Advance payments for inventory		0	0
III. Short-term operating receivables	3	1,151,058	1,107,561
2. Short-term operating trade receivables		0	0
3. Short-term operating receivables due from others		1,151,058	1,107,561
IV. Cash	4	12,892,103	5,587,489
C. SHORT-TERM DEFERRED COSTS AND ACCRUED REVENUES		0	853
Off-balance sheet assets		30,797,020	15,219,610

	Note	31.12.2023	31.12.2022
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		14,289,824	6,840,656
A EQUITY		277,651	646,587
A.1 Called-up capital	5	4,173	4,173
1 Called-up capital		4,173	4,173
2 Revaluation surplus		2,314	9,401
3. Retained earnings		633,014	233,371
3.1 Revenue surplus	5	633,014	233,371
4. REVENUE AND EXPENSES SURPLUS	5	-361,849	399,643
4.1 Revenue surplus		0	399,643
4.2 Expenses surplus net result for the year		-361,849	
C. PROVISIONS AND LONG-TERM ACCRUED COSTS AND DEFERRED REVENUES		126,637	96,077
1 Provisions for pensions and similar obligations		56,880	44,017
2 Other provisions		50,000	0
3 Long-term accrued costs and deferred revenues	6	19,757	52,061
Č. SHORT-TERM LIABILITIES	7	1,043,885	1,441,374
1 Short-term financial liabilities		0	676
2 Short-term trade liabilities		957,400	1,332,137
3 Short-term employees liabilities	7.1.	81,506	104,389
4 Other short-term operating liabilities		4,979	4,172
D. SHORT-TERM ACCRUED COSTS AND DEFERRED REVENUES	9	12,841,651	4,656,618
Off-balance sheet liabilities		30,797,020	15,219,611

3. STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2023

	Note	2023	2022
A. REVENUES	10	10,836,436	13,185,450
E. OTHER OPERATING REVENUE	10	35,297	36,664
F. GROSS INCOME FROM OPERATIONS		10,871,733	13,222,113
G. COSTS FROM OPERATIONS		10,948,364	12,711,570
I. Costs of goods, materials and services	12	9,918,813	11,477,480
2. Costs of materials		240,686	59,937
3. Costs of services		9,678,127	11,417,544
II. Labor costs	13	897,139	1,186,120
1. Salaries		681,812	985,421
2. Pension insurance costs		38,498	46,121
3. Social security costs		110,328	91,982
4. Other labor costs		66,501	62,585
III. Depreciation, amortization and revaluation expenses		60,596	45,563
1. Depreciation and amortization	12	60,596	45,551
2. Revaluation operating expenses associated with intangible assets and property, plant and equipment		0	12
3. Revaluation operating expenses associated with operating current assets		0	0
IV. Other operating costs		71,816	2,407
2. Other costs		0	2,407
H. OPERATING SURPLUS (PROFIT)		0	510,543
I. OPEARTING SURPLUS (LOSS)		76,631	0
J. INCOME FROM FINANCING	11	663,345	449,359
I. Financial income from shares		0	0
III. Financial revenues from operating receivables		663,345	449,359
K. FINANCIAL EXPENSES	14	681,021	470,651
II. Financial expenses from financial liabilities		0	6
III. Financial expenses from operating liabilities		681,021	470,645
L. OTHER INCOME		4,584	496
M. OTHER EXPENSES	15	272,125	90,103
N. SURPLUS BEFORE TAXATION	16	0	399,643
O. NET LOSS AFTER TAXATION		361,849	0
S. NET SURPLUS BEFORE TAXATION		0	399,643
Š. NET LOSS BEFORE TAXATION		361,849	0
* AVERAGE NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES		14,10	13,21
NUMBER OF MONTHS		12	12

4. STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2023

	2023	2022
A. Cash flow from Operating Activities:		
a) Profit and loss statement items	-301,334	451,209
Revenues, income from financing, and other income	11,539,661	13,671,958
Expenses without depreciation	-11,840,995	-13,220,750
Income tax and other taxes		
b) Net changes in assets and liabilities	7,768,374	3,340,417
Opening less final operating receivables	-43,497	-196,841
Opening less final prepaid expenses	853	13,058
Opening less final receivables for corporate tax	0	0
Opening less final assets for sale	0	0
Opening less final inventories	0	0
Final less opening short term liabilities from operating activities	-397,489	-210,610
Final less opening expendable restricted funds	8,208,507	3,734,809
Final less opening deferred tax liabilities	0	0
c) Net change in cash from operating activities	7,467,040	3,791,625
B. Cash flow from investing activities		
a) Cash inflow from investing activities	0	10
Inflow from disposal of tangible assets	0	10
b) Cash outflow from investing activities	-162,426	-32,310
Outflow for purchase of intangible assets	0	0
Outflow for purchase of tangible assets	-162,426	-32,310
c) Net change in cash from investing activities	-162,426	-32,301
C. Cash flow from financing		
a) Cash inflow from financing	0	0
Inflow from increase of long term financial liabilities	0	0
b) Cash outflow from financing	0	-6
Outflow for interests from financing	0	-6
Outflow for decrease in unrestricted and restricted funds	0	0
Outflow for repayment of long term financial liabilities	0	0
Outflow for repayment of short term financial liabilities	0	-6
Outflow for dividends		
c) Net change in cash from financing	0	0
D. Final cash balance for the period	12,892,103	5,587,489
x) Net change in cash	7,304,614	3,759,319
+		
y) Opening cash balance	5,587,489	1,828,170

5. GENERAL INFORMATION

5.1. GENERAL INFORMATION

The International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance was founded by the Republic of Slovenia, as such represented by the Slovene Government, on July 21, 1998. The establishment of the International Trust Fund was approved by the Minister of Foreign Affairs under the approval No. ZML-326/98 dated 22 July 1998. The International Trust Fund was entered in the Register of Foundations. The International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance was renamed to ITF Enhancing human security in 2012 (hereafter ITF).

The 2021–2025 ITF strategy was introduced to recognize and implement the unique advantages, capabilities and experience of ITF across the spectrum of post-conflict recovery including humanitarian mine action and conventional weapons destruction (CWD).

The mission of ITF is to strengthen human security and build resilient communities by reducing risks to peace and security through compassion, innovation, transparency and partnerships. Hand in hand with an expanding geographical presence, ITF also recognized the need to address a broader array of challenges that put at risk societies affected by conflict and other crises. ITF's principal area of action is and will remain humanitarian-development-peace nexus with the aim of achieving a mine-free world, improving livelihoods, promoting gender equality, protecting the environment, strengthening public health, and building resilience. ITF's vision is a world free of threats to peace and security, where safety, well-being, prosperity and dignity of individuals and communities is assured.

ITF is fulfilling its mission by following 6 main guiding principles: Humanitarian principles, compassion, innovation, transparency, partnerships and consistency with UN Sustainable Development goals.

The headquarters of ITF is located at Trg republike 3, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia.

The main activities of the ITF:

- Reducing threats from mines, explosive remnants of war and other at-risk weapons and ammunition;
- Facilitating safe, long-term development and building resilience of conflict-affected communities.

The bodies of the ITF:

- Managing Board,
- Board of Advisors,
- Director,
- Honoree Board.

The members of the Managing Board as at 31 December 2023:

- Mrs. Sanja Štiglic, Chairwoman of Managing board ITF, Ministry of External Affairs, Republic of Slovenia
- Mr. Damir Črnčec, Deputy chairman of Managing board ITF, Ministry of Defence, Republic of Slovenia
- Mr. Leon Behin, Member of Managing board, Ministry of Defence, Republic of Slovenia
- Mrs. Ada Čargo, Member of Managing board, Ministry of Health, Republic of Slovenia
- Mr. Andrej Slapničar, Member of Managing board ITF, Ministry of External Affairs, Republic of Slovenia
- dr. sc. Damir Trut, Member of Managing board ITF, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Republic of Croatia

The Advisory Board includes representatives of donors and founders of the ITF.

The statutory Annual Statement of the ITF Enhancing Human Security, Ljubljana, for the year 2023 was prepared in accordance with Slovene accounting standards.

The financial year is equal to the calendar year.

The Director of the ITF confirms that the accounting policies of the ITF have been consistently applied in the preparation of the financial statements for the financial year ended 31 December 2023 and that the financial statements comply with the Foundations Act and the Slovenian Accounting Standards.

The Director states that he fully approves the 2023 financial statements.

5.2 SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND PRACTICES

The financial statements for the financial year 2023 are based on Foundations Act and Slovene Accounting Standards, especially Slovene Accounting standard 34.

ITF discloses separately its assets and liabilities, incomes and expenses from donors assets, liabilities, incomes and expenses (financial statements by operating segments) in accordance with Slovene Accounting Standard 34 and International Accounting Standard 20. Received and spent assets from donors are shown under Notes to the Financial Statements.

The policies and practices the Management applies in preparing and presenting financial statements are in compliance with the above stated basis whereas certain accounting policies are optional and the management decides independently to apply one of the available variants. The summary of general accounting policies and practices applied by the company in reference to valuing separate items is as follows:

- The intangible and tangible fixed assets are initially valued at their purchase value. The purchase value consists of purchase price, import and irredeemable purchase duties and the costs that can be directly attributed to the ability of the fixed asset to be used for its intended purpose. The tangible fixed assets are depreciated individually in accordance with the linear method.
- The quantity units of material and merchandise inventories are initially valued at their actual purchase price, which includes buying prices, import and other irredeemable duties and direct purchase costs. The purchase price is decreased for given discounts. The material and merchandise inventories are written down, if the book value exceeds market or net realizable value.
- Cash consists of petty cash and bank accounts. Cash is initially recognized at the amount from the relevant document, a financial asset in foreign currency are translated into local currency at the exchange rate at the date of receipt. Donors' monetary resources are separated from ITF cash account (separated bank accounts).
- The receivables are initially shown as amounts based on relevant documents and assumption that they will be paid. The receivables are written down, if their book value exceeds their fair or realizable value. The receivables are revalued by reversal of write downs if their fair or realizable value exceeds their book value. The receivables in foreign currencies are in the financial statements stated at the exchange rate of the Bank of Slovenia – referential exchange rate of the European central Bank for individual currency on the balance date. The exchange rate differences represent regular financial income or regular financial expenses.

- Allowances for receivables are created according to the experience from previous periods, based on individual assessment. The company did not create allowances for receivables in 2023.
- The short-term investments in equity and debt securities of other companies or state are initially valued at their purchase value whereas the short-term loans are valued at paid amounts. The revaluation of short-term financial investments presents the change of their book value and occurs as a revaluation due to improvement of assets, impairment of assets or reversal of impairment. The information on fair value and main characteristics of individual short-term financial investment shall be disclosed.
- The short-term deferrals include debtors and other assets and liabilities presumed to occur within one year and the occurrence of which is possible and the size reliably estimated. The deferred charges include current deferred costs or current deferred expenses and current uncharged revenues, which are shown separately and broken down into more significant ones. The short-term accruals and deferred income include short-term accrued costs and deferred income shown separately and broken down into more significant ones.
- The unrestricted funds consist of the founding capital, retained earnings, revaluation of the capital and net surplus/loss of the year.
- Restricted funds present the value of donated intangibles and fixed assets and are used for covering the depreciation cost of donated intangible and tangible fixed assets.
- Donations for specific purposes are presented as the expendable restricted funds. Foreign donations are translated at the exchange rate of the Bank of Slovenia referential exchange rate of the European central bank in effect on the balance date. Donations are used for covering the costs of activities, for which they were granted, when those costs occur and are approved by ITF.
- The long and short-term debts are shown liabilities with reference to financing of the Trust Fund's assets. The debts are financial liabilities, if lenders are lending the company money, or operating, if suppliers are sending to the Trust Fund inputs for performing its services. The financial debts present granted credits based on loan agreement, investment agreement or issued securities. The operating debts are supplier borrowings for purchased goods or services, debts for financial leases, short-term liabilities owed to staff, financiers and to the state. The long-term debts have to be paid back or settled within the term of over one year and the short-term debts within one year. The revaluation of the long and short-term financial investments presents the change of their book value and occurs as impairment of assets or improvement of debts. The information on fair value or main characteristics of individual debt shall be disclosed.
- The revenues are broken down into operating revenues, financial income and other income. Operating revenues and financial income are considered as regular revenues. The operating revenues present the utilization of expendable restricted funds, fixed percentage of donated funds, granted for covering the Trusts Fund's administrative and operating costs, revenues from utilization of expendable restricted funds for covering the amortization and depreciation of fixed assets and other revenues. Most of the ITF operating revenues consist of revenues from usage of restricted funds for approved projects. Operating revenues of ITF are fees, based on approved restricted funds (ITF services) in period when those amounts are received; ITF does not have or has not formed any rules for scheduling received amounts in other periods (deferred revenues). The financial income arises from long and short-term financial investments, receivables and cash. The financial income consists of interest and exchange rate differences. Exchange rate differences occur in donations and bank accounts and cash registers. The other revenues consist of irregular items that mark influence on the increase of regular results in the respective business year.

- The expenses are sorted into operating expenses, financial expenses and other expenses. Operating expenses and financial expenses present regular expenses. The operating expenses equal the costs of the period. The revaluating operating expenses (write downs) occur in reference to tangible fixed assets, intangible long-term assets and current assets due to their impairment. Most of ITF operating expenses consist of costs of contractual parties involved in realization of approved project (usage of restricted funds); other expenses are associated with ITF operations (salaries, other expenses, etc.). The financial expenses present the expenses for financing and expenses for investing. The other expenses consist of irregular items that mark influence on the decrease of regular results in the respective financial year.
- Off balance sheet assets and liabilities consist of potential liabilities from guarantees and other liabilities that are not shown as liabilities in balance sheet, issued and received mortgages, warranties and other insurances, landed assets and consignment stocks, etc. In off balance sheet evidence ITF also include contractual amounts of approved donations by donors that are not yet recieved in bank accounts of ITF.
- Risk management

Currency Risk

The company performs its operations in the following currencies: USD, LYD, AFN, HRK, NOK, CHF, CAD, BAM, TND, COP. The company does not hedge against currency risks, as these currencies are used in payments for services arising from donation contracts, while translation differences are covered by ITF as a part of administrative costs. The majority of transactions in foreign currency is in USD.

Interest Rate Risk

In 2022 and 2023 the company did not have any loans, therefore there is no interest risk.

Credit risk

Credit risk is very low, as the donation contracts are signed in advance and the funds are provided for covering the relative costs on time.

6. NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements for the financial year 2023 comply with the Slovene Accounting Standards 34. The notes relate to annual statements for 2023 unless otherwise specified in the text.

6.1 INTANGIBLE ASSETS

The intangibles consist of software in the amount EUR 17.

The company uses a 20% depreciation rate for software as part of intangible assets. Depreciation is calculated on a linear method basis over the estimated lifespan of each individual part of the intangible asset.

Intangible assets comprise donated software, whose present value at 31 December 2023 amounts to EUR 0, are not pledged as security for liabilities.

Movements of Intangible Assets in 2023:

Intangible assets	Intangibles owned	Donated intangibles	Total in EUR
1. Purchase value			
Cost at 01 Jan 2023	2,256	178	2,434
New additions	0	0	0
New disposals	0	0	0
Cost at 31 Dec 2023	2,256	178	2,434
2. Accumulation depreciation			
Accumulation depreciation at 01 Jan 2023	2,239	178	2,417
Depriciation	17	0	17
Disposals	0	0	0
Adjustment	0	0	0
Accumulation depreciation at 31 Dec 2023	2,256	178	2,434
3. Present value			
Present value at 01 Jan 2023	17	0	17
Present value at 31 Dec 2023	0	0	0

The depreciation cost in 2023 is EUR 0, of which depreciation cost of owned intangible assets is EUR 17 and donated intangible assets is EUR 0.

6.2 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

EUR	31 Dec 2023	31 Dec 2022
Merchandise	244,789	142,851
TOTAL	244,789	142,851

Depreciation is calculated on a linear method basis over the estimated lifespan of each individual part of the tangible asset. The company uses depreciation rates as follows:

- Computers and computer equipment: 33.00% and 50%
- Office equipment: 12.50% and 20%
- Vehicles: 15.50%
- Other equipment: 10.00%– 50.00%

Movements of tangible Assets in 2023:

	Equipment owned	Equipment donated	Leasehold improvement owned	Leasehold improvement donated	Art work owned	Construction in progress	Total in EUR
1. Purchase value							
Cost at 01 Jan 2023	165,492	185,854	66,028	0	4,076	0	421,450
New additions	28,909	133,517	0		0	0	162,426
Disposals	-22,003	-3,393			0	0	-25,396
Cost at 31 Dec 2023	172,398	315,987	66,028	0	4,076	0	558,480
2. Accumulation depreciation							
Accumulation depreciation as at 01 Jan 2023	136,234	133,793	8,571	0	0	0	278,598
Depreciation	23,454	34,470	2,574	0			60,498
Disposals	-22,003	-3,393		0			-25,396
Accumulation depreciation as at 31 Dec 2023	137,685	164,780	11,145	0	0	0	313,700
3. Present value							
Present value as at 01 Jan 2023	29,258	52,061	57,457	0	4,076	0	142,852
Present value as at 31 Dec 2023	34,713	151,108	54,883	0	4,076	0	244,780

Major new additions and finished investments in property, plant and equipment include office equipment, computer equipment and other equipment. Depreciation for all assets is EUR 60,498, of which EUR 34,470, are covered from the provisions for donated assets. The Company does not have financial obligations for equipment purchase. No Company assets are financially leased and there are no debt guarantees on Company assets.

The Company reviewed the value of property, plant and equipment, and established that the present amount does not exceed the recoverable amount.

6.3 SHORT TERM RECEIVABLES

EUR	31 Dec 2023	31 Dec 2022
Short-term operating trade receivables		0
Short-term operating receivables due from others	1,151,058	1,107,561
TOTAL	1,151,058	1,107,561

Current Operating Receivables represent VAT receivables for Bosnia and Herzegovina EUR (99,937), receivables from donors for granted, unpaid donations EUR (522,661), refunds EUR (976), short term advances – bail EUR (1,825), short term advances EUR (520,798) and other EUR (4,861).

The operating receivables are nor secured nor pledged as security for liabilities. The disclosed value of operating receivables does not exceed their realizable value.

6.4 CASH AND BANK

EUR	31 Dec 2023	31 Dec 2022
Cash in bank (EUR)	12,117,537	4,717,683
Cash in bank (other currencies)	726,509	835,315
Cash on hand (EUR)	307	395
Cash on hand (other currencies)	47,750	34,097
Cash in transit	0	0
TOTAL	12,892,103	5,587,489

6.5 THE INITIAL INVESTMENT AND THE SURPLUS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES

The International Trust Fund was entered in the Register of Foundations on 22nd July 1998 with the Minister of Foreign Affairs' consent to the Establishing Act. The called-up capital is recognized in the amount of EUR 4.173 (SIT 1.000.000).

Equity attributed to the owners of the parent company in 2023:

	Founding capital	Revaluation surplus – Adjustment	Retained Earnings (loss)	Net result for the year	Total
Balance at 31 Dec 2022	4,173	9,401	233,371	399,643	646,587
Transfer from retained earnings according	0	0	399,643	-399,643	0
Changes in actuarial gains/losses	0	-7,087	0	0	-7,087
Coverage of the surplus in the year 2023	0	0	0	-361,849	-361,849
Balance at 31 Dec 2023	4,173	2,314	633,014	-361,849	277,651

In 2022 the revenue surplus was EUR 399,643. In 2023 the expense surplus for the year was EUR 361,849. Balance at 31 December 2023 is in amount 277,651.

The method of management of ITF's own funds/revenues has changed since 2023, i.e. ITF's own funds/revenues for projects that have not yet been realized, but we have already received the donation to the account, are managed separately from other revenues under the category short-term deferred revenues from donations. The balance of unused ITF own funds/revenues on 31 December 2023 amounts to EUR 819,823.

In the past, donations came evenly during the duration of the activities according to the donor agreements, but in 2023, the method of inflows according to the donor agreements will change and the inflows will be uneven, so the ITF allocates its own income accordingly according to the planned activities in accordance with the donor agreement.

6.6 PROVISIONS AND LONG-TERM PASSIVE ACCRUALS

Provisions for severance payments upon retirement and jubilee benefits was calculated for the first time in 2017. Restricted revenues are long-term deferred revenues recognized to cover depreciation of donated intangible assets, tangible fixed assets and office space rental costs. The company does not plan to create or utilise long-term accrued costs and deferred revenue.

We assessed the risk and formed a provision for doubtful contracts in amount EUR 50,000.

EUR	31 Dec 2023	31 Dec 2022
Provisions for severance payments upon retirement	42,210	32,160
Provisions for jubilee benefits	14,670	11,857
Long-term accrued costs and deferred revenues	19,757	52,061
Provisions for doubtful contracts	50,000	0
TOTAL	126,637	96,077

Movement in 2023:

	2023	2022
Balance at 01 Jan	96,077	127,286
Donations received	0	3,901
Provisions for retirement benefits and jubilee awards	13,774	3,068
Use of provisions for retirement benefits and jubilee awards	-911	-11,962
Provisions for doubtful contracts	50,000	0
Covering of depreciation expenses	-32,304	-25,876
Elimination of donated assets		-340
TOTAL	126,636	96,077

7. OPERATING LIABILITIES

EUR	31 Dec 2023	31 Dec 2022
Short-term trade liabilities	957,400	1,332,137
Short-term operating liabilities to employees	81,506	104,389
Short-term financial liabilities	0	676
Other short-term operating liabilities	4,979	4,172
TOTAL	1,043,885	1,441,374

Accounts payable in amount of EUR 957,400 are not due on balance date. Current operating liabilities include amount for liabilities to suppliers EUR 138,883, liabilities to employees EUR 81,506. Other liabilities include pension insurance, liabilities for social contributions and income tax and other liabilities EUR 4,979.

7.1 SHORT-TERM LIABILITIES TO EMPLOYEES

EUR	31 Dec 2023	31 Dec 2022
Operating liabilities to employees – Slovenia office	81,506	70,925
TOTAL	81,506	70,925

7.2. SHORT-TERM LIABILITIES TO PROJECT IN OFFICES

EUR	31 Dec 2023	31 Dec 2022
Operating liabilities to Libya office	14,108	12,858
Operating liabilities to employees – BIH office	2,065	2,228
Operating liabilities to employees – Kyrgyzstan office	11,703	6,755
Operating liabilities to employees – Iraq office	5,430	0
Operating liabilities to employees – Lebanon	3,396	3,281
Operating liabilities to employees – Syria	77,230	8,342
TOTAL	113,932	33,464

In 2023, one more offices were opened in Ukraine.

8. FINANCIAL LIABILITIES

There are no financial liabilities in 2023.

9. SHORT TERM ACCRUED COSTS AND DEFERRED REVENUES

EUR	31 Dec 2023	31 Dec 2022
Short-term deferred revenue from donations to the Foundation's activities	12,021,828	4,656,617
Short-term deferred income from the donation for the operation of the ITF institution	819,823	0
TOTAL	12,841,651	4,656,617

Short-term deferred revenue from donations to the Foundation's activities were 12,841,651 EUR. They refer to short-term deferred revenues in the amount of EUR 12,021,828, which refer to dedicated donations that are used to cover costs or expenses for which the funds were obtained when they are incurred or are approved by the Institution. The second part of deferred accruals refers to short-term deferred income in the amount of EUR 819,823, from donations received, which the donor recognizes to cover the costs of the institution's operation. These are delimited according to the planned activities in accordance with the donor agreement.

Donations in foreign currency are shown at the exchange rate of the balance sheet date.

10. REVENUE / DONATIONS AND OTHER OPERATING REVENUES

EUR	2023	2022
Utilization of expendable restricted funds-main activities of Fund	1,001,335	11,587,778
Operation revenues, fixed percentage of donated funds	9,832,360	1,595,122
Depreciation of donated tangible fixed assets	32,304	25,876
Sales of tender documentation	2,741	2,550
Proceeds from the cancellation of provisions, accruals and deferred revenues at the expense of anniversary bonuses	0	10
Revenues from sale of fixed assets	0	4,347
Other revenues	2,993	6,430
TOTAL	10,871,733	13,222,113

Operating revenue from the company' own activity decreased in comparison with previous year.

11. FINANCIAL INCOME

EUR	2023	2022
Financial revenues from revaluation of loans and receivables, exchange rate differences	663,345	449,359
Financial revenues refer to interest on loans	0	1
Financial revenues refer to interest on loans for donations	0	0
TOTAL	663,345	449,359

The financial income in 2023 amounted to EUR 663,345, the majority of transactions is carried out in foreign currencies. The same type of positive exchange rate differences in 2023 were.

12. OPERATING EXPENSES

EUR	2023	2022
Costs of the materials used	240,686	59,937
Costs of services	9,678,127	11,417,544
Costs of labour	897,139	1,186,120
Depreciation costs	60,596	45,563
Depreciation other	0	0
Revaluation operating expenses associated with tangible fixed assets	0	12
Other operating expenses - construction sites, other	71,816	2,407
TOTAL	10,948,364	12,711,571

Costs of services consist of (in EUR):

EUR	2023	2022
Production services (demining, rehabilitation, CWD, training, telemedicine, other)	8,039,549	10,723,378
Reimbursement of traveling expenses to employees	486,933	178,704
Costs of professional fees	295,265	8,278
Transport and telecommunications costs	56,988	40,119
Insurance costs	148,759	60,437
Costs of marketing, advertising, fairs	27,472	20,168
Maintenance costs	66,976	14,244
Lease rental charges	465,554	368,121
Cost of services by natural persons	28,343	3,539
Other	62,288	557
TOTAL	9,678,127	11,417,545

Rental costs refer to the rental of offices in Ljubljana, Sarajevo, Libya, Kyrgyzstan, Iraq, Syria, Ukraine, Tunis and Lebanon.

Costs of materials consist of (in EUR):

EUR	2023	2022
Donation in kind	0	0
Cost of fuel	22,289	14,207
Cost of material for maintenance	111,741	19,331
Cost of office supply	32,552	23,409
Cost of energy	3862	608
Inventory	7,390	187
Other	62,852	2,194
TOTAL	240,686	59,937

The company does not determine the costs incurred by functional groups.

13. LABOR EXPENSES

EUR	2023	2022
Salaries	681,812	985,422
Social security costs	148,826	138,103
Other labour costs	66,501	62,595
LABOUR COSTS TOTAL	897,139	1,186,120

Payroll expenses consists of payments to employees of the Trust Fund's Headquarters (EUR 897,139)

14. COSTS OF FINANCING

EUR	2023	2022
Financial expenses from revaluation of loans and receivables, exchange rate differences for donations	631,021	470,646
Other expenses	2,026	6
TOTAL	681,021	470,652

Financial expenses from revaluation of loans and receivables, exchange rate differences for donations in amount of EUR 681,021 related to transactions of foreign currencies.

15. OTHER EXPENSES

EUR	2023	2022
Other expenses such as:		
Given donations	267,929	89,383
Other expenses	4,196	721
TOTAL	272,125	90,103

16. MOVEMENTS OF OPERATING RESULTS FOR THE CURRENT YEAR

EUR	2023	2022
Retained earnings at 1 January	633,014	233,371
Operating loss	361,849	0
Operating surplus	0	399,643
Retained earnings at 31 December	271,165	633,014

In 2023, an excess of expenses over revenues was shown in the amount of EUR 361,849.

The way ITF's own funds/revenues are managed has changed since 2023, ITF's own revenues for projects that have not yet been realized, but we have already received donations to the account, are managed separately from other revenues under the category of short-term deferred donation revenues. As of 31 December 2023, ITF's unused own funds/revenues amount to EUR 819,823.

In the past, donations came evenly during the duration of the activities according to the donor agreements, but in 2023 the method of inflows according to the donor agreements has changed and the inflows are uneven, therefore the ITF allocates its own income accordingly according to the planned activities in accordance with the donor agreement.

17. STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME AND POTENTIAL LIABILITIES

The difference by geographic segments in the balance sheet results from financing of donations by ITF.

Off-balance sheet funds in 2023 refer to the state of open donor contracts in the amount of EUR 30,797,020 and in 2022 was off-balance sheet funds in the amount of EUR 15,219,610.

18. POST-BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

In the period since the balance sheet date to the date of this report no events that would take effect on the fair view of the financial statements for the year 2023 have occurred.

19. DONATIONS MOVEMENTS

The Donations report adjusted on the period of every two months. Table presents donation movements, which is already adjusted and confirmed with donation report, last on date 31 Dec 2023.

Changes in expendable restricted funds / donations for specific purposes in 2023 (in EUR):

Donor	Opening balance 1.1.2023	Donation recieved	Revenues	Clarence of land mines and ERW	Capacity building	Victim Assistance/ Risk Education	Returned donations	Equipment, telemedical, conference	**CWD	Cyber security	Interests Credited other movements	Exchange differences	Closing balance 31.12.2023
AUSTRIAN DEVELOPMENT AGENCY 2023	0	1,000,000	0	0	0	0	-1,000,000	0	0	0	0	0	0
AUSTRIAN DEVELOPMENT AGENCY 2021	-228,952	275,645	-46,693	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CZECH REPUBLIC	11,876	12,609	-883	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	23,602
DRONE DEPLOY		2,721	0	0	0	0	0	0	-2,721	0	0	0	0
EC-EUROPEAN PEACE FACILITY – BMTF	3,921,053	0	0	0	-120,076	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,800,977
EC-EUROPEAN COMMISSION – IMMAP	0	400,000	0	0	-356,706	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	43,294
EC-EUROPEAN PEACE FACILITY NORTH MACEDONIA	0	3,669,830	-240,082	0	-56,419	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,373,329
FRANCE	0	1,000,000	-90,909	0	0	-231,812	0	0	0	0	0	0	677,279
EU-EUROPEAN UNION-BIH IPA III	0	3,079,616	-201,470	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,878,146
THE CENTRAL EUROPEAN INITIATIVE–EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT	5,832	0	0	0	-5,417	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	415
REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA – MZEZ – 2023–2025	0	1,050,000	-117,600	-793,289	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	139,111
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS/ 2022	197,734	193,054	-13,376	-375,922	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1,490	0
KOREA	392,376	373,388	-26,137	-13,038	0	-255,680	0	0	0	0	0	5,468	476,377
MINE ACTION CENTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA	0	262,543	-13,127	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-790	0	248,626
NATAŠA PIPAN NAHTIGAL	1,425	0	0	0	0	-608	0	0	0	0	0	0	817
REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA – MZEZ – 2023	0	182,000	0	-182,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PAUL WILMONT	285			0	0	0	0	-285	0	0	0	0	0
PAYPAL	10	508	0	0		-138		-292	0	0	0	0	88
PERMANENT MISSION OF AUSTRIA TO THE OSCE	0	28,000	-1,960	0	0	-19,532	0	0	0	0	0	0	6,508
RS-MINISTRY OF DEFENCE – 2023	0	236,000	-236,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

**CWD (Destruction of surplus weapons and ammunition)

Donor	Opening balance 1.1.2023	Donation recieved	Revenues	Clarence of land mines and ERW	Capacity building	Victim Assistance/ Risk Education	Returned donations	Equipment, telemedical, conference	**CWD	Cyber security	Interests Credited other movements	Exchange differences	Closing balance 31.12.2023
RS-MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIR – 2023	0	32,635	-32,635	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
RS-MINISTRY OF HEALTH – 2023	0	32,635	-32,635	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
RS/MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS/2021	14,923	0	-5,718	0	0	-2,500	-6,705	0	0	0	0	0	0
RS/MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS/2022–2023	196	189,804	-20,878	-177,825	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-8,704
RENE SCHASSE	0	300	-15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	285
RS/MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS/2023 – UKRAINE	0	800,000	0	0	0	0	-800,000	0	0	0	0	0	0
USA-2017 – MONTENEGRO	-569	127,479	-8,521	0	0	0	0	-91,372	-26,019	0	0	271	1,269
USA-2021 – SERBIA	0	107,805	-9,883	-98,934	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,012	0
USA-2019 – CROATIA	-353	8,378	-926	0	0	0	0	0	-7,144	0	0	45	0
USA-2019 – LYBIA	-13,173	920,949	-56,989	0	-887,206	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,165	-34,254
USA-2020 – BIH	113,892	1,328,203	-102,664	0	0	0	0	-1,342,339	0	0	0	-1,578	-4,486
USA-2021 – ALBANIA	0	16,068	-1,448	0	-18,222	0	0	0	0	0	0	87	-3,515
USA-2021 – KYRGYZSTAN	-19,009	851,787	-74,765	0	0	0	0	0	-824,285	0	0	3,709	-62,563
USA-2021 – GEORGIA	-185,516	823,842	-75,207	0	0	0	0	0	-734,010	0	0	6,813	-164,078
USA-2021 – SYRIA	-135,504	850,352	-77,308	0	0	-784,690	0	0	0	0	0	9,733	-137,417
USA-2021 – KAZAKHSTAN	-289,494	1,709,724	-155,464	0	0	0	0	0	-1,275,691	0	0	-4,543	-15,468
USA-2021 – WEST-BANK	-28,713	371,666	-33,788	0	0	-340,014	0	0	0	0	0	1,341	-29,508
USA-2022 – AFGANISTAN	-137,241	502,017	-45,891	0	0	-326,777	0	0	0	0	0	4,060	-3,832
USA-2022 – MONTENEGRO	16	136,812	-12,425	0	0	0	0	0	-122,276	-4,128	0	2,001	0
USA-2022 – LEBANON	-13,825	825,300	-53,993	0	-408,264	0	0	0	0	0	0	-5,019	344,199
USA-2022 – CROATA	0	4,059	-122	0	0	0	0	0	-3,909	0	0	-28	0
USA-2023 – BIH	0	69,348	-5,146	-57,664	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	883	7,421
USA-2023 – UKRAINE	0	36,024	-3,275	0	0	-90,653	0	0	0	0	0	-847	-58,751
Balance of donations 31.12.2023	3,607,269	21,511,101	-1,797,933	-1,698,672	-1,852,310	-2,052,404	-1,806,705	-1,434,288	-2,993,334	-4,128	-790	24,083	11,499,167

The donation balances are presented according to the exchange rate of the Bank of Slovenia referential exchange rate of the European central bank in effect on 31 December 2023.

Other costs include costs from provisions and payments, costs of consumable materials and costs of office materials, as well as insurance premium costs.

Donor agreements signed provide transfer of funds to the ITF bank account based on progress of implementation of individual projects for which the donation was intended. Balances of funds under contracts that are not transferred to the ITF bank account until balance date are recognized as off-balance sheet assets / liabilities in the amount of EUR 30,797,020.

20. FINANCIAL INDICATORS

		31 Dec 2023	31 Dec 2022
Equity financing rate	Equity / Liabilities	0.02	0.09
Long-term financing rate	Equity + long-term liabilities (including provisions) + long-term accrued expenses and deferred revenue / Liabilities	0.03	0.11
Share capital rate	Share capital / Equity	0.02	0.02
Operating current assets rate	Operating current assets + short-term deferred costs and accrued revenue / Assets	0.98	0.98
Long-term assets rate	Operating fixed assets and long-term deferred costs and accrued revenue (at carrying amount) + investment property + long-term investments + long-term operating receivables / Assets	0.02	0.02
Equity to fixed assets ratio	Equity / Operating fixed assets (at carrying amount)	1.13	2.79
Acid test ratio	Liquid assets / Short-term liabilities	1.01	3.88
Quick ratio	Liquid assets + short-term receivables / Short-term liabilities	13.45	4.64
Current ratio	Current assets / Short-term liabilities	1.01	1.10
Operating efficiency ratio	Operating revenue / Operating expenses	1.00	1.04

21. DISCLOSURE OF STATUTORY ANNUAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2023 BY OPERATING SEGMENTS

21.1 BASIS AND CRITERIA FOR THE ALLOCATION OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, INCOME AND EXPENSES BY OPERATING SEGMENTS

This reporting format relates to information by operating segments of ITF (ITF own activity and managing of funds received from donors). An operating segment is a component of ITF that engages in activity from which it earns revenues and expenses. Assets of a segment are assets that are used by a segment in performing its activities or that can be reasonably attributed to it. Liabilities of a segment are liabilities arising from activities of a segment or those that can be reasonably attributed to it.

For the purpose of preparing financial statements by operating segments business events of ITF are recognized by cost center.

Disclosed liabilities of ITF own activity are those liabilities that will be settled from ITF assets. Donor assets and liabilities are operating segment that represent activity of managing of funds received from donors. The mismatch between assets and liabilities of each operating center at a balance date is recognized as short term receivables and short term liabilities among operating segments.

Revenues of a segment are revenues that are disclosed in separate statement and can be directly attributed to it or can be reasonably allocated to it. Expenses of a segment are those expenses that are charged to its business and can be directly attributed to it or can be reasonably allocated to it.

Revenues and expenses are recognized by segments according to activity in which they arise. Revenues and expenses between operating segments are not recognized in profit and loss statement for the financial year 2023. Expenses of ITF that debit expendable restricted funds (based on donor agreements) are recognized as a cost/revenue of donations (not as cost/revenue of ITF).

Exchange rate gains and losses from assets and liabilities of donors are recognized as income from financing or costs of financing of donations. Exchange rate gains and losses from assets and liabilities of ITF own activity are recognized as income from financing or costs of financing of ITF. Surplus of exchange rate gains or losses from donations are recognized as income or expenses of ITF own activity (net exchange rate gains or losses are not charged to donated funds).

21.2 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	ITF assets / liabilities 31 Dec 2023	Donations assets / liabilities 31 Dec 2023	Total 31 Dec 2023	Total 31 Dec 2022
ASSETS	1,103,340	13,186,484	14,289,824	6,840,656
LONG-TERM ASSETS	95,555	151,108	246,663	144,753
Intangible assets and long-term deferred costs and accrued revenues	0	0	0	17
Long-term property rights	0	0	0	17
Tangible fixed assets	93,671	151,108	244,779	142,851
Other plant and equipment	93,671	151,108	244,779	142,851
Long-term investments	0	0	0	0
Long-term loans	1,884	0	1,884	1,884
CURRENT ASSETS	1,007,785	13,035,376	14,043,161	6,695,050
Inventory	0	0	0	0
Advance payments for inventory	0	0	0	0
Short-term operating receivables	64,449	1,086,609	1,151,058	1,107,561
Short-term operating trade receivables	0	0	0	0
Short-term operating receivables due from others	64,449	1,086,609	1,151,058	1,107,561
Cash	943,336	11,948,767	12,892,103	5,587,489
SHORT-TERM DEFERRED COSTS AND ACCRUED REVENUES	0	0	0	853
Off-balance sheet assets	0	30,797,020	30,797,020	15,219,610

	ITF assets / liabilities 31 Dec 2023	Donations assets / liabilities 31 Dec 2023	Total 31 Dec 2023	Total 31 Dec 2022
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES	1,103,340	13,186,484	14,289,824	6,840,656
EQUITY	144,208	133,443	277,651	646,587
Called-up capital	4,173	0	4,173	4,173
Revaluation surplus	2,313	0	2,313	9,401
Retained earnings	633,014	0	633,014	233,371
Surplus net result for the year	-495,292	133,443	-361,849	399,643
PROVISIONS AND LONG-TERM ACCRUED COSTS AND DEFERRED REVENUES	56,880	69,757	126,637	96,077
Provisions for jubilee awards and severance pay	56,880	0	56,880	44,016
Other provisions	0	50,000	50,000	52,061
Long-term accrued costs and deferred revenues	0	19,757	19,757	0
OPERATING LIABILITIES	82,429	961,456	1,043,885	1,441,374
Short-term financial liabilities	0	0	0	0
Short-term trade liabilities	923	956,477	957,400	1,291,850
Short-term employee liabilities	81,506	0	81,506	145,352
Other short-term operating liabilities	0	4,979	4,979	4,172
SHORT-TERM ACCRUED COSTS AND DEFERRED REVENUES	819,823	12,021,828	12,841,651	4,656,617
Off-balance sheet liabilities	0	30,797,020	30,797,020	15,219,610

21.3 STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

	Own resources	Donations	2023	2022
A. REVENUES	1,004,076	9,832,360	10,836,436	13,185,450
E. OTHER OPERATING REVENUES	2,993	32,304	35,297	36,664
F. GROSS INCOME FROM OPERATIONS	1,007,069	9,864,664	10,871,733	13,222,113
G. COSTS FROM OPERATIONS	1,430,617	9,517,747	10,948,364	12,711,571
I. Costs of goods, materials and services	545,573	9,373,240	9,918,813	11,477,480
2. Costs of materials	23,397	217,240	240,686	59,937
3. Costs of services	522,176	9,155,951	9,678,127	11,417,544
II. Labor costs	838,627	58,512	897,139	1,186,120
1. Salaries	623,300	58,512	681,812	46,121
2. Pension insurance costs	38,498	0	38,498	91,928
3. Social security costs	110,328	0	110,328	62,595
4. Other labor costs	66,501	0	66,501	45,563
III. Depreciation, amortization and revaluation expenses	28,179	32,417	60,596	45,563
1. Depreciation and amortization	28,179	32,417	60,596	45,551
2. Revaluation operating expenses associated with intangible assets and property, plant and equipment	0	0	0	12
3. Revaluation operating expenses associated with operating current assets	0	0	0	0
IV. Other operating costs	18,238	53,578	71,816	2,407
2. Other costs	18,238	53,578	71,816	2,407
H. OPERATING SURPLUS	0	346,917	346,917	510,543
I. OPEARTING LOSS	-423,548	0	-423,548	0
J. INCOME FROM FINANCING	663,344	0	663,344	449,359
K. FINANCIAL EXPENSES	681,021	0	681,021	470,651
L. OTHER INCOME	4,584	0	4,584	496

M. OTHER EXPENSES	58,651	213,474	272,125	90,103
N. SURPLUS BEFORE TAXATION	0	133,443	133,474	399,643
O. NET LOSS AFTER TAXATION	-495,292	0	-495,292	0
S. NET SURPLUS (PROFIT) BEFORE TAXATION	0	0	0	399,643
T. NET SURPLUS (LOSS) BEFORE TAXATION	0	0	-361,849	0

The company's activity is acquisition of donation funds. The company has already concluded the majority of agreements for 2024. Thanks to its reputation and business method, the company expects further growth in the future.

Ljubljana, 18. 3. 2024



Tomaž Lovrenčič
Representative