

Lead Nations



Germany

Milestones

- November 2012 – Pre-feasibility Study
- December 2012 – Armenia's request for assistance
- July 2013 – Germany and Switzerland sponsored a feasibility study and requested NSPA to prepare a project proposal
- November 2013 – Project Proposal released to Lead Nations
- May-October 2016 – Project revision under Germany's leadership
- November 2016 – Project launched in PCSC
- February 2018 – Conclusion of the final legal agreements
- March 2018 – Project starts implementation

Financial information

- The total forecasted cost is 1,421,500 EUR over 24 months
- Current contributions are at 1,081,500 EUR.

Background

This first NATO Trust Fund project in Armenia is significant in terms of its fundamental security implications and its clear humanitarian dimension. The project also represents an important further step in enhancing NATO's relations with the regional nations, both practically and politically.

Building upon the experience gained and the achievements accomplished through similar Trust Fund projects, this project will establish two initiatives aiming at supporting Armenia to fulfil its obligations under the Treaty of Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE) as well as contributing to the security and safety of the civilian population.

In particular, the Trust Fund will provide funding and administrative support for

1. The Demilitarization, Dismantling and Disposal (D3) of 140 decommissioned military vehicles and the reduction of 21 Armoured Combat Vehicles. This will support Armenia to fulfill its CFE Treaty obligations.

2. The delivery of Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) and Mine Risk Education (MRE) to affected communities within four targeted provinces. Throughout a developed ERW/MRE program in cooperation and coordination with national and international stakeholders, community and school based activities will be delivered in 42 communities to about 120,000 individuals with the ultimate aim to save lives.

The total cost of this project is estimated at 1,421,500 EUR over a period of 24 months. The financial threshold of 1,000,000 EUR has been reached. Following the conclusion of the final legal agreements projected implementation started in March 2018.

Objectives & Achievements

Initiative 1 – Demilitarization, Dismantling and Disposal.

According to the annual information exchange of the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE), as of 1 January 2017, Armenia exceeded its maximum levels for holdings by 21 Armoured Combat Vehicles (ACVs).

The NATO Trust Fund supported Armenia to fulfill its obligation under the CFE. It allowed the successful reduction of those 21 ACVs. Armenia is now in compliance with the threshold for ACV as set by the Treaty on Conventional Forces in Europe (CFE). The reduction was subject to verification measures pursuant to the Protocol on Reduction of the CFE treaty.

In addition, the NATO Trust Fund will support Armenia in the demilitarization, dismantling and final disposal of decommissioned 140 military vehicles.

For security and practical reasons, the NATO Trust Fund will fund the establishment of a temporary vehicle dismantling line at the Level I Maintenance Depot at Yeghvard Depot. This will require providing temporary light shelter to accommodate workers and protect them from weather conditions; and providing mobile heavy and lightweight lifting equipment; dismantling, cutting and personal protective equipment.

The revenue generated from selling the resultant scrap will be used by Armenian MOD to create a Charity Fund to support Mines and Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) victims.

Initiative 2 – Explosive Remnant of War / Mine Risk Education.

To prevent continuing casualties resulting from legacy Explosive Remnants of War (ERW), there is a need to educate the local population of the remaining risks in the affected communities. Using publications and educational material, seminars, education and children's quizzes will be delivered to about 120,000 individuals in at least 42 communities throughout four impacted regions. This will range through teachers and children, family members and citizens of the affected communities.

In February 2020, NSPA awarded a 2-year contract to the National Mine Action Authority, the Armenian Centre for Humanitarian Demining and Expertise (CHDE) / Foundation for Demining and Demolition (FDD), for the establishment and sustainment of an ERW/MRE management capability. On 27 May 2020, CHDE/FDD signed an agreement with the Armenian Red Cross Society (ARCS) as its national counterpart and only implementing partner of the ERW/MRE program. The CHDE will overview and monitor the ARCS who will develop and implement the ERW/MRE program based on the guidance laid down in the International Mine Action Standard (IMAS).



Representatives of CHDE/FDD and ARCS at the signing ceremony witnessed by NSPA project supervisor on 27 May 2020

The ERW/MRE program aims

- to increase awareness of dangers and risk of legacy ERW and mines;
- to make population 'safe' behavioural change leading to a reduced number of accidents and incidents caused by legacy ERW and mines;
- to increase confidence and improved relationships between affected communities and mine action organizations and the donors; leading to changing the perception of NATO throughout the region

For further information

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