Call for Project Proposals

Project/Initiative name*	Enhancing Environmental Resilience and Recovery in Ukraine: Addressing hazardous waste and industrial pollution
Objective of the Project Proposal	To receive project proposals that can assist in the implementation of interventions on enhancing Ukraine's capacity in managing hazardous waste, assessing risks and threats to human and environmental health from contaminated sites, and developing environmental standards for demining operations.
General Project Background	The war in Ukraine has caused significant destruction across its northern, eastern, and south-eastern regions, resulting in extensive debris accumulation and damages to industrial sites. More than 3000 incidents in hazardous facilities are reported as of January 2025, and more than 250,000 buildings are destructed as per an assessment in January 2024. With asbestos only recently banned by the Ukrainian government, it is expected to be widely present in debris from damaged buildings, with over 70% of residential and public building roofs containing asbestos-based materials. Beyond residential damage, Ukraine's industrial and agricultural activities present substantial risks of environmental pollution, affecting air, water, and soil quality. The ongoing armed conflict has led to both new releases of hazardous substances and worsening pre-existing contamination. Common pollutants include oil and petroleum products, volatile and semi-volatile organic compounds, various metals, and specialty chemicals. Finally, around 138,503 km2 of land and 14,000 km2 of water were at risk of contamination by explosive remnants of war and landmines in Ukraine, making it one of the largest in the world since World War II. While demining operations present significant environmental risks, the country lacks comprehensive environmental standards for demining operations. The need for these standards is becoming increasingly urgent as demining operations scale up. Without proper environmental guidelines, demining activities can potentially cause substantial damage to soil, water resources, vegetation, and wildlife.
Description of Project and expected deliverables:*	The project aims to enhance Ukraine's capacity in addressing the environmental impacts of war arising for chemical pollutions and plan for a sustainable and green recovery.

	The project includes four separate components, described as follow: **Component 1: Enhancing capacity for managing asbestos-containing debris** The component aims to enhance Ukraine's capacity for safe and effective management of asbestos-contaminated debris by adapting analytical standards, evaluating laboratory capabilities, determining optimal handling approaches, strengthening legal frameworks and increasing awareness. Under this component the project will develop technical guideline to manage the asbestos-contaminated debris in the immediate phase of a post-war recovery. The project will identify and adapt international asbestos testing standards, evaluate Ukrainian laboratory capabilities, and optimize debris management through site trials. A decision-making framework will be developed for local authorities. To enhance awareness, training materials will be created for government officials, contractors, and stakeholders, alongside workshops and an online platform for knowledge sharing. The project will also support legal framework development, assessing donor liability and providing policy recommendations to facilitate safer asbestos debris management. **Expected deliverables** include technical guidelines, laboratory capacity assessment, field trials documentation, training materials, and legal framework recommendations. **Component 2: Training on asbestos management for the State Emergency Service of Ukraine (SESU)** This component aims to enhance the capacity of the State Emergency Service of Ukraine (SESU) in managing asbestos-related hazards during emergency response operations. As the first responders to war-related destruction, SESU personnel frequently encounter damaged buildings containing asbestos, posing serious health risks. Strengthening their knowledge and skills in asbestos identification, risk assessment, and safe handling is essential for both their safety and broader public health protection. Under this component, the project will develop tailored training materials and integrate asbestos management principles into SESU's existing emergency response

	training programs. The training will focus on practical asbestos hazard recognition, safe handling procedures, and appropriate protective measures. In addition, simplified field guides will be created for on-site reference, and a “train-the-trainers” approach will be introduced to ensure the sustainability of asbestos management education within SESU. **Expected deliverables** include training curricula, instructional materials, field guides, and a capacity-building program to support SESU trainers in disseminating best practices for asbestos safety. **Component 3: Environmental assessment of industrial and agricultural sites in Kyiv Oblast (region)** This component aims to assess environmental threats and risks to human and environment health arising from different war-impacted sites in Kyiv region. Under this component the project will map and evaluate the state of industrial and agricultural environmental contamination in the Kyiv Region of Ukraine. It will examine various site types, including historical industrial sites, legacy contamination, agricultural impact zones, and infrastructure-related pollution sources. By analyzing these areas, the project will identify key risks and their potential scale. The process will include data collection, field assessments, laboratory analysis, and risk evaluation. The findings will contribute to developing a risk model to guide future prioritization efforts and inform targeted site investigation and remediation strategies. **Expected deliverables** include environmental "hot spots" mapping, digital environment (environmental database, spatial mapping tools, web-based communication platforms) for the storge and retrieval of project information, priority sites for subsequent evaluation, and replicable template investigation methodologies / plans for future investigation. ***The component 3 is subject to the confirmation of funding from the donor.*** **Component 4: Development of Environmental Standards for Demining Operations** This component aims to establish comprehensive environmental standards for demining activities in Ukraine

	to mitigate potential environmental risks associated with explosive ordnance clearance. As demining operations expand across the country, the absence of standardized environmental guidelines poses risks to soil, water resources, vegetation, and biodiversity. Developing clear, practical, and enforceable environmental standards will ensure that mine clearance efforts are conducted in a sustainable manner. Under this component, the project will facilitate collaboration among key stakeholders, including government agencies, international demining organizations, environmental authorities, and research institutions. The initiative will focus on aligning demining practices with international environmental standards while addressing Ukraine's specific ecological conditions and operational challenges. The project will develop technical guidelines covering soil protection, water contamination prevention, and biodiversity conservation in demining operations. Additionally, recommendations will be provided to integrate these standards into national policies and regulatory frameworks. **Expected deliverables** include technical guidelines for environmentally responsible demining, stakeholder coordination frameworks, and policy recommendations for incorporating environmental considerations into demining operations. **Component 5: Soil and Water Sampling in Kakhovka Reservoir for potential health risk Assessment** This component aims to undertake soil and water sampling in the Kakhovka Reservoir to assess potential risks posed by pollutants to human health and the environment. The desiccation of the reservoir following recent events raises concerns about the contamination of sediments, which could impact future agricultural use and water safety. Under this component, the project will conduct a systematic sampling and analysis of soil and water in the Kakhovka Reservoir. The assessment will focus on identifying pollutants, including heavy metals, hydrocarbons, pesticides, and other hazardous substances that could pose health risks if mobilized into agricultural or drinking water supplies. The data collected will inform recommendations for managing and mitigating risks associated with the reservoir's future use.

	Expected deliverables include detailed soil and water contamination analysis reports, risk assessment models for pollutant exposure, recommendations for agricultural land use and water safety, and policy guidance on mitigating environmental health risks in the region. ***The component 5 is subject to the confirmation of funding from the donor.***
Project Requirements:	Proposals should demonstrate: ● Proven expertise and experience in environmental monitoring, assessment, and management of contaminated sites; ● Specialized knowledge in hazardous waste management, with a particular focus on asbestos; ● Strong capacity to conduct field assessments and laboratory analyses ● Expertise in developing training materials and facilitating stakeholder engagement ● Experience in data management, including spatial mapping and the use of mapping technologies ● A successful track record of completing projects in Ukraine, with documented results ● Ability to undertake activities inside Ukraine ● Established partnerships with Ukrainian NGOs and local authorities ● A solid history of collaboration with the UN and/or other intergovernmental organizations ● Proposals should be submitted in accordance with the application template provided, below. ● Estimated budget and methodology should ensure a clear delineation for each component.
Detailed Proposal Link*	
Project duration (for Cooperation Modality):	The project implementation period is from 2025 until 2026, with separate delivery date for each component as follow: Component 1: 01 May 2025 – 31 March 2026 Component 2: 01 May 2025 – 31 December 2025 Component 3: 01 May 2025 – 31 March 2026 Component 4: 01 May 2025 – 31 March 2026 Component 5: 01 May 2025 – 31 March 2026

Language:	Applicants should submit project proposals in English using the application template provided. **Note**: All materials produced will need to be translated into Ukrainian.
Implementation Start Date (For Implementation Modality)	01 May 2025
Implementation End Date (For Implementation Modality)	31 March 2026
Language (Applicants should submit project proposals in this language using the application template provided.)*	English
Partner Category (Who can apply)*	Not-for-profit, non-governmental entities
Concerned Officer (Person to send project proposal using the application template provided to)*	Please send your expression of interest using the provided template to unep.ukraine@un.org
Submission Deadline	14 April 2025 - by midnight CET
Notification date	28 April 2025

Application Template

Call for Proposals/ Expression of Interest on [insert name of Project]

A. Project Details	
Project Title*	Enhancing Environmental Resilience and Recovery in Ukraine: Addressing hazardous waste and industrial pollution
Project location (country name)	Ukraine
Project Background	
B. Applicant Details	
**** Applicants must register on the UN Partner Portal prior to submission of this application. To register please click here and follow the instructions. Applicants to note that validation on the UN Partner Portal is a mandatory requirement and must be completed prior to signature of legal instrument. ****	
Name of organisation*	(Applicant to ensure that the name should match incorporation documents. Any Alias or trade name should be separately provided in parenthesis).
UN Partner Portal Registration Number*	
Organisation details	If the entity is not registered and validated in the UN Partner Portal, below information on Organisation details and Legal Status and Governance must be provided as part of the application. In addition, applicants to note that further information and documentation may be required as part of UNEP's due diligence.
Registered Address :	
Website:	
Telephone number:	
Email address(es): *(Applicant to provide email addresses which are checked and responded to regularly)*	
List of countries in which partner operates	
Primary Focal Point name:	
Primary Focal Point contact details: *(This should be the phone number and email address of the specific*	

contact focal point, not a generic email address or switchboard number.)		
Total number of staff		
Core business	*e.g. Environment, research, social sciences, finance*	
Sector*		
Area(s) of Specialisation*		
Legal status	Not-for-profit entity ☐ **OR** Governmental entity ☐ (Applicants to provide evidence of legal status and capacity to contract; i.e. registration document, certificate of incorporation, governing bylaws/constitution, entity organigram, most recent annual report, recent audited financial statements – see also, Section D below)	
Registration number and date *(if available)*		(date)
UNEP Supplementary Partner Declaration	Applicants must return the attached UNEP Supplementary Partner Declaration (Template 11) *UNEP Statement on* Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Sexual harassment (PSEAH) for UN Implementing partners *and* UNEP PSEAH policies.	
C. Applicant's Institutional Arrangements related to Project Proposal		
Previous/past experience (please provide a short list of relevant projects and publications, reports and evaluations from past projects etc. as per criteria indicated)	1. Does the organisation have experience and a positive track record managing or engaged with similar sized projects? 2. Does the organisation have the technical capacity to carry out the intervention? If the existing programmatic and financial management capacities (staffing, systems, etc) are not adequate to meet the additional requirements of the project, can the organisation strengthen the capacities within a reasonable timeframe so that the project is not significantly delayed? (i.e. can it recruit staff and/or implement a suitable system promptly?) 3. Has a satisfactory UN or donor reference been received for the organisation?	
Local expertise (please describe your access to the region, including specifically local expertise as per the criteria indicated)	1. Does the organisation have access to stakeholders/networks/beneficiaries/coordinating bodies, as relevant, in the geographic areas covered by the project? 2. Does the organisation have a management team that actively monitors operations in-country to ensure organizational standards in programme and financial management are adhered to?	

Administrative capacity (as per the criteria indicated, describe ability to procure goods and services, recruit staff on a transparent basis, maintain and manage equipment etc.)	1. Please provide your organisation's procurement policies and procedures, and identify provisions related to: a. segregation of duties b. processes for sourcing/prequalification of suppliers c. broadcasting procurement opportunities promoting broad participation from potential bidders d. sustainability in procurement practices e. asset/equipment management Applicants should note that depending on the value of procurement awards involved in a partnership, a desk-based or in-country assessment of procurement may be carried out by UNEP with a resulting monitoring and assurance plan. 2. Please provide your organisation's Human Resources manual, and identify provisions related to fair and transparent recruitment practices
Financial capacity (as per the criteria indicated, describe ability to produce project budgets, receive cash, disburse funds, record financial transactions, issue financial reports, etc.)	1. Is the Organisation financially healthy based on its most recent audited financial statements? (e.g. assets exceed liabilities, accumulated surpluses exist, cash and investments exceed current liabilities, audit report does not raise significant issues, etc) 2. The organisation is regularly audited and audits have not shown major accountability issues in the past three years which were not satisfactorily addressed by organisation? 3. Can the organisation easily receive and transfer funds? 4. Does the organisation have a defined and documented internal control framework? 5. The organisation has an established accounting manual sufficient to ensure control of assets and proper use of agency funds? 6. The finance system of the organisation has provision to keep separate ledger accounts for funds earmarked to specific projects? 7. The organisation has a bank deposit procedure for checks and balances? What is the frequency for preparation of bank reconciliation statements? 8. Does the organisation have an accounting system that allows for proper recording of financial transactions from United Nations

	agencies, including allocation of expenditures in accordance with the respective components, disbursement categories and sources of funds? 9. Does the organisation have an appropriate cost allocation methodology that ensures accurate cost allocations to the various funding sources in accordance with established agreements? 10. Are budgets prepared for all activities in sufficient detail to provide a meaningful tool for monitoring subsequent performance? 11. Are actual expenditures compared to the budget with reasonable frequency? Are explanations required for significant variations from the budget? 12. Does the organisation have established financial reporting procedures that specify what reports are to be prepared, the source system for key reports, the frequency of preparation, what they are to contain and how they are to be used? 13. Do invoice processing procedures provide for: a. Copies of purchase orders and receiving reports to be obtained directly from issuing departments? b. Comparison of invoice quantities, prices and terms with those indicated on the purchase order and with records of goods/services actually received? c. Checking the accuracy of calculations? 14. Do controls exist for preparation and approval of payroll expenditures? Are payroll changes properly authorized? 15. Does the organisation require dual signatories / authorization for bank transactions? Are new signatories approved at an appropriate level and timely updates made when signatories depart? 16. Are bank balances and cash ledger reconciled monthly and properly approved? Are explanations provided for significant, unusual and aged reconciling items? 17. Are all accounting and supporting documents retained in an organized system that allows authorized users easy access? 18. If some activities will be implemented by others, such as CSOs, NGOs or other entities, the organisation has the necessary reporting and monitoring mechanisms to track the use of funds? 19. The organizational structure of the accounting/finance department has appropriate capacity for the level of financial volume? 20. Are budgets prepared for all activities in sufficient detail to provide a meaningful tool for monitoring subsequent performance?

Governance/Institutional capacity (as per the criteria indicated, describe ability to plan, monitor and coordinate activities; fraud policy, code of conduct, managerial structure)	1. Does the organization have a structure of governance (eg board of trustees or equivalent) with clearly defined roles and responsibilities? 2. Does the organization have a defined managerial structure in place reflected in an organizational chart? 3. Does the organization have Code of Conduct document (signed by an authorized official of the organization), or any other policy document on ethical behaviour? 4. Does the organization have a policy and training program on prevention of and response to Sexual Exploitation (SH) and Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA)? 5. Does the organization have a policy on: a. anti-fraud and corruption; b. money laundering; c. terrorist financing; d. whistle-blowing; and e. conflict of interest? 6. The organisation has in place publicly available policies regarding their efforts to up hold human rights principles of accountability and rule of law, participation and inclusion, and equality and non-discrimination, noting that prohibited grounds of discrimination include race, colour, ethnicity, sex, age, language, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, political or other opinion, national or social or geographic origin, property, birth or other status including as an indigenous person or as a member of a minority? 7. Does the organization regularly monitor projects and use them to inform programme management and design?
D. Proposed Project Methodology and Deliverables – Applicant capacity	
Strategic Relevance – Methodology (up to 600 words/component) Below template can be used for this section (Optional) *As per the criteria indicated, please provide details on the intended methodology or*	1. Does the organisation have the mandate to cover the purpose of the proposed activities? 2. Does the organisation have an environmental or sustainability policy reflecting UNEP values? 3. Please describe your methodology from both a science-policy perspective and a practical implementation standpoint for on-the-ground delivery of each component in Ukraine.

approach to be used in this project,	4. How will the methodology be adapted to respond to challenges such as security risks, access to contaminated sites, and local regulatory frameworks?
Estimated budget	*Please provide a detailed estimated budget for this project, specifying the allocation for each component separately.*

Documents to share:

1. **Completed Application Template**
2. Certificate of Incorporation *
3. Partner governing bylaws or constitution *
4. Annual reports, list of previous relevant projects and publications, reports and evaluations from past projects etc.
5. **Most recent audited financial statements**
6. Procurement policies and procedures *
7. Human Resources Manual *
8. Policy and training program on prevention of and SH and SEA*
9. Code of Conduct *
10. Accounting/Finance Manual *
11. **Budget**
12. Environmental or Sustainability Policy *
13. Policy on*:
    a. anti-fraud and corruption;
    b. money laundering;
    c. terrorist financing;
    d. whistle-blowing; and
    e. conflict of interest
14. Additional relevant policies/procedure/manuals/codes which respond to criteria in sections above
15. **UNEP Full Partner Declaration**
16. Entity's overall organigramme *
17. CVs of project team members
18. M&E Manual *
19. Past audits and evidence of addressing recommendations *
20. Refences from UN/Past donors*

*If your organized has already provided these documents on the UN or UNEP Partner Portal, and it is verified, no need to add them to the application.

Template for Methodology (Optional):

A. Methodology	
Context Analysis	*Describe and provide an analysis of the problem conditions which the project aims to influence positively*
Transfers and Grants to Sub-grantees	*If applicable, provide information for sub-grants and justification for selection.*
Monitoring Plan	*Describe the process by which progress will be measured, monitored and reported; by whom, using which tools and communication mechanisms, and how frequently.*
Evaluation Plan	*If applicable, describe the proposed evaluation plan upon project conclusion.*
Sustainability	*If applicable, describe how the project will be sustained after the grant has ended. What measures will be put in place to ensure sustainability?*
Environmental Impact	*If applicable, explain how the environment will be impacted with the implementation of the project.*
Project Staffing	*Describe the roles and responsibilities of the staff involved in the project*
B. Project Budget	
Currency	***USD***
Amount Requested from UN	Enter a value
IP/EB Contribution Amount (If applicable)	Enter a value
Total Cost of the Proposal	If total cost of the proposal is different from the 'Amount Requested from Entity", please provide evidence of the secured additional funding.

Co-Funding	Describe the arrangement for co-funding. Provide the names of the other organizations, their contribution and a justification for the selection of the Partners Include the roles of the Partners and attach relevant documents and commitment letters

Template 11: Not-for-Profit Full Partner Declaration

Partner Declaration

[*Full name of the organisation*], a [*insert legal status of the organisation – i.e. not-for-profit*] organization ("the Organization") represented by its [*insert title of authorised signatory*], a duly authorised representative of the Organisation, having its office at [*insert full address*] represents and declares the following:

		Yes	No
1.	The Organization is committed to the core values of the UN and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and it is not involved, nor has been involved in the past, with such activities that would render the Organization unsuitable for dealing with UN agencies.	☐	☐
2.	The Organization abides by the Principles of Partnership as endorsed by the Global Humanitarian Platform in July 2007. The Principles of Partnership are: a) Equality b) Transparency c) Result-orientated approach d) Responsibility e) Complementarity.	☐	☐
3.	The Organization will not discriminate against any person or group on the basis of race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, disability, birth, age or other status.	☐	☐
4.	The Organization shall ensure that all its employees, personnel and sub-contractors comply with the standards of conduct listed in Section 3 of the UN Secretary-General's Bulletin on Special Measures for Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse.	☐	☐
5.	The Organization and its Management[1] are not included on the Consolidated United Nations Security Council Sanctions List, and the Organization and its Management have not supported and do not support, directly or indirectly, individuals and entities sanctioned by the Security Council or otherwise engaged in activities prohibited by a Security Council resolution adopted under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations.	☐	☐
6.	The Organization and its Management have not been charged with, been complicit in, or found guilty pursuant to a judgment or an administrative decision related to fraud, financial and non-financial corrupt activities, including money laundering, terrorist financing and crimes against humanity and war crimes, conduct related to a criminal organization, terrorist offences or offences linked to terrorist activities, child labour or other offences concerning trafficking in human beings and are not involved, nor have been involved in	☐	☐

[1] "Management" means any person having powers of representation, decision-making or control over the Organization or any member of its administrative, management or supervisory body.

	the past, with such activities that are incompatible with the UN mandate and values and that would render the Organization unsuitable for dealing with UN agencies.		
7.	The Organization and its Management are not: bankrupt, subject to insolvency or winding-up procedures, subject to the administration of assets by a liquidator or a court, in an arrangement with creditors, subject to a legal suspension of business activities, or in any analogous situation arising from a similar procedure provided for under applicable national law.	☐	☐
8.	The Organization and its Management have not been the subject of a final judgment or a final administrative decision finding them in breach of their obligations relating to the payment of taxes or social security contributions.	☐	☐
9.	The information provided in the Partner Declaration above is accurate to the best of the Organization's knowledge, and any misrepresentations, falsifications, or material omissions in the Partner Declaration, whenever discovered, may result in disqualification or termination of partnership with UNEP. At any point, if the Organization becomes aware of any situation which may alter its responses to the Partner Declaration above, as pertains to itself or its Management, it shall immediately inform UNEP.	☐	☐

In case of any past activity or advocacy which meets any of the criteria set out above, [*insert full name of organisation*] declares the following:

[*organisation to outline any past activity or advocacy which meets any of the criteria] (OPTIONAL)*

For: [*insert full legal name of organisation*]

Name:_____
Title: _____

Date:_____