



Victim assistance in the context of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention

Lessons Learnt in Assisting the Victims in the Context of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention

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Key Lessons Learnt

- ❑ **Victim Assistance framework is relevant for victims of all types of weapons and other traumatic injuries**





Victim assistance: Understanding the broader context

Victim assistance in the context of disability:

- “...the call to assist landmine victims should not lead to victim assistance efforts being undertaken in such a manner as to exclude any person injured or disabled in another manner”



Victim assistance: Understanding the broader context

Victim assistance in the context of broader healthcare, social services, rehabilitation, reintegration, human rights efforts:

- Victim assistance “calls for ensuring that existing healthcare and social service systems, rehabilitation programmes and legislative and policy frameworks are adequate to meet the needs of all citizens – including landmine victims”





Victim assistance: Understanding the broader context

- ❑ **Victim assistance should be viewed as a part of a country's overall public health and social services systems and human rights frameworks**



Victim assistance: Understanding the broader context

Victim assistance in the context of broader of development:

- ❑ **...providing adequate assistance to landmine survivors must be seen in a broader context of development and underdevelopment....**





Challenges

- ❑ **A need to ensure involvement of relevant experts**
- ❑ **Low level of involvement of survivors and other persons with disabilities**
- ❑ **Lack of capacity and resources in some States**
- ❑ **Limited collaboration between ministries and other actors**
- ❑ **Potential for inefficient and ineffective use of resources and duplication of services**



Challenges

- ❑ **Existing services not meeting needs**
- ❑ **Lack of accessibility to services**
- ❑ **Lack of awareness of services**
- ❑ **Sustainability of services**
- ❑ **Absence of holistic approach**
- ❑ **Disability not seen as priority by policy makers**
- ❑ **Poverty and lack of development**
- ❑ **Lack of inclusion of persons with disabilities**
- ❑ **Lack of rights based approach**





Key Lessons Learnt

- ❑ Victim assistance must be seen as concrete set of actions
- ❑ Victim assistance must be seen as State responsibility
- ❑ Victim assistance must be understood in its broader contexts
- ❑ Victim assistance should be undertaken in the context of existing domains
- ❑ An inter-ministerial process is essential



Challenge

- ❑ Provide the environment and opportunities that will enable mine survivors and other people with disabilities to reach their full potential to contribute to their communities and realize their dreams





Thank you!

