STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR VICTIM ASSISTANCE - PRELIMINARY RESULTS

PURPOSE OF THE SF

• Methodology how to address the support to persons victims of landmines as integrated part of assistance to all persons victims of violence and trauma and persons with disabilities.

• Seven Principles of the “Maputo Strategy”

Applicable In All Regions

• The integrated comprehensive approach has been confirmed in all situations and regions, independently of being in war, in a post conflict or long-term development stage.

• The best moment to address seems to be the period just after a conflict, when much attention is paid to the question of victim assistance and new approaches can be more easily introduced.
**Relationship Government – NGO’s has to promoted actively**

- The collaboration and partnership between Government and NGO’s can not been taken for granted.
- Reasons: power control, financial expectations, diverging positions, unclear understanding of the roles of the different actors.
- IO’s are being perceived differently

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**Beyond the Mine Action Centre**

- Victim Assistance takes place outside the Mine Action Centre’s

- Instead of having a positive attitude towards Victim Assistance, Mine Action Centre’s have often been a barrier - for instance - in the information chain

- Mine Action Centre’s have no mandate for Victim Assistance

- Disabled organisations, NGO’s, IO’s and Government have no intention to involve MAC’s in Victim Assistance except for information sharing and advocacy (UNMAS)
Two Track Strategy

- Involvement of Government (political and capacity reasons) and NGO’s is different in different countries.

- Therefore a TWO TRACK strategy must be applied, allowing different support mechanisms to be oriented more towards NGO’s or Governments, depending on the country situation.

Implementation Partnership

- Coordination of organisations implies additional activities and requires additional technical and financial means for this coordination provided by all, the donors, the involved organisations and the Governments.

- Coordinated approaches are needed between the different actors but still most of the countries follow an individual project approach without long-term perspectives.
**Long Term Process Orientation**

- The signing of the Mine Ban Treaty does not automatically imply an improvement for the individuals, as victims of mines.

- Support at legal level and for concrete projects is needed and has to be planned in a long-term perspective also because of the complexity of the issue (prevention-reintegration, involvement of various partners).

- Process orientation is more important than short-term results. (Ownership)

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**Country Priorities First**

- Victim Assistance strategies have to be defined in accordance to country priorities, where health (AIDS, accidents, polio, epidemic infectious diseases), violence or other issues are being included and may be more important than assistance to victims of mines.

- It’s of utmost importance to clarify explicitly at the beginning which categories should be addressed in the country strategy.
THE 7 PRINCIPLES

of the Strategic Framework for Victim Assistance

- The Non-Discrimination of Victims
- An Integrated and Comprehensive Approach (assistance chain)
- The Co-participation and inter-sectoral coordination
- The National Ownership and Institutional Support
- Transparency and Efficiency (Working Methodology the Matrix)
- A sustainable Development Approach
- Victim Empowerment and Rights