



INTERNATIONAL TRUST FUND FOR DEMINING
AND MINE VICTIMS ASSISTANCE (ITF)

Experience with Mine Survivors Assistance in South Eastern Europe

*Iztok Hočevar,
Advisor for International Relations*



CONTENTS:

1. OVERVIEW OF SITUATION

2. ITF APPROACH TO MINE VICTIMS ASSISTANCE IN SOUTH EAST EUROPE (SEE)

3. CASE STUDIES

- ▶ Institute for Rehabilitation of the Republic of Slovenia
- ▶ Landmine Survivors Network program in Bosnia and Herzegovina

4. LESSONS LEARNED



1. OVERVIEW OF SITUATION

- Presence of mine and UXO threat after the conflicts
- First Review Conference in Nairobi, 2004, identified Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Serbia and Montenegro as four of 24 States Parties with **significant numbers of mine survivors** and “the greatest responsibility to act, but also the greatest needs and expectations for assistance”
- Close to **8.000 mine victims** (20-30% death rate)



2. ITF APPROACH TO MINE VICTIMS ASSISTANCE IN SEE

Goal:

To provide landmine survivors with quality health services and sustainable physical and psycho-social rehabilitation, as well as economic reintegration. (ITF Strategy 2006-2009)

ITF aims to reach 15 percent of all expenditure to be earmarked for Mine Victims Assistance programs and projects. (6,2% in year 2006)



2.1 DEFINE NEEDS AND PRIORITIES

2.2 HOSPITAL CARE AND PREHOSPITAL CARE

2.3 REHABILITATION TREATMENT

- Following **two folded approach** (Question of the right capacities?):
 - ▶ **Rehabilitation treatment at the Institute for Rehabilitation of the Republic of Slovenia** (800 mine survivors rehabilitated; most severe and difficult cases)
 - ▶ **Rehabilitation treatment in mine affected countries** (127 mine survivors rehabilitated; leaving to national authorities)

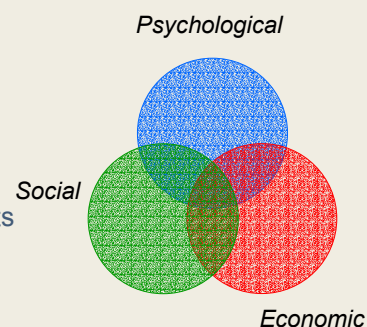


2.4 PSYCHO-SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC INTEGRATION

ITF motto:

***"Dignity and ordinary life...
integrate into society."***

- Through ITF supported projects and programs often include more components of integration process





3. CASE STUDIES

3.1 Republic of Slovenia Institute for Rehabilitation (IRRS)

- **Center for Mine Victims Rehabilitation** established at the IRRS in May 1998 (special department with 21 bed)
- **800 mine survivors rehabilitated since 1998**
- Program of **integral rehabilitation**
- IRRS besides rehabilitation treatment carries out **educational and research activities**



3.2 Landmine Survivors Network program in Bosnia and Herzegovina

- LSN motto:
"We help landmine victims get legs, get jobs and get on with their lives"
- Since 2001 in Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Components of the program:
 - ▶ Health
 - ▶ Economic Opportunity
 - ▶ Human Rights
- Peer support approach
- Over 500 mine survivors included each year



Paul Jeffrey



4. LESSONS LEARNED

- **Integrated approach** to meet all mine survivors needs
- Need for **coordination and harmonization of efforts between stakeholders** on country and regional level
- **Complementary role** of NGOs and state institutions
- Mine survivor assistance **long-term challenge**
- From **experience** in mine survivor assistance all people with disabilities can benefit



**Thank you
for your attention!**

