

# Victim Assistance in the context of Mines and Explosive Remnants of War

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# A Comprehensive Approach to Mine Action

Handicap International's originality and strength is to propose a comprehensive approach which tackles the problem in its entirety by integrating the four main pillars of the anti-landmine campaign:

- ☐ Survey and clearing the land of explosive remnants of war
- ☐ Educating at-risk populations
- ☐ Engaging in international advocacy to end the use of explosive weapons
- ☐ Providing victim assistance

# **Humanity & Inclusion:**

## **A long history in victim assistance**

- ▶ French doctors in 1982 in Thai Cambodian refugee camps
- ▶ More than three decades of comprehensive work to prevent injuries and impairment and to support inclusion of most vulnerable
- ▶ Working in situations of poverty and exclusion, conflict and disaster
- ▶ Co-founder ICBL in 1992 – Nobel Peace Prize 1997
- ▶ Working on four of the five pillars of mine action
- ▶ Bearing witness and taking action to respond to their essential needs and improve quality of life

**Final goal is to improve quality of life**



WORLDWIDE  
PRESENCE IN 2016  
337 PROJECTS  
IN 56 COUNTRIES

**HANDICAP  
INTERNATIONAL**

- Emergency response
- Mine action
- Disability rights and policy
- Inclusion
- Rehabilitation
- Prevention and health
- Logistic platforms

**Handicap International network**  
Germany, Belgium, Canada,  
United States, France, Luxembourg,  
United Kingdom, Switzerland.

- Countries where activities were started in 2016: Ecuador
- Countries where activities closed down in 2016: Cape Verde, Tanzania, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Ecuador.

The borders and country names shown in this map do not imply an opinion by Handicap International as to the status of these territories.

**Central and South America**

- 01 / Bolivia
- 02 / Colombia
- 03 / Cuba
- 04 / Ecuador
- 05 / Haiti
- 06 / Nicaragua

**Europe**

- 07 / Germany
- 08 / France
- 09 / Ukraine

**North Africa**

- 10 / Algeria
- 11 / Libya
- 12 / Morocco
- 13 / Tunisia

**West Africa**

- 14 / Benin
- 15 / Burkina Faso
- 16 / Guinea-Bissau
- 17 / Liberia
- 18 / Mali
- 19 / Niger
- 20 / Senegal
- 21 / Sierra Leone
- 22 / Togo

**Indian Ocean**

- 23 / Madagascar

**Middle-East**

- 24 / Egypt
- 25 / Iraq (incl. Iraqi Kurdistan)
- 26 / Jordan
- 27 / Lebanon
- 28 / Syria
- 29 / Palestine
- 30 / Yemen

**Southern, Central and East Africa**

- 31 / Burundi
- 32 / Ethiopia
- 33 / Kenya
- 34 / Mozambique
- 35 / Democratic Republic of the Congo
- 36 / Central African Republic
- 37 / Rwanda
- 38 / Somalia (incl. Somaliland and Puntland)
- 39 / Republic of South Sudan
- 40 / Chad

**Central and East Asia**

- 41 / China
- 42 / Democratic People's Republic of Korea

**South Asia**

- 43 / Afghanistan
- 44 / Bangladesh
- 45 / India
- 46 / Nepal
- 47 / Pakistan
- 48 / Sri Lanka

**Southeast Asia**

- 49 / Cambodia
- 50 / Indonesia
- 51 / Laos
- 52 / Myanmar (Burma)
- 53 / Philippines
- 54 / Thailand
- 55 / East Timor
- 56 / Vietnam

# Victim assistance & the CRPD: one and the same, or not?

- VA is obligation as part of International Humanitarian Law – which?
- Which year was this treaty ratified in Uganda? And the CRPD?
- What is the aim of VA?
- VA part of broader sectors – which ones?
- VA obligation under APMBC – requirements & opportunities in addition to CRPD. Which?

# How can affected states realize the victim assistance obligations?

- ❑ States ensure broader support for victim assistance across sectors
- ❑ Government bodies in charge of coordinating victim assistance undertake specific efforts to:
  - a) fill gaps in data collection, service provision, policy & legislation
  - b) advocate for, facilitate, and monitor a multi-sector response

# Examples of specific VA efforts by affected states

## a) Filling gaps in data collection & service provision

- **Colombia, Cambodia Laos PDR:** casualty data collection
- **Cambodia:** Self help groups and Disability Forum

## b) Facilitate broader government response

- **Afghanistan:** Building capacity of the government to address the rights of survivors in the broader context of disability
- **Cambodia:** Using casualty data to strengthen emergency case management
- **Uganda, Afghanistan, Algeria, Chad, Mozambique, Tajikistan:** national action plan on VA
- **Libya:** raising awareness of MoH and MoE of their role in ensuring medical care and inclusive education during VA seminar
- **Mozambique:** Advocacy for the availability and accessibility of affordable micro-finance services for survivors and other persons with disabilities to build livelihoods..



# Examples of integrating VA into broader efforts in affected states

## ➤ **Cambodia**

- Additional Sustainable Development Goal specific to mine action and victim assistance
- Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation provides a package of emergency relief to vulnerable people and victims of disasters.

## ➤ **Lao PDR:** national census includes category of mine/ERW survivors

## ➤ **Thailand:** Emergency Medical System

## ➤ **Uganda:** efforts to roll out community – based rehabilitation services country – wide

# **Different actors – different roles on VA**

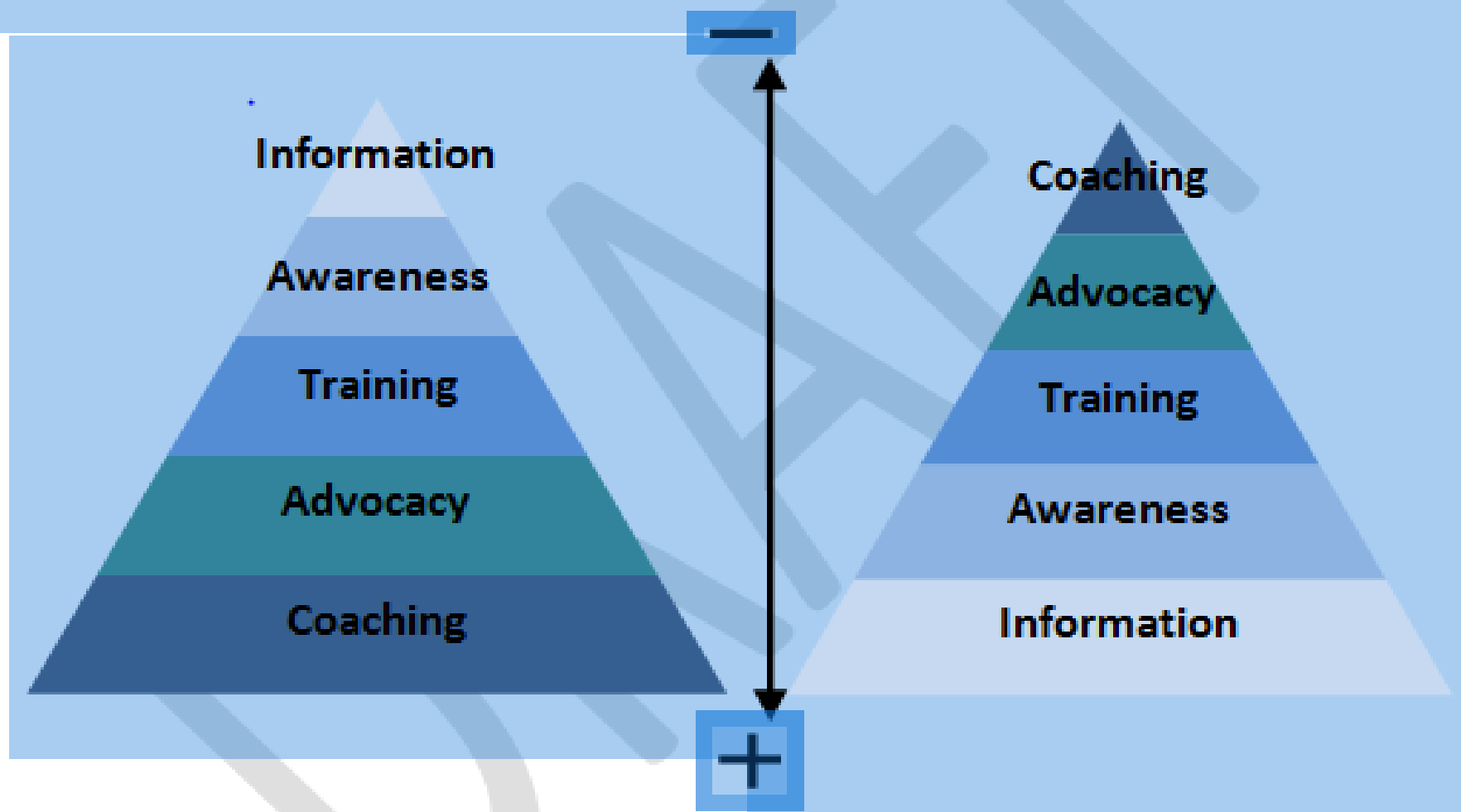
## **Who is responsible for what?**

1. Collection of data on survivors and other PWD
2. Provision of emergency medical care
3. Provision of rehabilitation and P & O
4. Coordination & national action planning
5. Ensuring education is inclusive of children with disabilities
6. Article 7 reporting on victim assistance
7. Enforcement of 2010 Accessibility Standards
8. Enforcement of the Persons with Disabilities Act

# AIATAC

Impact in sustainable change of practice and policies

Number of stakeholders you can reach





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