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VICTIM ASSISTANCE &REHABILITATION SERVICES

IN CONFLICT AREAS

WHO ARE THE VICTIMS?

The understanding is that landmine victims are 'those who either individually or collectively have suffered physical or psychological injury, economic loss or substantial impairment of their fundamental rights through acts or omissions related to mine utilization.

This broad approach implies that while a victim may be a woman, girl, boy or man directly impacted by mines or other explosive remnants of war, a victim could also be an affected family member, family or community.

Integration of VA and rehabilitation into humanitarian response

CONTEXT 0F VA

▶ Data to understand challenges faced

▶ First aid and Medical care

▶ Timely Rehabilitation

▶ Psycho- social and peer support

▶ Social – economic inclusion

▶ Laws and policies & ID and referral!

BROADER SECTORS AND POLICY AREAS

▶ DATA COLLECTION

▶ HEALTH SERVICES SECTOR

▶ EDUCATION,WORK/EMPLOYEMENT, SOCIAL INCLUSION AND PROTECTION

▶ LEGISLATION AND POLICY

HOW CAN WE ACHIEVE THIS IN AREAS OF CONFLICT?

▶ DATA COLLECTION

Ensure that all injuries and victims as a result of Land mines and cluster ammunitions are appropriately recorded (LMM2022 Has illustrated in data presentation in conflict and heavily contaminated areas)

FIRST AID AND MEDICAL CARE

Ensure that we have we have skilled first responders and equip deminers with first aid skills as this can be life saving.

TIMELY HOLISTIC REHABILITATION.

Timely, as in when the victim is first received in the health facility, with emphasis put on MHPSS, because this can fast track the comprehensive recovery of the survivor.

LAWS,POLICIES SOCIAL – ECONOMIC INCLUSION.

Ensure that legislation and policy, inclusive with emphasis on provision of equal opportunities in Education, work/employement, social inclusion and social protection

WHAT CAN WE DO TO ACHIEVE THIS CRUCIAL PILLAR OF MINE ACTION?

State parties and the international donor community.

There is need for STATES PARTIES AND THE INTERNATIONAL DONOR community to RE-COMMIT and fund Victim assistance to ensure that the cycle of survivors suffering and leaving a legacy of inadequacy is put to an end.

According to the landmine monitor 2022, in 2021, health care and rehabilitation activities remained underfunded and faced increasing and numerous challenges in many countries with citations of inaccessibility, coordination, expertise, and supply of materials.

International support for victim assistance reached its lowest level recorded since 2016 and in 2021 , 27 states parties with significant numbers of survivors did not receive any direct victim assistance funding. (With Uganda Having last received direct VA support in 2012.)

NATIONAL PERSPECTIVE

There is need to involve survivors and national survivors organization in the aspect or rehabilitation, most especially MHPSS.

This can be achieved by providing special training and equipping them with counselling skills and training survivors in prosthetics and orthotics technology. This in turn provides a sense of importance to the survivors and gives them a purpose and source of income.
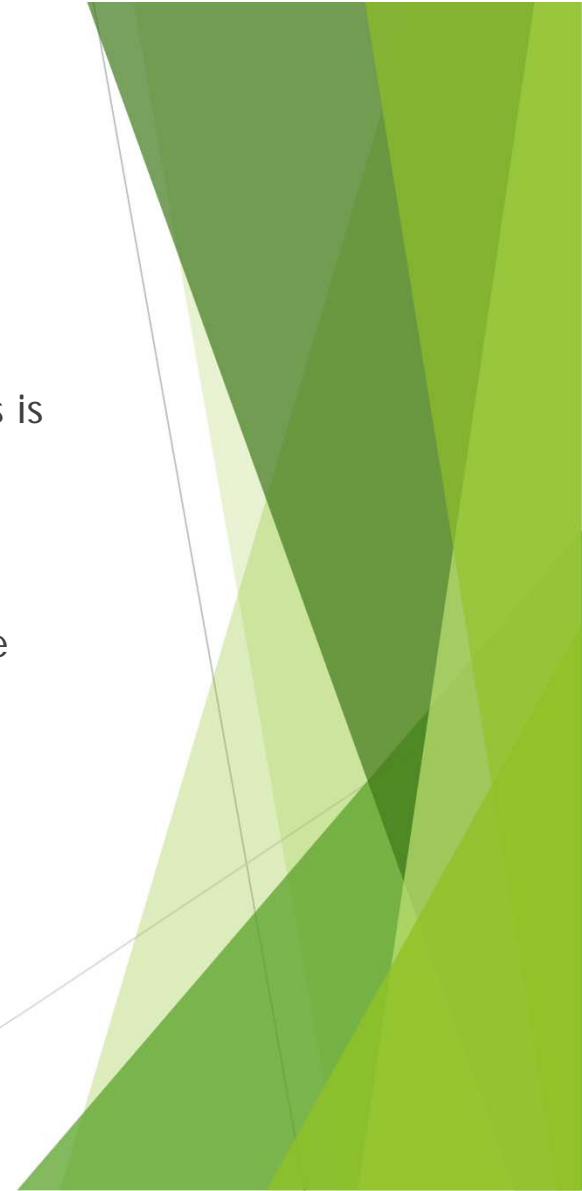
Integration of survivors in national health services policies to ensure that there is sustainable rehabilitation services to survivors and other persons living with disabilities.

Gender and diversity consideration

Ensuring that the context of cultural societal beliefs with in the conflict areas is put into consideration as we plan for VA and rehabilitation integration into humanitarian response.

For example there is need to train female prosthetists to ensure that everyone has a choice and comfort in the process of receiving rehabilitations services.

25 years of mine ban treaty, with clear progress, so please, don't relent, re-comit resources and remember the survivors & victims and their needs and together we shall reach the finish line of the fight against the use land mines and cluster munitions.

THNK YOU FOR LISTENING