

PRELIMINARY MID-TERM ASSESMENT

CAMBODIA

STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION – VICTIM ASSISTANCE

COMMITTEE ON VICTIM ASSISTANCE

(Algeria, Ecuador, Italy and Uganda)

Intersessional Meetings

20-22 June 2022

1. The Committee welcomes the submission by Cambodia of updated information on its victim assistance activities.
2. Based on the information provided, the Committee presents the following preliminary observations.

Mine casualties

3. Cambodia reported 44 casualties in 2021, of which 11 persons were killed and 24 persons have survived, showing a decrease in comparison to 65 casualties Cambodia reported last year. Cambodia also reported that all casualties but one, were male, including 11 children (boys).
4. The Committee welcomes Cambodia to provide information on indirect victims, such as family members affected by mines.

VICTIM ASSISTANCE ACTIONS:

Strengthen partnerships and integrate victim assistance into broader national policies, plans and legal frameworks and designation of a government entity to oversee the integration (Actions #1, #6 and #33)

5. Cambodia reported that the Cambodian Mine Action and Victim assistance Authority (CMAA) as an entity responsible for victim assistance continued working in collaboration and coordination with country's disability line ministry, the Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation (MOSAVY) and Disability Action Council (DAC) among other ministries and stakeholders, to ensure assistance to mine victims, in accordance with the Cambodia's Law on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
6. The Committee welcomes Cambodia making progress in integrating victim assistance into several national laws, policies and plans, with a focus on embedding the rights and needs of mine survivors into disability related frameworks.

Develop and implement measurable, realistic and time-bound national action plan (Actions #2 and #33)

7. Cambodia reported that victim assistance is included in the National Disability Strategy Plan 2019-2023, the National Mine Action Strategy 2018-2025 and that in 2021, an Implementation Plan was developed for the period of 2021 – 2023 with clear objectives, indicators, gender sensitive to ensure adequate assistance will be provided to mine/ERW survivors and indirect victims.

Removing barriers including physical, social, cultural, political, attitudinal and communication barriers to access such services (Action #33)

8. The Committee noted that Cambodia had not reported on implementation of one aspect of the Action #33 and would welcome information on efforts made to lift physical, social, cultural, political, attitudinal and communication barriers to enhance participation and inclusion of mine victims in relevant programmes and policies.

Applying multi-sectoral efforts to ensure that the needs and rights of mine victims are effectively addressed in line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Action #34)

9. Cambodia reported on alignment of victim assistance with national frameworks such as the National Law on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and the National Disability 2019-2023, as well as the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).
10. Cambodia reported applying a multi-sectoral approach by engaging various ministries and other national stakeholders through a technical working group and annual national dialogues on victim assistance.

Establish or strengthen of a centralised database / national information management system (Actions #9 and #35)

11. Cambodia reported that it has a data collection system in place with capacity to disaggregate the data by gender age, types of injuries. Cambodia reported that mine victims data have been shared with relevant national stakeholders.
12. Cambodia reported providing training to 105 chiefs of communes and villages to engage them in data collection efforts.
13. Cambodia reported the “Quality of Life Survey” that had begun several years ago continued to reach out to different parts of the country to identify mine victims. In 2021 through 25 volunteer survivor networks, 2,280 persons with disabilities, including 565 landmine/ERW survivors, were interviewed in 140 villages, 30 Communes, 23 Districts in 3 provinces. Cambodia reported that the survey’s findings show most of the people interviewed have had received services.
14. The Committee encourages Cambodia to integrate casualty data into a centralised database, such as disability database or national injury surveillance system with capacity to maintain, analyse and make the data available for wider policy developments and programmes.

Access to first aid and ongoing emergency medical care (Action #36)

15. Cambodia reported that 14,716 persons with disabilities, including mine/ERW survivors have received healthcare services including surgery and physiotherapy in 2021.
16. The Committee welcomes information on progress made in providing first aid and other forms of pre-hospital assistance to assist new casualties.

Developing national referral mechanism (Action #37)

17. Cambodia reported that through community-based rehabilitation and 518 self-help groups in 25 provinces, 7,876 persons with disabilities have received different kinds of assistance and benefited from referrals to services.

18. The Committee would welcome information on the existence or progress achieved in developing a national referral mechanism and directory of services, to ensure access to services.

Access to rehabilitation services including physiotherapy, assistive devices and occupational therapy (Action #38)

19. Cambodia reported that 14,748 persons with disabilities including mine/ERW survivors were provided with physical rehabilitation services including provision or repairing of 15,367 prosthesis, orthosis, wheelchairs, tricycles and other types of assistive devices.

20. The Committee would welcome information on availability of or plans to make occupational therapy available to mine victims in Cambodia.

Access to psychological and psychosocial services including peer-to-peer support (Action #38)

21. The Committee would welcome updated information on Cambodia's efforts to ensure the availability of psychological and psychosocial support, including peer counselling in 2021.

Access to social and economic inclusion services, including in rural and remote areas (Action #39)

22. Cambodia reported on the provision of social and economic supports to persons with disabilities including mine survivors in 2021 as follows:

- **Education:** - 190 children with disabilities, including mine/ERW survivors were enrolled into primary school. 136 People with disabilities, including mine/ERW survivors provided with vocational trainings. And 34 persons with disabilities were provided with small business management training;
- **Social inclusion:** 389 persons participated in sports and other activities in the community through the CBR programs; and
- **Economic inclusion:** 35 persons benefited from grants provided by Physical Rehabilitation Centres.

Taking measure for safety and protection of mine survivors in situations of risks and emergencies (Action #40)

23. The Committee recalls that in 2021, Cambodia reported that the 2009 Law on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the National Disability Strategic Plan 2019-2023 address the needs of persons with disabilities including mine victims.

24. The Committee recalls that in 2021, Cambodia reported that emergency response and kits provided to 750 landmine/ERW survivors and persons with disabilities in most affected provinces to increase their safety during the COVID-19 pandemic. Cambodia also reported that a task force was established to facilitate persons with disabilities and landmine/ERW survivors' access to Covid-19 vaccines and the grants the Government had allocated to support vulnerable groups including persons with disabilities.

Strengthening inclusion and participation of mine victims and their representative organisations in all matters that affect them (Actions #4 and #41)

25. The Committee would welcome information on progress made in Cambodia in 2021 to enhance the inclusion and participation of mine victims and their representative organisations in relevant policy development and programmes.

CROSS-CUTTING ACTIONS:

Demonstrate high levels of national ownership, including [...] by making financial and other commitments to implementation (Action #1)

26. Cambodia reported allocating 75,000\$ annually to strengthen Victim assistance implementation mechanisms, such as survey, planning, data collection and provision of emergency assistance to new casualties.

Ensure that the different needs and perspectives of women, girls, boys and men are considered (Action #3)

27. Cambodia reported that gender and diversity have been considered throughout the mine action programmes including in the National Mine Action Strategy 2018-2025 which aims to address the needs of women, girls, boys and men through a range of activities such mine clearance, risk education, survey and victim assistance.

Challenges in implementation of Victim assistance Commitments (Action #8)

28. The Committee recalls that in 2021 Cambodia reported that while progress have been made, Cambodia faced challenges/shortcomings in providing assistance to mine victims in the following areas:

- Rehabilitation services have decreased due to reduced assistance provided by donors;
- Mobile services that reached out to landmine/ERW survivors the rural and remote areas have reduced;
- Lack of technical support staff to improve relevant legal frameworks; and
- Dissemination of the Law on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Policies, and other relevant Guidelines to sub-national level and landmine/ERW survivors were limited due to funding constrains;

29. The Committee would welcome information on steps taken by Cambodia to address the challenges reported in 2021, and information on how the international community including the Committee on Victim Assistance can assist Cambodia to fulfil its victim assistance commitments under the Convention and the OAP.

The Oslo Action Plan country reporting tracker
Victim Assistance
Cambodia

Actions	Indicators	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Additional information request by the Committee (deadline 9 August)
#33	# States Parties that have designated a government entity to coordinate victim assistance activities						
	# States Parties that have national action plans in place containing specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time-bound objectives and related indicators						The Committee would welcome a copy of the three years implementation plan Cambodia developed in 2021.
#34	# States Parties that report that they include mine victims in relevant national policy and support frameworks						
#35	# States Parties that include victims of anti-personnel mines in disability data systems						The Committee would welcome information on existence of national disability centralised database or efforts to develop one.
	# States Parties that disaggregate victim data by gender, age and disability						
#36	# States Parties reporting on efforts to ensure an efficient and effective emergency response to mine accidents						
#37	# States Parties that report having a national referral mechanism						The Committee welcome Cambodia to share information on availability of a national referral mechanism.
	# States Parties that report having a directory of services in place						The Committee would welcome information on development national directory of services.
#38	# States Parties reporting on efforts to increase the availability and accessibility of comprehensive rehabilitation services						
	# States Parties reporting on efforts to increase the availability of psychological and psychosocial support services						The Committee would welcome an update on progress made in this regard in 2021.
	# States Parties that have established peer-to-peer services within their national healthcare system						The Committee would welcome information on peer counselling and its integration into health systems.
#39	# States Parties reporting on efforts to remove barriers to the social and economic inclusion of mine victims						The Committee would welcome information on efforts made to remove barriers that hinder participation of mine victims.
#40	# States Parties that report integrating protection of mine survivors in their humanitarian response and preparedness plans						
#41	# States Parties that report that they include victim representatives or their organizations in victim assistance planning at the national and local level						The Committee welcomes Cambodia to report on enhancement of mine victims participation and inclusion in 2021.
CROSS-CUTTING ACTIONS							
#1	# States Parties that report, having included Convention implementation activities in national development plans, poverty reduction strategies, humanitarian response plans and national strategies for the inclusion of persons with disabilities, where appropriate						

	% mine-affected States Parties that report making national financial commitments to the implementation of their obligations under the Convention						
#3	# mine-affected States Parties that report having evidence-based, costed and time-bound national strategies and work plans in place						The Committee would welcome information on the three-implementation plan and efforts to ensure resources for its implementation.
	# women in States Parties' delegations attending Convention meetings						
#8	# States Parties that prepare their Article 7 reports using the Guide to Reporting						
	# States Parties that report on progress and challenges during formal and informal meetings						