



The Federal Democratic Republic of
Ethiopia
Ministry of Women and Social Affairs
(MoWSA)

Progress Report on Victim Assistance
/VA/ 2025



December /2025
Geneva



- The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia , through its Ministry of Women and Social Affairs (MoWSA) , is actively taking steps to protect its citizens despite facing a grave security challenge. This challenge is primarily driven by a vast and escalating contamination of **explosive remnants of war (ERW)**, resulting from both historical conflicts and the recent fighting across the Tigray, Afar, and Amhara regions. This ordnance poses an immediate threat to livelihoods, humanitarian access, and the safe return of displaced persons.
- In response to the substantial needs created by these conflicts and other forms of violence, the government is proactively strengthening its collaboration with local and international partners to offer holistic support to victims.

Victim Assistance Efforts in Ethiopia



- Victim assistance in Ethiopia is a **multifaceted and collaborative effort** built upon key pillars: **legal frameworks, specialized program implementation, and robust coordination mechanisms.**
- Despite persistent challenges, the Government of Ethiopia, in partnership with international organizations and local NGOs, is actively engaged in a series of critical initiatives to provide comprehensive aid to victims of conflict and explosive ordnance.
- These initiatives focus on the following core activities:
 1. **Developing and Updating Legal Frameworks:** Establishing the necessary legal basis for victim rights and support.
 2. **Data Collection:** Systematically gathering information to understand the scope of challenges and inform effective programming.
 3. **Physical Rehabilitation:** Providing specialized care, including **mobility aids** and **Prosthetics & Orthotics (P&O).**
 4. **Emergency and Continuing Medical Care:** Ensuring immediate and long-term health needs are met, including **Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS).**
 5. **Socio-economic Inclusion:** Facilitating independence through practical support like **Cash Support** and **vocational training** programs

1. Legal frameworks for Victim Assistance:

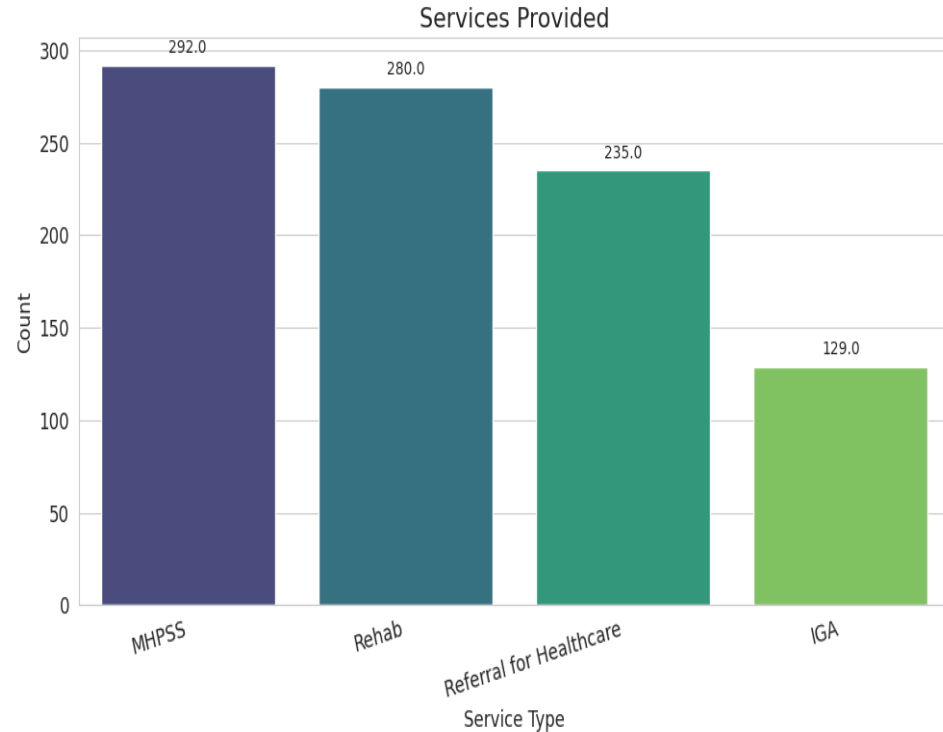


- ♿ Ethiopia signed the CRPD (Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities)
- ♿ National Disability Policy and Ethiopian Disability Act
- ♿ National Disability Action Plan (2026-2035):
- ♿ Community - Based Rehabilitation Strategy (CBR):
- ♿ National Disability Inclusion Coordination Forum. /NDICF/
- ♿ Proclamation 1263/2021 – It gives mandates for inclusions of persons with disabilities in all aspects.

2. Data collection: Understanding the challenges faced



- In 2025 total number of casualties registered were 1,672
- Out of these 936 individuals currently receiving assistance.
- MHPSS- 292
- REHAB- 280
- Health care- 235
- IGA - 129



3. Physical Rehabilitation including mobility aids and P&O



The year 2025
More than 280
victims
supported by
Mobility aids
and P & O
services



4. Economic Empowerment



- After receiving physical, rehabilitation, and external referral services, victims subsequently participated in economic empowerment activities.
- In 2025, economic activities supported more than 100 victims with a budget of 2.5 million Birr.



5. Victims were Supported with Livelihood Cash Assistance



The year 2025, Contributing to the sustainability of the survivors' economic empowerment initiatives and awareness creation has been done with

ETB 2,106,000.00



6. Community Engagement and Awareness:



- **Community Outreach and Anti - Stigma Initiatives** : MOWSA conducts joint programs with other stakeholders, utilizing community outreach and awareness -raising sessions to effectively address stigma against survivors .
- **Training and Capacity Building** : MOWSA provides training to community members and local actors to enhance their understanding of victim support protocols and referral mechanisms .
- **Community Dialogues and Forums** : Platforms are created to allow survivors to share their stories and experiences, thereby fostering understanding and empathy within the community .
- **Public Awareness Campaigns** : Various government media channels and community events are utilized to disseminate crucial information about violence prevention and available support services .
- **Formal Coordination Agreements (MoUs)**: MOWSA has signed Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with relevant government bodies and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to improve coordination in the identification, referral, and protection of victims requiring assistance .

7. Stakeholders in Victim Assistance Activities



- A comprehensive and effective response to the diverse needs of victims in Ethiopia necessitates collaboration among various providers, including :
- **Government Bodies** : Key ministries establish and manage services, with MoWSA overseeing coordination, the Ministry of Justice creating legal frameworks, the Ministry of Health providing medical care, and the Ministry of Skills offering training .
- **Domestic NGOs**: Local organizations, like ECDD (inclusive healthcare and economic empowerment), SRaRO (vocational training and peer support), and EPSS (public awareness campaigns), play vital roles .
- **Global Collaborators** : International organizations such as HI, OCA, ICRC, UNICEF, and UNHCR contribute to policy and service delivery ,
- **Grassroots Networks (CBOs)**: Community -Based Organizations, including OPDs and CCC, are crucial for local outreach, providing initial support, and raising awareness in collaboration with larger entities .

8. Challenges:



- Despite ongoing efforts, several significant challenges persist :
- **Lack of Comprehensive Data on Victim Assistance** : There is a scarcity of detailed statistics specifically categorized as "Victim Assistance" in Ethiopia .
- **Inconsistent Geographical Accessibility** : Services are not evenly distributed throughout the country, with rural and remote areas facing significant barriers to access .
- **Social Stigma** : Survivors often encounter considerable social stigma, which obstructs their ability to seek support and reintegrate into society .
- **Funding Constraints** : Limited financial resources can hinder the scale and sustainability of assistance programs .
- **Coordination Issues** : Although improvements have been made, there is still a pressing need for enhanced coordination among various stakeholders



- To conclude, Ethiopia offers its **profound gratitude** to all its partners—national and international, governmental and non-governmental—for their **invaluable collaboration, expertise, and sustained support**.
- Your partnership is **indispensable** as Ethiopia navigates this complex journey.
- We share a **collective responsibility** to continue working hand-in-hand to build a more inclusive, just, and compassionate society where all victims receive the **support and dignity** they rightfully deserve.



Thank you !