Victim Assistance in Sudan

Joint Situational Assessment

United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS)
National Mine Action Centre of Sudan (NMAC)
High Council of Persons with Disability (HCPD)
1. Victim Assistance in Mine Action

*Victim Assistance is one of the pillars of mine action*

Victim Assistance (VA) is a **state’s obligation** to ensure that **victims and/or survivors of explosive hazard accidents** receive appropriate assistance. Sustainable VA interventions require both short and long-term solutions with the final aim to improve the quality of life of the affected people.

**Victim Assistance Main Components**

- Data and Information Management
- Emergency and continuing Medical Care
- Rehabilitation
- Psychosocial and Psychological support
- Socio-economic Inclusion
- Laws and Policies - Advocacy
  - Integration of a response to the needs of victims in the development of legal and policy frameworks.

**Non-discrimination**: VA intervention must be provided on the basis of the needs and not on the cause of disability.
2. Assessment Methodology and Results

Assessing existing VA strengths and gaps: a 6 steps journey for 3 strategic outputs

1. Literature review and mapping of current interventions
2. Consultation of stakeholders at the national level
3. Joint assessment in South Kordofan, Blue Nile, South Darfur, Kassala
4. Mapping of available services and coordination mechanisms
5. Consultation with High Councils and Unions of Persons with Disabilities
6. Review of existing VA practices

Comprehensive Assessment Report

Strategic Framework for Institutionalizing Victim Assistance in Mine Action

Project Concept Note for Implementing the New Strategic Framework
3. Assessment Key Findings

The join assessment identified a total of 6 major findings attributable to the existing VA practice in Sudan

1. Data and knowledge about the extent of the issue
   - Information on survivors only found in the IMSMA database but it needs to be updated and completed
   - No data management within MoSD
   - No data generated by MoH
   - No data in humanitarian multi-sector needs assessments

2. Emergency and continuous medical care services
   - First responders are community members and volunteers of the SRCS
   - State/police/ military hospitals cooperate to handle most of emergency cases
   - Blood supply is available, but needs campaigns for donors
   - Early detection & referrals are very limited

3. Access to physical and functional rehabilitation
   - Range and quality of services vary according to availability and capacities of P&O technicians
   - Main barriers for persons with disabilities to access services:
     - Lack of information on referrals
     - Transportation costs
     - Lack of accommodation facilities

4. Access to psychological support
   - Some unions show experience in providing family counselling and peer-to-peer support
   - Mental Health Departments in state hospitals exist but with limited capacities
   - A few organisations provide counselling services for persons who have experienced traumatic situation

5. Social Inclusion
   - Access to education: low inclusion of persons with disabilities
   - Child protection: no clear pathways for child survivors
   - Access to social protection: mostly provided through foreign assistance and the Zakat
   - Access to livelihood development support: major livelihood & food security programmes target persons with disabilities (15-20%)

6. Gender Considerations
   - Women with disabilities face double discrimination
   - Women with disabilities are under-represented in some of the High Commission and in Unions.
   - Women with disabilities receive less support than men with disabilities
   - Displaced female headed household less supported in communities
4. Recommendations for improving Victim Assistance in Sudan

*Ensure immediate and sustainable long-term support that addresses the rights and the needs of EO victims*

**Shifting:**

- From a *specific* Victim Assistance approach to an *integrated* approach
- From project delivery to focusing on how to *best* manage impact and change
- From individualized to *personalized* approach

- Gender and Diversity Consideration
- Developing Operational Capacities

Reinforcing integration of VA in other Mine Action activities

Filling gaps in services & improving their inclusiveness

Strengthening coordination, referral systems and case management
Thank you

Q&A