

**APLC - Intersessional Work Program 2011**  
**Meetings of the Standing Committees,**  
**20-24 June 2011, Geneva**

Standing Committee on Victim Assistance and Socio-  
Economic Reintegration, 22/23 June 2011, Geneva



# National Coordinating Body for Helping Mine and UXO Victims

- Formally established in early 2010
- **Members:** representatives of GO and NGO sector
- Based on recommendations from CAP and VAP, as well as on obligations from the CRPD
- **Main tasks:**
  - Create national action plan for helping mine and UXO victims
  - Create unified national database of mine and UXO victims
  - Ensure adequate measures for the timely provision of assistance to mine and UXO victims

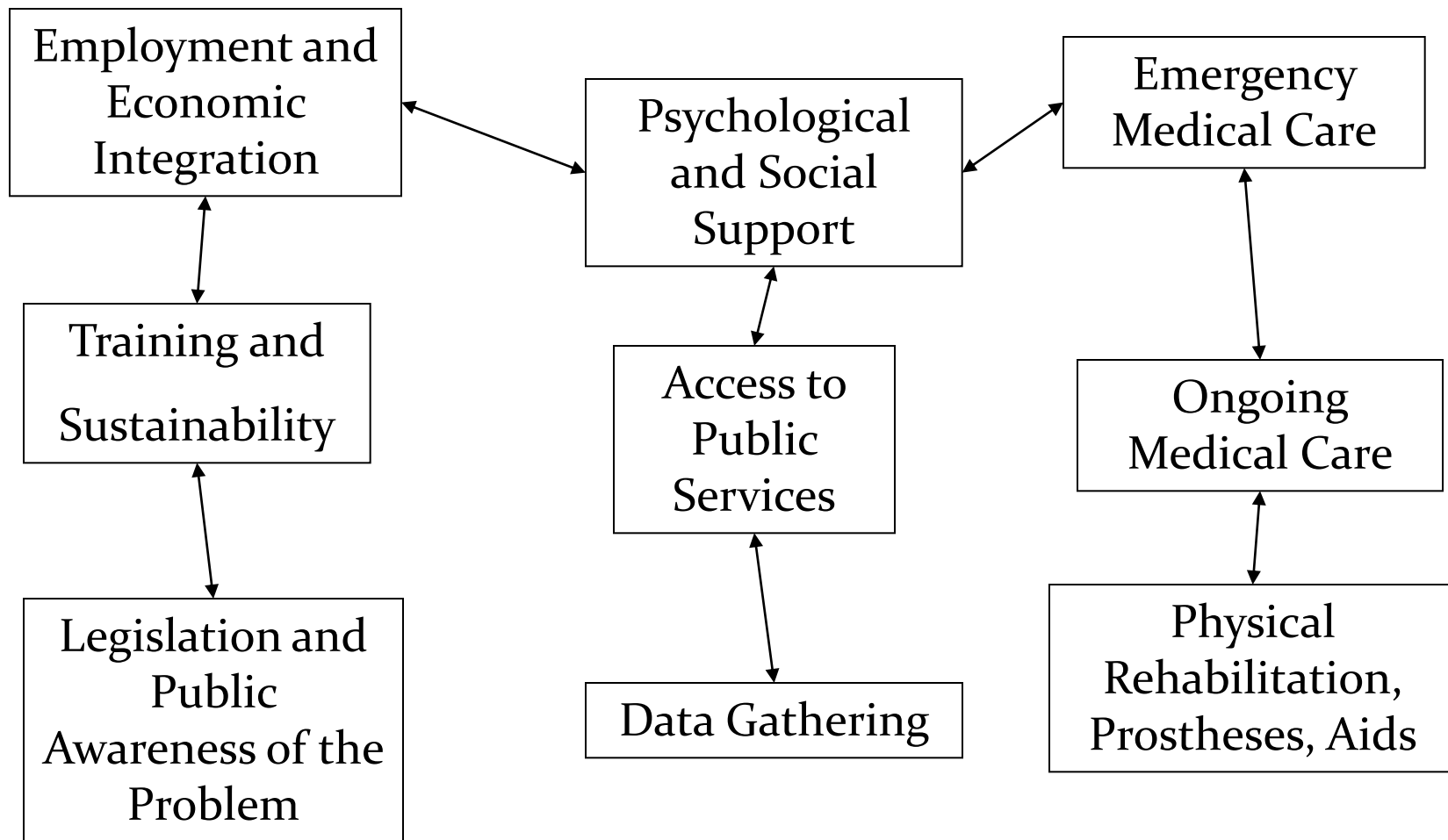


# System of Care for Cluster Munitions/ERW Victims in Croatia (*Key Players*)

1. Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration
2. Ombudsman for Persons with Disabilities
3. Ministry of Health and Social Welfare
4. Ministry of the Family, Veterans' Affairs and Intergenerational Solidarity
5. Ministry of the Economy, Labor and Entrepreneurship
6. Croatian National Institute of Public Health
7. Ministry of the Interior
8. National Protection and Rescue Directorate
9. Croatian Institute for Health Insurance
10. Croatian Pension Insurance Institute
11. Zagreb City Office for Health and War Veterans
12. Office for Human Rights
13. Croatian Mine Action Center
14. MineAid (NGO)
15. Mine Victims Association of Karlovac County (NGO)
16. Croatian Union of Civil Victims of the Homeland War Associations (NGO)
17. Croatian Union of Physically Disabled Persons Associations (NGO)
18. Association for Promotion of Equal Opportunities - APEO (NGO)
19. ITF-International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance



# Key Aspects of Cluster Munitions/ERW Victims Assistance



# Unified National Database of Mine and UXO Victims

- Currently in Croatia, a number of GO institutions and some NGOs have databases about mine and UXO victims
- The data in these bases are different and often incomplete so in 2010 a process of forming a unified database about mine/UXO victims began
- **So far the following has been achieved:**
  - ✓ All institutions and organizations that have information about mine/UXO victims have submitted these data to Croatian National Institute of Public Health, which is preparing a unified database
  - ✓ *Agreement on Cooperation in the Development of a Unified Database and Data Exchange and Protocol on Methods of Keeping Record about Mine/UXO Victims (currently in the process of signing)*



# Unified National Database of Mine and UXO Victims

- **This new database will contain the following categories of data:**
- Personal data
  - Mine incident data
  - Information on the status and degree of disability
  - Information on the realized rights
  - Information about education, occupation and employment
  - Information about victims' family members



# National Action Plan for Helping Mine and UXO Victims 2010 - 2014

- Based on the Ottawa Convention and the CCM, as well as on the guidelines of CAP and VAP
- **Main goal:** to improve the quality of life of people injured by mines and UXO, and families of the victims and killed
- **Overall coordination and systematic monitoring of goals is set in 6 chapters:**
  1. Understanding the problem we are facing
  2. Emergency medical procedures and further medical care
  3. Physical rehabilitation
  4. Psychosocial support
  5. Economic integration
  6. Laws and public policies
- **Currently in GO procedure**



# Challenges / Problems

- Coordinating Body does not have mandate for developing, monitoring or evaluating nor does it have resources for its work
- Need to clearly and precisely define the structure, scope and powers of the Coordinating Body which would effectively ensure that all victims enjoy equal and effective system of assistance and care
- Problems arise in programs of psychological and social rehabilitation of the victims and their employment:
  - Eg. Centers for Psychosocial Assistance in 20 counties are often under-staffed and under-financed or without enforceable programs for adequate/timely service to (potential) beneficiaries
  - Eg. Lack of monitoring and disregard of quotas for the employment of PwD





# Conclusion

- Victims/Survivors have an absolute right and obligation to full and equal participation in the community life
- General attitude of society towards disability greatly affects the behavior and perceptions of individuals toward persons with disabilities
- **The ultimate meaning of all these measures - to create an efficient system that will clearly represent the view that all human beings are equal and are entitled to exercise all its rights, without any distinction**



# Thank you for attention!

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