

17 Meeting of States Parties APMBC, Victim Assistance Expert meeting, 28-29 November 2018

- **Data Collection**

- Albania have the data on mine/ERW, Cluster Munitions and UXO hotspots, the data are disaggregated by age and gender and are shared with relevant stakeholders. There are 1002 casualties (151 killed and 851 injured) recorded all over Albania during the period from 1997 until to date.

- **Emergency, Ongoing medical Care and Physical Rehabilitation**

- Provided 2 trainings for 30 nurses residing in former mine affected villages in emergency first aid and CBR by specialists from the University Rehabilitation Institute Slovenia.
- Surgical equipments provided to the Kukes Regional Hospital as well as medical training provided to 4 medical specialists (including the surgeons) from the Regional Hospital in former mine affected region
- 2 physiotherapists from Kukes and Tropoja Hospital and 6 nurses from mine affected villages received refresher training at the University Rehabilitation Institute Slovenia
- Medical supplies/equipment is provided for the 30 nurses working in the former mine affected villages as well as the physiotherapists at Kukes Hospital.
- X- Ray equipments; C- Arm and ICONOS, provided to Kukes Regional Hospital, former mine affected region.
- Nursing Faculty in Tirana implements a sustainable program for the development of physiotherapy as a branch in education system. Development of Physiotherapy curricula and Master programme at National level. Every year students enrolled in academic year.
- A Prostheses Workshop at Kukes Regional Hospital (former mine affected region) is established since March 2005 upgrade training is provided to the technician. The workshop is doing repairs and new prostheses to all people in need.
- Training of 6 Ortho-Prosthetic technicians at the national level.
- Training for 1 year for medical doctor on physical medicine
- National Emergency Coordination Center established recently in 2016; phone number for emergency 127, medical Staff available 24/7, new auto- ambulances & helicopter support available to evacuate difficult cases to University Hospitals and

National Trauma Center.

- Every regional hospital upgraded in equipments and staff
- Visits at home for PWD including survivors - part of the contract for family doctors
- Albania established for all health professionals the “National Center of Continuing Education (NCCE)” a governmental public institution that functions as a technical agency of the Ministry of Health. The units of the center work together to plan, coordinate, monitor and evaluate continuing education activities of health professionals.

Socio-economic Empowerment

- 84 mine victims and their families received assistance in establishing home based economies in animal husbandry through a revolving loan fund.
- 129 mine/ERW/Cluster Munitions and UXO Hotspots survivors or their family members were assisted with vocational trainings and technical/financial support to open their small businesses with financial support from UNDP with EC and SIDA funds and US DoS funds through ITF.
- There is much attention from the government in “Vocational Schools “ and this is done in close cooperation and coordination with some donor countries, under the lead of Ministry of Social Welfare.
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Challenges

- Physical rehabilitation continues to be “low priority” for the Health Care policy makers. This has created a persistent problem with the development of the capacities and management of the Rehabilitation capacities. As a consequence, services provided to the amputees and the quality of the services remains of poor quality. Due to these problems, the workload at the prosthetic Workshop in Kukes/former mine affected region has increased, where initially the prosthetic workshop capacities in Kukes regional Hospital are planned and foreseen to cover the needs of the amputees for Kukes region. There is a need to also distribute geographically especially the rehabilitation services.
- Migration of the health professionals from rural and district hospitals to more urban areas and the capital has resulted in a vacuum of capacities in the local and regional health institutions.

- The survivors or their family members that successfully complete the vocational trainings and opened their small businesses have difficulties in “competing” with the already existing businesses.

Beyond mine action ...) “Kukes Regional Development Initiative”.

- With focus and priority to former mine affected areas; in total 89 different development projects implemented.
- Active participation and decision making of affected communities, indirect victims and survivors in setting the priorities,

The government in recent years has increased the capacities including the financial resources, but is not enough to fulfil the needs of survivors and other people with disabilities.