

Lebanon Mine Action Center – National Steering Committee on Victim Assistance - Action Plan 2008

Introduction

Assistance to victims of unexploded ordnance, landmines and cluster bombs (MVA) is a major component of mine action. In Lebanon, victim assistance is turning to be the most expensive and requiring lots of coordination among various stakeholders, including governmental and non-governmental, national and international bodies. However, it is becoming clear to the MVA National Steering Committee that MVA cannot be differentiated from the national noble cause of the disabled population in Lebanon who are fighting for the implementation of the disabled law 220/2000. The health and social welfare sectors in Lebanon as well as other sectors like education, transport, and employment are unable to cater for the needs of these people, basically rights of these people and not only needs. Hence, seeking donor money is always the alternative that no one can live without in the country. This is would remain valid until the Governmental systems in charge of victim assistance could take over; a case that is not foreseen to happen in the near future. Hence, the following 2008 MVA plan has been developed in line with the respective terms of related international related treaties. The 2008 presented plan has been developed based on statistical data generated from needs assessment field research carried on a sample of victims the MVA Steering Committee hopes to target and reach over the following 12 month period.

National Goal

Meeting needs of victims of unexploded ordnance, landmines and cluster bombs through providing required medical services, rehabilitation programs, and income generating activities using a right-based participatory approach that is victim centered and which could lead to improving the quality of life of those victims targeted in 2008.

Driving Principles

- MVA is right-based participatory approach that respects human rights in general and disabled rights in particular
- MVA is based on non-discrimination, equity, integrity, and self-determination.
- MVA requires services provision that is accessible and affordable and that takes into consideration quality assurance and performance improvement.
- Prevention and clearance operations are continuous pre/co-requisite steps in any MVA intervention.
- Involving the targeted victims in all phases of MVA starting from needs assessment is a must.
- Peers-support and psychosocial support are a standard requirement.
- Empowering families of victims and building their capacities to be able to provide enough adequate support to the victims
- Execution of activities with the local communities aiming at creating a friendly environment to the survivors where he could be re-integrated in social life (sports, cultural, art, etc. life) with limited to no barriers.
- Empowering citizenship, advocacy, and lobbying activities for the sake of access and rights, non-discrimination and human rights of the survivors in specific and disabled in general.

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Targeted Beneficiaries

In 2008, the Lebanon MVA Steering Committee decided to ensure assistance to all those aged 55 years and below up to 31/12/2008 where meeting the needs of **100 survivors never served before** by any of the concerned NGOs of the Committee would be the benchmark of success of the work of the Committee in 2008.

In 2008 MVA National Action Plan of LMAC, survivors of landmines and cluster bombs eligible to be targeted as beneficiaries are:

- Survivors aged less than 55 years and suffering from at least one disability. These were chosen because their age (less than 55) make them:
 - better predisposed to benefit from the assistance in general
 - more responsive to physical and psychosocial rehabilitation services
 - more in need to an income generating activity because they would be usually the source of survival of a number of dependents
- Family members of those killed by landmines who are:
 - Males dropping out from schools and aged between 18 and 25 years
 - Wives still able to work or unmarried unemployed daughters
- Direct caregiver or source of survival aged less than 55 years of the survivor
- Family members and friends of survivors aged less than 55 years and committed to participate in advocacy & lobbying programs
- Members of communities highly affected by the mine problem like farmers including shepherds and landowners where the contaminated land is their only source of survival

Specific Objectives

1. Establishing a coordination mechanism among all service providers in order to upgrade the database available about the victims by keeping a record of services provided so that what has been supplied is known and still needs are known.
2. Promoting capacities of first aid people involved in mine action and training new volunteers.
3. Producing awareness material about MVA to survivors and their families showing needed services and their sources.
4. Ensuring continuing educational opportunities for all those involved in the provision of rehabilitation services to survivors.
5. Ensuring medical services as well as rehabilitation services in order to ensure inclusion and reintegration.
6. Executing advocacy & lobbying activities promoting rights and responsibilities of the disabled and working to solve/reduce the mine /cluster bomb problem in Lebanon.

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2008 Action Plan

MVA Intervention	Target Beneficiaries	Indicator of Success
<p>1. Establishing a coordination mechanism among all service providers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aim: Avoid duplication and try to reach those not reached before • Timeline: First 4 months of 2008 	<p>Ministries of Health, Social Affairs, Labor, Education, and Transport Council of South LMAC</p>	<p>LMAC receiving regularly updated lists of beneficiaries showing provided services starting 2007, then during 2008 and on. LMAC should receive data from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All concerned NGOs • IOs • Ministries • Councils • Etc.
<p>2. Upgrading the landmine/cluster bomb victim database</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aim: Survey 2007 services, source of services, amount and source of funding, and remaining needs • Timeline: First 4 months of 2008 for all those aged 55 years and less and then continue for all survivors thereafter. 	<p>All survivors shall be covered ultimately yet, starting with those aged 55 years and less in 2008</p> <p>NB:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It is understood that those survivors aged more than 55 years are less responsive to MVA interventions and should already be affiliated to one of the general disabled service provision network. This doesn't mean that they would be denied the right for assistance. To the contrary, they will continue to be beneficiaries but the 2008 plan shall target 100 survivors aged less than 55 years never reached before. 2. "100" is the target of the National MVA Steering Committee. Yet, NGOs of the Committee are free to continue with their own beneficiaries and with their own target. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. LMRC at FHSUOB receiving from LMAC and the MVA Steering Committee the updated lists beneficiaries showing provided services starting 2007, then during 2008 and on. 2. LMRC at FHSUOB receiving from LMAC and the MVA Steering Committee the forms of survey of victims of all those new and still not entered in the database. 3. Specifying the needs of 100 survivors who: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have never been reached before • Are aged less than 55 years as of 31/12/2008 • Are family members of those killed by landmines, Males dropping out from schools and aged between 18 and 25 years or Wives still able to work or unmarried unemployed daughters or Direct caregiver or source of survival aged less than 55 years of the survivor or farmers, shepherds and landowners where the contaminated land is their only source of survival

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<p>3. Training NGOs of the National Steering Committee on using LMRC database</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aim: Building the capacity of concerned NGOs to make better usage of data • Timeline: First 6 months of 2008 	<p>All concerned NGOs of the MVA National Steering Committee</p>	<p>Holding a training workshop at LMRC/FHSUOB and then providing a respective CD to all concerned NGOs of the MVA National Steering Committee</p>
<p>4. Exchange of expertise among the medical corps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aim: Building the capacity of those concerned NGOs and easing the path to survivors and their families • Timeline: First 8 months of 2008 	<p>Emergency doctors, surgeons, prosthesis' providers, survivors, families of survivors, other concerned, etc.</p>	<p>Holding a seminar discussing the themes around the relation between the “level of amputation” and the “rehabilitation interventions” afterwards.</p>
<p>5. Training new first aid volunteers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aim: Building the capacity of those concerned NGOs and easing the path to survivors and their families • Timeline: During 2008 	<p>All dangerous areas</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 training sessions – rehabilitation of existing body • 2 training sessions – training 50 new volunteers
<p>6. Producing awareness material about MVA to survivors and their families showing needed services and their sources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aim: Building the capacity of those concerned NGOs and easing the path to survivors and their families • Timeline: During 2008 	<p>All and especially those in dangerous areas</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Printing 10000 copies • Distributing 4000 copies during 20 awareness meetings on MVA
<p>7. Providing physical rehabilitation services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aim: Provision of direct services • Timeline: During 2008 	<p>100 direct survivors</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 survivors benefiting from 10 sessions of physiotherapy each • 10 survivors receiving fir the first time a prosthesis in their life • Repair of 50 prosthesis • Provision of 30 silicon socks • Provision of 30 walking aid • Provision of 30 vision aid
<p>8. Providing environmental rehabilitation services</p>	<p>100 direct survivors</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 house adaptations including stairs &

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aim: Creating a disabled friendly physical environment • Timeline: During 2008 		<p>bathrooms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 schools and/or other public places
<p>9. Empowering Families</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aim: Creating a disabled friendly human environment • Timeline: During 2008 	Mothers and friends	Executing one workshop grouping 30 mothers and friends who would spread the word after words (Themes: MVA, Access & Rights, Peers Support, Advocacy, Lobbying, Citizenship, etc.)
<p>10. Empowering Survivors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aim: Creating a team of capable survivors • Timeline: During 2008 	20 capable survivors	Executing 2 workshops grouping 20 survivors who would spread the word after words (Themes: MVA, Access & Rights , Peers Support, Advocacy, Lobbying, Citizenship, etc.)
<p>11. Psychosocial Support Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aim: Providing psychosocial support • Timeline: During 2008 	Survivors, Mothers, Friends	Executing 3 workshops on psychosocial support (Themes: arts & reading)
<p>12. Peers Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aim: Providing psychosocial support • Timeline: During 2008 	20 capable survivors	Executing 2 workshops grouping 20 survivors who would work with another at least twenty survivors (Themes: MVA, Access & Rights, Peers Support , Advocacy, Lobbying, Citizenship, etc.)
<p>13. Language & Computer Trainings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aim: Providing continuing education • Timeline: During 2008 	15 survivors	15 survivors learning English & Computer
<p>14. Project Development Trainings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aim: Reintegration • Timeline: During 2008 	15 survivors	15 survivors able to write projects and funding proposals
<p>15. Market Study & Feasibility Study Trainings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aim: Reintegration • Timeline: During 2008 	15 survivors	15 survivors able to do feasibility studies when wanting to start a loan based income generating project
<p>16. Empowering Survivors</p>	20 capable survivors	Executing 2 workshops grouping 20 survivors

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aim: Creating a team of capable survivors • Timeline: During 2008 		<p>who would spread the word after words (Themes: MVA, Access & Rights, Peers Support, Advocacy, Lobbying, Citizenship, etc.)</p>
<p>17. Empowering respective NGOs Aim: Empower NGOs working with the Disabled Timeline: During 2008</p>	<p>4 Centers</p>	<p>4 Centers able to meet needs of survivors</p>
<p>18. International Presence Aim: Ensure international presence Timeline: During 2008</p>	<p>3 survivors</p>	<p>Successful participation in at least one Conference</p>