March 2008

NCDR and Women in Jordan

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THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR DEMINING AND REHABILITATION

What the NCDR Is Doing

To combat this inequality, the National Committee for Demining and Rehabilitation, Jordan’s leading mine-action authority, works to provide equal opportunity in employment, regardless of gender. The NCDR has a “Mine Action Gender Mainstreaming Action Plan” and has consistently aimed to recruit female employees.

Gender Mainstreaming and MRE

The NCDR works to make gender mainstreaming a part of its MRE programs. It does this among school-aged children by creating specialized brochures for boys and girls, addressing differences between them. MRE efforts also aim to reach women within their households by holding sessions designed specifically for their demographic. These women are crucial to the MRE efforts, as women who participate in these MRE sessions tend to pass the lessons that they learn on to their communities and families.

The NCDR found that it is important to incorporate women into its MRE team and has noted this in its recent surveys. Using the lessons learned during the MRE processes, the NCDR is able to make it easier for the teams to access households, especially the women and children in these households.

Relief for Amputees with “Phantom Limbs”

Dr. Atul Gawande recently published an article in The New Yorker titled, “The Itch,” in which Gawande offered some inexpensive and rapid methods to minimize or eliminate pain that comes from a sensation known to many as a “phantom limb.” For an amputee, a phantom limb is a sensation that makes one’s amputated appendage feel as if it is still attached and moving. This sensation can be very painful for amputees.

Gawande cited a phantom limb case study by Dr. V.S. Ramachandran of the University of California, San Diego. In his experiments, Ramachandran used a mirror-in-a-box contraption that helped give his patients immediate relief by “tricking” the patient’s brain into believing the limb was still attached and could be moved to relieve the discomfort.

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