MAIC Survivor Assistance Projects

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Unavailability of minefield information and maps—the former Iraqi regime did not release them to the United Nations or Kurdish demining organizations so there is no reliable information on the exact location of contaminated areas.

Unintentional enlargement of minefields—villagers transferred mines from mined areas to previously safe areas. Most of the minefields had been disrupted; in some cases, local villagers had attempted to clear their land by collecting or disposing visible mines or by removing the mines from the minefield and stockpiling date and rice in another area.

Emigration of mines from uneven or steep ground, especially in mountains due to rain and snow.

Shortage of modified clearance machines such as front-end loaders and excavators within demining programs.

Qualified and well-skilled deminers are needed. For some countries, programs have better staff or older deminers than cleared lands during special ceremonies.

The MRE section at IKMAA has conducted three summer-school courses on mine UXO-contaminated villages. The courses aim to: enhance the awareness of children and youth regarding the danger of mines/UXO; inform those who live in UXO-contaminated areas; and assess their effectiveness, drawing conclusions regarding which type of training they live. The guidebook will be comprised of lessons learned and identified "best practices," instructional, detailed case studies, and a set of recommendations to guide planners, which will be short and broadly applicable to most contexts.

Survivor-assistance Training

In a recent survey conducted by the MAIC (as a follow-up to the Senior Managers Courses we have presented for the United Nations Development Programme), more than 90% of the mine-affected countries reported that landmine survivor assistance was a "top" or "high-priority, yet as even greater number reported that "no one [in their mine-action center/agency] had received any training" in survivor assistance.

Consequently, the MAIC and The Polus Center for Social and Economic Development are working together to create a series of training workshops for national mine-action and survivor-assistance staff to aid them in developing and implementing programs that effectively meet the needs of landmine survivors and other people with disabilities in their countries.

The Polus Center assists people with disabilities in developing countries to become full social and economic participants forward, and broad support is created in the community where they live.

The MAIC staff and JMU's faculty consist of subject-matter experts in survivor assistance, mine action and management; we are also experienced in developing and delivering curricula for a variety of constituencies, including program planners and project implementers, such as those for whom this survivor-assistance training program is designed.
The Adaptive Technology Catalog project was inspired by Purdue University’s Breaking Ground New Resource Center Agricultural Project, which was developed to help farmers around the world. For more information about this resource, visit: http://gripurl.com/16b54

The Adaptive Technology Catalog will be available as a DVD/CD or PDF in September 2007. The Adaptive Technology Catalog project was inspired by Purdue University’s Breaking Ground New Resource Center Agricultural Project, which was developed to help farmers around the world. For more information about this resource, visit: http://gripurl.com/16b54