Landmines from a barrier separating the Chobe region of Botswana from the upper Cuando and Zambesi Rivers. The Phafuanangwongthele Kavango/Zambesi Transfrontier Conservation Area (KaZaTFC) has been reduced to a fraction of its size by the landmine barrier. Surpassing 130,000, the elephant herd is increasing by approximately 5 percent each year, an unsustainable growth rate given the current confinement. The growing herd is disturbing local communities and destroying the surrounding environment by overgrazing the area.

Working with Conservation International, Roots of Peace plans to implement a program to open elephant access corridors, conserve wildlife and stimulate economic development. Roots of Peace will head a demining operation to remove landmines from historic elephant foraging areas, coordinating with the government of Angola, the provincial government of Cuando Cubango, and the U.N. Development Programme—Angola. Conservation International will then work on ecosystem development based on wildlife conservancy within the Luanda Reserve. It is expected that the return of the elephants to these historic habitats will stimulate the economy through an increase in tourism in the areas.

Bringing Back Security Each project will raise US$1 million over the next three years. The long-term impact of the projects will be great, helping the people of Angola return to a self-sufficient lifestyle and preserving the environment. Working collaboratively with other organizations, the project headed by Roots of Peace are expected to increase safety, security and stability of these regions. See Endnotes, page 109

Survivor Assistance through Technology Transfer in Tanzania

This article describes how cutting-edge technology is being developed and disseminated in landmine-affected countries. Focusing particularly on the Tanzania Training Center for Orthopedic Technologists, the authors examine how a process of appropriateness, resource-effective casting is being advanced and then shared through training workshops: Improved technology and its successful transfer are vital to better assisting landmine survivors, a goal the Center for International Rehabilitation is working to achieve.

Appropriate Prosthetic Technology

It has been well-established that high-tech Western prosthetic technologies are not always suitable for developing countries. The International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics stressed the use of appropriate technology at its Consensus Conferences in Cambodia and Tanzania, defining appropriate technology as “a system providing proper fit and alignment based on sound biomechanical principles [that] suit the needs of the individual and can be maintained by the user at the most economical and affordable price.”

There are a significant number of efforts underway to develop appropriate prosthetic technologies for landmine-affected countries; however, many have been designed and produced without accounting for key factors such as the environment, local resources and culture.

Furthermore, many new technologies continue to rely on older methods and resources that still require a fully operational prosthetic clinic. It is necessary to develop new products and fabrication methods that do...