THE ALBANIAN MINE & MUNITIONS PROGRAMME

Government and NGO collaboration in advancing Victim Assistance in Albania

Intersessional Meeting of CCM
Geneva 16-19 April 2012

AMMCO Presentation
Victim Assistance Components

- Legislation and Public Awareness
- Medical Assistance
- Prostheses and Physical Rehabilitation
- Psychological and Social Support
- Socio-Economic Inclusion
- Data Collection

Victims, other PWD
Developments and Results in PMR

- With funding and technical assistance from ICRC/SFD- training of NPOC technicians (one of them ISPO cat II) and improved its Management capacities.

- A PMR National Plan of Action is implemented by the Ministry of Health with funding support from US DoS though ITF.

- The first generation of the Physiotherapy students graduated in July 2009

- The Nursing Faculty in Tirana implements a sustainable program for the development of physiotherapy training.

- A formal training programme (master programme) for the new becoming local teachers is established.
Developments and Results in PMR (cont.)

- The quality of existing prosthetics services has improved and the training capacities for prosthetics of the Albanian health sector are developed.

- The rehabilitation unit of the Kukes Regional Hospital is established and delivers rehabilitation services to people in need; addressing the needs of landmine survivors and other amputees in need.

- Prosthetic facilities are being improved at the Regional Hospital in Kukes with equipment and qualified staff.

- Space provided and renovated by government, more staff needed at rehabilitation unit added in hospital structure.

- Strong ownership and high motivation of local institutions which is guaranty for the sustainability of project.
Socio-Economic Inclusion

- NGOs – Using the agreement between the governments of Albania and Kosova to provide FREE vocational training courses to survivors at the Vocational Training Centres in Kosova.

- Provided mine/ERW survivors with knowledge and expertise to increase their job opportunities.

- To date; 94 mine survivors and their families have benefited from this support and collaboration

- Another 15 survivors and family members, are attending the vocational training courses- expected to successfully complete it by July 2012

- The trained survivors supported with interest free loans to procure some equipments to establish their businesses.
Challenges to the VA in Albania

- Migration of the capacities from the rural areas to more urban areas has resulted in short of the services in some regional hospitals and in Primary Health Care.

- Other competing and urgent priorities within the health sector have resulted in not due attention to the needs of the survivors in terms of the medical and physical rehabilitation. This particularly has delayed the proper location and the management of the NPOC.

- High unemployment rate in former mine affected region have burden the possibilities for survivors and disabled persons in general to employment opportunities. Even though assisted with the vocational training initiatives, the survivors have difficulties in competing with same other professions and services offered.

- Poverty and lack of the economic developments in the former mine affected region, has brought another difficulty for mine survivors to get jobs and develop economic reintegration activities.
National Planning on Victim Assistance in line with CAP, VAP and NSPwD

- A further analysis of the medical and socio-economic reintegration needs of victims from the abandoned unexploded ordnances (AXO) all over Albania.

- Continue providing the required support and strengthen the existing capacities at the rehabilitation unit at Kukes Regional Hospital.

- Improve management capacities and services provided by the National Prosthetic Center in Tirana will remain.

- Further expand the experience gained in northern part of the country to the assistance activities to the areas with considerable number of survivors from the abandoned unexploded ordnances (AXO).

- Gender mainstreaming in all processes.

- Contribute to the National Strategy of the persons with Disabilities.

- Support the Ratification of the CRPD
THANK YOU !