

# Integrated approaches in victim assistance: the Italian experience

Workshop on an Integrated Approach to  
Victim Assistance in the context of  
Development, Human Rights and  
Humanitarian Initiatives

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# The notion of integration

- VA benefits survivors, indirect victims, and people impaired through other causes
- VA included in development, human rights and humanitarian initiatives

# Scope of beneficiaries

- Broad definition of disability
- Inclusion of indirect victims, families, and communities
- ERW survivors but also other persons with disabilities

# VA and Mine Action

- Ad hoc Trust Fund (2001): all ERWs
- Consistent with development initiatives, international aid programmes, international development cooperation objectives
- MA as key element of recipients' development policies (e.g. Colombia 2015)
- Mine risk education/awareness

# HA, development, and disability-related policies

- Disability: priority sector in Development Cooperation
- Country cooperation strategies aligned with Development Cooperation Guidelines and Disability Action Plan
- Action Plan focus: emergency situations (natural or man-made, i.e. conflict)

# The “Vademecum”

- Developed in cooperation with civil society
- Benchmarks for project design and implementation
- Grounded on two principles:
  - ✓ Rights-based approach
  - ✓ Equality and non-discrimination

# Why is it important?

In humanitarian emergencies:

- Emergencies cause disabilities
- Emergencies reduce assistance
- Disability leads to discrimination
- People with disabilities are more vulnerable
- They often have no access to services and distributions

# How is it done?

- Mainstreaming and ad hoc programmes
- Staff training for aid workers
- Adjustment of means and equipment
- Statistics and data disaggregation
- Disability focal point
- Egs: Palestine, Jordan

# From policy to practice

- Initial evaluation
- Cooperation at local level (E.g. Philippines)
- The role of programme managers
- Improving data collection and analysis
  - ✓ For monitoring (2009-2014 analysis)
  - ✓ For programming (E.g. Iraq)

Thank you!

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