

# **Mine Risk Education**

**Situation and needs in the most  
affected countries**

# What does the MBT say about mine risk education ?

Article 6:

§3: *“Each State Party in a position to do so shall provide assistance for the care and rehabilitation, and social and economic reintegration, of mine victims and for mine awareness programs. Such assistance may be provided, inter alia, through the United Nations system, international, regional or national organizations or institutions, the International Committee of the Red Cross, national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies and their International Federation, non-governmental organizations, or on a bilateral basis.”*

- *§ 7: "States Parties may request the United Nations, regional organizations, other States Parties or other competent intergovernmental or non-governmental fora to assist its authorities in the elaboration of a national demining program to determine, inter alia:*
- *(...)*
- *d. Mine awareness activities to reduce the incidence of mine-related injuries or deaths; “*

# **What is the situation in the field and where are the gaps ?**

- What is the problem (indicator: casualty figure) ?
- Where are the main gaps in terms of mine risk education ?

The following list is based on Landmine Monitor Report 2001 and on preliminary findings of the Landmine Monitor Report 2002.

It only considers mine-affected countries with more than 50 new victims/year and focuses on countries where mine risk education is problematic.

Angola: Landmine Monitor 2001  
reported 840 new victims.

Most mine action (including mine risk education) operators in the country report funding problems.

Burma (Myanmar): Landmine Monitor  
Report 2000 estimated that there were 1,500 new victims a year. NGOs in the field report an increase in the last year. Apart from a 3-day workshop held in February 2002, there is no mine risk education at all.

Chad: 339 victims were reported in recent years.

There is only limited mine risk education. Funding problems have been reported by potential mine risk education operators.

Ethiopia: 202 new victims were reported  
by Landmine Monitor in 2001.  
Funding problems have been reported  
recently by mine risk education  
operators.

Georgia: The ICBL Georgian Committee reported 98 new victims for 2001 (51 for 2000).

There is almost no mine risk education at this stage.

India: Landmine Monitor Report 2001  
reported 844 new victims. There is  
probably going to be an increase following  
the recent use of landmines by India and  
Pakistan on their common border.  
The Indian Campaign to Ban Landmines  
believes that there is an urgent and  
important need for mine risk education in  
India.

Iran: Landmine Monitor Report 2001  
estimated 300 new victims/year.

There is no mine risk education, except  
for returning Afghan refugees.

Iraq (not including Iraqi Kurdistan): 87  
new victims reported in Landmine  
Monitor Report 2001.

No mine risk education reported yet.

Nepal: Landmine Monitor 2001 reported  
182 new victims.

There is almost no mine risk education.

Somalia (not including Somaliland and Puntland):

147 new victims were reported in Landmine Monitor Report 2001. Much higher figure to be reported in Landmine Monitor Report 2002.

No mine risk education, no mine clearance and no victim assistance are available to mine-affected communities.

Among these 10 countries,

- 1 is a State Party (Chad)

- 2 are signatories (Angola and Ethiopia)

- 7 are non signatories (Burma, Georgia, India, Iran, Iraq, Nepal and Somalia)

# Why does it matter ?

- Mine risk education saves lives.
- To do mine risk education = to collect data = basis for future survey and clearance.
- Mine risk education also helps to mobilise public opinion = pressure to accede to the Mine Ban Treaty.