

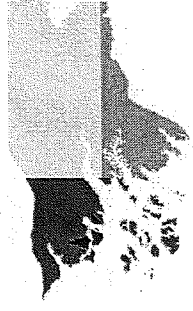


Guinea-Bissau
National Victim Assistance Strategy

13th Meeting of the States Parties

Presented by Joao Kennedy de P. Araujo

Director of the National Center of Orthopedic and Physical Rehabilitation
Services (CRM Bissau)

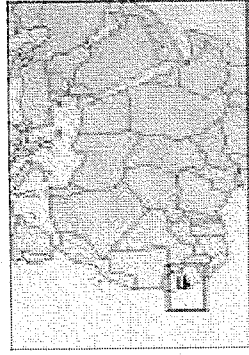


Geneva 02 - 05 December 2013



National Victim Assistance Strategy

Guinea-Bissau has a small territory of 36,125 Km² with an exclusively agricultural economy and its estimated 1,50 million inhabitants. It is situated on the west coast of Africa, bordered by Senegal to the north, Guinea (Conakry) to the east and south, and the Atlantic Ocean to the west.



The last census of the population in 2009 revealed an average of 0,94% of the total population, which are bearer of deficiency, with a high rate of 1,25% in the Northern region and 1,75% in the Bijagos islands in the Southern region.

In this case we don't have change because we didn't actualized the Census.

In next years, Guinea-Bissau will coordinate largely efforts to done national Census of persons with disabilities and for that, we must be supported technical and financial by the international community.



Good News

- ***In the 12th Meeting we said that - as of November 2012, the Government would approve the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities which was at the National Assembly for approval.***
- ***The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities has been unanimously approved by the National Popular Assembly on 23 July 2013 and should be ratified at Presidency level in December 2013.***



National Victim Assistance Strategy



PROGRESS TO DATE:

At the moment CRM accounts for almost all rehabilitation services in the country – from physiotherapy and pre/post-prosthetic training to the fitting of orthopaedic devices and delivery of wheelchairs and walking aids.

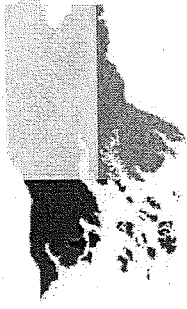
Since the end of last year both the orthopaedic workshop and the physiotherapy department have received technical support by an ICRC expatriate

National Victim Assistance Strategy

- In recent years mine accidents have decreased considerably, due to efforts made by the coordinating agencies of demining, but at the same time lifestyle related diseases like diabetes, cardiovascular diseases and stroke have increased rapidly.
- The photo shows 2 young, well educated patients (engineer, teacher) whose life and career has been compromised by a cardiovascular attack (stroke) – a disease which hits at an increasingly young age.



National Victim Assistance Strategy

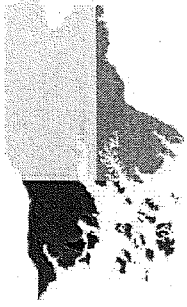


Victims Status

- There were a total of 1,530 casualties from mines/ERW recorded dating from 1963 through Nov 2013;
- The total number of mine/ERW survivors is estimated to be about 1,410 (92%). Some of these may have already died, but it is likely there are many more unrecorded;
- Over 80 per cent of victims have been male. A vast majority were farmers while 19 % of the victims are women.
- **Only one recorded casualties since 2006 have been caused by Mine .**



National Victim Assistance Strategy




Main objectives for a comprehensive Victim Assistance Strategy in Guinea-Bissau

- Establish a coordination mechanism on victim assistance in the country;
- Elaborate and implement a new approach on victims data collecting system to update in a more comprehensive breakdown the casualty data and define a comprehensive/realistic VA strategy;
- Use of data collection gathering sources and methods;
- Strengthen a comprehensive victim assistance programme by supporting already existing initiatives and programmes (National red cross, International Red Cross-ICRC- CRM);

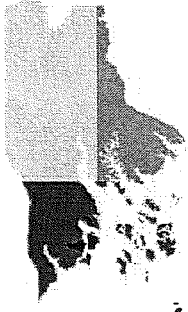


National Victim Assistance Strategy



Main objectives for a comprehensive Victim Assistance Strategy in Guinea-Bissau

- Enhance and facilitate the employment of landmines survivors at the national institutions and in the other national and international organisations;
- Promote, distribute and advocate largely on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;
- Increase donors interest and resource mobilization for victim assistance programmes;
- Evaluating the use of disseminated data by the stakeholders;
- Monitor and continue the efforts Already engaged for Mine survivors to be eligible for pensions for persons with disabilities from the Ministry of Social Solidarity and Poverty Reduction (MSSPR),
- We work in two level to assisted victims and all other person with disabilities(National level and Regional level)



National Victim Assistance Strategy

Main objectives for a comprehensive Victim

Assistance Strategy in Guinea-Bissau

At the National Level

From 2013, the *Centro de Reabilitação Motora (CRM)* has implemented regional visits in cooperation with the ICRC, National Red Cruz and Federation of the Association of Persons with Disabilities.

The objectives are

- Referral of patients to the CRM for fitting of orthopaedic devices/wheelchairs and physiotherapy treatment**
- Distribution of walking aids**
- Information about the CRM and general advice**

There is a need to continue strengthening the capacity of the CRM in order to better respond to the needs of the population bearer with disabilities.



National Victim Assistance Strategy
Main objectives for a comprehensive Vic
Assistance Strategy in Guinea-Bissau

At the Regional Level

Since December 2012 the CRM has also received patients from neighboring countries (Gambia, Senegal, Guinea-Conakry)

There is a need to continue strengthening the CRM needs to be accompanied with other partners.



National Victim Assistance Strategy

Establish an effective victim assistance programme
in Guinea-Bissau

Action	Partner
<p>First aid: -Enhance national capacity in training trainers -Provide hospitals with needed material</p>	<p>International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC) and the Ministry of Health WHO</p>
<p>Physical and mobility aid</p>	<p>CRM -ICRC – UNDP(CAAMI) NFAPWD</p>
<p>Trauma/ psycho social assistance</p>	<p>Gov GB – CRM- WHO</p>
<p>Socio-economic reintegration Programme (Cooperative activities)</p>	<p>Gov Gb – International Partners</p>
<p>National disability policy according to the international convention of the rights and dignity of persons with disability, has been signed by the parliament in July 2013 and is in the hand of Presidency for ratification</p>	<p>Minister of Health WHO National Federation of Association fo Persons with Disabilities (11 associations) UNDP</p>



National Victim Assistance Strategy



Guinea-Bissau target on VA (National poverty Reduction Strategy/DENARP II 2011-2015)

The equal opportunity for rehabilitation, and reintegration of all persons with disabilities (victim of armed dispute or conflict, included the mine/ERW injured people)

Despite many difficulties encountered during these years due to the political situation, but we are working towards the goal that people with disabilities can contribute and participate in the socio-economic development of the country and that thus can retain/re-establish their rights and dignity.

**Thank you for your attention and
kind support**

