Victim Assistance in Libya: Challenges and Positive Developments

22nd NDM - Plenary Session Two:
“Facing the Challenges of Victim Assistance in Today’s Conflicts”

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Mitigating the Risks of Accidents

NTS, Clearance and RE activities-LibMAC and HMA partners

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Mitigating the Risks of Accidents

In 2018

- 26,144 items of ERW destroyed
- 203 tons of ERW destroyed
- 674,087 sq km land released back to communities
- 96,862 direct beneficiaries of RE sessions

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Challenges in Victim Assistance in Libya

Data collection on number, sex, age, situation, needs and capacities of victims

• Available casualty data varies by 10 to 100 times, depending on the source of information, the database and the year considered
• Data on « ERW » victims exists by law (SSF, MoH, MoE, Bureau of statistics...) however:
  • Lack of culture of data sharing
  • Lack of capacity to identify the cause of injury/death
  • No harmonization of the data collected
  • Lack of accuracy and regular update of the databases
  • Risk of data duplication
  • Lack of adequate data management and monitoring

➢ There is a “numbers issue” that prevents HMA actors to advocate for and develop VA activities suited to the needs of survivors and victims.

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Challenges in Victim Assistance in Libya

Provision of and access to health care

Needs of healthcare for survivors are most probably considerable:

% of people who reported to have a physical disability who could not access the needed health care, by type of service*:

- 1. Physical therapy and rehabilitation: 38%
- 2. Provision of wheelchairs: 26%
- 3. Provision of other assistive devices (e.g., prosthetic limbs or hearing aids): 24%
- 4. Psychosocial support: 12%

*2018 Multi-sectoral needs assessment (REACH initiative) conducted on 5,352 households and 20 mantikas.

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Provision of and access to health care

A degraded provision of and access to healthcare

1) Emergency and continuous medical care
   • Lack of trained first aid responders and specialists
   • Lack of trained medical staff
   • Lack of key medical supplies
   • Lack of hospital beds
   • Lack of referral and coordination between ambulance services and medical centers

➢ Important geographical disparities in availability and access to services (rural inland/urban coastal cities)

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Challenges in Victim Assistance in Libya

Provision of and access to health care

2) Rehabilitation

- Lack of qualified staff in rehabilitation centres
- Lack of qualitative prosthetics and orthotics
- Lack of qualitative mobility devices
- Lack of raw material for prosthetics
- Insufficient inpatient/outpatient capacity

3) Psychological and psycho-social support

- Scarce mental health and psycho-social support providers
- « neglected sector » in Libya
- Social stigma

➢ No specific inter-sectoral and inter-regional referral system in place

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Positive Developments in Victim Assistance in Libya

Positive steps taken towards VA

- LibMAC VA department and UNMAS collaborating in VA planning
- VA workshop gathering international and national stakeholders to introduce the topic of VA (HI, UNHCR, UNMAS – 2017)
- Organisation of VA Launch Meeting: national key stakeholders and international stakeholders (LibMAC, UNMAS – Jan 2019)

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Positive Developments in Victim Assistance in Libya

Positive steps taken towards VA

- Representatives of Disabled People’s Organizations participating in all coordination initiatives:
  - Decisive inputs to ensure national and international stakeholders understand their unique perspective on the situation and needs of survivors and PwDs
  - Constructive partners in victim assistance efforts and broader disability efforts

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Positive Developments in Victim Assistance in Libya

Committing to next steps

The LibMAC is committed to taking concrete steps towards VA and will:

- Coordinate efforts with HMA partners on casualty data collection.

- Strengthen coordination and organize consultations with relevant ministries (MoH, MoSA, MoE,...) and Disabled People Organizations on data collection and information exchange to better understand the needs of survivors, victims and PwDs.

- Organize a VA National workshop (Feb 2019) to review and complete the preliminary situation analysis, and discuss possible ways forward with all relevant national and international stakeholders.

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Committing to next steps

- In collaboration with UNMAS, map existing multi-sectoral initiatives and stakeholders to identify how VA can be integrated to broader frameworks.
- Advocate for the inclusion of VA indicators in future national or international assessments and initiatives.
- If resources allow, conduct a comprehensive needs and capacities assessment.

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Positive Developments in Victim Assistance in Libya

Committing to next steps

- Develop a National VA plan based on findings and recommendations
- Mobilize national and international resources to tackle VA upcoming challenges
- Undertake consistent advocacy for rights of victims and PwDs

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Thank you.