

Reducing Risk and Disability Prevention Through Mine Risk Education and Victim Assistance in Afghanistan

Wasil Noor Muhmand
Deputy Minister to Ministry of Labor,
Social Affairs, Martyrs and Disabled
In collaboration with
Najib Naseri and Zabihullah
United Nations Mine Action Center for Afghanistan



Landmine Impact Survey Afghanistan

- Landmines impact 7% of the communities in Afghanistan
- 2,368 communities are impacted
- 4.2 million people live in the impacted communities

Living with landmines



Red rocks
mark the mine field

Demining

- 7,500 deminers daily work in harsh conditions and dangerous circumstance to identify and destroy landmines/ERW
- 50% of Afghanistan will be landmine/ERW free by end of 2008



Deminers clearing the land



Mine Risk Education

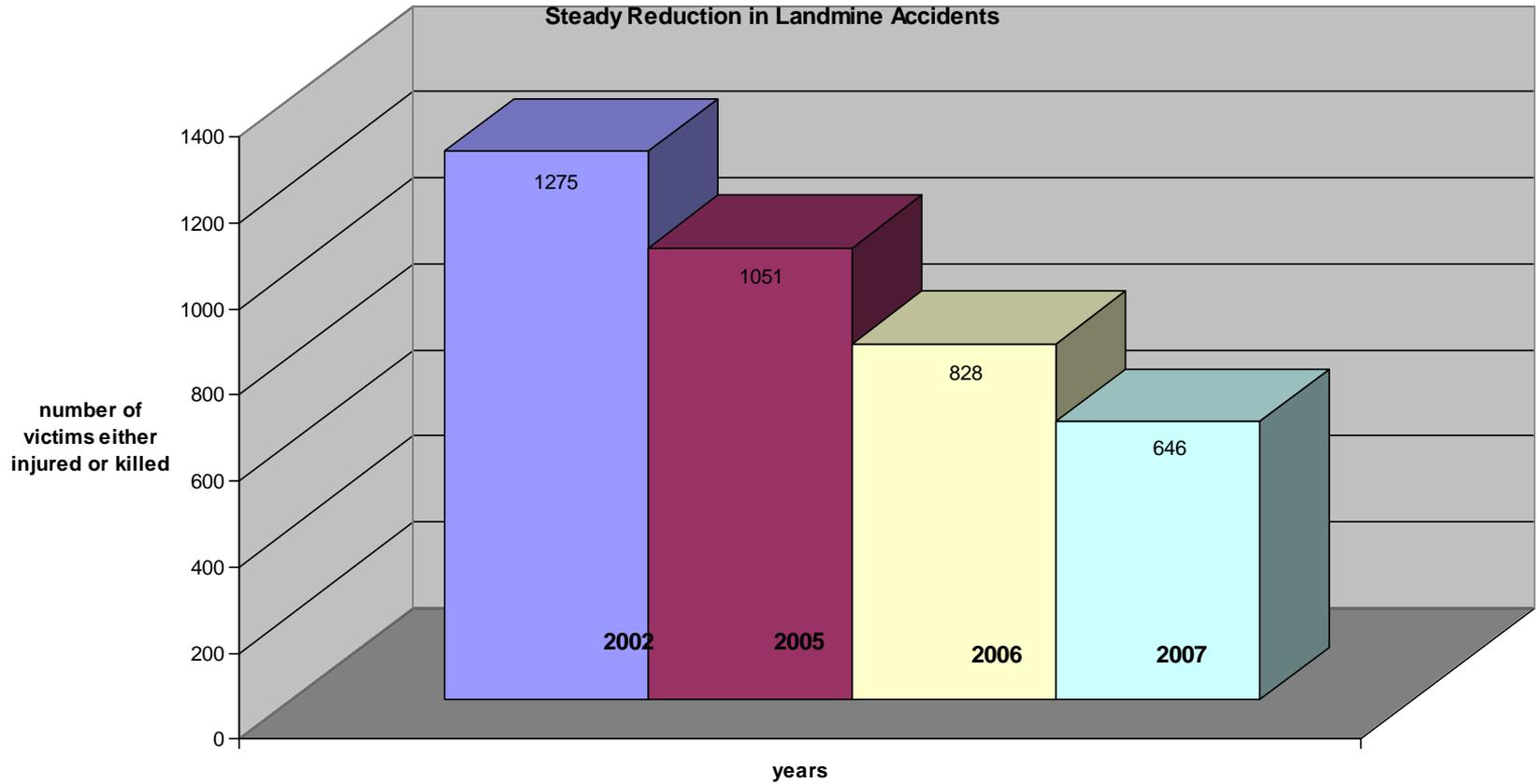


- To reduce landmine injuries and casualties
- To promote safe behaviors
- 103 Community Based Mine Risk Education Teams

Passing Messages on to Communities



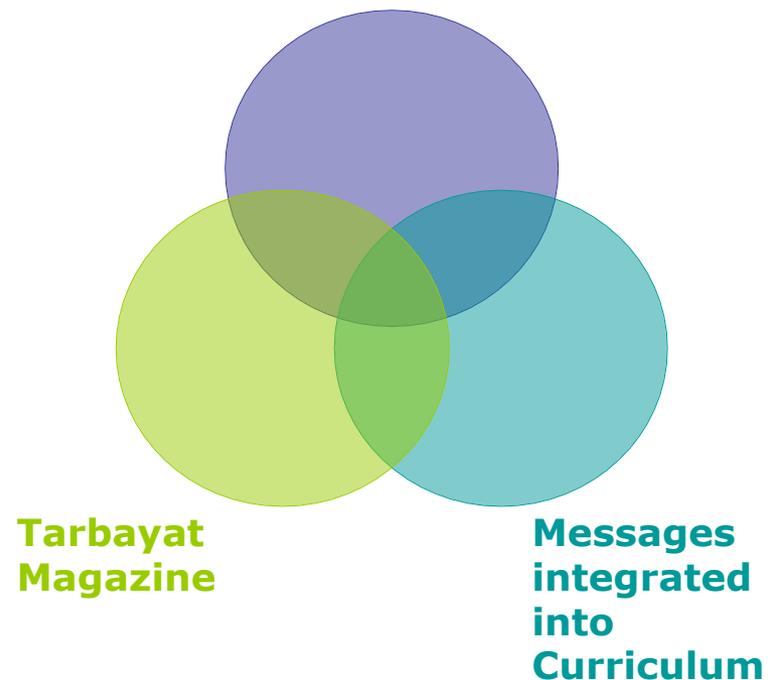
50% REDUCTION IN MINE ACCIDENTS BETWEEN 2002 AND 2007



Ministry of Education and Mine Risk Education

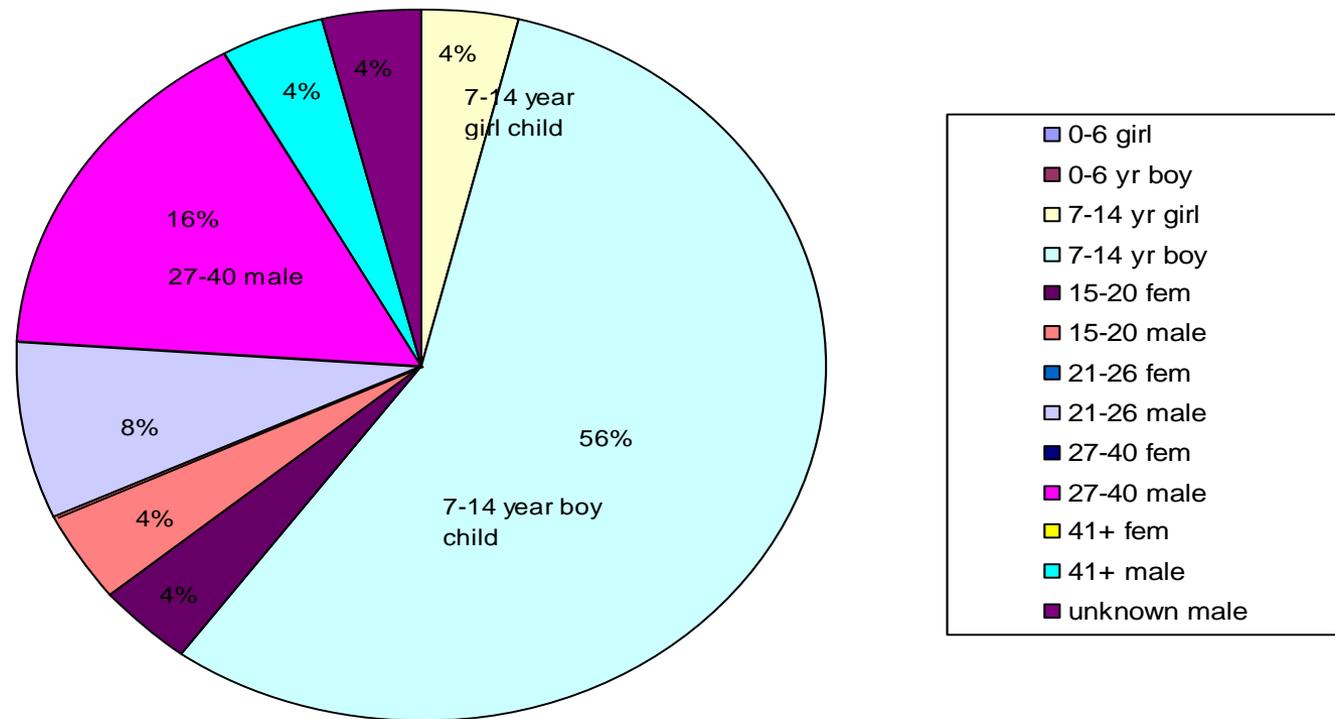
- 122 Protection Officers trained who will train 18,000 teachers
- MRE Messages into the National Curriculum
- Tarbayat Magazine a Journal for schools with Mine Action Messages
- Support to Disability Awareness training and a pilot Inclusive Education ongoing

Activity Cards in Schools



60% of the accidents reported in December involved children 7-14 years old

Mine/ERW Accidents by Age and Gender December 2007



Children account for 17/25 68% injured
and 5/9 55% killed

Mine Risk Education in Every School

- Getting the messages to every school child
- MRE/UXO Training Kits
 - Cards
 - Poster
 - Training guide
- Issued to every school by mid 2008
- Two staff trained in every school



MRE Implementing Partners



There are 7 partners
103 Community
Based Teams
Reached over 15
million persons with
MRE messages
4th quarter 2007
reached 274,785
persons

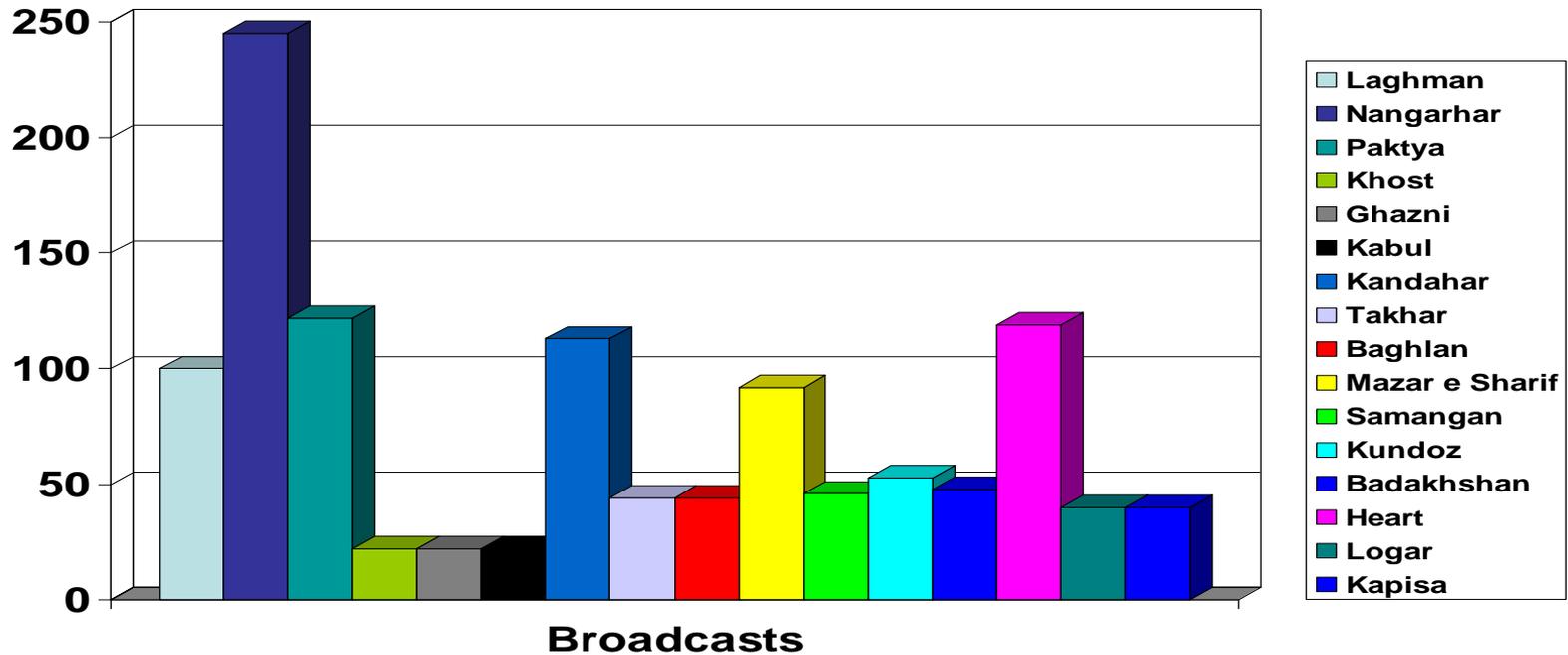


Encashment Center MRE to Protect Returning Afghans



- 3 centers to provide mine risk education as induction process
- Passed messages on to 248,720 returnees in 2007

1,072 Radio Spots Completed



Quarter 1-3 2008

Victim Assistance Broadening to Persons with Disabilities

- Protection and Integration
- Human Rights and access to those rights
- Areas of Focus
 - Emergency and Continuing Medical Care
 - Rehabilitation
 - Defining the scale of the challenge
 - Psychological and Social Integration
 - Economic Integration
 - Laws and Policies
 - Inclusive Education
 - Community Based Rehabilitation



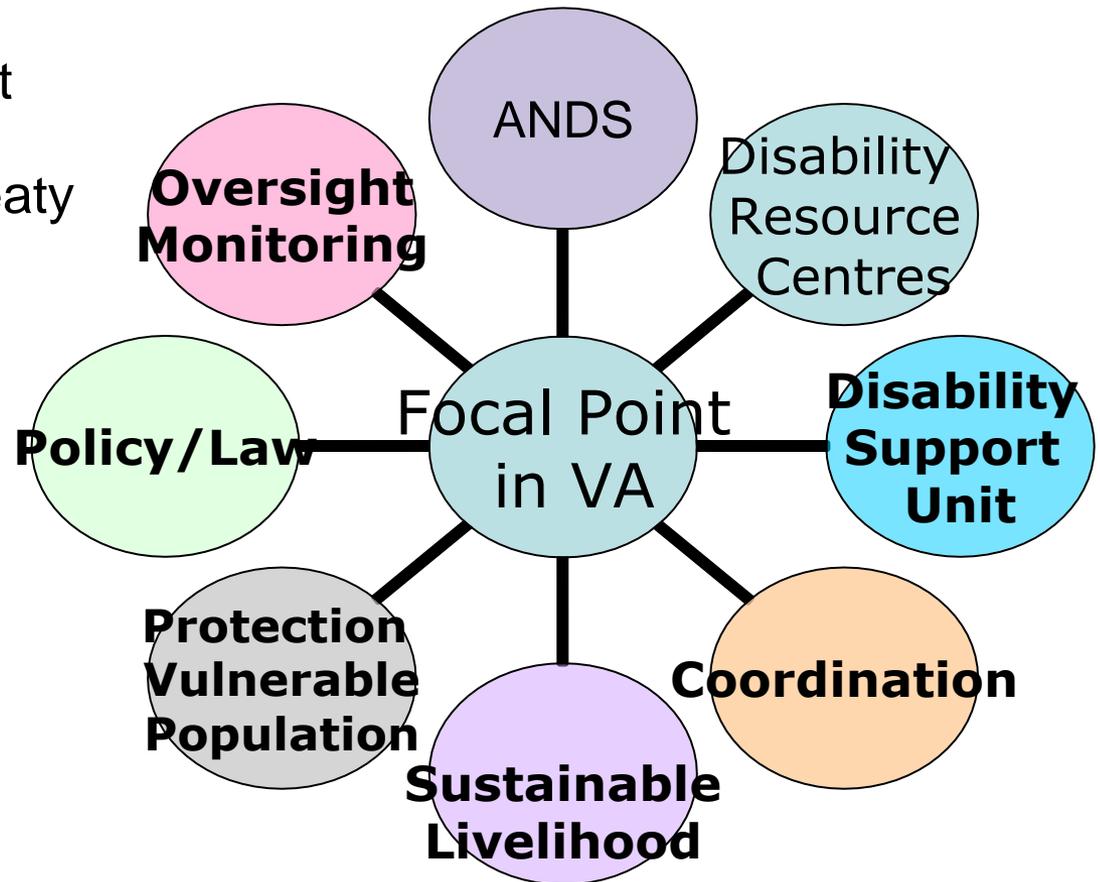
National Disability Survey 2005



- War Injury is 17% of all declared cases of disabilities
- Health care costs 5 times higher for persons with disabilities
- Gap widening in education most vulnerable girls disabled before school start age
- Trauma and depression high
 - 70% of women with disability state they felt suffocated

Ministry of Labor, Social Affairs, Martyrs and Disabled

- Established a Disability Unit
- Monitor and report Victim Assistance to Mine Ban Treaty
- Coordinate Inter-Ministerial Disability Task Force
- Coordinate Disability Stakeholder Group
- Comprehensive oversight of disability activities and service delivery throughout the country
- Focal Point Ministry

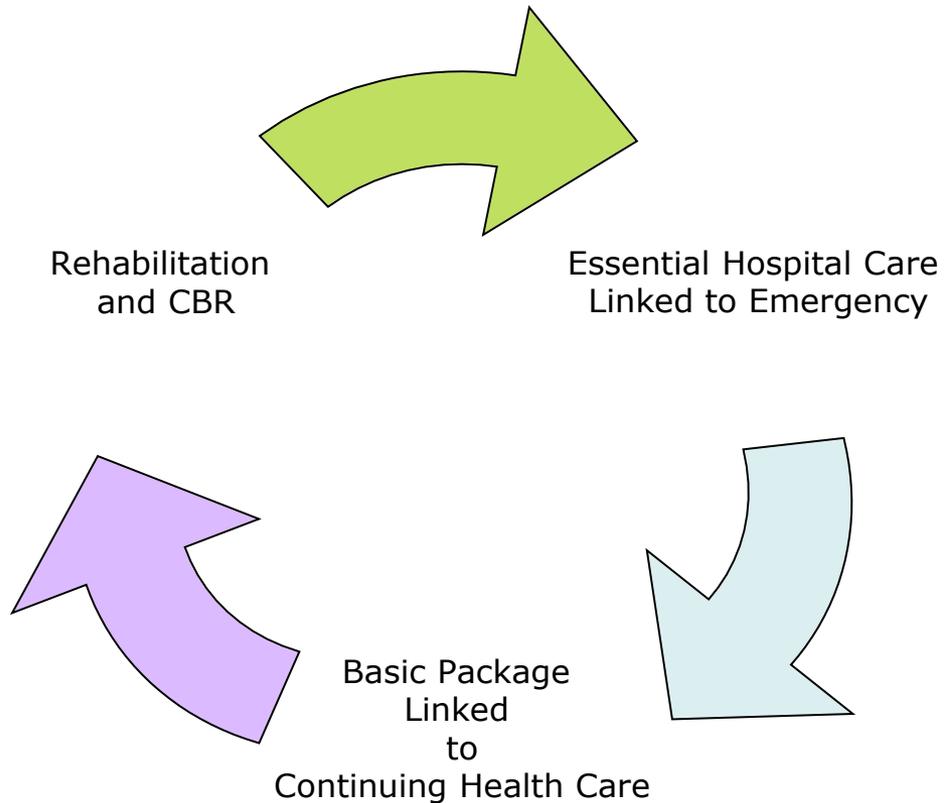


Disability Support Resource Centres

- Four additional Centres to be established
 - Kandahar
 - Jalalabad
 - Mazar-I-Sharif
 - Kabul
- Access to information and networking
- Consultancy and counseling services
- Awareness raising on disability issues
- Referral point



Ministry of Health



- Established a Disability Unit
- Integrating disability issues and rehabilitative services into Basic Package of Health Services and Essential Hospital Services
- Community Based Rehabilitation to ensure referral and access to services

Persons with Disabilities and Their Organizations

- Approximately 45 DPOs in Afghanistan
- 29 Registered with the Ministry of Justice
- Voices to be heard
- Developing Valuing Terminology



Ability and Beauty



Livelihood



Strategic Planning



- Initiated in 2006
- Second year of development
- Building consensus of all stakeholders
- Expanding to regional and national workshops in 2008



The Convention Provides Guidance to the Mine Ban Treaty

- Puts six elements of victim assistance into a clearer legal framework
- Elaborates on binding obligations in the Mine Ban Treaty
- Thank you for your attention

