

### Victim Assistance in Congo: then and now

Congo	1	2	3	4	5	6
According to original study		•		•	•	•
According to LM 2002		•			•	•
According to LM 2003		•		•	•	•

#### **Key Developments (LM 2002):**

The Mine Ban Treaty entered into force for the Republic of Congo on 1 November 2001. The Republic of Congo has reported a stockpile of 5,092 landmines, 400 of which it will retain for training purposes.

#### **Indicator 1: The extent to which information on mine victims' demographics and needs is available.**

##### **According to original study:**

LM 2000 reports no data available on mine victims.

##### **According to LM 2002:**

In 2001, no casualties caused by antipersonnel mines were reported.<sup>13</sup> However, the Republic of Congo does occasionally report casualties caused by unexploded ordnance. For example, in 2001, a man and boy were killed and a woman was injured when a UXO exploded in a blacksmith's workshop after mistakenly being thrown into a furnace. In 2000, 11 children were killed while playing with a German-made shell in a school playground.<sup>14</sup>

#### **Indicator 2: The extent to which a national disability coordination mechanism exists and recognizes mine victims.**

##### **According to original study:**

No information available.

##### **According to LM 2002:**

No information available.

#### **Indicator 3: The extent to which programs and services for the medical care and rehabilitation of mine victims are available.**

##### **According to original study:**

LM 2000 reports that repeated fighting and artillery damage has wrecked Brazzaville's medical infrastructure and has damaged national capacity for the treatment of landmine-related injuries. No other information is available on medical and rehabilitation services.

##### **According to LM 2002:**

The International Rescue Committee is working with the Ministry of Health to rehabilitate 21 health structures and train national staff in the southern districts of Dolisie and Lekoumou.<sup>16</sup>

#### **Indicator 4: The extent to which programs and services for the social and economic reintegration of mine victims are available**

##### **According to original study:**

No information available.

##### **According to LM 2002:**

Since June 2000, the UNDP has provided assistance to victims of the civil war, and their communities, to promote socio-economic reintegration and the return to a normal life through activities aimed at increasing access to basic social services and the means of subsistence.<sup>15</sup> A local NGO, Rassemblement National des Blessés et Victimes de Guerres Civiles (National Union of Wounded and Victims of Civil War), conducts a program to assist with the reintegration of war victims.

#### **Indicator 5: The extent to which mine victims are protected and supported by effective laws and policies.**

##### **According to original study:**

No information available.

**According to LM 2002:**

No information available.

**Indicator 6: The extent to which there is a disability community advocacy network.**

**According to original study:**

No information available.

**According to LM 2002:**

No information available.

**Endnotes:**

<sup>13</sup> Interview with Léonce Nkabi, Ministry of National Defense, Geneva, 30 January 2002.

<sup>14</sup> “Abandoned bomb kills two in Brazzaville,” *Pan African News Agency* (PANA), 29 October 2001.

<sup>15</sup> See: <http://mirror.undp.org/Congo/Documents>.

<sup>16</sup> See: [www.theirc.org](http://www.theirc.org).