

### Victim Assistance in Cyprus: then and now

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

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

In January 2002, the government of Cyprus introduced a bill to Parliament calling for early approval and ratification of the Mine Ban Treaty. Cyprus reports that it has cleared and destroyed more than 11,000 mines during the last two years. It has announced plans to clear the heavily-mined buffer zone that divides the island, starting unilaterally if necessary.

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

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

LM 1999 reports the number of civilian mine victims since 1974 to be unknown. LM 2000 reports no new civilian or military casualties in the buffer zone.

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

According to a press report, over the past 28 years three United Nations peacekeepers and several civilians have been killed or injured by landmines in Cyprus. The most recent death of a Greek Cypriot civilian was in 1997. In March 1999, a National Guard soldier was killed when an antivehicle mine exploded during a demining operation in a village on the ceasefire line south of Nicosia.<sup>37</sup>

In 2001, there were no casualties from mines in the government-controlled areas or in the buffer zone.<sup>38</sup> A Turkish Cypriot official added that there have been no landmine casualties in the north; there have been no media reports of casualties.<sup>39</sup>

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

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

LM 2000 reports that there is a national disability coordination body in Cyprus.

##### **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:**

No information available.

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

Nicosia General Hospital did not treat and was not asked to advise on the treatment of any mine casualties (including from the north) in 200.<sup>40</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:**

No information available.

#### **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>37</sup> “Cyprus Submits Landmine-Clearing Plan to UN,” *Xinhua News Agency*, 23 January 2002; see also *Landmine Monitor Report 2000*, p. 765.

<sup>38</sup> Press and Information Office, Nicosia, Cyprus, 27 March 2002.

<sup>39</sup> Interview with Rabat Caglar, Turkish Cypriot Representative, 29 March 2002; interview with Kyriakos Vrahimis, Press and Information Officer, Turkish Media Section, Press and Information Office, Nicosia, 27 March 2002.

<sup>40</sup> Interview with Dr. Costas Antoniadis, Director, Accident and Emergency Department, Nicosia General Hospital, 28 March 2002.