

Victim Assistance in Mauritania: then and now

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

Key Developments (LM 2002):

The Mines Advisory Group carried out a mine assessment mission in December 2001, and UNMAS conducted an assessment in 2002. Mauritania submitted its first Article 7 Report, dated 20 June 2001, and its annual update on 12 June 2002. Mauritania reports a stockpile of 5,728 mines, all of which will be retained.

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

According to original study:

LM 2000 reports that no reliable mine casualty data is available.

According to LM 2002:

In January 2001, a Portuguese national was injured when his vehicle hit a landmine during the Paris-Dakar rally. No other incidents were reported in 2001. However, because of the size of the country and the nomadic way of life of the population, it is possible that not all mine incidents are reported.

Between 1978 and 2000, 343 people were killed and 239 seriously injured in reported landmine incidents.³⁴ MAG's assessment report, however, reported data collated by the NDHO that listed slightly fewer recorded fatalities, 324, but the same number of injuries.³⁵ It also listed 584 camels and donkeys reported killed by mines and UXO and 32 vehicles destroyed.

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:

No information available.

According to LM 2002:

Emergency cases are sent to Nouakchott or to regional hospitals, but the capacity of facilities is limited. Community-based rehabilitation programs have been set up in the country. However, specialized facilities for rehabilitation of the disabled are based in Nouakchott and are therefore accessible to only a minority of the population.³⁶ In January 2002, the NDHO reported plans to establish a survivor assistance program, however no precise details are available.³⁷

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

According to original study:

LM 2000 reports that socio-economic reintegration programs and that benefits allowance are available to landmine victims in Mauritania.

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:

Government policy makes no distinction between landmine survivors and other persons with disabilities.

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:

³⁴ See *Landmine Monitor Report 2001*, p. 104.

³⁵ Mines Advisory Group, "Mauritania: Assessment Report on behalf of Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT)," December 2001, p. 5.

³⁶ See *Landmine Monitor Report 2001*, pp. 104-105.

³⁷ Séminaire Régional sur la Convention d'Ottawa en Afrique du Nord, by Lt-Col Abdi Ould Ahmed T'feil, Director, NHDO, Tunis, 15 January 2002.