

Victim Assistance

Dept. of Foreign Affairs
Min. des Affaires étrangères
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In **Bosnia and Herzegovina**, Canada is supporting a Queen's University peer counselling project for landmine survivors and other disabled persons. Training for peer counselling leaders and local health professionals is provided on issues such as care of amputations, prosthetics and orthotics, psycho-social

issues, community and family interaction and entrepreneurship training. Canada also contributed to the International Children's Institute for its "Support to Children Victims of Landmines" project in **Bosnia and Herzegovina**. This project aims to build coping skills among children affected by landmines, allow-

ing them to successfully reintegrate into their schools and communities.

Canada contributed to Physicians for Human Rights for pilot testing of landmine survivor surveys in **Azerbaijan** and the production of a manual containing the survey instruments and detailed instructions on their use.



PHOTO: ICRC/Boris Heger

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Victim assistance programs address the immediate and long-term needs of landmine victims, from initial emergency treatment to social and economic rehabilitation. Canada's contributions to these programs help landmine survivors rebuild their lives and communities.

"Each State Party in a position to do so shall provide assistance for the care and rehabilitation, and social and economic reintegration, of mine victims" - Ottawa Convention, Article 6.3

Mine Clearance

Clearing mined land and returning it to safe and productive use is fundamental to addressing the humanitarian needs of people living near minefields. Canada supports community-oriented, impact-based models of mine clearance in an effort to build the capacity of local partners to clear priority land.

In **Bosnia and Herzegovina**, Canada is contributing to the demining programs of Norwegian People's Aid, Akcija Protiv Mina (implemented by Handicap International) and the Entity Armed Forces (implemented by SFOR) with operations throughout the country. All of these programs use integrated demining techniques that involve manual clearance, mine

detection dog teams, and mechanical equipment.

In **Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia**, Canada provides support to the Canadian International Demining Corps for the training, accreditation and deployment of 36 mine detection dog teams.

In **Georgia**, Canada contributed to the British NGO HALO Trust for its integrated