



The first Landmine Monitor Report, launched at the First Meeting of States Parties to the Mine Ban Convention in May 1999.

cover photo Nic Dunlop, courtesy Human Rights Watch

Since the beginning of the Ottawa Process in 1996, 20 countries have destroyed over 14 million stockpiled mines. These weapons will never take a life or limb.

Switzerland have already completely destroyed their mines. Others, such as the Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Mozambique, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine and the United Kingdom are actively involved in stockpile destruction programs. Even non-signatory states like Russia and the United States have begun to destroy mines.

Canada has been active in promoting treaty universalization and adherence, and has contributed through a number of innovative and collaborative programs.

Working in partnership

Much of the success in extending the treaty's reach can be attributed to the tremendous work done by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) led by the International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL). The unique partnership between these organiza-

tions and a community of like-minded governments was the cornerstone of the Ottawa Process and remains integral to ongoing work to implement the Convention.

In recognition of the NGOs' effective work, DFAIT established the Mine Action Partnership Program (MAPP) as a means to contribute to the core funding of key domestic and international NGOs. A total of \$761,000 was disbursed through this program in fiscal year 1998-99 to support three key NGOs.

Mines Action Canada (MAC) was allocated \$300,000 to help its universalization, ratification and implementation activities and to assist its work with pro-ban civil society organizations in Latin America, Africa and Eastern Europe. This funding also supported MAC's collaboration with DFAIT in the development of a multi-media/multi-sectoral mine action outreach program in Canada. Partnership funding also assisted MAC to cultivate private sector and civil society support for mine action programs.

The International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL) received \$400,000 to continue work in support of rapid ratification and universalization in regions such as the Middle East, South East Asia and former Soviet republics where ban support is nascent. The funding will also assist the ICBL in advocacy and mine action policy development. Finally, funding for the ICBL will help it cultivate the capacities of pro-ban civil society organizations in developing countries so they are able to communicate effectively and efficiently with ban movement members.

The International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW) was allocated \$61,000 to build its capacity to push for the ratification, universalization and implementation of the Ottawa Convention. In particular, this funding assisted the IPPNW in helping build the capacities of civil society organizations in the former Soviet Union so they may participate fully in the ban movement and push governments in the region to sign, ratify and implement the Convention.