

Work by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) in recent years has advanced our knowledge on how socio-economic indicators can be used to both understand the impact of the landmine problem and progress that is being made. Initiatives such as those undertaken by the Oslo Peace Research Institute (PRIO) and Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC) have promoted a greater understanding of how mine action relates to broader development planning and programming.

Progress is also being made in obtaining the data and information needed to gain a better understanding of the global landmine problem. The Global Landmine Survey initiative was launched in 1998 to produce high quality data on the socio-economic impact of landmines. Under the direction of a working group that includes the United Nations, the GICHD, the

Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation and other NGOs, Level One Socio-Economic Impact Surveys are being done or planned in several mine affected countries and areas.

With the support of Canada and other states, survey activities are taking place in Angola, Cambodia, Chad, Kosovo, Lebanon, Mozambique and Yemen. The first Level One Survey was completed in Yemen in mid-2000 with the assistance of \$1.5 million provided by Canada. Its results were delivered to the Government of Yemen in September 2000.

Obtaining information on the general nature and scope of a country's landmine problem is another important element in setting priorities and ensuring effective coordination. By the end of 2000, the United Nations will have completed more than 10 inter-agency assessment missions designed to acquire this information. Assessment missions have been conducted in Azerbaijan, Belarus, Ecuador, Egypt, Honduras, Peru, Lebanon, Namibia, Sierra

A Level One Socio-Economic Impact Survey community interview at O'Our, Yemen.



Survey Action Center / MCPA