REGIONAL WORKSHOP REPORT

On
"Promoting the Collaboration and Cooperation of the Regional Victim Assistance Network Through Data Management for Victim Assistance in the ASEAN Member States (AMS)"

RAFFLES HOTEL LE ROYAL, PHNOM PENH, CAMBODIA
17-19 DECEMBER 2024

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AKCF	ASEAN-Korea Cooperation Fund
AMS	ASEAN Member States
APOPO	Anti-Personnel Landmine Removal Product Development
ARMAC	ASEAN Regional Mine Action Center
BDPO	Battambang Disabled People's Organization
CMAA	Cambodian Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority
CMAC	Cambodia Mine Action Center
CRC	Cambodia Red Cross
CSHD	Cambodian Self Help Demining
DAC	Disability Action Council
DEP	Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Ministry of Social Development and Human Security, Thailand
EO	Explosive Ordnance
EORE	Explosive Ordnance Risk Education
ERW	Explosive Remnants of War
HI	Humanity and Inclusion
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
J5	Director of Joint Civil Affairs, the Royal Thai Armed Forces
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
JRS/CCBL	Jesuit Refugee Service/Cambodian Campaign to Ban Landmines
KILT	Khmer Independent Life Team
MAG	Mines Advisory Group
MFA-IC	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Cambodia
MoLISA	Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs, Viet Nam
MoLVT	Ministry of Labor and Vocational Training, Cambodia

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NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NPA	Norwegian People's Aid
NPMEC	National Centre for Peacekeeping Forces, Mine, and ERW Clearance
NRA	National Regulatory Authority for UXO/Mine Action Sector, Lao PDR
PRC	Physical Rehabilitation Centre
PSA	Peace Sharing Association, the Republic of Korea
PwDF	Person with Disability Foundation
QTMAC	Quang Tri Provincial Mine Action Center, the Socialist of Viet Nam
TMAC	Thailand Mine Action Center
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
VAN	Victim Assistance Network
VNMAC	Vietnam National Mine Action Center

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INTRODUCTION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Regional Workshop on Promoting Collaboration and Cooperation of the Regional Victim Assistance Network Through Data Management for Victim Assistance in the ASEAN Member States (AMS), held from December 17–19, 2024, at the Raffles Hotel Le Royal in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, was a landmark event dedicated to advancing victim assistance across the ASEAN region. Organized by the ASEAN Regional Mine Action Center (ARMAC) in partnership with the Cambodian Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority (CMAA), this workshop served as a vital platform for enhancing regional collaboration, refining data systems, and strengthening support for survivors of explosive ordnance.

The event convened over 100 participants, including high-ranking officials, national representatives, international organizations, NGOs, and technical experts from ASEAN Member States, the Republic of Korea, and Japan. It provided an inclusive space for dialogue, knowledge-sharing, and strategic planning to address challenges in victim assistance, with a focus on leveraging data to improve survivor care.

This workshop was part of the "**Enhance Victim Assistance Programme in the ASEAN Member States**", generously supported by the ASEAN-Korea Cooperation Fund (AKCF). This program has been instrumental in fostering innovation, building regional capacity, and advancing comprehensive frameworks for victim assistance.

Across seven thematic sessions, participants addressed key topics, including the operationalization of the Victim Assistance Network (VAN), finalization of the Regional Victim Assistance Guidelines, and innovative solutions to data management challenges. The workshop concluded with a field visit to the Physical Rehabilitation Centre (PRC) of Exceed Worldwide, providing participants with an opportunity to witness survivor-focused rehabilitation services in action.

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ARMAC expresses its sincere gratitude to the following partners and stakeholders for their invaluable contributions:

- **ASEAN-Korea Cooperation Fund (AKCF):** For its generous financial support of over USD 2 million, enabling the Enhance Victim Assistance Programme in ASEAN region.

- **Government of the Republic of Korea:** For its unwavering commitment to regional peace and victim assistance.

- **Cambodian Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority (CMAA):** For its exemplary co-hosting, leadership, and dedication to mine action and victim assistance efforts.

- **SingHealth, Republic of Singapore:** For its in-kind contributions to psychosocial support and capacity-building initiatives part of this project.

- **Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MFA-IC), Cambodia:** For facilitating this significant event and its steadfast support for ARMAC's mission.

- **ASEAN Member States and Delegates:** For their active engagement, insights, and shared commitment to advancing victim assistance.

- **Exceed Worldwide:** For hosting the impactful field visit to the PRC, demonstrating the integration of data systems into survivor-focused rehabilitation services.

- **International Organizations, NGOs, and Experts:** For their dedication to knowledge-sharing and collaboration, contributing innovative solutions to victim assistance challenges.

ARMAC also expresses its sincere gratitude to all the participants, moderators, and panelists whose valuable contributions were instrumental to the workshop's success. Their dedication to fostering meaningful dialogue, sharing expertise, and offering diverse perspectives has laid the foundation for impactful and sustainable outcomes.

This workshop achieved significant milestones, including the finalization of the Regional Victim Assistance Guidelines, strategies to operationalize the Victim Assistance Network (VAN), and actionable recommendations to address gaps in data management. These accomplishments reflect the shared commitment of all stakeholders to advance victim assistance and ensure survivors receive the care, dignity, and opportunities they deserve.

ARMAC extends its heartfelt appreciation to everyone who played a role in this important event. Their collective efforts have paved the way for a future where no survivor is left behind and every voice is heard.

PARTICIPATION: COUNTRIES AND STAKEHOLDER

The Regional Workshop on Promoting Collaboration and Cooperation of the Regional Victim Assistance Network through Data Management convened a diverse group of participants from ASEAN Member States, key partner nations, and various organizations. This inclusivity fostered meaningful dialogue and collaboration, ensuring a comprehensive approach to advancing victim assistance across the region.

Represented Countries

The workshop included delegations from the following ASEAN Member States:

Explosive Ordnance (EO) Effected Members States

CAMBODIA LAO PDR MYANMAR

PHILIPPINES THAILAND VIETNAM

Non-Effected Members States

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM MALAYSIA INDONESIA

Representatives from non-ASEAN countries participated:

JAPAN

National Mine Action Authorities, Mine Action Centers, and Relevant Ministries

The workshop featured participation from a wide range of national agencies, including:

CAMBODIA:

- Cambodian Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority (CMAA) – Co-Host
- Cambodia Mine Action Center (CMAC)
- National Centre for Peacekeeping Forces, Mine, and ERW Clearance (NPMEC)
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MFA-IC)
- Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation
- Ministry of Health (MOH)
- Ministry of Labor and Vocational Training (MoLVT)

THAILAND:

- Thailand Mine Action Center (TMAC)
- Ministry of Social Development and Human Security, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEP)
- The Royal Thai Armed Forces Director of Joint Civil Affairs (J5)

LAO PDR:

- National Regulatory Authority for UXO/Mine Action Sector (NRA)

VIET NAM:

- Vietnam National Mine Action Center (VNMAC)
- Quang Tri Provincial Mine Action Center (QTMAC)
- Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs (MoLISA)

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MALAYSIA:

- Embassy of Malaysia to Cambodia
- Ministry of Defence (MinDef)

MYANMAR:

- Embassy of Myanmar to Cambodia
- Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement

Key Organizations and Stakeholders

The event also engaged prominent organizations and stakeholders, including:

International and Regional Organizations

- ASEAN Secretariat
- Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
- UNDP
- ICRC
- Humanity and Inclusion (HI)
- Mines Advisory Group (MAG)
- Norwegian People's Aid (NPA)
- Anti-Personnel Landmine Removal Product Development (APOPO)

Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)

- Cambodia Red Cross (CRC)
- Peace Sharing Association (Korea)
- Jesuit Refugee Service/Cambodian Campaign to Ban Landmines (JRS/CCBL)
- Cambodian Self Help Demining (CSHD)
- Battambang Disabled People's Organization (BDPO)
- Khmer Independent Life Team (KILT)
- Disability Action Council (DAC)
- Person with Disability Foundation (PwDF)

Health and Academic Institutions

- Exceed Worldwide, Cambodia
- Preah Ket Mealea Hospital, Cambodia

- National Institute for Emergency Medicine (NIEM), Thailand

Participating Stakeholders

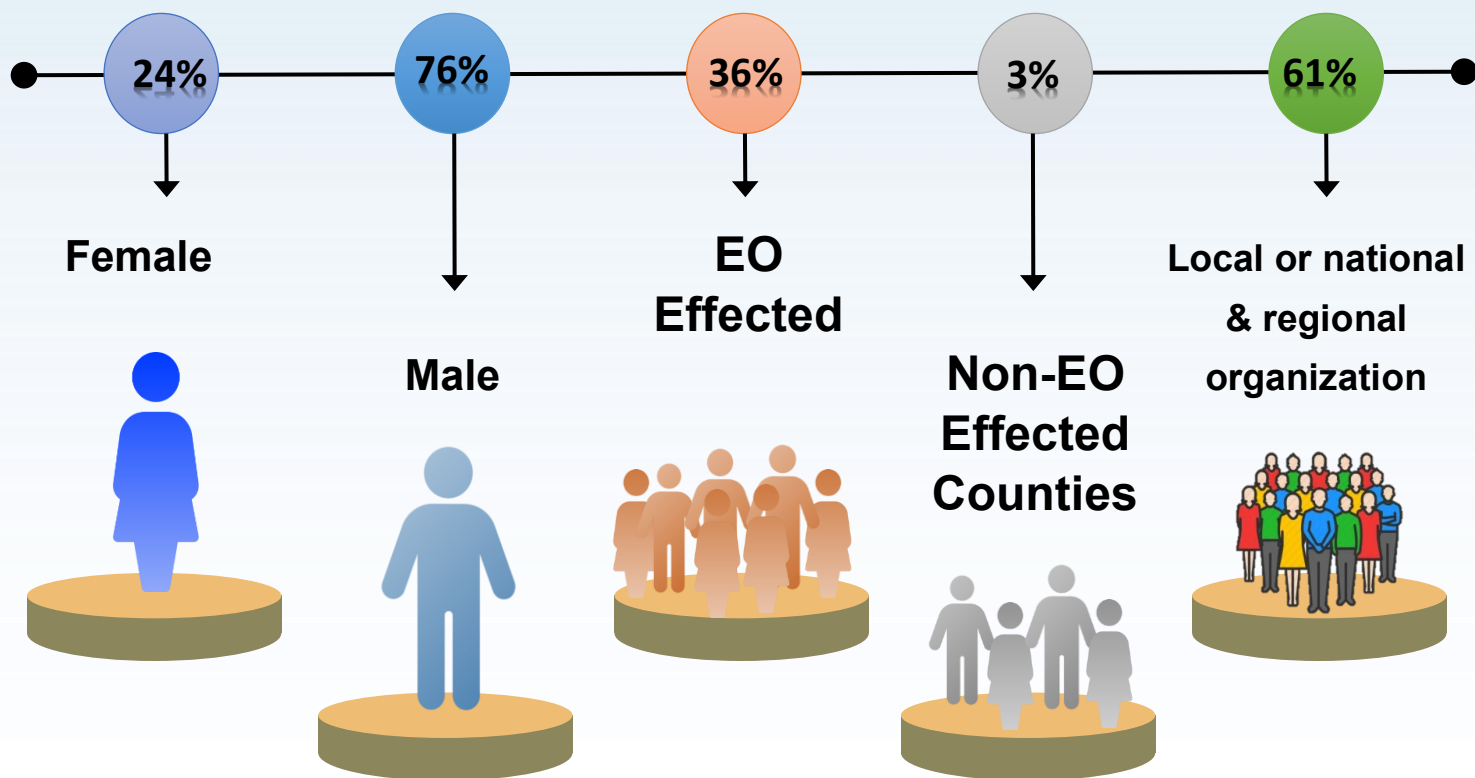The event was enriched by the active involvement of diverse stakeholders, including:

Country Representatives:

- Delegations from ASEAN Member States, along with representatives from the Republic of Korea and Japan, underscoring the workshop's regional and international scope.

- **National Mine Action Authorities:** Leading agencies responsible for victim assistance, mine action, and social welfare initiatives across the region.

- **Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and Development Partners:** Contributing field-level expertise and critical insights into survivor care and capacity building.

- **Health and Academic Institutions:** Providing technical expertise and showcasing innovative practices in rehabilitation and victim support.

- **Donor Organization:** Represented by the Republic of Korea, emphasizing its vital role in supporting the workshop's objectives and fostering regional collaboration.

This diverse group of participants brought together a range of expertise and perspectives, enriching the discussions and driving actionable steps for victim assistance. The inclusivity of **countries and** stakeholders ensured comprehensive coverage of regional and global challenges, reinforcing collaboration and innovation in victim assistance.

PARTICIPATION

24% — **Female**

76% — **Male**

36% — **EO Effected**

3% — **Non-EO Effected Counties**

61% — **Local or national & regional organization**

I. OPENING CEREMONY SUMMARY

The opening ceremony of the Regional Workshop on Promoting Collaboration and Cooperation of the Regional Victim Assistance Network through Data Management underscored the collective commitment of ASEAN Member States and international partners to enhancing victim assistance. Distinguished speakers set the stage for meaningful discussions, including remarks by H.E. Dr. Ly Thuch, Senior Minister and First Vice President of the Cambodian Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority (CMAA); Ms. Baek Sun-woo, First Secretary of the Embassy of the Republic of Korea, on behalf of H.E. Park Jung-wook; Mr. Soukinda Ounavong, Second Secretary of the Lao PDR Embassy, on behalf of H.E. Buakeo Phumvongsay, Chair of ARMAC's Steering Committee; and Ms. Rothna Buth, Executive Director of ARMAC. Their addresses emphasized the importance of collaboration, innovation, and the critical role of data-driven approaches in transforming the lives of survivors across the ASEAN region.

H.E. Dr. Ly Thuch

Senior Minister and First Vice President of Cambodia Mine Action and Victims Assistance Authority (CMAA)

Delivering a powerful keynote, H.E. Dr. Ly Thuch opened with a vivid reminder of the human toll of explosive ordnance—farmers, children, and workers who unknowingly fall victim to hidden dangers. He stressed that these are not abstract tragedies but real stories of pain, loss, and survival across ASEAN.

He expressed profound gratitude to the Government of the Republic of Korea and the ASEAN-Korea Cooperation Fund (AKCF) for their steadfast support, noting that Korea's USD 10 million contribution to Cambodia reflects deep humanitarian

solidarity. He also thanked Samdech Moha Borvor Thipadei Hun Manet, Prime Minister of Cambodia, for his visionary leadership that has transformed Cambodia into a regional leader in mine action and victim assistance.

Dr. Ly emphasized that the workshop's focus on regional guidelines and data management must go beyond technicalities—it should translate into tangible care, dignity, and opportunity for every survivor, especially the most vulnerable. He encouraged participants to see data not just as numbers but as tools for equity, inclusion, and proactive change. He referenced Cambodia's successful presidency of the Fifth Review Conference of the APMBC and the launch of the *Angkor Action Plan* as a reflection of ASEAN's global leadership.

In closing, Dr. Ly urged all participants to set new standards for victim assistance, tear down systemic barriers, and transform survivors' stories into models of resilience, dignity, and hope. His closing quote, "It is not the scars on my body that hold me back; it is the walls that others put in my way," deeply resonated with the spirit of the workshop.

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Mr. Soukinda Ounavong
Second Secretary of the Lao PDR Embassy to Cambodia (on behalf of H.E. Mr. Buakeo Phumvongsay, Chair of ARMAC's Steering Committee)

Ms. Baek Sun-woo,

First Secretary of the Embassy of the Republic of Korea (on behalf of H.E. Mr. Park Jung-wook, Ambassador of Korea to Cambodia)

Ms. Baek expressed Korea's continued pride in standing with ASEAN Member States through the ASEAN-Korea Cooperation Fund. She congratulated Cambodia on its leadership in the Fifth Review Conference and reaffirmed Korea's commitment to humanitarian mine action, drawing from its own post-war recovery experience.

She emphasized that effective victim assistance goes beyond resources—it requires ethical, inclusive, and accurate data systems that ensure no survivor is left behind. Since 2021, Korea's support of over USD 2 million to the VA Project has represented a strategic and heartfelt effort to enhance regional capacity.

Ms. Baek highlighted the significance of this final regional workshop, noting that it offers a valuable opportunity to exchange knowledge, strengthen partnerships, and drive evidence-based improvements in victim assistance. She concluded with a message of unity and shared purpose, stating that Korea remains steadfast in its support and looks forward to the meaningful outcomes of this collaboration.

On behalf of the Chair of ARMAC's Steering Committee, Mr. Ounavong acknowledged ARMAC and CMAA for co-hosting this meaningful regional event. He framed the workshop as the culmination of a regional journey that began in Bali, continued in Bangkok, and now arrives in Phnom Penh—underscoring ASEAN's unity in supporting victims.

He paid tribute to the Republic of Korea for its generous support and reiterated that victim assistance is not merely a duty but a moral imperative rooted in shared humanity. He emphasized that every statistic represents a story of strength, and data must serve as a tool for inclusive, survivor-centered decision-making.

Mr. Ounavong recognized the progress achieved under the Enhance Victim Assistance Programme—from network building to training and research—but also noted the challenges that lie ahead. He called for renewed coordination, innovation, and commitment from all stakeholders to translate the workshop's outputs into lasting impact.

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He closed by affirming Lao PDR's dedication to continuing close collaboration with ASEAN Member States, ARMAC, and partners, and called on the region to build a safer and more inclusive future for all EO survivors.

Ms. Rothna Buth
Executive Director of the ASEAN Regional Mine Action Center (ARMAC)

Ms. Buth warmly welcomed participants and underscored the emotional and institutional significance of the workshop—the final regional gathering of the Enhance Victim Assistance Programme. She recognized the strong partnership with CMAA, the generous support from the Government of the Republic of Korea and AKCF, and the invaluable in-kind contribution from SingHealth.

She highlighted the program's major achievements: the establishment of the Regional Victim Assistance Network (VAN) and its Terms of Reference; training over 240 healthcare professionals in psychosocial support; conducting national consultations in five countries; and hosting impactful regional workshops in Seoul, Bali, and Bangkok. These achievements, she noted, reflect the power of partnership and vision.

Ms. Buth emphasized that this workshop is not just about finalizing guidelines or data systems—it is about people. It is about ensuring survivors' voices are heard and their lives rebuilt with dignity and support. She referenced Cambodia's leadership in global mine action and the adoption of the Angkor Action Plan as an example of ASEAN's ability to lead with compassion and innovation.

She closed with a call to action: that the workshop must deliver not only technical outputs but actionable steps to ensure a resilient, inclusive, and survivor-centered future. On behalf of ARMAC, she reaffirmed the Center's commitment to supporting Member States and advancing victim assistance through innovation, regional cooperation, and shared values.

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II. SETTING THE STAGE

Ms. Chanthana Sengthong
Project Manager of the ASEAN Regional Mine Action Center (ARMAC)

The Regional Workshop on Promoting Collaboration and Cooperation of the Regional Victim Assistance Network through Data Management brings together a wide array of stakeholders dedicated to advancing the well-being and empowerment of survivors of explosive ordnance in the ASEAN region. This landmark event is part of the Enhance Victim Assistance Programme in the ASEAN Member States, a project generously supported by the ASEAN-Korea Cooperation Fund.

Victim assistance is more than a technical or administrative task—it is a profoundly human mission that calls for collaboration, innovation, and shared resolve. As we gather here, we aim to address critical gaps, refine strategies, and enhance regional capacity to support survivors with dignity, care, and inclusion.

This workshop is thoughtfully designed to combine thematic discussions, technical expertise, and real-world applications. It features seven key sessions that reflect the priorities and challenges of victim assistance across ASEAN:

1. **Session 1**: The workshop opened with a focus on regional collaboration, emphasizing the operationalization of the Victim Assistance Network (VAN). Through the presentation of successful initiatives and best practices from EO affected ASEAN Member States, participants gained insights into how partnerships and networks can strengthen collective efforts.

2. **Session 2**: Country-specific contexts took center stage as participants presented their experiences in managing victim assistance data. Each country shared best practices and challenges, providing a rich tapestry of approaches to data management. These presentations highlighted the diversity of strategies while underscoring common goals.

3. **Session 3**: Participants collaborated to finalize the VAN's structure and functionality, ensuring it becomes a robust and sustainable mechanism for regional coordination. Discussions addressed key priorities, challenges, and adjustments to align the VAN with regional needs.

4. **Session 4**: This session was dedicated to refining the Regional Victim Assistance Guidelines. Through group discussions and collaborative input, participants worked to ensure the guidelines

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reflect international standards while addressing the unique realities and priorities of ASEAN Member States.

5. **Session 5**: Thematic subgroup discussions explored specific challenges in data management, such as accuracy, standardization, and sharing. Participants proposed innovative solutions, including the use of secure digital platforms and regional templates, and ensured gender and inclusion considerations were integrated into all discussions.

6. **Session 6**: Building on the earlier sessions, this segment focused on consolidating actionable strategies to advance victim assistance. The discussions aimed to bridge gaps in coordination and ensure that data-driven approaches are effectively implemented.

7. **Session 7**: The workshop concluded with a meaningful field visit to the Physical Rehabilitation Centre (PRC) of Exceed Worldwide. This visit allowed participants to witness firsthand how data management systems are integrated into survivor rehabilitation services, providing a tangible connection between workshop discussions and practical applications.

Through these sessions, participants engaged in dialogue and knowledge-sharing that emphasized not only the importance of data management but also the broader mission of inclusivity and resilience.

This workshop represents more than a series of discussions—it is a commitment to survivors, a pledge to improve their lives through collaboration, and a testament to the power of regional unity. By addressing gaps in data management, sharing best practices, and finalizing key frameworks such as the VAN and the Regional Victim Assistance Guidelines, this workshop contributes to a future where survivors receive the care, dignity, and opportunities they deserve.

As we embark on this journey of dialogue and collaboration, let us reaffirm our collective commitment to a vision where no survivor is left behind. The outcomes of this workshop will guide future actions, ensuring that the frameworks we build today translate into impactful and sustainable support for survivors across ASEAN.

Together, we have the power to shape a future of hope, dignity, and opportunity for all those affected by explosive ordnance.

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III. BACKGROUND AND AIM

The **Regional Workshop on Promoting Collaboration and Cooperation of the Regional Victim Assistance Network through Data Management** was a pivotal event under the "Enhance Victim Assistance Programme in the ASEAN Member States." Funded by the **ASEAN-Korea Cooperation Fund (AKCF)** and implemented by the **ASEAN Regional Mine Action Center (ARMAC)** in partnership with the **Cambodian Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority (CMAA)**, the workshop served as a cornerstone of regional efforts to improve support for survivors of explosive ordnance.

Explosive ordnance continues to pose significant humanitarian, social, and economic challenges across the ASEAN region, impacting individuals, families, and

enhance victim assistance (VA) initiatives, the Enhance Victim Assistance Programme was launched with the overarching goal of strengthening regional collaboration and capacity in providing timely and effective support to survivors.

This workshop, held from **December 17–19, 2024**, in **Phnom Penh, Cambodia**, brought together over 100 participants, including high-ranking government officials, representatives from national mine action authorities, NGOs, international organizations, technical experts, and donors. The gathering represented a unique opportunity for ASEAN Member States and partners to convene, share experiences, and collaborate on innovative solutions to address the multifaceted challenges of victim assistance.

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Workshop Objectives

The workshop was designed to achieve five primary objectives:

1. **Finalization of the Regional Victim Assistance Guidelines**: This guideline aims to provide a comprehensive framework for victim assistance across ASEAN, aligning regional efforts with international standards and best practices.

2. **Strengthening the Victim Assistance Network (VAN)**: By operationalizing the VAN, the workshop sought to enhance regional collaboration, coordination, and knowledge-sharing among ASEAN Member States and stakeholders.

3. **Capacity Building**: The event emphasized the importance of building the technical and institutional capacity of ASEAN Member States to develop and implement robust data management systems for victim assistance.

4. **Addressing Data Management Gaps**: Participants engaged in discussions to identify challenges in data accuracy, standardization, and sharing, proposing innovative strategies to improve data systems for survivor care.

5. **Knowledge Sharing and Innovation**: The workshop provided a platform for stakeholders to share best practices, lessons learned, and innovative approaches to victim assistance, fostering a culture of continuous improvement and collaboration.

Significance

The workshop underscored the transformative power of collaboration, data-driven approaches, and survivor-centered strategies. It highlighted the collective commitment of ASEAN Member States and partners to ensure that victims of explosive ordnance receive the care, dignity, and opportunities they deserve.

With actionable outcomes, including the finalization of the **Regional Victim Assistance Guidelines** and strategies to operationalize the **Victim Assistance Network (VAN)**, the workshop laid the groundwork for impactful and sustainable improvements in victim assistance across the ASEAN region.

This landmark gathering reflected a shared vision of resilience, inclusivity, and empowerment, reaffirming the region's dedication to leaving no survivor behind.

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IV. REGIONAL WORKSHOP SESSIONS

SESSION 1: STRENGTHENING COLLABORATION THROUGH THE VICTIM ASSISTANCE NETWORK (VAN)

FOCUS ON FOSTERING REGIONAL COOPERATION, SHARING SUCCESSFUL INITIATIVES, AND ENHANCING MUTUAL SUPPORT AMONG ASEAN MEMBER STATES.

SESSION 2: INFORMATION MANAGEMENT FOR VICTIM ASSISTANCE COUNTRY-SPECIFIC CONTEXTS OF VICTIM ASSISTANCE, EXPLORING DATA MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES AND SHOWCASING BEST PRACTICES.

SESSION 3: FINALIZING THE VICTIM ASSISTANCE NETWORK (VAN) REVIEWING AND ALIGNING THE VAN STRUCTURE TO ENSURE SUSTAINABILITY AND READINESS FOR IMPLEMENTATION.

SESSION 4: REFINING THE REGIONAL VICTIM ASSISTANCE GUIDELINES COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS TO ALIGN THE GUIDELINES WITH REGIONAL PRIORITIES AND GLOBAL STANDARDS.

SESSION 5: ADDRESSING DATA MANAGEMENT GAPS AND SOLUTIONS

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SESSION 1: STRENGTHENING REGIONAL VAN IMPLEMENTATION:

Panel Discussion on Mainstreaming Data Management through VAN cooperation & coordination

Moderator

Mr. You Kolvireak, Database Unit Manager, Cambodian Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority (CMAA). Mr. Kolvireak's expertise in database management and GIS technology brought a data-driven perspective to discussions on enhancing collaboration through the Victim Assistance Network. His leadership in the session guided participants in exploring innovative ways to operationalize the VAN for improved victim support.

Session Overview

The session focused on the operationalization of the Victim Assistance Network (VAN) as a collaborative platform for ASEAN Member States. It aimed to enhance coordination, share best practices, and leverage data systems to address the needs of survivors of explosive ordnance more effectively.

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<div style="color:white;background:red">**Panelists**</div>

1. **Mr. Bountao Chanthavongsa**, UXO/Mine Victim Assistance Officer, Lao PDR NRA
   Presented Lao PDR's efforts in implementing IMSMA for victim assistance and gender-sensitive data initiatives.

2. **Ms. Haruthai Sirisinudomkit**, Director, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEP), Thailand
   Shared Thailand's approach to integrating victim data with broader disability support systems, fostering inclusivity.

3. **Major General Warit Sueayang**, Deputy Director General, Thailand Mine Action Center (TMAC)
   Highlighted the importance of Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) and TMAC's victim assistance programs.

4. **Mr. Giang Cong Bau**, Deputy Director General, Vietnam National Mine Action Center (VNMAC)
   Discussed Vietnam's initiatives to build a centralized national database for victim assistance and interagency coordination.

<div style="color:white;background:red">**Summary of the Session:**</div>

The session began with an introduction to the goals of the VAN, emphasizing its role in fostering collaboration and supporting survivors through shared data and resources. Panelists provided case studies and insights from their respective countries, highlighting both successes and ongoing challenges.

As emphasized by **Mr. You Kolvireak**, Moderator of the session:

"Data is not just about numbers; it is about people and their stories. It is a bridge that connects needs with solutions, ensuring that no survivor is left behind."

The discussions showcased how AMS have implemented innovative tools and strategies to improve victim assistance, with particular attention to integrating data into decision-making and policy implementation.

Lao PDR: A Community-Centered Approach

Mr. Bountao Chanthavongsa, from the National Regulatory Authority for the UXO/Mine Action Sector (NRA) in Lao PDR, presented the country's commitment to systematic data collection and management through the Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA). This platform provides a centralized mechanism for tracking and managing survivor data, ensuring that comprehensive information is available for decision-making and resource allocation.

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Lao PDR's approach emphasizes inclusivity through gender-sensitive data collection tools that actively include women, children, and marginalized groups. This commitment reflects the nation's broader goal of ensuring equitable access to victim assistance services for all survivors, regardless of their circumstances.

Additionally, Mr. Chanthavongsa highlighted the role of community-level capacity-building in empowering local leaders and health workers. By strengthening grassroots capacity, Lao PDR has ensured that rural and remote communities can actively participate in delivering sustainable victim assistance services. This model of localized empowerment was showcased as a scalable framework for other AMS.

Thailand: Bridging Risk Education and Survivor Support

Representing Thailand, **Ms. Haruthai Sirisinudomkit and Major General Warit Sueayang** shared the country's dual-pronged strategy that integrates Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) with victim assistance programs. This holistic framework not only addresses prevention but also ensures comprehensive support for survivors.

Thailand's EORE campaigns have been instrumental in reducing the risk of EO incidents, particularly among children and other vulnerable groups. Reaching over 100,000 individuals, these campaigns employ targeted messaging and educational tools to build public awareness and foster safer behaviors in affected regions.

The speakers also emphasized the integration of victim assistance programs into Thailand's national disability support system. This approach ensures that survivors benefit from a full spectrum of services, including medical care, psychological support, vocational training, and social assistance. A centralized disability registry further enhances coordination among government agencies, NGOs, and service providers, ensuring efficient and timely support for survivors.

Through data-driven analysis, Thailand has refined its victim assistance programs, identifying gaps and trends that guide continuous improvements. This proactive use of data exemplifies Thailand's commitment to evidence-based policymaking and survivor-centered program design.

Vietnam: Centralizing Data for Better Outcomes

Vietnam's presentation, led by Mr. Giang Cong Bau and Mr. Phan Hoang Hoai Duc of the Vietnam National Mine Action Center (VNMAC), showcased the country's strides in establishing a centralized database for victim assistance. This initiative synchronizes data collection and management across multiple government agencies, creating a unified framework for addressing the needs of EO survivors.

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VNMAC has prioritized interagency collaboration, breaking down silos to foster greater communi-cation and coordination. Partnerships with the Ministry of Labour, Invalids, and Social Affairs (MOLISA) and various NGOs have expanded outreach to underserved populations, particularly in remote areas.

The presentation also highlighted Vietnam's adoption of digital tools for real-time data updates. These tools enable dynamic monitoring of survivor progress, allowing authorities to allocate resources effectively and respond to emerging needs. Case studies, such as community-based rehabilitation programs and vocational training initiatives, illustrated the transformative potential of a coordinated, data-driven approach to victim assistance.

Discussion

The session's interactive component saw active engagement from participants, who posed questions and shared insights on four key themes:

1. **Strengthening Regional Coordination**
   The VAN emerged as a unifying platform for victim assistance, bridging national efforts and fostering shared learning. Discussions emphasized the need for periodic TOR reviews, clearer governance structures, and regular communication to ensure alignment between national and regional priorities.

2. **Data Management Challenges and Innovations**
   Panelists highlighted disparities in data accuracy, interoperability, and reporting standards across ASEAN Member States. Participants proposed innovative solutions, including digital dashboards for real-time tracking and the establishment of a secure regional data repository. Capacity-building initiatives were suggested to address technical gaps and ensure sustainability.

3. **Inclusivity in Victim Assistance**
   The need to design programs that are inclusive and survivor-focused was a recurring theme. Discussions highlighted the importance of disaggregated data to address the specific needs of women, children, and marginalized communities. Survivor engagement in program design and policy formulation was championed as a best practice.

4. **Leveraging Technology and Innovation**
   Emerging technologies like Geographic Information Systems (GIS), mobile data collection tools, and cloud-based platforms were discussed as transformative tools for enhancing data management and program efficiency. These technologies promise to bridge gaps in accessibility and ensure timely interventions.

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Key Outcomes

The session culminated in several actionable outcomes that will serve as a roadmap for strengthening regional collaboration:

- **Operationalization of the VAN:** Agreement was reached on formalizing the VAN's governance structure, defining roles, and establishing a mechanism for regular communication and monitoring. A VAN Secretariat was proposed to support ongoing collaboration and ensure the continuity of initiatives.

- **Data Sharing Framework:** A standardized protocol for regional data sharing was proposed, emphasizing secure, ethical, and interoperable systems to enable consistent and accurate reporting across Member States.

- **Capacity Building Initiatives:** Training programs focused on data management, policy development, and technical skills were identified as critical to enhancing the operational efficiency of national mine action authorities and partner organizations.

- **Inclusivity and Survivor-Centered Design:** A commitment was made to integrate survivor perspectives into program planning and implementation. Gender-sensitive approaches and tailored interventions for vulnerable groups were prioritized to ensure inclusivity and equity.

- **Promotion of Best Practices:** Successful initiatives such as Thailand's EORE campaigns and Vietnam's centralized database model were identified as templates for replication and adaptation across ASEAN Member States.

Key Takeaways

The panelists' insights provided a rich tapestry of approaches to victim assistance, reflecting the diversity and innovation within AMS. The case studies reinforced the importance of national frameworks tailored to local contexts, while also underscoring the need for regional cohesion through the VAN. Collectively, the presentations illuminated pathways to strengthen collaboration, enhance inclusivity, and leverage data for impactful victim assistance across ASEAN.

"Collaboration is the cornerstone of effective victim assistance. By harmonizing data, sharing resources, and learning from each other, ASEAN Member States can ensure no survivor is left behind and every voice is heard."

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Session 2: Information Management for Victim Assistance – Country Presentations and Best Practices and Lessons Learned

Panel Discussion from Government and NGOs

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Moderator

Mr. Yoshinori Asada, JICA Expert

Yoshinori Asada is an Expert at the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the Project Coordinator for the Strengthening Organizational Functions of the Cambodian Mine Action Center (CMAC). With over a decade of experience in international development, Mr. Asada has played a pivotal role in enhancing the capacity of CMAC and promoting knowledge-sharing initiatives across the region. His expertise spans policy analysis, regional collaboration, and development cooperation, making him a key facilitator for discussions on data management for victim assistance (VA).

Mr. Yoshinori Asada- JICA

Session Overview

This session focused on exploring the critical role of data management in improving victim assistance (VA) programs across ASEAN Member States. Panelists shared national experiences, innovative practices, and key challenges in using data to provide timely and effective support to survivors of explosive ordnance (EO). By analyzing current systems, the session offered insights into how harmonized and advanced data solutions can drive regional collaboration, enhance service delivery, and ensure that no survivor is left behind.

Summary of the Session

The session opened with an overview by ARMAC, outlining existing data management systems and their role in supporting victim assistance programs. The moderator, Mr. Asada, framed the discussion by emphasizing the importance of leveraging technology and fostering collaboration to address gaps in service delivery.

The panelists then presented their country-specific approaches, offering a diverse array of solutions and lessons learned in the process of integrating data systems into victim assistance efforts.

Insights from Panelists

Cambodia: Building Integrated Data Systems

Mr. Kolvireak You from CMAA provided a detailed account of Cambodia's efforts to develop a centralized data system to track survivor needs and monitor program outcomes. He highlighted the use of GIS-based dashboards that offer real-time insights into victim assistance trends, enabling authorities to allocate resources effectively and address service gaps.

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Cambodia's integration of data from various sectors, including healthcare and social services, was presented as a model for inter-agency collaboration.

Ms. Nwe Nwe Win- DOR

Mr. Kolvireak You - CMAA

Myanmar: Addressing Geographical and Logistical Challenges

Ms. Nwe Nwe Win, representing the Department of Rehabilitation (DOR), shared Myanmar's innovative use of mobile data collection tools to reach remote and conflict-affected areas. She described how these tools have improved the timeliness and accuracy of data, ensuring that marginalized communities are included in victim assistance efforts. The presentation underscored the importance of local engagement and partnerships in overcoming logistical barriers.

Vietnam: A Comprehensive Social Protection Framework

Mr. Minh Hoang Vu from MOLISA highlighted Vietnam's centralized database for victim assistance, designed to integrate data from multiple ministries and agencies. By streamlining inter-agency collaboration, Vietnam has created a unified system that improves the efficiency and coverage of survivor support services. Mr. Vu also discussed the role of partnerships with NGOs in extending outreach to underserved areas, showcasing vocational training and community rehabilitation programs as examples of successful interventions.
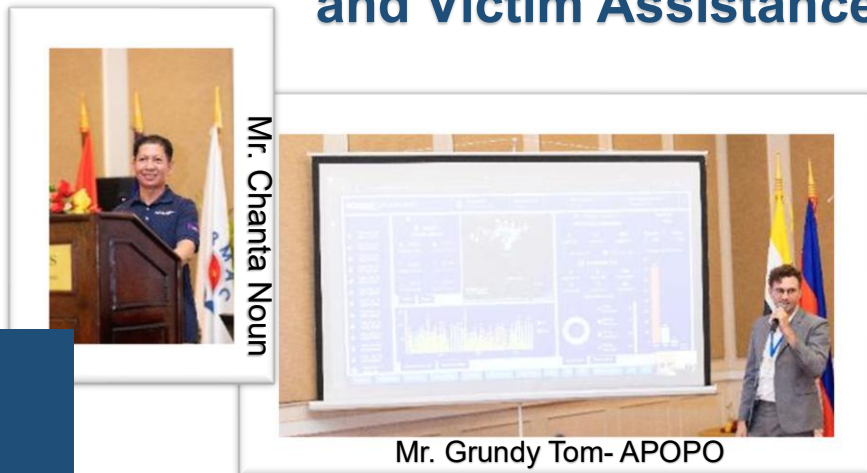
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Mr. Minh Hoang Vu -MOLISA

Prof. Cho Jai Kook from Peace Sharing Association and Yonsei University presented Korea's contributions to advancing data systems in the ASEAN region. He introduced innovative technologies, such as predictive analytics and cloud-based platforms, which can help AMS enhance data integration and ensure more effective resource allocation. His presentation emphasized the potential of technology to not only improve efficiency but also to transform victim assistance into a data-driven, survivor-centered endeavor.

APOPO Cambodia: Innovations in Risk Education and Victim Assistance

Republic of Korea: Leveraging Advanced Technologies

Prof. Cho Jai Kook - PSC

Mr. Chanta Noun

Mr. Grundy Tom- APOPO

Mr. Grundy Tom and Mr. Chanta Noun discussed APOPO's dual focus on Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) and victim assistance. They highlighted the organization's use of digital dashboards to monitor EORE campaigns and collect survivor feedback. The integration of this data has enabled APOPO to refine its programs and foster trust within affected communities, ultimately improving the reach and impact of their initiatives.

Discussion

The lively Q&A session featured contributions from panelists and participants, addressing several critical themes:

1. Regional Collaboration and Data Sharing

Discussions emphasized the need for a regional protocol to standardize data sharing among ASEAN Member States. This would enable cross-border collaboration and ensure consistency in victim assistance programs.

2. Overcoming Technical and Resource Barriers

Panelists and participants shared strategies to address resource constraints, such as leveraging open-source software and forming public-private partnerships to enhance technical capacity.

3. Ethical Data Management

The importance of ethical practices in data management was highlighted, with a focus on obtaining survivor consent, safeguarding privacy, and ensuring that data use aligns with the principles of dignity and inclusion.

4. Integration of Risk Education and Assistance Data

Discussions explored the benefits of merging EORE data with victim assistance systems to provide a holistic understanding of survivor needs and to inform proactive interventions.

Key Outcomes

1. Development of a Regional Data Sharing Framework

Participants endorsed the creation of a standardized framework for data exchange to enhance regional collaboration and improve the consistency of victim assistance programs.

2. Strengthened Capacity Building Initiatives

The session identified the need for training programs to enhance technical skills in data management, including database creation, GIS applications, and data analysis.

3. Adoption of Best Practices

Cambodia's GIS-based dashboards and Vietnam's centralized social protection framework were highlighted as exemplary models for replication across ASEAN Member States.

4. Enhanced Inclusivity

Recommendations included prioritizing the integration of marginalized groups into data systems and ensuring that survivor voices are central to policy and program development.

Key Takeaway

Prof. Cho Jai Kook aptly summarized the importance of the session:
"Data is not merely a tool—it is a bridge to better lives. By harnessing its potential, we can transform victim assistance into a truly inclusive and effective system that leaves no survivor behind."

This session underscored the transformative power of data management in victim assistance, laying the foundation for stronger collaboration and innovative solutions across the ASEAN region.

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SESSION 3: FINALIZATION OF THE VICTIM ASSISTANCE NETWORK (VAN)

- **Presentation the output on VAN Structure and Action Plan Outputs from the last workshop in Bangkok (review VAN structure and objectives)**
- **Open discussion for further concerns and reach consensus.**
- **VAN Implementation Group Discussions**

Session Overview

The third session was pivotal in advancing the operationalization of the Victim Assistance Network (VAN). The VAN is a central mechanism designed to enhance regional collaboration, harmonize data management systems, and promote multi-sectoral cooperation to support explosive ordnance (EO) survivors. This session aimed to finalize the framework for the VAN, ensuring its sustainability and effectiveness in addressing victim assistance across ASEAN Member States.

Led by ARMAC's Project Manager, Ms. Chanthana Sengthong, the session highlighted the VAN's strategic importance and provided a platform for in-depth group discussions. These discussions were designed to address specific aspects of the VAN, fostering collaborative solutions and actionable outcomes.

Presentation by:
Ms. Chanthana Sengthong
Project Manager
ARMAC

Ms. Chanthana Sengthong delivered an insightful presentation to set the stage for this critical session. She outlined the VAN's vision, objectives, and strategic framework while emphasizing its role in uniting national efforts under a cohesive regional mechanism.

She highlighted that the session built upon the progress made during the last Regional Workshop held in Bangkok, where initial discussions on the VAN's framework and implementation began. Ms. Sengthong noted that inputs and feedback collected from that workshop, along with subsequent consultations, were incorporated to refine the VAN's structure and align it with regional priorities and international standards. Her presentation covered:

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1. **Strategic Vision:**

   Establishing the VAN as a cohesive platform for regional collaboration, integrating national efforts under a unified framework to address victim assistance challenges effectively.

2. **Key Objectives:**
   - Strengthening regional cooperation among Member States.
   - Addressing gaps in victim assistance, particularly in data management and multi-sectoral coordination.
   - Ensuring inclusivity, focusing on the unique needs of vulnerable populations, including women, children, and persons with disabilities.

3. **Progress and Milestones:**
   - Ms. Sengthong highlighted the collaborative process of developing the VAN, shaped by extensive consultations and inputs from Member States, international partners, and NGOs.
   - Progress included the formulation of a robust framework to guide the VAN's operationalization and the alignment of objectives with ASEAN's regional priorities.

4. **Call to Action:**
   - She emphasized the need for active contributions from Member States, regional partners, and stakeholders to finalize and implement the VAN.
   - Participants were encouraged to focus on ensuring the VAN's operational readiness, sustainability, and long-term impact in supporting survivors of explosive ordnance.

Ms. Sengthong's presentation set the stage for focused discussions, guiding participants to collaboratively address challenges and identify practical strategies for finalizing the VAN.

Group Discussions and Results

Participants were divided into five thematic groups, each tasked with addressing a critical aspect of the VAN's operationalization. These groups engaged in robust discussions, exploring challenges, proposing solutions, and presenting their findings.

Group 1: Roles and Responsibilities of Stakeholders

Discussion Focus:
This group examined the roles and responsibilities of various stakeholders, including national authorities, ARMAC, NGOs, and survivor representatives.

Key Findings:

- A lack of clarity in roles can lead to inefficiencies and overlap.

- Survivor involvement in decision-making remains limited, requiring more inclusive mechanisms.

Recommendations:

- Establish clear terms of reference (TOR) for stakeholders, detailing their roles in VAN governance and operations.

- Actively involve EO survivors in policymaking and program design to ensure their voices are heard and needs addressed.

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Group 2: Coordination Mechanisms

Discussion Focus:

The group explored strategies to enhance regional coordination and communication among Member States.

Key Findings:

- The absence of standardized communication protocols has hindered effective collaboration.
- A centralized VAN Secretariat is critical for managing operations and ensuring consistency.

Recommendations:

- Establish a VAN Secretariat to act as the hub for coordination, communication, and stakeholder engagement.
- Develop Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for reporting, data sharing, and collaboration.

Group 3: Data Management and Integration

Discussion Focus:

This group focused on the challenges and opportunities in data management and integration for victim assistance.

Key Findings:

- Significant variation exists in data collection practices among Member States, complicating regional integration.
- Data security and ethical considerations are paramount.

Recommendations:

- Develop a regional data management framework that standardizes collection, analysis, and sharing protocols.
- Implement secure, interoperable platforms for real-time data exchange and analysis.

Group 4: Capacity Building for Implementation

Discussion Focus:

The group identified training and capacity-building needs to ensure effective VAN implementation.

Key Findings:

- Uneven technical expertise across Member States affects the efficiency of victim assistance programs.
- Capacity-building efforts often lack long-term follow-up and evaluation mechanisms.

Recommendations:

- Design comprehensive training programs focusing on data management, multi-sector coordination, and policy development.
- Establish a monitoring system to assess the impact of capacity-building initiatives and ensure sustainability.

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Group 5: Sustainability and Advocacy

Discussion Focus:

The group addressed the financial and advocacy requirements for the VAN's long-term sustainability.

Key Findings:

- Limited funding and advocacy efforts pose significant challenges to sustaining the VAN.

- Greater visibility and support are needed to secure ongoing resources.

Recommendations:

- Develop a diversified funding strategy incorporating government contributions, donor support, and private partnerships.

- Launch advocacy campaigns to raise awareness about the VAN's impact, targeting policymakers, donors, and the general public.

Discussion and Key Outcomes

Following the group discussions, a plenary session allowed for the presentation and consolidation of findings. Participants engaged in meaningful dialogue to address overlapping themes and agree on the next steps.

Key outcomes included:

1. **Finalized VAN Framework:**

   Agreement on the VAN's structure, governance, and objectives, including the establishment of a VAN Secretariat and SOPs.

2. **Regional Data Management Framework:**

   Commitment to creating standardized data-sharing protocols and implementing secure, interoperable systems.

3. **Capacity-Building Programs:**

   Identification of training needs and the development of targeted initiatives to enhance technical and operational capabilities.

4. **Sustainability Strategy:**

   Recommendations for advocacy and funding approaches to ensure the VAN's long-term viability.

5. **Inclusivity:**

   Prioritization of survivor-centered design and the integration of survivor voices in decision-making processes.

Key Takeaways

Session 3 underscored the VAN's potential as a transformative mechanism for victim assistance in the ASEAN region. By integrating insights from previous workshops and fostering collaborative dialogue, the session provided actionable strategies to operationalize the VAN. The outcomes of this session represent a significant step forward in ensuring comprehensive, inclusive, and sustainable support for EO survivors across ASEAN.

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SESSION 4: THEMATIC SUBGROUP DISCUSSIONS ON DATA MANAGEMENT GAPS AND SOLUTIONS

- **Group Discussion: Focus on specific challenges such as data accuracy, standardization, and sharing**
- **Presentation of the discussion's results.**
- **VAN Implementation Group Discussions**

Session Overview:

This session delved into critical data management challenges in victim assistance, focusing on identifying and bridging gaps in data collection, standardization, and sharing. Recognizing the importance of cohesive strategies for regional collaboration, participants were divided into three thematic groups to address specific challenges and propose actionable solutions. These discussions aimed to empower ASEAN Member States (AMS) with robust data systems to enhance victim assistance programs.

Presentation by Ms. Chanthana Sengthong, ARMAC Project Manager: Ms. Chanthana Sengthong opened the session with a comprehensive presentation that built upon the outcomes of previous workshops and consultations. She emphasized the pivotal role of accurate and inclusive data systems in improving victim assistance. Her presentation highlighted progress in previous regional workshops, particularly the feedback collected during the last meeting in Bangkok, and detailed the efforts to integrate those insights into the current discussions. By addressing past gaps and aligning strategies with regional and global priorities, Ms. Sengthong set the foundation for group deliberations.

Group Discussions and Results:

Participants were organized into three thematic groups, each tasked with tackling a specific aspect of data management:

Group 1: Data Collection – Ensuring Accuracy and Inclusivity

This group concentrated on improving the comprehensiveness and reliability of data collected for victim assistance. Key points included:

- **Essential Data Categories:** Emphasis on collecting data on demographic details (age, gender, disability status), accident specifics (location, type of explosive ordnance), and survivor needs (rehabilitation services, economic reintegration).

- **Challenges:** Limited technical expertise, cultural barriers to accessing personal data, and inconsistent data collection tools were identified as major hurdles.

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- **Proposed Solutions:**
    a. Develop standardized data collection tools with built-in guidelines for field staff.
    b. Introduce capacity-building initiatives to train stakeholders on using digital and manual data collection systems.
    c. Create a regional technical working group to oversee and refine data collection efforts.

- **Innovative Practices:** Laos's use of gender-sensitive tools in community data collection was highlighted as a model for inclusivity.

Group 2: Data Standardization – Harmonizing Formats and Definitions

The focus of this group was on creating a unified framework for victim assistance data to ensure alignment across AMS. Key outcomes included:

- **Standardized Templates:** The group proposed a region-wide data collection template to capture critical victim assistance metrics, ensuring consistency in reporting.

- **Implementation Strategies:**
    o Conduct a series of stakeholder workshops to finalize and adopt the standardized templates.
    o Integrate these standards into national data systems to align with international norms.

- **Challenges:** Limited coordination among AMS, lack of trust, and differing national priorities were cited as barriers.

- **Examples of Success:** Vietnam's centralized database for victim assistance was presented as a case study in achieving inter-agency collaboration and efficient data management.

Group 3: Data Sharing – Establishing Secure and Efficient Mechanisms

The group addressed data-sharing obstacles and proposed mechanisms to enable secure, seamless, and ethical exchange of information across AMS. Highlights included:

- **Current Barriers:** Challenges included political sensitivities, varying levels of technical infrastructure, and concerns over data privacy and security.

- **Proposed Solutions:**
    a. Develop a regional protocol for data sharing, facilitated by ARMAC as a central coordinating body.

    b. Introduce survivor consent mechanisms to ensure ethical handling of sensitive information.

    c. Leverage technology to create secure digital platforms for real-time data exchange.

- **Best Practices:** Thailand's integrated data-sharing model, which connects multiple ministries to deliver comprehensive services, was identified as a replicable framework.

Key Outcomes:

1. **Comprehensive Data Collection Tools:** Recommendations for creating standardized forms and digital tools to collect accurate and detailed data on victims of explosive ordnance.

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2. **Unified Standards and Templates:** A commitment to harmonizing data collection formats and definitions to enhance comparability and interoperability among AMS.

3. **Enhanced Data Sharing Protocols:** The development of a secure, efficient framework for regional data sharing, supported by ARMAC's central role in coordinating efforts.

4. **Capacity Building and Training:** Proposals to implement training programs focused on technical skills for data collection, management, and sharing.

5. **Inclusivity and Equity:** An emphasis on ensuring data systems are inclusive, addressing the needs of marginalized groups, including women, children, and persons with disabilities.

6. **Policy Integration:** The inclusion of data management strategies in national and regional policies to ensure sustainability and accountability.

Conclusion:

Session 4 highlighted the critical role of cohesive and inclusive data systems in advancing victim assistance across ASEAN. The outcomes of this session, grounded in collaborative discussions and innovative thinking, provided a roadmap for strengthening data management practices, fostering regional collaboration, and ensuring that victim assistance programs are both effective and equitable. Through these efforts, AMS demonstrated a shared commitment to leaving no survivor behind.

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SESSION 5: DISCUSSION ON THE REGIONAL VA GUIDELINES AND PREPARATION FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Session Overview

This session focused on finalizing the Regional Victim Assistance Guideline in Mine Action, which is pivotal for standardizing victim assistance practices across ASEAN Member States. The session aimed to refine key sections of the draft guideline, ensuring its alignment with international standards and regional needs. Participants worked in groups to provide feedback on the definitions, principles, and implementation strategies outlined in the guideline, fostering a shared vision for its adoption and application.

Presentation and Facilitation

The session was introduced by Ms. Chanthana Sengthong, ARMAC Project Manager, who outlined the objectives of the guideline and its critical role in enhancing victim assistance across ASEAN. She highlighted that the document is the culmination of extensive consultations and input gathered from Member States, particularly from discussions in previous workshops, including the regional meeting held in Bangkok. Her presentation emphasized the necessity of ensuring inclusivity, national ownership, and a rights-based approach within the guideline.

Group Discussions and Outcomes

Participants were divided into three groups, each tasked with reviewing specific sections of the guideline. The discussions were intensive and collaborative, yielding actionable recommendations to improve the draft.

Group 1: Key Definitions and Ethical Standards

Key Recommendations:

Agreed to add the term "EO Indirect Victim" and revise the definitions of "Survivor" and "Case Termination."
Proposed combining ethical standards with values for clarity and alignment.

- Suggested annual evaluations and third-party assessments to ensure transparency in victim assistance services.

Notable Changes:

- Rearranged ethical responsibilities to emphasize the role of service providers to survivors and persons with disabilities (PWDs).
- Emphasized the need for clear guidance on maintaining confidentiality and avoiding exploitation.

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Group 2: Principles of Victim Assistance

Key Recommendations:

- Merged the principles of non-discrimination and diversity into a cohesive statement emphasizing inclusivity.
- Proposed additional details on addressing barriers to accessibility, such as cultural and financial challenges.
- Advocated for sustained national ownership and increased participation of non-EO-affected states to support victim assistance efforts.

Notable Changes:

- Strengthened the rights-based approach to align with international humanitarian law, adding details on social and institutional barriers.

Group 3: Implementation Strategies

Key Recommendations:

- Reorganized implementation topics for clarity, prioritizing need assessments, referrals, and socio-economic inclusion.
- Proposed renaming "Physical Rehabilitation" to "Health Rehabilitation" for broader applicability.
- Emphasized the necessity of integrating technical innovation and data management systems into victim assistance practices.

Notable Changes:

- Revised subtopics under socio-economic inclusion to include vocational training, job placement, and financial empowerment.

Key Outcomes

1. **Enhanced Definitions and Principles:** Agreed revisions ensure clearer definitions and a stronger ethical framework, fostering consistent application across Member States.

2. **Improved Accessibility and Inclusivity:** Recommendations emphasize breaking down barriers and prioritizing marginalized groups, ensuring equitable access to services.

3. **Sustainability and Ownership:** Strengthened focus on national ownership and sustainable practices to ensure long-term support for EO survivors.

4. **Streamlined Implementation Strategies:** Improved organization of implementation topics facilitates easier adoption and alignment with international standards.

5. **Integration of Innovation:** Encouragement of using technical tools and data systems for more efficient and effective victim assistance services.

Summary

The session concluded with a consensus on incorporating the proposed changes into the final draft of the Regional Victim Assistance Guideline. Participants expressed their commitment to implementing the revised guideline, recognizing its potential to standardize and enhance victim assistance practices across ASEAN Member States. The finalized document will serve as a cornerstone for multi-sectoral collaboration and a unified approach to supporting EO survivors and persons with disabilities

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SESSION 6: FIELD VISIT TO PHYSICAL REHABILITATION CENTRE (PRC) OF EXCEED WORLDWIDE

SESSION OVERVIEW

The field visit to Exceed Worldwide's Physical Rehabilitation Centre (PRC) in Phnom Penh provided participants with a profound understanding of the essential components of prosthetic and orthotic (P&O) care. The visit was strategically divided into two focused programs to ensure comprehensive exposure to the PRC's innovative approaches in rehabilitation and its integration of data management systems. This session was designed to bridge theoretical knowledge shared during the workshop with practical, on-the-ground applications, underscoring the critical role of rehabilitation services in victim assistance.

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

Programme 1: Guided Tour of PRC Facilities

Participants were divided into two groups to tour specific areas of the PRC, with detailed briefings provided at each stage.

Group 1: Prosthetic and Orthotic School

- The Prosthetic and Orthotic School, an internationally accredited institution, trains clinicians to provide world-class P&O care. Participants received an in-depth briefing on the curriculum, which aligns with international quality standards, and observed the training processes for clinicians specializing in EO survivor rehabilitation.

- Demonstrations included the precise techniques involved in victim casting for prosthetics, showcasing the meticulous attention to detail required to address the unique needs of individual patients.

Group 2: Physical Rehabilitation Workshop

- The Physical Rehabilitation Workshop provided participants with insights into the end-to-end process of rehabilitation service delivery. This included patient registration, evaluation, treatment planning, and the fabrication and fitting of custom prosthetics and orthotics.

- Observations highlighted the workshop's patient-centric approach, emphasizing the importance of customization and quality in helping survivors regain mobility and independence.

Programme 2: Data Management in Rehabilitation Services

The second part of the visit emphasized Exceed Worldwide's innovative use of data to enhance the efficiency and quality of its rehabilitation services.

- **Data Recording and Reporting:** Participants were introduced to Exceed's robust data management systems, which track patient information from initial intake through follow-up care. These systems ensure accurate record-keeping, facilitate real-time decision-

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making, and support long-term patient outcomes.

- **Patient Forms and Documentation:** Examples of comprehensive patient forms were shared, demonstrating their role in capturing critical information for treatment planning and monitoring progress.

- **Follow-Up Processes:** Presenters outlined the mechanisms for maintaining continuity of care through follow-up visits, emphasizing how data is used to anticipate patient needs and evaluate long-term rehabilitation success.

A dynamic Q&A session concluded the presentation, allowing participants to delve deeper into Exceed's methodologies and explore their potential application in their own national contexts.

Key Takeaways

1. **Commitment to Excellence:** Exceed Worldwide's adherence to international standards in education and rehabilitation ensures that services meet the highest quality benchmarks.

2. **Empowering Communities:** The Prosthetic and Orthotic School equips local clinicians with the knowledge and skills needed to deliver transformative care, fostering a sustainable impact on regional rehabilitation efforts.

3. **Holistic Patient Care:** The PRC's focus on personalized treatment underscores its commitment to addressing the diverse and unique needs of survivors, ensuring their dignity and independence.

4. **Innovative Data Integration:** The use of advanced data management systems highlights the critical role of technology in enhancing service delivery, monitoring outcomes, and ensuring long-term care.

5. **Collaboration Opportunities:** The visit illuminated the value of partnerships and knowledge-sharing in advancing victim assistance programs across ASEAN Member States.

6. **Practical Application of Strategies:** By observing Exceed Worldwide's operations firsthand, participants gained actionable insights that bridge the gap between theoretical frameworks and practical implementation.

Reflection and Impact

The field visit served as a capstone experience, reinforcing the themes of collaboration, inclusivity, and innovation discussed throughout the workshop. It provided participants with an opportunity to witness the transformative power of rehabilitation services, demonstrating how data-driven, patient-centered care can restore hope and independence to survivors of explosive ordnance. Moreover, the visit underscored the importance of regional collaboration and capacity-building, leaving participants inspired to integrate these learnings into their national victim assistance frameworks.

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V. Closing Ceremony Summary

MS. ROTHNA BUTH
Executive Director
ARMAC

The closing session of the Regional Workshop on Promoting the Collaboration and Cooperation of the Regional Victim Assistance Network through Data Management reflected the collective pride and shared determination of ASEAN Member States and partners to continue advancing victim assistance in the region.

In her remarks, Ms. Rothna Buth, Executive Director of ARMAC, emphasized the achievements of the Victim Assistance Programme, including the establishment of integration of data and technology in support of explosive ordnance (EO) survivors. She underscored that victim assistance goes beyond recovery—it is about ensuring dignity, inclusion, and the right to a life of purpose.

The session reaffirmed the importance of multi-stakeholder collaboration and highlighted key forward-looking actions: strengthening the VAN as a sustainable platform for knowledge-sharing, refining and operationalizing the Regional VA Guidelines, enhancing data systems and innovation, and advocating for long-term partnerships and funding.

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The Executive Director also extended her appreciation to ARMAC's key partners—including CMAA, the Government of the Republic of Korea, the ASEAN-Korea Cooperation Fund, SingHealth, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Cambodia—for their critical support.

As the workshop concluded, participants were invited to a meaningful field visit to the Physical Rehabilitation Centre (PRC) of Exceed Worldwide, where practical applications of data-driven victim support were showcased.

The closing remarks served as a powerful call to action, encouraging all participants to carry forward the momentum of the workshop and continue advancing victim assistance with compassion, collaboration, and regional unity.

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VI. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/ DISCUSSION

The Regional Workshop on Promoting the Collaboration and Cooperation of the Regional Victim Assistance Network Through Data Management for Victim Assistance in the ASEAN Member States, held from December 17–19, 2024, in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, garnered significant attention from local, regional, and international media outlets. The event's focus on enhancing victim assistance through innovative approaches and cross-border collaboration resonated with diverse audiences, drawing interest from news agencies, television networks, and online platforms.

Summary of Media Coverage

1. Khmer Time
Link: ARMAC champions data-driven solutions - Khmer Times

Link: Cambodia hosts regional workshop on victim assistance and data - Khmer Times

2. Phnom Penh Post
https://m.phnompenhpost.com/national/armac-advances-data-driven-victim-assistance-across-asean

5. ARMAC Social Media

3. Hot News Asia
 https://www.hotnews-asia.com/detail/441970

4. DAP News
https://dap-news.com/?p=471446

ARMAC utilized its social media platforms, including Facebook and LinkedIn, along with its official website, to provide comprehensive coverage of the Regional Workshop on Promoting the Collaboration and Cooperation of the Regional Victim Assistance Network Through Data Management. Posts included highlights from each session, real-time updates, and insights from panel discussions and field visits, ensuring widespread visibility and engagement. The platforms showcased the workshop's objectives, key achievements, and participant contributions, reinforcing ARMAC's role in fostering collaboration and innovation in victim assistance across ASEAN Member States.

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6. Agence Kampuchea Press (AKP)
https://akp.gov.kh/kh/post/detail/324002

7. CPP News
https://www.cpp.org.kh/details/395506

8. TVK
https://www.tvk.gov.kh/%E1%9E%AF%E1%9E%80%E1%9E%A7%E1%9E%8F%E1%9F%92%E1%9E%8

9. Radio National Of Kampuchea
https://rnk.gov.kh/article/44906

10. Campost
https://campost.asia/show/8386.html

11. BAYON Radio
https://web.facebook.com/share/p/1Di6pxk2Ac/

12. BAYON TV
https://btv.com.kh/article/63299

13. CEN – Cambodia Express News
https://cen.com.kh/archives/801834.html

The extensive media coverage of the workshop reflects its significance and impact on regional victim assistance efforts. The visibility generated through various platforms underscores the shared commitment of stakeholders to supporting survivors of explosive ordnance and advancing collaborative solutions in the ASEAN region.

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This document is available in PDF format on the ARMAC website.

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