

Project Overview:

Afghanistan continues to be one of the most mine-affected countries in the world. Landmines have killed and maimed more than 200,000 people in Afghanistan during the last 10 years. The current landmine situation in Afghanistan is extremely distressing in which over 750 square kilometers of land is contaminated with landmines or unexploded ordnance (UXO). Every month over 100 people killed or injured. Approximately 52 percent of mine victims are males of working age. More than 62 percent of them have no formal education. Almost 75 percent of the victims were injured while farming, collecting firewood, tending animals or walking in the mined areas for other economic reasons.

Persons with disabilities including mine victims are among the poorest people of Afghanistan and many were the sole breadwinners of their families. (Please annex 1) These people often experience a loss of the independence and ability to earn a livelihood. Thus while mines impact and other causes of disabilities heavily on the individual, they often have serious repercussions for the victims families. Landmines Survivors and other persons with disabilities desperately need educational and employment opportunities that enable them to contribute to or provide for alienation within the workplace, but also face the current job shortage in Afghanistan that has left all Afghans with limited employment opportunities and choices.

Women with disability also experience reduced opportunity and are often unable considered unable to participate in transitional family tasks thus leading to an even more segregated and diminished role within family, community and Afghan society as a whole. UN statistics show that almost 90 percent of women cannot marry after they are disabled.

These factors combined with the negative social stigma attached to disability in Afghanistan, cause disabled people to be one of the most vulnerable and marginalized groups of society.

The vision of this training was to create a barrier free society for all based on the principles of participation, integration and the equalization of opportunities, defined by the United Nations in their World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons; the Standard Rules for the Equalization of Opportunities for Disabled Persons. This project was also useful to create awareness concerning on going elaboration for the International Convention to Protect and Promote the Rights of Disabled Persons

The purpose of the trainings and awareness creation is to ensure that all persons with disabilities in their communities exercise the same rights and obligations as others through capacity building training and transfer of knowledge through which disabled people and their organizations can play a vital role in solving their own problems and can coordinate their efforts for

achieving their due rights through peaceful means. Based on our experienced we have gained during the training workshops we are quite sure that the continuation of such workshops will pave the way where disabled people can live in a society that recognizes and highly values of our own lives and dignity, and constantly enhances the process of full participation for all Afghan people with disabilities.

SUMMARY PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Overall Project Goal:

To develop the capacity of the disabled Afghans with regard to their human rights and strengthen their capacity to advocate and obtain inclusion in all public and social forums including education, employment and health sector services.

Objective:

To promote and conduct awareness and advocacy training for landmines survivors, other people with disability and their families

Activity 1:

Identify disabled individuals groups, families' and concerned community members in the regions of Heart, Jalalabad, Kabul, and Mazare Sharif to participate in awareness and self-advocacy training activities.

Output 1: ADU has met the Department of Disabled and Martyrs in Mazare Sharif and Samangan province, Northern Areas Disableds' Association (NADA) a DPO and SCA/RAD Mazare Sharif sub-office. Through out these meetings, 5 training sessions were planned totally with SCA/RAD and NADA, while 3 training sessions were planned with SCA/RAD and 2 training sessions were planned with NADA and it was also planned that each training sessions will be consisted of 20 disabled people. Furthermore, 2 training sessions those were planned with NADA were female training sessions, and two training sessions among the three training sessions those were planned with SCA/RAD were male training sessions and one of them was female training session.

More briefly, two training sessions were planned to be conducted in the city of Mazare Sharif with NADA and one training session in the city of Samangan province, one training session in Khulm district of Mazare Sharif and one training session in Deh Dadi district of Mazare Sharif were planned with SCA/RAD in Mazare Sharif province of Northern Region.

Activity 2:

Conduct at least 5 training per region, documenting each utilizing approved pre-assessment tools, training packages and training observation forms.

Output 2: a) ADU obtained an official permission from the Department of Martyrs and Disabled (DMD) Mazar to conduct a total number of 5 training workshops for persons with disabilities in the northern region of Afghanistan.

b) 5 training sessions were conducted in Mazare Sharif and Samangan provinces of northern region.

Activity 3:

Provide training feedback analysis reports for each region.

Output 3: Information is collected during the training workshops using the pre-assessment tool and training observation forms, and the findings are as follows:

Overview:

There are few International NGOs, such as Swedish Committee for Afghanistan, ICRC and Handicap International France, those are working in Northern region of Afghanistan in the field of disability and has only one registered Disabled People's Organization (NADA) at the regional level. Department of Martyrs and Disables is also an official source in the governmental administrative structure for helping the disabled people in the region and each province has its own department.

General Analysis:

1. Swedish Committee for Afghanistan is one of the international NGOs that is working in northern region and is implementing a Community Based Rehabilitation Program. This organization is providing physiotherapy, special education for disabled children and adults, employment support and social services for the disabled people of the region. As it was considered and recognized, these services are covering a small part of the disabled people of the region and are not sufficient for all disabled people in districts and provinces. This organization has created and established local Disabled People's Organizations at the village level those are not registered and even most of the local people doesn't know and recognize them, and they have not tried to establish registered DPOs at the district level so far.
2. ICRC is another international NGO that is mainly working in the orthopaedic services for the disabled people of the area.
3. Handicap International France is an international NGO that is working with the disabled people in the region and has created self help groups for disabled people in the area.
4. Northern Areas Disables' Association is the only DPO at the regional level and claiming that they have registered almost all the disabled people of the area. As their main office in Mazare Sharif was met and observed, in fact, there was no activity for disabled people in the region, it may be because of the lack of budget and incoming sources. As we met the disabled people of Khulm district of Mazare Sharif province, they said that we are registered with NADA and since we have registered we have not met and obtained any kind of assistance from this DPO.

Activity 4:

Receiving feedback from the trainees on the quality of the training in their respective regions based on the training evaluation, pre-assessment form and the training observation form we have collected information from PWD for providing report.

Weak Points:

Generally, there was no weak point and any negative comment on the designation and material of this training program, it may be because of the low capacity and less information of the disabled people in the area, and as we asked and request the participants of each training workshop to focus and provide us the weak points of this training program in order to improve them for the future training programs, unfortunately, we have not received any comment till now.

Strong Points:

In the feedback of any training evaluation committee, it was noted that the following points are the most important ones for the disabled people of the area and since 2 to 3 decades no one has provided such essential and necessary information for the disabled people of the area, and they are follows:

- The disability recognition part of this training program was very interesting and important, furthermore, we realized and understood the situation, problems, barriers and ways for removing these problems and barriers of disabled people in Afghanistan.
- The most important issue was that our attention was brought to the point that the only responsible and accountable source for removing these problems and barriers is the disabled people and till the disabled people in the area are not united and coordinated these problems and barriers will not be removed.
- Our rights were explained to us and the references were provided to us in order to fully know and understand our rights for raising self awareness and advocacy.
- The information about how to establish a Disabled People's Organization is also vital and very important and leads us to establishment of DPOs.
- We were not provided with such important information since 2 to 3 decades; this training program was the only mean for informing us and focusing our attention towards the problems and our responsibilities.

Target Group: Target groups included men and women with disabilities, landmine survivors, disabled persons organizations, family support groups, and concerned citizens of Samangan and Mazare Sharif Provinces.

Activity Report:

Total number of people with disabilities enrolled in the training workshops by ADU.

Training	Location	Number of Trainees		Remarks
		Male	Female.	
1	Khurasan area, Mazare Sharif province	0	19	
2	Khurasan area, Mazare Sharif province	0	18	
3	Samangan province	26	0	
4	Khulm district, Mazare Sharif province	22	0	
5	Deh Dadi district, Mazare Sharif province	0	28	
Total number of disabled participants in 5 training workshops.		48	65	
		Total : 113		

Summary of Training Activities

What people knew before the training?

- The disabled people of the 5 training sessions only knew about their rights to get assistance from the government, and this was the only thing they knew.
- They only knew that they have rights, but they didn't know that what type of the rights they possess.
- As a matter of fact they knew very little about their rights, even they have not studied the New Afghan Constitution and didn't know their rights in details.

What observations did the trainers make?

- There were sufficient training materials but the two training rooms those were provide by the community of Khurasan area in Mazar city were not wide enough to comfortably accommodate all the participants.
- The level of the understanding of the participants in terms of their rights was very poor. They knew the word (RIGHTS) and didn't know exactly what their rights are.
- The training rooms those were provided by SCA/RAD were wide enough and feasible.
- These 5 training sessions per region are not sufficient and there is a strong need for planning such trainings district wise and at least one male and one female training sessions have be planned in each district, as strongly requested by the Disabled People, community members, other aid agencies and non-officially by the Department of Martyrs and Disabled.
- Refresher Courses have to be conducted for disabled people in order to increase their knowledge because most of them are illiterate and they may not be able to pick up all the topics.
- More training materials need to be supplied as the participants requested.

What did the participants think of the training?

- At the beginning of the training workshop, the participants were thinking that we may distribute them food, money and other relief supplies, while it was initially explained that we are not distributing food, money and other relief supplies and we are just here to explain and show you your basic rights, the ways and techniques of how to raise self awareness and advocate for your rights.
- The disabled people liked the training very much. They requested for the expansion of this activity.
- We think that it is important to know about our rights so this training should also be provided to other persons with disabilities.

What feedback did observers give?

- The observers, such as, the supervisors and trainers of SCA, requested to increase the number of these training sessions for future.
- More rights based topics have to be added to the training manual.

Total Direct Beneficiaries: A total of 113 disabled people 48 men and 65 women with disabilities have been trained in the training workshops during the month of October 2005.

Estimated Indirect Beneficiaries: At least $113 \times 7 = 791$ family members of disabled persons have been indirectly benefited from increased awareness and sensitivity with regards to disability rights.

Constraints:

- Mainly unavailability of training room and sub-offices in the regions for smoothly and feasibly conducting the training sessions.
- Unavailability of quick and small financial support for the encouraged and motivated disabled people of the trainings, in order to establish and create their own DPO.
- Luck and unavailability of visual material.
- Women participants were usually bringing their children with them so some time they were creating interruption.

Recommendation:

- During the training workshops disabled people requested for an illustrated and visual training materials and books containing pictures for explaining the rights of persons with disabilities, which were not available.
- A small amount of money has to be provided for those trainees who can quickly establish and create a DPO in order to help them in the initial costs of establishing a DPO.
- Visual materials, such as, posters, fliers and leaflets have to be designed and developed for usage during the training sessions.

IMPLICATIONS FOR WOMEN:

As cultural restrictions do not always allow women to participate in mixed gender gatherings; therefore ADU has invited the moharam of the female trainees to come to the center with their females while the female trainer who has provided training to women participants ensured that this training opportunity be available to female participants.



Training workshop conducted Khurasan area of Mazar city for female disabled people/ADU/2005



A male training session for disabled people of Samangan/ADU/2005



A disabled person explaining his group work activity during a training session in Samangan/ADU/2005

Comments from the participants of training session in northern region of Afghanistan:

Mr. Ghiasudin (Assistant Director of Samangan local DPO; not registered) evaluated the training session that was conducted in SCA/RAD Aibak city in Samangan province and declared that today's training session was very important and was containing useful information for disabled people. He also promised that their DPO and disabled people will practically implement the information of this training program in the near future.

Mr. Ghiasudin (visual impaired person), Assistant Director of Aibak DPO in Samangan Province

Annex 1:

List of the training workshop participants held on 15/10/05 in Mazar city:

S/N	Name	F-Name	Age	Sex	Remarks
1	Nasima	Ab. Rashid	x	Female	
2	Sia Moy	Qasim	x	Female	
3	Gulchehra	Karim	X	Female	
4	Mastan	Kamil	x	Female	
5	Arkan	Sar Khan	x	Female	
6	Muslima	Mohd. Khan	x	Female	
7	Gul Bahar	Doulat Ali	x	Female	
8	Nazi	Hakim	x	Female	
9	Shah Jan	Iqbal Shah	x	Female	
10	Shakar	Mohd. Saed	x	Female	
11	Khoban	Baigy Khan	x	Female	

12	Rabia	Mohd. Murad	x	Female	
13	Fatima	Baba	x	Female	
14	Mariam	Zainul Abidin	x	Female	
15	Maria	Khuda Dad	x	Female	
16	Shairin Gul	Noor Mohd.	x	Female	
17	Nazo	Mohd. Murad	x	Female	
18	Mariam	Mohd. Karim	x	Female	
19	Zaitan	Mehmood	X	Female	

List of the training workshop participants held on 16/10/05 in Khurasan, Mazar city:

S/N	Name	F-Name	Age	Sex	Remarks
1	Ruhia	Maqsood	x	Female	
2	Zahra	Mohd Ibrahim	x	Female	
3	Hamida	Khwaja	X	Female	
4	Bakhmal	Abdullah	x	Female	
5	Gul Daulat	Bilal	x	Female	
6	Manzora	Hedayat	x	Female	
7	Dualt Bibi	Bahramudin	x	Female	
8	Bibi	Mirza	x	Female	
9	Aughlay	Mohammad	x	Female	
10	Ajer	Asadulah	x	Female	
11	Gilly	Nasrullah	x	Female	
12	Saltanat	Said Rahman	x	Female	
13	Sayran	Khuda Bakhsh	X	Female	
14	Gul Nar	Aurfudin	x	Female	
15	Fauzia	Mohd Mashhor	x	Female	
16	Killa	Bazak	x	Female	
17	Shukria	Pahlawan	x	Female	
18	Makay	Baz Mohd	x	Female	

List of the training workshop participants held on 17/10/05 Aibak city of Samangan province:

S/N	Name	F-Name	Age	Sex	Remarks
1	S. S. Aqa	S. Sarwar	x	Male	
2	Asil Khan	Tilla Mohd	x	Male	
3	Zabihulah	Hamidullah	x	Male	
4	Mohd Fazil	Murad Ali	x	Male	
5	Abdul Baqi	Mohd Khan	x	Male	

6	Mohd Akbar	Abdul Hakim	x	Male	
7	Zafarudin	Abdul Alim	x	Male	
8	Abdul Hadi	Jailani	X	Male	
9	Ghiasudin	Abdul Rauf	X	Male	
10	Qudratulah	Mul Jailani	x	Male	
11	Abdul Hakim	Abdul Hamid	x	Male	
12	Mohd Nasim	Mohd Anwar	x	Male	
13	Rahmatulah	Qyamudin	x	Male	
14	Asadullah	Qamber	x	Male	
15	Mohd Alam	Shair Khan	x	Male	
16	S. Aminulah	S. Amanullah	X	Male	
17	Abdul Raziq	Abdul Latif	x	Male	
18	Mohd Hanif	Mula Ibrahim	x	Male	
19	Sayed Habib	Sayed Munawar	x	Male	
20	Gul Budin	Abdul Jalil	x	Male	
21	Ghulam Sakhi	Khuday Qul	x	Male	
22	Naik Mohd	Khair Mohd	x	Male	
23	Abdul Wahab	Abdul Rauf	X	Male	
24	Abdul Ghafar	Abdul Satar	x	Male	
25	Akhter Mohd	Mir Ahamd	x	Male	
26	Farahudin	Tash Foolad	x	Male	

List of the training workshop participants held on 18/10/05 in Khulm district of Mazar province:

S/N	Name	F-Name	Age	Sex	Remarks
1	Abdul Khaliq	Mohd Rahim	x	Male	
2	Mohd Rahim	Mohd Akbar	x	Male	
3	Mohd Hashim	Mohd Alam	x	Male	
4	Mohd Husain	Khan Mohd	x	Male	
5	Mohd Zaman	Ghulam Naqshband	x	Male	
6	Abdul Jabbar	Joorra	x	Male	
7	Mohd Hanif	Austad Ghafar	x	Male	
8	Karim	Abdul Khaliq	X	Male	
9	Rahmat Shah	Mohd Naim	X	Male	
10	Murad	Aid Murad	x	Male	
11	Mawlodin	Mohd Sharif	x	Male	
12	Akasan	Qader	x	Male	
13	Yaqoob Shah	Qurban Shah	x	Male	
14	Mohd Nabi	Mula Barat Ali	x	Male	
15	Mohd Ashraf	Ghulam Hazrat	x	Male	
16	Faizullah	Rahmatulah	X	Male	
17	Mohd Hassan	H. Mohd Omar	x	Male	
18	Mohamadulah	Mohd Azam	x	Male	
19	Mohd Hashim	Ahmad Shah	x	Male	
20	Mohd Ashraf	Mohd Karim	x	Male	
21	Baba Jan	Mir Ahamd	x	Male	
22	Mohd Aslam	Mohd Omar	x	Male	

List of the training workshop participants held on 19/10/05 in Deh Dadi district of Mazar province:

S/N	Name	F-Name	Age	Sex	
1	Tor Paikay	Qader	x	Female	
2	Shah Jahan	Bahram	x	Female	
3	Mariam	Azam	X	Female	
4	Shukria	Daulat	X	Female	
5	Alia	Mohd Khan	x	Female	
6	Latifa	Abdul Hay	x	Female	
7	Paikay	Sahib Nazar	x	Female	
8	Khanam Gul	Abdul Ghafar	x	Female	
9	Khanam Gul	Qader	x	Female	
10	Dina	Sangi Mohd	x	Female	
11	Suraya	Ghulam Rasul	x	Female	
12	Shabana	Younas	x	Female	
13	Lida	Shair Alam	x	Female	
14	Fauzia	Abdul Rahman	x	Female	
15	Nazanin	Mohammad	x	Female	
16	Nazifa	Ghulam Rasul	x	Female	
17	Rabia	Ghulam Sakhi	x	Female	
18	Zakira	Abdul Mohd	x	Female	
19	Samira	Abdul Shakoore	x	Female	
20	Suraya	Hesamudin	x	Female	
21	Gulalae	Mohd Nader	x	Female	
22	Suraya	Nisar Ahmad	x	Female	
23	Nazanin	Gul Rahman	x	Female	
24	Bibi Hawa	Abdul Qader	x	Female	
25	Bibi Gul	Toora Qul	x	Female	
26	Nazanin	Tabar Shah	x	Female	
27	Danista	Sayed Qudus	x	Female	
28	Bibi Hawa	Sayed Abrar	x	Female	