



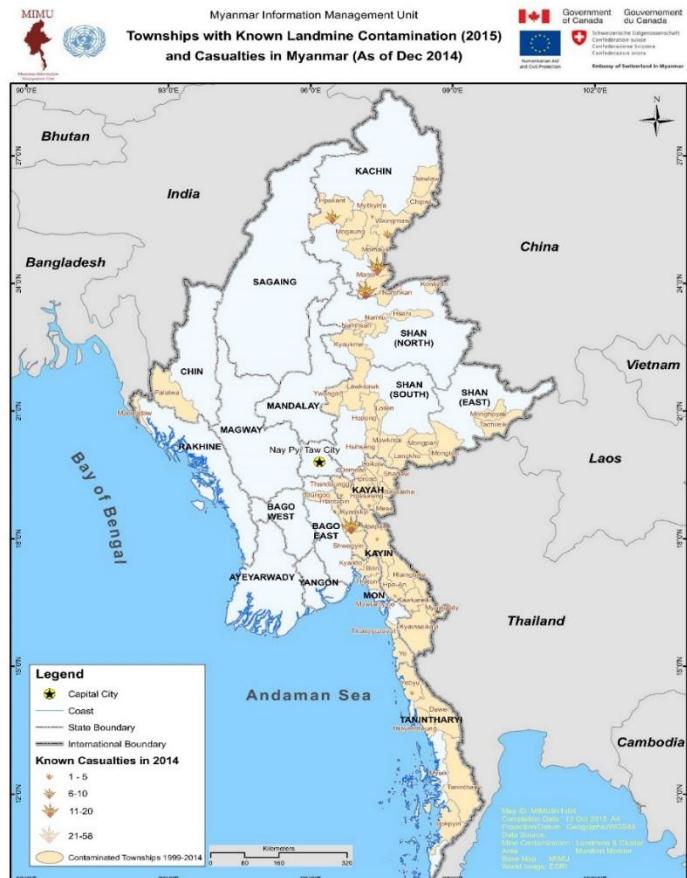
COMMUNITY-BASED APPROACHES FOR EFFECTIVE ACTION

MYANMAR



# LANDMINES/ERW - HIGH THREAT TO COMMUNITIES

## YESTERDAY & TODAY



Over 4,000 people in Myanmar are known to be mine victims, but the actual number is believed to be far higher.

- 9 out 14 States and Regions are contaminated
- Increase in casualties documented
  - ✓ 159 casualties documented in 2016 ( > 2015)
  - ✓ First month of 2017, already 17 casualties
- Over the last 2 years, on an average basis,
  - a landmine incident every 5 days
  - 1 survivor out of 3 was a child
  - 1 survivor out of 4 died

# ONGOING EFFORTS WITH THE PEACE PROCESS,

## BUT COMMUNITIES DRIVE OUR WORK

SAFETY CAN NOT WAIT FOR PEACE...



Accelerated efforts on  
Community-Based Mine  
Action on:

- ✓ Mine Risk Education
- ✓ Victim Assistance
- ✓ Decentralized advocacy and coordination

# COMMUNITY-BASED MRE

2014: KAP survey

2016: Common Mine Risk Education Tool Kit field-tested and approved by the Government

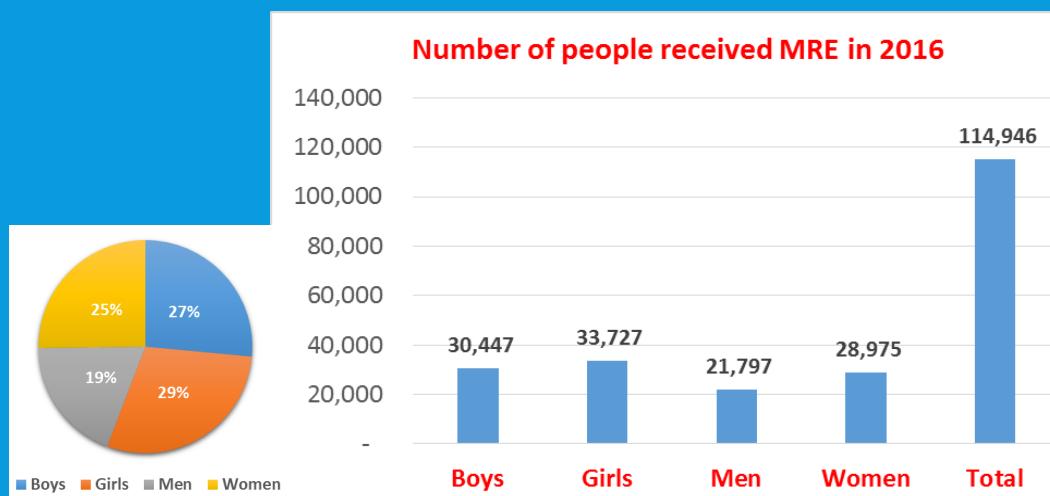


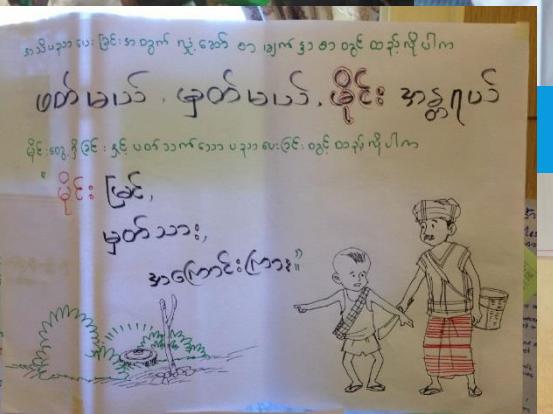
It takes **time** to significantly involve communities and to **break the silence** on a sensitive issue



Rewarding results in 2016

- ✓ **40 organizations** adopted the kit
- ✓ **200 certified community MRE facilitators**
- ✓ **115,000** people reached
- ✓ **Built confidence for communities to speak up**





# COMMUNITY-LED VICTIM ASSISTANCE

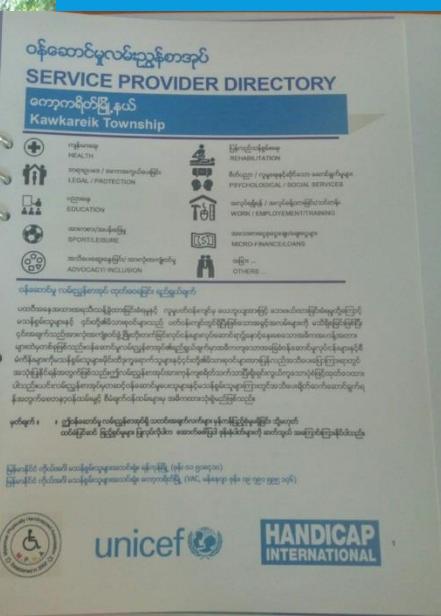
- One Victim Assistance Center model piloted, successfully led by **people living with disabilities, including landmine survivors**

→ Now, 3 Victim Assistance centres

- Address stigma and discrimination & contribute to inclusive communities
- **1,500 survivors & person with disabilities** were identified by one centre

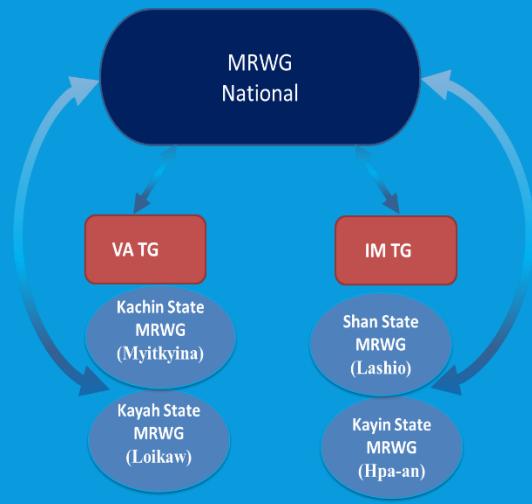
*Engaging communities make survivors and their needs VISIBLE*





Identification,  
service directory,  
peer support,  
rehabilitation,  
community  
mobilization...

# DRAW LOCAL SOLUTIONS THROUGH DECENTRALIZATION



- 4 State level mine action coordination platforms :

- Strong **involvement of grass-root, ethnic and faith-based organizations**
- Community voices** stronger through their representatives at the **Parliament**
- Building trust** among local government counterparts and ethnic groups



# BENEFITS ARE GREATER THAN CHALLENGES

## CHALLENGES

- Difficult to maintain **quality assurance**
- Hard to **monitor remote communities.**
- **Investing in communities has also a COST** – time & money. *Investing in the human capital costs more than a radio campaign....*

## BENEFITS

- ✓ Communities gain **ownership**, & mine action is **sustainable**.
- ✓ Increased **presence** = increased (humanitarian) **access**
- ✓ **Timely response** – first responders are part of the affected communities and closer to the survivors



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