

Ensuring full implementation of the international treaties banning cluster munitions and landmines, **to stop** casualties, and **assist** survivors

## Annual Report 2014



Survivors share recommendations at the Third Review Conference of the Mine Ban Treaty in Maputo, Mozambique. © ICBL

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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The contribution of donors is acknowledged on our websites and in each Monitor report. Special events are organized twice a year to inform donors about our plans and views, and to get their feedback.

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2014, the ICBL-CMC played a vital role in universalizing and promoting the implementation of the Mine Ban Treaty and the Convention on Cluster Munitions. Progress was achieved through systematic and clear articulation of state-by-state challenges and advocacy at the national and international levels, and through regular support to campaigns members by staff.

Both the Third Review Conference of the Mine Ban Treaty in Mozambique as well as the Fifth Meeting of the States Parties of the Convention on Cluster Munitions in Costa Rica were important moments to strengthen momentum around these conventions. The ICBL-CMC presented its research and advocacy messages to a broad audience and was successful in getting states to recommit to the work of both conventions.

During the year, ICBL-CMC research and advocacy led to a strong international outcry against alleged or confirmed use of both antipersonnel landmines and cluster munitions in a number of countries, thereby reinforcing the stigma around these weapons.

In 2014, the ICBL-CMC took several important steps to prepare for a new phase of work, post 2015, on both the Mine Ban Treaty and Convention on Cluster Munitions. We commissioned an external evaluation of our strategic plan, identifying the areas where we have had the most impact. Work was refocused around revised Strategic Objectives. The ICBL-CMC restructured its operations, including staff, in line with these objectives, and began preparing for an important leadership transition. Finally, the ICBL-CMC also adapted its budget to a significant reduction in funding that impacted the mine action community more generally in 2014. Altogether, this collection of institutional changes, while challenging, allowed the ICBL-CMC to become a more streamlined and agile organization, well suited to address needs for research and advocacy in 2015 and beyond.

### **Major achievements in 2014 include:**

- States Parties to the Mine Ban Treaty committed to complete time-bound obligations urgently, by 2025. This commitment<sup>1</sup> was inspired by the ICBL's Completion Challenge and demonstrated that landmines are finite problem that can be solved.
- The United States announced a number of bold policy steps bringing it closer to the Mine Ban Treaty, Oman joined the treaty, and Greece announced a date for completing stockpile destruction. These actions followed years of persistent advocacy by the ICBL.
- The stigma associated with the use of cluster munitions strengthened in 2014 as evidenced by the vehement public denials from South Sudan, Uganda<sup>2</sup> and Ukraine regarding reports of use, and by the numerous condemnations of use of cluster munitions in Syria. As a direct result of CMC outreach to governments, over 60 states expressed concern about this use at the Fifth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions.

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<sup>1</sup> Made through the Maputo+15 Declaration at the Third Review Conference of the Mine Ban Treaty.

<sup>2</sup> Uganda spoke in relation to confirmed use on the territory of South Sudan.

- Four states ratified or acceded to the Convention on Cluster Munitions in 2014, two of them (Belize and the Republic of Congo) as a direct result of outreach by the CMC alongside other partners, including visits to capitals and regular bilateral engagement.
- Two major cluster munition stockpilers, Canada and Denmark, announced completion of stockpile destruction in 2014. In both of these states, CMC staff and campaigners worked closely with the government to encourage early action and to publicize their accomplishments.
- Twelve survivor networks directly improved the lives of (collectively) at least two thousand mine/ERW survivors and other persons with disabilities through peer support, service referrals, economic inclusion projects and advocacy. ICBL-CMC's Survivor Networks Project funded this work while staff provided capacity-building support.
- Survivor networks influenced policies and programs to ensure the inclusion of survivors in Meetings of States Parties to both conventions, as well as other fora such as national committees for the Rights of Persons with Disability, shadow reporting under the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and specialised UN agencies working to ensure the rights of persons with disabilities.
- Government representatives, civil society members, and the media consistently referenced and relied upon the Monitor and its research, which continued to be the *de facto* monitoring regime for the Mine Ban Treaty and the Convention on Cluster Munitions.



Survivor Networks Project training at the Third Review Conference of the Mine Ban Treaty. © ICBL

## BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

2014 was marked by significant positive steps towards a world free of landmines and cluster munitions, taken collectively by members of the ban community, as well as some alarming news and challenges highlighting the work that remains to be done.

### Highlights

#### ***Mine Ban Treaty***

- With the August 2014 accession by Oman, a total of 162 countries are now States Parties to Mine Ban Treaty. Only 35 states remain outside the treaty and almost all abide by its key provisions, indicating near-universal acceptance of the mine ban norm.
- While stopping short of joining the treaty, the United States announced new policies in June and September 2014 banning use of antipersonnel mines except in the Korean Peninsula, banning production of the weapon, and accelerating destruction of its stockpile.
- There was no confirmed use of landmines by a member of the Mine Ban Treaty.
- Statistics on casualties in 2013 were released at the end of 2014: the recorded number of casualties caused by mines and other explosive remnants of war decreased to 3,038. This is the lowest level since the Monitor started recording casualties in 1999, and nearly one-quarter fewer than in 2012.
- More than 48 million stockpiled antipersonnel mines were destroyed between 1999 and 2014 and just six States Parties have yet to complete destruction of their stockpiles.
- 56 states (32 of which are treaty members) and four areas not recognized internationally are known to have some level of antipersonnel landmine contamination. However, within the next five years, 40 of these states and three areas could complete their mine clearance obligations under the treaty if adequate resources are available and used efficiently.

#### ***Convention on Cluster Munitions***

- By the end of 2014, the Convention on Cluster Munitions had 88 States Parties. Belize's ratification in September 2014 made Central America the first sub-region free of cluster munitions.
- The stigma associated with the use of cluster munitions is strong, as evidenced by the vehement public denials from South Sudan, Uganda and Ukraine upon reports of use of the weapon, by the numerous condemnations of use of cluster munitions in Syria, and by the mention of concern over use in South Sudan in UN Security Council Resolution 2155.
- Two major cluster munition stockpilers, Canada and Denmark, announced completion of stockpile destruction in 2014. As of August 2014, 22 countries had destroyed 1.16 million cluster munitions and almost 140 million submunitions, representing more than three-quarters of the weapons declared stockpiled under the ban convention.
- Statistics on clearance in 2013 were released in 2014: during 2013, at least of 30 km<sup>2</sup> of land was cleared of unexploded submunitions, resulting in the destruction of more than 54,000 cluster munition remnants and return of land back to communities in the six most contaminated states -Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Iraq, Lao PDR, Lebanon, and Vietnam- as well as many other countries and regions.

## Challenges

### ***Mine Ban Treaty***

- Stocks of antipersonnel mines were present in the ongoing conflict in Ukraine, although it was not yet possible in 2014 to determine whether antipersonnel mines had been used. Ukraine is a State Party to the Mine Ban Treaty.
- As in 2013, there was confirmed new use of antipersonnel mines in 2014 by the government forces of Syria and Myanmar, states still outside the Mine Ban Treaty, as well as in the internationally unrecognized area of Nagorno-Karabakh; but 2014 saw a sharp decline in new use in Myanmar.
- Three states failed to complete the destruction of their landmine stockpiles within four years of joining the treaty and therefore remained in violation of that treaty provision: Belarus and Greece since 2008, and Ukraine since 2010.
- Of the 32 States Parties with outstanding mine clearance obligations, 23 have had to request, and have been granted, at least one extension period. More than half of these are deemed to either not be on track with the plan associated with their request, or have not reported clearly enough to enable an assessment of progress.
- In 2014, Ethiopia failed to submit a deadline extension request for its clearance activities despite having indicated that it would do so. Ethiopia's current clearance deadline is 1 June 2015.

### ***Convention on Cluster Munitions***

- Use of cluster munitions was identified in South Sudan, Syria and Ukraine in 2014.
- Statistics on casualties in 2013 were released in 2014: there were more casualties and civilian suffering from cluster munitions in Syria in 2013 than at any other time or place since Monitor reporting began. Data shows that there were at least 1,584 casualties from cluster munition attacks and unexploded submunitions in Syria in 2012 and 2013, while hundreds more were recorded in the first half of 2014. The vast majority of those killed—97 percent—were civilians.

## INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO BAN LANDMINES

The ICBL successfully created a “completion” theme for the Third Review Conference of the Mine Ban Treaty – a highly appropriate one for a 15-year old international instrument with an excellent implementation track-record. The *Commit to Complete* slogan was launched in December 2013, and numerous advocacy activities were carried out in the first half of 2014 to ensure states would embrace a ten-year aspirational deadline for finalizing the implementation of their core treaty obligations.

These actions included collaboration with the Review Conference President; bilateral meetings with affected states; advocacy and awareness-raising events in capitals; letters to affected states with in-person or virtual follow-up; media work; the dissemination of data showing completion feasibility; expert contribution to regional and international events on the treaty; and extensive input into the drafting of Review Conference outcome documents. The ICBL also highlighted the need for donors to be more engaged in the completion initiative by building closer partnerships with affected states.

National campaign members including youth from 46 countries, with support from ICBL staff including through small grants, marked the anniversary of the entry into force of the Mine Ban Treaty on 1 March, and conducted advocacy events related to the completion theme throughout the first half of the year. Staff and campaigners held some 100 bilateral meetings with states during the Intersessional Meetings and the Review Conference.

As a result, states embraced the completion challenge, making pragmatic and ambitious political commitments in the Maputo+15 Political Declaration, Maputo Action Plan, future machinery decisions, and in their national statements delivered during the Third Review Conference. These commitments provide a strong basis for future advocacy promoting direct change for affected communities.

ICBL advocacy efforts spanning many years bore fruit in 2014, with the United States announcing a number of bold policy steps bringing it closer to the Mine Ban Treaty, Oman joining the treaty, and Greece announcing a date for completing stockpile destruction. Similarly, it is becoming clear that further to years of direct calls from the ICBL and information requests from the Monitor, coupled with efforts from other stakeholders, states report more and more precisely on what has been done and what remains to be done on clearance and victim assistance. Better information permits the ICBL to target its advocacy activities where needs are the greatest but also where there is good potential for impact.

States continued to express appreciation for the ICBL's analysis of state-specific progress and challenges on all thematic areas, as well as for the organization's role as a watchdog for the Convention and the mine ban norm. The detailed input the ICBL gave on Article 5 extension requests continued to be largely incorporated into the final analyses and decisions, and the affected states responded to our points and questions with better information. The ICBL's efforts to call attention to alleged use of anti-personnel mines resulted in greater attention to the issue by more States Parties (including the creation of a committee on compliance) and reports of investigations by all concerned states.



Aisha Saeed from Yemen delivering a statement at the Third Review Conference of the Mine Ban Treaty. ©ICBL

One can also observe advances on clearance and victim assistance in a number of countries that reflect continuous pressure from ICBL and from Monitor inquiries, advocacy by national campaigners, and public criticism at the international level.

Challenges for the ICBL in 2014 included ongoing conflict in a number of countries (including low-intensity conflict and conflict in states not party at the border with States Parties), and a debilitating lack of political will in many states that also impacts states' ability to attract – and manage – financial support.

Activities for the rest of the year included, inter alia, lobbying meetings at the UN First Committee on Disarmament and International Security; and advocacy visits related to victim assistance in Cambodia and Nepal. The ICBL worked closely with the members of the new treaty committees set up at the Third Review Conference and with the ISU, on how best to implement their mandate to exert diplomatic pressure to ensure full treaty implementation and how to have maximum impact on affected communities.

## CLUSTER MUNITION COALITION

In 2014 the Cluster Munition Coalition focused on strengthening the stigma associated with the use of cluster munitions, promoting the universalization of the Convention, and advocating for timely implementation of core obligations by States Parties.

### **Norm on cluster munitions**

The stigma associated with the use of cluster munitions grew stronger in 2014 as evidenced by the vehement public denials from South Sudan, Uganda<sup>3</sup> and Ukraine upon reports of use of the weapon, and by the numerous condemnations of use of cluster munitions in Syria. The CMC supported stigmatization by gathering and publicizing data on all instances of use, reaching out to the media, steering the advocacy activities of its members, and encouraging all states to denounce the use of cluster munitions. This work made the case to states not party that any future use will have considerable political costs.

As a direct result of CMC outreach to governments in the form of letters, emails, phone calls and face-to-face discussions, over 60 states expressed concern about the use of cluster munitions at the Fifth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention, most of them specifically naming the recent cases of use in Syria, South Sudan, and Ukraine. In the final report of the meeting, all States Parties formally condemned any use of cluster munitions, anywhere, by anyone. The CMC also worked closely with its member PAX to have the UN Security Council express concern about use of the weapon in South Sudan in S/RES/2155. Given the relatively slow pace of universalization of the Convention, the CMC and other Convention leaders place the utmost importance on acceptance of the non-use norm.

### **Universalization of Convention membership**

Four states ratified or acceded to the Convention in 2014, two of them (Belize and the Republic of Congo) as a direct result of outreach by the CMC alongside other partners, including visits to capitals

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<sup>3</sup> Uganda spoke in relation to confirmed use on the territory of South Sudan.

and regular bilateral engagement. This very modest outcome achieved by the cluster munition ban community prompted at least 30 states and other stakeholders to call for further universalization of the Convention during the Fifth Meeting of States Parties, while the final report of the meeting called on states to consider joining “as a matter of priority.”

Throughout the year, the CMC promoted the universalization of the Convention through direct contacts with states not party,<sup>4</sup> sending letters, holding side events during international conferences, contributing to five regional workshops for states not party held in Geneva and San Jose, providing expert advice to the Convention Presidents and Implementation Support Unit, disseminating research data, and supporting the work of campaign members including through small grants.

Campaign members from 50 countries, with support from CMC staff including through small grants, marked the anniversary of the entry into force of the Convention on 1 August as part of national advocacy strategies. In 32 countries, campaign members participated in an initiative during the football World Cup, calling on Brazil to stop producing and exporting cluster bombs.

The CMC is confident that some of these long-term efforts will bear fruit in 2015.

### **Implementation of core obligations**

Two major cluster munition stockpilers, Canada and Denmark, announced completion of stockpile destruction in 2014. In both of these states, CMC staff and campaigners worked closely with the government to encourage early action and to publicize their accomplishments. In states with contamination and victims, advocacy by campaign members with support from CMC staff encouraged states to adopt best practices and to make progress on Vientiane Action Plan commitments. In response to a need expressed by African states, the CMC created<sup>5</sup> a model implementation law and lead discussions with experts on the issue.

In-depth input from the CMC was integrated into the final Vientiane Action Plan Review prepared by the Convention’s Working Groups under guidance from Costa Rica. Many delegations participating in the First Preparatory Meeting of the Review Conference in 2015 noted that this was a particularly strong document providing helpful guidance in preparation for the Review Conference.

### **Challenges for the CMC in 2014**

The most significant barrier faced by the CMC in achieving expected results was a large set of competing priorities in the human security and disarmament field within target governments, especially those with limited capacity to devote to disarmament matters. In order to mitigate these challenges, the CMC nurtured personal contacts with key individuals at the decision-making level in target states, offered support and disseminated template materials aimed at facilitating the work of government authorities, and encouraged States Parties to be actively engaged in promoting the Convention.

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<sup>4</sup> Through meetings in capitals, on the margins of international Convention-related meetings, and during the UN General Assembly and International Parliamentary Union Assembly.

<sup>5</sup> In close partnership with Ghana, New Zealand and the International Committee of the Red Cross

## Stop Explosive Investments

The CMC, in partnership with campaign member PAX (formerly IKV Pax Christi, the Netherlands), continued the Stop Explosive Investments sub-campaign. The campaign works to end financial investment in cluster munition producers and to urge states to ban investment in cluster munitions.

As of the end of 2014:

- Nine countries banned investments in cluster munitions and 27 countries stated that they consider investments to be prohibited under the CCM. Compared to the start of the campaign in 2009, the number of countries with legislation tripled from 3 to 9 and the number of countries with interpretive statements increased nine fold from 3 to 27.
- The number of financial institutions with a policy prohibiting investments in cluster munitions producers listed in PAX's report "Worldwide Investments in Cluster Munitions; a shared responsibility" increased to 76, up from 67 in 2013 and from 27 in 2009. As one example, PFA Pension (Denmark) publicly announced that it would close remaining loopholes in its policy on cluster munition investments on 12 December 2013. This was the day that CMC member organization PAX published the fourth update of its report and the CMC Global Day of Action to Stop Explosive Investments. As such, PFA Pension is listed in the "Hall of Fame" of the 2014 report.

Year-long nationally-specific campaign activities carried out by CMC member organizations, and supported by PAX and the CMC, contributed to these policy changes. Campaigning culminated in the Global Day of Action to Stop Explosive Investments on 27 November 2014, when campaigners in 20 countries took action. A centerpiece of this day was the launch of PAX's fifth updated "Worldwide Investments in Cluster Munitions: a shared responsibility". This launch was broadly covered by national and international media outlets: over 82 newspaper articles appeared worldwide. Articles were published in, among others, The Financial Times, The Guardian and The International Business Times, voicing the need for financial institutions and governments to end investments in cluster munitions producers. Based on the widespread media coverage, it can be concluded that the campaign and the report have significantly contributed to the further stigmatization of cluster munitions and investments in companies that produce these weapons.

## SURVIVOR NETWORKS PROJECT

Twelve survivor networks received financial support through the Survivor Networks Project to support their core activities in 2014.<sup>6</sup> With these grants, these groups directly improved the lives of (collectively) at least two thousand survivors of landmines or explosive remnants of war, as well as other persons with disabilities, through peer support, service referrals, economic inclusion projects and advocacy. There were also many thousands of indirect beneficiaries, such as the immediate family members of survivors and other persons with disabilities.

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<sup>6</sup> A detailed report of the outcomes of the Survivors Network Project is available as a standalone report.

## **Advancing systemic change**

In addition to improving the quality of life for thousands of individual survivors, their families, and other persons with disabilities, survivor networks achieved concrete results that directly contributed to two ICBL-CMC strategic objectives<sup>7</sup> while also contributing to broader efforts for the universalization and implementation of the Mine Ban Treaty and Convention on Cluster Munitions as well as through the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) in order to ensure the rights of survivors and other persons with disabilities consistent with the conventions' aims.

In 2014, with support from the Survivor Networks Project, in addition to their involvement in governmental coordination mechanisms on victim assistance, survivor networks also influenced policies and programs to ensure the inclusion of survivors and their perspectives in numerous fora other than the Mine Ban Treaty or Convention on Cluster Munitions. This included national committees for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, CRPD shadow reporting, and other initiatives to ensure the rights of persons with disabilities.

## **CAMPAIGN ENGAGEMENT, SUPPORT, AND CAPACITY BUILDING**

Throughout the year, campaigners in some 70 countries carried out national advocacy to promote the universalization and implementation of the Mine Ban Treaty and Convention on Cluster Munitions, based on national priorities. This included Victim Assistance Focal Points in nearly 30 affected countries who advocated and supported their governments towards better respect of the rights of survivors and other persons with disabilities. Advocacy took the form of meetings with government officials, participation in national coordination mechanisms, awareness events and other activities as appropriate to each national context. The ICBL-CMC inspired campaigners to act, provided resources, including funding through small grants, and shared information among members.

In 2014, thirty-one NGOs became members of the ICBL-CMC, including five organizations in countries where we previously did not have active members.

### **Highlights**

Campaigners from 46 countries or areas received a small grant and promoted the implementation and universalization of the Mine Ban Treaty and Convention on Cluster Munitions through the "Investing in Action" project: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Brazil, Cambodia, Colombia, Republic of Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Lao PDR, Macedonia, Mexico, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Nigeria, Peru, Philippines, Senegal, Serbia, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sweden, Taiwan, Tajikistan, Togo, Turkey, Uganda, United States, Vietnam, Yemen and Zambia.

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<sup>7</sup> From the ICBL-CMC Strategic Plan 2012-2015. Obj: Demonstrated progress on implementation of commitments under Cartagena Action Plan (CAP) and/or Vientiane Action Plan (VAP), with an emphasis on access to services in all places where victims live; Obj: Increased victims' participation in decision-making fora that affect their lives, and their voices are heard in other fora at the national, regional, and international level.

Through the Survivor Networks Project, 12 survivor networks in as many mine- and cluster munition-affected countries received grants to empower survivors, strengthen their networks, and advocate for ICBL-CMC global and national priorities.

The ICBL-CMC supported the youth programs coordinated by its member Mines Action Canada. These programs reached approximately 150 youth over 2014 through a the Youth-to-Youth Network, a revised Young Professionals International Mine Action Program, and through the training of five young people who joined the ICBL delegation to the Mine Ban Treaty's Third Review Conference.



Campaigners in Nepal marching against landmines and cluster munitions. ©NCBL

### Capacity building of national survivor networks

In 2014, the Survivor Networks Project developed the capacity of survivor network national campaigns through financial support, group training, and one-on-one support. Capacity-building grants (each \$5,000 or less) were awarded to four survivor networks<sup>8</sup> to support concrete interventions aimed at increasing their capacity and sustainability. A broader group of survivor networks were included in efforts to develop the capacity of all survivor networks in the ICBL-CMC. Throughout the year, members of the project team regularly shared updates and news from other international and regional disability initiatives, as well as funding opportunities.

<sup>8</sup> AAAS- Assistance, Advocacy, Access Serbia; SOCBAL- Somalia Coalition to Ban Landmines; TCBL- Survivors Network in Tajikistan; and YYGM- Yitawekilin Yeakal Gudatengoch Mehiber Ethiopia.

### ***Increasing knowledge of Survivor Networks - Group training***

Prior to the Third Review Conference of the Mine Ban Treaty, 27 representatives of survivor networks and campaigners who work with survivor networks from 12 countries, as well as other invited guests from disabled persons organizations (DPOs) from Afghanistan, Lao PDR and Mozambique, were trained [on monitoring the Mine Ban Treaty, Convention on Cluster Munitions and CRPD as a means to promote the rights of survivors and other persons with disabilities.](#)

### ***One-on-one capacity building support***

One-on-one capacity building support was provided to survivor networks during site visits to Cambodia, Colombia, Ethiopia, Nepal, and Tajikistan. In addition, the ICBL-CMC provided support to many other networks virtually or through meetings held on the margins of international conferences to develop annual advocacy plans; draft project proposals; and access relevant resources --on treaty commitments and obligations, peer support, etc;-- and by serving as a reference in seeking grant support from donors. We also helped to facilitate learning across networks, such as between El Salvador and Western Sahara and between Uganda and Somalia, and worked with our member Mines Action Canada to secure young professionals to volunteer as interns with several survivor networks.

As in previous years, the Survivor Networks Project worked with survivor networks to develop fundraising strategies and diversify their funding sources. At a side event at the Mine Ban Treaty review conference in Maputo, participants explored ways to sustain and enhance networks in the post-2014 period. The ICBL-CMC supported several networks in establishing relationships with potential funders, preparing and submitting funding applications to increase the sustainability of their activities, and learning about other opportunities such as online crowd-funding. As of the end of 2014, at least one of the survivor networks, based in Senegal, was awarded a grant from the Lush Foundation in Canada on the basis of its application developed with support from the ICBL-CMC and Mines Action Canada.

## **LANDMINE AND CLUSTER MUNITION MONITOR**

In 2014, the Monitor continued to be the *de facto* monitoring regime for the Mine Ban Treaty and the Convention on Cluster Munitions, presenting research that tracked progress in eliminating landmines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war. As in the past, government representatives, civil society members, and the media consistently referenced and relied upon Monitor resources. During 2014, the Monitor continued to adapt its products—both to emerging trends, especially in the field of victim assistance and disability rights, as well as to new ways of disseminating information through virtual products and accessible data, while still maintaining our comprehensive, global approach to monitoring.

Led by a network of a dozen editors and team of approximately 50 researchers worldwide, the Monitor created tailored fact sheets, short reports, and infographics for the Mine Ban Treaty's Third Review Conference, recapping regional progress as well as 5- and 15-year trends in ban policy, mine action, victim assistance and support for mine action. At the end of the year, the Monitor also released *Landmine Monitor 2014*, compiling data that was not yet available in June for the Review Conference. It produced *Cluster Munition Monitor 2014* in time for the Convention on Cluster Munition's annual Meeting of States Parties, noting dramatically increased casualties in Syria due to

cluster munition use there, while reviewing the ban policies of all countries and highlighting mine action and victim assistance efforts in impacted states.

## Landmine Monitor

In 2014, the Monitor prepared [a number of publications](#), released just ahead of the Third Review Conference of the Mine Ban Treaty in June, reviewing trends and outcomes in relation to landmines and the implementation of the Treaty since the previous review conference and, where relevant, since 1999. On 3 December, the [Landmine Monitor 2014](#) report was released virtually. It featured many important updates to the findings published at the Review Conference, including by thematic area:

- Ban Policy – the addition of Oman as a State Party and explanation of the United States' revised mine policy;
- Mine Action – revised clearance obligations based on extensions granted and updates from the Review Conference;
- Casualties and Victim Assistance – a continuation of the decline in annual casualties based on global 2013 data;
- Support for Mine Action – a drop in international assistance in 2013, but rise in national funding as well as UN peacekeeping operations related to mine action.

Also on 3 December, marking the International Day of Persons with Disabilities, the Casualties and Victim Assistance Team issued a new report "[Equal Basis 2014: Access and Rights in 33 Countries.](#)" It provides up-to-date information on efforts to fulfill responsibilities in promoting the rights of persons with disabilities—including the survivors of landmines, cluster munitions, and other explosive remnants of war—as well as in providing assistance for activities that address the needs of survivors and other persons with disabilities.



The Monitor and CMC provided the 5MSP with research findings and analyses. San Jose, Costa Rica. ©CMC

Just prior to these reports, on 20 November the Monitor released its annual factsheet "[Impact of Mines/ERW on Children.](#)" The latest update details child casualties in 2013 due to landmines, victim-activated improvised explosive devices, cluster munition remnants and other explosive remnants of war (ERW).

### **Media coverage**

Highly successful [media coverage](#) resulted from media outreach around the release of *Landmine Monitor 2014* (see [press release](#)) and the new "Equal Basis 2014" report, as well as the annual factsheet on "Impact of Mines/ERW on Children." At least seven syndicated news services covered the reports in Dari, English, French, German, Japanese, Norwegian, Portuguese and Spanish. For example, Reuters stories were carried in Africa, Europe, Latin America, the United States, and the Middle East, while EFE stories ran in Europe and Latin America and AFP stories in Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Middle East. Several national campaign members participated in launching the 2014 report and/or provided comment to the press, including in: Afghanistan, Albania, Azerbaijan, Canada, Colombia, Germany, Japan, Switzerland, Syria, United States and Yemen. In late December, more than 90 print and broadcast media members attended a national briefing in Myanmar, the second year in a row in which a highly successful Landmine Monitor briefing occurred within the borders of the country.

Landmine Monitor experts and publications were also key resources for media around the globe during the Mine Ban Treaty Third Review Conference. A small sample of references can be found in [The New York Times](#), [CNN](#), [Aljazeera America](#), [Le Temps](#) (French), [Noticias ao Minuto](#) (Portuguese). A media compendium with a list of conference coverage in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, German, Portuguese and Spanish is available upon request.

### **Cluster Munition Monitor**

Launched 27 August via a virtual press conference, the [Cluster Munition Monitor 2014](#) report included a special timeline on the use of cluster munitions and detailed the following topics, by thematic area:

- Ban Policy – status of the Convention, use, production and transfer, stockpiling, stockpile destruction, retention, transparency reporting, national implementation legislation, interpretive issues,
- Mine Action – global contamination, clearance of cluster munition remnants
- Casualties and Victim Assistance: civilian harm in Syria, cluster munition casualties, victim assistance

On 2 September, members of the Monitor Editorial team briefed delegates to the Fifth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions in San José, Costa Rica. More than 50 delegates, including government representative from at least 10 countries, attending the briefing (see [PowerPoint](#)). Monitor information was widely used in states' interventions at the conference.

### **Media coverage**

Monitor researchers and experts, as well as our publications, served as resources for global media before, during and after the Meeting of States Parties. Monitor findings included very high numbers of casualties in Syria due to cluster munition use—information that was picked up by media worldwide. A small sample of citations included the [New York Times](#), [Reuters](#), [Latin America Herald Tribune](#), and [EFE](#).

## **MONITORING AND EVALUATION: REVISED STRATEGIC PLAN**

In 2014, the ICBL-CMC carried out a mid-term assessment of its 2012-2015 strategic plan and achievements to date, and adopted a revised strategic plan on the basis of assessment findings.

In January 2014, an external consultant reviewed ICBL-CMC documentation and carried out consultations with members of the Governance Board, the editorial team of the Landmine and Cluster Munition Monitor, and ICBL-CMC staff. In addition, 38 ICBL-CMC member organizations and five donors answered questionnaires.

During a retreat held in April 2014, the Governance Board, staff, and the coordinator of the Survivor Networks Project reviewed the recommendations of the mid-term assessment report and selected revised strategic goals and objectives.

The revised plan gives priority to universalizing the membership and norm of the Convention on Cluster Munitions. It also reaffirms the need to promote the norm banning antipersonnel mines and the implementation of the clearance and victim assistance components of the Mine Ban Treaty and Convention on Cluster Munitions.

### **REVISED STRATEGIC PRIORITIES UNTIL END 2015**

#### ***Goal 1 -- No more use of landmines or cluster munitions***

- Increased number of State Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions
- No new use of cluster munitions and antipersonnel landmines and any new use is condemned

#### ***Goal 2 -- A significant decrease in land contaminated by landmines and cluster munitions***

- All affected States Parties to both conventions have, and are implementing, a plan to complete clearance by or before their deadline
- All affected States Parties to the Mine Ban Treaty and Convention on Cluster Munitions have a realistic estimate of their remaining contamination

#### ***Goal 3 -- Measurable progress in the quality of life for victims of mines and cluster munitions***

- Demonstrated progress on implementation of commitments under Maputo Action Plan and/or Vientiane Action Plan, with an emphasis on access to services in all places where victims live
- Increased victims' participation in decision-making that affect their lives, and their voices are heard in other forums at the national, regional, and international level.

While work on other thematic issues of the two conventions is not entirely excluded, it was agreed that the ICBL-CMC's limited resources would be channelled primarily towards the revised priorities.

It was also agreed that the findings of the review process would continue to have relevance beyond 2015 and could be used as the starting point for the next strategic planning exercise.

### **Monitoring our activities and impact in 2014**

- The Governance Board met in person three times during the year to plan and review activities, and to assess the effectiveness of the organization. These meetings were held on the margins of Convention meetings to maximize cost efficiencies.
- Performance feedback was collected from donors and other stakeholders during in-person meetings and in writing.
- Media outreach activities were assessed through regular media scans.
- Campaigners completed lobbying reports after meeting with government representatives during international events (intersessionals, Third Review Conference, Fifth Meeting of States Parties, UN General Assembly, Inter-Parliamentary Union Assembly)
- Campaign members provided input and feedback on the annual action plans for the ICBL and CMC.
- The annual independent financial audit of ICBL-CMC and Monitor finances took place successfully in spring 2014. The ICBL-CMC has a full time senior staff member in charge of financial management. A detailed written financial procedure laying down procurement and payment responsibilities is in place along with a policy on conflict of interest.
- Campaigners were asked to evaluate in writing the support provided by staff for the Third Review Conference.
- Campaign members funded through the Survivor Networks Project and through the small grant scheme “Investing in Action” are required to document and report on the use of funds and achievements.

## **GENDER AND DIVERSITY**

The ICBL-CMC promotes and ensures gender and diversity mainstreaming in its activities and advocacy messages. In 2014, the most significant actions and achievements were:

### **Conferences and meetings**

- In 2014, 45 to 55% of the ICBL and CMC delegations at international treaty-related meetings were women, and all regions were represented. We ensured a gender and diversity balance in the sponsorship programme, and delegations included up to five sponsored survivors.
- ICBL-CMC considered gender balance and diversity for all statements at official meetings. Forty-five to 60% of the statements were delivered by women; survivors delivered statements at all meetings.
- ICBL-CMC provided advice to organizers for accessibility at official venues upon request, ensured that hotels were accessible according to the needs of survivors, and organized accessible transportation.

## **Media and communications**

- We ensured a gender and diversity balance in the images, stories, and quotes in communications tools throughout the year (newsletter, website, social media, press releases, media interviews, press conferences, exhibitions, and publications).

## **Campaigns and research network**

- Three out of five ICBL Ambassadors and CMC Spokespersons are women, and four are survivors. They are highly visible in outreach to governments and media at the national level and during treaty-related meetings.
- Forty-eight percent of the small grants were allocated to female-run organizations in 2014. Applicants to the small grants program were asked to outline and report on how gender and diversity issues are taken into account in their activities. For the Survivor Networks Project, three of the eight networks selected for 2013-2014 are led by women.
- The Monitor reports on implementation of age and gender sensitive assistance to the extent that such information is available. It actively encourages states and other actors to improve reporting on, and assistance to, diverse or underrepresented groups among victims.
- Women make up roughly half of the Monitor's research network, and women play decision-making roles on the Monitor's Editorial Board and Editorial Team. The panels for both Monitor briefings in 2014 were gender-balanced.
- Over 75% of the ICBL-CMC staff in 2014 were women, including the Executive Director. One staff member is a landmine survivor. Two of six Advisory Committee members are women and 47% of Governance Board members are women. All regions are represented on the Governance Board.

## **Survivor Networks Project**

In 2014, the Survivor Networks Project considered gender in the direct implementation of activities and encouraged a similar consideration on the part of survivor networks supported through the project. The project team followed up with networks to assess the inclusion of gender, document and raise awareness of good practices, and offer support in identifying resources when needed.

Networks supported through the project reported on how gender was taken into account and with what result in their end-of-year reporting. Most of the organizations experienced an increase of women beneficiaries as compared to 2013. On average, women accounted for 40% of project beneficiaries and in many countries, 40% of team members providing support to survivors and peoples with disabilities were women.

In addition to efforts to overcome obstacles to the participation of women survivors and women with disabilities in the programs of survivor networks, networks also reached out to include other forms of diversity in their programs. For example, networks in Afghanistan and El Salvador worked to include child survivors or children with disabilities in their activities and offered educational opportunities for adolescents. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, beneficiaries included representatives of all ethnic groups in the country: Bosniaks, Serbs, Croats, and Roma.

## ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

The ICBL-CMC is committed to limiting its environmental footprint. Air travel is avoided when possible, and in-person meetings are scheduled to coincide with other events that members of the staff, Governance Board, Monitor Editorial Team, and/or Monitor research network would be attending in various other capacities. The ICBL-CMC books most flights with the agency Diversity Travel, which provides charity fares and is committed to environmental best practices. Diversity Travel has been awarded both the International Quality Standard ISO 9001 and the International Environmental Standard ISO 14001. All travel must be economy class and taking the train is encouraged when destinations are reachable by land. Our travel policy at official meetings and for staff stipulates that public transport should be used where possible.

Effort is made to reduce waste at ICBL-CMC events and offices through recycling and reuse of materials. We reduce printouts whenever possible through the use of electronic documents. The Monitor publication format has evolved to be primarily online as of 2012, in an effort to reduce costs and reduce the amount of paper and carbon needed for printing and shipment.

## ORGANIZATIONAL PROFILE

Four years after the merger of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines and the Cluster Munition Coalition, the ICBL-CMC is a unified organization working on four projects. These include two advocacy campaigns: the International Campaign to Ban Landmines and the Cluster Munition Coalition. They build their advocacy on the research and monitoring carried out by the Landmine and Cluster Munition Monitor. Since 2012, a fourth initiative, the Survivor Networks Project, aims at supporting and empowering victims of these weapons. The four projects of the ICBL-CMC are under one organizational structure in an effort to implement operational efficiencies and reinforce the complementarity of the campaigns' work, including through the sharing of human resources, office space, and financial and technical resources.

ICBL-CMC members are active on the landmine and cluster munition issues in a variety of ways. They all work on issues related to the impact of weapons on civilians, essentially through the humanitarian disarmament approach. Some work with persons with disabilities, through providing direct services and/or peer support. Others carry out clearance operations, or conduct advocacy and research on international humanitarian law or human rights.

All members come together to work towards the goals of the 2012-2015 Strategic Plan, revised through the mid-term strategic assessment as described above:

- No more use of landmines or cluster munitions
- A significant decrease in land contaminated by landmines and cluster munitions
- Measurable progress in the quality of life for victims of mines and cluster munitions.

Organizations work in their home countries, advocating for their government to join and fully implement the Mine Ban Treaty and the Convention on Cluster Munitions. They make sure

governments destroy their stockpiles of landmines and cluster munitions on time or create domestic measures penalizing anyone who uses them. They condemn mine and cluster munition use anywhere, by anyone. Members often hold public awareness-raising events to keep the issue in the public eye and to encourage long-term funding for mine clearance and victim assistance.

Many members write lobby letters and take other actions internationally. Some attend the Intersessional Meetings held yearly in Geneva, Switzerland, where progress on specific areas of each treaty and survivor assistance is discussed with NGOs and governments. In addition, many members attend the yearly Meetings of States Parties to conduct lobbying meetings, build relationships with government delegates and other campaigners, and share their expertise through side events.

The ICBL-CMC and its activities are supported and guided by a Governance Board of 13 organizations. The ICBL-CMC thanks PAX (formerly IKV Pax Christi) which, after many years of invaluable contribution to the Governance Board, left its seat in 2014 but remains actively involved as a member in the Netherlands, and as the lead organization working with the CMC on the Stop Explosive Investments campaign.

The Governance Board is composed of:



Mines Action Canada



Between three and nine members serve on each of the three sub-committees of the Governance Board: (1) human resources, (2) finances, audit and legal, (3) membership.

An **Administrative Committee** provides regular advice and input to staff and has decision-making abilities under certain circumstances. Members are: Steve Goose (Human Rights Watch), Paul Hannon (Mines Action Canada), Atle Karlsen (Norwegian People's Aid), Ayman Sorour (Protection), and Marion Libertucci (Handicap International).

Throughout 2014, daily tasks were carried out by staff members based primarily in Geneva and London. As part of the ICBL-CMC's restructuring, the total number of staff was reduced from 13 at the start of 2014 to 6 by the end of the year and the office in London was closed. While the organization regretted losing many strong staff members, this reduced fixed costs considerably, allowing the ICBL-CMC to begin 2015 with a more streamlined budget and adequate staffing to work towards the objectives of the revised strategic plan.

Content produced by the Landmine and Cluster Munition Monitor is reviewed by a **Monitoring and Research Committee** (MRC) composed of: Paul Hannon (Mines Action Canada), Marion Libertucci (Handicap International), Steve Goose (Human Rights Watch), Loren Persi Vicentic (ICBL-CMC), Tamar Gabelnick (ICBL-CMC), and Jeff Abramson (ICBL-CMC). Sylvie Brigot-Vilain (ICBL-CMC) serves as an *ex officio* member. The MRC ensures that reporting is up to the Monitor's high standards. The Monitor Program Manager is responsible for the coordination and management of research, editing, and report production. The MRC thanks Atle Karlsen of Norwegian People's Aid who, after many years of support to the work of the Monitor, left the MRC near the end of 2014 but remains an active Governance Board member.

The 11-member strong Monitor's **Editorial Team**, drawn from MRC member organizations and the ICBL-CMC staff, coordinates in-country researchers, conducts supplementary research, undertakes field missions, and drafts and edits country profiles and summary sections of publications. They prepare fact sheets, briefings, and work throughout the year to provide Monitor findings to the international community on a proactive and responsive basis.

The Monitor's **Research Network** is composed of researchers drawn from ICBL-CMC member organizations or other civil society organizations, freelance journalists, and research and academic institutions. For the most part, researchers are based in the country they are responsible for monitoring. To the extent possible, the Monitor contracts the same researchers each year to maximize the return on investments in training, coordination and guidance.



