The past year (2019): Mine Action AoR

• Victim Assistance is a priority area for the Mine Action AoR (collapse in funding for VA work in the overall mine action budget) – impacts MHPSS.

• Specific MHPSS sessions at the Mine Action AoR Coordinators retreat, the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention conference on victim assistance and the National Directors of Mine Action Centres annual meeting.

• IASC Disability Inclusion Guidelines – challenges from MA agencies as no cause attributed to disability & concerns with use of Washington Group questionnaire. IHL and AP-Mine Ban Convention requires States to specifically track that ERW/UXO victims are receiving assistance vs broader support to persons with disabilities.

• Integrated case management and tracking of cases.
Looking forward 2020-2021: Mine Action AoR

• November 2019, Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention State Parties meeting in Oslo: sign off 5-year workplan for States.

• Launch of an International Mine Action Standard (IMAS) on Victim Assistance (includes MHPSS) – binding on State signatories to AP Convention and their National Mine Action Centres. Author - HI

• Joint Mine Action AoR and IASC MHPSS briefing on Victim Assistance at the IASC Secretariat.

• Country level MHPSS WGs and MA AoRs in clusterised conflict settings to better work together to meet needs (e.g., share MHPSS 4Ws mapping).