



TV UNITED NATIONS NATIONS UNIES

U.N. IN ACTION

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COLOMBIA: LANDMINES SHATTER CHILDREN'S LIVES

VIDEO

BOMB-SNIFFING DOGS

ARTISANAL MINE DEMO /
SOLDIERS TALKING

ANTIOQUIA DISTRICT / NECHI
RIVER /SHARON BALL ON
BOAT

SHARON BALL ON CAMERA

IRMA JANETH HOBBLING UP
STEPS

AUDIO

NARRATION

Dogs at this army base in Colombia are being trained to sniff out explosives; explosives like these rudimentary - but sometimes lethal - landmines, commonly used in Colombia's long-standing internal war between Government troops, guerrillas, and paramilitary forces. (18")

Because of this conflict, landmines and unexploded ordnance lurk in many areas of the countryside. And Colombia has the highest victim rate in the world, says UNICEF mine action officer Sharon Ball: (13")

SHARON BALL: (English)

"Last year alone we had 65 new child victims"
(3.5")

NARRATION

Child victims like Irma Janeth, now 16, who was only ten years old when she put her left foot on landmine while walking through the woods. The

explosion tore off her leg and left her unable to ever bear children. (13”)

IRMA JANETH: (Spanish)

IRMA JANETH ON CAMERA

“It’s too horrible, what happens to people with these mines.” (4”)

NARRATION

IRMA JANETH WITH HER FAMILY

Irma Janeth is determined to put the past behind her. (3”)

IRMA JANETH: (Spanish)

IRMA JANETH ON CAMERA

“How do you get on with your life if you just keep crying about what happened to you? (5”)

NARRATION

STUDENTS IN HIGH SCHOOL / IRMA JANETH WITH CLASSMATES

Having lost two years of school because of the accident, she’s now resumed her studies. But like other young victims, she will still need help. (8”)

SHARON BALL: (English)

SHARON BALL ON CAMERA

“A child victim will need a new prosthesis maybe every four months especially if they’re living in a rural area because of wear and tear – and that’s a dramatic cost for a family coming from a poor area”. (9”)

NARRATION

POOR RURAL VILLAGES / CHILDREN STANDING OUTSIDE HOUSES

In rural areas, where 96 percent of mine-related accidents take place, young lives suffer a heavy toll, even when children are physically unscathed. (10”)

CHILDREN OF A LANDMINE
VICTIM PLAYING / LANDMINE
VICTIM GREGORIO WALKS
UPHILL

These kids will likely struggle to complete their schooling. Why? Their father has lost the use of his leg, and one eye, to a landmine. He's now unable to farm his small plot of land. (12")

MEN POINT TO LANDMINE /
CU LANDMINE

The impact of accidents like these on local communities is devastating, says mine risk educator Martina Murillo: (7")

MARTINA MURILLO ON
CAMERA

MARTINA MURILLO: (Spanish)

"It's created panic among people here " (2.5)

MARTINA IN SCHOOL YARD

NARRATION

Making children wise to the dangers landmines is one way to fight the panic - using songs and games. (7")

KIDS SINGING AND PLAYING /
DRUMS

Until nationwide de-mining can be undertaken here, prevention measures like these, coupled with help for the victims' families, are the most realistic ways to counter the constant threat of landmines. (12")

UN LOGO

This report was prepared by Michele Zaccheo for United Nations Television.