

MoM-North MHPSS TF-14

Date	Wednesday November 2 nd 2016	Venue	Restart Center
Time	11:30am to 12:30pm	Minutes prepared by	Nour Kik
Organizations attending	Handicap International, Medecins sans frontiers- Swiss, Medecins Sans Frontieres-Belgium, Ministry of Public Health, Restart Center, UNICEF, UNHCR.		

Agenda

1. Presentation of draft 2017 MHPSS TF action plan
2. Presentation of recruitment criteria for mental health professionals in humanitarian settings
3. Presentation of MHPSS TF performance evaluation results
4. Presentation by Restart center on their outreach PSS project
5. General updates

Discussion	Action / Decision / Suggestion
<p>1. Presentation of draft 2017 MHPSS TF action plan</p>	
<p>➤ The action plan which was drafted based on the priorities identified by the task force in all regions was presented:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish referral system for crisis management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure a regularly updated online 4Ws • Identify referral nodes and pathways • Develop Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for hand-off and follow-up and conduct trainings on them • Develop M&E system (referral registry) • Up-scale crisis management trainings for front-liners • Establish a crisis management unit with mobile teams at governorate level 2. Establish multidisciplinary community mental health teams in underserved areas 3. Up-scale evidence-based psychotherapy approaches <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue the TOT on IPT to have local trainers in IPT, and train other psychologists working in the humanitarian response on IPT • Conduct a Training on EMDR with the Lebanese EMDR association 4. Conduct an assessment of the perceived mental health needs of displaced persons 	<p>➤ All agreed that the draft action plan reflects the identified priorities.</p> <p>➤ The draft action plan will be reviewed by the task force in all regions before finalization.</p>

5. **Develop practical guidance and tools for monitoring and evaluation of MHPSS programmes in line with the IASC Framework for Monitoring and Evaluation of MHPSS Programmes in Emergencies**
6. **Conduct workshops on best practices and evidence-based approaches for humanitarian settings in MHPSS (including IASC guidelines)**
7. **Train MHPSS service providers on the “Developmental disorders” module from the mhGAP**
8. **Build the capacity of non-specialized staff to identify and refer persons with mental disorders**
 - Conduct trainings for Protection sector on recognizing mental disorders and referral
 - Conduct trainings for committees in the regions on recognizing mental disorders
9. **Mainstream mental health in Protection outreach and awareness material**

- **Message from the head of the National Mental Health Programme:**
- Very important that actions in the field of MHPSS of all actors address the identified national priorities and needs with an evidence-based approach, and therefore are in line with the national mental health strategy and MHPSS TF annual action plan.
 - The NMHP is willing to develop collaboration with any interested actor for the implementation of strategic objectives in the “Mental Health and Substance Use Strategy for Lebanon 2015-2020” or in the MHPSS TF annual action plan.
 - Actors are encouraged to consult with the MHPSS TF chair to ensure that their projects respond to the needs identified in the action plan.

2. Presentation of recruitment criteria for mental health professionals in humanitarian settings

- One of the objectives in the 2016 action plan of the task force was to: **“Harmonize recruitment criteria for mental health professionals working in the humanitarian field” with the aim of ensuring that professionals with the minimum needed qualifications are employed.**
- The process followed for the implementation of this objective was:
 - Collection and review of the recruitment criteria currently used by task force organizations
 - Review of international standards and guidelines, including the IASC guidelines on mental health and psychosocial support in emergency settings
 - Drafting
 - Local and international expert review
- The professionals covered are the following:
 - Psychiatrist
 - Clinical Psychologist or Psychotherapist
 - Mental Health Nurse
 - Social Worker operating in a mental health setting
 - Mental health case manager
 - Community mental health worker
 - Mental health outreach worker
 - Mental health programme technical adviser
 - Mental health programme coordinator

- The recruitment criteria document will be circulated with the task force for review and feedback.

4. Presentation of the MHPSS TF Performance evaluation results

- The results of the annual performance evaluation of the MHPSS TF were presented.
- The evaluation’s aim was to: Identify areas of improvement to ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of the MHPSS task force in achieving its mission.
- Method: Online anonymous questionnaire formulated in line with the TOR of the TF and with the areas for evaluation identified by the TF.
- The below feedback was given by participants on the results:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All agreed that the taskforce meets frequently enough and that the duration of the meeting is good. - All agreed that Arabic language could be used during the meeting as the visuals are always in English. English translation may be ensured whenever English speaking participants are present. - All agreed that hard copy handouts cannot be handed out every time - All agreed that it would be useful to receive updates from the SGBV and Child protection and Education sectors during the MHPSS TF meetings and to have updates from the Health Working Group whenever it is relevant to MHPSS TF. Regular updates about the MHPSS TF will also be provided during the health working group in the North. - All participants agreed that more information sharing from participating organizations is needed. More updates should be given by organisations about their activities during the meetings. - It was suggested to remind organisations when the agenda of the meeting is circulated by email that they can add points to it. 	
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4. Presentation by Restart center on their outreach PSS project	
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Restart center gave a presentation on their UNHCR funded Community-Based Services (CBS) project. ➤ The presentation included an overview of the CBS model used by Restart, the objectives of the programme, the targeted vulnerabilities and the implementation of the project. ➤ The main intervention is a closed-group PSS session provided in the community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The PPT presentation will be circulated with the minutes. ➤ Persons can be referred to Ms. Grace Jabbour (grace@restartcenter.com) who would see if there is a possibility to include them in an already formed group or establish a new group.
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5. General Updates	
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 4Ws (Who is doing What, Where and until When) mapping exercise was launched. 32 organisations have contributed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The report will be finalized in November.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ One participant raised the issue of confidentiality in referrals as it was noticed that when referring patients via email, persons that are not concerned are being copied in the emails. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It was urged for more caution about this matter through ensuring that only concerned persons are copied in such communications.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ As the MHPSS Task force meeting is overlapping with the Child Protection Working group meeting, it was decided to change the timing of the MHPSS 	

task force meetings to 2pm (instead of 11:30am) on the first Wednesday of every month.	
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Next meeting: Wednesday December 7, 2016 at 2:00pm in Restart Center, Tripoli.
