



GPC GLOBAL PROTECTION FORUM 2020 CONCEPT NOTE FOR VIRTUAL EVENTS

Cross sectoral work as a condition for high impact MHPSS

Tuesday 6 October 2020, 14:00-16:00hrs (CEST)

Rationale/purpose

There is a growing body of evidence that MHPSS is vital in the delivery of protection services. Consequently, MHPSS is now recognized as an essential part of all humanitarian response. The IASC Principals designated MHPSS as a cross-cutting issue in its December 2019 Principals meeting.

Yet, there are still several obstacles for MHPSS to produce the desired high impact.

- MHPSS is still often regarded as a stand-alone sector as opposed to something that should be integrated in other sectors. Effectiveness of the nutrition sector, as well as health, CCCM, mine action, Child Protection, GBV, education and protection would increase when appropriate MHPSS elements are incorporated. At the same time the impact of the MHPSS related actions will increase when these are properly coordinated across sectors.
- Also, at country-level some divisions keep wrongly and persistently existing. These include (1) the disconnection between PSS and Mental Health and (2) the attention of MHPSS aspect of children without coordination with the MHPSS aspect of the adults in their environment and their caregivers in particular.

This session intends to address these issues by discovering which MHPSS elements can be integrated in which sector, defining responsibilities in MHPSS service delivery, how MHPSS gaps can be identified and how MHPSS services can be coordinated in different settings. Participants will be guided in making critical reflections about the situation in the country where they work.

Expected Outcome

The expected outcomes of this session are:

- Increased awareness and understanding among participants about the need for including MHPSS elements across sectors
- Increased understanding on how MHPSS service delivery can be coordinated across sectors to holistically meet the needs of different vulnerable population groups
- Increased understanding about who is responsible for ensuring that MHPSS is integrated across sectors
- Increased knowledge about how MHPSS service delivery and coordination can be improved in the country where they work.



Format of the event

The event will take place as a webinar

The webinar will be conducted in English

The event is scheduled at 14:00 CEST time

The webinar will take place on the Zoom video platform

Speakers/Moderator/ technical donor partner

The event will be moderated by:

- Sarah Harrison, IFRC, co-lead of the global IASC MHPSS Reference Group
- Koen Sevenants, MHPSS lead in the global CP AoR

A representative of OFDA/ USAID will be one of the speakers.

Field Cluster/Operations

The recourse persons will be focal points of: GBV AoR, Mine Action AoR, GPC/Protection, Nutrition Cluster, Health Cluster.

Background Reading

https://www.who.int/mental_health/emergencies/guidelines_iasc_mental_health_psychosocial_june_2007.pdf

<https://www.unicef.org/media/52171/file>