



International Association for Suicide Prevention (IASP)

IASP-WHO PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP, TUESDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER 2019

DEVELOPMENT, IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION OF NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION PROGRAMMES:

Co-Chairs: Prof. Ella Arensman and Prof. Mohsen Rezaeian

The aim of this workshop is to guide and support the development, implementation and evaluation of national suicide prevention programmes, especially in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). While the WHO report: *Preventing suicide: a global imperative* (WHO, 2014), is being regarded as a major resource for countries to develop their national suicide prevention programme, in recent years a growing number of countries have expressed a need to support the actual implementation and evaluation of a national suicide prevention programme.

Therefore, the primary objective of this workshop is on providing guidance to countries in developing implementation and evaluation plans aligned with national suicide prevention programmes. The outcomes feed into guidance for the implementation and evaluation of national suicide prevention programmes, which are currently being developed by WHO.

In addition, the workshop will provide a platform for countries from the 6 WHO Regions to present on the progress of existing national suicide prevention programmes and plans for national programmes that are currently under development, whereby countries can benefit from exchange of expertise within and across regions.

Target audience

Delegates from countries, especially low-and middle-income countries in all six World Health Organization regions who are considering and/or engaging in the development, implementation or evaluation of national suicide prevention programmes.

Programme: 8.30-15.00

8.30-9.00: **Implementation and evaluation of national suicide prevention programmes**

Presenters: Dr Alexandra Fleischmann and Prof Ella Arensman

9.00-9.25: **Are National Suicide Prevention Strategies Effective in Reducing Suicide Rates? Joint Analyses of Changes in Population Suicide Rates in 17 Countries and Territories**

Presenter: Prof Brian Mishara

9.25-9.50: **Example of an Interim Evaluation of Implementing a National Suicide Prevention Programme: *Connecting for Life*, Ireland's National Strategy to Reduce Suicide, 2015-2020.**

Presenter: Dr Paul Corcoran

9.50-10.00: **Region Example: Eastern Mediterranean region**

Presenter: Prof. Mohsen Rezaeian

10.00-11.00: **Country examples - Facilitator:** Dr Jerry Reed

Eastern Mediterranean region: *Pakistan* – Prof Murad Khan

Western Pacific Region: *Japan* – Prof Yuataka Motohashi

European region: *Scotland* – Prof Steve Platt;

Poland – Dr Anna Baran

11.00-11.20: **Coffee/tea**

11.20-12.30: **Subgroup discussion with country representatives on development, implementation and evaluation of national suicide prevention programmes:** 80 mins.

Subgroup facilitators: Dr Alexandra Fleischmann, Prof Steve Platt, Prof Mohsen Rezaeian, Dr Jerry Reed, Dr Richard McKeon, Prof Brian Mishara, Ms Eileen Williamson, Prof Ella Arensman

12.30-13.15: **Lunch**

13.15-14.30: **Country examples - Facilitator:** Prof Ella Arensman

Region of the Americas: United States of America – Dr Jerry Reed

South-East Region: *India* – Prof Lakshmi Vijayakumar;

Bangladesh – Dr Yasir Arafat

14.30-15.00: **Feedback and plenary discussion**

Facilitator(s): Dr Alexandra Fleischmann & Dr Richard McKeon

Outcomes:

- Enhanced understanding of the challenges of developing, implementing and evaluating national suicide prevention programmes through exchange of expertise within and across regions.
- Creation of a network of policy makers, practitioners and researchers interested in developing, implementing and evaluating national suicide prevention programmes.
