

Developing a Minimum Services Package for MHPSS in Humanitarian settings:

Call for Child Protection & Education in Emergencies Contributions

MHPSS.net is involved in a multi-agency collaboration to develop a Minimum Services Package (MSP) for MHPSS in humanitarian settings. The project is led jointly by UNICEF, WHO, and UNHCR, and aims to develop and field-test a costed Minimum Services Package of priority actions to be carried out by humanitarian actors responding to initial MHPSS needs in both new emergencies and ongoing protracted conflict settings. The MSP aims to ensure maximum, positive impact on the ground through better informed, predictable and equitable responses that make more effective use of limited resources and address MHPSS needs using evidence-based strategies in a timely manner. The project is supported by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the UK Department for International Development.

MSP development

The MSP will be developed in line with existing evidence-based guidelines and standards, and in collaborative consultation with a wide range of humanitarian actors and experts from different sectors, geographical regions and backgrounds. In-person meetings and web-based consultations will be held to finalize the content followed by review by a wider Peer Review Group. This will be followed by a period of demonstration and evaluation in five conflict affected countries. Dissemination of the final package will be organized through mail outs, media and events. Together, these actions will pave the way for a finalized MHPSS MSP to be endorsed and used by humanitarian response organizations, leading to improved quality, scale and coordination of MHPSS programming and ultimately leading to better mental health and wellbeing among crisis-affected populations.

Collecting existing guidelines and tools

The MSP will be developed based on existing guidelines, resources, and good practices, with a particular emphasis on effective integration of MHPSS in Child Protection and Education in Emergencies programming. As humanitarian actors increasingly implement integrated programming, it is important to collect and build on existing information and practices from a wide range of stakeholders around the world.

We need your help to collect information on existing guidelines, manuals, and case studies relating to the effective integration of MHPSS in Child Protection and/or Education in Emergencies Programming.

We are looking for:

- General or sector-specific guidelines that address MHPSS in Child Protection and/or Education in Emergencies
- Relevant policy frameworks (inter-agency or unique to your organization)
- Relevant tools (inter-agency or unique to your organization)
- Case studies demonstrating practices/actions which facilitate effective integration and meaningful and demonstrative positive change in mental health and wellbeing among children, adolescents and their caregivers.

If you can share resources relevant to the above, please send your contributions to mhpss.msp@unicef.org by the 31st of March 2020. We understand that some of these resources may be private to your organizations. Please indicate where this is the case, and they will be treated as confidential.

Resources submitted for this review can also be made available to the wider community of practitioners via MHPSS.net. When sharing documents, please indicate if you would like us to do this.

If you have any questions about the MHPSS MSP project or would like to get involved, please contact

- Vania Alves (valves@unicef.org), Education in Emergencies lead, or
- Caoimhe Nic a Bhaird (cnic@unicef.org), Child Protection in Emergencies lead.