

A comprehensive approach to Mental Health: A focus on grants co-funded by the EU4Health and Third Health Programmes

Ugo Guarnacci, PhD
Programme Manager, HaDEA

Winter School ProMIS
Turin, 6 March 2024



Structure

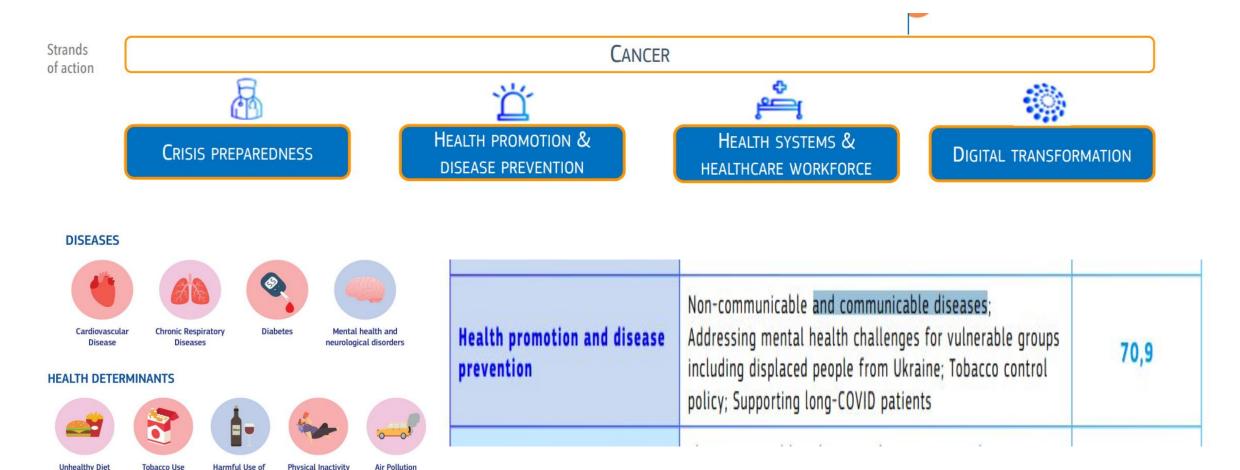
- Situating Mental Health within the EU4Health Programme
- A helicopter overview of the 20 flagship initiatives linked to the Comprehensive Approach to Mental Health
- Examples of projects in the field of mental health promotion & prevention
- Examples of projects in the field of boosting mental health of children and young people
- Examples of projects in the field of fostering mental health globally
- JA impleMENTAL: paving the way to JA MENTOR



Situating Mental Health within the EU4Health Programme



Mental Health: Health Promotion & Disease Prevention



Alcohol



A helicopter overview of the 20 flagship initiatives linked to the Comprehensive Approach to Mental Health



A comprehensive approach to Mental Health



Integrating mental health across policies

European Mental Health Capacity Building Initiative



Boosting the mental health of children and young people

- · Child and youth mental health network
- "Child Health 360: prevention toolkit"
- Youth First Flagship
- · Healthy Screens, Healthy Youth



) .

Breaking through stigma

• Tackling stigma and discrimination





Fostering mental health globally

- Mental health support for Ukraine's displaced and affected people
- Supporting the dissemination of the Inter Agency Standing Committee Minimum Service
 Package on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS)



Promoting good mental health, prevention and early intervention for mental health problems



- European Depression and Suicide Prevention Initiative
- Healthier Together initiative strengthen the mental health strand
- Access gate for people experiencing mental health issues
- European Code for Mental Health
- Developing joint ecosystem for brain research



Helping those most in need

- · Protecting victims of crime
- · Cancer mission: platform for young cancer survivors



Tackling psychosocial risks at work

- · EU-level initiative on the psychosocial risks
- EU workplace campaigns



Reinforcing mental health systems and improving access to treatment and care

- Initiative for more and better trained professionals in the EU
- Technical support for mental health reforms across several sectors

Examples of projects in the field of mental health promotion & prevention



Boosting mental health in post COVID-19 Europe



Care workforce - Team Reflection

Children - My Hero is You: Storybook for Children on COVID-19

The 'Corona helpdesk for refugees'

"Movement: Moving more for our mental health"





Supporting migrants in post COVID-19 Europe: A focus on mental health

•STEP-IN





Problem management plus (PM+): individual psychological help for adults impaired by distress in communities exposed to adversity

PM+ was not developed for use with the following problems:

- a plan to end one's life in the near future;
- severe impairment related to a mental, neurological or substance use disorder (e.g. psychosis, alcohol or drug
 use dependence, severe intellectual disability, dementia).



Examples of projects in the field of boosting mental health for children and young people



Improving children and young people's mental health





Supporting children's mental and physical wellbeing



UNIVERSITY OF TURKU



Mainstream mental health promotion and support within adult health and social care services as well as foster the education to support parenting and children's development.

The purpose of Lets Talk is create a network of authorities' representatives supporting the adoption of LTC in local and national strategies and policies.



Examples of projects in the field of promoting mental health globally



AWP 2022 - amendment



Topic EU4H-2022-PJ-09: Call for proposals on promoting mental health – implementing promising best practice(s) to improve mental health and psychosocial wellbeing in migrant and refugee populations

Main expected impact: contribute to the mitigation of major mental health and psychologically traumatic experiences of the displaced people as a consequence of the war in Ukraine.

Specific action-level indicators:

- ✓ Number of training materials translated by number of languages
- ✓ Number of health professionals and NGOs making use of the training material
- ✓ Number of displaced people from Ukraine benefiting from the action (by country)



4 Projects were selected to be co-funded Total EU contribution: 3 MIL EUR





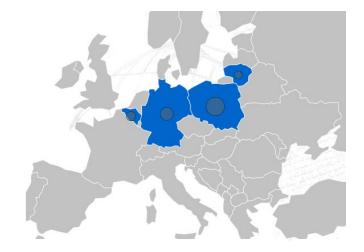






Peace of Mind

- Coordinator: Foundation Art Of Living (PL)
- Duration: February 2023 30
 November 2024
- EU contribution: 803,452 EUR



- Develop and implement an innovative approach to strengthen the mental health and psychological wellbeing of refugees and displaced people from Ukraine.
- The project has been organizing workshops on self-care and trauma relief for displaced people.
- A training of trainers has been set up targeting at least **700 health** professionals in Poland, Germany, Lithuania.
- Final objective: to reach **16 000 refugees** to support their mental health



Event at the European Parliament – 22 May 2023: **Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar**

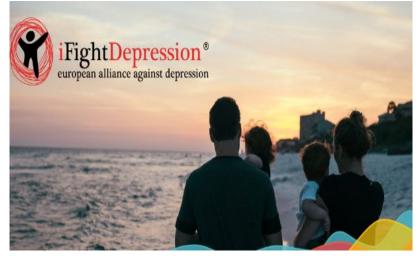
More than half of the violence in the world comes from mental health challenges.



MESUR

- Coordinator: EEAD European Alliance Against Depression (DE)
- **Duration**: 1 December 2022 30 November 2024
- **EU contribution**: 670,832 EUR





- Facilitates treatment options for displaced persons with depression, addressing the treatment gap that displaced people often face.
- Provides immediate mental health support by translating into Ukrainian and Russian the digital, evidence-based intervention tool "**iFightDepression**®" and making it available in **Poland, Germany, Hungary, Bulgaria, Greece and Estonia**.
- Organizes trainings for health professionals about depression and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).



Well-U

- Coordinator: SOS Children's **Villages International (IT)**
- **Duration**: 1 November 2022 31 October 2024
- EU contribution: 765,438 EUR





- Targets refugee children and their caregivers
- Contextualizes and implements the following interventions in Italy, Greece, Hungary and Romania:
- **ReachNow** → encourage help-seeking for children aged 6 to 18 in need of mental healthcare

- **TeamUp** → movement-based intervention to strengthen the emotional resilience **Movement, Games, Sports and Creativity (MGSC)** → improve psychosocial wellbeing **Problem Management Plus** (PM+) → developed by the WHO to manage practical problems and reduce stress and anxiety (for teenagers aged 16+)
- Aims to reach at least 780 beneficiaries



U-RISE

- Coordinator: Vrije University Amsterdam (NL)
- Duration: 1 December 2022 30 November 2024
- **EU contribution**: 777,569 EUR
- Other beneficiaries from Croatia, Italy, Luxembourg, Romania, Slovakia



- Organizes webinars to exchange best practices and strengthen the European network of Ukrainian and Russian-speaking mental health professionals
- Implements evidence-based, face-to-face psychological interventions for refugees from Ukraine hosted in Poland, Romania and Slovakia.
- Develops plans to scale-up and transfer these intervention across the EU



JA impleMENTAL: paving the way to JA MENTOR



A 'legacy' Joint Action in the field of Mental Health



21 EU Member States involved EU contribution: 5,4 MIL EUR



Thank you

ugo.guarnacci@ec.europa.eu



