





### Integration of Mental Health and Psychosocial Services in Existing Healthcare System in 4 Earthquake Affected Districts

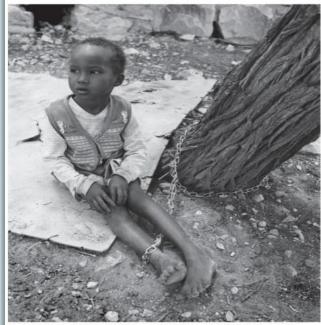
Nagendra P Luitel

Transcultural Psychosocial Organisation (TPO) Nepal

### Introduction

TP Nepal

- More than 450 million people worldwide suffer mental health disorders. Many more have mental health problems (WHO 2003)
- The global burden of disease due to mental and neurological disorders is 13% but they attract only 3% of health budgets (Prince et. al. 2007).
- Every 40 seconds somebody dies by suicide.
   More than half of all suicides occur below the age of 45 years (WHO 2014)



improving treatment for children with mental illness, like this girl in Somalia, is an urgent priorit

## Grand challenges in global mental health

A consortium of researchers, advocates and clinicians announces here research priorities for improving the lives of people with mental illness around the world, and calls for urgent action and investment.

### Introduction

- Up to 4 out of every 5 people with mental illnesses in low and middle income countries (LAMIC) receive no treatment (WHO 2008)
- In Nepal more than 90% of people with mental illness receive no treatment (Luitel et al 2016)











### Impact of emergencies on mental heath

	BEFORE DISASTER: 12-month prevalence	AFTER DISASTER: 12-month prevalence
Severe disorder (e.g., psychosis, severe depression, severely)	2-3%	3-4%
Mild or moderate mental disorder (e.g., mild and moderate forms of diagnostic depression and anxiety disorders)	10%	20% (reduces to 15% with natural recovery)
Moderate or severe psychological / social distress (no diagnosable disorder)	No estimate	Large percentage (reduces to unknown extent due to natural recovery)

Source: WHO 2005



### Mental Health and Psychosocial Problems after the Earthquake

- High rates of common mental health problems:
  - Depression (34.2%), Anxiety (33.8%), PTSD (5.2), Suicide ideation (13.1%), Harmful Alcohol use (20.4%) (TPO Nepal 2016)
- Distress (42%) was the second serious problem in the community (TPO Nepal 2016)
- Note: no formal mental health services in most earthquake affected districts



### **TPOs Programme Objectives**

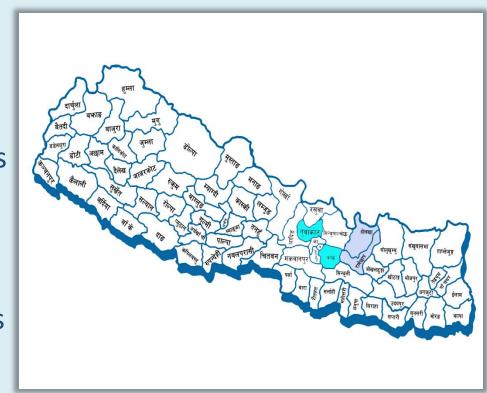
 To integrate mental health and psychosocial support services into the existing health care system to address the psychosocial and mental health needs of affected communities

 To provide support to the Ministry of Health in the post emergency situation



### Coverage

- Four earthquake affected districts
  - Ramechhap, and Dolakha:
     Integration of MHPSS services
     into the existing health care
     system
  - Kavre and Nuwakot:Psychosocial Support Services



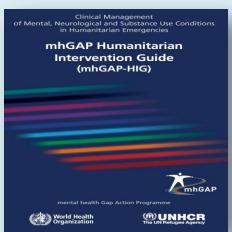
### **Our Approach**

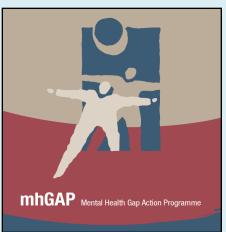
- IASC guidelines on MHPSS in emergencies
- Mental health Gap Action
   Program/mhGAP Intervention
   Guide
- mhGAP Humanitarian
   Intervention Guide (HiG)



अन्तरनिकाय स्थायी समिति आपतकालिन अवस्थाहरूमा मानसिक स्वास्थ्य र मनोसामाजिक सहयोग निर्देशिका







### **Approach/IASC Pyramid**



#### Level 4:

- •Psychiatric consultation
- •Referral

### Level 4:

Specialized services

### Level 3:

non-specialized community-based support

### Level 2:

Reinforcing community and family support

## Level 1: Environment-building: providing basic services and security

#### Level 3:

- MHPSS services provided by PHC workers
- •Basic and advance psychosocial counselling
- •Family support

#### Level 2:

- •Community orientation
- •Psycho-education
- •Providing emotional support

#### Level 1:

•Coordination and networking (TRP partners, other NGOs, Gos)

### **MHPSS Care Package**



	Awareness	Detection	Treatment	Recovery
1. Health Organization	Engagement and advocacy	Referral for specialist consultation, diagnosis or inpatient care		
2. Health Facility	2.1. Service provider awareness raising	2.3. Screening & assessment	2.4. Basic psychosocial support	2.6. Continuing care
	2.2. Service providers stigma reduction		2.5. Psychotropic treatment	
3. Community	3.1. Mass sensitization	3.2. Community informant case detection	3.3. Psychosocial support	

### **Training and Capacity Building of Health Workers**

- 8 days training for prescribers (3 days PS support and 5-days mhGAP)
- 5 days training for non-prescribers (PS support)
- Six disorders: Depression, Anxiety, PTSD, Epilepsy, Suicide and AUD





- 321 health workers trained
  - Prescribers, 194 (95 in Ramechhap and 99 in Dolakha)
  - Non-prescribers, 127 (62 in Ramechhap and 65 in Dolakha)
  - 54/55 HFs in Ramechhap and 55/55 in Dolakha

# Detection of People with Mental Illness in the Community



Female Community Health Volunteers trained on Community Informant Detection Tool (CIDT) to increase help seeking behaviour of people with mental illness

Recognition

Matching

Assessment of need

Promote help seeking

**595** FCHVs received 2 days training on CIDT

**2371** people were referred by FCHVs through CIDT

## Mobilisation of Counselors and Psychosocial Workers in communities



- Community psychosocial workers (CPSWs) mobilised to provide basic emotional support and community sensitization program
  - Dolakha 20, Ramechhap 20,
     Nuwakot 6 and Kavre 6
- Ten psychosocial counselors provided PS counseling and other supports
  - Dolakha 4, Ramechhap 4, Nuwakot 1 and Kavre 1



### **Clinical Mentoring/ Supervision**

- Monthly case conference
- Onsite mentoring
- Phone supervision

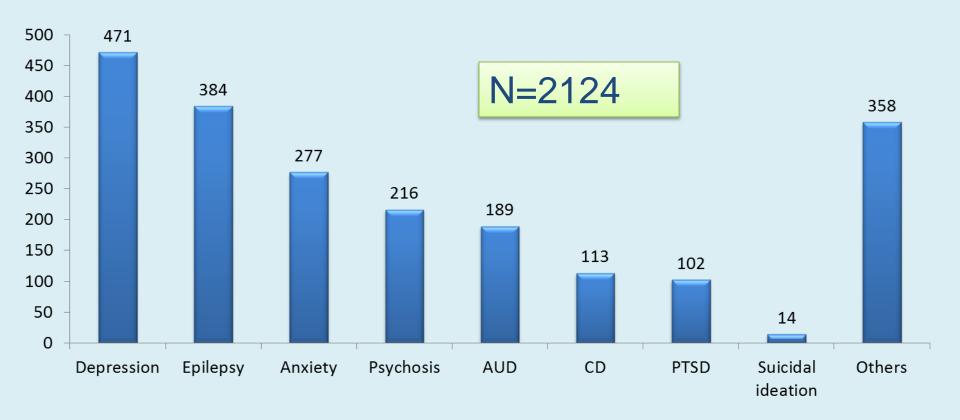




- Supervision of prescribers by
   psychiatrists on monthly basis 9
- Supervision of non-prescribers by clinical supervisor – 5
- ➤ Phone supervision 2/3 per day

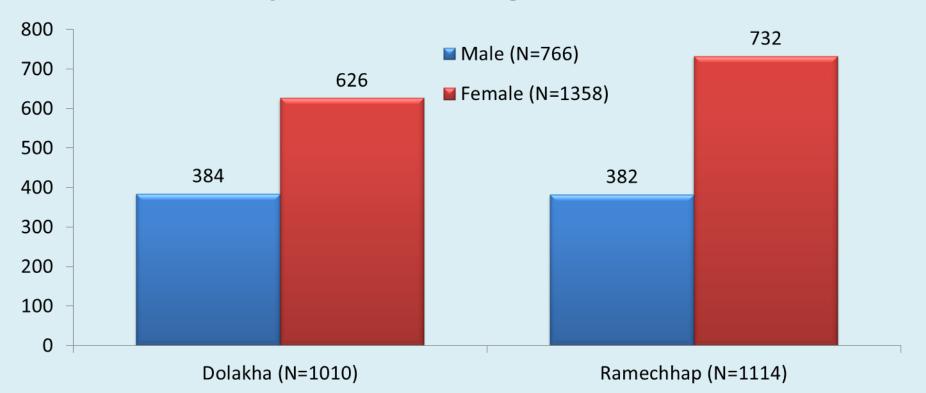
## Number of people receiving MHPSS services from health facilities





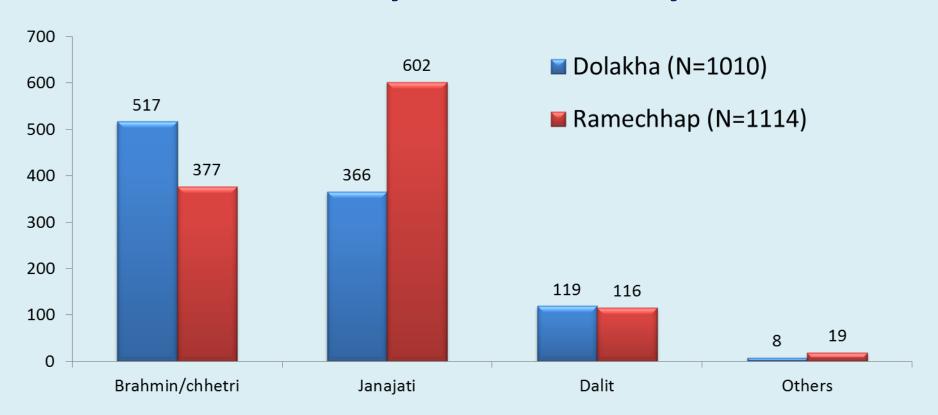


# Number of people receiving services by district and gender





## Number of People Receiving Services at Health Facilities by Caste/ethnicity



## Counselling services from community counselors



- 688 people (Male 201, Female 487) received counselling services:
  - Individual 437
  - Family 135
  - Group 116
- Counselling services by districts
  - Dolakha 217
  - Ramechhap 153
  - Nuwakot 279
  - Kavre 39



### **Basic PS Support Provided by CPSWs**



- 3991 people received PS support (male 1402; female 2589)
  - Individual, 1876
  - Family, 1162
  - Group, 953
  - Referred to counsellors 109
  - Referred to health facilities/hospital-563
- 6895 people were oriented on PS and mental health
  - Male, 2372
  - Female, 4523



### **Specialised care provided by Psychiatrists**

371 people (Male 149, Female 222) with severe MH problems received specialised care



- Epilepsy, 77
- Psychosis, 75
- Depression, 54
- Migraine/Headache, 27
- Conversion disorder, 23
- Anxiety, 21
- BPAD/mania, 20
- Mental retardation, 19
- Alcohol use disorder, 11
- PTSD, 9
- Others, 35

### **In-patient service**

Four people with severe mental illness were taken to Kathmandu for specialised/in-patient care



A 26 year old male with schizophrenia locked in a cowshed (Ramechhap)



### **Coordination and Linkages**

 Worked closely with district level stakeholders including DHO, DDC, WCO and other NGOs

 More than 200 people with MHPS problems referred to other services incl. legal, relief materials, health, and other





### **Project Monitoring and Supervision**

- Regular Supervision from DHOs in all districts
- Supervision from DDC, MoH and NHSSP







### **Recommendations: Immediate**



- Provide psycho-tropic medicines in all health facilities
   (PHCCs and HPs) having trained health workers
- Supervise health workers (both prescribers and nonprescribers) using psychiatrists and psychologists. These are currently not available in the existing system
- Provide refresher training based on the newly developed Standard Treatment Protocol (STP)



### **Recommendations: Immediate**

 Establish counseling centres in districts hospitals and PHCCs

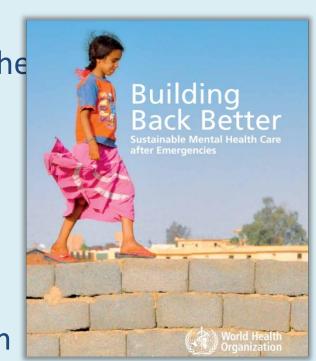
 Co-ordination on mental health activities through a one door system at MoH and DoH

### **Recommendation: Long-term**

 Scale up mental health services in all earthquake affected districts to reduce the risk of distress progressing to disorder

 Include a mental health component (e.g. mhGAP) in health workers' and medical officers' curriculum

 Establish a functional referral mechanism from HPs to tertiary care centers





### **Recommendation: Long-term**

- Linke mental health with other sectors including education, livelihood, social welfare
- Initiate MHPSS training to all health workers (beyond earthquake affected districts) based on the STP
- Include mental health indicators in the HMIS
- Revise the mental health policy 1996 and develop a Mental Health Act





- Continuation of the supervision of prescribers until the end of 2016
- Managed psychotropic medicines in both districts for six months after the project has phased out
- Produce psychosocial counsellors in all program districts by conducting CTEVT certified counselling training
- Provide other technical support to Ministry of Health (MoH) and District Health Office (DHOs) as needed



### **Thank You**

For questions and comments

Nagendra Luitel

luiteInp@gmail.com

Phone: 98413 33725