

Innovation Impact Series

Mental Health Innovation in the African Region (AFRO)

September 29th

9-10:30AM CEST

French, Spanish and Arabic Streaming Available

[Find the Livestream HERE on September 29th](#)

Part 1: Introduction to Mental Health Innovation Impact in AFRO

9:00 am
CEST

Welcome & brief introduction

Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General, WHO
Dr Matshidiso Moeti, WHO Regional Director for Africa

The WHO Approach to Scaling
Innovation

Dr Soumya Swaminathan, Chief Scientist, WHO
Dr Lindiwe Makubalo, Assistant Regional Director for Africa, WHO
Ms Louise Agersnap, Unit Head WHO HQ Innovation
Dr Md Mamunur Malik, WHO Representative Somalia/Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean

Event Moderator: Dr Peter Singer, Special Advisor to the Director General at WHO

Part 2: Stories of Impact and Scaling of Mental Health Innovations in AFRO

9:25 am
CEST

Innovator Presentations and
User Dialogue

Dévora Kestel, Director, Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse, WHO

Friendship Bench, Zimbabwe - Dr Dixon Chibanda: Community-based mental health innovation for people living with HIV

Erq Ma'ed - or Reconciliation Table, Ethiopia - Ephrem Woldeyesus: Mixed talk radio, communications, and community-based counselling

THE SEEK-GSP Programme, Uganda - Dr Ethel Nakimuli-Mpungu: Group support psychotherapy (GSP) sessions to treat depression delivered by trained community healthcare workers

Part 3: Panel Discussion on the Future of Mental Health Innovation Scaling

9:55 am
CEST

Looking Forward

Dr Alex Gasasira, WHO Representative, Zimbabwe
Dr Yonas Tegegn, WHO Representative, Uganda
Dr Boureima Hama Sambo, WHO Representative, Ethiopia
Dr Tina-Marie Assi, Director of Global Health, Grand Challenges Canada
Dr Benido Impouma, Director, Communicable and Noncommunicable Diseases Cluster, WHO Regional Office for Africa
Dr Moredreck Chibi, Innovations Lead, WHO Regional Office for Africa
Marianne Monclair, Senior Advisor, Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD)
Eleni Misganaw, Chairperson, Mental Health Service Users' Association Ethiopia

Concluding Statements

Dr Matshidiso Moeti, WHO Regional Director for Africa
Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General, WHO