



Updates and Achievements in 2021

NEPAL

Only joining the WHO Special Initiative for Mental Health this year, considerable progress has been made in Nepal throughout 2021. Key achievements included:

- Finalisation of a baseline country situational assessment approved by Nepal's Ministry of Health and Population (MOHP);
- Development and MOHP approval of the WHO Special Initiative for Mental Health workplan (logframe);
- Identification of 14 districts where integrated mental health plans will be implemented*;
- Ongoing discussions to finalise plans for monitoring and evaluation;
- Identification of a set of mental health indicators for inclusion in the government's existing Health Management Information System;
- Collaboration with WHO Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) team for common selection of implementation and pilot districts (including for collaborative care);
- Planning for the Economic Investment Case for Mental Health in Nepal, with technical and financial support from the UN Interagency Task Force for NCDs and Mental Health;
- Offers of support from WHO to the MOHP to facilitate government plans for 130 new mental health acute care beds and outpatient services in 13 provincial levels hospitals.

In the year 2022, Nepal will continue to focus on early implementation. Future activities will include:

- Official launch of the WHO Special Initiative for Mental Health and the Economic Investment Case for Mental Health in Nepal, followed by dissemination of the investment case as part of government advocacy efforts;
- mhGAP training and supervisory arrangements for non-specialist staff in primary care facilities;
- Piloting of collaborative care models (i.e., integration of mental health support alongside care for people with co-morbid health conditions, particularly NCDs);
- Continued support to MOHP for effective implementation of in- and out-patient mental services in 13 provincial level hospitals;
- Facilitating development of a template for health information management systems with mental health indicators; and
- Finalising country specific monitoring and evaluation plans for the WHO Special Initiative for Mental Health.

**Bhojpur, Paanchthar, Mahottari, Rautahat, Sindhupalchowk, Rasuwa, Myadgdi, Lamjung, Bardiya, Rukm East, Dailekh, Kalikot, Bajhang, Baitadi*