

**Andrea Bruni, MD, Psychiatrist**

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**WORK EXPERIENCE**

**Mental Health Technical Officer**

**Sep 2020 to present**

**WHO – Iraq (Baghdad)**

- Provide technical support and guidance in the development of the National Mental Health Strategy.
- Chair and coordinate the mental Health Technical Working Group on MHPSS and liaise with relevant National and International stakeholders.
- Promote and support the implementation of community-based mental health services in line with international standards of human rights.
- Provide technical guidance in the implementation of the WHO Quality Rights Initiative.
- Provide technical advice in the development of mental health strategic documents, including the National Plan on Prevention of Suicide.
- Coordinate the implementation of mhGAP and other WHO mental health initiatives in Iraq.

**Mental Health and Substance Abuse Regional Advisor for South America**

**2016 – 2020**

**WHO-PAHO – Peru (Lima)**

- WHO-PAHO mental health advisor for 10 South American countries.
- Provide technical support in the development of mental health policies, plans and legislations.
- Strengthen regional capacity in the area of mental health and substance abuse.
- Promote and support the implementation of deinstitutionalization of psychiatric hospitals.
- Coordinate the implementation of mhGAP in South America.
- Coordinate and facilitate the implementation of various WHO initiatives with service providers, service users and family members.

**Alcohol and Substance Abuse Regional Advisor**

**2014 – 2016**

**WHO Regional Office – Congo (Brazzaville)**

- Strengthen regional capacity in the area of substance abuse.
- Contribute and support development of a regional program for reducing harmful use of alcohol and other substances and associated public health consequences.
- Review studies and support research carried out in the Region in the area of harmful use of alcohol and other substances and disseminate those that are most useful.
- Collect, review and select tools and training materials developed by WHO focusing on data collection, evaluation and treatment of substance related harm.
- Contribute to provide support and guidance to selected countries in the development of national policy and strategic plans and programs related to alcohol and drugs at country level.
- Collaborate with network of experts and other partners, NGOs, and UNODC on harmful use of alcohol and other substance abuse issues.

**Mental Health Programme officer**

**2011– 2014**

**WHO Country Office – Ethiopia (Addis Ababa)**

- WHO focal person for the Integration of Mental Health into Primary Health Care.
- Focal person for Mental Health Gap Action Programme (mhGAP) in Ethiopia: 3- year grant co-funded by European Commission and Fondation d'Harcourt (Geneva-based foundation).
- Coordinate management of mhGAP with Federal Ministry of Health and Amanuel Mental Specialized Hospital
- Produce activity reports for both donors and supported the Hospital in financial reporting.
- Organized Training of Trainers (ToT), Training of Supervisors (ToS), mhGAP Base Course and Standard Course (for non-specialized health workers) and Supportive Supervision in six regions of Ethiopia Organized annual review meetings
- Contributed to the contextualization of mhGAP Intervention Guide in Ethiopia and to the production of related training materials.

- Supported the development of 4-year National Mental Health Strategic Plan and the Mental Health Act.
- Establishing partnership in mental health with relevant stakeholders; facilitated the signing of six Memorandums of Understanding (MoU) between the Federal Ministry of Health and Academic institution.
- Coordinated the WHO emergency mental health response in the South-Sudanese refugee camps in Gambella region
- From August 2014, Non-communicable disease (NCD) coordinator.

**Mental health programme officer**

**2009 – 2011**

**WHO Country Officer – Sierra Leone (Freetown)**

- Coordinator of mhGAP in Sierra Leone.
- WHO Country Office focal person for the development of the National Mental Health Policy and the 5-year National Mental Health Strategic Plan.
- Established partnership in mental health with relevant stakeholders (Ministry of Health and Sanitation, Ministry of Social Welfare, Office of the First Lady, UNICEF, NETHIPS, Plan International).

**Project Manager**

**2007 – 2009**

**Ricerca e Cooperazione – Malawi (Mangochi)**

- Managed Chifundo project on prevention of the transmission of HIV and home-based care of PLWHA in the districts of Balaka, Machinga and Mangochi.
- In charge of administration, human resources, staff trainings, funds (total budget: approx. Euro 1,400,000).
- Prepared and submitted financial reports to the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

**Medical Training Officer**

**2007**

**Merlin – Democratic Republic of Congo (Kindu)**

- Coordinated all Merlin-implemented medical trainings in Primary Health Care, HIV/AIDS, Gender-Based Violence and at Kindu Hospital in DRC.
- Performed quality assessment of Merlin implementation in Maniema.

**Health Program Consultant**

**2005 – 2006**

**Italian Cooperation – Uganda (Kampala)**

- Taught as Visiting Teacher at Gulu University – Faculty of Medicine, for the following courses: Mental Health (III year), Psychology (II year), HIV-counselling (III year).
- Coordinator of the course of HIV-counselling at Gulu University – Faculty of Medicine.
- Liaison officer for: Gulu Hospital, Lacor Hospital, Gulu University, Italian Cooperation.

**Resident in Psychiatry**

**2003 – 2004**

**UNOPS – Albania (Valona)**

Residency (4 month) at the neuropsychiatric hospital “Ali Mihali”.

- Programme of Activities in Support of the Albanian and Refugee Population (PASARP) Pilot Project, aiming to dissolve the institutions (mental hospitals) and to create territorial services.
- Psychiatric assistance, medical staff training, rehabilitation.

**PUBLICATIONS**

- Emerging mental health challenges, strategies, and opportunities in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic: Perspectives from South American decision-makers. *Rev Panam Salud Publica. 2020 Nov 20; 44:e154.*
- Worldwide access to evidence-based mental health literature: how useful is *Pubmed* in Anglo-Saxon and non-Anglo-Saxon countries? *Psychiatry Clinical Neurosciences. 2005 Oct; 59 (5): 511-6.*
- Survey on human rights based on WHO tool for assessing quality and human rights conditions in mental health facilities in Ethiopia. (*Unpublished; available upon request*)
- Rumination Syndrome in Ethiopia: a case study – *Primary Care Companion for CNS Disorders 2014;16(5)*

Contribution to the following WHO publications:

- WHO Mental Health Report on Refugee Camps in Gambella Region. Available at:  
<http://www.afro.who.int/en/ethiopia/press-materials/item/6573-who-mental-health-report-on-refugee-camps-in-gambella-region.html>
- mhGAP Intervention Guide on mental, neurological and substance use disorders in non-specialized health settings. Available at:  
[http://www.who.int/mental\\_health/evidence/mhGAP\\_intervention\\_guide/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/mental_health/evidence/mhGAP_intervention_guide/en/index.html)
- WHO QualityRights Toolkit. Available at:  
[http://www.who.int/mental\\_health/policy/quality\\_rights/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/mental_health/policy/quality_rights/en/index.html)
- mhGAP Training Package (Base & Standard Courses) - *to be issued*

## EDUCATION

### **International Master in Mental Health Policy and Services**

**2012 - 2014**

Lisbon University, Lisbon, Portugal

Dissertation: *Assessing the efficacy of the Mental Health Gap Action Programme (mhGAP) training for non-specialized health workers in Ethiopia.*

Supervisor: Prof. Benedetto Saraceno, New University of Lisbon

### **International Diploma in Mental Health Law and Human Rights**

**2011**

Indian Law Society and World Health Organization, Pune, India.

Dissertation: *Survey on Human Rights based on a WHO tool for Assessing Quality and Human Rights Conditions in Mental Health Facilities in Ethiopia.*

Supervisor: Prof. Lance Gable, Wayne State University

### **Leadership in Mental Health (short course)**

**2010**

Sangath in collaboration with the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, the Schizophrenia Research Foundation and the Centre for International Mental Health, the University of Melbourne, Goa, India.

Coordinator: Dr. Vikram Patel

### **Postgraduate Degree in Psychiatry (specialization)**

**2001 – 2005**

Department of Neurosciences and Behavior Sciences, Università degli Studi di Napoli "Federico II", Naples, Italy

Dissertation: Psychoanalytic theory of Jean Laplanche

Graduated with Highest Honors (50/50 cum laude)

Director: Prof. Giovanni Muscettola

### **Medicine and Surgery Laurea (medical degree)**

**1995 – 2001**

Department of Neurosciences and Behavior Sciences, Università degli Studi di Napoli "Federico II", Naples, Italy.

Dissertation: Pharmacological therapy in eating disorder treatment

Graduated with Highest Honors (110/110)

Tutor: Prof. Giovanni Muscettola