

Summary of the WHO-AIMS Project Proposal to Strengthen the Mental Health System in Egypt

This project proposal is based on the results of a comprehensive assessment of the mental health system of Egypt using the WHO-AIMS instrument. For further details on this assessment, please see the WHO-AIMS country report for Egypt - http://www.who.int/mental_health/evidence/who_aims_report_egypt.pdf

Title of Project: Community Mental Health Care Project

Objectives: The project aims to facilitate the deinstitutionalization of mental health services and expand community mental health care and rehabilitation efforts in Egypt. The provision of community mental health care services is to be done namely through the introduction of residential facilities and mobile teams.

With this aim, specific objectives of the project include:

1. The introduction of residential facilities and mobile teams.
2. Capacity building for mental health professionals on community mental health care.
3. Changing community perceptions of long stay psychiatric patients as dangerous individuals and emphasizing the importance of community care and reintegration.
4. Sensitizing the public about the need to integrate people with mental disorders into the community.

Expected Outcomes: The proposed project is a multi-step project that includes: team building and training, facility preparation, service marketing (including education and awareness campaigns), and service launching.

Specific expected outcomes include:

1. Establishment of at least 30 community residential facilities.
2. Establishment of at least 3 mobile mental health teams.
3. 30 community rehabilitation workers (1 service provider for every 10 users) trained.
4. Individual management plans developed for, and the discharge of 300 long-stay patients from Abbassia and Khanka Hospitals.

Expected Impact:

1. Downsizing of long stay psychiatric institutions and the introduction of community mental health care into Egypt's hospital-based mental health system.
2. Increased availability and access to mental health facilities for service users.
3. Full participation in social and occupational life for people with mental illness.
4. Reduction of the stigma of mental illness and increased dignity and respect for the rights of patients with mental illness.

For further information on this project and resource requirements please contact:

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