

MENTAL HEALTH
& PSYCHOSOCIAL
SUPPORT
NETWORK

Annual Report 2010

Editorial

This year has been a milestone in the life of the Psychosocial Network. Following several months of development, the website was launched for live testing in late December 2009. The Haiti earthquake a few days later in January 2010 led us to deploy the still untested site to support the MHPSS response to the emergency. The site was put under much strain, but with support from the network's Global Host and colleagues on the ground in Haiti, the site was well used and served as an excellent platform for information sharing. During our Steering Group Annual meeting in July, we reviewed data on usage and feedback from members and identified priority design improvements for the next phase. Throughout the first six months user-feedback had very clearly highlighted that the responsive and personal work of our hosting team is greatly valued by our members. During the autumn a further member of the Global Host team was recruited to provide expert support to emergency response. Through an objective tender process, a new developer was commissioned in November to improve the website and further facilitate the important work carried out by the hosts.

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The Mental Health & Psychosocial Support Network aspires to improve mental health and psychosocial well being in emergencies and situations of adversity by improving access to people, resources and knowledge

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Web Platform

Through the website, members:

- Maintain accounts
- Create and explore groups
- Add, share and rate resources
- Adjust permissions
- Conduct searches
- Share activities in groups
- Match people to work opportunities
- Publish feeds from other sites



From January to December 2010

- 2,741 people visited this site
- 5,238 visits came from 132 countries/territories
- Pages on this site were viewed a total of 33,559 times
- Rerouted in the following ways

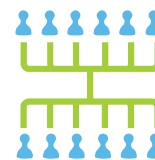


■ Search Engines	2,099.00 (40.07%)
■ Direct Traffic	1,664.00 (31.77%)
■ Referring Sites	1,475.00 (28.16%)

Face-to-face community

Through the face to face community, hosts:

- Seek out emerging insights
- Contribute to the website
- Connect people, ideas and resources
- Support coordination in emergencies



From January to December 2011

- “Members” expanded to 850+
- “Groups” formed expanded to 60+
- 1 part-time “Network host” was employed to support members and mentor the hosting team
- 4 part-time “Global hosts” were employed to each support members allocated to their care.
- “Global host for Emergencies” provided support during the MHPSS response during the floods in Pakistan.
- All hosts met to exchange learning and plan



Governance

The stewarding group, a maximum of eight individuals, is constituted based on institutional and personal purpose as well as in the interest of representing a diversity of geographical regions, professional competences and personal skills. Throughout 2010 two members left and two new members joined the Stewarding Group.

1. Alison Strang
Queen Margret University (Scotland)
2. Brighton Gwezera
Repssi (South Africa)
3. Ananda Galappatti
Good Practice Group (Sri Lanka)
4. Birgitte Yigen
IFRC Psychosocial Reference Centre (Denmark)
5. Sabine Rakotomalala
Terre des hommes (Switzer land)
6. Elizabeth de Castro
Psychosocial Support and Child Rights (Philippines)
7. Sanjana Hattotuwa
ICT 4 Peace Foundation (Sri Lanka)

Challenges in 2010

Although we had only just completed the site and it was not fully tested, we felt that it should be made available to those working in Haiti in January 2010. There were frustrations as bugs were sorted, but overall the Network was appreciated by those working to coordinate MHPSS emergency response.

A priority for the year has been to develop our approach to hosting – which is unique, so there are no models to follow. Users were particularly impressed by the level of responsiveness and support particularly for dealing with technicalities in the use of the site.

The hosting team supported numerous users to set up groups to address particular issues or areas of interest. (Examples include: “Pakistan Floods 2010” and “Middle East Advocates” and “International medical Corps Sharing Hub.”)

A particular challenge has been managing the costs of IT development which became prohibitive. Our response was to undertake a comprehensive specification and recruitment process and commission a new IT provider in December 2010.

Opportunities for 2011

The new website, based on the design and content of the original, will benefit from open source software, more intuitive navigation and a more simple design. It will be launched in April 2011.



Some perspectives for the new year include to:

- Develop the role of Global Hosts
- Add to the hosting team
- Build confidence and relationships with members
- Build membership to over 1,500
- Provide effective support in any major emergencies
- Build relationships and links with other MHPSS networks
- Continue to improve functionality of website
- Build on existing funding base to ensure sustainability

Budget – Income 2010

	CASH (GBP)	CONTRIBUTIONS IN KIND (GBP)	
Terre des hommes	£ 3,948	£2,154	SG Member seconded Jan-Dec
IFRC	£ 12,441	£8,837	SG Member seconded Jan- Dec
REPSSI		£2,010	SG Member seconded Jan- Dec
		£7,387	Africa Global Host seconded Jan-Dec
Good Practice Group, Sri Lanka		£7,817	SG Member seconded Jan- Dec
		£5,558	Co-funding Network Host
Queen Margaret University		£2,892	SG Member seconded Jan- Dec
		£5,784	Co-funded Network Coordinator
The Hub, London		£1,500	SG Member seconded Jan-June
Psychosocial Support and Child Rights Resource Centre, Philippines.		£1,721	SG Member seconded June- Dec
Volunteer Americas Host		£11,350	Americas Global Host Jan-Dec
UNICEF	£12,518.00		
	£23,597.00		
UNHCR	£6,563.65		
TOTAL INCOME 2010	£59,067.74	£57,010	
	(\$94,735.00)	(\$91,842)	

Budget – Expenditure 2010

Hosting			Cash Costs		Contributions in kind	
Staff	Network Host	1 day/wk				
	(+ Global Host Asia)	1 day/wk (@ \$125/day)	£2,008.23	\$3,225	3741.00	6000.00
Direct Costs	Global Host(Africa)	1 day/wk			7387.00	11846.00
	Global Host (Americas)	1 day/wk			11350.00	18200.00
	Global Host (Emergencies)	(@\$350/day)	£3,742.90	\$6,000		
	Face-to-face Training meeting	Delegates travel	£2,876.72	\$4,612		
		Accommodation + subsistence	£1,324.00	\$2,124		
		Meeting rooms, catering and equipment	£450.79	\$723.4		
	Network Host costs	Equipment + phone			1817.00	3000.00
TOTAL			£10,402.64	\$16,686		
On- Line Platform	Hub technical support and maintenance	2010	£23,335.50	\$37,430		
	Hub technical support and maintenance	2009 (deferred payment)	£9,362.61	\$15,000		
Direct	Cezar Neaga development of upgraded website	Completion of Phase I	£4,815.00	\$7,723		
	Project supervision	AS travel (Ed – Lon)	£152.00	\$243.8		
TOTAL			£37,565.11	\$60,551		
Governance and Management	Stewarding Group coordination	14 Days				
		106 days (@ £482/day)	£6,748	\$10,842	5784.00	9432.00
	Sabine Rakotamalala	12 months			2154.00	3455.00
	Ananda Galappatti	12 months			7816.86	12600.00
	REPSSI member	12 months			2010.00	3240.00
	IFRC member	12 months			8837.00	14171.00
	Jonathan Robinson	6 months (Jan – June)			1500.00	2417.00
	Alison Strang	6 months (Jan- June)			2892.00	4716.00
	Elizabeth de Castro	6 months (June – Dec)			1721.00	2765.00
	Direct costs	conference calls		£600.00	\$962.3	
	SG Annual meeting, Bank charges	Network Host Travel	£1,458.50	\$2,339		
		Coordinator Travel	£101.59	\$162.9		
TOTAL			£8,908.09	\$14,358.8		
TOTAL			£56,875.84	\$91,595.8	£57,009.86	\$91,842.00

Budget – 2011

Hosting

1 x Network Host	\$ 20,000
2 x Global Hosting team member (Emergencies + N America)	\$ 40,000
2 x Global Hosting team member (S America + MENA)	\$ 30,000
Direct costs (conference calls/travel/meetings)	\$ 20,000

On-line platform

Technical support + Maintenance	\$ 10,000
Development	\$ 10,000

Management

Stewarding Group Coordination (2 days/wk)	\$ 25,000
Direct costs (conference calls/travel/meetings)	\$ 12,000