

A SYMPOSIUM

GROWING UP IN CONFLICT: THE IMPACT ON CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL WELL-BEING.

26 to 28 May, 2015, New Babylon Meeting Center , The Hague

Convened by:



Ministerie van Buitenlandse Zaken



In Partnership with:





INTRODUCTION.

Current trends in the nature of armed conflicts are resulting in an increase in the scale and scope of protection issues affecting children and families. After a decade of decline in the number of armed conflicts, this situation reversed in 2010. Escalating armed conflicts spawn increased and complex protection risks for communities. By 2013, more people were refugees (16.7 million) and internally displaced (33.3 million) than at any time since 1994. Children and women suffer disproportionately, physically and psychologically, when their country is ripped apart by war and conflict.

THE SYMPOSIUM.

UNICEF, in partnership with the Government of the Netherlands, is convening a Symposium, *Growing up in Conflict: The impact on children's mental health and well-being*, on 26-28 May in The Hague. Other organizers include the Child Protection Working Group (CPWG), City University of New York (CUNY), HealthNet TPO, the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Reference Group on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS RG), International Medical Corps (IMC), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), Johns Hopkins University (JHU), MHPSS.net, Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster

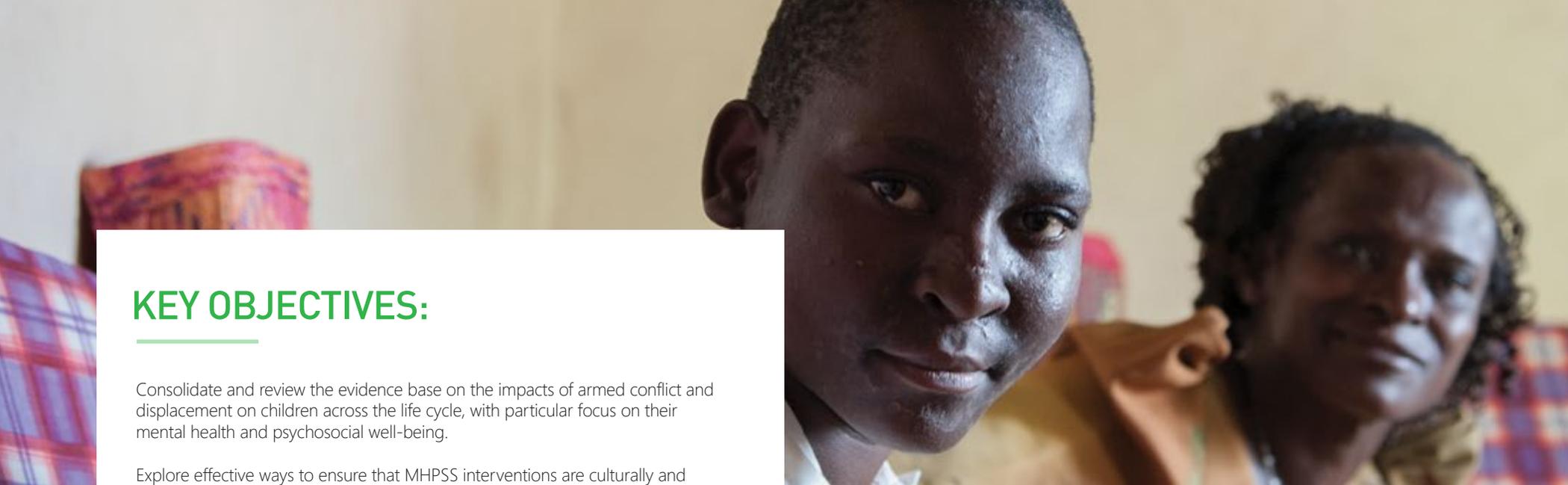
Assistance (OFDA)/U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), REPSSI, Save the Children, Terre des Hommes, The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), War Child Holland, War Trauma Foundation, World Health Organization (WHO) and World Vision. The Symposium will assemble experts on mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS); practitioners, especially field colleagues from key agencies working in conflict-affected countries; academics; and representatives from United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations to determine what is known, examine what is happening in the field in terms of programming and make recommendations for advancing knowledge and practice.

The Symposium will be hosted by UNICEF in partnership with the Government of the Netherlands in The Hague and supported by UNICEF's Peacebuilding, Education and Advocacy programme, 'Learning for Peace', which implements innovative programming on education for peacebuilding in 14 countries around the world. The Symposium will inform a range of initiatives such as No Lost Generation, which addresses the immediate and long-term consequences of the Syria crisis on a generation of children and youth.

The Symposium will feature two days of panels and expert discussions, followed by a day for a core group of practitioners to share experiences in a planning workshop. This third day offers field colleagues from different agencies the chance to collaborate and learn from each other.

The Symposium also provides an opportunity for advocacy. In particular, the concluding session of the second day brings together donor governments and practitioners from the field. The outputs of the Symposium will contribute to advocacy around the World Humanitarian Summit and post-2015 Development Agenda discussions.





KEY OBJECTIVES:

Consolidate and review the evidence base on the impacts of armed conflict and displacement on children across the life cycle, with particular focus on their mental health and psychosocial well-being.

Explore effective ways to ensure that MHPSS interventions are culturally and contextually relevant and incorporate new scientific insights on 'resilience' and 'social ecology'.

Review existing strategies and approaches around MHPSS for children affected by conflict and displacement and analyze strengths and weaknesses.

Advocate for the importance of the issue of MHPSS with government actors and potential donors.

BROAD THEMES:

MHPSS consequences of conflicts and displacement on children – A review of the knowledge base, ranging from findings from neuroscience to social psychology and the social sciences.

Resilience of children, families and communities – The role of culture and context in MHPSS.

The link between MHPSS and rights-based approaches and the wider political context.

The impact of conflict and displacement on wider social structures and processes,

including social cohesion and peacebuilding.

Going beyond post-traumatic stress disorder towards a comprehensive paradigm that includes the effects of chronic stress and structural adversity and integrates protective/risk factors at multiple levels.

Sharing field experiences and learning from successes and challenges.
Reviewing current programme approaches, identifying gaps and opportunities.

Participation and Engagement:

Participation at this event will be by invitation only. However, a social media strategy will seek to engage a wider audience of stakeholders – prior to, during and after the Symposium - through blogs, Twitter and webcasts.

PROGRAMME

Day 1: 26 May 2015 – Knowledge and Perspectives

8:30 am – 9:00 am **Arrival and Registration**

9:00 am – 9:30 am **Welcome**

[Reina Buijs](#), Deputy Director-General for International Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, The Netherlands

Introduction

[Christian Salazar](#), Deputy Director, Programme Division, UNICEF

Introduction to the IASC Guidelines on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS)

[Mark van Ommeren](#), WHO

9:30 am – 10:15 am **Insights from the Field**

Facilitator: [Ananda Galappatti](#), MHPSS.net

Video

Video Respondents & Field Reflections:

[Rita Giacaman](#), Birzeit University

[Lina Omran](#), UNICEF Syria

Refugee perspective

[Theophile Sewimfura](#), Community Based Sociotherapy for Refugees in Rwanda

Special Address

[Roelof van Laar](#), Member of Parliament, The Netherlands

10:15 am – 10:30 am **Coffee Break**

10:30 am – 11:45 am **Panel One: Violence/conflicts and its impacts on children – A review of what we know, including findings from neuroscience**
(8 minutes per panelist, 3 minutes per discussant, a 17 minute moderated discussion, a 20 minute Q&A.)

Chair: [Pieter Ventevogel](#), UNHCR

Panelists:

[Lynne Jones](#), Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

"Enduring Effects of conflict on Children – Findings from a 20-yearlong study of Bosnian children who have grown up with war"

[James Leckman](#), Yale University

"The Intergenerational Effects of War: The impact on our Brains and Bodies"

[Felicity de Zulueta](#), Kings College, London

"Impacts of trauma from an attachment perspective"

[Myrna Gannage](#), Saint Joseph University, Beirut

"Mental health consequences of conflicts on children – My clinical experience with the children of the war in Lebanon"

Discussants:

[Laila Atshan](#), Psychosocial Consultant

Q&A

11:45 am – 1:00 pm **Panel Two: Resilience in children and communities affected by conflict – Social ecology: what promotes resilience – the role of social and community networks**

(8 minutes per panelist, 3 minutes per discussant, a 17 minute moderated discussion, a 20 minute Q&A.)

Chair: [Noreen M. Huni](#), REPSSI

Panelists:

[Michael Ungar](#), Dalhousie University

"What promotes and nurtures resilience in youth affected by conflict"

[Mike Wessells](#), Mailman School of Public Health

"Community-based mechanisms as a source of resilience for conflict affected children"

[Rita Giacaman](#), Birzeit University

"Interventions for building positive resilience among youth in Occupied Palestinian Territory"

[Annemiek Richters](#), Amsterdam Institute for Social Science

"Community-based sociotherapy in the African Great Lake Area"

Discussants:

[Ncazelo Ncube-Milo](#), Independent Consultant

Q&A

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm **Lunch Break**

2:00 pm – 2:15 pm **Ted-like Talk**

[Sudhir Kakar](#), Writer and Novelist

"Psychology of religion – Relevance for our times"

2:15 pm – 3:30 pm **Panel Three: Social and psychological factors in relation to social cohesion and peacebuilding**
(8 minutes per panelist, 3 minutes per discussant, a 17 minute moderated discussion, a 20 minute Q&A.)

Chair: [Hans van den Hoogen](#), Government of the Netherlands

Panelists:

[Matthew Scott](#), World Vision

"Peacebuilding and youth: Experiences in programming"

[Marie de la Soudière](#), Psychosocial Consultant
"Reintegration of children affected by armed conflict and social cohesion"
[Guglielmo Schininà](#), IOM
"Play and rituals in psychosocial support and dialogue after conflicts, challenges and perspectives".
[Relinde Reiffers and Trudy Mooren](#), War Trauma Foundation
"Growing up in conflict: Families strengthening social cohesion in the West Bank"

Discussants:
[Noreen M. Huni](#), REPSSI
[James Leckman](#), Yale University

Q&A

3:30 pm – 3:45 pm **Coffee Break**

3:45 pm – 5:00 pm **Panel Four: Culture, gender, norms, and mental health and psychosocial well-being**
(8 minutes per panelist, 3 minutes per discussant, a 25 minute moderated discussion, a 20 minute Q&A.)

Chair: [Sudhir Kakar](#), Writer and Novelist

Panelists:
[Shekhar Seshadri](#), NIMHANS
"Beyond Mourning Rituals and Gender Inequalities: Cultural Considerations in Child Psychosocial Interventions in Conflict Settings"
[Martha Bragin](#), CUNY
"Gender considerations for an effective psychosocial response – Challenges"
[Amanda Melville](#), UNHCR
"Gender, culture and norms – Insights from UNHCR's review of mental health in the Middle East"

Discussants:
[Sheema Sen Gupta](#), UNICEF
[Nancy Baron](#), PSTIC

Q&A

5:00 pm **Concluding Day One**
[Christian Salazar](#), UNICEF

Day 2: 27 May 2015 – Evidence and Practice

9:00 am – 9:15 am **Welcome**
Review of day one and objective for the day
[Christian Salazar](#), UNICEF

9:15 am – 10:30 am

Panel Five: New models – Evidence-based low-intensity psychological interventions
(8 minutes per panelist, 3 minutes per discussant, a 20 minute moderated discussion, a 20 minute Q&A.)

Chair: [Shekhar Seshadri](#), NIMHANS

Panelists:
[Mark van Ommeren](#), WHO
"Low-intensity psychological interventions for people in communities affected by adversity – A new area of mental health and psychosocial work at WHO"
[Atif Rahman](#), HDRF Pakistan
"Problem Management Plus (PM+) – Testing a face-to-face intervention to enhance self-management of common psychological problems in Peshawar and Swat, Pakistan"
[Wietse Tol](#), PCAF/JHU
"Self-Help Plus (SH+) – Multimedia package for coping with adversity among South Sudanese refugees in Uganda"
[Richard Bryant](#), UNSW
"Development of a WHO low-intensity intervention for children affected by adversity"

Discussants:
[Alison Schafer](#), World Vision

Q&A

10:30 am – 10:45 am **Coffee Break**

10:45 am – 12:00 pm **Panel Six: Evidence in the field on MHPSS – Challenges and opportunities**
(8 minutes per panelist, 3 minutes per discussant, a 20 minute moderated discussion, a 20 minute Q&A.)

Chair: [Martha Bragin](#), CUNY

Panelist:
[Alastair Ager](#), Columbia University
"Findings from a three-year inter-agency initiative evaluating the impact of Child Friendly Spaces in humanitarian emergencies"
[Susan Bissell](#), UNICEF
"Supportive/protective factors as hard to measure issues"
[Wietse Tol](#), JHU
"New monitoring and evaluation framework on MHPSS"
[Mark Jordans](#), HealthNet TPO/ King's College London
"Reducing aggression among children in post-conflict Burundi: Evaluation of a brief parenting intervention"

Discussants:
[Inka Weissbecker](#), IMC

Q&A

12:00 pm – 1:45 pm **Extended Lunch Break**

'Market Place'

[Organizations and field offices of different organizations present their work, new approaches, interventions, studies and evaluations in the form of posters, videos and other methods]

Includes:

"Sustainable Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Structures for Palestine Refugees" – UNRWA West Bank

IOM in the field – Video from Syria and Lebanon and Colombia, posters from South Sudan and Nigeria

"Programming with adolescents in Jordan," IMC

"Psychosocial group counselling interventions in Eritrea and Syria," CVT

"UNICEF'S Emergency Psychosocial Support Response for Syrian Children in Jordan: An Evaluation" UNICEF Jordan

"Community-based psychosocial support," UNICEF Lebanon

"Impact of child protection – Case management and MHPSS services for vulnerable children's well-being in camp and urban settings in Jordan," IMC in Jordan

"PFA goes global: Innovations in capacity building," by Peace in Practice, Good Practice Group, WHO, War Trauma Foundation, World Vision International.

"The Journey from the War Field to a Safe Playground – Regaining My Childhood in South Sudan," UNICEF South Sudan

"Keeping MHPSS for children at the core of an emergency response: Afrophobic attacks in South Africa," REPSSI

"Reaching out to the hearts and minds of children in exile: UNICEF's response to South Sudan refugees in Gambella, Ethiopia," UNICEF Ethiopia

"Linking humanitarian to development programming in MHPSS: The Lebanon case study," UNICEF Lebanon

"Reaching the unreachable," UNICEF Syria

"Community-based psychosocial approaches in refugee settings: Dateline Kakuma," Church of Sweden

"Picking up the pieces: protecting refugee children in urban settings in Egypt," UNICEF Cairo

"Building Peace in Burundi: A child-centered approach," UNICEF Burundi

"Development of MHPSS Structures in Protracted Conflict Situations Working with Palestinian Refugees," BMZ/GIZ

"Building Sustainable Community Based Psychosocial and Socio-Economic Support Services for PWSMDE and their Household," TPO Uganda

"Impact of Conflict-Related Violence on Mental Health of Refugee Bedouin Children in the West Bank" UNRWA West Bank

1:45 pm – 2:00 pm **Ted-like Talk**
Speaker (TBC)

2:00 pm – 3:15 pm

Panel Seven: Education as a vehicle for MHPSS: Across the life-cycle – Experiences from the field

(8 minutes per panelist, 3 minutes per discussant, a 17 minute moderated discussion, a 20 minute Q&A.)

Chair: [Jennifer Groves](#), OFDA

Panelists:

[Laura Boone](#), IRC

"Healing classrooms"

[Friedrich Affolter](#), UNICEF

"Education as an entry point for psychosocial support, socio-emotional well-being, and peacebuilding".

[Anne-Sophie Dybdal](#), Save the Children

"Schools as engines for PSS recovery and a source of resilience for children"

[Marie de la Soudière](#), Psychosocial Consultant

"Psychosocial support through schools – a missed opportunity"

Discussants:

[Cheryl Potgieter](#), University of KwaZulu-Natal

Q&A

3:15 pm – 3:30 pm **Coffee Break**

3:30 pm – 5:00 pm **Concluding Session: Plenary with donors, UN, other stakeholders**

Moderator: [Christian Salazar](#), UNICEF

UNICEF Video, Central African Republic

Remarks from key partners:

[Shekhar Saxena](#), Director, Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse, WHO

[Preeti Law](#), Deputy Director a.i., Division of International Protection, UNHCR, Geneva

[Susan Bissell](#), Associate Director, Programmes, Chief of Child Protection Section, UNICEF

Remarks from donors:

[Rob Horvath](#), Chief Empowerment and Inclusion Division in the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) Center of Excellence on Democracy, Human Rights and Governance, Bureau for Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance

NGO/INGO Interventions from the floor (TBC)

Vote of Thanks:

[Joost Andriessen](#), Director, Stabilization and Humanitarian Aid Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of the Netherlands.

Reception: 5:30 pm — Donors, missions, participants hosted by the Government of the Netherlands

Day 3: 28 May 2015 – Workshop: Recommendations for the future

9:00 am – 9:15 am	Welcome Review of the first two days and setting goals for the day Saudamini Siegrist , UNICEF
9:15 am – 10:45 am	Challenges in the field – Problem of scale and new approaches Facilitator: Janis Ridsdel and Amanda Melville , UNHCR Group work (details TBC)
10:45 am – 11:00 am	Coffee Break
11:00 am – 12:30 pm	Recommendations for the field (life-cycle approach, adolescents, early childhood, play for psychosocial well-being) Facilitator: Saji Thomas , UNICEF Insights from the field: Guglielmo Schininà , IOM “Programming for adolescents and young adults in migration crisis and post-conflict situations” Monika Sandvik-Nylund , UNHCR “Programming for adolescents in displacement” Ann Willhoite , CVT “Group counselling interventions for Eritreans in Ethiopia and Syrians in Jordan” Inka Weissbecker , International Medical Corps ‘MHPSS programs for children and youth (Youth Empowerment programming, integrated mental health and protection case management which also includes children and youth)’ Kenneth Miller , War Child Holland ‘Complexity of addressing Level 3, focused interventions for severely affected children and adolescents and in settings of ongoing conflict’
12:30 pm – 1:30 pm	Lunch Break
1:30 pm – 3:00 pm	Group Work: Recommendations for new strategies for MHPSS in the field Facilitator: Sabine Rakotomalala , CPWG Group facilitator: Maria Bray , Terre des Hommes Group 1: System strengthening Group Facilitator: Alison Schafer , World Vision Group 2: Priority areas for further research/evidence

Group facilitator: [Peter Ventevogel](#), UNHCR
Group 3: **Coordination and response/knowledge management**

Group Facilitator: [Margriet Blaauw](#), MHPSS Reference Group
Group 4: **Capacity building**

3:00 pm – 3:15 pm **Coffee Break**

3:15 pm – 4:30 pm **New strategies for MHPSS in the field – Plenary**
Moderator: [Ananda Galappatti](#), MHPSS Net

4:30 pm – 5:15 pm **The Way Forward**
Chair: [Saudamini Siegrist](#), UNICEF
Technical Summary

5:15 pm **Conclusion**

SPEAKERS/CHAIRS/FACILITATORS:

Friedrich W. Affolter, Friedrich W. Ed.D., is programme manager of UNICEF's Peacebuilding, Education and Advocacy Programme, 'Learning for Peace'. He is a graduate of the Center for International Education (CIE) of the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Prior to joining UNICEF Headquarters, he served as Education Cluster Coordinator with UNICEF Sudan (2010-2012)

Ager, Alastair, Ph.D., is a professor at the Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University who assumes the Directorship of the Institute for International Health and Development at Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh in July. He was formerly convener of the Psychosocial Working Group, and is currently research director of collaboration with World Vision (involving Save the Children, Mercy Corps and UNICEF), examining the impact of children-friendly spaces.

Atshan, Laila is an experienced psychosocial consultant with over 25 years of experience in the field of trauma and refugees. She also worked as a stress counsellor with UNICEF in Sudan, Darfur and South Sudan. Ms. Atshan has accrued a wealth of geographical and technical experience in her professional career. She worked in Palestine throughout both Intifadas and in Denmark with refugees from Palestine and elsewhere. Additionally, she served with UNICEF in Syria and Lebanon, working with refugees from the ongoing Syrian Civil War and training Lebanese social workers. She has also worked in Iraq with survivors of ISIS violence. This work has allowed Ms. Atshan to develop exceptional skills in building mental health capacity within countries in turmoil, evidenced by her experience building Emergency Psychosocial teams in Palestine.

Nancy Baron, Ph.D. is the Director of the Psycho-Social Services and Training Institute in Cairo a community based MHPSS project where refugees are trained to assist their communities. Since 1989, she has provided consultation, assessment, training, program design and development, research and evaluation for UN organizations and international and local NGOs in community and family focused psychosocial, mental health and peace building initiatives for conflict and post-conflict countries around the world.

Bissell, Susan, Ph.D., first served UNICEF in the former Division of Information and Public Affairs before focusing on children in especially difficult circumstances in Sri Lanka. She continued this work in Bangladesh and then became Chief of Child Protection in India. She later joined the Innocenti Research Centre and served on the Editorial Board of the 2006 United Nations Secretary-General's Study on Violence Against Children. In 2009, she was appointed UNICEF's global Chief of Child Protection. She holds a doctorate in public health and anthropology, a master's degree in law, economics and international relations and an honorary professorship at Columbia University.

Blaauw, Margriet, MD, is a physician with an international health background. She is currently co-chair of the IASC Reference Group on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in Emergency Settings. She has worked in mental health and psychosocial support programmes, and in programmes for the rehabilitation of torture survivors throughout the world.

Boone, Laura is a social worker with a Master's degree in social development. She has more than 15 years of experience working with especially vulnerable children in humanitarian and development settings including in Ethiopia, Kyrgyzstan, the Netherlands, Uganda and the United Kingdom. She has worked for a variety of organizations including EveryChild, GOAL, UNICEF, Volunteer Service Overseas (VSO) and national child-focused non-governmental organizations.

Bragin, Martha Ph.D., is associate professor at the Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College, City University of New York. A long time psychosocial and child protection practitioner, she currently specializes in developing culturally relevant and participatory methods to measure the effectiveness of psychosocial intervention in emergencies and post-conflict situations.

Bryant, Richard Ph.D., is a scientia professor in the School of Psychology at the University of New South Wales, Sydney, and director of the UNSW Traumatic Stress Clinic. He conducts epidemiological and treatment studies in indigenous populations affected by disaster, conflict and violence. His work has included developing low-intensity intervention projects in indigenous Australian communities, Indonesia, Thailand, Africa and the Middle East.

de la Soudière, Marie, MSW, Ph.D. (Hon.), has worked with children in armed conflict for over 30 years in Africa, Asia and Europe. Her fields of expertise are family tracing and care of separated children, reintegration of children associated with armed forces and groups and integrated psychosocial support to children affected by armed conflict. After consulting for several organizations, particularly UNHCR and UNICEF, she joined the International Rescue Committee (IRC) in 1997 to set up a child protection unit of which she was the director until 2005. She continues to consult regularly for several organizations.

de Zulueta, Felicity, MD, FRCPsych, is an emeritus consultant psychiatrist in psychotherapy at the South London and Maudsley NHS Trust and an honorary senior lecturer in traumatic studies at Kings College, London. She developed and headed both the Department of Psychotherapy at Charing Cross Hospital and the Traumatic Stress Service in the Maudsley Hospital, which specializes in the treatment of people suffering from complex post traumatic stress disorder.

Dybdal, Anne-Sophie is a clinical child psychologist who has worked in social work and MHPSS for 25 years, of which 12 years were in humanitarian contexts. She currently is a senior child protection advisor for Save the Children, with a special focus on MHPSS. Save the Children works on prevention and response to potential psychosocial distress that can hamper and undermine children's abilities to thrive and develop.

Galappatti, Ananda, co-founder of MHPSS.net, is a medical anthropologist and MHPSS practitioner in situations of conflict, disaster and other adverse social conditions. He has done extensive field work in Sri Lanka for the past 18 years, where he has been involved in training, research, evaluation and coordination of services.

Gannagé, Myrna, Ph.D., is professor of clinical psychology and the director of the Department of Psychology at Saint Joseph University, Beirut. She is the co-founder and the president of the Association for the Protection of War Children. She has extensive clinical experience working with children of war in Lebanon and has published widely on this topic.

Giacaman, Rita, PharmD, MPH, is the founder director and professor of public health at the Institute of Community and Public Health at Birzeit University. Since 2000, she has sought to understand the impact of chronic war-like conditions and the needed active and positive resilience and resistance to ongoing war-like conditions, especially among youth.

Groves, Jennifer, MSW, is a Child Protection Advisor and Global Health Fellow at USAID's Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance. She provides technical support to OFDA's regional teams and emergency response programs focusing on both child protection and psychosocial support programming. Prior to her current position she spent over 10 years working in the NGO sector on both development and humanitarian response programs globally. Her passion in psychosocial programming was born out of her time working on post tsunami recovery programs in Sri Lanka

Huni, Noreen M. is the Executive Director for Regional Psychosocial Support Initiative (REPSI). She is also the chairperson for Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Inter-Agency Task Team on Children and Aids (RIATT-ESA). Working with UNICEF, she also led the prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) of HIV in the East and Southern African regions, setting out programming guidelines for PMTCT and orphans and vulnerable children.

Jones, Lynne, OBE, FRCPSych, Ph.D., is a child psychiatrist, relief worker and writer. She is a visiting scientist at the FXB Center for Health and Human Rights at Harvard University and currently works for Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust. She has established and directed mental health programmes in areas of conflict and natural disaster including the Balkans, Central America, East and West Africa, the Middle East and Southeast Asia. She was appointed an Officer of the Order of the British Empire for her work in child psychiatry in conflict-affected areas of Central Europe. Her most recent book is *Then They Started Shooting: Children of the Bosnian War and the Adults they Become*.

Jordans, Mark, Ph.D., is head of research for HealthNet TPO and senior lecturer, Centre for Global Mental Health, King's College London, with a focus on developing and evaluating psychosocial and mental health care systems in conflict-affected settings, especially for children affected by armed conflict.

Kakar, Sudhir, Ph.D., is a psychoanalyst who was in private practice in Delhi for 30 years before moving to Goa. He has been the head of the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences at IIT, Delhi and is a leading figure and writer in the fields of cultural psychology and psychology of religion.

Law, Preeti, Deputy Director a.i. in UNHCR's Division of International Protection in Geneva, has extensive experience in the field including in Africa, Asia and the Balkans. Her operational and headquarters portfolios have included protection, including accountability and community-based protection, operations management and policy development.

Leckman, James, MD, Ph.D., is the Neison Harris Professor of Child Psychiatry, Psychiatry, Pediatrics and Psychology at Yale. For more than 20 years, he served as the director of research for the Yale Child Study Center. He has a long-standing interest in Tourette Syndrome and Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder (OCD). His research on these disorders is multifaceted, from phenomenology and natural history to neurobiology to genetics, to risk factor research and treatment studies.

Melville, Amanda, Ph.D., is the senior protection officer for UNHCR, focusing on child protection. She has worked for Save the Children on strengthening child protection systems for children affected by the Syria crisis in Lebanon and Jordan, for UNICEF in the Jordan, Middle East Headquarters, and in Indonesia and the Occupied Palestinian Territory as a child protection and psychosocial specialist.

Miller, Ken PhD, is a clinical and community psychologist and the senior psychosocial advisor at War Child Holland. His experience lies in helping organizations develop culturally appropriate and empirically sound assessment tools, evaluation methods, and interventions. His research has focused on identifying the major pathways by which war affects mental health and psychosocial wellbeing.

Mooren, Trudy, PhD, works as a clinical psychologist in Foundation Centrum '45, national institute for specialised diagnostics and treatment of psycho-traumatic problems in the Netherlands. She coordinates the program for traumatized families. This involves the implementation, training and study of the effects of Mentalization-Based Multifamily Approach. She is a licensed CBT, EMDR and family therapist and board member of the European Society of Traumatic Stress Studies (ESTSS).

Ncube-Milo, Ncazelo is an educational psychologist and narrative therapist with over 10 years of experience working with children and communities affected by and infected with HIV and AIDS in East and Southern Africa. She currently works as an independent consultant, providing services that include training and capacity development on children-centred, family and community-focused approaches to help alleviate trauma and hardship. She works with different organization throughout Africa, including the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund.

Omran, Lina, Child Protection officer, is working in mental health and psychosocial support programs and interventions at UNICEF Syria, Damascus office. She has a BA in Sociology and a Technical Master's degree in Psychosocial Support and Dialogue.

Rahman, Atif, Ph.D., is an adjunct professor at the University of Health Sciences Lahore, the Institute of Psychiatry, Rawalpindi and the Health Services Academy, Islamabad, in addition to his role as chair of psychiatry at the University of Liverpool, UK. He is also the honorary chief-patron of the Human Development Research Foundation, Pakistan, a non-profit organization working in rural Pakistan that develops indigenous models of research and service for the optimal physical, mental and social well-being of Pakistanis.

Reiffers, Relinde has a background in cultural anthropology, transnational communications & global media and humanitarian action. People affected by humanitarian disasters and refugees in particular have her interest. Relinde works for War Trauma Foundation since 2005, coordinates the programmes in the Occupied Palestinian Territories and Northern Caucasus and has also coordinated the programmes in Burundi, DR Congo and Egypt. Relinde is the project coordinator of the journal *Intervention* and the *Intervention Educational Materials*.

Ridsdel, Janis, is a child protection adviser seconded to UNHCR's Child Protection Unit by Save the Children Sweden. She specializes in child protection in emergencies, and has worked in over 20 emergency and refugee responses around the world. She holds a Master's degree in forced migration from Oxford University.

Rakotomalala, Sabine is the Deputy Coordinator of the Child Protection Working Group (CPWG). She has over 15 years of professional experience in the field of child protection, namely within WHO as well as child protection emergencies adviser at Terre des Homes.

Richters, Annemiek, MD, Ph.D, is emeritus professor of Culture, Health and Illness, Leiden University Medical Center, the Netherlands, and staff member of the Amsterdam Institute for Social Science Research, University of Amsterdam. Since 2005, she has been involved in community-based sociotherapy programmes in Rwanda, which aims to contribute to transitional justice through healing and reconciliation.

Salazar Volkman, Christian, Ph.D., is the Deputy Director of Programmes for UNICEF, New York Headquarters. Prior to this position, he served as Representative of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Colombia, as UNICEF Representative in Iran, and UNICEF Deputy Representative in Viet Nam and Guatemala as well as advisor for Youth and Human Rights in post-war Guatemala. He is a visiting research fellow at Harvard University and member of the Advisory Board for the Professorate on Economics of Child Well-being and Development at University of Zuerich.

Sandvik-Nylund, Monika works as the senior adviser for child protection at the UNHCR. She has worked for the last 20 years in the field of child protection and humanitarian affairs with many organizations, including Save the Children, UNICEF, United Nations Mission in Sudan and UNOCHA.

Saxena, Shekhar, MD, is director of Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse, WHO. He is leading WHO's work to implement the Comprehensive Mental Health Action Plan 2013-2020 adopted by the World Health Assembly in May 2013.

Schafer, Alison, Ph.D., is Technical Specialist for MHPSS in Humanitarian and Emergency Affairs for World Vision International. Her role includes emergency response, research, MHPSS programming, and strategy support for World Vision. She also provides technical support to World Vision's field-based MHPSS programmes in various crisis-affected countries.

Shininà, Guglielmo is the head of the IOM Mental Health, Psychosocial Response and Intercultural Communications Section and director of the Summer School in Psychosocial Interventions in Migration, Emergency, and Displacement at the Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna in Pisa.

Scott, Matthew is the Director of Peacebuilding at World Vision International. He has spent 20 years working in the non-profit sector, ranging from disability issues, landmines, child rights, humanitarian affairs, religious freedom, and peace and security.

Sewimfura, Theophile is a healing, peacebuilding and reconciliation activist with a background in peace studies and conflict transformation (MA). He is one of the four field coordinators of the community-based sociotherapy program in Rwanda. From 2002, he has been actively involved in the facilitation of hundreds of seminars and workshops on healing the wounds of ethnic conflicts in post-genocide Rwanda at Mercy Ministries.

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