

## **How can WHO support countries to promote and protect the rights of people with mental disorders?**

In order to address the burden of mental illness in countries and improve the human rights of people with mental disorders, WHO has created the Mental Health Policy Project: Addressing Needs, Improving Services (MHPP). The project consists of four components, each one linked to and building on the other.

### **❖ MHPP Guidance documents and tools to inform the development of mental health policy, legislation and services**

- *WHO Resource Book on Mental Health, Human Rights and Legislation* that offers guidance to countries on how to develop and implement mental health law that promotes and protects the rights of people with mental disorders
- *WHO Checklist on Mental Health Legislation* tools to help countries to critically review the comprehensiveness and adequacy of existing mental health legislation
- *The Mental Health Policy and Service Guidance Package*: A series of 14 interconnected modules covering every aspect of developing national mental health policies, plans and services
- Training materials and tools designed to guide national stakeholders through the mental health reform process

### **❖ WHO International Network of Experts**

- WHO has brought together a group of international experts in mental health human rights, legislation, policy, planning, service development, who are trained and equipped to assist countries wishing to reform their mental health system.

### **❖ MHPP Training Program**

- WHO Officials, and international network experts run training workshops in countries committed to improving conditions for, and meet the needs of, people with mental disorders.
- Each 2 - 4 day workshop is designed to help government officials and other national stakeholders to develop appropriate strategies to improve the mental health systems in countries.

### **❖ Direct Support to Countries**

- Countries can receive direct, in-depth and ongoing technical support from WHO and its network to develop mental health policies, laws and services that meet the needs and promote the human rights of people with mental disorders.
- WHO is providing technical support in this area to an increasing number of countries including: China, El Salvador, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea Bissau, Latvia, Lesotho, Malawi, Nicaragua, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, Samoa, and several countries of the Caribbean.