

Co-operation Group to Combat Drug Abuse and Illicit
Trafficking in Drugs



MedNET Newsletter: January – February 2017

To the friends of the Mediterranean network, we have the pleasure to send you the first MedNET newsletter.



Launch of Lebanon's National Substance Use Strategy 2016-2021

Lebanon launched its National Substance Use Strategy in Beirut on 22 December 2016, with the Pompidou Group's support for its development and implementation in 2017. The inter-ministerial strategy is part of the programme 'Mental Health and Substance Use Prevention, Promotion and Treatment Strategy for Lebanon 2015-2020'. It was developed by the Ministry of Public Health (MOPH), in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE), Ministry of Interior and Municipalities (MOIM), Ministry of Justice (MOJ) and Ministry of Social Affairs (MOSA), and in consultation with numerous UN agencies, local and international NGOs, professional organisations, academic institutions, health care organisations and health professionals.

The strategy is based on six pillars: autonomy, dignity, participation, accountability & integrity, empowerment, and quality. Its main objective is to give all people living in Lebanon the opportunity to enjoy the best possible mental health and wellbeing. The strategy respects human rights and has several missions. In particular, it aims to guarantee universal accessibility to gender and age-sensitive prevention, treatment, rehabilitation, harm reduction and social re-integration services, and to reduce the availability of illicit substances.

The report on the National Drug Strategy for Lebanon is now available.

http://www.coe.int/T/DG3/Pompidou/Source/Documents/Substance%20use%20response%20strategy_english-1.pdf

MedNET / Gender dimension: Development of specialised services for women with substance abuse disorders in Egypt

The report on the project to develop specialised services for women with substance abuse disorders in Egypt is now available. The project was carried out by the Pompidou Group in partnership with the General Secretariat of Mental Health and Addiction Treatment (GSMHAT). The report falls within the activities of the MedNET network aimed at promoting cooperation between Mediterranean countries, and also the gender activities of the Pompidou Group which promote the consideration of a gender dimension in drug policies.

Since 2013, this project has created women's care services that are culturally acceptable and have had a real impact on public mental health services, resulting in the creation of a vast number of similar services. Through this project, professionals have become aware of the specific needs of women. The will to continue to cooperate with other similar services throughout the world was also emphasised.

<http://www.coe.int/T/DG3/Pompidou/Source/Documents/Gender%20responsive%20services%20for%20women%20with%20substance%20abuse%20disorders%20Med%2020....pdf>

MedSPAD Committee held its 7th meeting in Paris on 7th February and worked towards the drafting of a second regional report on the use of substances by young people in the Mediterranean Region.

TDI (Treatment Demand Indicator) protocol is now available in Arabic

Following a round table in Egypt in September 2015, the EMCDDA representative proposed to translate the joint TDI EMCDDA/PG Protocol in Arabic. This document on one of the most important Treatment Demand Indicator is now available in Arabic. The General Secretariat of Mental Health and Addiction Treatment (GSMHAT) contributed to the final document

<http://www.emcdda.europa.eu/publications/manuals/t-di-protocol-3.0>