



## International Association for Suicide Prevention Workshop: Partnerships for Life

**Date:** Tuesday 19 September 2023

**Time:** 09.00–12.30

**Location:** Grand Hotel Bernardin, Piran/Portoroz, Slovenia

**Room:** TBA

### **Background:**

The Partnerships for Life (P4L) global initiative to prevent suicide, launched (as the Regional Suicide Prevention Networks Programme) in December 2020, is a flagship five-year (2021–2025) initiative of the International Association for Suicide Prevention (IASP).

The P4L programme aims to establish an international collaboration of experts supporting the development of a comprehensive, strategic approach to suicide prevention, with a view to increasing in the number of nations worldwide committed to the planning, implementation and evaluation of a national suicide prevention strategy. P4L encourages peer learning and facilitates mentorship between countries with established suicide prevention strategies and countries which are at an earlier stage of suicide prevention strategy development. An important feature of the programme is to raise global awareness about the importance and potential positive impact of a comprehensive, national strategic approach to suicide prevention.

Six networks, bringing together countries in different regions of the world (Africa, the Americas, Eastern Mediterranean, Europe, South-East Asia and Western Pacific), have been established under the leadership of coordinators with international reputations in the field. Global and regional strategies have been developed and work plans have been prepared. Good progress has been made in respect of key actions, including: identification of key country contacts and establishment of effective working relationships between these contacts and the regional coordinator; development of a situation analysis in each country; supporting national teams and collaborative activity under the leadership of the key contact in each country; and delivery of workshops to support the implementation of the programme and encourage peer learning and facilitate mentorship between countries at different stages of strategy development.

### **Learning objectives (LOs)**

LO1: Identify the challenges in developing and implementing the P4L programme, globally and in different regions.

LO2: Understand how to work effectively with governments to promote evidence-informed approaches to suicide prevention.

LO3: Understand how to enhance collaborative partnerships and integrate peer learning insights into the P4L programme.

### **Format**

Workshop (open to all participants at the Congress). Mix of presentations and discussion (in small groups and plenary session).

### **Breakout sessions: Key questions**

Q1: What are the specific challenges in implementing the P4L programme in the context of global economic, cultural and political diversity?

Q2: How can the P4L programme work most effectively with governments to promote evidence-informed approaches to suicide prevention?

Q3: What are the best ways to enhance collaborative partnerships within and between countries and integrate peer learning insights into the P4L programme?

Q4: What we have learned about creating P4L in the different world regions and what are the best ways to build and sustain the programme?

## Draft Programme

Time	Content/Focus	Who
09.00-09.10	Welcome, introductions, purpose	Chair (Rory O'Connor)
09.10-09.30	The P4L programme: Overview (leadership team, aims, activities, progress to date, challenges)	Steve Platt
09.30-09.40	African region: Decriminalising attempted suicide in Ghana: What lessons can guide other African nations pursuing similar actions?	Joseph Osafo
09.40-09.50	988 and Septiembre Amarillo (Yellow September): National strategies as drivers of help-seeking and reduced stigma in The Americas"	Mark Sinyor
09.50-10.00	Decriminalisation of suicide in Pakistan: Lessons for Eastern Mediterranean region countries'	Murad Khan
10.00-10.10	Building sustainable networks in the European region at the interface with the EU Joint Action Programme ImpleMENTAL"	Thomas Niederkrotenthaler
10.10-10.20	South-East Asian region: From plan to action: The National Suicide Prevention Strategy for India	Lakshmi Vijayakumar
10.20-10.30	Developing collaborative Partnerships for Life in the Western Pacific region: Challenges and future opportunities	Greg Armstrong and Paul Yip
10.30-10.45	Break	
10.45-11.30	Breakout session (small group discussions)	
11.30-12.10	Plenary session: Feedback and discussion	Chair (Rory O'Connor)
12.10-12.20	The P4L programme: Future plans	Steve Platt
12.20-12.30	Concluding remarks	Chair (Rory O'Connor)