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Philanthropy: a crucial actor in global mental health

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Despite the rising burden of disease and costs in low- and middle income-countries, mental disorders attract few resources. With governments often under economic pressure, external actors could offer opportunities to unlock additional resources. This **new study** from the **London**

School of Economics and Political Science presents novel analyses of philanthropic contributions for mental health in 156 low- and middle-income countries between 2000 and 2015 and identifies challenges and opportunities for increasing their impact for sustainable financing for mental health. This visual blog provides a snapshot of the results and it is also available as an **infographic**.



Philanthropic development assistance for mental health (DAMH)

financial and in-kind contributions for health disbursed by philanthropic donors (e.g. foundations, corporations, individuals) to low and middle income countries

METHODS



Novel analyses of a dataset on development assistance for health

156

Low- and middle-income countries included in the analyses

2000-2015

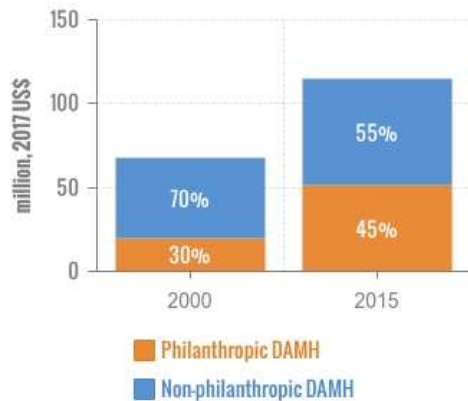
Time period

RESULTS

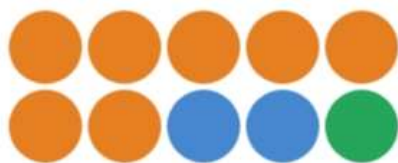
Total philanthropic DAMH 2000-2015



Philanthropic contributions to DAMH increased in both absolute and relative terms between 2000 and 2015



Organisations channeling philanthropic DAMH 2000-2015



- Non-governmental Organisations
- Foundations
- Multilateral Governmental Organisations

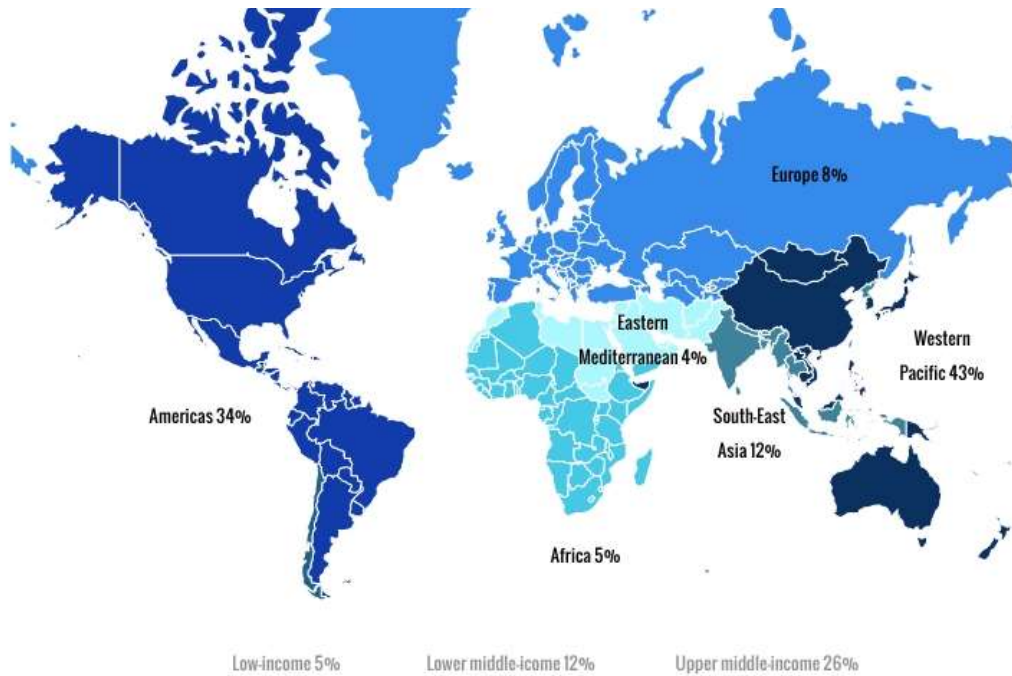
Philanthropic development assistance for health across health conditions 2000-2015



- Mental Health
- Other Health Conditions

Philanthropic contributions to DAMH by region 2000-2015





RECOMMENDATIONS

Philanthropy is a crucial actor in global mental health

whose impact could be amplified by:



Initiation or increase of contributions to mental disorders
to reflect their growing relative importance



Sustainable approach to disbursements
to assure local ownership and impact beyond funded activities



More equitable allocation



Better data collection

Iemmi V (2020). Philanthropy for global mental health 2000-2015. *Global Mental Health* 1-6.
Freely available at <https://doi.org/10.1017/gmh.2020.2>



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Further information:

Full article freely available for download [here](#).

Full infographic freely available for download [here](#).

Note: This article gives the views of the authors, and not the position of the Social Policy Blog, nor of the London School of Economics.

About the author



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Valentina Lemmi is a PhD candidate in the Department of Social Policy and Research Fellow at the London School of Economics and Political Science, specialising in global mental health policy.

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1 Comments

