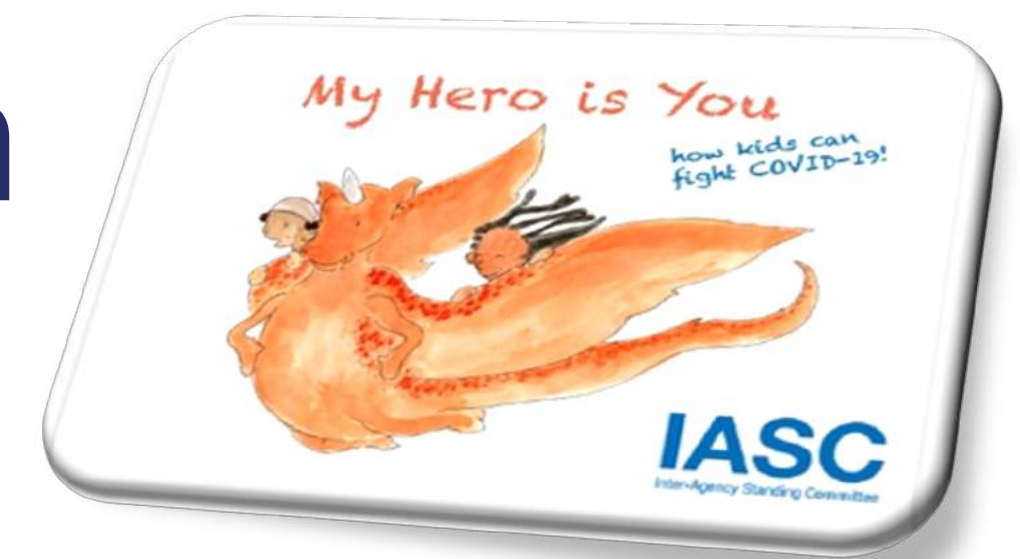




The Story about the Children Storybook on COVID-19





Sara's mum is her hero because she is the best mum *and* the best scientist in the world. But even Sara's mum cannot find a cure for the coronavirus.

"What does COVID-19 look like?" Sara asked her mum.

"COVID-19, or the coronavirus, is so tiny we can't see it," said her mum. "But it spreads in the coughs and sneezes of people who are sick, and when they touch people or things around them. People who are sick get a fever and a cough and can have some trouble breathing."

"So we can't fight it because we can't see it?" Sara asked.

"We can fight it," said Sara's mum. "That's why I need you to be safe, Sara. The virus affects many kinds of people, and everyone can help us fight it. Children are special and they can help too. You need to stay safe for all of us. I need you to be my hero."



Structure of IASC MHPSS Reference Group

Global



- GCCG
- Results Groups
- Donor MHPSS Group
- UN Peacebuilding architecture
- CP Alliance
- Standby Partners
- OCHA

OPAG and IASC Secretariat

Co-Chairs WHO & IFRC

MHPSS RG members

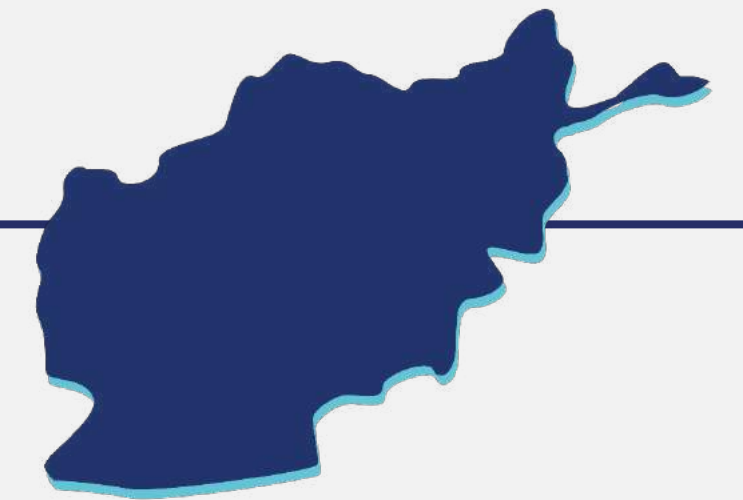
Membership

60
full members

11
Observers

10
Donor
organisations

Country level

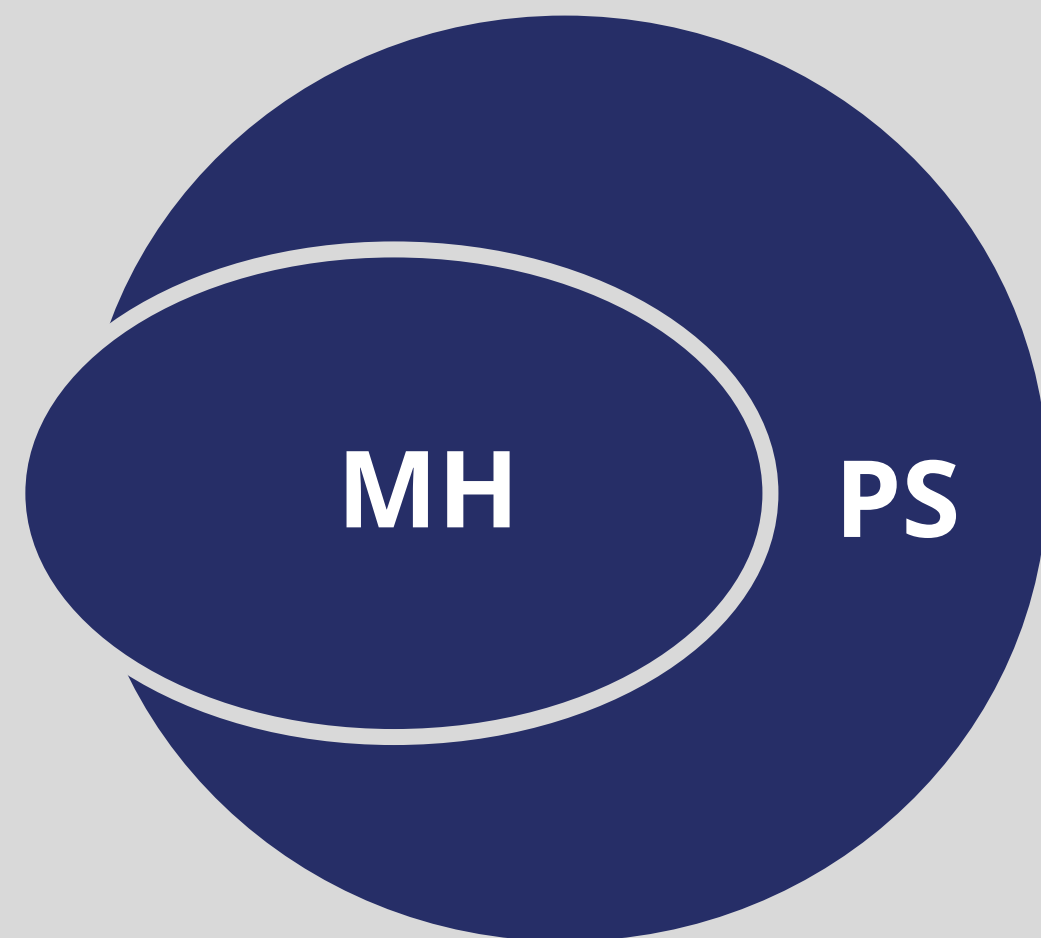


MHPSS Technical
Working Groups
in 50 countries
in humanitarian
contexts.

Setting inter-agency standards in MHPSS operations

Composite term and definition

- protecting or promoting psychosocial well-being
- and/or
- preventing or treating mental health conditions.



Intervention pyramid (Adapted from IASC 2007)

Examples:

Clinical mental health care
(whether by PHC staff or by
mental health professionals)

Basic emotional and
practical support to selected
individuals or families

Activating social networks

Supportive child-friendly
spaces

Advocacy for good
humanitarian practice: basic
services that are safe,
socially appropriate
and that protect dignity

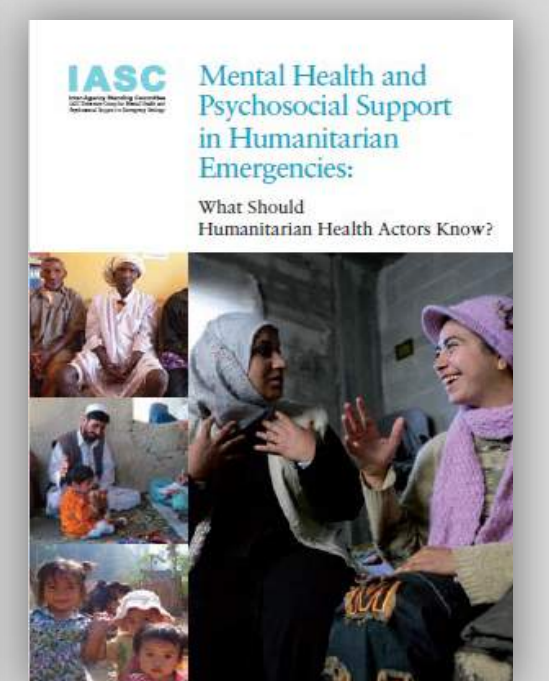
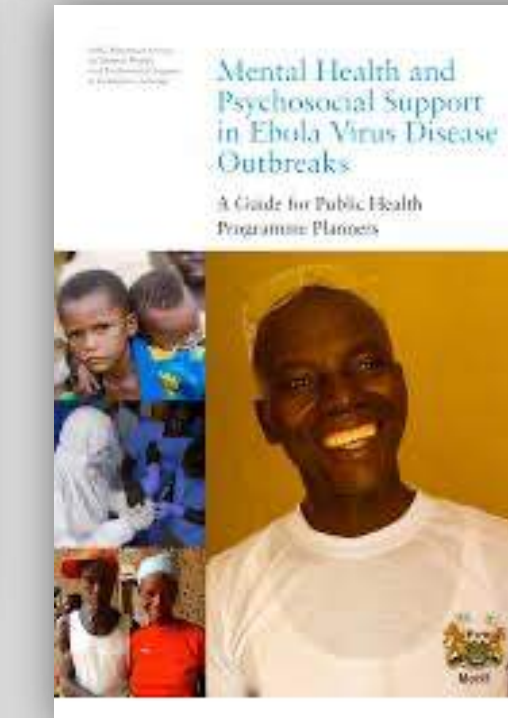
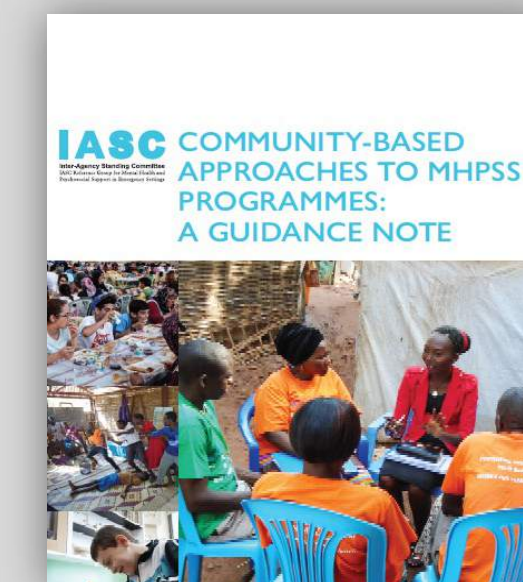
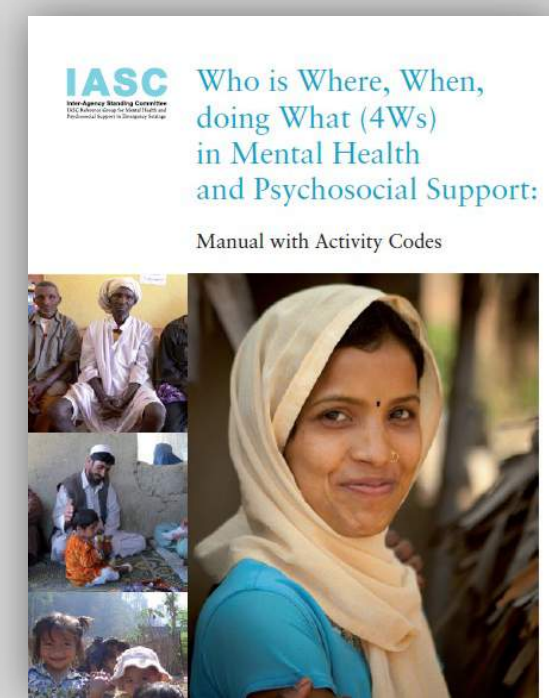
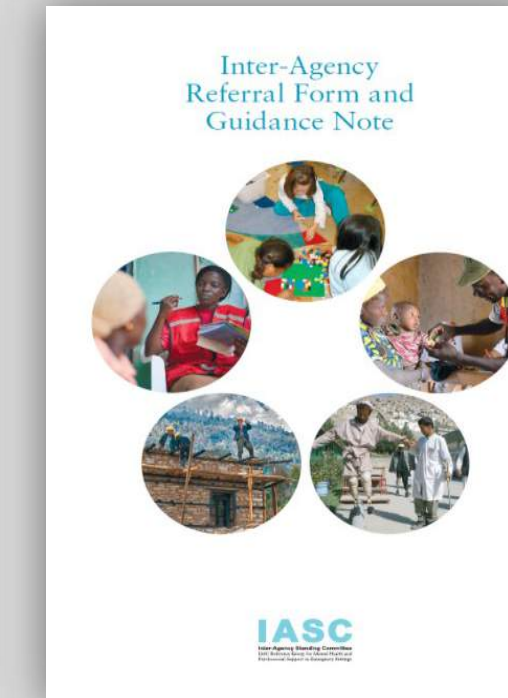
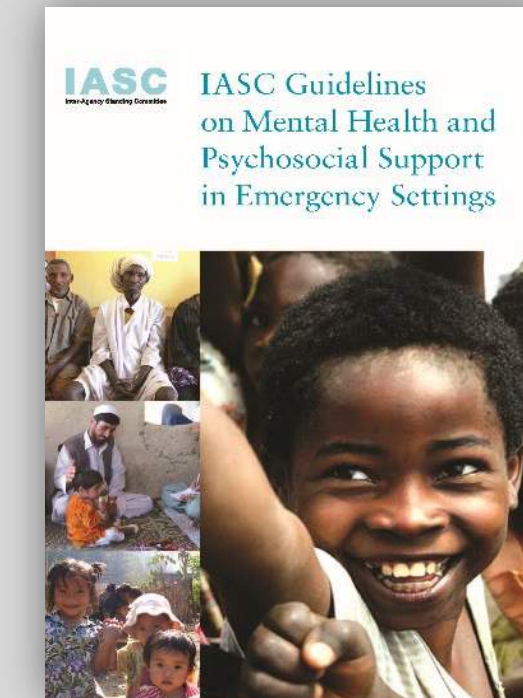
Clinical
services

Focused
psychosocial
supports

Strengthening
community and
family supports

Social considerations
in basic services and
security

IASC MHPSS Guidelines and guidance for the field



IASC MHPSS Reference Group response to COVID-19

MHPSS Coordination calls

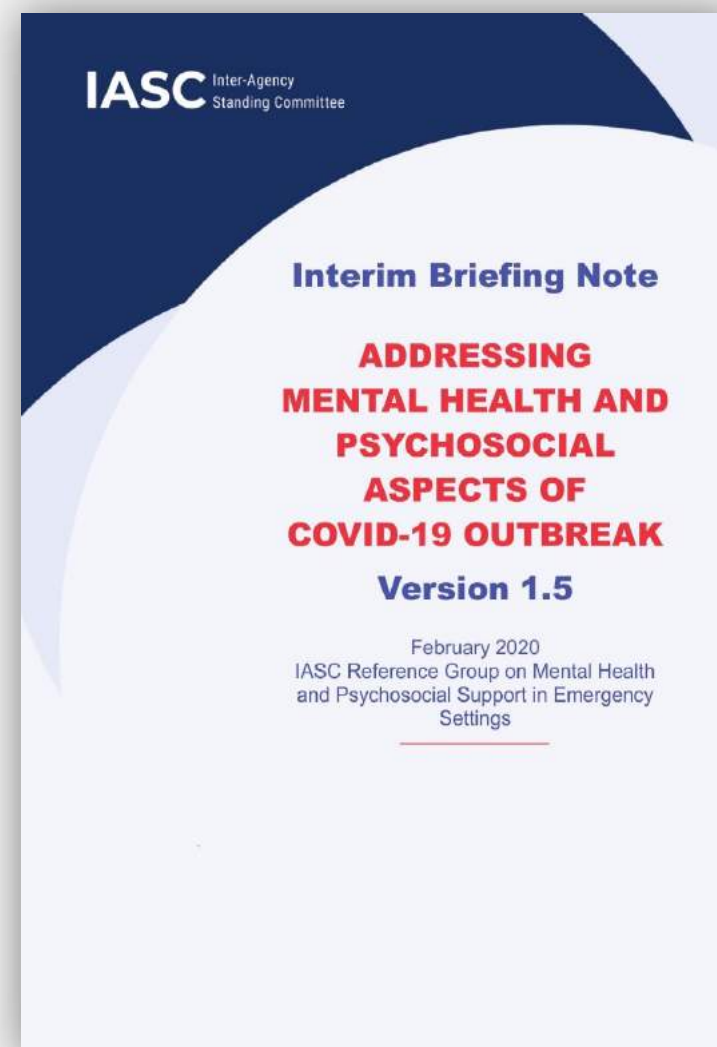


30

TCs for global MHPSS
focal points for MHPSS
RG Agencies.

11

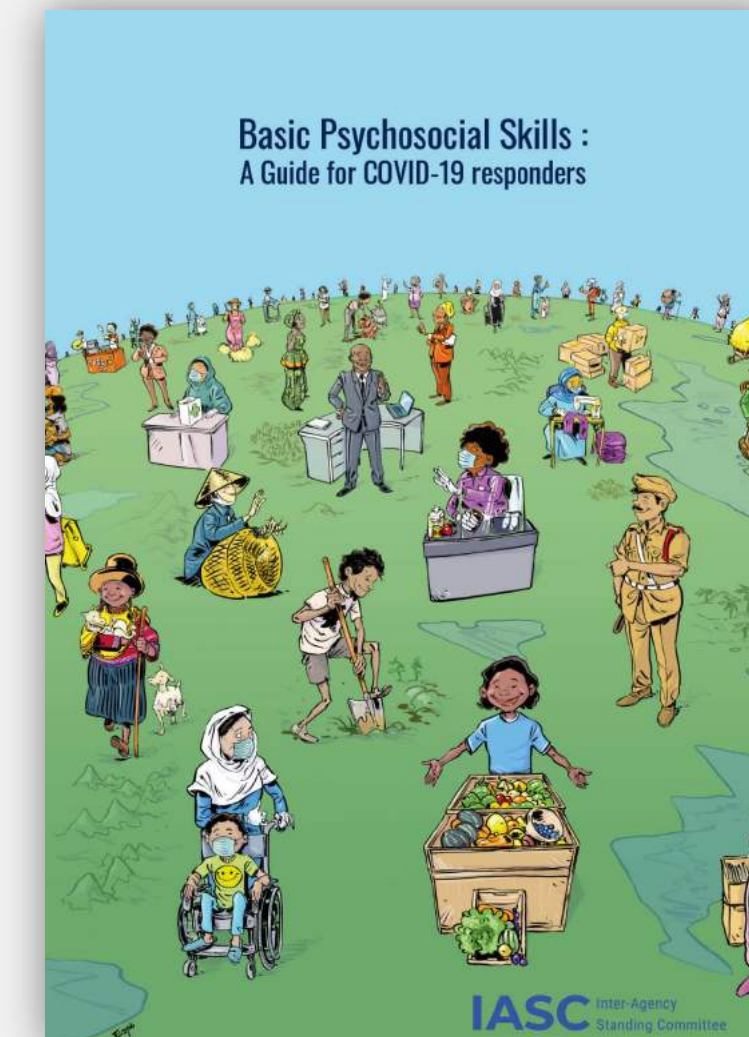
TCs for Chairs of
country level MHPSS
TWGs in humanitarian
emergencies.



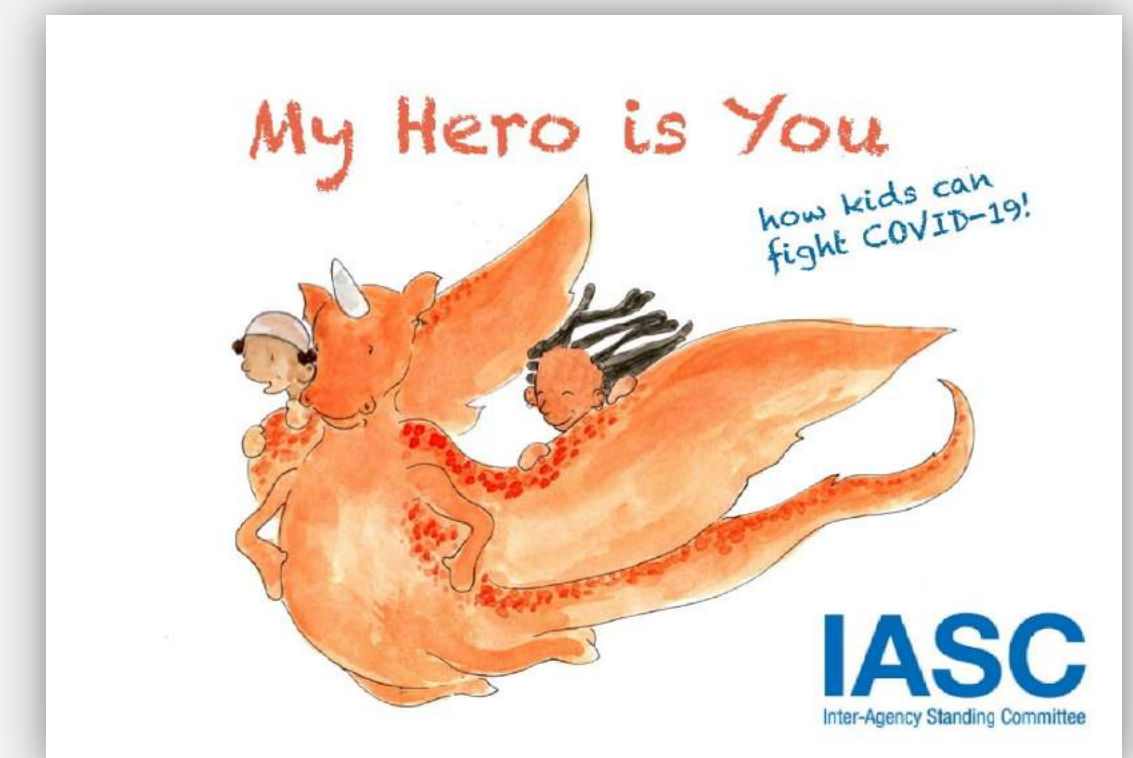
24
languages



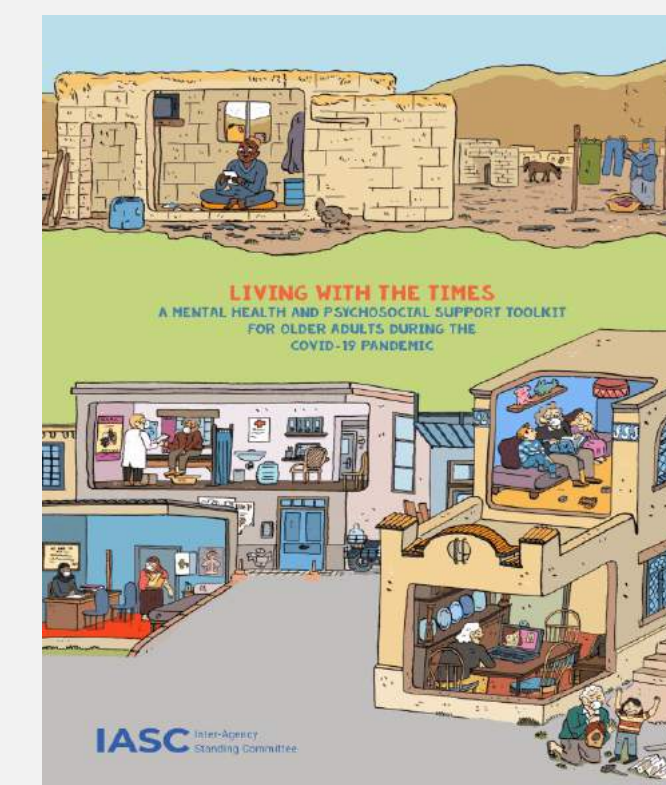
8
languages



34
languages



143
Languages and **50+**
accessible formats





Translations and adaptations

Storybook available in

143

languages

50+

multimedia
adaptations and
accessible formats

Translations and adaptations have been
produced by



61

of the languages
are spoken in
humanitarian
settings

53

languages are
considered
indigenous or local
languages

111

of the translations
represent languages of
low- and middle-income
countries

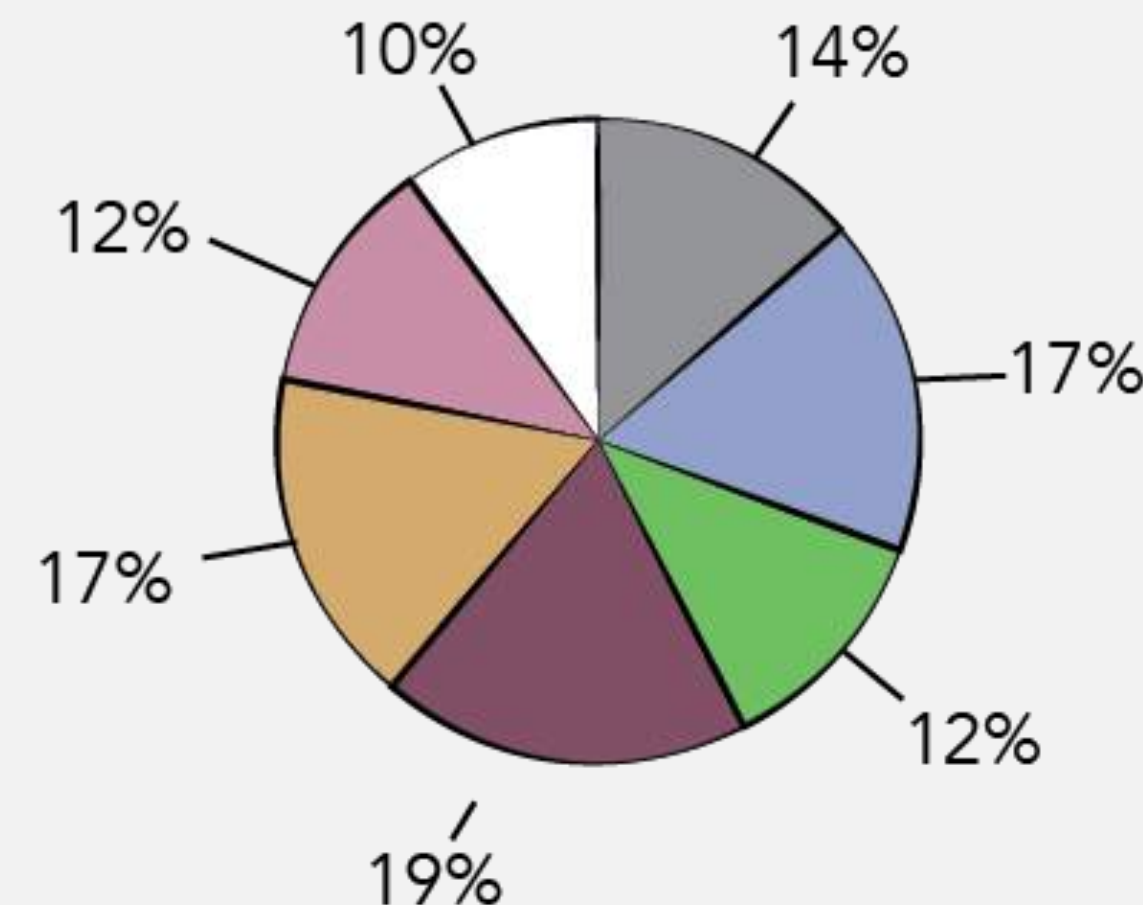
Languages spoken in

India:
[Hindi](#), [Urdu](#), [Assamese](#),
[Gujarati](#), [Malayalam](#),
[Marathi](#), [Telugu](#), [Meiti](#)
[Mayek](#), [Kannada](#)

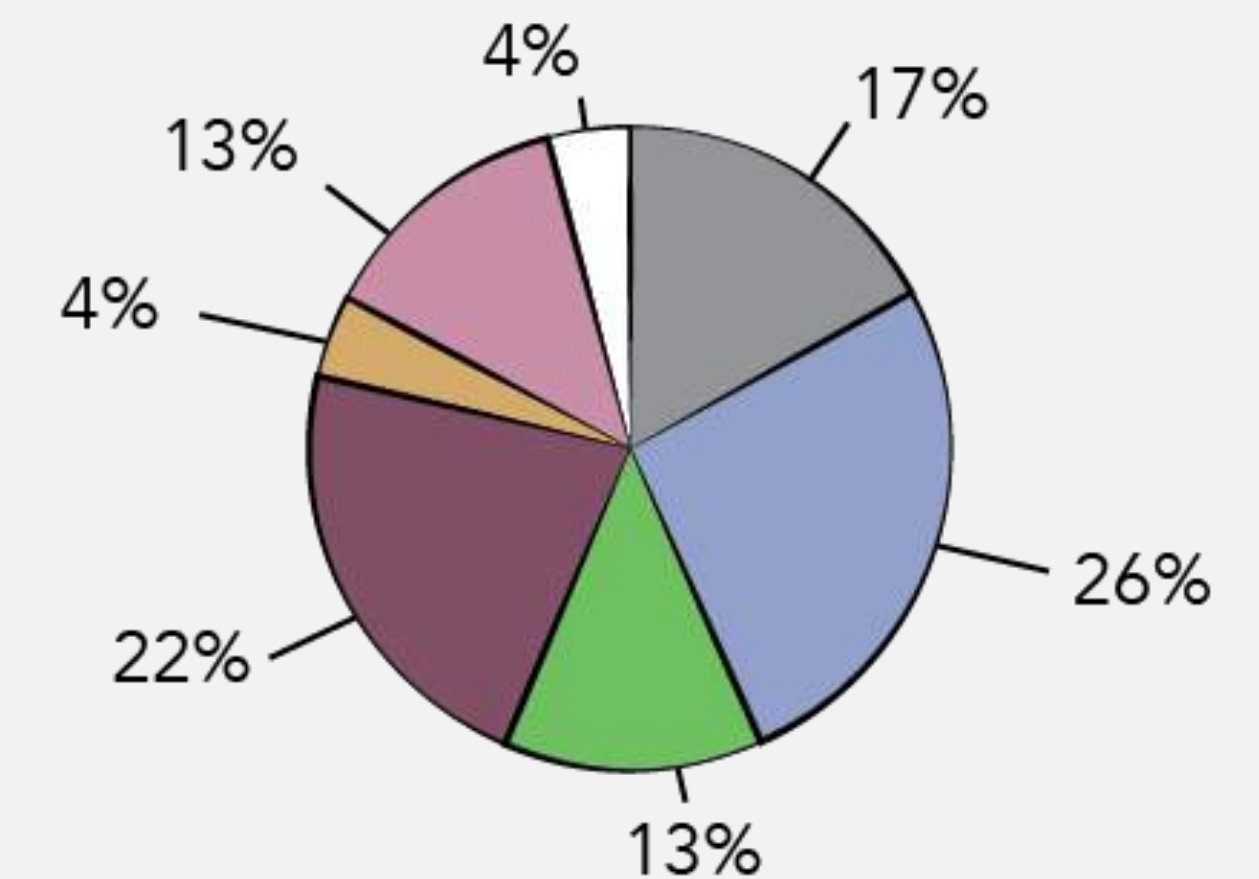
South Sudan:
[Juba Arabic](#), [Dinka](#), [Nuer](#)
and [Barri](#).

Uganda:
[Luganda](#), [Acholi](#),
[Lugbara](#), [Lhukonzo](#),
[Adhola](#), [Runyankore](#),
[Swahili](#), [Kinyarwanda](#).

Translations



Adaptations



Translations and adaptations

Sign languages

[Sign language Vietnamese](#)
by UNICEF

[Sign language and closed captioning](#)
by Humanity & Inclusion in Arabic

[Sign language Korean](#)
by the Korean Psychological Association

[Sign language Indonesian](#)
by BaKTI and UNICEF

Read alouds

[Danish](#)
[Indonesian](#)

[English](#)
[Hindi](#)
[Georgian](#)

[Ukrainian](#)

Audio files

[Arabic](#)
[Bari](#)
[Bura-Pabir](#)
[Burmese](#)
[Chinese](#)
[Dinka](#)
[English](#)
[Fulfude](#)
[French](#)
[German](#)
[Hausa](#)
[Juba Arabic](#)
[Kanuri](#)
[Kibaku](#)
[Mandara](#)
[Marghi](#)
[Neur](#)
[Portuguese](#)
[Rohingya](#)
[Russian](#)
[Sesotho](#)
[Spanish](#)
[Shuwa Arabic](#)
[Swahili](#)
[Uzbek](#)
[Waha](#)

Most-viewed adaptations

Creative animation by Stanford Center for Digital Health team

2.4 million views



Storytelling for young children by the Korean Psychological Association

198,290 views



Filipino animation by the World Health Organization

346,000 views



English reading with with singer and musician Howard Donald, by the World Health Organization

52,369 views



Spanish reading

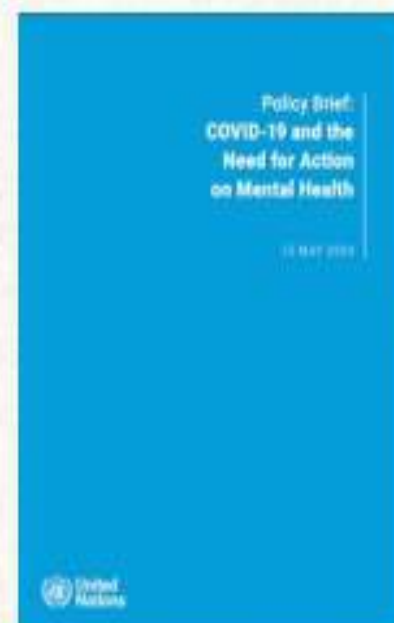
16,371 views



The official *My Hero is You* IASC webpage was viewed 346,662 times between April and October 2020.

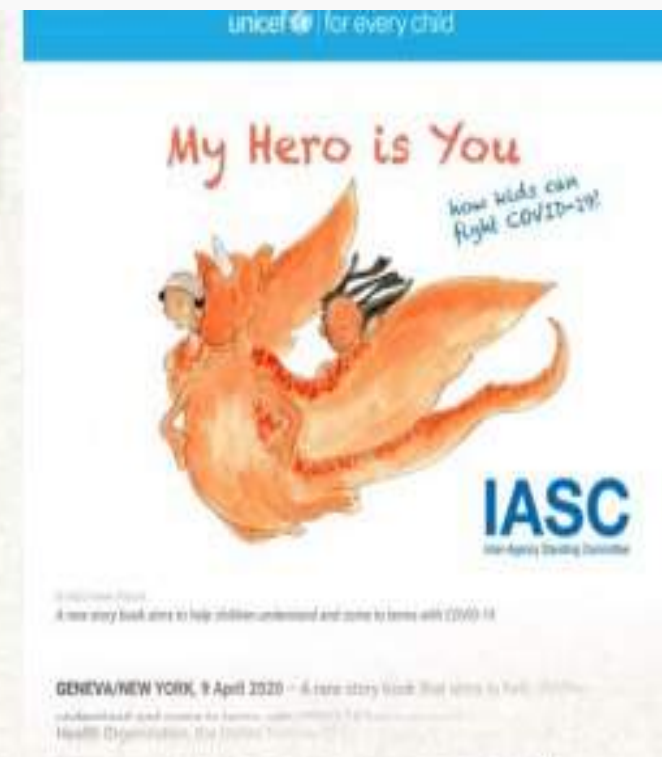
Launching day 9 April 2020- Global media uptake

Coverage by UN agencies



The Secretary-General of the United Nations issued a UN Policy Brief on COVID-19 and Mental Health in which the storybook *My Hero is You* is featured on page 12.

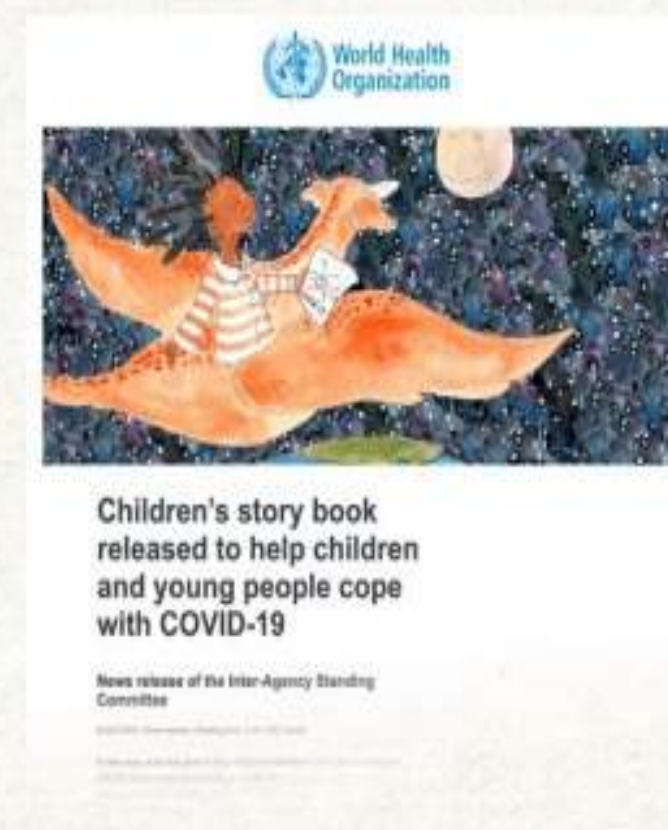
[Read more](#)



[Read article](#)



[Read article](#)

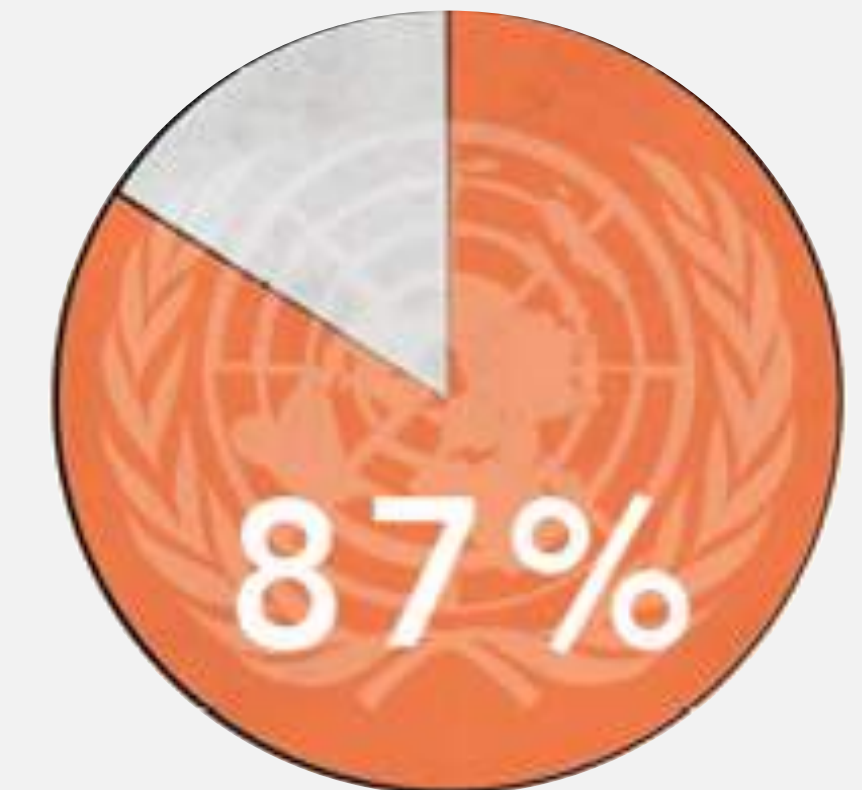
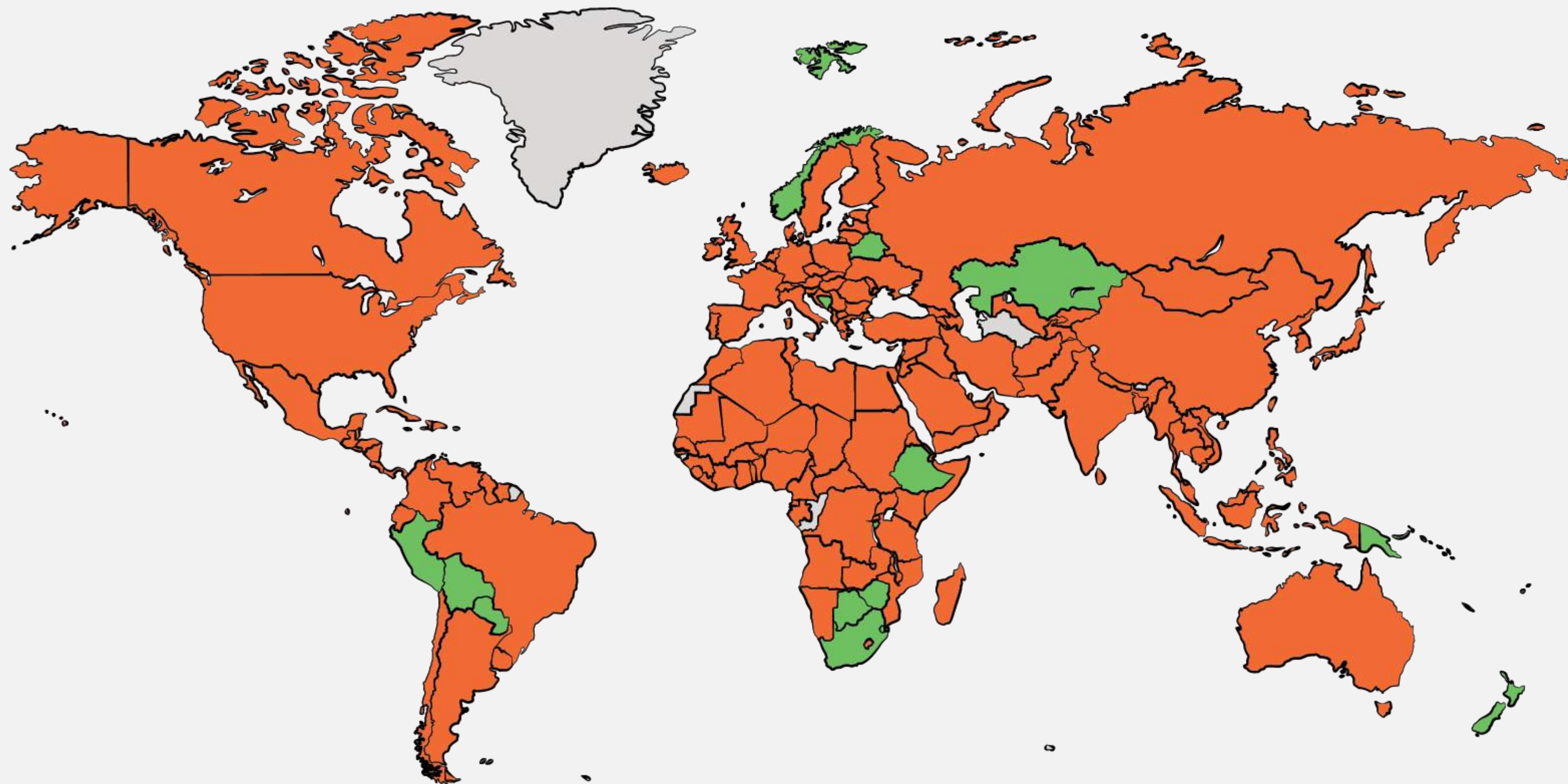


Worldwide coverage



World map showing where the storybook is available in the countries official language(s) so far

● Coverage of all official languages in the country ● Partial coverage of official languages in the country. ● None



My Hero is You is available
in the official languages
of 168 of the 194 UN
Member States

My Hero is You reached many readers from around the world

IASC

Inter-Agency Standing Committee
IASC Reference Group for Mental Health and
Psychosocial Support in Emergency Settings



My Hero is You Actions for Heroes

- Accompaniment to *My Hero is You*
- Supports caregivers and teachers to have heart-to-heart chats with children based on ideas raised in the book
- Also functions as an overall guide to support adults as they care for children during the pandemic



Actions for Heroes

A Guide for heart-to-heart chats with children
to accompany reading of
My Hero is You, How kids can fight COVID-19!

My Hero is You 2021 Edition

- To address the concerns of children during the current phase of the pandemic, the IASC MHPSS RG is embarking on the 2021 edition of the storybook
- Again, we are seeking feedback from children, their parents and other caregivers and teachers through a iterative and participatory process
- We are using various methods to understand the stressors and coping methods of families and children in the current context and to explore families' issues related to coping with remote education, activities in school, and planning for “school holidays” and livelihood challenges

Teacher, Brazil

“My students would love to have a similar story that addresses the continuing challenges like not seeing family for a long time now”

Child, Ukraine

“I want to know from Ario when coronavirus will be over”

Parent, Zimbabwe

“I wish Ario would touch upon the intensified family dynamics due to lockdown and COVID-19 restrictions”

Examples of the many messages we received requesting a My Hero is You sequel.

My Hero is You 2021 Edition, development process

- Based on the views of children, parents and teachers, a panel of experts has been developing a story framework that is continuously updated and tested.

1. Qualitative targeted surveys and FGDs

- Targeted sites and populations: United Kingdom, Japan, Indonesia, Singapore, Nigeria, Portugal, Brazil, NW Syria, Mozambique, Greece, children with disabilities, children living in humanitarian settings
- N= 380

2. Quantitative global surveys

- Widely disseminated and available in 9 languages
- N=1374
- Still open*

3. Pilot-testing of draft version in countries

- Simultaneous process with the global surveys
- Myanmar, Ukraine, Nigeria, Turkey, Portugal, Brazil, Philippines, Venezuela, Fiji
- Ongoing*



Picture 1. Qualitative phase. FGD with children, NW Syria



Picture 2. Quantitative phase. Offline survey, NW Syria.



Picture 3. Pilot testing phase. Group of children read the draft version, Philippines.

My Hero is You 2021 Edition, development process

- The global surveys to understand stressors and coping methods of families and children in the current context are still open. Find the links to the surveys for here: <https://www.who.int/news/item/01-06-2021-my-hero-is-you-one-year-on-planning-for-a-sequel-gets-underway>
- Launch of the new story based on the views of children, teachers and families is planned for Q3 2021



For more information or any questions please send an email to:
mhpss.refgroup@gmail.com