The Gulbenkian Global Mental Health Platform is an initiative that continues the successful global health activities and mental health projects recently promoted by the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation. It will be jointly conducted with the Department of Mental Health of the Faculty of Medical Sciences (NOVA University of Lisbon), with the technical collaboration of the World Health Organization.
Objectives

The Gulbenkian Global Mental Health Platform's main goal is to become a key stakeholder in the Global Mental Health community through a number of initiatives supporting the global movement for a UN Summit on Mental Health. To attain this goal, it will provide:

- A coherent contribution to the WHO effort to reduce the treatment gap and scale up mental health services in low and middle income countries;
- An evidence based contribution to innovative mental health care delivery;
- Practical guidance for improving mental health care services in low and middle income countries;
- An independent contribution to the promotion of human rights of people with mental disabilities;
- A significant public health contribution to controversial issues.

Activities

- Two high-level Technical Meetings of world experts with the goal of mapping the knowledge and inspiring the preparation of high-level technical documents.
- Three key Technical Reports on:
  - Links between Common Mental, Neurological and Substance Use Disorders and Non-Communicable Diseases: the document will focus on common determinants and risk factors, co-morbidity issues and implications for rational synergies in long term care delivery (task shifting strategies, horizontalization of vertical programmes, mainstreaming at primary and secondary levels);
  - Innovation in Mental Health Care Delivery and Service Organization: this document will focus on concrete methodologies for shifting from hospital to community based models, will provide concrete examples of strategies for deinstitutionalization and will provide operational approaches for establishing community mental health services and promoting inclusion programmes;
  - Human Rights of People with Mental Disabilities: the document will focus on the controversial challenges posed by the new UN Convention on the rights of people with disability and more generally by the growing movements of users.
- One Global Initiative of Art and Culture for human rights of people with mental disabilities.
- The establishment of the Global Web Forum, a repository of scientific papers and reports of experiences on the three main themes of the Platform. The forum will be hosted on the site of the Global Platform for Mental Health.
- A Global Event in 2015, gathering a variety of international stakeholders (Ministries of Health, Policy Makers, UN System representatives), organized around three major elements:
  - Combining Health, Human Rights and Culture;
  - Presenting a synthesis of the 3 technical reports packed in a powerful Global Strategic Document highlighting challenges and strategies to promote changes;
  - Promoting a clear and strong commitment of the global community towards the implementation of the human rights of people with mental disabilities.

Organizing and scientific structure

An effective Steering Committee:

- Benedetto Saraceno, chairman and scientific coordinator
- José Miguel Caldas de Almeida (Nova University of Lisbon)
- Jorge Soares (Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation)
- Sérgio Gulbenkian (Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation)

An International Advisory Board composed by highly reputed public health experts from high, middle and low income countries:

- Arthur Kleinman (University of Harvard, USA)
- Sir Michael Gideon Marmot (University College London, UK)
- Mirta Roses (Pan American Health Organization, USA)
- Paulo Gadelha (Institute Fiocruz, Brazil)
- P. Satishchandra (National Institute of Mental Health & Neurosciences, India)
- Tazeen Jafar (Aga Khan University, Pakistan)
- Shekhar Saxena, observer (World Health Organization, Switzerland)

An outstanding group of more than 30 mental health global experts coordinated by the WHO Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse.
Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation

The Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation is a Portuguese private institution of public utility whose statutory aims are in the fields of arts, charity, education and science. The head-office, located in Lisbon, comprises the Calouste Gulbenkian museum, a congress area with auditoriums, a space for temporary exhibitions, the art library and the Modern Art Centre. The Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation also has a research biomedical science institute (Instituto Gulbenkian de Ciência) in the outskirts of Lisbon, and delegations in London and Paris.

Global Health Initiatives: The Foundation actively pursues its statutory aims in Portugal and abroad through a wide range of direct activities and grants supporting projects and programmes. In regard to that, the Foundation has been for some years, through the Department of Health and Human Development, focusing on Global Health issues, namely:

• As member of the European Foundation Centre, the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation participated, with other key organizations, in the European Partnership for Global Health and funded the publication of European Perspectives on Global Health – A Policy Glossary, published in 2006.

• The Foundation was partner of The Global Health Europe (a platform for European engagement in global health) portal website aimed to be a central tool for dissemination and exchange of information and for establishing a network of key actors.