



Ms. Asia Ashraf from Islamabad, Pakistan holds Bachelor's in Applied Psychology, Chemistry, and Zoology (2001) and Master's in Applied Psychology (2003), from Punjab University. She also holds diplomas in human resource management as well as speech and language therapy from the National Institute for Rehabilitative Medicines in Islamabad. Starting as an intern psychologist with Sunny Trust, Addiction Treatment and Rehabilitation Centre, Islamabad in 2003, she rose to become its Director Rehabilitation and Head of Psychology Department. Her responsibilities include overall management, program implementation and monitoring, and supervision of a range of tasks related to treatment and rehabilitation of persons with substance use and mental health disorders. She has both undertaken and conducted numerous professional trainings and is a national trainer for the Colombo Plan Drug Advisory Program. She is internationally certified addiction professional (ICAP) from ICCE, Sri Lanka.

Her yearlong stay in the U.S. under Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship (2015-2016) helped her avail some extraordinary opportunities including her keynote address at the UN Informal Interactive Stakeholder Consultation preparatory to the UNGA Special Session on *World Drug Problem*, held in New York on February 10, 2016. She had served as a resource person in national and international drug conferences. The fellowship helped increase her knowledge of addiction treatment, rehabilitation and prevention services, besides learning new counseling techniques. In order to promote recovery and social reintegration, she has created first Recovery Club (self-help and mutual-help program) at Sunny Trust - an open, safe and friendly space for persons in recovery. She also learned about community coalition model – powerful data-driven community-based approach to address the colossal issue of drug abuse confronting Pakistan. Under the flagship of Sunny Trust, she is working on setting up separate, female-friendly treatment and rehabilitation centre for women with drug use and mental health disorders.