



A WHO-UNDP GLOBAL JOINT PROGRAMME TO ACTIVATE NATIONAL RESPONSES TO NONCOMMUNICABLE DISEASES

In Agenda 2030, countries have committed to reducing early and avoidable death from noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) by one-third over the next fifteen years. Already more than 80 percent of these early and avoidable deaths occur in low and middle income countries (LMICs), bringing untold suffering to individuals, families and communities. Since cancers, diabetes, heart disease and other NCDs do not respect geographical boundaries, nor should national efforts to prevent and control them.

Leadership and action from the health sector is the anchor for NCD responses. But over 30 years of lessons from the AIDS response are a powerful reminder that the health sector cannot tackle complex health challenges on its own. Supporting countries to develop ambitious, coordinated multi-stakeholder responses is crucial in preventing and controlling the public health disaster in slow motion that is NCDs, and in staving off the harms that NCDs inflict on countries' health, wealth and prosperity.

The WHO-UNDP Global Joint Programme on NCDs will, over the course of 3 years, support 24 countries to develop coordinated national responses to their NCD epidemics by mapping, unifying and strengthening efforts across sectors.

It will create strong multisectoral partnerships at the national and subnational level by convening different sectors around five key areas that can make the difference for NCD responses:

1. National investment cases for action on NCDs;
2. Standardized mechanisms for stakeholders to collaborate on NCD prevention and control;
3. Municipal initiatives to address community-specific NCD challenges;

4. Cross-cutting approaches to deliver win-wins for NCDs and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); and
5. Multisectoral actions to reduce key NCD risk factors and prevent disease onset.

NCD2030 – *Action beyond health* will consolidate existing national efforts in these five areas, and catalyse the development of new tools to bridge gaps. The overall objective is to support countries to develop ambitious, coordinated responses to bring the NCD-related benchmarks in the SDGs to fruition, such that health, economies and societies improve together.

THE FIVE KEY AREAS OF NCD2030

Action beyond health

1 INVESTMENT CASE



NCDs pose a substantial economic burden to all countries – USD 21.3 trillion for LMICs over the period 2010-2030 if we don't act now. Quantifying the social and economic costs of NCDs, and understanding returns on investment, has been a priority request from governments. The Joint Programme will support governments to calculate the costs of inaction, and develop the financial case for why working across sectors to prevent and control NCDs makes economic sense.

Output:
A completed NCD investment case developed, consisting of WHO-led 'One Health' modeling and a UNDP-led institutional context analysis.

Cost:
USD 75,000 per country.

2 STRONG COORDINATION MECHANISMS IN PLACE



Action across sectors requires new ways of working together. The Joint Programme will support the development of accountable mechanisms to foster engagement and collaboration between governments, civil society and other sectors. This includes establishing normative codes of conduct and concrete channels for national stakeholder dialogue such as committees, consultations and fora.

Output:
Terms of reference, codes of conduct and functional mechanisms for engaging and managing multisectoral partnerships between government, non-government and multilateral bodies developed in accordance with global standards.

Cost:
USD 50,000 per country.

3 LOCAL ACTION PLANS AND PROGRAMMES IN PLACE



Unmanaged rapid urbanization is an underlying driver of NCD epidemics. Unique, local solutions are needed for different cities. The Joint Programme will assist municipal authorities to map local health inequities and NCD challenges, develop joint solutions and take strong action.

Output:
A fully costed municipal NCD plan for at least one large city and a project plan to catalyse activities in key areas, led by national and local stakeholders.

Cost:
USD 45,000 per country.

4 NCDs INTEGRATED INTO SDG PLANNING FRAMEWORKS



NCDs matter across the social, economic and environmental spectrum. But action on NCDs can only accelerate benchmarks across Agenda 2030 if countries plan smart, integrating policies and ideas to deliver win-wins. The Joint Programme will support governments to integrate NCDs into their broader national development plans, ensuring coordination of efforts across different sectors.

Output:
The multi-directional relationships between NCDs and other development issues reflected and planned for in SDG frameworks.

Cost:
USD 40,000 per country.

5 NATIONAL RISK REDUCTION POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES IN PLACE



Premature deaths from NCDs can largely be stopped through tackling a known group of behavioural risk factors. The Joint Programme will support stakeholders to implement national programmes that address tobacco use, harmful use of alcohol, physical inactivity and unhealthy diet, helping countries realize their commitments in advance of the 2018 High-Level Meeting on NCDs.

Output:
Technical assistance to implement national demand-reduction measures for the core NCD risk factors of tobacco use, harmful use of alcohol, unhealthy diet and physical inactivity.

Cost:
USD 70,000 for each behavioural risk factor per country; total USD 280,000 per country.

Each output is delivered in partnership with the government concerned

WHY MULTISECTORAL ACTION?

Most of the 16 million annual premature deaths from NCDs are from four behavioural risk factors: tobacco use, harmful use of alcohol, physical inactivity and unhealthy diet. Population exposure to these behavioural risk factors is largely determined by policies in agriculture, trade, social

protection, tax, urban design, transport, education and other areas – in short, sectors other than health. This means that early deaths from NCDs are largely avoidable through strengthened policy coherence across sectors.



WHY NOW?

This Global Joint Programme is responding to needs repeatedly expressed by national governments for support to:

- Engage beyond the health sector, including new avenues for collaboration between different departments within government, and external collaboration such as public-private partnerships;
- Deliver on NCD commitments, including global commitments in the SDGs and the 2011 High-Level meeting on NCDs, and national targets for health systems and population engagement; and

- Improve governance in order to ensure that partnerships are founded on straightforward structures which promote transparency and accountability around actions and resources.

JOIN US FOR NCD2030

Action beyond health

Together WHO and UNDP provide a unique force to help countries build solutions for NCDs beyond the health sector.

WHO has a track record in providing technical assistance to the health sector in mapping the NCD epidemic, setting national targets for NCDs, developing multisectoral policies and plans to reduce NCD risk factors, and enabling health systems to respond.

UNDP specializes in governance and has the ability to foster coordination beyond the health sector and to act on the social, economic and environmental factors that determine health and its distribution. UNDP is also the custodian of the UN Resident Coordinator system, which promotes in-country interagency collaboration.

Building resilient national partnerships requires a broad range of skills, many of which other partners can bring to the table. Each country will hold full ownership of any work carried out, and different stakeholders will be required to support each new area and lead on this where requested.

For further information on the programme or potential involvement, please contact the Secretariat of the UN Interagency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of NCDs at unnctaskforce@who.int.



UN INTERAGENCY
TASK FORCE ON NCDs



The United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases (UNIATF) was established in 2013 by the Secretary General and placed under the leadership of WHO to coordinate the activities of the UN System to support the realization of the commitments made by Heads of State and Government in the 2011 Political Declaration on NCDs. Joint activities included in the work plan of the Task Force are additional to various, more comprehensive efforts conducted by the UN agencies to prevent and control NCDs. These joint activities offer important opportunities to address cross-cutting issues and to advance capacity and learning in countries.

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