2023 Annual Report
The United Nations Multi-Partner Trust Fund to Catalyze Country Action for Non-Communicable Diseases and Mental Health
New set of agreements in the first half of the year between the Fund and Member States and Foundations will significantly scale up Health4Life Fund’s capital.

Second call for proposals to be launched.

New set of innovative partnerships to be announced.

World Bank-WHO International dialogue on sustainable financing for NCDs and mental health will highlight the Health4Life Fund as a crucial financing instrument for low- and middle-income countries as they look to urgently scale up action ahead of the 2025 Fourth UN High-level Meeting on NCDs on the road to meeting the NCD and mental health SDG targets.

Three UN agencies, UNDP, UNICEF and WHO, and the UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office agree a partnership for a new, bold and visionary Fund for NCDs and mental health.

Three Global South leaders in NCDs and mental health, Kenya, Thailand and Uruguay join as Founding Strategic Partners.

Operational and governance arrangements established for the new Health4Life Fund.

Civil society organizations join up.

Promoting Global-South leadership because local priorities and expertise must guide global investment in NCDs and mental health.

Health4Life Fund starts being capitalised at the UN General Assembly.

First call for proposals launched.

Promoting Global-South leadership because local priorities and expertise must guide global investment in NCDs and mental health.

Timeline

2021

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- Three Global South leaders in NCDs and mental health, Kenya, Thailand and Uruguay join as Founding Strategic Partners.

2022

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2023

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2024

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- New set of innovative partnerships to be announced.
- World Bank-WHO International dialogue on sustainable financing for NCDs and mental health will highlight the Health4Life Fund as a crucial financing instrument for low- and middle-income countries as they look to urgently scale up action ahead of the 2025 Fourth UN High-level Meeting on NCDs on the road to meeting the NCD and mental health SDG targets.
Health4Life Fund highlighted as a critical financing mechanism for NCDs and mental health at the WHO Executive Board.

Health4Life Fund Secretariat collaborates with WHO to develop a corporate approach to multi-partner trust funds.

WHO, UNDP and UNICEF update the Twentieth Meeting of the UN NCD Task Force on the work of the Health4Life Fund. Health4Life Fund featured on Vital Talks’ podcast and Voices for a Health Revolution, with the Fund being highlighted as an exemplar for advancing new models of collaboration for public health that put countries from the global south at the forefront of policy and strategy.

Scottish Government announces a contribution of £2.5 million over 5 years for the Fund during the UN General Assembly.

First competitive call for counties to submit expressions of interest for catalytic country action on NCDs and mental health of up to US$ 1 million over 3 years.
The Health4Life Fund supports countries to catalyse action for a scaled up NCDs and mental health response for the purpose of:

- Mobilizing and maximizing the impact of domestic financing and resources.
- Developing and implementing effective policy, legislative and regulatory measures, including fiscal measures to reduce risk factors.
- Increasing access to essential health services and medicines, vaccines, diagnostics and health technologies as part of universal health coverage benefit packages.
- Promoting policy coherence and mutual accountability across government sectors of different spheres of policy making.
- Engaging relevant stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector, as appropriate to enhance population-wide responses.
- Strengthening the collection and use of data.

The Fund also supports innovation and/or implementation research across the areas above.

**How Funds are being used**

The Fund provides the best opportunity to support a One-UN response to NCDs and mental health toward country-led action. I urge Member States and development partners to contribute.

Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General, WHO, UN General Assembly, September 2023

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**Catalyzing country-level investments**

on NCDs and mental health to achieve universal health coverage and the SDGs
Uniting partners across government and society

because multisectoral action is required to tackle NCDs and promote mental health

Multi-partner trust funds provide a way of promoting coherence to deliver on common objectives ... for a more effective and efficient use of resources, better transparency and accountability, and an ability to see overlaps and avoid duplication. e solutions that are better adapted to those countries’ health needs and priorities.

Jennifer Topping, Executive Coordinator in the Multi Partner Trust Fund Office, WHO Member State briefing on the Health4Life Fund, April 2023
The Health4Life Fund was established in 2021 to galvanize domestic financing and scale up country action for the prevention and control of NCDs and for improving mental health – areas of health and development that have been neglected over many years, and continue to remain poorly resourced, despite the impact of COVID-19 on NCDs and mental health conditions.

The Health4Life Fund supports governments, the United Nations development system and other partners to work together towards common NCD and mental health results, in a way that responds to the global, regional and country level commitments on NCDs and mental health. The Fund is based on established financing-for-development and aid & development effectiveness principles.

The Fund was established by the United Nations Development Programme, UNICEF and the World Health Organization – three members of the United Nations NCD Task Force and is administered by the UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office. The Task Force brings United Nations system agencies and intergovernmental organizations together to support governments reduce the burden of NCDs, including mental health conditions, to meet the goals and targets of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

We welcome the approach taken to establish this fund as a catalytic [instrument] to increase domestic resources.

Peace Masinde-Mutuma, Permanent Mission of Kenya to the UN in Geneva, WHO Member State briefing on the Health4Life Fund, April 2023

The Fund will support collaboration led by the Global South…and will focus overdue attention upon a major global health challenge. By promoting the leadership of the Global South, it will encourage solutions that are better adapted to those countries’ health needs and priorities.

Humza Yousaf, First Minister Scotland, UN General Assembly, September 2023