The Kingdom of Saudia Arabia

**The Burden of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs)**

In 2020, nearly 20,000 people died from the four main NCDs in KSA.

The economic burden of NCDs in 2019 was SAR 92 billion (3% of GDP).

NCDS accounted for SAR 41 billion or 35% of government health expenditure in 2019.

Breakdown of healthcare expenditure:
- Premature deaths: SAR 11 billion (12%)
- Presenteeism: SAR 12 billion (13%)
- Absenteeism: SAR 3 billion (3%)
- Private healthcare: SAR 25 billion (45%)
- Government healthcare: SAR 41 billion (47%)

Total of SAR 26 billion productivity losses:
- Diabetes: SAR 12 billion (47%)
- Cardiovascular disease (CVD): SAR 41 billion (47%)
- Cancer: SAR 4 billion (4%)
- Chronic respiratory disease: SAR 8 billion (8%)

Total of SAR 66 billion in healthcare expenditures:
The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Return on Investment (ROI) from Evidenced-Based Interventions over 15 Years

**Tobacco Control**

- **ROI** SAR 7.7

**Salt Reduction**

- **ROI** SAR 35.8

**210,000 Lives Saved**

**Total Economic Recovered Output**

- **SAR** 112 Billion

**Recommendations**

1. **Invest and scale-up**: Invest in new and scale-up current cost-effective clinical and population-based interventions, enhancing efficiency in the health sector and public sector fiscal sustainability. Increase taxes on health-harming products and shift subsidies from health-harming products to health-promoting ones.

2. **Engage and collaborate**: Strengthen multisectoral, whole-of-government and whole-of-society action on NCDs and increase public awareness of NCDs and their risk factors.

3. **Monitor and account**: Strengthen monitoring and evaluation and accountability across sectors.

4. **Innovate**: Implement novel policy approaches and test innovative solutions to increase utilization of existing services and incentivize healthy behaviour.

5. **Build back better**: Ensure that prevention and control of NCDs is a central element of the COVID-19 response and recovery.