

Mid-point evaluation of the implementation of the WHO global action plan for the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases

The purpose of the mid-point evaluation was to assess the accomplishments of the six objectives of the NCD-GAP, as well as the lessons learned through its implementation in Member States, by international partners and non-State actors, and WHO. The report is available [here](#).

What does the evaluation say about the Task Force?

‘One of the key successes of the NCD-GAP, and the actions that flowed from it, has been to raise the profile of NCDs internationally.’ The **Task Force** is cited as an example of this.

Paragraph 9, page iii

‘While there has been some success in promoting multisectoral action (e.g. across the UN through the work of the **Task Force**), the response to NCDs continues to be seen largely as a health issue.’

Paragraph 26, Page ix

‘WHO has been active and successful in its leading and convening role in raising the profile of NCDs internationally and with Member States through mechanisms including high-level meetings, the WHO Independent High-level Commission on NCDs and the **Task Force**. In their feedback, Member States identified a wide range of ways in which WHO had provided technical support tailored to the country context, including support to develop national NCD plans, to develop investment cases (through the **Task Force**), to respond to specific risk factors and to carry out surveys of risk factors. This support was provided through engagement of all levels of WHO, country offices (where relevant), regional offices and headquarters, and through the **Task Force**.’

Taken from Box S2, page ix

‘...Some countries wish greater engagement of **Task Force** at the country level, including for follow-up and evaluation of visits... UN agencies mostly lack any specific budget for work on NCDs so this reduces the possibility of developing joint programmes. These can also be hampered by UN agencies having very different business models from each other... There are some concerns that the response to NCDs remains too ‘health-focused’... Global health agencies and programmes have created siloes that have failed to integrate NCDs despite potential to do so in many areas.’

Examples of challenges facing the Task Force. Taken from Box 4. Key achievements of the Task Force and some challenges facing it, page 9

‘The **Task Force** has effectively convened and supported coordination between UN agencies globally, regionally and in-country, including through high-profile country visits which have raised the profile of NCDs with national governments and with UN agencies in-country. Progress on joint action has been hampered by lack of buy-in at all levels and adequate resourcing for the NCD agenda across the UN sector.’

Conclusions and lessons learnt, C11 Paragraph 30, page xii

‘The **Task Force**, WHO and international partners to continue with plans to introduce a Catalytic/Multi-Partner Trust Fund for NCDs.’

Recommendation R1 (bullet 2) page xii

‘The **Task Force** and the ECOSOC to consider how they can provide further support to countries, promote joint activities between UN agencies and further build support for NCD responses among the senior leadership of UN agencies. Specifically:

- The **Task Force** and ECOSOC to quantify and identify necessary resources and options for how to respond to country requests including for ongoing support and follow-up, including NCDs in the context of national COVID19 response and recovery plans.
- The **Task Force** and ECOSOC to identify ways in which more joint actions can be conducted.
- The **Task Force** and ECOSOC to identify ways in which support for NCDs can be built at senior levels across the United Nations.’

Recommendation R11, page xvi

