The World Health Organization’s Cardiovascular Disease Programme is conducted through its Geneva headquarters, and regional and national offices worldwide. The World Heart Federation helps people achieve a longer, better life through prevention and control of heart disease and stroke, focusing on low- and middle-income countries.

In addition to the nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) highlighted here, there are many international NGOs – from the World Medical Association to Consumers International – that include cardiovascular disease control as part of their activities.

Only international and regional organizations are shown here. Not mentioned are the many national organizations, whose impact may extend outside their own country, such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in the USA, the British Heart Foundation, and THAIHEALTH in Thailand. Other national NGOs also work part time on CVD issues.

There are numerous other partners in a vast arena of varied but related interests, including organizations involved with women, youth, law, economics, human rights, religion and development.

The capacity of virtually all cardiovascular disease control organizations is inadequate to meet the challenge of the CVD epidemic.