Key mission findings

1. NCDs are placing ever greater stress on the economy and the health system.

2. The ability of the health system to respond to the health needs of the population is limited and health coverage is far from universal.

3. With competing challenges and limited resources, the government’s response to the challenges of NCDs is in its initial phase.

4. Mozambique is only one of two countries in the WHO AFRO region not to have ratified the WHO FCTC.

5. The Ministry of Health has a National NCD Action Plan in place for the last 8 years, but it has not had a multi-sectoral focus.

6. The government is currently planning to prepare a new Multi-Sectoral Action Plan and is expected to approve the creation of a National Commission on the Social Determinants of Health.

7. There is limited awareness on NCDs and its risk factors among the general population.

8. The donor community have paid limited attention to NCDs.

9. The 2017-2020 UNDAF includes NCDs.

10. "With all the other challenges that Mozambique faces, we have not yet been able to focus sufficiently on NCDs. We now need that to change. The Ministry of Health cannot tackle NCDs on its own, its needs all government ministries to work together to reduce the exposure to the major risk factors for NCDs."

Dr. Mouzinho Saide
Deputy Minister of Health

Key adult NCD mortality and risk factors*: a country now facing a double burden of disease from communicable diseases and NCDs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Risk Factor</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Premature mortality from NCDs</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient physical activity</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diabetes</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hypertension</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tobacco smoking</td>
<td>No data available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obesity</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excessive alcohol consumption</td>
<td>Drink 2.3 litres of pure alcohol per person per year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inadequate fruit and vegetable intake</td>
<td>95% eat insufficient amounts of fruit and vegetables</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Key recommendations**

1. The WHO FCTC should be ratified at the earliest opportunity.

2. An evaluation of the 2008-2014 National NCD Strategic Plan should be undertaken.

3. The new NCD Action Plan needs to be multi-sectoral and explicit with respect to the impact that actions taken in 2016 and 2017 will have on the WHO Progress Indicators that will be compiled for the Third High-level Meeting in 2018.

4. The Commission on Social Determinants of Health needs to include NCDs among the issues it will examine.

5. The implementation of the 2017-2020 UNDAF needs to take into account the suggestions and recommendations made by the Joint UN Task Force during its mission.

6. The STEPS analysis needs to be finalized and key findings disseminated.

**Adding value: actions taken following the mission**

1. NCDs are incorporated in the 2017-2020 UNDAF.

2. A consultant will be recruited to analyze the previous action plan and to assist in developing the new National Multi-Sectoral Action Plan (2016-2020).

3. Additional resources need to be mobilized for the STEPS survey finalization and dissemination.

4. The UN need to provide support to ensure that the WHO FCTC is ratified.

5. Financial support provided from the Joint UN Task Force to enable the STEPs survey to be completed.

**Next steps**

1. The UN Country Team will work with Parliament and development partners to encourage ratification of the WHO FCTC.

2. The UN will need to provide support for the evaluation of the most recent NCD Action Plan.

3. A second Joint UN Task Force on NCDs mission will be undertaken.

"The UN is committed to provide all the support it can to help Mozambique in building a national NCD response to meet the NCD-related targets in the SDGs."

**Bettina Maas**

Acting UN Resident Coordinator and UNFPA Representative in Mozambique

"The mission made the burden of NCDs suddenly a lot less heavy by creating the feeling that "we are not alone". There is support and expertise available at all levels to help. This creates an incentive to take steps at country level."

**Raquel Mahoque,**

National Programme Officer, WHO Office, Mozambique

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"A very timely visit from the Task Force which crucially led to the inclusion of NCDs more broadly in the UNDAF for 2017-2020."

**Hilde de Graeve**

Head of WHO Office, Mozambique

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Additional information on the status of NCDs in Mozambique can be found on the WHO NCD DataFinder app.