The harmful use of alcohol is a major risk factor for NCDs and an obstacle to sustainable development in High-, Middle and Low-Income countries. Alcohol-related harm is fueling the vicious cycle of poverty, ill-health and inequalities affecting people, families, entire communities and populations. With the WHO Global strategy to reduce the harmful use of alcohol and with harmful use of alcohol as an important factor in both the NCD agenda and in Agenda 2030; now is the time to scale up global support for actions at all levels to prevent and reduce alcohol-related harm.

- To highlight the most recent data on alcohol-related harm presented in the WHO Global status report on alcohol and health 2018
- To offer country examples of cutting-edge interventions to counter this
- To introduce SAFER - a new WHO-led global initiative with key partners aiming to reduce the harmful use of alcohol

The side event is open to all interested parties. Participants who do not have access to the UN building in New York must RSVP by 20 September 2018 to arrange access to the side event.