Briefing Note
Breakout session 1
Development and implementation of national multisectoral plans and policies to attain national targets for the prevention and control of NCDs
Monday, 15 February 2016, from 14:00 to 17:00

Context

Health and quality of life of individuals and populations are determined by a complex set of interrelated factors. Such complexity means that measures to promote and protect health and well-being cannot be confined to the health sector alone. Designing and implementing public policies that improve quality of life requires the active involvement and engagement of other sectors of society in all steps of the process.

Based on the 2014 UN Outcome Document on NCDs\(^1\), Ministers of Health around the world agreed to prioritize four time-bound commitments by 2015 and 2016 to prepare for the third UN High-level Meeting on NCDs in 2018:

- By 2015, consider setting national NCD targets for 2025
- By 2015, consider developing national multisectoral policies and plans to achieve the national targets by 2025
- By 2016, reduce risk factors for NCDs, building on guidance set out in the WHO Global NCD Action Plan 2013-2020

NCD leaders commonly confront heavy demands, not only to establish goals and develop programmes, but also to monitor and evaluate progress across all projects, among many others. They often face a dilemma in choosing what to prioritize with the limited resources that are available. This is highlighted in the WHO NCD Progress Monitor 2015\(^2\): only 64 countries have fully realized the first two time-bound commitments, 23 have partially met them and 86 have not met them at all. This highlights that bolder measures are needed by governments, international partners and WHO, through international development cooperation.

\(^1\) See [http://www.who.int/ncds/governance/en/](http://www.who.int/ncds/governance/en/)
Objectives

This session seeks to understand where we currently are in setting national targets and developing national multisectoral action plans. It will also provide useful guidance on where we have to go in terms of creative and structured planning towards attaining national targets by 2025. Advanced quality improvement tools will help synthesize information and develop insight as an NCD leader of a national or international health organization.

At the end of this session, participants will have:

- Shared experiences and effective actions toward development of national multisectoral NCD action plans with national targets for 2025
- Identified effective actions to set national targets set for 2025 based on country priorities and needs
- Learned about innovative and effective approaches using multisectoral policies, plans, programmes and mechanisms toward achieving the 2025 priority targets
- Reflected on critical challenges of national NCD Programme Directors and Managers in enabling achievement of 2025 priority NCD targets.

Methodology

Group work 1: Situation analysis – Where we are and what we need to do

Time allotment: 90 minutes

A presentation template will be provided ahead of time. Participants will be grouped according to their respective WHO Regions. After being paired off, participants will share with their respective partners the progress of their work. Participants will then post the three most innovative and effective achievements of their respective countries on a wall. Participants will use smiley stickers to identify the most interesting innovations and achievements. Participants who shared the 3-5 innovations/achievements with the most smiley stickers will be asked to give a five-minute presentation of details in a regional plenary.

Group work 2: Effective NCD leadership

Time allotment: 90 minutes

Participants will be distributed into big cross-regional groups. Within each big cross-regional group, smaller subgroups of no more than five countries each will be created. In each subgroup, participants will share their insights as NCD leaders on the challenges and opportunities to achieving the time-bound commitments. Each subgroup will develop an Affinity Diagram and an Interrelationship DiGraph on how to leverage gains from tobacco control experiences to implement multisectoral NCD action plans. Participants will brainstorm ideas that will be grouped into ‘headers’ in an Affinity Diagram. Headers that are most influential will be identified as either drivers or bottlenecks/outcomes/results using an Interrelationship DiGraph. Subgroups will discuss their insights on how the drivers can help enhance their effectiveness as NCD leaders in addressing the bottlenecks in order to generate outcomes/results. Results will be reported in the big cross-regional groups.
Expected outcomes

- Participants will meet their regional counterparts and hear about best practices in their respective regions
- Participants will work in cross-regional groups to reflect on their challenges as NCD leaders
- Participants will reflect on lessons learned, strategies and approaches that catalyze multisectoral action towards implementation of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC) and other successful multisectoral initiatives, which can then be applied to accelerate the implementation of multisectoral NCD action plans.

WHO tools