

Concept note

Regional Progress report on Non-Communicable Diseases from 2011 to 2021 in Africa

Background and Rationale

1. Noncommunicable diseases (NCDs), including cardiovascular diseases (such as hypertension, heart attacks and stroke), cancers, chronic respiratory diseases (such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and asthma) and diabetes; are the first cause of death and disability worldwide, accounting for 74% of all deaths and more than three out of four years lived with a disability¹. NCDs kill 41 million people each year ², from which more than 15 million between the ages of 30 and 69 years. 85% of these "premature" deaths occur in low- and middle-income countries. ³ Effective action will save millions of lives and avoid suffering.
2. To support Member States in their national efforts to address the burden of NCDs and attain the nine global targets for NCDs⁴, WHO has developed a Global action plan for the prevention and control of NCDs 2013-2030, which includes nine global targets that have the greatest impact on global NCD mortality. These targets address prevention and management of NCDs. The plan includes 6 key objectives:
 - **Objective 1:** To raise the priority accorded to the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases in global, regional, and national agendas and internationally agreed development goals, through strengthened international cooperation and advocacy.
 - **Objective 2:** To strengthen national capacity, leadership, governance, multisectoral action and partnerships to accelerate country response for the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases.
 - **Objective 3:** To reduce modifiable risk factors for noncommunicable diseases and underlying social determinants through creation of health-promoting environments.
 - **Objective 4:** To strengthen and orient health systems to address the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases and the underlying social determinants through people-centred primary health care and universal health coverage.
 - **Objective 5:** To promote and support national capacity for high-quality research and development for the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases.
 - **Objective 6:** To monitor the trends and determinants of noncommunicable diseases and evaluate progress in their prevention and control.
3. The Brazzaville declaration on the 7 April 2011, by the first Africa Regional Ministerial Consultation on noncommunicable diseases (NCDs), raised the need of urgent action by

¹ <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/noncommunicable-diseases>

² <https://ncdalliance.org/why-ncds/NCDs>

³ <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/noncommunicable-diseases>

⁴ Paragraph 1(3) of resolution WHA 66.10 available at http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA66/A66_R10-en.pdf?ua=a1

various stakeholders to address major NCDs which represent “a significant challenge” to people in the African region: cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, cancer and chronic respiratory diseases, diseases of blood disorder (in particular Sickle Cell Disease), and oral diseases. The Ministers also requested the UN Secretary General to establish a mechanism to monitor progress of the commitments taken at the UN High-level meeting on NCDs and called on the WHO Regional Director for Africa to include the regional NCD strategic plan in the agenda of the 62nd session of the WHO Regional Committee for Africa and report progress made in the implementation of the Declaration to Regional Committee in 2014⁵.

4. Member States have been implementing NCDs prevention and control interventions leading to different outcomes. Unfortunately, no country will reach the SDG target 3.4 by 2030. What progress has been made since the first consultation meeting of ministers of health in 2011? What were the issues and challenges which hamper the path toward attaining target 3.4? What are the corrective measures and actions to be taken to reduce significantly the NCDs morbidity and mortality in the region and contribute to alleviating the suffering of the populations?

Purpose and objectives

The purpose of this decade evaluation report is to assess the achievements made in NCDs prevention and management in the WHO Africa region from 2011 to 2021, as well as the lessons learned throughout implementation of the NCD-GAP by Member States, WHO, other international partners and non-state actors.

The specific objectives are:

- a) To assess and highlight the burden of NCDs in the African Region.
- b) To document successes, challenges, and gaps in the implementation of the NCD-GAP since 2011 in the African region.
- c) To formulate lessons learned and recommendations aiming at improving the implementation of the NCD-GAP in the African region by 2030.
- d) To draft a regional status report on NCDs after a decade of implementing the NCD-GAP.

Expected results

A regional status report on NCDs after a decade of implementing the NCD-GAP. The report will include:

- Situation analysis of NCDs burden in the African region including risk factors.
- The ten years health system response to NCD burden, against the six objectives of the NCD-GAP.
- Issues and challenges as well as lessons learned.
- Recommendations.

⁵ <https://ncdalliance.org/printpdf/news-events/news/african-health-ministers-adopt-brazzaville-declaration-on-noncommunicable-diseases>

Process and Methodology

- 1) Undertake a quick desk review by the regional office NCDs Staff.
- 2) Recruit a research institute with strong writing skills to support the development of the report through a real data analysis.
- 3) Ensure leadership and coordination during the process.
- 4) Convene virtual or in-person meetings with stakeholders to facilitate/finalize the drafting of report.
- 5) Edit, translate (French, English, and Portuguese) and disseminate the report.

Financial information

From 01st August 2022 to January 31st 2023