

NATIONAL STRATEGIC ROUND TABLE MEETING

CONCEPT NOTE

The historic obligation

Over the past 20 years, NCDs have changed the world. They have become the leading cause of death in most countries, resulting in 200 million premature deaths among people aged between 30 and 70 years, most living in developing countries. During the next 10 years, another 150 million people will die from NCDs between the ages of 30 and 70 years. Most deaths can be avoided or delayed.

In Ghana, NCDs account for 43% of all deaths. Among these NCD deaths, 19% is attributed to cardiovascular diseases, cancers for 5% while diabetes and chronic respiratory diseases are 3% and 2% respectively, and the prevalence continues to increase. Many factors have hampered efforts to address NCDs in Ghana. These include lack of high-quality evidence-based data to deliver comprehensive NCD care, inform priority setting to advance and NCD prevention and aligned to strategy implementation; fragmented response to the growing burden by partners working in the NCD space, limited funding, and human resources to fully monitor and coordinate activities being undertaken by stakeholders and partners in country, and unstructured screening program to detect early and treat and wellness promotion.

Government of Ghana is committed to reducing premature deaths resulting from NCDs through multi-sectoral and collective impact approach and call on stakeholder to work collectively to execute to achieve the national priorities for NCDs as a critical component of achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and to build capacity for NCD care at the primary health care level. (Source: NCD strategy; Covid-19 implementation plan).

Leadership and Governance with effective partnerships is the pivot around which Ghana's response to addressing Non- Communicable Diseases revolve. Complex interactions exist among various stakeholders therefore effective Governance is needed to take into consideration all actors who impact the Health System to achieve its goals.

The NCDs Policy and Strategic Plan has been revised and is aligned to Ghana's National Health Policy which hinges on "Health in all Policies".

It is on this premise that the National Strategic Dialogue is being convened to bring together the various actors in the NCD space, create the necessary intra and inter sectoral coordination to harness and solidify partnerships for prevention and control of NCDs. The National Dialogue will provide avenue for partners to discuss sustainable support (domestic and international to drive implementation of the NCD Agenda in-country towards achieving SDG 3.4

Overarching Theme

Prioritizing NCDs in the context of achieving Universal Health Coverage and Sustainable Development Goals through Partnerships

Proposed Sub-themes

1. Implementing the most cost effective and feasible NCDs intervention
2. Integrating the NCD agenda within core health needs and emerging global health threats like COVID
3. Collaboration and Coordination for effective implementation

Objectives

The objectives of the meeting will be to:

- a) Provide an avenue for partners to discuss sustainable support (domestic and international) to drive implementation of the NCD agenda in country towards achieving SDG 3.4
- b) Official launch of the National NCDs Policy, Strategy and the Kente NCD Program in Ghana
- c) Strategic partnerships for NCD prevention and control
- d) Awareness creation and early detection and management of NCDs -demystifying NCDs
- e) Ensuring sustainable financing for the prevention and control of NCDs

Outputs:

1. A National NCD Coalition Framework 2021-2030 (Call to Action)
 - a. Strategic Priorities with Theory of Change and Indicator Framework
 - b. Monthly reviews through resident UN Results Group on NCDs (established under the leadership of the WHO Rep., and membership including government, UN agencies, donors, civil society, and the private sectors).
 - c. Yearly tripartite reviews of the Framework (Government, WHO, and partners)
2. Commitment of partners to support NCD Coalition in Ghana

Approaches

1. **NCD Investment Case that incorporates the interlinkage with COVID-19.** The investment case will quantify the national-level costs in each country of interventions for the treatment and control of NCDs, encompassing the costs of the NCD burden on the economy and the return on investment of select interventions. Local data and inputs from national experts will provide a tailored and realistic report to facilitate policy changes in addressing NCDs. The exercise will aid in addressing the intricacies of an integrated response to NCDs and COVID-19.
2. **Multi-stakeholder landscape analysis:** Building from the Ghana Landscape Analysis report, jointly convene key national

3. stakeholders to understand the country's development and public health landscape through a collective assessment and analysis. It will examine progress, gaps, opportunities, and bottleneck vis-à-vis the country's commitment to progressively cover all people by 2030 with health services and medicines for NCDs and protect people against risk factors.
4. **Theory of Change Narrative:** To jointly develop a theory of change based on the needs of the country (demand) and the operational project plans 2021-2022, examined through the lens of the political commitments made at the UN General Assembly in 2011, 2014, 2015, 2018 and 2019, rather than just the immediately available capacities and resources available.
5. **Strategic priorities:** To jointly develop strategic priorities covering the period 2021-2030, underpinned by the operational project plans 2021-2022, the landscape analysis and the theory of change narrative. The Framework cannot and should not attempt to address all issues. It must choose, in consultation with all stakeholders in which to invest its collective efforts, capacities and resources. These choices must be underpinned by a candid assessment of the comparative advantage of WHO and other actors.

Outcome: Jointly develop an **NCD Coalition Framework 2021-2030 (Call to Action)**, for Ghana including outcomes, outputs and indicators, and define roles and responsibilities to drive the Framework forward and commitment of support from partners.