

# WHO Global Coordination Mechanism on the Prevention and Control of NCDs (WHO GCM NCD)



WHO GCM/NCD

## GLOBAL VIRTUAL DISCUSSION

**To transform high-level recommendations  
on NCDs into national policy, practice and action  
9 – 18 December 2015**

**How to best mobilize, strengthen and focus international cooperation (human, financial, technical and knowledge-sharing) in supporting implementation of national NCD responses?**

### CONCEPT NOTE

#### Scope

As part of its knowledge transfer activities and as a critical element of a knowledge hub to promote the sharing of information and knowledge, the WHO Global Coordination Mechanism on NCDs (WHO GCM/NCD) will launch a Global Virtual Discussion Forum to form a community of practice on how to best mobilize, strengthen and focus international cooperation (human, financial, technical and knowledge-sharing) in supporting the implementation of national NCD responses.

The scope and purpose of the WHO GCM/NCD and of its Global Discussion Forum is to enhance the coordination of activities, multi-stakeholder engagement and action across sectors in order to contribute to the implementation of the WHO Global NCD Action Plan 2013–2020.

The establishment of virtual networks supporting Communities of Practice is in response to the WHO GCM/NCD work plan 2016-2017:

**Objective 3**, to provide a forum to identify barriers and share innovative solutions and actions for the implementation of the WHO Global NCD Action Plan and to promote sustained actions across sectors; and,

**Objective 4**, to advance multisectoral action by identifying and promoting sustained actions across sectors that can contribute to and support the implementation of the WHO Global NCD Action Plan.

Against a backdrop of the huge imbalance between the enormous burden that premature deaths from NCDs represent and the disproportionately small scale of resources devoted to their prevention and control in developing countries, this Global Virtual Discussion Forum, is the first on NCDs convened by WHO GCM/NCD following the United Nations General Assembly UN Sustainable Development Summit. This Global Forum provides an opportunity for a strategic multi-stakeholder engagement and discussion on how we can translate recommendations emerging as an outcome of our Dialogue Meetings involving experts, Government sectors, including but not limited to health, and a broad spectrum of partners from donor, international and nongovernmental communities into policy and practice at the country level.

We would like multiple stakeholders from around the world to share their knowledge and experience in and across countries and add their voice and their opinion to this dialogue.

Our theme for this Global Virtual Discussion Forum is focused on how countries can leverage the many dimensions of international cooperation to complement their domestic resources, mobilize and accelerate progress on integrated national NCD responses and fulfil their high-level commitments in the context of the NCD-related SDG targets.

Heads of State and Government have made political commitments to tackle NCDs (2011, 2014, and 2015), a road map, a menu of policy options and interventions are available, a monitoring framework is approved, and there is readiness to move from planning to action. However, in addition to national commitment for effective and integrated national strategies, the work of development agencies and the wide scope of international partners to support national NCD responses are vitally important. The current level of investments in NCDs will be insufficient to attain the NCD-related targets in the SDGs by 2030. Significant additional investments and resources are needed through domestic, international, bilateral and multilateral channels.

The overlap with sectors outside of the health sector – financial, investment, trade, energy, urban planning, agriculture, development, gender equality, human rights and others – in the prevention and control of NCDs is inescapable. The integration of NCDs management strategies into development programmes has the potential to markedly elevate their success, for example by addressing social, economic and environmental determinants of health, many of which impact the prevalence of NCDs, and by targeting interventions at high-risk, difficult-to-reach populations. While these relationships are complex, coordinated and inclusive approaches, underpinned by effective awareness, advocacy and knowledge transfer initiatives, are necessary to minimize the harmful consequences of development, while maximizing its benefits. NCDs are inextricably linked to inequity and inequality in both rich and poor countries, and this discussion on the urgent need to align international cooperation efforts on NCDs with country priorities and needs should emphasize the critical role and contribution of multiple drivers of the prevention and control of NCDs.

### **Purpose**

To engage a broad spectrum of national and international stakeholders in a Global Discussion Forum as a community of practice focused on sharing knowledge and experience, in and between countries. Our goal is an ambitious drive to harvest experience and expertise from across the world, to transform high-level recommendations on NCDs into policy and practice in order to increase domestic resources to respond to the threat to sustainable development and human lives that the burden of NCDs constitute.

The purpose of this Dialogue is for multiple stakeholders to share their perspectives, best practices and approaches so that international cooperation on NCDs can be effectively realised from the formulation of policies to action translated into practice at the grassroots level.

### **Participants**

The Dialogue is relevant to all stakeholders committed to promoting sustainable development at national level through international cooperation and enhancing synergies between demand and supply of resources for the sustained management of NCDs.

### **Format**

The 9-day discussion will cover three themes:

**1. How can we mobilize diverse international cooperation at the policy and practice level to ensure that NCDs are not only prioritised within health strategies but also integrated into broader development programmes?**

- What are Member States currently doing to develop integrated health-in-all-policies to effectively implement the health and NCD-related SDGs taking into consideration the integrated and indivisible nature of the SDGs? Please share challenges and success stories.
- In what ways can ongoing international cooperation on other national development priorities integrate national NCDs prevention and control?
- How can Member States promote the need to build alliances with national and international partners in other areas of sustainable development, while maintaining public health leadership?

**2. How can we ensure effective multisectoral cooperation along with collaborative and coordinated responses in order to support the development and implementation of integrated domestic NCD policies across the life course?**

- How can national and international cooperation approaches assist Governments in implementing the multitude of policy options, tools and “best buys” available WHO Global Action Plan on NCDs 2013-2020?
- How can international cooperation support the empowerment of Governments and individuals to manage and prevent NCD risk factors?

**3. How can we address the huge gap between producing knowledge for NCD management and ensuring that this knowledge is accessible and translated into action, at the policy, practice and grassroots level?**

- How can virtual networking effectively support the sharing of knowledge and experience of partners, health professionals, Member States, business associations and collaborating centres to develop and implement a communications strategy that reaches those affected by NCDs?
- What type of communication strategies and innovations have you developed to overcome these knowledge to practice challenges and go beyond “advocating and promoting” activities related to NCDs?
- Please share your success stories in reaching and sharing knowledge at the practice and grassroots level.

**Please register for this Global Virtual Discussion Forum here:**

**[http://gcmportal.org/global\\_discussion](http://gcmportal.org/global_discussion)**