**Framework for Co-operation**

**Progress in implementation of the recommendations of the UNIATF Mission**

**3rd Meeting of the UN Thematic Working Group on Noncommunicable Diseases, Thailand**

| **S.N.** | **Recommendations** | **Proposed expected outcomes** | **Current situation** | **Challenges/****bottlenecks** | **Support required from UN agencies** | **Government agencies and** **Thai counterparts** |
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| 1. **Scale-up high-level leadership and accountability**
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| 1.1 | The Prime Minister to establish and chair a new inter-ministerial steering committee on NCD prevention and control in order to squarely place accountability of NCDs on relevant government ministries and translate fully policies and plans into action and increase domestic investment on NCDs and mental health in line with national development priorities | * High-level multisectoral committee chaired by Prime Minister or delegate, with specific terms of reference and dedicated budget, endorsed by the cabinet
 | * The national multisectoral NCD committee is chaired by the Minister of Public Health.
* The latest NCD committee meeting - 25 November 2020.
 |  |  | * PMO
* NESDC
* MOPH
* WHO
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| 1.2 | The Prime Minister’s Office to track progress on national NCD and NCD-related SDG targets (e.g. through a simple progress scorecard) and reported to cabinet annually | * Annual NCD progress report, including barriers, prepared, and presented to the cabinet via SDG committee or other mechanism in 2020 and each year, subsequently
 | * MOPH is tracking and reporting progress through the NCD multisectoral committee.
* UNDP and WHO convened a meeting of multisectoral stakeholders on 27 November 2019 to apprise government ministries of the linkages between NCDs and SDGs.
* NESDC staff attended a Global WHO Meeting on NCDs and Mental Health and presented Thailand’s multisectoral mechanisms for the prevention and control of NCDs.
* WHO and MOPH have prepared NCD progress tracker 2020 that will be submitted to the cabinet.
 |  |  | * NESDC
* MOPH
* WHO
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| 1.3 | Address interference from tobacco, alcohol, air pollution, and food industry to ensure that public interests remain above commercial interests | * Annual report released by civil society to public about industry interference in NCD-related policy making
 | * SEATCA publishes the Tobacco Industry Interference Index annually in Southeast Asia
* IHPP in conjunction with MOPH and academia is developing an Alcohol Industry Index
 | Continuous interference by tobacco, alcohol and food industry is delaying and diluting public health policies  |  | Civil society  |
| 1.4 | Accede to the WHO FCTC Protocol to Eliminate Illicit Trade in Tobacco | * Accession to the WHO FCTC Protocol to eliminate illicit trade in tobacco protocols
 | * Thailand did not ratify the WHO FCTC Protocol to Eliminate Illicit Trade in Tobacco. Preparation for accession is under discussion.
* The Department of Excise, MOF is developing a tracking and tracing system of tobacco tax stamp (track & trace) in responding to illicit trade of tobacco products in Thailand.
 |  | * WHO and UNDP to continue advocacy and provide technical support
 | * MOF
* MOPH (Bureau of tobacco control)
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| 1.5 | Identify and utilize champions for NCD-related SDG targets in health and non-health sectors | * “NCD champion” in health and non-health sectors identified, recognised, and supported in 2019, 2020, and

every year subsequently | * Ministry of Public Health (CCS-NCDs) is setting up a working group to discuss criteria for recognising NCD champions in health and non-health sectors
 |  | * WHO to support MOPH via CCS mechanism
 | * MOPH
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| 1.6 | Promote Thailand as a global leader and global hub for health promotion in LMICs, including lessons from MOPH, Thai Health Promotion Foundation, National Health Security Office (NHSO), National Health Commission Office (NHCO)  | * Proposal for a global hub for health promotion developed
 | * ThaiHealth has an MoU with WHO HQ to advance health promotion in LMICs
* Process is underway to designate Physical Activity Knowledge Development Centre, Mahidol University as a WHO- Collaborating Centre
* IHPP has been developing an Online Resource Centre to conduct capacity building, knowledge sharing, and highlighting Thai experience on global health issues (which covers health promotion, health system, and universal health coverage).
 |  |  | * ThaiHealth
* NHSO
* NHCO
* MOPH
* IHPP
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| 1. **Promote greater whole-of-government and whole-of-society action in order to accelerate implementation of the multi-sectoral NCD strategy and action plan.**
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| 2.1 | Designate high level focal persons for NCDs in ministries with accountability to the new inter-ministerial group. | * One high-level official (DG or above) designated for NCDs in each relevant ministry
 | * The NCD multisectoral committee of the MOPH includes high-level administrators (PS, DG) from concerned ministries.
 |  |  | * Relevant government agencies
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| 2.2 | Introduce health impact assessments to ensure that the implications of public health are considered in broader government policy, for example in the areas of finance, trade, agriculture, industry, environment, information and telecommunication, transport, and urban development | * Report of the impact of non-health policies on health/NCDs is developed
 | * MOPH has a guideline for health impact assessment for the development of public policy.
* MONRE, UNEP and Chulabhorn Research Institute conducted and disseminated results of a study on health and economic impact of air pollution in Thailand.
* UNEP is working with MONRE to develop an emission inventory and estimate impacts, including health, using Stockholm Environment Institute’s Long-range Energy Alternatives Planning – Integrated Benefits Calculator (LEAP-IBC).
 |  |  | * MONRE
* MOPH
 |
| 2.3 | Develop mechanisms to strengthen collaboration with non-State actors, including through leveraging SDG movements, e.g. civil society, private sector, academia, community, while protecting public health from conflicts of interest | * National multisectoral NCD Forum with participation of private sector organised annually
 | * MOPH plans to conduct the 2020 NCD forum virtually.
* The national sodium reduction committee includes government, academia, civil society and private sector stakeholders and it meets regularly.
* Assessment of NCD situation among PLHIV in 4 provinces is work in progress. Results will be used to inform the development of strategic plan on interface of NCD and HIV and contribution of CSO to NCD agenda.
 | Interference by food industry, especially against sodium taxation and food reformulation and food labelling |  | * MOPH
* Thai NCD Alliance
* Thai Low Salt Network
* Thai Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS (TNP+)
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| 1. **Strengthen fiscal policies including taxation on health harming products as a way of improving public health.**
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| 3.1 | Continue to simplify cigarette tax system by removing tiers and substantially increase tax on roll-your-own (RYO) tobacco products | * Tiers on cigarette tax removed by 2019
* Tax for RYO increased in 2019 and 2020 and every year subsequently, to eliminate tax difference with cigarettes
 | * Removal of tiers on cigarette tax was further postponed to1 October 2021. This drove imported cigarettes to reduce prices making smokers switch from Thai cigarettes to cheaper imported cigarettes.
* Excise tax on RYO increased on 8 May 2019 (from 0.005 to 0.1 baht per gram. However, on 8 October 2019, tax rate was reduced for a limited period (until 31 December 2020) to 0.025 baht per gram for smaller companies.
 | * Resistance from tobacco farmers, Thailand Tobacco Authority, and industry.
* Large price gap between cigarettes and RYO
 | * WHO and UNDP to continue advocacy and provide technical support
 | * MOF
* -MOPH
 |
| 3.2 | Implement ambitious year on year increases in tax on Sugar Sweetened Beverages (SSBs) | * SSB tax implemented as planned in 2017
 | * As per Excise Tax Act 2017, there was a further increase in tax on SSB from 1 October 2019.
 |  | * WHO, FAO and WFP to continue advocacy and provide technical support
 | * MOF
* MOPH
 |
| 3.3 | Sustain innovative financing mechanisms from tobacco, alcohol and SSBs for NCD prevention and control, including the Thai Health Promotion Foundation, health promotion fund of the NHSO and local government health budgets | * Additional model for innovative financing developed (e.g. Bangkok Metropolitan Administration tax on cigarette)
 | * Innovative financing mechanisms from sin tax for health promotion is continuing
* No specific action so far by the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration tax on cigarettes
 |  | * UNDP
 | * MOPH
* Ministry of Interior
 |
| 3.4 | Increase the availability of regular budgets for health promotion from all line ministries as well as from local governments for the prevention and control of NCDs | * At least two models in place where government ministries use their regular budgets for health promotion for their target population
 | * The local administrative offices partially support local Tumbol Health Funds.
* There is no health promotion budget allocated from the other allied ministries for the targeted population, because of financial regulations of the non-health ministries and government agencies.
 |  | * UNFPA and WHO to carry out joint advocacy
 | * Relevant government agencies
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| 1. **Intensify NCD-related regulations and their enforcement.**
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| 4.1 | Accelerate enforcement of NCD-related regulations at local levels, particularly actions by provincial tobacco and alcohol control committees | * Designate at least one full time dedicated person at provincial level to co-ordinate the implementation of tobacco and alcohol control plans
* Annual report on enforcement of tobacco and alcohol control law from all provinces
 | * The Alcohol and Tobacco Control Unit is carrying out an online tobacco and alcohol surveillance system to monitor violations to the law. A target was set up to ensure response to complaints within 60 days.
 | * Limited commitment, resources, and capacity for law enforcement at local level.
 | * UNDP
 | * MOPH
* Ministry of Interior
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| 4.2 | Introduce tobacco plain packaging regulation | * Plain packaging law introduced
 | * Plain packaging regulation was announced and has been enforced with effect from 10 September 2019
 |  |  |  |
| 4.3 | Strengthen alcohol control and enforcement, including drink-driving and alcohol tax. Strengthen regulation of food industry to ensure food products comply with recommended standards, focusing on reducing sodium, sugar, and fat | * Sodium content of selected packaged food reduced by 10% by 2020
 | * An agreement was reached for voluntary salt reduction in four food categories (instant foods, noodles, and congee; snacks; frozen foods; and condiments) by 5% in 2019. Data collection is underway to check if the target was met.
* Advocacy for sodium taxation on selected food categories is on-going.
 | Food Industry Interference has resulted in a delay in the policy | * WHO, FAO and WFP to continue advocacy and provide technical support
 | * MOPH
* MOF
* MOC
* MOI
* Ministry of industry
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| 4.4 | Ban inappropriate marketing of unhealthy food and beverages to children and implement the Act on Control of Marketing of Infant and Young Child Food | * Draft regulation to ban inappropriate marketing of unhealthy food and beverages to children developed
* Report of compliance with Act on control of marketing of infant and young child food released annually.
 | * On 6 Sep, UNICEF in collaboration with WHO, FAO and WFP convened a multisectoral meeting to discuss inappropriate marketing to children of unhealthy food and beverages.
* DOH enacted a subcommittee for control of inappropriate marketing of food and non-alcoholic beverages
* Thai NCD Alliance proposed a policy brief to the senate committee of social affairs on children’s rights on food marketing.
* The Control of Marketing of Infant and Young Child Food Act 2017 was announced and is effective since 8 September 2017. Plans for monitoring compliance with the law are underway.
* UNICEF in conjunction with WHO, MOPH and IHPP has developed a draft legal framework suitable to the Thai context
* Ministry of Education announced measures to promote literacy and skills on oral health of students where article number 2 stated that “the marketing of all food and SSB is prohibited in school settings”.
 |  | UNICEF, WHO, WFP and FAO to continue providing technical assistance | * ONBTC
* MOPH
* MOI
* Ministry of Digital Economy and Society
* Media agency
* Civil society organization
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