Innovating to scale up technical support with and for Member States to deliver the health-related Sustainable Development Goal targets

United Nations General Assembly
‘Friends of the Task Force’ meeting

19 September 2023
The 4 strategic priorities...

- Supporting countries to deliver multisectoral action on the NCD-related SDG targets
- Mobilising resources to support the development of national responses to reach the NCD-related SDG targets
- Harmonising action and forging partnerships
- Being an exemplar for UN reform

https://apps.who.int/iris/rest/bitstreams/1462121/retrieve
The Task Force’s 2023 report to ECOSOC made a number of recommendations, including the need to:

• Further support all countries, especially small-island developing States, and promote joint activities by and between United Nations entities
• Work with bilateral, multilateral and other development partners to mobilize resources for the UN multi-partner trust fund (Health4Life) led by WHO, UNDO and UNICEF and explore opportunities for new and innovative ways of mobilizing resources
• Support Member States in intensifying the use of digital health technologies for the prevention and control of NCDs and mental health conditions
Support to countries continues through joint programming missions and follow up activities

Mental health Investment case mission to Jordan, May 2023

NCDs and Mental health Investment case mission to Kyrgyzstan, March 2023
Task Force flagship programme to catalyze multisectoral country action on NCDs and mental health: investment cases

- 35 NCD investment cases conducted since 2016
- New investment case methodologies developed to cover road safety, digital health, physical activity, assistive technologies and others
- 9 Mental health investment cases conducted since 2020
Examples of policy changes following investment cases

**Ethiopia**
Reformed the tobacco tax structure, including by introducing a mixed-excise system on cigarettes, thus increasing the tax share of the retail price.

**Babados**
Increased sugar-sweetened beverages tax from 10% to 20%

**Zambia**
Initiated dialogue for the development of the National Multisectoral Strategy on NCDs.

**Kyrgyzstan**
Adopted new anti-tobacco legislation

**Uzbekistan**
Earmarked revenues from excise taxes on tobacco and alcohol for the replenishment of the State Health Insurance Fund.

**Thailand**
Adopted National Plan on NCD prevention and control 2022-2030 and prioritized NCD action in the National Strategic Plan for Health 2022-2030
SIDS high-level technical meeting on NCDS and mental health
Side event: a coherent UN-system response, January 2023

Recommendations from the meeting included that the Task Force needed to

- Support countries in strengthening cooperation frameworks on non-communicable diseases and mental health;

- Determine ways of scaling up support to small island developing States for the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases and mental health conditions across the life-course, with particular attention to children;

- Identify ways to support small island developing States in unlocking additional funding for action to prevent and control non-communicable diseases and mental health conditions; and

- Consider how to support small island developing States in coherent data collection, analytics and use.
Health4Life Fund is growing its partnerships

- Ever greater interest to support the Fund from governments and sub-national entities

- Support too from non-State actors:
  - Soroptimist International Africa Federation: pledged to support UN Joint Action on Cervical Cancer
  - Aspen Institute: pledged to secure USD 5 million through joint resource mobilization efforts
  - Unexia: an innovative blockchain for global health, announced its commitment to raise USD 50 million for H4LF starting in 2024
  - Medtronic Labs & Vital Strategies: resource mobilization and knowledge partners

Working for healthier people and a more prosperous future
Health4Life Fund is working with countries

Sierra Leone example

- **Problem:** Limited financing & fragmented dev partner support impedes sustainable scale-up
- **Response:** Led by MOHS, 10 dev partners developed a shared plan of action & joint budget, to implement through H4LF mechanism
- **Expected impact:** scaled-up action on NCDs, greater coherence and de-fragmentation, speaking as one community to mobilize new resources
- The approach is drawing interest from a variety of donors
Digital health business case

- Digital tools can be used by low- and middle-income communities to address the growing burden of NCDs at all stages of prevention/care

- The business case analyzes cost-effectiveness of implementing and scaling up different digital health interventions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Digital Intervention</th>
<th>NCDs addressed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Telemedicine</td>
<td>Diabetes prevention and management, Cardiovascular diseases prevention and management, Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease prevention and management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobile messaging</td>
<td>Diabetes prevention and management, Tobacco control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chatbots</td>
<td>Tobacco control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electronic health records</td>
<td>Health system savings</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2022 session
23 July 2021–22 July 2022
Agenda item 12 (d)
Coordination, programme and other questions: prevention and control of non-communicable diseases

United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases

Note by the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General has the honour to transmit to the Economic and Social Council the report of the Director General of the World Health Organization on the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases, submitted pursuant to Council resolution 2021/27.