

Call for session proposals – guidance for members

**4TH GLOBAL NCD ALLIANCE
FORUM**
KIGALI • RWANDA • 20-22 OCTOBER 2024

LEADERSHIP ON NCDs TOWARDS 2025 & BEYOND

20-22 OCTOBER 2024
KIGALI • RWANDA

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2024 Global NCD Alliance Forum

The Global NCD Alliance Forum is NCDA's flagship convening event to unite the NCD movement and promote knowledge exchange, share good practice and strengthen capacity to advocate for the prevention and control of NCDs.

The [2024 Global NCD Alliance Forum](#) is convened by NCDA in partnership with local host organisation, Rwanda NCD Alliance, in collaboration with the Rwanda Ministry of Health, Rwanda Biomedical Centre, and with thanks to the strategic partnership with The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust.

The Forum aims to elevate global and regional awareness of NCDs, accelerate collective action, unite civil society, promote evidence-based practices, and amplify the voices of people living with NCDs, driving commitment to prioritise NCDs in health and sustainable development agendas.

Taking place over three days from 20 to 22 October, in Kigali, Rwanda, the Forum will feature an official programme complemented by a rich agenda of activities.

The official programme is structured around three key sub-themes (Inspiring Leaders, Mobilising Sustainable Financing, Powering Up Communities) which serve as the guiding framework for plenaries and interactive sessions.

Hallmarks of the Forum programme are its focus on success stories and "what's working" in the NCD response, showcasing pioneering and innovative solutions from the community to the global level to prevent and treat NCDs, and practical policy and advocacy strategies to respond to the challenges and barriers remaining. It will also emphasise people-centred and community-led approaches, with a strong focus on the lived experience of NCDs and the role that civil society and youth plays.

The 2024 Global NCD Alliance Forum objectives are:

- Convene the NCD movement to accelerate collective multisectoral action on NCDs ahead of the 2025 UN High-Level Meeting on NCDs and within the context of the Sustainable Development Goals.
- Increase global and regional awareness and commitment to NCDs as a health and sustainable development priority, promoting cost-effective solutions to prevent and treat NCDs.
- Unite and mobilise NCD civil society from national, regional and global levels, building consensus on advocacy strategies and priorities, and sharing tools and resources to strengthen civil society capacity to advocate for action on NCDs.
- Promote evidence, knowledge and know-how on NCDs, showcasing good practice in NCD policy, implementation and advocacy, and lessons learnt.
- Increase the visibility, meaningful involvement, and voice of people living with NCDs and youth as drivers of the NCD movement.

Please refer to the [Forum website](#) for the developing programme and confirmed content to date.



Forum theme

The Forum is organised under the banner theme of “Leadership on NCDs towards 2025 and beyond” with a view to accelerate global efforts and unify the movement in advocating towards the 2025 UN High-Level Meeting on NCDs. The Forum’s subthemes are:

1. Inspire leaders

Encouraging bold action to advance policies and solutions aimed at promoting health, saving lives and protecting rights

2. Mobilise sustainable financing

Emphasizing the need to invest adequate, predictable, and sustained resources for NCDs, this theme explores various aspects of financing.

3. Power up communities

Focusing on strengthening communities to drive change in the NCD response.

Open call for proposals

Parallel sessions are a key element of the Forum programme, as a core place for knowledge exchange, discussion, sharing good practice and dialogue.

The Forum will have a total of 21 sessions programmed across 3 streams of parallel sessions. Session streams will be held during the official programme of the Forum, on 21-22 October.

One workshop session (1hr 30 mins) and three shorter sessions (45 mins each) per sub-theme are now open to proposals from NCD Alliance full and associate members (12 sessions in total, distributed across the three streams). Member contributions to the programme are an important feature of the Forum, ensuring that the Forum content is relevant, informative, and driven by the NCD movement today.

Please note the deadline for session submission is **11 June**.

Role of lead and co-lead organisations

Sessions can be organised by a single organisation or co-organised by **up to 3 organisations**.

In the case of sessions co-organised by more than one organisation, the lead organisation must be a Full or Associate member of the NCD Alliance who should appoint a main contact to liaise with the NCD Alliance. Co-lead organisations are *not* required to be Full or Associate members of the NCD Alliance. However, all co-leads must be civil society, academia or UN agencies.

We welcome joint submissions from member organisations of the NCD Alliance (list of NCD Alliance members can be found [here](#)), as well as proposals that seek to bring fresh voices and new perspectives to the Forum.

If successful and the session is selected, please note the responsibilities of session lead and co-lead organisation (s) are the following:

- Plan, develop and deliver session.
- Refine session content, including design of session interactive elements.
- Identify, conduct outreach, liaise with, and brief session speakers.

- Work with session moderator/speakers to ensure that the session is well coordinated and meets its set objectives.
- Support session reporting processes onsite and in follow up as required by NCD Alliance.
- Amplify the reach of the session through social media channels.

The NCDA team will be available throughout for any guidance.

Objectives of parallel sessions

Parallel sessions aim to:

- Provide delegates with an engaging and dynamic session with opportunities to contribute, connect, be stimulated and acquire new knowledge/skills.
- Offer a civil society perspective on the key catalysts for change that can accelerate the NCD response.
- Reflect cross-cutting issues of interest to the broad NCD community.
- Generate discussion between participants across specialisms and regions.
- Meaningfully involve persons with lived experience and youth.
- Share success stories and evidence-based solutions with proven impact, practicability and replicability.
- Create a platform for new-thinking, new-voices, pioneering work and innovation.
- Give participants 1-3 clear takeaways (learnings or action points) which can be shared more broadly with other advocates and translated to action when delegates return home.
- Equip, energise and inspire delegates to take ambitious action.

Guidance

Audience

Each session will be set up for 45 – 150 delegates depending on format/room capacity. The audience for the sessions will be NCDA members, representatives of national and regional NCD alliances from across the world, local representatives, representatives from international NGOs, civil society organisations from cross cutting areas relating to NCDs, supporters of the NCD Alliance (including private sector) and multilateral organisations, who will also be in attendance at the Forum. Keep in mind, participants may differ in their stages of organisational development and advocacy experience.

Topic suggestions

To help guide session proposals, the 2024 Forum Global Planning Committee has offered the following examples of possible topics that could be addressed through sessions under each sub-theme.

Sub-theme: Inspiring leaders

Illustrative session topics

- Political leadership on NCDs (e.g. national NCD plans/targets)
- Implementation of NCD prevention/care policies (e.g. WHO Best Buys)
- Integrating NCDs within UHC policies
- Access to treatment and care
- Determinants of NCDs
- Tackling industry interference

- Equitable approaches to the NCD response
- Engaging broader global health/non-health actors in the NCD response
- NCD research agenda
- Monitoring and accountability.

Sub-theme: Mobilise sustainable financing

Illustrative session topics

- Economic analysis / investment case for NCDs
- Priority setting for NCDs – where to invest
- Increasing fiscal space – health taxes / subsidies
- Financing solutions for NCDs
- Public private partnerships and innovative financing for NCDs
- Budget advocacy and tracking.
- Integrating NCDs within other GH/SDG financing

Sub-theme: Power up communities

Illustrative session topics

- Advocacy / campaign strategies and tactics for NCDs.
- Community-led responses (services, advocacy, monitoring, research)
- Meaningful involvement of people living with NCDs/youth
- Civil society capacity building and coalition building / alliances
- CSO accountability initiatives
- Strong organisational practices (governance, COI management)

Speakers/Discussants

Speakers/discussants must be able to present a dynamic view of the session topic. When selecting speakers, consider both renowned individuals as well as emerging actors and leaders from outside of the NCD movement, to bring fresh voices and new perspectives to the Forum.

Please ensure geographic and gender balance among speakers and please consider how lived experience and youth advocates can be meaningfully involved. Every session should feature at least one speaker from a national/regional NCD alliance.

There will be over 100 representatives from alliances from across the world at the Forum. Forum sessions should provide an opportunity to showcase good practice and promote knowledge exchange across the network. NCDA is glad to work with you to recommend alliance representatives that might fit your session.

You may consider selecting session speakers among those delegates invited to attend the Forum. If your session is selected, we will be in touch with more information on confirmed Forum delegates to support you in speaker selection according to the profile/content you wish to be covered.

Please note you may suggest speakers who are not on the Forum invited delegate list. In that case, if your session is selected, those speakers will be invited to attend the Forum with an associated registration fee.¹

Format

Parallel sessions are a key element of the Forum, as a core place for knowledge exchange, discussions and good practice dialogue. To this end, sessions should be highly interactive and dynamic, with stimulating group activities. Sessions must not be limited to panel discussions.

1h30mins workshop sessions:

The longer workshop sessions will provide an in-depth exploration of a specific topic, incorporating panel discussions with group interaction. Participants will have the opportunity to delve into key concepts, engage in hands-on activities, discuss key questions, learn from each other, and interact with experts. Through workshop sessions, participants will take away practical insights and actionable strategies to apply in their respective countries. Workshops can include capacity-building components to strengthen skills as well as knowledge.

45-minute workshop sessions

These sessions will offer a fast-paced and dynamic format for exploring key topics and engaging with inspiring speakers and leading experts. Speakers may deliver concise talks followed by interactive discussions, allowing participants to gain rapid insights and exchange ideas on the topic of discussion.

We encourage innovative and creative session formats that engage delegates and leave a lasting impression. Here are some format suggestions:

- Ignite sessions: whereby each speaker focuses on a specific topic/point, for a lightening talk of a set amount of time. Presentations are given in rapid succession and speakers then interact with participants for smaller group discussions and interactions.
- World café: Following scene setting opening remarks, groups discuss a topic or set of questions at several tables. Participants switch tables periodically and are introduced to the previous discussion at their new table by a "table host". When participants change tables, the table host shares with the newcomers what has been discussed so that new points of view can be added.
- Problem solving: Creative and hands-on group exchanges that focus the discussion on sharing experiences and finding innovative solutions to common NCD advocate challenges.
- Success stories: 'Ask me anything' sessions where recognised leaders share case studies on how they achieved specific advocacy wins, strategies used, and lessons learned. Participants are encouraged to ask questions and discuss how these strategies/lessons can be applied in different settings.

¹ Registration fee: Standard registration fee from 1 July -31 August is 400 USD for low and middle income countries and 700USD for high income countries, UN agencies; Late registration from 1 October -22 October is 450 USD for low and middle income countries and 750USD for high income countries, UN agencies

- Storytelling sessions: A small number of speakers share different perspectives via a story telling format, to illustrate individual and community real-life experiences, zooming in on a particular topic/point.

Eligibility criteria

Lead applicant organisation must be a Full or Associate member of the NCD Alliance at the time of application or have submitted an application to become a Full or Associate member with the NCD Alliance. For further information on Membership, please contact membership@ncdalliance.org.

Co-lead organisations are *not* required to be Full or Associate members of the NCD Alliance. However, co-leads must be civil society, academia or UN agencies.

For sessions that are selected, please note that the NCD Alliance is unable to award travel grants to organisers, moderators or speakers.²

Please note that to enable participation across the NCD community there will be an effort to avoid having any single organisation organising more than two sessions at the Forum.

Assessment criteria

Session proposals will be reviewed by a review committee composed of Global Forum Planning Committee members and an NCDA staff representative. The committee will assess proposals on the following equally weighted criteria:

- *Contribution to Forum 2024 theme and sub-themes*
Sessions must address topics of relevance to the broad NCD community, relate and contribute to one (or more) of the Forum sub-themes, and align with the overarching Forum theme.
- *Solutions focused*
Sessions must share evidence-based policy solutions and offer concrete case studies.
- *Relevance to global audience*
Sessions must be relevant to a global audience. Sessions must include practical and replicable approaches, with due-consideration to utility in low-resource settings.
- *Interactive and dynamic format*
Sessions must provide substantial opportunity for delegate interaction. The format should be dynamic and engaging and include interactive activities that do not involve a presentation format.

Key dates and support

The deadline for receipt of proposals is **17:00 CEST 11 June 2024**. Please submit your session proposal via the provided webform. The outcome of your application and the competitive selection process will be communicated in early July 2024.

Please do not hesitate to email Valentine Kamau, Forum Programme Manager at vkamau@ncdalliance.org should you have any questions.

Thank you for your interest in the 2024 Global NCD Alliance Forum.

² Unless they have already been invited to attend the Forum with an associated travel grant.