

ISSUE 10: August 2020

NCD Alliance Partners Report

TABLE OF CONTENTS

The NCD Alliance Partners Report provides an essential overview of key updates and most recent developments in the NCD space. It has been designed to allow a quick and easy access to topline information you need to be aware of regarding noncommunicable diseases (NCDs).

1

Need to Know Global Updates on NCDs

United Nations General Assembly and High-Level Meeting 2020 (virtual)



15-30 September



Virtual



Link to provisional
agenda



Link to UNGA site

The 75th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA 75) will run virtually from Tuesday, 15 September to Wednesday 30 September 2020. The United Nations will commemorate its 75th anniversary with a one-day high-level meeting at the formal opening of the 75th session of UNGA 75, on 21 September 2020. The theme for this event will be “The Future We Want, the UN We Need: Reaffirming our Collective Commitment to Multilateralism.” The UNGA 75 General Debate will run from Tuesday, 22 September to Saturday, 26 September, and Tuesday, 29 September 2020.

[The High-level Summit on Biodiversity](#) will be convened by the President of the General Assembly on 30 September 2020. With the theme “Urgent action on biodiversity for sustainable development”, the Summit will highlight the threat that continuous loss of biodiversity poses to humanity and the need to accelerate action on biodiversity for sustainable development.

Also, an event focused on the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) - “[the SDG Moment](#)” - will take place on 18 September 2020. This session aims to highlight successes and identify where more action is needed on the SDGs. The SDG Moment was legislated through the political declaration of the 2019 SDG Summit and will take place annually during the high-level week of UNGA until 2030.

[A high-level meeting to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women](#) (FWCW) will also be held during UNGA75 on October 1, while [Climate Week NYC 2020](#) will take place virtually in parallel to the opening week of the UNGA.

UNGA75: UNGA publishes draft Omnibus Resolution- Comprehensive and Coordinated Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic



30 July



New York, USA



[Link to draft Resolution](#)

The United Nations General Assembly has published the fourth version (Rev.4) of the proposed General Assembly [draft omnibus resolution on the COVID-19 pandemic](#) ahead of UNGA75 which will open on Tuesday, 15 September 2020. The co-coordinators for the General Assembly on COVID-19-related initiatives (the Permanent Representatives of Afghanistan and Croatia to the United Nations) will continue to facilitate discussions among delegations with a view to ensure consensus and the adoption of the declaration.

From an NCD perspective, the current version of the resolution recognizes the impact of COVID-19 on people living with NCDs (PLWNCDs), essential health services disruptions - (including those for NCDs) and threats to the achievement of UHC and the SDGs at large.

Highlights of the [draft resolution](#) include the following Member State commitments to:

- a whole-of-government and whole-of-society response to COVID-19
- maintenance of population and individual level services for noncommunicable diseases
- maintenance of access to sufficient and nutritious food and the enjoyment of a balanced and healthy diet
- ensure the rights of women and girls, including sexual and reproductive health, and reproductive rights
- strengthening efforts to address communicable disease and noncommunicable diseases as part of universal health coverage
- address mental health in their response and recovery from the pandemic by ensuring widespread availability of emergency mental health and psychosocial support
- scale-up access to essential medicines and vaccines, and ensure universal access to COVID-19 vaccine
- protection of the most vulnerable – children, women, elderly, disabled, people living within humanitarian settings

If negotiations progress well, the final version (Rev.5), with further refined and strengthened text will be adopted by consensus by early September.

Resolution on UNIATF: UN ECOSOC calls for scaling up of resources for NCDs as part of the COVID-19 response



23 July



New York



[Read more](#)

The United Nations (UN) Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) adopted a resolution on 21 July 2020 on the United Nations Inter-agency Taskforce on the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases (UNIATF) that calls for a scaling up of resources for NCDs, including as part of the COVID-19 response and recovery.

The resolution recognized that people living with NCDs are more susceptible to the risk of developing severe COVID-19 symptoms and are among the hardest hit by the pandemic, called on the Task Force to scale up their support to Member States.

As part of this, the resolution emphasized the need for bilateral and multilateral donors to mobilize resources for NCDs and mental health, including the new multi-partner trust fund for NCDs and mental health that is being established, in line with World Health Assembly decision [WHA72\(11\)](#), the recommendation of the WHO Independent High-level Commission on NCDs and previous ECOSOC resolutions ([2017/8](#), [2018/13](#), [2019/9](#)).

In the new resolution, ECOSOC also requested the Task Force to do more in the area of multi-sectoral action and digital health, and ensure the meaningful engagement of communities, including people living with NCDs.

High-Level Political Forum 2020 - Highlights



7-16 July



New York



[Read more](#)

The High-Level Political Forum on sustainable development in 2020 (HLPF2020) was held from Tuesday, 7 July, to Thursday, 16 July 2020, with the theme “*Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development*“. It also included the three-day ministerial meeting of the forum from Tuesday, 14 July, to Thursday, 16 July 2020. The HLPF is held annually under the auspices of the [Economic and Social Council](#).

The HLPF2020, including all side- and special events were held virtually for the first time. The meeting brought together **137 High-level representatives**, the Prime Ministers of Norway and India, over 100 Ministers and Vice-Ministers as well as hundreds of policy makers from around the world, along with Members of Parliament, NGOs, think tanks, academia and the business sector. Up to **125,000 views** of the sessions of the meeting were recorded on UN Web TV.

Discussions at the HLPF2020 took off with a review of how pandemic risks reversing decades of progress on poverty and hunger and places even greater obstacles across many SDGs. Nevertheless, the HLPF2020 presented several clear, optimistic messages including the need to build more resilient, sustainable and nutritious food systems; improve human well being across the life course; and enhance access to responsibly-produced energy. The role of science and technology to combat inequalities and drive economic growth was also discussed. Overall, there was a strong emphasis on global, regional and local cooperation; the strength of multilateralism; and the urgent need to reassess strategies to achieve the SDGs.

Forty-seven (47) countries from all over the world presented **voluntary national reviews (VNRs)** of their implementation of the 2030 Agenda, and responded to questions from other countries and major groups, including NGOs, youth and the business sector. Sixteen (16) of the VNR countries were from Africa, eleven (11) from each of Asia Pacific and Europe and nine (9) from Latin America and the Caribbean. Only 5 countries (Comoros, Macedonia, Samoa, Estonia; and the Solomon Islands) highlighted the links between NCDs and the SDGs and referenced NCDs in their VNRs.

WHO co-sponsored 8 side events, focused on UHC and investing in health; tobacco control, COVID-19 and children; global strategy to leave no one behind during the COVID-19 pandemic; COVID-19 vaccines, Nutrition, as well as education in time of COVID-19, among others. WHO's [main side event](#) - *“Investing in Health: the Key to Building Back Better from COVID-19 and Accelerating Progress for UHC and Sustainable Development”* explored the impact of COVID-19 on global health and human security, and the SDGs. Experts also presented best practices and lessons learned to help accelerate response and recovery. The WHO Director-General, Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus addressed the meeting in a video message, urging leaders to fulfil the commitments made in the UHC Political Declaration to build back better, accelerate action to achieve the SDGs, and leave no one behind.

Although the Forum concluded without adopting the expected ministerial declaration, the HLPF2020 and ECOSOC meetings were substantive and issued a clear call to action to all stakeholders.

73rd World Health Assembly: Member States adopt multiple decisions, including on cervical cancer prevention and control, and integrated people-centred eye care to advance global public health



3 August



Geneva, Switzerland



[Read more](#)

Following the completion of the “Written Silence Procedure” adopted by the seventy-third World Health Assembly on 18 May 2020 through decision WHA73(7), the Member States of the World Health Organization (WHO) have adopted several decisions as a sign of continuous solidarity and support for the achievement of global health goals.

12 of the 13 decisions before Member States were considered adopted on Monday 3 August, 2020 as no objections were received before 18.00 CEST on July 23, 2020 - the deadline set for submitting counter-arguments.

The decisions adopted included those on some of the NCDs-related agenda items at [EB146](#), such as [Resolution EB146.R6](#) - Cervical cancer prevention and control: accelerating the elimination of cervical cancer as a public health problem; [Resolution EB146.R8](#) - Integrated people-centred eye care, including preventable vision impairment and blindness; and [Decision EB146\(13\)](#) - Decade of Healthy Ageing.

Proposals for [Strengthening global immunization efforts](#) to leave no one behind and [Resolution EB146.R7](#) - Global strategy for tuberculosis research and innovation and [Resolution EB146.R9](#) - Strengthening efforts on food safety were also adopted. All adopted resolutions will be referred to at the resumed session of WHA73 in November 2020 for information only.

Due to a written objection to [Resolution EB146.R10](#) *Strengthening preparedness for health emergencies: implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005)*, it was not adopted. Consequently, this proposal will be referred to the Health Assembly for consideration at its resumed session.

WHA73 will be reconvened in autumn, exact dates still to be confirmed, but tentatively expected to be 9-14 November.

Special European Council: EU commits to the development of strong and resilient health systems



17-21 July



Brussels, Belgium



[Read more](#)

European Union (EU) leaders have agreed to a comprehensive recovery package of €1.8 trillion which combines the EU budget for 2021-27 and a new stimulus package to assist economic recovery after COVID-19, known as Next Generation EU (NGEU). The package aims to support digital revolution and major EU policies, particularly the European Green Deal, and focus on resilience.

The EU's overarching plan aligns with some of the recommendations in [WHO Manifesto for a Healthy Recovery](#) which calls on governments to prioritise climate and environment protection, emergency preparedness, health systems, and social safety nets. Within the EU, climate action is to be mainstreamed in policies and programmes supported by EU funding.

A new program [EU4Health](#), which seeks to tackle cross-border health threats, access to affordable medicines and health system strengthening, is included in the package. However, the overall budget for health in the package approved by the European Council is a meagre 18 percent (€1.7bn vs. €9.4bn) of the budget proposed by the European Commission in May, 2020.

Brussels-based civil society organisation, the European Public Health Alliance has [proposed 39 amendments](#) to the programme, including an urgent need to address the role of commercial determinants of health and existing health inequalities.

The national governments of the EU-27 countries are now expected to prepare national recovery and resilience plans for 2021-2023, which must be consistent with the country-specific recommendations and contribute to green and digital transitions.

WHO & COVID-19: Independent evaluation of global pandemic response commences



9 July



Geneva, Switzerland



[Read more](#)

The co-chairs of WHO Independent Panel for Pandemic Preparedness and Response, former Prime Minister Helen Clark and former President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf have appointed Dr Anders Nordström, Swedish doctor and former acting Director - General of WHO to head the Secretariat of the WHO Independent panel for Pandemic Preparedness and Response (IPPR). His appointment was announced by the [Permanent Mission of Sweden](#) in Geneva and Dr Nordström commenced work in this capacity on 17 August.

This is the first appointment made by the two co-chairs following the announcement by the WHO Director-General, on July 9, 2020 that they would co-lead the panel. Dr Tedros made this announcement in response to requests by Member States through the [landmark resolution](#) on COVID-19 for an independent and comprehensive evaluation of the lessons learned from the international health response to COVID-19.

Prime Minister Clark and President Sirleaf were selected through a process of broad consultation with Member States and world experts. They have also been mandated to appoint other Panel members and members of an independent secretariat to provide support.

Dr Tedros Adhanom has also proposed that a special session of the WHO Executive Board (EB) be convened in September, 2020 to discuss the Panel's progress, an interim report would then be presented at the resumed WHA73. The work of the panel would also be discussed at the regular session of the EB in 2021, and a substantive report presented at WHA in May, 2021.

2020 Global Week for Action on NCDs - new website revealed!



23 July



Geneva, Switzerland



[More details in page 14](#): Explore how to take action and what others are doing

This year's *Global Week for Action on NCDs (7-13 September)* has been energised with a brand new logo, [new website](#) and interactive resources! The refreshed annual Global Week for Action on NCDs campaign leverages outrage and optimism to focus efforts on ensuring NCD prevention and control get the attention and action they deserve. Every September it unites the NCD movement, concentrating our combined efforts with the aim of reducing the NCD burden globally and increasing health and equality.

This year's campaign and its theme "Accountability" have become even more crucial in light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and established links between NCDs and increased risk of contracting, severe illness and complications from the novel coronavirus.

Everyone can get involved - share a message through Voices of Change, add an activity to the map, join the GPS drawing challenge, or get active on social media.

New NCD Alliance's Solidarity Fund will support 20 national/ regional NCD alliances work on the ground



13 July



Geneva, Switzerland



[Read more](#)

The NCD Alliance launched in July the first Civil Society Solidarity Fund on NCDs and COVID-19. The fund totalling US\$300,000 will support 20 national and regional NCD alliances across Africa, Asia, Europe, Eastern Mediterranean and Latin America to accelerate the response to the coronavirus pandemic.

With award grants of up to US\$15,000, alliances will address the implications of NCDs and COVID-19, by strengthening their own governance structures, and addressing the critical needs of people living with NCDs during COVID-19 via advocacy and communication activities. The Solidarity Fund will also facilitate stronger organisational stability and resilience. Activities will include advocacy and communication efforts for the continuity of essential NCD health services and inclusion of NCDs in national COVID-19 response and recovery plans, as well as consultation efforts with people living with NCDs and community-led awareness-raising campaigns on the linkages between NCDs and COVID-19.

2

On the Ground Country Updates

Advocates call on government to put people living with NCDs at the centre of COVID-19 response



Kenya



[Read more](#)



[Read statement](#)

In August, NCD Alliance of Kenya's Caucus of People Living with NCDs has presented its key 'asks' in the light of the COVID-19 pandemic to the national government through a public statement..

The group highlighted the impact of the country's response to COVID-19 on essential services, for the prevention and control of NCDs, thus increasing the risks the pandemic poses to PLWNCDs. The advocates also called on the government to prioritise the needs of PLWNCDs by placing them at the center of the national COVID-19 response, and urgently address the underlying drivers of the NCD pandemic.

New cancer policy document launched



Kenya



[Read more](#)



[Read more](#)

The Ministry of Health, Kenya, has launched a cancer Policy (Kenya Cancer Policy 2019-2030) to address the growing burden of the disease in the country. The document provides a framework for a comprehensive management of the cancer burden in the country, through systematic implementation of evidence-based interventions in the area of care. The government through the Chief Administrative Secretary (CAS), Dr Rashid Aman, also disclosed that cancer screening guidelines had been disseminated to all 47 counties and 10 new chemotherapy centres put in place.

Ghana NCD Alliance raises awareness on the needs of people living with NCDs during the COVID-19 pandemic



Ghana



[Read more](#)

The Ghana NCD Alliance, as part of a series of activities to intensify awareness on NCDs during the COVID-19 pandemic and amplify the needs of people living with NCDs, organised a webinar to discuss the interlinkages between COVID-19 and NCDs. The objective of the webinar was to address concerns of people living with NCDs and the public with regard to government measures in place to contain the outbreak and address misinformation about the pandemic. The webinar on NCDs and COVID-19 brought together government representatives from the Ministry of Health and Ghana Health Service as well as people living with NCDs, civil society and media

Two Mexican states ban sale of sugary drinks and junk food to children



Mexico



[Read more](#)

Legislators in Mexico in the states of Oaxaca and Tabasco have approved a ban on selling sugar-sweetened beverages and highly processed foods to anyone under 18, seeking to combat childhood obesity. The measure approved in Oaxaca establishes fines, store closures and jail time for repeat offenders.

COVID-19 and NCDs - Voices and Views of PLWNCDs in the Caribbean



The Caribbean



[Read stories](#)

The Healthy Caribbean Coalition (HCC) has published the stories of people living with NCDs within the region, and their caregivers as part of its [COVID-19 Communication Strategy](#)

These stories will inform HCC's advocacy priorities and inspire a virtual Caribbean community, united and strengthened by shared learnings and experiences, and a collective will to overcome this challenge.

Philippines considers taxes on unhealthy commodities to offset COVID-19 impacts



Philippines



[Read more](#)

The Philippines is considering implementing higher sugar taxes as well as new taxes on 'junk food' high in sodium and trans fat to offset the costs incurred by the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak this year. This was proposed by the Philippines Department of Finance as part of the 'phased and adaptive recovery approach' in the light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

This is an important development because unhealthy diet is the number risk factor for death and disability in the Philippines. The local salt consumption is estimated at 11g per day, which is double the WHO recommended level of 5g per day.

Apart from the potential health benefits, the targeted tax incentives are expected to support the country's Recovery Stage from June to December 2020, making it more sustainable

Heartfile takes steps to eliminate trans fatty acids in Pakistan



Pakistan



[Read more](#)

Trans fatty acids (TFA) have been linked with a variety of NCDs, including coronary heart disease. TFA intake in Pakistan is estimated to be the second-highest in the WHO Eastern Mediterranean region. Since 2018, Heartfile, an NGO based in Islamabad, has been advocating for TFA elimination in Pakistan. To achieve this, they have conducted a situational analysis to identify key considerations for TFA elimination in Pakistan. This analysis revealed that the main issues that require attention for TFA elimination in the Pakistan context include product bans, labelling, federal-provincial responsibilities, assessment, enforcement, data, public demand and TFA replacement. Heartfile has called on the government to introduce a national mandatory standard in line with the WHO recommendations.

New obesity strategy in the United Kingdom unveiled



United Kingdom



[Read more](#)

Catalysed by evidence that obesity can contribute to coronavirus complications, the UK government have announced a new 'Better Health' campaign, with new measures to help people lose weight including restriction for TV and online adverts for food high in fat, sugar and salt, termination of 'buy one get one free' deal on unhealthy food and guidance on labels to help people make healthier choices when eating out. There will also be consultations on existing food labelling, and the potential for adding calorie labels to alcohol.

Mandatory, visible and effective pregnancy warning labels on alcohol products



Australia



& New Zealand



[Read more](#)

Food Safety Ministers in Australia and New Zealand have agreed to introduce mandatory pregnancy warning labels on alcoholic beverages under recommendations agreed to by representatives of the Australian and New Zealand Ministerial Forum on Food Regulation. Alcoholic beverage manufacturers now have three years to implement the warning on their products' labels.

3

Your Say Engage with Us

3rd Global Week for Action on NCDs



7-13 September

Quick links



W4A website



Campaign assets
(such as logo)



Voices of Change



Events and Activities



Other resources

NCDA is organising the 3rd Global Week for Action on NCDs (W4A) from 7-13 September 2020 and, alongside attention to NCDs and COVID-19, this year's theme is accountability - a crucial force for good governance, political and programmatic change. Follow [#ActOnNCDs](#) for live updates on the campaign, and watch the new website for ways to Act on NCDs during the W4A.

Quick ways to get involved

- **Create your Voice of Change card.** Use the new interactive card generator through the campaign website, and encourage those you know to do the same! Anyone can be a Voice of Change - people living with or affected by NCDs, people working with NCDs through research, clinical practice, advocacy, and anyone committed to the NCD response who wants to participate and share their perspective!
- **Use the campaign assets.** The logo and other graphic elements, currently available in 6 languages, are available for your download and use [HERE](#). Please use the dedicated 2020 campaign logo and resources (purple version) to signal the year and accountability theme.
- **Share your plans.** Do you have an NCD-related event, activity, or launch scheduled in September? Contribute to and benefit from the power of the W4A, and promote your activities through the Map of Impact. We will prioritise amplifying accountability-focused content, resources and activities from supporters!
- **Encourage** others in your network to plan, and share news and activities for the week through the Map of Impact as well! Let's fill up that map with action!
- **Use the campaign hashtag #ActOnNCDs** and share our other social media resources. Posts, images and videos are all available for your sharing, and some can even be adapted to your local context! You could schedule themed daily messaging linked to NCD prevention, medicines, care, financing, and community voices.

Further Inspiration for the W4A

- Workplace wellness activities - Organise employee activities, e.g. "How will you take action on NCDs?" challenges, daily internal communications around NCD prevention, and health promotion (smoking cessation, walking meetings, healthy lunches, extra active to work week, drink less alcohol).
- Community activations - Encourage your local government to collaborate with you to organise a 'car free' day, to encourage people to be more active, more safely.
- Art and music competitions - Get creative! Hold an art or music competition - be inspired by Ghanaian ChrisK's rap song 'ENOUGH NCDs'.

- Target ministers and policy makers – organise in-person or virtual meetings with ministers and high-level discussions; launch petitions to campaign to their governments for stronger accountability and greater policy action.
- Consult with people affected by NCDs – gather health professionals and people living with NCDs to share experiences, contributing to better informed and more effective advocacy.
- Public displays – Light up a building, organise public NCD prevention and treatment messages on public transport, or hold a public display.
- Launch a report, publication or other NCD-oriented project – Do you have a report, article, brief or NCD-related World Day coming up around September? Promote it during the W4A! Various alcohol, food, lung, heart, stroke, psoriasis or suicide prevention awareness days take place in September and October, and are well timed for promotion through the W4A.
- Engage media – Pitch to local radio, TV or written media to offer to join them for an interview to discuss priorities around NCDs and COVID-19.

GPS Drawing Challenge

Inspired by the new visual and graphic identity of the W4A that invokes movement and momentum, NCDA will launch a challenge encouraging physical activity during W4A! GPS drawing is a technique of using a GPS device to follow a pre-planned route and create a large-scale picture/text on a map. The GPS Drawing Challenge will encourage NCD community members to use the GPS function of their mobile phone to write a message they want to communicate for the W4A on a map. This challenge can be done alone or with a team as part of a collaborative effort during the W4A. For instance, it can be done between participants from different countries and regions, uniting their voices to #ActOnNCDs (e.g. each teammate could be in charge of “drawing” one letter of a message and share it together). This challenge aims to call for action, union and encourage physical activity while being inclusive: there are no requirements regarding the sport, pace and distance to cover, and it can be done in collaboration while maintaining local social distancing requirements.



**More information
on the GPS Drawing
Challenge**



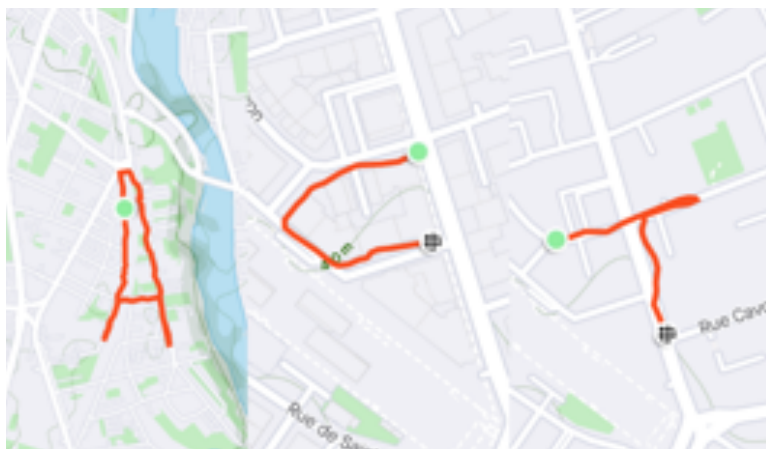
Guide in EN



Guide in FR



Guide in ES



An easy 5-step guide for the GPS Drawing Challenge

- 1. Download a GPS app:** You can use a basic free GPS activity tracking app (e.g. RunKeeper, Fitbit, Strava, Runtastic). You will need to ensure you give permission to the app to track your GPS location while you are using the app. Once it's set up on your phone, you're good to go!
- 2. Choose your message:** As an example, you can use or add a part (like "ACT") or the whole official hashtag of the W4A "Act On NCDs" in your message. If you do a team message, you might like to each adopt a letter to spell out your organisation's name in addition to #ActOnNCDs!
- 3. Choose your canvas:** You can go to the nearest open area (a public square, sports field, etc.) or carefully study the map of your local area to sketch out your exact route online.
- 4. Go out and "draw":** Launch your preferred GPS activity tracking app and start moving - walk, roll, ride, run - to draw your message!
- 5. Share with us!** Post your GPS drawings and messages on social media (Twitter, Facebook, Instagram) using the campaign hashtag #ActOnNCDs.

GPS Drawing Challenge overview and guides are here:

<http://actonncds.org/en/news/get-active-and-actonncds-new-gps-drawing-challenge>

Media Tele-briefing - 7 or 8 September 2020

(exact timing TBC in the next few days)

Ahead of the W4A, NCDA will organise a media tele-briefing on 7 or 8 September 2020 (exact timing TBC in the next few days) addressed to English-speaking journalists. With a focus on accountability, during the event we will launch an embargoed version of the paper "NCD Countdown 2030: Pathways to achieving Sustainable Development Goal target 3.4", authored by the NCD Countdown 2030 initiative; and also preliminary findings on unhealthy commodity industries' practices during COVID-19 (also under embargo) with highlights drawn from more than 700 examples shared from nearly 100 countries. The mapping project is being led by Spectrum research consortium collaborators from University of Edinburgh and NCDA. Supporters are welcome to join the tele-briefing as observers, only journalists will be able to make questions. ***Dial-in details will be shared with supporters via email in advance.***

Preparing for the UN General Assembly (UNGA)



15-30 September



Virtual

Supporters call

Join the next Supporters call with a leadership session on **Thursday 17 September (08:00-09:30 EDT, 14:00-15:30 CEST)**. An agenda will be shared ahead of the meeting. *Dial-in details have been shared via a calendar invitation already. For those who cannot join, we will share slides with the NCDA Supporters Group.*

UNGA calendar of events

Share your plans

NCDA is currently monitoring online events that will be taking place on the sidelines of UNGA 75 and will aim to share a calendar of NCD-related events with NCDA Supporters soon. We invite you to share information about events you have also planned here.

Please contact Ayushi Pathipati with any questions at apathipati@ncdalliance.org

NCDA events

Wednesday, 23 September
2:00-3:15 pm CEST

Virtual Dialogue on Revisiting social impact models in the COVID-19 era: Improving NCD access through people-centred care to deliver on UHC, in collaboration with Lilly - *invitation and registration link to be shared with supporters ahead of the meeting*

Exact timing TBC

Online High-Level Roundtable on Building forward better: A new approach to mobilize investment for NCDs, co-hosted by NCDA and the UN Inter-Agency Taskforce on NCDs (UNIATF) - *invitation and registration link to be shared with supporters ahead of the meeting*

4

Partners Corner Supporters News

American College of Cardiology, with NCD Alliance, World Heart Federation and Pfizer Upjohn



[NCD Academy webpage](#)



[Access courses directly](#)

Want to learn more?

Contact the NCD Academy manager, Bryson Childress at bchildress@acc.org

NCD Academy: New course on COVID-19 & NCDs, and CVD & Stroke Prevention course now available now in English and Spanish

The [NCD Academy](#), spearheaded by the American College of Cardiology, is a first-of-its-kind partnership to equip providers at the front lines of patient care—including clinicians, nurses, and community health workers—with education available whenever, wherever, and at no cost.

COVID-19 has impacted no community more seriously than people living with NCDs and older people, who are heavily represented among serious cases of the virus and have witnessed major disruptions to the standard services they rely on for treatment. Partners of the NCD Academy have aimed to tackle these issues with a *new mini course on COVID-19 & NCDs* with two sets of resources now available to primary care teams:

- **Clinical eLearning lessons** distill the overwhelming body of research on the virus into an interactive and approachable format for getting up to speed on key concepts in COVID-19 pathology, screening, complications, and patient protection strategies.
- **Regional expert discussions** delve into efforts in public health to restructure and optimise our institutions and health systems for all patients during this time of crisis.

The **COVID-19 eLearning course** and first set of regional discussions uniting 13 experts on the topics of race, ethnicity, and reducing COVID-19 infection rates are now available on [NCD Academy](#). In addition, the *first course on CVD & Stroke Prevention* is now fully available in both English and Spanish, and for instance, users in Mexico can get *Continued Medical Education* (CME) points. The course will be also available in Chinese in the next few weeks and *CME points* will be available for users in Malaysia and some Gulf States at present. After completing the course, users are able to display their *digital badge* on professional networking sites, or download and print a traditional certificate.

American Cancer Society, Union for International Cancer Control (UICC) and Cancer Research UK

 [Read more](#)

Uniting to End Cervical Cancer

The Cervical Cancer: Action for Elimination (CCAIE) is a community of organizations and individuals working to accelerate global progress towards cervical cancer elimination. CCAIE will harness the expertise of its members, including its co-chairs - the American Cancer Society (ACS), Cancer Research UK (CRUK) and the Union for International Cancer Control (UICC) to support the implementation of [WHO's global strategy to accelerate the Elimination of Cervical Cancer as a Public Health Problem](#).

WHO will work with Member States and key partners including civil society to roll out and sustain the implementation of the strategy. CCAIE is mobilizing expertise, experiences, and resources and is committed to supporting achieving the elimination targets.

World Stroke Organization and World Heart Federation

 [Read more](#)

Joint Statement: 'Prevention Wake-Up Call' to Governments

In a joint statement published in 'The Lancet' on 22 August 2020, leaders of the World Heart Federation and World Stroke Organization have issued a call to governments to deliver radical shifts in public health policy in order to deliver progress on cardiovascular disease (CVD) and stroke prevention. The statement called on governments to shun the widely adopted approach of individual clinical risk factor screening, because they have failed to deliver any significant impact on CVD and stroke prevention. Governments were encouraged to scale-up their investment in primary prevention at population level for example, by prioritising alcohol and tobacco control measures, reducing consumption of salt and trans fats from processed food and addressing sedentary lifestyles.

Please register here for webinar on WSO Stroke Prevention Strategy following statement on Tuesday, 1 September 2020 at 12 p.m. CEST:

<https://www.world-stroke.org/what-we-do/education-and-research/webinars/wso-stroke-prevention-strategy>

Novo Nordisk

 [Read more](#)

'Defeat Diabetes' - a new social responsibility strategy

Novo Nordisk has launched a new social responsibility strategy, Defeat Diabetes. The strategy will drive Novo's long-term ambition to provide access to affordable care to vulnerable patients in every country and accelerate prevention to halt the rise of diabetes. It has a strong focus on access to care for the most vulnerable, including a continued commitment to better care for PLWNCDs trapped in humanitarian crises.

Teva

Suggested related links and resources:

 [Turning The Tide mini-film](#)

 [mountsinai.org](#)

 [BMJ](#)

 [Learn more](#)

Advancing understanding, prevention and treatment of Multiple Chronic Conditions

Teva remains committed to addressing—and advancing the global conversation surrounding—Multiple Chronic Conditions (MCC). For three years, Teva and Mount Sinai's Arnhold Institute for Global Health have designed and implemented a behavior change program for patients with MCC, measuring the impact on health outcomes and adherence. Insights from the NYC-based program are being applied to help treat depression and hypertension in Ghana and create a disease screening and care model for chronic conditions. In 2019, Mount Sinai researchers developed a novel method to identify patterns among patients with MCC. The open-source tool was published online and in *BMJ Open*.

Medtronic Foundation

 [Read more](#)

Medtronic Foundation Commits \$16M in Health and Education Partnerships to Address Racial Disparities

The Medtronic Foundation announced a \$16 million commitment to partnerships with organizations working to bring about social justice and equity, improve the lives of Black Americans, and help heal and advance the broader community. These partnerships are a unique combination of strategic financial support paired with Medtronic employee volunteerism. They aim to deliver meaningful impact through deep engagement, greater understanding of racial inequities, improved educational opportunities and fewer health disparities, which have been precipitated by historical racial inequities and intensified by COVID-19.

NCD Child

 [Read more](#)

New report: Learning from NCD Child Advocacy Workshops and Projects: Building Future Policy Opportunities for Health and Education

This report focuses on the future, drawing on the past experience from the workshops and small grants. It explores the potential for increased collaboration between the health and education sectors, as key drivers of the response to NCDs, to build a framework for future policy advocacy to address NCDs in children, adolescents, and young people.

The Union

 [Read more](#)

Brief on Financing Public Health in Preparedness for Pandemics

The Union has released a brief calling on countries to raise tobacco tax to simultaneously improve the health of the populace, reduce health inequities, and lessen the burden on health care systems.

The brief outlines the impact of COVID-19 on global health, health systems and economies and stresses that countries must take important lessons for this pandemic to increase their preparedness for any pandemic or public health emergency in the future.

The document outlines three recommendations to generate critical funding for future pandemics and emergencies:

1. Raise tobacco tax: a win-win solution to effectively strengthen public health emergency response
2. Resist industry pressure to reduce or maintain current tobacco tax; and
3. Establish a health defence fund

It stresses that raising tobacco tax will improve the health of the populace, reduce health inequities, and lessen the burden on health care systems.

The George Institute for Global Health

'Building back better after COVID19: The research agenda'

Please join The George Institute for Global Health on 3 September 2020 for the video premiere and online launch event of 'Building back better after COVID19: The research agenda' series highlighting the importance and impact of COVID-19 on NCD prevention and management in different contexts, and some of the key research questions emerging as a consequence.

The video brings together some of The George Institute's experts and partners around the world and will provide the starting point for an online conversation between some of the participants and other global health leaders.

Please register here for this event on Thursday, 3 September at 2 p.m. CEST:

<https://www.georgeinstitute.org/events/video-premiere-launch-event-building-back-better-after-covid-19-the-research-agenda>

World Obesity Federation



Statements



Member survey responses



Webinar series

Obesity & COVID-19 Policy Dossier, Member Survey and Webinar Series

World Obesity has collated an online dossier providing the latest available information regarding new associations between COVID-19 and obesity, and have recently updated their Scientific and Policy statements.

World Obesity asked their global membership to share their experiences and views on government responses to COVID-19, and received responses from 40 countries in all regions of the world, identifying a number of key emerging trends.

World Obesity also launched a new live webinar series on obesity and COVID-19, all of which can be found online (and will resume in the fall), as well as a number of blogs.

WORLD OBESITY BLOGS



Globally, 80m adolescents are living with obesity, and without a substantial intervention the figure is due to rise to 150m by 2030. But what interventions work?



Tackling obesogenic environments would be effective and widely supported



Childhood obesity and human capital

FDI World Dental Federation (FDI)

 [Read more](#)

FDI responds to WHO's guidance on the provision of oral health services during COVID-19

FDI World Dental Federation published this statement in response to the release of WHO's Considerations for the provision of essential oral health services in the context of COVID-19. Misinterpretation of the WHO document has led to widespread confusion and the circulation of inaccurate and misleading information in some media outlets. FDI and its member associations are committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of the communities and patients they serve. Contrary to recent media reports, people can safely visit the dentist and utilize oral health services, in the context of COVID-19, if a country's regulations permit this.

World Stroke Organization


 [Stayed tuned here](#)


World Stroke Day 2020

This year's campaign will build on the momentum generated in 2019 by retaining the campaign theme to reiterate the risk of stroke, but with a specific focus on physical activity as a method of prevention.

WSO will create a global dance chain to activate WSO affiliates around the globe, while spreading our stroke prevention message in a fun, new way. The adult lifetime risk of stroke is now 1 in 4, compared to 1 in 6 less than a decade ago. Global progress on prevention has stalled and WSO is leading campaigns focused on increasing public awareness of stroke and the cost-effective prevention steps that individuals and healthcare systems can take.

The Fred Hollows Foundation, with NCD Alliance

 [Link to report](#)

 [WHA resolution on eye care](#)

New report on eye health and NCDs and launch webinar

The Fred Hollows Foundation and the NCD Alliance are delighted to launch a new policy brief which explores the impact of eye health conditions in society and health systems, and aims to identify key challenges and cost-effective solutions for the integration of eye care into health services, as some of the most common eye health conditions are NCDs.

The publication of this policy brief coincides with the long-awaited adoption of the World Health Assembly resolution for 'Integrated people-centred eye care, including preventable blindness and impaired vision'. The brief echoes key messages from the resolution, which acknowledges the existence of cost-effective eye interventions covering promotion, prevention, treatment and rehabilitation at primary health care (PHC) level, and the need for their integration into health systems as part of countries' pathways towards Universal Health Coverage (UHC).

Join us on Thursday, 10th September at 13:00 – 13:45 CEST to hear from three experts who will discuss why this policy brief was developed, how it can be used and why it is so timely – particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic – and learn how you can get involved!

Please register here for this event on Thursday, 10 September at 1 p.m. CEST:
<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJApCuCtrDovHdK3xe2ux9esBuAU7OFjJiiq>

World Heart Federation

 [Read more](#)

Heart Talks: A Series of the 5th Global Summit on Circulatory Health

This year, due to exceptional circumstances related to the COVID-19 pandemic, we had to make the difficult but necessary decision to cancel the in-person 5th Global Summit scheduled to take place in October in Washington, D.C.

However, not being able to meet in person does not mean we will stop advocating for the health workforce.

This year, the 5th Global Summit is spinning off into an innovative webinar series called Heart Talks: A Series of the 5th Global Summit on Circulatory Health.

Highlights include:

- 4 one-hour interactive webinars
- Accessible to everyone, everywhere – both live and recorded
- Held every two weeks between October – November
- Including topics on CVD management in the post COVID-19 era and the role of the health workforce, the impact of telemedicine and AI, and the importance of adequate financing for health in times of economic instability.

5

Coming Up Events for your Diary

September 2020

73rd Regional Committee Meeting for South East Asia - Virtual

9-10 September

<https://www.who.int/southeastasia/about/governance/regional-committee/seventy-third-session>



70th Regional Committee Meeting for Europe - Virtual

14-15 September

<https://www.euro.who.int/en/about-us/governance/regional-committee-for-europe/70th-session/on-the-agenda>



World Patient Safety Day 2020

17 September

<https://www.who.int/news-room/events/detail/2020/09/17/default-calendar/world-patient-safety-day-2020>



75th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA75) - Virtual

15-30 September

<https://www.un.org/en/ga/>



UN High-Level Meeting (commemoration of the UN's 75th anniversary) - Virtual

21 September

<https://www.un.org/en/ga/75/meetings/index.shtml>



World Lung Day

25 September

<https://www.firsnet.org/news-and-events/news-article/150-world-lung-day-25-september-2020>



72nd Regional Committee Meeting for the Americas - Virtual

28-29 September

<https://www.paho.org/en/governing-bodies/directing-council/58th-directing-council>



World Heart Day 2020

29 September

<https://www.world-heart-federation.org/world-heart-day/world-heart-day-2020/>



October 2020

75th Regional Committee Meeting for the Western Pacific - Virtual

6-9 October

<https://www.who.int/westernpacific/about/governance/regional-committee/session-71>



WHO Mental Health Forum (Virtual)

8 October

mhForum@who.int



World Sight Day

8 October

https://www.iapb.org/news_tags/world-sight-day-2020/



67th Regional Committee Meeting for Eastern Mediterranean - Virtual

12-13 October (webpage to be updated with 2020 information)

<http://www.emro.who.int/about-who/regional-committee/regional-committee.html>



World Stroke Day

29 October

<https://www.world-stroke.org/world-stroke-day-campaign>



World Psoriasis Day

29 September

<https://ifpa-pso.com/our-actions/world-psoriasis-day/>



November 2020

ESO - WSO Joint Stroke Congress 2020 - Virtual

7-9 November

<https://eso-wso-conference.org/virtual-conference-2/>



World Diabetes Day

14 November

<https://worlddiabetesday.org/>



December 2020

IDF Diabetes Complications Congress

3-5 December | Lisbon, Portugal

<https://www.idf.org/our-activities/congress/idf-complications-congress-2020/lisbon-2020-registration.html>



International Universal Health Coverage Day (UHC Day)

12 December

<https://www.uhc2030.org/what-we-do/voices/uhc-day/>



6

Latest Publications Useful Readings and Resources

Essential reading

Opinion: Tackling the twin burdens of NCDs and COVID-19



[Link to resource](#)

Covid-19 pandemic has derailed progress on sustainable development goals - WHO



[Link to resource](#)

Briefing note: Impacts of COVID-19 on people living with NCDs (PLWNCDs) - NCD Alliance



[Link to resource](#)

LFAC: COVID-19 and type 1 diabetes: Challenges and actions



[Link to resource](#)

The Lancet: Assessing national performance in response to COVID-19



[Link to resource](#)

The Lancet: Tackling Corruption in global health



[Link to resource](#)

Research Maps Interactions between Economic Activities and SDG Targets



[Link to resource](#)

Air pollution and smoking are factors in childhood obesity



[Link to resource](#)

The COVID-19 pandemic and health inequalities

This essay examines the implications of the COVID-19 pandemic for health inequalities and outlines historical and contemporary evidence of inequalities in pandemics.



[Link to resource](#)

Recommended reading



Prescriptions and Actionables for a Healthy and Green Recovery



Introducing The Lancet Regional Health

A new suite of **open access journals** from The Lancet, publishing high-quality, evidence-based research articles focusing on six regions of the world

WHO Manifesto for a healthy recovery from COVID-19



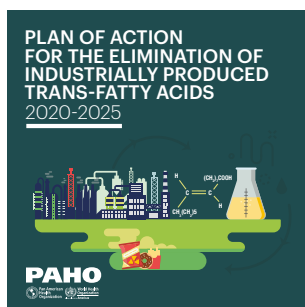
[Link to resource](#)



Maintaining essential health services: new operational guidance for the COVID-19 context



[Link to resource](#)



WHO/PAHO Plan of Action for the Elimination of Industrially Produced Trans-Fatty Acids 2020-2025



[Link to resource](#)

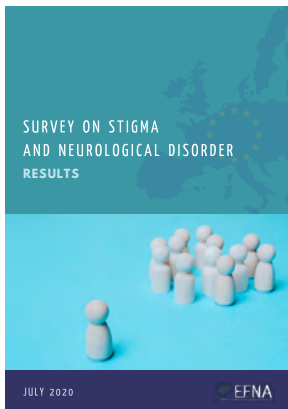


HEARTS in the Americas: Regional repository for the HEARTS technical package and activities around the HEARTS initiative

A new digital repository that gathers up-to-date information and technical resources in a more accessible and organized manner for those that play a part in the HEARTS Initiative and for those who want to know more about it.



[Link](#)



European Federation of Neurological Associations (EFNA) survey on stigma and neurological disorders



[Link](#)



The Toll They Take - The Burden of Non-Communicable Diseases in Emerging Markets



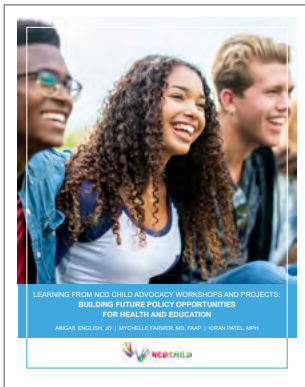
[Link](#)



Access Accelerated Report 2020



Link



Learning from NCD Child Advocacy Workshops and Projects: Building Future Policy Opportunities for Health and Education



Link

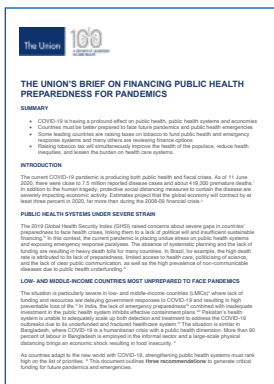


Resolve To Save Lives

A new segment of the LINKS toolkit - resources for healthy public food procurement.



Link



Financing public health preparedness for pandemics

This policy report details the impact of raising taxes on tobacco to fund public health and emergency response systems.



Link



MAKING NCD PREVENTION AND CONTROL A PRIORITY, EVERYWHERE

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ncdalliance.org

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