

A CIVIL SOCIETY REGIONAL STATUS REPORT

# Country Profiles: BELIZE

HEALTHY CARIBBEAN COALITION  
March 2014



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**The NCD Alliance**  
Putting non-communicable diseases  
on the global agenda

The NCD Alliance was founded by:



**International  
Diabetes  
Federation**



**International Union Against  
Tuberculosis and Lung Disease**  
*Health solutions for the poor*



**WORLD HEART  
FEDERATION®**

## # 1: Raise priority of NCDs through international cooperation and advocacy

1.1	Inclusion of NCDs in current national development plan	
	Presence of National NCD Planning	
1.2	Government inclusion of NCDs in Official Development Assistance (ODA) Framework	
1.3	Operational national NCD alliance/coalition/network of CSOs that engages People Living with NCDs (PLWNCDS)	
1.4	Government led, supported or endorsed national NCD conference /summit/meeting held in the last 2 years with active participation of CSOs	
1.5	Government-led or endorsed public media campaign on NCD awareness or NCD prevention, partnering with CSOs and held in the last 2 years	

## # 2: Strengthen national capacity, multisectoral action and partnerships for NCDs

2.1	Operational National NCD Plan (number of key elements outlined below): If score less than 4, please refer to 2.2	
2.1 a)	National NCD Plan with a 'whole of government' approach ie with areas for action beyond the health sector	
2.1 b)	Functional national multisectoral NCD commission/mechanism (incl. CSOs, People Living with NCDs and private sector)	
2.1 c)	National budgetary allocation for NCDs (treatment, prevention + health promotion, surveillance, monitoring/evaluation, human resources)	
2.1 d)	CSOs and PLWNCDSs engaged in National NCD Plan development	
2.2	Number of subnational jurisdictions (state, district, etc.) with an operational NCD plan that meets the full criteria outlined above	NA
2.3	Number of operational NCD Public-private partnerships supporting elements of National NCD Plan	
2.4	National Government partnerships with CSOs on NCD initiatives	

## # 3: Reduce NCD risk factors and social determinants

3.1	Number of tobacco (m)POWER policies/interventions in existence:	
	Existence of recent nationally representative information on youth and adult prevalence of tobacco use <sup>a</sup>	2008
	National Legislation banning smoking in health-care in all indoor public places including workplaces, restaurants and bars <sup>b</sup>	
	Existence of national guidelines for the treatment of tobacco dependence	
	Legislation mandating visible and clear health warnings covering at least half of principal pack areas	
	Legislation banning tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship OR Legislation comprehensively banning all forms of direct tobacco marketing in all forms of media and advertising	
	Tobacco taxation policy of between 2/3 and 3/4 of retail price	
3.2	National strategies on the major NCD risk factors (out of total listed below)	
3.2 a)	Tobacco	
3.2 b)	Alcohol	
3.2 c)	Nutrition	
3.2 d)	Physical Activity	
3.3	Increased taxes on alcohol in last 5 years	
3.4	National policies and regulatory controls on marketing to children of foods high in fats, trans fatty acids, free sugars or salt	
3.5c	National action on salt reduction	
	National policies/regulatory controls on salt reduction	
	Number of voluntary company pledges to salt reduction	
3.6	Physical education in schools with resources and incentives	

## # 4: Strengthen and reorient health systems to address NCDs

4.1	Evidence based national guidelines on used in Public Sector:		
	General Utilisation		Yes, Partially Used
	Cancer	No	
	Cardiovascular disease	No	
	Chronic Respiratory Diseases	Yes, Partially Used	
	Diabetes	Yes, Partially Used	
	Mental Health	Yes, Partially Used	
	Tobacco Dependence	No	
	Alcohol Dependence	No	
4.2	Government initiatives strengthening the capacity of primary health care for NCDs :		
	NCD health promotion and prevention	Aggregate scores	
	Screening and early detection	Based on Access	
	Treatment and referral	to Drugs, Services	
	Rehabilitation and palliative care	and Treatments	
4.3	Number of NCD medicines in country essential medicine list made available free of charge to patients with limited resources	14/16 on EML	
	Insulin	Generally Available	
	Aspirin (81 or 100 mg)	Generally Available	
	Metformin	Generally Available	
	Glibenclamide	Generally Available	
	Thiazide Diuretics	Generally Available	
	ACE Inhibitors	Generally Available	
	CC Blockers	Generally Available	
	Beta Blockers	Generally Available	
	Tamoxifen	Not Generally Available	
	Statins	Generally Available	
	Oral morphine	Generally Available	
	Salbutamol	Generally Available	
	Prednisolone tab	Generally Available	
	Steroid inhaler*	Not Generally Available	
	Hydrocortisone injection*	Not Generally Available	
	Ipratropium bromide	Not Generally Available	
4.4	NCD-related services and treatments are covered by health insurance system		
4.4 a)	Cancer Screening Services	4/8	
	Cervical cytology	Generally Available	Excellent
	VIA (Visual Inspection with Acetic acid)	Not Generally Available	Not Available
	Breast cancer screening by palpation	Generally Available	Excellent
	Mammogram	Not Generally Available	Excellent
	Prostate cancer screening by digital exam	Generally Available	Less than Adequate
	Prostate cancer screening by PSA	Not Generally Available	Adequate
	Faecal occult blood test	Generally Available	Excellent
	Colonoscopy	Not Generally Available	Less than Adequate

\*Steroid Inhalers &amp; Hydrocortisone injections were reported as not generally available in public health centres, but were also reported as being covered by health insurance or publicly funded.

## # 4: Strengthen and reorient health systems to address NCDs

4.4 b)	Diabetes	2/7	
	Blood glucose measurement	Generally Available	Excellent
	Oral glucose tolerance test	Not Generally Available	
	HbA1c test	Not Generally Available	Excellent
	Urine microalbuminuria	Generally Available	Excellent
	Dilated fundus examination	Not Generally Available	Adequate
	Foot vibration perception by tuning fork	Not Generally Available	Less than Adequate
	Foot vascular status by doppler	Not Generally Available	Not Available
4.4 c)	CVD	1/6	
	Electrocardiogram	Not Generally Available	Excellent
	Blood pressure measurement	Generally Available	Excellent
	Total cholesterol measurement	Not Generally Available	Excellent
	HDL cholesterol measurement	Not Generally Available	Excellent
	LDL cholesterol measurement	Not Generally Available	Excellent
	Triglycerides measurement	Not Generally Available	Excellent
4.4 d)	Chronic Respiratory Diseases	1/3	
	Peak flow measurement	Not Generally Available	Less than Adequate
	Spirometry	Not Generally Available	Less than Adequate
	Nebulization	Generally Available	Excellent
4.4 e)	Related NCD Treatments	1/5	
	Retinal photocoagulation	Not Generally Available	
	Renal dialysis	Not Generally Available	
	Renal transplantation	Not Generally Available	
	Radiotherapy	Generally Available	
	Chemotherapy	Generally Available in Private Sector	
4.5	Operational NCD Surveillance system:		
	Areas included in national health reporting system		
	Cause-specific mortality related to NCDs		
	Population-based NCD mortality data		
	Population-based morbidity data		

## # 5: Promote national capacity for research and development on NCDs

5.1	National research agenda for NCDs	
5.2	Government funding support for national research on NCDs	
5.3	Number of published articles on NCDs in country in the last 5 years	

## # 6: Monitor and evaluate progress on NCDs

6.1	National NCD targets/indicators with monitoring mechanisms in place	
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