Progress on the prevention and control of Non-Communicable Diseases

Dr. Bernadette Theodore Gandi
PAHO/WHO Representative
Jamaica, Bermuda & The Cayman Islands
Premature deaths from NCDs are a Major Development Challenge in the 21st century

15 MILLION Premature Deaths occur Globally

47% Of Premature Deaths Occur In Low Income And Lower Middle Income Countries

Risk of dying from an NCDs, among persons aged 30-70 years declined from 23% in 2000 to 19% in 2015. Ranges from 8% in rich countries to 36% among poor countries.
At the current rate of decline in premature death, we will not meet **Target 3.4** of the SDG by 2030 (to reduce by 1/3, premature mortality from NCDs)

Premature death from NCDs can largely be prevented or delayed by implementing a set of 16 “Best Buys” & other interventions.

*A highly successful 2018 UN HLM on NCDs can prove to be the **TIPPING POINT** for the NCD and Mental Health response*
Global Leaders Commit to Reduce NCDs

- 2007: Port of Spain Declaration
- 2011: Political Declaration
- 2013: 1st UN High Level Meeting
- 2014: 2nd UN High Level Meeting Outcome Document
  - 10 progress indicators
- 2018: 3rd UN High Level Meeting
- 2025: WHO Global Monitoring Framework
  - 9 voluntary targets
  - 25 indicators
  - 25% reduction premature mortality
- 2030: Sustainable Development Goals
  - One third reduction in NCD premature mortality

PAHO Regional Plan of Action (2013-2019)
“WHO Best Buys”
9 global monitoring targets

- Salt/sodium intake: 30% reduction
- Insufficient physical activity: 10% reduction
- Drug therapy and counseling: 50% eligible people coverage
- Essential medicines & basic technologies: 80% availability in facilities
- Tobacco use: 30% reduction
- Raised blood pressure: 25% reduction
- Harmful use of alcohol: 10% reduction
- Diabetes & obesity: halt the rise
**Time bound commitments**

**2015**
- Set national NCD targets for 2025
- Develop national NCD multisectoral policies and plans to achieve national targets by 2025.

**Reduce NCD risk factors:**
- Implement the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control.
- Implement policies to reduce harmful use of alcohol.
- Implement policies to promote healthy diet (salt reduction, eliminate trans fats, limit marketing of unhealthy food and beverages to children, implement the International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes).

**2016**
- Strengthen health systems for NCDs through primary health care:
  - National evidence-based guidelines for NCD management.
  - Provision of drug therapy for NCDs.

**Number of countries that met select commitments**

- +58%
- +48%
- +80%

Pan American Health Organization
World Health Organization
## Progress Indicators 2017

**Surveillance and monitoring:**
1. National indicators and targets
2. Functioning system for reliable mortality data
3. National Health Survey (e.g. PanAm STEPs)

**Risk Factors:**
4. Tobacco demand reduction measures
5. Alcohol demand reduction measures
6. Support for the health diet and breastfeeding
7. Measures to increase physical activity

**NCDs plans and management:**
8. NCD multisectoral and operational plans
9. Clinical guidelines to manage NCDs
10. Drug therapy and counselling to prevent CVD
Challenges to implementation of recommendations

- **Political Choices**
  - Weak political actions by Heads of State and government.

- **Health Systems**
  - Lack of access for all to affordable, safe and effective services. Lack capacity to incorporate “best buys” into primary health care.

- **National capacities**
  - Lack skill set to introduce measures to reduce consumption levels e.g. taxes and price increases.

- **International finance**
  - UN Interagency Task force remains unfunded. Some countries lack capacity to engage public & private financing partners e.g. World Bank.

- **Industry Interference**
  - Routinely interfere with health policymaking; work to discredit proven science, pursue legal challenges to oppose progress, and lobby for “responsible marketing” of health harming products.
Global Actions to Accelerate National Efforts
Technical Assistance packages from WHO

- Reduce demand for tobacco
- Scale-up CVD management in 1st Care
- Reduce salt intake
- Reduce harmful use of alcohol
- Integrate NCD interventions into Primary care
- Reduce childhood obesity
- Address all forms of malnutrition
- Increase service coverage for Mental Health
## Assignments for WHO prior to 2018 UN HLM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Update Appendix 3 of NCD Global Plan 2013-2020 “Best Buys”</td>
<td>May 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop Implementation plan for Report on ending Childhood Obesity</td>
<td>May 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop Global Action Plan to promote physical activity</td>
<td>Nov 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide a platform to track contributions of non-state actors to</td>
<td>Phase 3* pending</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>achieving 9 voluntary targets</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop a code to track official development assistance for NCDs (thru</td>
<td>June 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OECD)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conduct a midpoint evaluation of implementation of NCD Global Plan</td>
<td>Pending 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conduct evaluation on WHO Global Coordination Mechanism on Prevention and</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Control of NCDs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organize 1st global meeting of National NCD Directors and program</td>
<td>Feb 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>managers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Global Conference on Non-communicable Diseases

- Montevideo Road Map 2018-2030 on Non-communicable diseases as a Sustainable Development Priority was adopted by participants at the Global Conference on Non-communicable diseases held in October 2017

WHO Independent Global High-Level Commission NCDS

- To make recommendations leading up to the comprehensive review and assessment on May 2018

WHO Civil society working group:

- To make bold and practical recommendations on mobilizing civil society, businesses, NGOs ahead of UN HLM
Global action to accelerate national efforts

• United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on Prevention and Control of NCDs and its members
  o Coordinates the actions of the various UN organizations some of which have developed joint programs to provide technical support to countries
  o In 2017 > 60% UN agencies that are members, include NCDs in their mandates; up from 30% in 2014

• WHO Framework Convention on the Tobacco control
  o With 181 state parties, it is one of the treaties with the most ratifications in the history of the UN. (90% of the world’s population)
  o Session in 2016 called on parties to prevent interference by the tobacco industry.
  o Seven ratifications are required to bring the Protocol to Eliminate Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products into force
Global action to accelerate national efforts

Philanthropic Foundations

• Bloomberg Philanthropies ($1B since 2007) and Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation ($288M since 2008) have committed funds to key measures to reduce tobacco demand and are aligned with the FCTC.

• The Resolve to Save Lives Initiative to save 100M Individuals from CVD

Non Governmental Organizations

• The NCD Alliance: network of > 200 Civil Society Organizations in 170 countries. The Sharjah Declaration of 2015 set out roles for civil society etc. to reduce NCD deaths
Recommendations
Recommendations

• The Political declaration contained in the Annex to the General Assembly resolution 66/2 is the promise of the United Nations to the poorest and most vulnerable people of a world free from the avoidable burden of non-communicable diseases, an issue that was not addressed in the Millennium Development Goals.

• The world is reaching an INFLECTION POINT.

• Without significant investment now, premature mortality from non-communicable diseases in developing countries will continue to increase and the world will not be able to reach target 3.4 of the Sustainable Development Goals on non-communicable diseases by 2030.
Economic Impact of NCDs

- The impact of NCDs and mental health on GDP, estimated losses between 2015-2030:
  - $477.33 billion in Peru
  - $81.96 billion in Costa Rica
  - $18.45 billion in Jamaica

- NCD interventions are cost-effective

  minimum 2.1 ROI of selected TOBACCO CONTROL, REDUCTION OF HARMFUL ALCOHOL USE, DIABETES, & CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE interventions
Recommendations

1. Inflection point
2. Paradigm shift
3. Reinvigorate Political Action
4. Strengthen Health systems to respond more effectively to NCD disasters
5. Increase significantly financing for national NCD responses
6. Redouble efforts to engage sectors beyond health
7. Reinforce the role of non-state actors
8. Promote accountability to the world’s citizens
9. Act in unity
We have a long way to go...

... and in a short amount of time
TOGETHER
LET’S BEAT NCDs

Preparing for the third UN High-level Meeting on NCDs, 2018