

Noncommunicable Diseases (NCDs), Discussion Guide for Use with Partners				
	Basic	Developing	Advanced	Leading Edge
<b>Strategic Direction</b>	Although there may be broad national priorities related to NCDs, there are no strategic plans or coordinated efforts to address them.	Some national NCD priorities have been established. There have been limited efforts across organizations to identify and implement important strategies for some of the national NCD priorities. These strategies often focus on individual behavior change and communications.	Processes for establishing national NCD priorities and strategic plans are in place, with significant involvement or leadership by the NPHI. The healthcare system and multisectoral partners are increasingly engaged. Strategies are multifaceted, including issues such as social determinants of health.	Clear national priorities with specific targets have been established and are regularly monitored. The NPHI works with partners on complex strategies, such as providing the evidence base for policy changes, such as taxation.
<b>Systems</b>	Limited systems exist for coordination with partners to address NCDs. Systems for collecting data are inadequate for measurement of risk factors, prevention and control activities, and outcomes.	Collaboration to set priorities and develop strategic approaches are beginning to occur more regularly. Systems for collecting data and using it to inform decision-making are improving.	Systems for collaboration, including with healthcare and multisectoral partners, include regular meetings, workshops, and conferences and frequent sharing of information. Data systems generally provide needed information for setting priorities and measuring progress.	Systems for ongoing collaboration, information sharing, and harmonization of efforts is leading to efficiency and effectiveness in addressing NCDs. Various systems provide quality data and information for use in decision-making and advocacy.
<b>Resources</b>	Limited resources support collaboration to address NCDs or provide data for decision-making. Limitations in the healthcare system are a barrier to effectiveness of public health measures. Communications efforts are limited and reach little of the population.	Increasing resources support increased collaboration on NCD prevention and data collection. Resources to address the most critical NCD priorities are also increasing. Communications efforts are increasing but reach and effectiveness remain limited.	Resources are supporting many effective collaborative efforts. Data are usually adequate to ensure priority NCDs are being addressed and to inform allocation of public health and healthcare resources. Resources are available for many high-quality health communications efforts.	Resources support robust collaborations across sectors, including collection and sharing of high-quality data and information. Communications have ensured much of the population is aware of how to reduce behavioral risk factors and support for screening and clinical care is increasing.
<b>Quality</b>	The quality of NCD prevention and control efforts is limited. Data to inform priorities and programs is of poor quality. The World Health Organization's technical packages, formularies, and other suggestions are rarely considered.	The quality of NCD prevention and control efforts is sometimes assessed and starting to improve. The World Health Organization's technical packages, formularies, and other suggestions are sometimes considered in NCD prevention and control efforts. Data on NCD prevalence and incidence, including in specific populations, are improving but remain limited.	Several high-quality programs have demonstrated impact. Recommendations from the World Health Organization and other leading-edge organizations inform national efforts. Many types of high-quality data on NCDs and their risk factors, including from health-care systems, provide a basis for decision-making and evaluation.	NCD prevention and control programs are regularly high quality and impactful. NCD efforts are consistent with international guidance and standards, and some serve as models for other countries. The country's high-quality data are used regularly to guide decision-making and inform policies related both to public health and healthcare.
<b>Engagement</b>	Coordination among NCD organizations or stakeholders, such as populations at higher risk of NCDs, is limited. NPHI engagement is limited.	Coordinated efforts are increasing. The NPHI's focus on NCD prevention and control is increasing.	A wide range of groups are collaborating regularly to address NCDs. The NPHI plays leading roles in data collection and analysis and other aspects of NCD prevention and control.	The effort to address NCDs has been embraced by multisectoral partners throughout the country, including at the subnational level. The NPHI provides leadership in multisectoral efforts.
<b>Impact</b>	Efforts to control NCDs are limited. The impact of those that have been implemented is hard to assess because of a lack of data.	Some groups are working to reduce the burden of NCDs, but the impact of these efforts is rarely assessed.	Many NCD prevention and control efforts have been assessed, for example, the reach of communications efforts. Some interventions have demonstrable impact on outcomes.	NCD prevention and control efforts are having measurable impact. Policy changes at the national and subnational levels are decreasing risk factors, such as smoking, or increasing access to screening and treatment.

This Discussion Guide is modified from the Noncommunicable Disease Capacity Assessment and Planning (N-CAP) Process, developed by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the International Association of National Public Health Institutes (IANPHI) in collaboration with Global Health Development | Eastern Mediterranean Public Health Network (GHD|EMPHNET). Revised 2025.