

### Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs)

As global leaders gather for the 4th High-level Meeting of the UN General Assembly on the prevention and control of NCDs and the promotion of mental health and wellbeing (HLM4), **the International Network of Health Promotion Foundations (INHPF) urges governments, multilateral organizations, civil societies, youth, people living with NCDs, academia, philanthropies, the private sectors, and opinion leaders** to act decisively on addressing the root causes of NCDs through **promotion and prevention-focused, equity-driven, evidence-based and system-wide strategies. Particular consideration should be given to groups at greatest risk of NCD related morbidity or mortality, including First Nations populations.**

NCDs are responsible for **75% of global deaths, and 82% of premature deaths** that occur in low- and middle-income countries and small island developing states (SIDS). Beyond individual choices, NCDs are shaped by social, cultural, political, commercial, environmental, and economic determinants, which encompass human rights, socioeconomic development, and environmental considerations.

We therefore call on all stakeholders to:

- **Mainstream NCD prevention and health promotion into national, and broader global agendas**, including climate action, tobacco control, universal health coverage (UHC), trade, and security. Practical steps include integrating climate action and tobacco control into NCD prevention, designing UHC benefits to prioritize NCD prevention and health equity, aligning trade policies with health and well-being goals, and incorporating health promotion into national security and resilience planning.
- **Foster robust whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches** to advocate for a sustainable healthy lifestyle culture, to enable ecosystem, and to empower individuals and communities with the knowledge and skills to make informed decisions about their health, recognizing that health is a shared responsibility across all sectors and levels of governance, and requires active engagement from government, communities, civil society, and the private sector.
- **Strengthen primary healthcare, surveillance, monitoring, and research capacities** to enable data-driven policy development, progress tracking, sharing best practices, and scaling evidence-based interventions. Leverage digital health innovations—including telemedicine, mobile health applications, and data-driven systems—to expand access and improve the effectiveness of NCD prevention, detection, and management.

- **Invest in sustainable financing mechanism and provide technical support for health promotion**, including innovative financing mechanisms such as health taxes and fiscal measures. Recognize Health Promotion Foundations as essential infrastructure for NCD prevention, enabling sustainable financing, fostering policy innovation, strengthening multisectoral collaboration, and supporting context-specific community interventions, which contribute to improved health and wellbeing, and advance progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals.
- **Scale up comprehensive strategies for promoting mental health and wellbeing and suicide prevention** as a core pillar of NCD prevention and care, addressing depression, anxiety, and suicide—particularly among youth, older adults, marginalized groups, and crisis-affected populations. Concurrently, **address environmental and commercial determinants** such as air pollution, climate change, hazardous workplaces, and tobacco and nicotine use—including the rising threat of electronic cigarettes—while overcoming barriers to timely diagnosis and treatment of lung, kidney, and other chronic diseases.
- **Ensure continuity of NCD prevention and care in humanitarian and crisis settings, including conflict, displacement, and climate emergencies.** NCD prevention and care must be integrated into emergency preparedness and response to avoid catastrophic health and financial consequences for vulnerable populations.

As a global network of Health Promotion Foundations, INHPF remains committed to advancing **people-centered, evidence-based, and globally coordinated strategies to build healthier, more resilient, and more equitable communities.**

We invite partners worldwide to join us in transforming today's challenges into collective actions for a **healthier and sustainable future.**

18 September 2025

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#### Reference

1. World Health Organization. (2025, January 6). Follow-up to the political declaration of the third high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases (Executive Board 156th session, EB156/7). Geneva: WHO. Retrieved from [https://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf\\_files/EB156/B156\\_7-en.pdf](https://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/EB156/B156_7-en.pdf).
2. World Health Organization. Noncommunicable diseases. World Health Organization. Retrieved July 15, 2025, from <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/noncommunicable-diseases>.