

GLOBAL NONCOMMUNICABLE DISEASES: Saving Lives by Reducing Risk

BY THE NUMBERS

16 

16 million lives are lost prematurely each year globally due to NCDs*

\$500B 

\$500 billion per year in projected economic losses are estimated from NCDs in low- and middle- income countries

68% 

68% of all deaths worldwide in 2012 were caused by NCDs

NCDs are the LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH GLOBALLY

Noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) are the leading cause of death and disability around the world. Most NCD deaths are caused by cardiovascular diseases, cancer, diabetes, chronic respiratory diseases, mental health, road traffic accidents, and violence.

NCDs result in tremendous health care costs and lost productivity, impacting global economies and health security. The problem is most urgent in low- and middle-income countries, where the burden of disease and premature deaths from NCDs are increasing and contributing to the cycle of poverty.

“By investing just US \$1-3 dollars per person per year, countries can dramatically reduce illness and death from NCDs.”

Dr. Margaret Chan, WHO Director-General

CHARTING NEW TERRITORY

Our programs work across CDC and with partners worldwide to address risk reduction and prevention, expand coverage of essential medicines and technologies, improve surveillance, and strengthen health systems.

- We support the UN Sustainable Development Goals, using training and technical exchange with countries to promote health and reduce premature deaths from NCDs
- We use public health data to create innovative, culturally appropriate solutions and improve policy decisions
- We support the implementation of cost-effective interventions to reduce risk factors like tobacco use, harmful use of alcohol, unhealthy diets, and physical inactivity



High blood pressure affects approximately 30% of people in China.



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Center for Global Health

* World Health Organization (WHO)