Key mission findings from 2015

1. The health system has limited capacity to respond to NCDs as a result of competing challenges and limited resources.

2. Health coverage is far from universal.

3. The National NCD Action Plan, in place for the last 8 years, does not currently have a multi-sectoral focus. The government is planning a new Multi-Sectoral Action Plan and the creation of a National Commission on the Social Determinants of Health.

4. There is limited awareness and knowledge of NCDs and their risk factors among the general population. There is also limited attention paid to NCDs from the donor community.

Key recommendations from 2015

1. An evaluation of the 2008-2014 National NCD Strategic Plan should be undertaken.

2. The new NCD Action Plan needs to be multi-sectoral and explicit concerning the impact that actions taken will have on the WHO Progress Indicators that will be compiled for the Third High-level Meeting in 2018.

3. The Commission on Social Determinants of Health should include NCDs among the issues it will examine.

4. The implementation of the 2017-2020 UNDAF should take into account the suggestions and recommendations made by the Joint UN Task Force during its mission.

Key adult NCD mortality and risk factors*: a country now facing a double burden of disease from communicable diseases and NCDs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Risk Factor</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Probability of premature mortality from NCDs:</td>
<td>18% (2016)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27% of men and 5% of women (aged ≥ 15 years) smoke tobacco (2016)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5% of adult men and 6% of adult women are insufficiently physically active (2016)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16% of adult men and 30% of adult women are overweight (2016)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5% of adult men and 5% of adult women have raised fasting blood glucose (2014)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22% of adult men and 23% of adult women have raised blood pressure (2015)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pure alcohol per capita consumption:</td>
<td>2.4 litres per year (population 15+, 2016)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90% of adults eat insufficient amounts of fruit and vegetables (2015)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*With all the other challenges that Mozambique faces, we have not yet been able to focus sufficiently on NCDs. We now need that to change. The Ministry of Health cannot tackle NCDs on its own, it needs all government ministries to work together to reduce the exposure to the major risk factors for NCDs.*

Dr. Mouzinho Saide
Deputy Minister of Health
Adding value: actions taken following the mission

1. The new Government Five Year Plan (2015-2019) and Health Sector Strategic Plan both include NCDs.

2. Mozambique conducted the STEPS Survey in 2015 and the final report is now available.

3. The government of Mozambique ratified the WHO FCTC Convention in October 2017.

4. The UN provided support in analysing the 2008-2014 National NCD Strategic Plan.


6. The 2017-2020 UNDAF includes an NCD Policy framework for inter-sectorial prevention and control.

Success story

Following the first UNIATF mission to the country, WHO jointly with UNDP, UNAIDS and the Civil Society group AMOSAPU supported efforts in Mozambique that led to the ratification of the FCTC in October 2017. The support provided by the UN system contributed significantly to convincing relevant stakeholders of importance and need to ratify the convention.

As a result, Mozambique is in now in the process of developing plans to reduce smoking as well as the demand for tobacco products. Efforts are being made to reduce the supply available while simultaneously taking action to protect the environment from tobacco related harm.

With the ratification of this treaty, the UN is expected to continue supporting the government to implement the convention, establish a legal and institutional framework, develop a National Action Plan, strengthen the multi-sectoral national committee, strengthen surveillance and reporting, mobilize resources for action, and establish collaborative partnerships for tobacco control.

Next steps

1. UN Country Teams and development partners will support implementation of FCTC implementation plan.

2. The UN should support implementation of the Multi-Sectorial NCD Action Plan.

3. A second Joint UN Task Force on NCDs mission will be undertaken in 2018.


*A very timely visit from the Task Force which crucially led to the inclusion of NCDs more broadly in the UNDAF for 2017-2020.*

Hilde de Graeve
Head of WHO Office, Mozambique

*The UN is committed to providing all the support it can to help Mozambique in building a national NCD response to meet the NCD-related targets in the SDGs.*

Bettina Maas
Acting UN Resident Coordinator and UNFPA Representative in Mozambique

*The mission made the burden of NCDs suddenly a lot less heavy by creating the feeling that “we are not alone”. There is support and expertise available at all levels to help. This creates an incentive to take steps at country level.*

Raquel Mahoque,
National Programme Officer, WHO Office, Mozambique

*All data are rounded WHO crude country comparable estimates taken from the WHO Global Health Observatory, who.int/gho/ncd/en, accessed 18/6/2018, with the exception of rounded data for fruit and vegetable consumption, which is from Mozambique STEPS Survey, 2015, accessed 18/6/2018.*