

Giving Advocates Tools to Fight Non-communicable Diseases (NCDs)

The Union

 International Union Against
Tuberculosis and Lung Disease
Health solutions for the poor

BACKGROUND

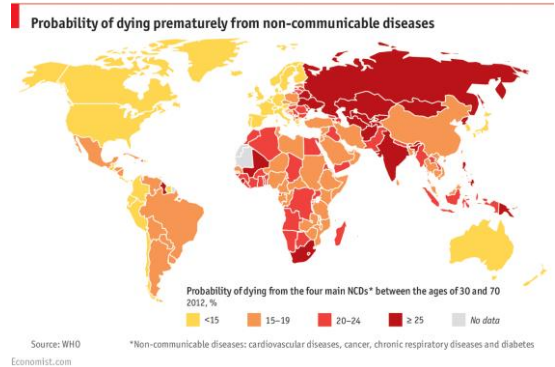
Founded in 2009, the Non-communicable Disease Alliance (NCD) has developed a robust global network of more than 2,000 organisations in 170 countries. This includes global and national NGOs, scientific and professional associations, academic and research institutions, private sector entities and dedicated individuals.

The NCD Advocacy Institute's Seed Programme promotes and supports national NCD coalition-building to establish the foundations for effective advocacy.



THE PROBLEM

Noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) are the #1 cause of death and disability worldwide. NCDs – mainly cancer, cardiovascular disease, chronic respiratory diseases, and diabetes – account for 68% of global mortality, or two out of every three deaths. The NCD Alliance identified several areas that needed to be reinforced for the creation of effective and sustainable national NCD Alliances. These included the improvement of coalition building skills and strategic planning of the organization's leaders.



THE UNION APPROACH

A needs assessment of representatives from the secretariats of the newly formed national NCD organizations from Myanmar, Philippines, Ghana, Egypt, Indonesia, Nigeria, Vietnam, and Mozambique identified the opportunity to improve skills around organizational management. The Union facilitated a strategic session that allowed participants to better understand how to define shared priorities and visioning as an advocacy network.

The session focused on practical exercises and discussions to help participants:

- Build consensus in an advocacy alliance/network
- Define shared priorities and vision as a network/alliance
- Develop a strategic plan with defined areas of cooperation and clear deadlines

THE RESULTS

Participants expressed increased capacity in setting up domestic NCD Alliances, including the development of a strategic plan to involve new members and how to work towards securing sustainable funding.

