

# Integrated surveillance of Noncommunicable Diseases (iNCD)

A project co-financed with the European Commission

## Objective of the project

The European Core Health Indicators (ECHI) were developed between the European Commission and the EU Member States with the aim of supporting the EU Health Strategy. The Global Monitoring Framework on Noncommunicable Diseases (NCDs) was adopted by the World Health Assembly in May 2013. The project aims to describe how Member States of the European Union can optimise their use of the ECHI shortlist to report on progress towards reaching the nine voluntary global targets of the Global Monitoring Framework on NCDs.

The project seeks to maximize the utility of existing indicator systems in countries for complying with the global commitments. Within the European Region, this would also support the reporting on Health 2020, which has a reporting framework that includes a subset of the global monitoring framework.

The iNCD project is a first step in the support to European countries in this work. The project will review key international databases and the degree to which they already hold data against the indicators of the different monitoring frameworks, including a discussion on completeness and quality issues. Furthermore, innovative datasets and comparative analysis will be identified, as well as national examples of good practice regarding health monitoring systems, and an illustrative pilot data set for international comparisons on NCD risk factors, prevalence and policies in the EU. This will identify next steps for strengthened health monitoring agreed through a Member State consultation process.

## Why a monitoring framework?

### National advantages:

To measure the impact of national NCD policies, strategies and plans.

To drive progress in prevention and control of NCDs and provide the foundation for advocacy, raising awareness, reinforcing political commitment and promoting action to tackle these diseases.

### Regional advantages:

To enable countries to share knowledge of accelerators of progress and to identify and remove impediments to reaching the targets.

To provide internationally comparable assessments of the trends in NCDs over time and help to compare the situation in specific countries with that in other countries of the same region or development category.



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## Expected outcomes

The outcomes of the iNCD project will contribute to the current main challenges of NCD reporting in Europe. It will contribute to streamlining of surveillance to avoid duplication of efforts among international organizations and to provide Member States with a common framework, definitions and instruments. Furthermore, the project will contribute to bringing together data of the risk factors and policy measures related to NCDs in an integrated monitoring framework for NCDs. The project will also contribute to unifying these data domains in a way which allows for a user-friendly analysis across domains and to make use of innovative ways of presentation and analysis.

These outcomes will lead to improved information based policy decisions in the area of NCDs.

## Target group

Besides European Commission services, the main target groups of this project are EU Member States, policy and decision-makers, public health and public policy researchers, international organizations, and other public stakeholders.

## Further reading

- European Core Health Indicators. European Commission. 2013. [http://ec.europa.eu/health/indicators/echi/list/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/health/indicators/echi/list/index_en.htm)
- NCD Global Monitoring Framework. WHO. 2013. [http://www.who.int/nmh/global\\_monitoring\\_framework/en/](http://www.who.int/nmh/global_monitoring_framework/en/)
- Targets and indicators for Health 2020. WHO Regional Office for Europe. 2014. <http://www.euro.who.int/en/targets-and-indicators-for-health-2020>

## Noncommunicable Diseases

**The four major Noncommunicable Diseases (NCDs) are diabetes, cardiovascular disease, cancer and chronic respiratory diseases. NCDs are the leading causes of death, diseases and disability in the EU and in the WHO European region. While death rates from these diseases are on the decline, the ageing population means that the numbers of people affected are growing.**

**NCDs are linked by common risk factors, underlying health determinants and demographic changes, all amenable to measurement under the system being strengthened via this project.**