TECHNICAL WORKSHOPS

Moving the Needle for NCDs: Advocacy, Innovation, and Impact to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030

Facilitators
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Description
Noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) are responsible for the majority of deaths worldwide, and over 40 million people die each year due to these diseases. Eighty percent of these deaths occur in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). In 2011, the campaign for the prevention and control of NCDs was introduced as a priority activity by the United Nations with subsequent NCD-specific high-level meetings. As global health priorities transitioned from the Millennium Development Goals to the Sustainable Development Goals, NCDs emerged as a set of conditions that have direct links to achieving goals and targets of the SDGs. NCDs will limit productivity and economic stability in LMICs.

There is growing interest in finding ways to integrate NCDs into existing global health programs to reduce prevalence of and complications related to this complex set of diseases and to address the host of environmental and behavioral factors. Rather than build separate programs for NCDs within another health silo, global and national efforts should be devoted to an integrated approach that offers comprehensive health systems and broad support at the community level. Further, there has been a recent shift in the profile of countries facing humanitarian crises from low-income countries to the middle- and high-income countries. Consequently, NCDs are more prevalent, and the proportion of people living with NCDs is higher. Many of those living with NCDs are aware of their diagnosis, and they will seek access to treatment for these conditions. Health systems must be prepared to respond effectively to both acute and chronic conditions. Priority NCDs include a broad range of disorders, including mental disorders, respiratory diseases, cardiovascular diseases, and nutrition-related disorders including diabetes.

This workshop will bring individuals together to think about how we can truly move the needle on NCDs and meet the SDGs by 2030 while elevating NCD priorities around equity, workforce, technology, and emergencies. Through a moderated panel discussion and small group discussions with reporting out, we aim to focus the conversation on the following at the local, state, regional, and global level:
• Programmatic priorities
• Donor attention and funding sources
• Partnership development
• Community engagement
• Role of multilateral organizations
• Educating and securing policymaker support

The session will leverage the collective experiences and creativity of the CORE Group Meeting attendees to drive advocacy and action for sustained impact centered on NCDs spanning four thematic areas: equity, workforce, technology, and emergencies. Session attendees will be empowered with new tools and skills to help them drive advocacy and motivate action for sustained impact within their own initiatives and beyond.

Objectives
By the end of the workshop, you will:
• Understand progress and opportunities since the first UN HLM in 2011
• Understand and document the perspectives and challenges of implementation based on the experiences of global health practitioners
• Identify sustainable opportunities and solutions for integrating NCD priorities into global health programs with long-terms impact
• Demonstrate how to advocate effectively and strategically to get buy-in and empowerment in the community to support NCD priority areas
• Create an action plan for your organization to move the needle on NCDs by putting best practices into practice

Putting Complexity into Practice: Tools for Complexity-aware Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning

Facilitators
Susan Igras, Independent Consultant
Paul Fast, Mennonite Central Committee

Description
We know that social and behavior change (SBC) programs operate in complex community and institutional contexts. Whether SBC efforts are successful and sustained depends very much on context. While responsive adaptation techniques are entering the project implementation mainstream, complexity-aware MEL is not quite yet there. This workshop provides an overview of approaches and tools to bridge the implementation-MEL gap. It aims to help practitioners think through program-practical actions to gather and make meaning of complexity data to inform responsive program strategies and activities.
A brief, interactive overview of core concepts and common approaches will complement small group work to ‘complexify’ MEL approaches and data collection of a real-life project in urban Kenya. By the workshop end, participants will be able to:

- Describe common complexity-aware approaches in evaluation and select an appropriate one based on fit for purpose.
- Determine appropriate methods for data collection and resource implications, including time and staff capacities.
- Undertake small, practical steps for incorporating complexity-aware MEL into SBC programs at the project, organizational, and institutional/donor levels. One ideas-for-action tool is the 2021 CORE Group SBC Working Group’s Suite of Tools for Complexity-Aware Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning for SBC Interventions.

**Provider Behavior Change Tools for Understanding Provider Behavior and Co-Designing Solutions**

**Facilitator**

Alison Pack & Danette Wilkins, Breakthrough ACTION, Johns Hopkins Center for Communication Programs

**Description**

Improving global family planning outcomes will require a more intentional and systematic focus on provider behavior given its critical linkages to client health outcomes. We need to broaden our understanding of what factors influence provider behavior in a given context, prioritize the most influential factors, and then design localized solutions that address those factors and support providers in shifting their behavior. As a collaborative and transformative process, social and behavior change is uniquely placed to help practitioners reimagine how we understand provider behavior and design provider behavior change interventions.

In this workshop, Breakthrough ACTION will introduce the Provider Behavior Ecosystem Map and the Provider Behavior Change Toolkit, which guides users through an empathy-focused, four-step process that supports providers, clients, health management teams, and global health practitioners in identifying and prioritizing the root causes of provider behavior and generating localized solutions. To deliver a holistic view of provider behavior, the map and toolkit employ a systems lens. The toolkit also uses a multi-level approach to gather perspectives and input on provider behavior from a variety of stakeholders, including providers themselves. Participants will practice using some of the tools and grasp how empathy is at the core of these tools through role-playing exercises. Breakthrough ACTION will demonstrate how these tools can lead to new insights and learnings around provider behavior, with the possibility of broader applicability.