

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**Consultancy work for the development of a report on costing access to NCD medicines and financing targets**

NCD Alliance seeks project proposals to deliver a paper that costs a set of essential NCD medicines that can be provided in primary healthcare settings to develop recommended levels of spending to integrate these products into universal health coverage packages. This paper will be utilized to develop a global political financing target for NCDs.

About the NCD Alliance

The NCD Alliance (NCDA) is a registered non-governmental organisation (NGO) based in Geneva, Switzerland, dedicated to supporting a world free from preventable suffering, disability and death caused by noncommunicable diseases (NCDs). Founded in 2009, NCDA brings together a unique network of over 400 members in more than 60 countries into a respected, united and credible global civil society movement. The movement is unified by the cross-cutting nature of common risk factors including unhealthy diets, alcohol, tobacco, air pollution and physical inactivity, and the system solutions for chronic NCDs such as cancer, cardiovascular disease, chronic lung disease, diabetes, mental health and neurological disorders.

Context

Noncommunicable diseases including mental health (NCDs) are the leading cause of death and disability worldwide. Together, the top five NCDs alone – cardiovascular diseases, lung diseases, diabetes, cancer, and mental health and neurological conditions – inflict nearly US\$2 trillion in economic losses every year due to premature mortalities, absenteeism (missing work), and presenteeism (reduced productivity at work). The NCD burden is rapidly growing and without timely and sufficient investment in NCD prevention and control, the global community will fail to meet its collective goal of reducing premature NCD mortality by 1/3 by 2030 (SDG 3.4).

Currently, many NCD medicines and interventions are not provided in national health benefits packages, despite demonstrated cost-effectiveness and a high return on investment for some of the most prevalent conditions. As a result, global out-of-pocket spending for NCDs is estimated to be twice as high compared to infectious diseases. Seeking and sustaining care for NCDs poses a significant financial burden for individuals and their households across the world in their day-to-day lives.

As an organization that promotes person-centered solutions in NCD prevention and control and with a focus on increasing financing for NCDs, this paper looks to develop a meaningful financing target that can relieve the financial burden and OOPe for households through the provision of NCD medicines in UHC benefits packages in primary care settings.

For too long progress on NCDs has stalled largely due to a lack of investment. In light of the mounting NCD burden, a growing aging population with increasing health needs, and air pollution and climate change, it is timely to encourage governments to direct more resources toward health. To do so, it is critical to establish a metric against which NCD investment can be measured to change course.

The NCD Alliance has made increased investment, including the establishment of NCD financing targets, one of its top priorities for the Political Declaration of the Fourth UN High-Level Meeting on NCDs in September 2025. Using the target-setting within the political declarations on HIV/AIDS as its primary inspiration, this project will also look to make recommendations for necessary NCD sub-areas that need to be explored to develop a research-supported, concrete, and politically useful NCD funding target that is sufficient to drive progress on NCDs.

Description of project and services needed

NCDA is looking for a consultant(s) to develop a report (working title: *Delivering Access to Medicines and Financial Protection for All*) to be launched around the UN Multistakeholder Hearing for the High-Level Meeting on NCDs (TBC anticipated May) and for promotion ahead of the World Health Assembly. This project will include two parts; a paper that conducts a costing exercise for essential NCD medicines (and related products TBC) that can be delivered in PHC settings and a second, smaller piece that makes recommendations for additional areas of the NCD agenda (such as health workforce, technologies, advanced therapeutics) that need further development to propose an effective, global political target for necessary NCD spending.

Specific deliverables will include:

- An analysis of the spending required to deliver access to essential NCD medicines (and related products TBC) in PHC across geographies and income levels.
- Considerations for the development of an overall global investment target for NCDs based on the findings of this paper and other existing work.
- Develop concrete and actionable recommendations for how countries can improve spending on NCD medicines (and related products TBC).
- Finalised policy report in consultation with expert peer advisors from academia and civil society, people living with NCDs, and NCD Alliance.
- A one-pager that includes the main findings, information, and data points for advocacy purposes.

Period of engagement

The consultant(s) would be contracted from February – May 2025. The final deliverable (paper costing access to medicines and developing a global target) would need to be completed in April for use in NCD High-Level meeting preparatory meetings expected in May. The exact engagement timeframe will be agreed with the consultant(s). The suggested timeframe is as follows:

- **End February/early March:** Consultant(s) begins work
- **End March:** methodology and scope agreed between consultant(s) and NCDA
- **End April:** A working draft is presented to NCD Alliance for data estimates and policy development ahead of the preparatory meetings in May
- **June:** A complete draft is presented to NCDA for internal review and for review by an Expert Advisory Group
- **July:** The final paper is presented to NCDA

Profile of consultant(s)

The ideal consultant(s) or agency should have a strong background in health economics with a track record of developing knowledge products and resources in relevant areas of public health and/or

health policy and advocacy, advising civil society organizations, as well as engaging with stakeholders in consultation processes. Knowledge of NCD financing is desired.

Process to follow

Interested consultant(s) should send an application packet via email to Marijke Kremin, NCDAs Policy and Advocacy Manager – Financing (mkremin@ncdalliance.org) **by 23 February**. All packets must include:

- A **two-page proposal** with a suggested scope of work, including tentative proposal of included medicines to cost in the exercise or model for the selection process, for the project and a budget (including a break breakdown of costs and days required).
- The **CV(s)** of the consultant(s) that would be involved in the project.