

BUILDING CAPACITY FOR CARDIOVASCULAR HEALTH PROMOTION & NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASE PREVENTION AND CONTROL

AT THE GLOBAL LEVEL

An IUHPE Advisory Group on Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD) Prevention & Control

The IUHPE Advisory Group on NCD Prevention & Control was formed to provide an institutional viewpoint and ensure the health promotion approach and IUHPE goals and strategies (advocacy for health, achievement of greater equity in health throughout the world, broadly accessible evidence-based knowledge in health promotion, excellence in policy and practice for effective, quality health promotion and high levels of capacity in individuals, organisations and countries to undertake health promotion activities) form integral part of the global efforts to address the increasing burden of Non-Communicable Diseases. This group aims to do so through a set of identified priorities of action carried out through effective alliances, partnerships and existing initiatives (e.g. the World Health Organization Action Plan for the Global Strategy on NCDs, the World Health Organization NCD-net, the Regional and Global Collaboration Implementation Group of the US National Forum for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention, the Consortium for Non-Communicable Diseases Prevention and Control in sub-Saharan Africa (CNCD-Africa), etc.), and capitalizing on global partnerships.

IN THE AFRICAN REGION

A series of CDC/IUHPE Annual Seminars on Cardiovascular Health Promotion and Chronic Disease Epidemiology



⇒ To build and strengthen the capacity, knowledge and skills of country teams (Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Tanzania and Uganda):

- to address the increasing non-communicable disease (NCD) burden of heart disease, stroke, cancer and diabetes using population-based health promotion programmes and policies;
- to advocate for public health policies;
- to promote healthy lifestyles;
- to create environments that support and facilitate health conditions, improved disease prevention and the reduction of risk factors in respective countries.

⇒ The Annual seminars have resulted in a strengthened infrastructure and a strong network of professionals dedicated to advancing the field and continuing building capacities.

⇒ 160 professionals from 6 countries of the sub-Saharan African region and from multi-disciplinary backgrounds have been trained over the 6 years of the seminar series.

Webpages on Building Capacity for Cardiovascular Health Promotion & Chronic Disease Prevention & Control

An **interactive resource** for CDC/IUHPE Annual Seminars on Cardiovascular Health Promotion and Chronic Disease Epidemiology participants and anyone else in sub-Saharan Africa and elsewhere in the world, interested in Cardiovascular Health Promotion in Africa.

Please visit <http://www.iuhpe.org/index.html?page=509&lang=en>!

A supplement issue of IUHPE's official journal *Global Health Promotion* on Community Health Promotion strategies to address NCDs in Africa

A Supplement issue of *Global Health Promotion* on effective health promotion strategies in the fight against non-communicable diseases in Sub-Saharan Africa, will be published in 2010. The issue will comprise:

- Health promotion programmes conducted in community/village and/or in health care settings;
- Health promotion strategies used to change knowledge, attitudes, beliefs or behaviours to reduce risks for non-communicable diseases;
- Education activities directed towards policy makers that address and promote attention to the growing burden of non-communicable diseases in the region;
- Systems change and/or clinical interventions that reduce the burden of non-communicable diseases;
- Policy interventions that improve access to services and resources that prevent non-communicable diseases and improve health outcomes; and
- Environmental interventions that facilitate individual and community level changes.

Meetings to address Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) in Africa

Recognizing the increasing importance of NCDs including cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes, chronic respiratory infections, among others in sub-Saharan Africa a process of guiding and supporting countries in the region in NCD prevention and control was initiated.

- An NCD and Health Promotion Advocacy meeting (Bagamoyo, Tanzania - August 2008) brought together over 55 participants from different countries and with varied expertise and resulted in the formation of two *ad hoc* groups: an *Expert Group* (composed of researchers, academics and practitioners in NCDs in Africa) and a *Partner Forum* (organizations with interest in NCD and in health in general in the sub-Saharan African Region present: the IUHPE; the WHO; the US CDC; the World Bank (Tanzania); the East Africa Community; DFID; and the American Cancer Society).
- A follow-up meeting in July 2009, during which the groups reconvened in Entebbe, Uganda, resulting in the establishment of a **Consortium for Non-Communicable Disease Prevention and Control in Africa** (CNCD—Africa).

A Consortium for Non-Communicable Disease Prevention and Control in Africa (CNCD)

CNCD-Africa vision: Improve the health and quality of life of people in sub-Saharan Africa through tackling NCDs comprehensively, competently and sustainably.

CNCD-Africa members intend to achieve this through harnessing partnerships with NCD actors in the region and globally in order to spearhead reduction in NCD risk factors through concerted efforts via health promotion, disease prevention, and improved management of NCDs by synergizing the capacity and expertise of existing organizations and main players working in the sub-Saharan African region.

For more details and information on CNCD-Africa, please contact Dr. Mary Amuyunzu-Nyamongo (Coordinator, CNCD-Africa & Executive Director, African Institute for Health & Development) - www.aihdint.org - mnyamongo@aihdint.org; manyamongo@yahoo.com



These initiatives have been possible through the support of key partners (including the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Department of Health of England) and contribution of a network of dedicated global experts.