



**Second expert meeting on using a
gender analysis of STEPS data to
strengthen noncommunicable disease
response: Gender and noncommunicable
diseases country profiles
Tbilisi, Georgia
28–29 January 2020**

Original: English

Scope and purpose

The WHO European Office for Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases (NCD Office) and the Gender and Human Rights programme from the WHO Regional Office for Europe are planning to organize the above-mentioned expert meeting as part of the Gender and NCDs initiative aimed at reducing the burden of NCDs among men and women in the WHO European Region.

The initiative is a follow up to the recommendations of the [Strategy for women's health and well-being in the WHO European Region](#) and the [Strategy for the health and well-being of men in the WHO European Region](#) adopted, respectively, by Member States at the 66th and 68th sessions of the WHO Regional Committee for Europe which provide a gender framework and commitment as to how health systems in Europe should become more gender-responsive in order to accelerate progress under SDG 3 and SDG 5.

The reports informing the strategies addressed the influence of gender and other determinants of health in the prevalence and impact of NCDs. Much of this analysis relied on data provided by STEPS surveys about the prevalence of the main NCD risk factors in the population aged 18-69 years, particularly in relation to the impact of gender norms on the premature mortality of men due to cardiovascular diseases.

The STEPS survey provides a unique source of sex disaggregated data in exposure to risk factors and access to health services and these can be further analysed from a gender perspective with the aim of accelerating action on prevention and control of NCDs. This builds on the [Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases in the WHO European Region](#) and follows up on key commitments such as the ones from the Outcome statement of the WHO European High-Level Conference on NCDs, held in Sitges in 2019.

As part of this initiative, the WHO NCD Office in Moscow and the Gender and human rights programmes in the WHO Regional Office for Europe are developing, in collaboration with country focal points, **Gender and NCDs Country Profiles** that can serve to better understand gender-based differences in NCDs. These Gender and NCDs country profiles are a first step of the Gender and NCDs initiative which will include a synthesis report and follow up action six countries. Six countries are part of this first phase of the initiative: Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova and Turkey.

Objectives and meeting set-up

The objectives of the meeting are to:

- receive feedback on and finalize the revised drafts for the Gender and NCDs country profiles;
- identify key areas to be included in the synthesis report (due in February 2020);
- share insight into and develop strategies for interventions based on the gender-analysis of NCDs for country-based initiatives focusing on the prevention of NCDs;
- discuss further use of a gender approach to reduce the burden of NCDs in countries, especially through prevention approaches.

Participants will include international and national experts from these six countries working on NCD prevention and control and gender and human rights.

The meeting will be held in English and Russian.

Resources

[Strategy for women's health and well-being in the WHO European Region](#)

[Strategy for the health and well-being of men in the WHO European Region](#)

[Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases in the WHO European Region](#)

[Outcome statement from the High level regional meeting on Health Systems Respond to NCDs](#)

[Why using a gender approach can accelerate NCD prevention and control in the WHO European Region](#)