

Country priorities for NCD financing: Six trends from 2025 to build on in 2026



Taxing unhealthy products to mobilize domestic resources for health

6 / 7
countries

who participated in our 2025 NCD financing survey have **already implemented a tax on tobacco to increase domestic financing for health**. Smaller subsets reported taxing alcohol (4/7), sweetened drinks (2/7), and fossil fuels (1/7).

2
countries

made **concrete commitments in September** to scale up taxation of unhealthy products **specifically to increase domestic financing for NCDs and health systems**.

Thank you, **Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)** and **Somalia**!

A recent study found that a **high level of tobacco taxation is “by far the most important intersectoral policy”** to advance a 50% reduction in premature death by 2050.

(Source: Global Health 2050)



Protecting people with noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) from unaffordable health costs

2x

Did you know? On average globally, **people with NCDs pay 2x more per clinic visit** than people with communicable diseases. **But more leaders are taking action to change this** →

(Source: Haakenstad AM. Out-of-Pocket Payments for Noncommunicable Disease Care: A Threat and Opportunity for Universal Health Coverage. Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health; 2019.)

7

countries and regional entities

announced specific commitments this year to reduce health costs for people living with NCDs, whether by eliminating user fees, advancing pooled procurement, or negotiating medicine prices.

Thank you **DRC, Kenya, Tanzania, Somalia, Brazil, Indonesia, and the East, South, and Central African Health Community!**

5 / 6 countries

who had national health insurance at the time of our NCD financing survey have already taken steps to ensure that **NCD medicines and services are covered in their essential benefits packages**.

Country priorities for NCD financing: 6 trends to build on in 2026

1

2

3

4

5

6



Integrating NCD financing into strong primary health care—and beyond

7
countries

made **concrete commitments** in September to improve access to NCD services through **strong primary health care** (DRC, Kenya, Tanzania, Somalia, Denmark, Brazil, and Indonesia).

100%
of countries

who participated in our 2025 NCD financing survey have **integrated NCDs into one or more national health plans**.

5 / 6
countries

who had national health insurance at the time of our survey had **NCDs in their essential health package**, but only 1 indicated that care was harmonized beyond primary care—a place for improvement.

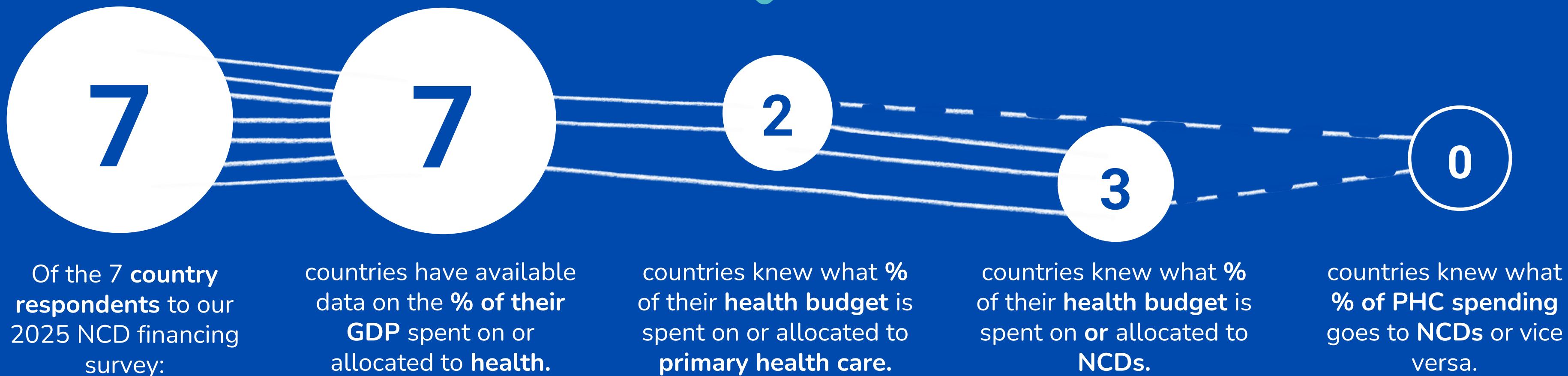
“

We've proven that integration [of NCDs] is possible and does not compromise the achievements of other programs.”

- Dr. Gerald Mutungi,
Asst. Commissioner of NCDs,
Uganda Ministry of Health



Collecting more and better data across the financing cascade for NCDs



When asked what support they needed most, **all survey respondents named data collection or analysis as a top priority**.



Partnering and innovating across sectors to expand access to NCD services

5 / 7 countries

who participated in our 2025 NCD financing survey are **exploring innovative financing mechanisms**, from new pooled and/or centralized funds for NCDs to community-based campaigns and insurance schemes as well as decentralized budgets and partnerships.

5 / 7 countries

who participated in the financing survey have **initiatives in place to engage private sector facilities** in their efforts to finance and expand access to NCD medicines and services.

3 countries

joined our **Coalition for Access to NCD Medicines and Products** (Coalition) to benefit from the multisectoral membership, bringing the Coalition to **6 country members and 22 total members** (and counting)!

8 Ministries of Health

attended the **Coalition's annual meeting in Kampala**—the largest yet—to highlight cross-sector collaborations that are helping NCD investments go further, including by streamlining procurement (e.g., Diabetes CarePak) and forecasting for NCD medicines.

Country priorities for NCD financing: 6 trends to build on in 2026

1 2 3 4 5 6



No matter the crisis, leaders stay the course and find a way to invest better

Despite a few countries making significant cuts to global health funding this year, **most world leaders have demonstrated unwavering commitment** and resilience in the fight against NCDs in 2025.

Let's follow their example in 2026 and keep momentum going strong!

the
vast
majority

175 (among 178) UN Member States supported the Political Declaration of the Fourth High-Level Meeting on NCDs—leading to its adoption in December.



12 country and regional partners made actionable NCD commitments at Coalition events in 2025

Country priorities for NCD financing: 6 trends to build on in 2026

1 2 3 4 5 6





**COALITION FOR ACCESS
TO NCD MEDICINES & PRODUCTS**

