The Defeat-NCD Partnership Marketplace

Scaling up action on non-communicable diseases
Gaps in the current supply chain system

Several factors contribute to poor availability of affordable and quality-assured medicines and supplies in low-resource countries, these include:

**Poor forecasting and supply chain**
The absence of proper forecasting, inventory stockouts, and supply chain capacity constraints often lead to interruptions in the supply of essential NCD medicines and supplies.

**Inadequate health systems**
Lack of standard treatment guidelines and unavailability of medicines and supplies in public systems often compels patients to out of pocket expensive treatment and increases the risk of purchasing counterfeit medicines.

**Lack of regulatory harmonisation**
Varying regulatory requirements often leads to reduced interest and increased costs from manufacturers to sell NCD medicines and supplies in low-resource countries.

**Inconsistent national essential medicine lists**
Substantial differences and lack of regular updates are seen among essential medicine lists of lower-middle-income countries.

**Uncertainties in financing**
The timing of government funds disbursement is uncertain, highly variable, and lower than needed, leading to a delayed start of the procurement cycle.

A large multi-country survey supported by WHO showed that 35–50% of serious cases in developed countries, and 76–85% in less-developed countries had received no treatment in the previous twelve months.

It is estimated that the appropriate use of medicines alone can reduce up to 80% of the burden of non-communicable diseases in many countries.

*Source: Essential medicines for non-communicable diseases (NCDs) by World Health Organization (WHO)*
The solution

The Defeat-NCD Partnership Marketplace provides access to affordable quality-assured essential NCD medicines and supplies to more than 90+ low-resource countries through pooled procurement bundled with end to end to supply chain support, financial assistance, forecasting, advocacy, technical support, and consulting services.

**Working together with our partners:**

- **Pooled procurement:** The Defeat-NCD Partnership Marketplace allows purchasing organisations to access quality-assured essential NCD medicines and supplies at affordable prices through economies of scale.

- **Collaboratives:** Working together with the countries and organisations for demand forecasting, resource mobilisation, and NCD treatment guidelines implementation.

- **Regulatory harmonisation and medicine policy alignment:** Assist countries to harmonise regulatory requirements, and implement WHO-recommended treatment guidelines to improve the availability and increase the variety of affordable essential NCD medicines and supplies.

- **Financial solutions:** To accommodate uninterrupted supply of NCD products, purchasing organisations have access to financial assistance through flexible procurement funds, grants, and trade financing mechanisms from the Defeat-NCD Partnership Marketplace partnering organisations.

- **Technical support:** The Defeat NCD Partnership team supports countries to develop national NCD capacity building strategy, facilitates public-private partnerships to ensure the success of pharma access programmes, and works with WHO to support manufacturers for pre-qualification activities.

**Benefits for purchasing organisations**

- **Cost savings** for purchasing organisations from discounts on bulk orders due to pooled procurement

- **Quality assurance** of delivered NCD medicines and supplies through pre-shipment inspection, lab testing and batch sampling prior to and upon delivery

- **Increased transparency** of the process and **auditability** through electronic order management system

- **Forecasting and inventory management** support provided by the Defeat-NCD Partnership Marketplace team

- **Administration, supply chain, and financial management** support for procurement of essential NCD medicines and supplies

- **Availability of flexible financing options** to support uninterrupted supply of non-communicable diseases products

90+ Low resource countries in scope for The Defeat-NCD Partnership Marketplace
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