Dear National NCDI Poverty Commission Colleagues,

On behalf of Lancet NCDI Poverty Commission Co-Chairs Drs. Gene Bukhman and Ana Mocumbi, we are pleased to share this Newsletter with you as a platform for exchanging information, ideas, and lessons from our common areas of work and interest.

In this new year, we are excited to welcome a number of new countries to the National NCDI Poverty network, including Zambia, Zimbabwe, Uganda, Chhattisgarh State in India, among others! (See the updated map below).

In addition, we look forward to further opportunities to amplify the invaluable work of this community, as we work together to expand our knowledge about the NCDI burden of the poor, to identify and prioritize interventions to address that burden, and to catalyze national and global action to bring high-quality, integrated care for severe NCDIs to the most vulnerable populations and communities.

We hope this newsletter may keep you updated and informed on all NCDI Poverty activities and events. You will find details on recent National NCDI Poverty Commission launches and workshops as well as conferences and events featuring your work.

As always, we welcome your feedback and suggestions to improve this work. Thank you again, and we look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,
Dr. Neil Gupta, Policy Director, NCD Synergies Project, Partners In Health
Ten National Commissions were launched in 2016-2017. Six of those Commissions have published their reports, with two more to be completed in 2019. New Commissions are being established in six additional countries in 2019.

National Commissions – On the Map and on the Calendar

Recent Events Involving Global and National Commission Colleagues

- **Prince Mahidol Award Conference, Bangkok Thailand** — The Program in Global NCDs and Social Change at Harvard Medical School, the NCD Synergies Project at Partners In Health, and the Helmsley Charitable Trust co-hosted a side-event at PMAC. Representatives from four national commissions – Afghanistan, Chhattisgarh/India, Kenya, and Nepal – participated in a panel entitled “National NCDI Poverty Commissions: from intervention priority to integrated delivery.”

- **NCDI Poverty National Commission Initiator’s Workshop, Dubai UAE** — see article and photo below for more information.

- **Ethiopia NCDI Poverty Commission Launch** — The Ethiopia NCDI Commission formally launched their report on November 27, 2018. Her Excellency Dr. Lia Tadesse, State Minister of Health, opened and closed the event and participated in a panel discussion with members of the Commission.

- **Liberia NCDI Poverty Commission Launch** — hosted on November 14, 2018 to coincide with World Diabetes Day, the Liberia NCDI poverty Commission launched their report with over 100 people in attendance, including senior members of the MOH.

- **UNGA NCDI Poverty Side Event** — In September 2018, the NCD Synergies project at PIH, The Program in Global NCDs and Social Change, and the Helmsley Charitable Trust hosted a
side-event in conjunction with the UN General Assembly and 3rd High-Level Meeting on NCDs in New York. A number of National Commission Representatives shared their work and the experience of hosting a commission in their countries.

Upcoming Events

- **Ethiopia NCDI Commission member Awoke Misganaw** will present [Translating Evidence into Policy: An Ethiopian Case Study](#) – accessible online on the GBD Collaboration Network, February 28, 6-7 p.m. Addis Ababa time. Click [here](#) for more information and a link to register for the event.
- **Commission on the Status of Women**, UN Women, March 2019
- **Haiti NCDI Poverty Commission Report launch**, Spring 2019

Nepal Commission launches report as springboard for action

The Nepal NCDI Poverty Commission was the first Commission to formally launch their report to a national audience in March, 2018.

Nepal Commission Co-Chair Dr. Bhagawan Koirala and Dr. Pushpa Chaudhary, Secretary of the Nepal Ministry of Health and Population, officially launch the Nepal NCDI Poverty report in Kathmandu.
On March 26, 2018, the Nepal NCDI Poverty Commission, the Nepal Ministry of Health and Population, and various collaborators gathered in Kathmandu, Nepal for the launch of the Commission's 2018 report.

Over 80 people attended the event, at which Nepalese policymakers, researchers, and clinical implementers shared key findings and national recommendations from the report.

Since the report was launched, the Nepal Commission has continued its work, conducting further research, analysis, and advocacy to catalyze implementation of integrated service delivery for severe NCDIs of the poorest. They keep national and regional partners up-to-date with regular newsletters, and have been active in national and global advocacy and partner activities.

Commission Co-Chair Dr. Bhagawan Koirala spoke on behalf of the Nepal Commission at side events at the World Health Assembly in Geneva in May and the UN General Assembly in New York in September. And Commission Coordinator Dr. Biraj Karmacharya participated in side event at the Prince Mahidol Awards Conference in Bangkok in January 2019.

The Commission has also brought the voices and lived experience of Nepalese NCDI patients living in extreme poverty to these events through videos produced as part of the Voices of NCDI Poverty project.

Click here to read a full recap of the Nepal NCDI Poverty Commission Launch

NCDI Poverty National Commission Initiator's Workshop, Dubai UAE

From December 5 - 8, 2018, 45 participants from National NCDI Poverty Commissions and Groups and Lancet NCDI Poverty Commission members, advisors, and secretariat staff attended the NCDI Poverty National Commission Initiator’s Workshop at the Harvard Medical School Center for Global Health Delivery in Dubai, UAE. The Workshop brought together National NCDI Poverty
Commission colleagues and collaborators from across 16 low and lower-middle income countries. 
Click here to read a full recap of the Workshop.

Voices of NCDI Poverty

"The reason I want to be a doctor is to take care of people in my community. Those who are sick have to know that they can be cured". - Fortuna Messaye, 14 years old receiving care for leukemia in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Read Fortuna's story here.

Lancet NCDI Poverty Commission Update

The Lancet Commission on Reframing NCDs and Injuries for the Poorest Billion (Lancet NCDI Poverty Commission) is currently revising a complete draft of the Commission report and is on track to submit the report for peer review in March. The goal is to publish and launch the report in advance of the UN High-Level Meeting on UHC in September, with participation of representatives of the National NCDI Poverty Commissions and Groups. The Commission also hopes to organize regional launches in Africa and South Asia later in 2019 or early 2020. Look for dates and more information in the coming months.

For feedback or content to include in future newsletters, please contact Amy McLaughlin