

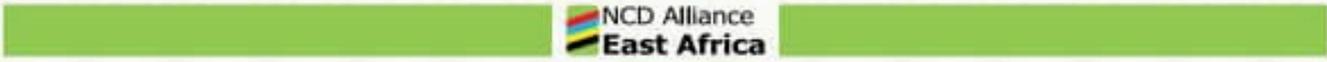
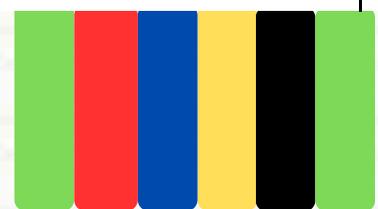


Member Alliances:



# DISSEMINATION OF THE EAC NCD STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK REPORT BURUNDI - 2025





Burundi



Kenya



Rwanda



Tanzania



Uganda



Zanzibar

# EAC REGIONAL STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF NONCOMMUNICABLE DISEASES (2024-2030)

## OBJECTIVES

 Promote public awareness, community engagement, advocacy and social mobilisation for effective NCD programming.

 Strengthen data, surveillance and research on NCDs, for evidence-based decision making.

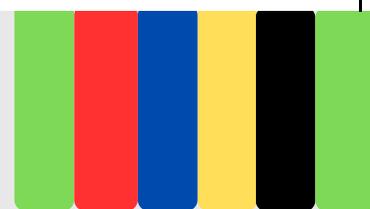
 Improve access to comprehensive (essential and specialised) services for NCDs.

 Strengthen leadership, governance, and accountability for effective response to NCDs in the region.

 Strengthen domestic and innovative financing approaches for NCD response at regional and national levels.



# INTRODUCTION



Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) pose a significant threat to the realization of Agenda 2063 Africa's vision for an integrated, prosperous, and peaceful continent. By causing premature deaths, reducing productivity, increasing healthcare costs, and depleting human capital, NCDs undermine national and regional development, particularly in vulnerable urban and rural populations. Addressing this burden is therefore not only a health imperative but also a socio-economic and development priority.

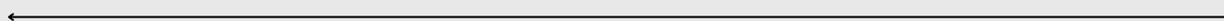
In response to the rising burden of NCDs across East Africa, the East African Community (EAC) Regional Strategic Framework for the Prevention and Control of NCDs (2024–2030) has been developed. This framework represents a coordinated regional response aimed at harmonizing NCD policies, improving healthcare services, and catalyzing political commitment to tackle NCDs and related conditions including injuries and mental health across EAC Partner States.

To operationalize this framework, a comprehensive dissemination plan has been developed to ensure the strategy is not confined to institutional shelves, but actively reaches and engages key stakeholders across the 6 member alliances of EANCDAs.

On 17 September 2025 the Burundi NCD Alliance (BNCDA) co-hosted a workshop (with NCD Alliance East Africa) to review progress on noncommunicable disease (NCD) prevention and care. Delegates from the Ministry of Health, members of parliament, people living with NCDs (PLWNCDs), youth representatives and other stakeholders participated. The agenda included presentations of the latest Burundi NCD data, discussion of national strategies, and planning of joint actions. The workshop aimed to brief funders on outcomes and highlight Burundi's current NCD burden.

About 37% of all deaths in Burundi are due to NCDs. In other words, more than one-third of Burundians' deaths arise from cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes or chronic respiratory disease (WHO 2022 estimate).

In summary, the workshop united key actors around a common understanding of Burundi's NCD burden.



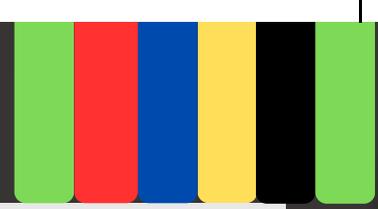
# EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

## Ministry of Health Delegate - Dr. David Nzirubusa

Expressed his appreciation for the parliament's invitation to the meeting, noting that their involvement will help advocate for an increased national health budget, particularly for non-communicable diseases (NCDs). He emphasized the urgent need for government action before the number of people with chronic NCDs becomes unmanageable. Dr. David also highlighted that much of the population remains unaware of their health status and the existence of NCDs, despite the rising mortality. He encouraged collaboration between the government and civil society, stressing that by working together, meaningful progress can be made to address NCDs in the country. It was indicated that the Mental Health Strategic Plan was in place though incomplete.

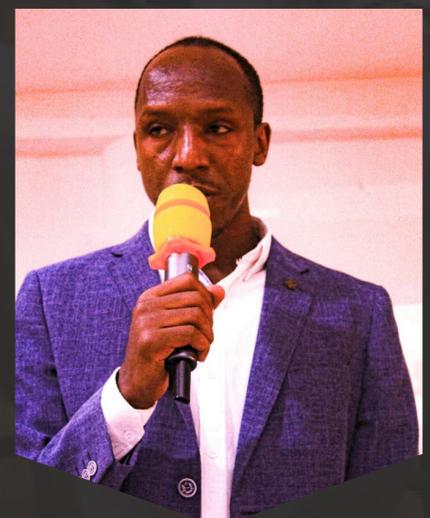
## Representative from Parliament - Hon Barajingwa Nicolas

He pledged to dedicate his efforts to encouraging fellow members to speak about non-communicable diseases (NCDs). He noted that, with the parliament's structure now clearer than before, advocacy efforts will be more effective. He advised Ministry of Health representatives to consistently prepare and submit budgets that include NCDs, so these can be used for advocacy during parliamentary committee meetings. Additionally, he emphasized the importance of encouraging international partners to support the country's public health challenges.



## Dr Mary Nyamongo - Board Member of EANCDA

She highlighted the upcoming United Nations High-Level Meeting (UNHLM) and inquired whether there would be any national representation at the event. She emphasized that this meeting presents an important opportunity for member states to advocate for and advance the political declaration on non-communicable diseases (NCDs). In response, the Ministry of Health representative, serving as Guest of Honor, indicated that there would be no national delegation attending the UNHLM.





# CHALLENGES

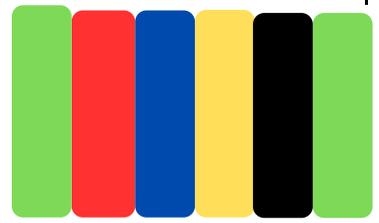
- Hospitals lack essential equipment and medicines needed for effective patient treatment.
- Many individuals remain untested, and there are no nationwide awareness campaigns on non-communicable diseases (NCDs).
- There are few partners implementing NCD-related activities, and funding from the Ministry of Health to address NCDs remains limited.
- Although there are associations and groups, such as the diabetes association and cancer group, people still cannot access testing equipment and treatment because essential equipment and medicines are lacking.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- The EAC NCD framework should be translated into French to ensure government officials can fully understand the document.
- Parliament encouraged the Burundi NCD Alliance to establish a close working relationship with the Ministry of Health to facilitate more effective advocacy for increased budget allocations.
- The Ministry of Health, should allocate greater funding to non-communicable diseases (NCDs) in their budgets.

## LESSON LEARNT

- Currently, the Ministry of Health lacks a dedicated department for Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs), and there is no NCD forum within parliament. It is important to advocate for the establishment of these structures to ensure that NCDs are addressed in a focused and comprehensive manner.



# EVENT GALLERY



# CONTACT US



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