

How can my organisation operationalise meaningful involvement?

The fundamental principles and core strategies outlined in the Global Charter on Meaningful Involvement of People Living with NCDs underpin a range of enabling actions that different stakeholder groups can take to support the meaningful involvement of people living with NCDs.

Civil Society can achieve meaningful involvement by:

- Organising/coordinating with other civil society organisations across noncommunicable diseases (NCDs), universal health coverage and sustainable development goals, and networks of people living with NCDs, and advocating for inclusion in decision-making processes and bodies.
- Joining forces with social movements representing people often left behind, including youth and child rights groups, disability groups, older people's rights groups, women's health groups, Indigenous communities, HIV/AIDS groups, LGBTQ+ communities, humanitarian groups, mental health groups, environment and equity advocates, and others to advocate for systemic social reform.
- Ensuring meaningful involvement of people living with NCDs and communities is occurring within the organisation and internal staff capacities are built to embed meaningful involvement in the organisation's governance, strategy, advocacy, research, and programmatic work.
- Placing NCDs on the public agenda, including by using traditional media and social media, amplifying voices of people living with NCDs and of marginalised and underrepresented communities, breaking down stigma and discrimination, and addressing myths and misconceptions.
- Raising awareness of meaningful involvement opportunities, its importance, and its benefits among people living with NCDs, leveraging, and strengthening existing community engagement efforts, ensuring that results of involvement are shared with the broader community.
- Strengthening the capacity of people living with NCDs based on identified needs (e.g. public speaking and communication skills, advocacy, programme planning, monitoring and evaluation, etc.) to ensure involvement at the global, regional, national and local levels.
- Ensuring voices of marginalised and under-represented communities are amplified in NCDs discussions and individuals are supported to be involved.
- Supporting capacity development of other civil society organisations in NCD prevention and control as well as implementing and advocating for meaningful involvement.
- Advocating and supporting different stakeholders in driving a shift in culture towards meaningful involvement by articulating its value and advocating for roles for people living with NCDs in decision-making processes.
- Advocating for social justice and the upholding of human rights, such as addressing barriers to care, stigma, and discrimination. Explore binding legal instruments and treaties and using legal measures to address human rights violations.

Research and academic institutions can achieve meaningful involvement by:

- Involving people living with noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) as active participants in the design, conduct and dissemination of research to enhance its quality and ensure that the needs of people living with NCDs are prioritised.
- Strengthening community-based and community-led, participatory research to improve NCD services based on perspectives of those with lived experiences.
- Enhancing research capacity in meaningful involvement and documenting best practices.
- Ensuring involvement of people living with NCDs in research-related decision-making processes, including ethics, clinical, and safety audit boards/committees.

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