

## Beating NCDs equitably

### Ten system requirements for health promotion and the primary prevention of NCDs



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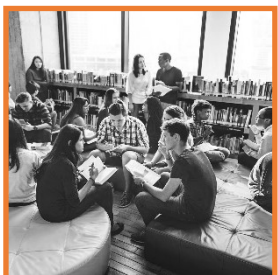
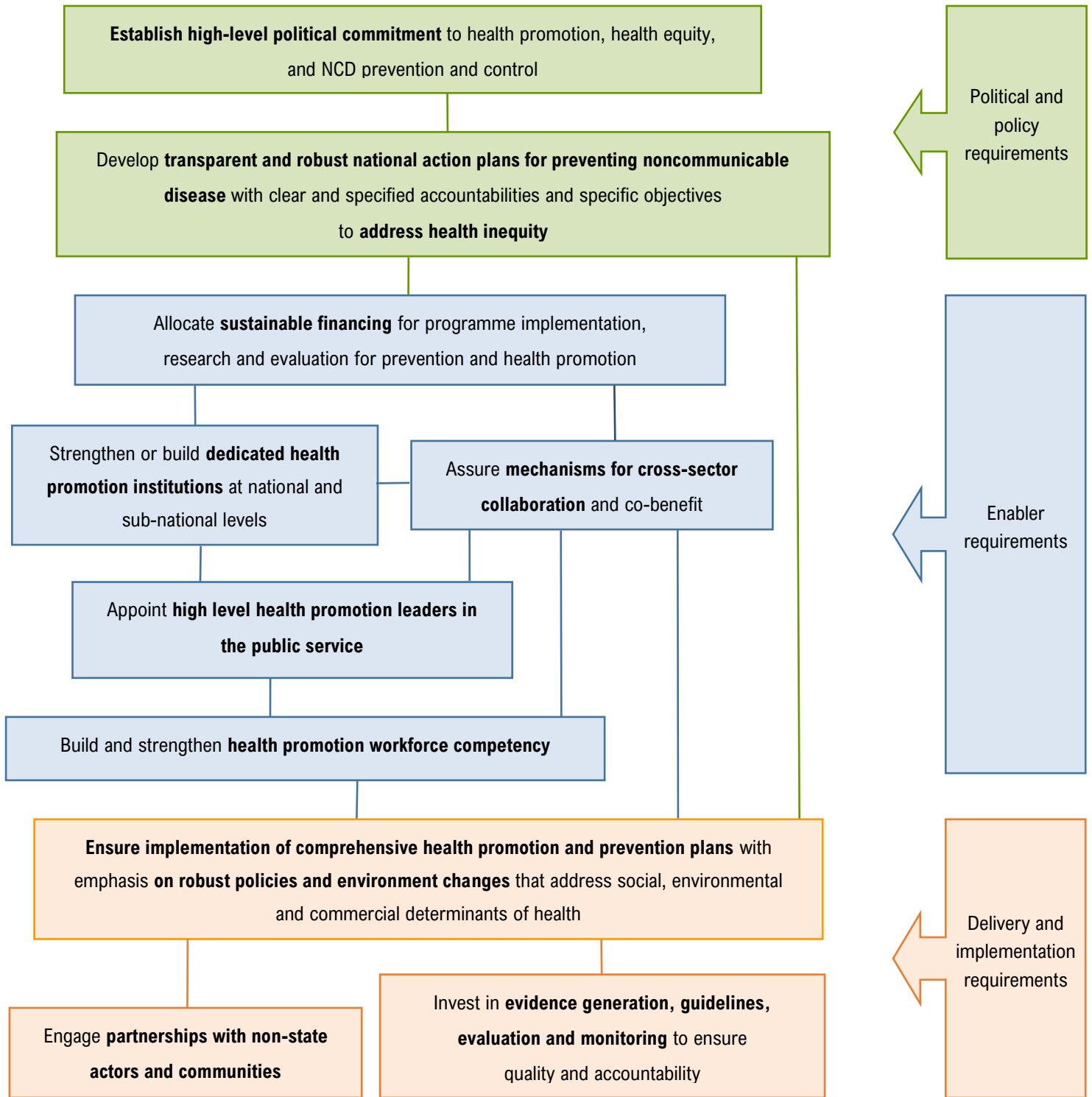
#### Position statement (summary)

Since the UN High Level Meeting on Noncommunicable Diseases (NCDs) in New York in 2011 the world has seen ambitious targets set, only to be met with a failure to fully implement and thus achieve those targets. Why is this? The UN Secretary General noted in 2017's General Assembly a lack of commitment to bold policies as a key barrier to progress.

In "Beating NCDs equitably: Ten system requirements for health promotion and the primary prevention of NCDs," the International Union for Health Promotion and Education (IUHPE) proposes that it is lack of investment in the necessary health promotion and primary prevention systems that best explains the lack of progress globally on NCDs. Here the IUHPE articulates its position regarding **ten system requirements for strengthening health promotion as a primary mechanism for meeting the WHO Noncommunicable Diseases (NCD) Targets** and related UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). These key actions work together and interact on multiple levels, as illustrated in the diagram here presented. You can read the full statement and learn more about each requirement at [www.iuhpe.org](http://www.iuhpe.org).

Noncommunicable diseases are substantially preventable. Recognition that NCD prevention and control is as much a political issue as a technical one underpins the need to take a systems approach to the prevention and control of NCDs.

Addressing past implementation failure and to accelerate future progress in achieving the NCD targets will require governments to advance the system requirements outlined in this paper. **It falls to Heads of State and Health Ministers and other politicians to demonstrate the leadership that is required if robust national NCD policy and action plans are to be produced and implemented.** These need to be supported by the enabling requirements – strong institutions; the appointment of high-level professional leaders, and senior officers across the public service; strengthening or establishing health promotion institutions, providing adequate and sustainable financing for the work of these institutions; and training, recruiting and supporting a competent and health promotion skilled workforce. Finally, the achievement of ambitious NCD targets will require significant commitment to comprehensive and sustained implementation.



To learn more about IUHPE's work on the prevention and control of NCDs, please visit [www.iuhpe.org](http://www.iuhpe.org).