

DATA FOR HEALTH INITIATIVE

NCD Risk Data and Surveillance

Noncommunicable diseases (NCDs), including cardiovascular diseases, cancer, diabetes and chronic lung diseases, are the leading causes of death worldwide, claiming over 70% of all deaths, with the burden greatest in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs).

NCDs result in tremendous healthcare costs, limit productivity and slow the country's progress toward achieving [Sustainable Development Goals](#).

Risk data focuses on better monitoring of major risk factors for early deaths, including NCDs. Mobile phone-based surveys (MPS) provide a cost effective and efficient way to receive information via SMS (text message) or interactive voice response to support data collection in countries that have high cellphone penetration. In doing so, the data collection and analysis of early death risk factors from NCDs supports international experts in conducting and analyzing data and **provides LMICs the current health status of their population.**

The CDC Foundation supports the following components of strengthening NCD risk data and surveillance:

- Supporting country governments (e.g., ministries of health) in using mobile phone technology to collect representative NCD data for ongoing risk factor surveillance through the NCD MPS.
- Developing globally standardized protocol for survey implementation.
- Evaluating how to design and deliver effective mobile phone surveys for NCD risk factor surveillance.

The genesis of the NCD MPS was to understand if MPS could serve as an interim way to receive NCD risk factor information during the off cycle of an established global health survey on NCD risk factor surveillance (STEPS). The STEPS survey occurs every five years in LMICs and requires intensive people power to visit homes to collect qualitative and quantitative health markers. In select countries, the NCD MPS and STEPS household survey are both conducted, and findings are compared.

The CDC Foundation supports implementation of the NCD Mobile Phone Survey (MPS) for global NCD risk factor surveillance and the establishment of a globally standardized NCD MPS protocol. NCD MPS implementation has been completed in the following countries:

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| • Ecuador | • Rwanda |
| • India | • Sri Lanka |
| • Malawi | • Tanzania |
| • Morocco | • Uganda |
| • Philippines | • Zambia |

