

# NCD CIVIL SOCIETY ACTION TO INCREASE ACCOUNTABILITY



## WHAT IS ACCOUNTABILITY?

Accountability is a crucial force for political and programmatic change, allowing to track national, regional and global commitments, resources and results of governments and private sector against agreed political commitments and standards.

It's a cyclical process composed of **3 pillars**:



Provides insights on:  
**WHAT WORKS; WHY IT WORKS; WHAT NEEDS IMPROVING; and WHERE INCREASED ACTION IS NEEDED.**

## WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

Ensuring accountability is one of the key roles of NCD civil society along with increasing awareness, ensuring access to services and advocating for action.

This role can help achieve and accelerate government action and policy coherence, as well as responsive and coherent health systems and policies. Acquiring monitoring and accountability skills is a key capacity need of NCD alliances.

Civil society can hold decision-makers across all sectors to account against their commitments, ensuring they have information to continuously make improvements, meet health needs, and respect the rights and needs of people living with NCDs, placing them at the center of their efforts.

## SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Multiple sets of commitments and targets for NCDs exist at global, regional and national levels, such as:

- [WHO Global NCD Action Plan 2013-2030](#) and Monitoring Framework on NCDs
- 2014 UN Review [Outcome Document](#) of the UN High-Level Meeting on NCDs
- Political Declarations of the [2018 UN High-Level Meeting on NCDs](#) and the [2019 UN High-Level Meeting on Universal Health Coverage](#)
- [2030 Agenda](#), particularly Sustainable Development Goal 3
- [WHO NCD Progress Monitor](#) and Country Capacity Surveys
- National health and NCD plans, policies and targets
- National surveys and data on NCDs and health, and many others!

## ACCOUNTABILITY OPPORTUNITIES

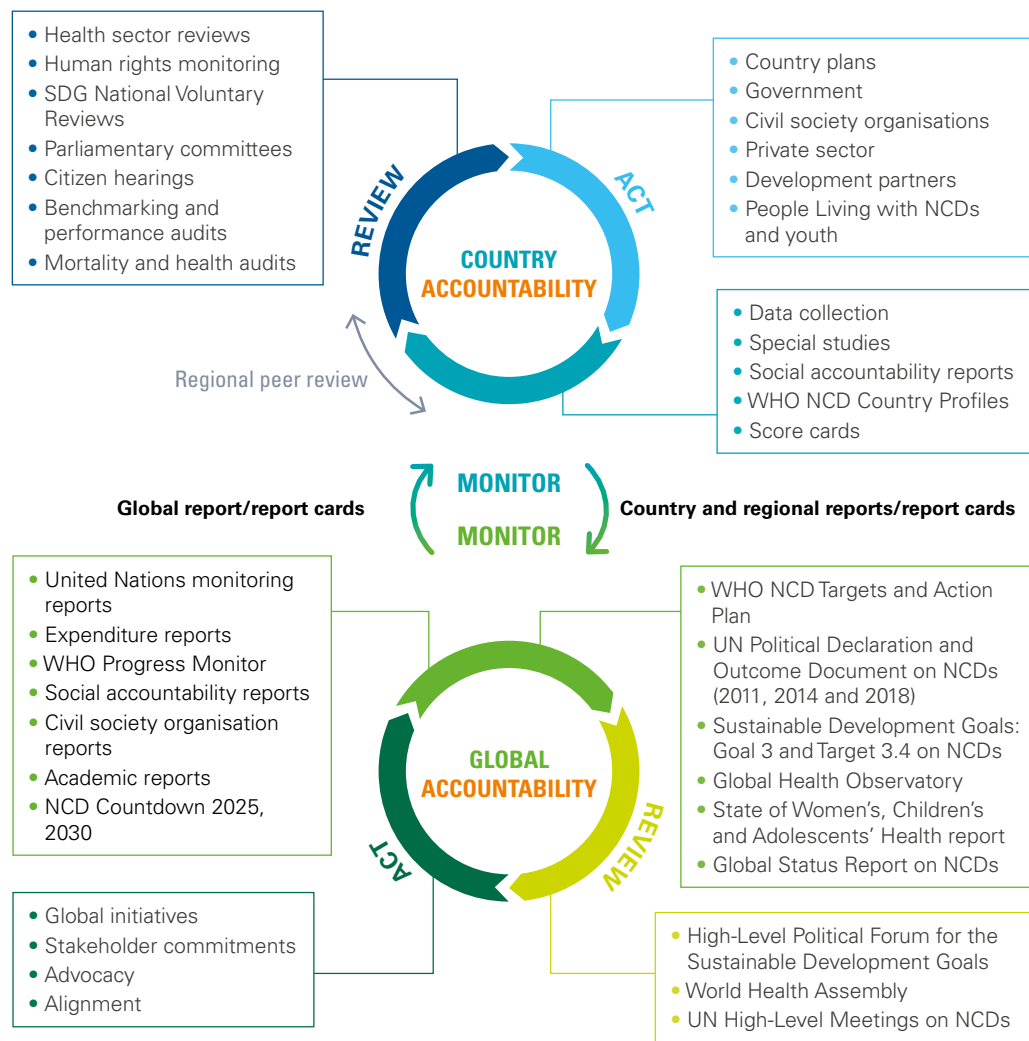
Civil society-led efforts can hold decision-makers to account:

**Governments:** compare policies, programmatic action and budgets against national and international targets and commitments (e.g. through treaties, agreements, electoral manifestos/pledges); to improve data collection and surveillance systems; and to be transparent and inclusive (e.g. through active involvement of people living with NCDs and civil society in decision making processes).

**Private sector:** compare business practices against international standards and agreements related to health, human rights, environment, corruption, etc; calling out undue influence of unhealthy commodity industries in policy processes at all levels.

For more information on the Framework, CSSR, benchmarking tool and tips from alliances, check NCD Alliance's accountability toolkit "[Pushing for progress on NCDs](#)". This pocket guide is possible thanks to the partnership with the Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust.

## PROPOSED ACCOUNTABILITY FRAMEWORK FOR NCDs



## A KEY ACCOUNTABILITY INITIATIVE

### CIVIL SOCIETY STATUS REPORTS (CSSR)

CSSRs can be a potent advocacy tool, compiling civil society perspectives on national/regional progress on NCDs, and identifying progress, good practice, gaps and challenges. The reports complement and support government surveillance, monitoring and reporting on NCDs.

Steps to prepare a CSSR:

#### STEP 1

**Determine key stakeholders** to involve in research, evaluation and drafting process.

#### STEP 2

**Define a timeline** to develop and disseminate the report, noting forthcoming opportunity windows and desired outcomes.

#### STEP 3

**Adapt the benchmarking tools** as indicators to review the national/regional response to NCDs.

#### STEP 4

**Promote results** as part of advocacy strategies.

## TIPS FROM THE FIELD

### PARTICIPATION

Ensure a participatory approach of alliance members and people living with NCDs in collection and analysis of data and report writing.

### COLLABORATION

Consider working with academia and other civil society groups.

### TIMELINE

Allow ample time to analyse findings and prepare the report.

### ADAPT

Adapt your accountability effort to your local context, needs and priorities and to the expertise and capacity of your alliance.

### DISSEMINATION

Plan the launch of your initiative and assess opportunity windows and target audiences.

### IMPACT

Accountability initiatives are an impactful means to achieve your advocacy objectives!

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