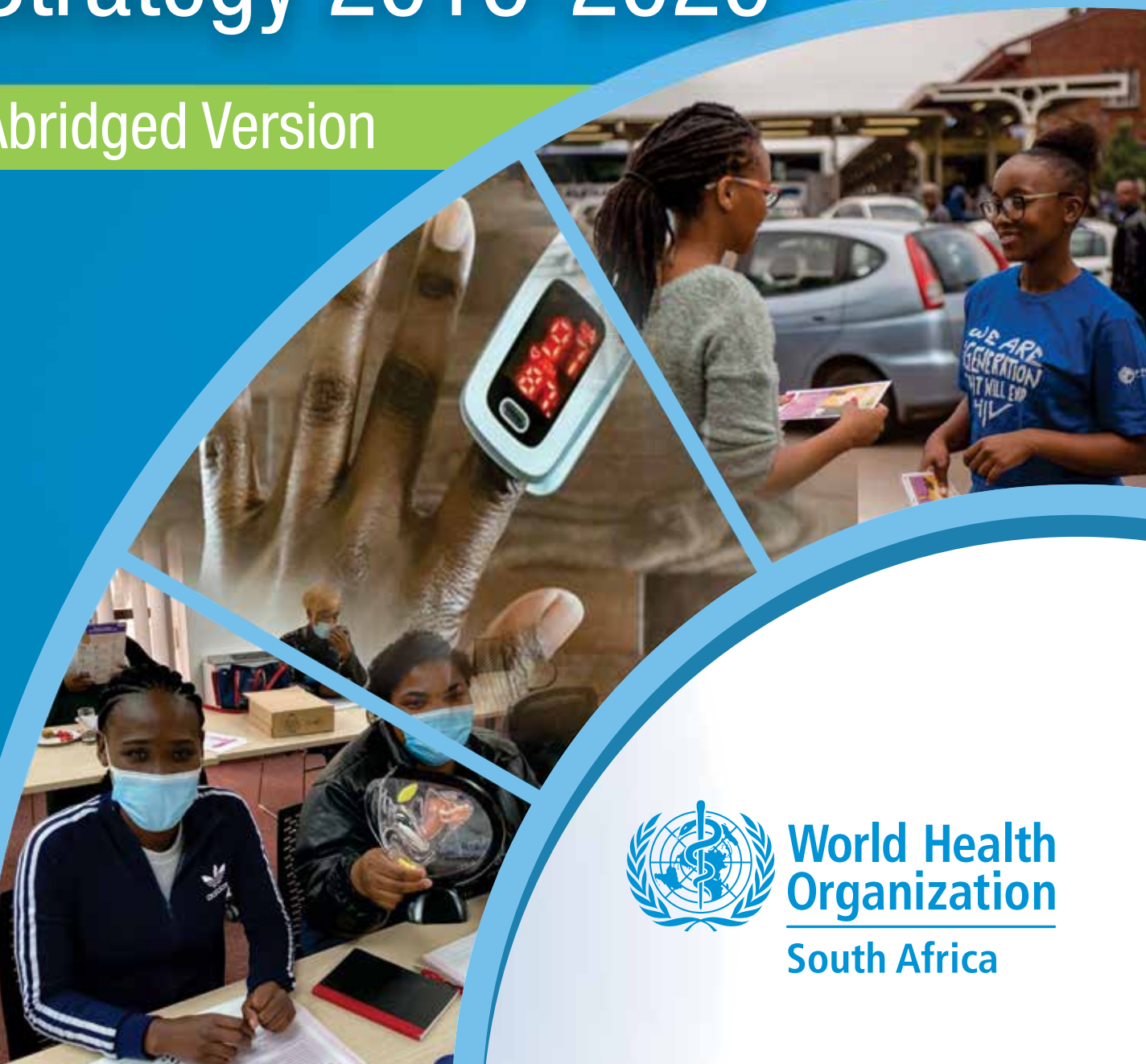


CONTRIBUTIONS OF WHO TO SOUTH AFRICA'S HEALTH AGENDA: Evaluation of the Country Cooperation Strategy 2016-2020

Abridged Version



**World Health
Organization**

South Africa

Contributions of WHO to South Africa's Health Agenda: Evaluation of the Country Cooperation Strategy 2016-2020

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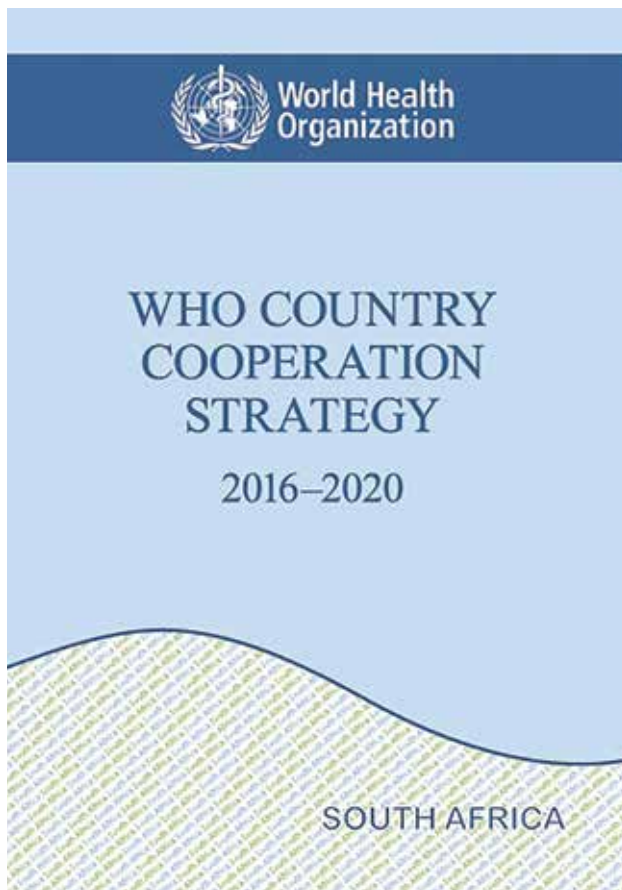
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Designed in Pretoria, South Africa



The World Health Organization (WHO) Country Cooperation Strategy (2016-2020) for South Africa had four strategic priorities:

1. Support to the implementation of National Health Insurance (NHI) to achieve universal health coverage (UHC);
2. Prevent and reduce the disease burden of HIV, hepatitis, STIs and tuberculosis (TB), with a view to increasing life expectancy gains;
3. Promote longer healthier lives by supporting the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases, injuries and accidents, and mental health; and
4. Help South Africa meet its global health obligations while contributing to international health and development.

CCS evaluation objective

To assess achievements, challenges and lessons learnt during implementation of CCS 2016-2020 for informing the development, implementation, and monitoring & evaluation of the next CCS



Evaluation methodology

- ✓ Mixed methods**
- ✓ Participatory**
- ✓ Independent (external consultant)**
- ✓ Triangulation of information**

Data Sources		No. and type of participants
Primary	Online Structured Questionnaire	26 (NDoH, OHSC, SANAC, SAHPRA, academia, private sector, civil society, and donors)
	Key Informants Interview	22 (NDoH, OHSC, SANAC, SAHPRA, academia, private sector, civil society, and donors)
	Focus Group Discussion	3 (WCO staff)
Secondary	Programme Briefing Notes	Produced by WCO staff
	WHO Global Management System (GSM)	Financial and planning information from GSM extracted by WCO staff

Key contributions of WHO in CCS strategic priorities and focus areas towards improving the health and health systems in South Africa

Universal Health Coverage and NHI



Launch of the Presidential Health Compact

Support on UHC and NHI included:

- Technical support on NHI legislation,
- Serving as member of technical working groups on the Presidential Health Compact, and
- Leading the quality improvement workstream of NHI.

WHO’s contributions in some key outputs:

- NHI white paper and the NHI bill,
- Medical Schemes bill,
- Presidential Health Compact,
- Human Resources for Health Strategy, and
- Health Market enquiry report.

WHO also facilitated and supported hosting of key workshops/meetings:

- Presidential Health Summit (October 2018); and
- NHI expert workshop (March 2020).

Use of WHO technical tools:

- Using WHO-HAPT tool, National Health Accounts produced for 2014/15, 2015/16 & 2016/17, and the process has been institutionalized for future estimations,

- Workload Indicators of Staffing needs (WISN) used for district hospitals,
- Capacity building of SAHPRA on the Global Benchmarking Tool, and
- IPC tools used for facility assessment and improvement.



Deputy President, Mr David Mabuza addressing the Health Leaders during the opening session of the Presidential Health Summit

“We are fortunate in that we are not alone in many of the challenges we face. The lessons we have learnt from the World Health Organization and others are instructive

as we plan our version of universal health coverage.”

South Africa Vice President: **Mr. David Mabuza**

Communicable Diseases

Key support in HIV:

- Initiation and roll out of the Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) programme for key populations and pregnant women,
- Development of the South African National consolidated HIV Testing Services guidelines,
- Development, dissemination, and roll-out of the National Consolidated Antiretroviral therapy guidelines, and
- External Quality Assurance for Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision sites and development of National Integrated Men’s Health Strategy: 2020-2025.

HIV prevention ambassador engaged in demand generation efforts for HIV prevention and other sexual and reproductive health services (Photo credit: Project PrEP - Unitaid)



Key support in TB:

- Conducted the first South African National TB prevalence survey (2018/19),
- Supported the scaling up of the Bedaquiline Clinical Access Programme for Drug Resistant TB programme,
- TB patient cost survey, and
- Joint Review of the HIV, STI, TB, PMTCT and Hepatitis programmes in 2019.



Field monitoring of TB prevalence survey

Noncommunicable Diseases

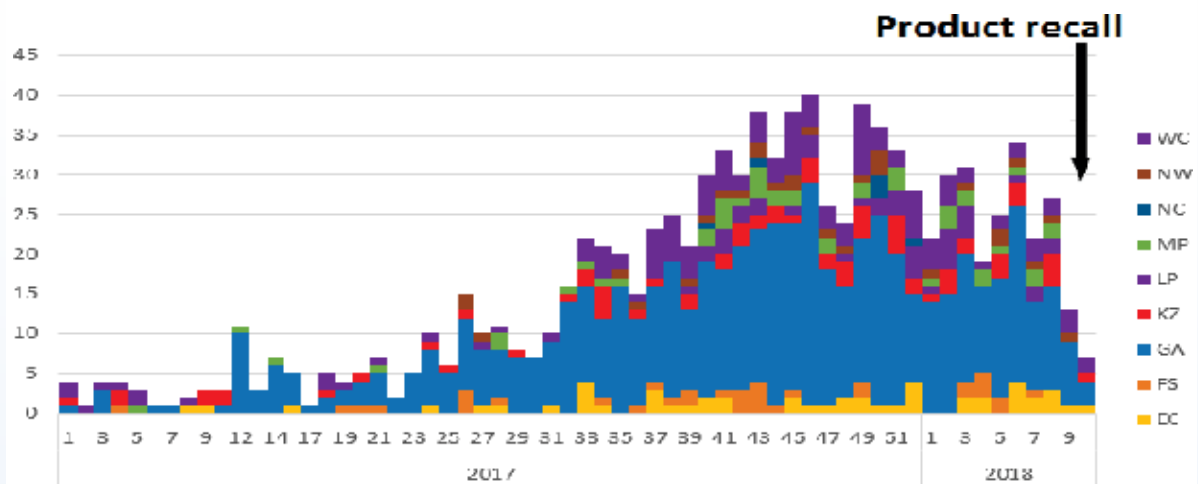
- Key highlights of the support provided by WHO in non-communicable diseases included work on salt, sugar, tobacco and alcohol legislations, and road safety campaigns.



- WCO developed a few documents during the CCS period: a NCD strategic plan, guidelines for prostate and lung cancer as well as Hypertension guidelines which are in the publication pipeline.

Health Emergencies

Listeriosis outbreak in South Africa



Listeriosis outbreak 2017/2018

As part of the multi-sectoral incident management team (IMT) under NDoH, WHO supported in developing an updated Listeriosis Emergency Response Plan (ERP) that quickly responded

to control and end the outbreak. WHO further strengthened health and food safety systems to prevent future outbreaks in the country.

COVID-19 Response



Training for health promotion team in North West focusing on addressing vaccine misinformation and demand creation

WHO provided timely preparedness and rapid response to the COVID-19 emergency outbreak through technical leadership, information sharing, guidelines development, training, review and

assessment, and data management. WHO deployed technical experts at national and provincial level, resulting in an effective response.

Sexual Reproductive, Maternal, Neonatal, Child and Adolescent Health and Nutrition

*SRHR Guideline
Dissemination National
Workshop, 09-13
November 2020 in
Cape Town*



- WHO supported the NDoH in producing a number of policy and guideline documents on SRMNCHAN that included the Revised PMTCT guidelines; Maternal, Perinatal and Neonatal Health policy; draft Malnutrition guidelines; National integrated SRHR policy guidelines; Revised National Contraception Clinical Guidelines; National clinical guidelines for implementation on choice of termination of pregnancy Act; and Clinical guidelines for genetics services.
- For polio and vaccine preventable diseases, WHO was highly commendable for employment of surveillance officers in the provinces and for WHO's role in South Africa's regain of polio-free status.

Looking forward: the next five-years of the CCS cycle

Health systems strengthening

- Continued support to the realization of UHC through the implementation of NHI and Presidential Health Compact.
- The disease and procedures coding system needs to be finalized. The coding system should be robust and be able to integrate and align with the public and private health sectors systems.
- Build capacity on national health accounts for NHI.
- Support the completion of the costing exercise of the Human Resources for Health Strategy, followed by development of an investment case for the strategy for presentation to national treasury.
- Support for a robust data management and electronic data system needed for the data intensive NHI.
- Share evidence and best practices to inform implementation of UHC.
- Strengthening health care delivery at primary health care.
- Monitoring and evaluation of implementation of NHI and Presidential Health Compact
- Support capacity building on health standards.

Communicable Diseases & RMNCHAN

- Continue to support the HIV Testing services and PrEP programmes.
- Provide evidence on the most effective methods/ interventions that reduce HIV incidence.
- Support social and behaviour change intervention models to complement biomedical interventions for HIV.
- Revive and strengthen the support for Integrated management of childhood illnesses (IMCI), including the PMTCT Programme.
- Support the TB programme to improve key outcomes.
- Review the action plan for the NTD to support the drafting and costing of the new 3-year plan.

- Support implementation of prevention programme for schistosomiasis using the new drug focusing on provinces at greatest need.
- Despite the end of the Polio funding, WHO to continue providing support on VPD surveillance programme.
- Support new components of the school health policy such as Sexual reproductive health and social services.

Non-Communicable Diseases

- Support the implementation of the National Strategic plan for NCDs through a multi-sectorial approach.
- Support NDoH to implement the new Health Promotion strategy, with a focus on reducing the negative impact of obesity, tobacco, and alcohol.
- Support behaviour change communication to tackle NCD risk factors such as tobacco, alcohol, nutrition, obesity, etc.
- Enhancing health services for people with disabilities.
- Collaborate on ageism campaign.
- Support in implementing the WHO resolution on palliative care.
- Support school health policy review and revision and development of a new 5-year plan.



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