

RESist-NCD

Building resilient and people-centred health systems for non-communicable disease prevention and control in Pacific and Southeast Asian countries



Opportunity for impact: Countries in the Southeast Asia-Pacific region are acting to reduce the impact of NCDs, which cause up to 86% of deaths. Diabetes and cardiovascular disease, with hypertension as a key risk factor, offer opportunities for early intervention. Expanding access to affordable, quality care and integrating services into community-based primary health care enables timely screening, diagnosis and management. Community-led initiatives using local knowledge can drive culturally relevant, sustainable actions to address social and systemic health determinants.

Initiative:

RESist-NCD is a four-year (2024–2028) multi-country initiative that supports governments in **Fiji, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Vietnam and Cambodia**, to strengthen the prevention, screening, and early management of diabetes and hypertension within primary health care.

The program is led by The George Institute for Global Health, the Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI) and the University of New South Wales (UNSW Sydney), and is supported by the Australian Government through the *Partnerships for a Healthy Region* initiative.

Impact:

- Primary health care services demonstrate strengthened **prevention, screening, early detection** and **management** of diabetes and hypertension.
- Strengthened systems for **essential NCD medicines** and diagnostics procurement, **workforce support** and **data-driven decision making** at the primary health care level.
- Communities demonstrate leadership and ownership of **locally driven interventions** that support healthier, climate-resilient, gender-responsive food and water systems.

Culturally informed, context-specific, scalable solutions

RESist-NCD embeds a commitment to integrating and strengthening efforts to promote gender equality, disability and social inclusion (GEDSI), as well as First Nations knowledges, to be considered within all activities, including within the ways of working of the RESist-NCD consortium. The program centres community driven decision-making and culturally informed approaches to implementing holistic programs and services that address NCDs.

Success factors:



- **Accelerating implementation** by scaling what works, including the WHO Package of Essential NCD Interventions
- **Engaging communities** in the leadership of sustainable, culturally informed solutions
- **Breaking down siloes** by integrating diabetes and hypertension prevention, screening and management into existing primary health care systems and strengthening referral networks
- **Deliver accountability** through inclusive governance structures that ensure all interest-holders are meaningfully represented, participate in, and able to inform program design and translation transparently and equitably
- **Mobilising investment** in NCDs through long-term government, academic and civil-society partnerships