Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Investing in Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) Prevention and Development

Key Findings

70 billion SAR (USD 18.7 billion)
NCD burden to economy as a whole (equiv. to 2.8% of GDP)

21 billion SAR (USD 5.5 billion)
KSA spends annually to treat NCDs

90,000
NCDs kill 90,000 citizens each year and account for over 78% of total deaths

22%
Men who consume tobacco products

60%
Saudis who have low levels of physical activity

31%
Citizen 15 years and older with overweight

Return on Investment (RoI) 2.0 to 51.6
RoI from interventions on salt, tobacco, CVD and physical activity over a 14-year period

Recommendations for Action:

Diet
- Raise public awareness about the health risks and dietary sources of salt

Health care
- Provide screening and essential drug therapy for diabetes and CVDs

Physical Activity
- Implement public awareness programmes on physical inactivity

Tobacco
- Increase excise taxes on alcoholic beverages
- Restrictions on the availability of retailed alcohol
- Enforce bans or restrictions on advertising of alcohol