

# European Collaboration to Prevent Cancer and Other NCDs and Reduce Health Inequalities



## WHY THIS MATTERS



**75%**  
of disease burden from NCDs



**4 in 5**  
premature deaths are caused by NCD



Socially disadvantaged groups carry the heaviest burden



Commercial determinants intensify inequalities



Low-education groups report poor health at twice the rate

## Main message

Collaboration between Member States, through the JA PreventNCD, and civil society and research organizations, through EU4Health Action Grants (PEACHD, ELISAH, FILTERED & ShowUp4Health), can strengthen Europe's capacity to prevent noncommunicable diseases and reduce social inequalities in health. Coordinated action can provide added value and support for the delivery of Europe's Beating Cancer Plan, the EU NCD Initiative Healthier Together, and the EU Safe Hearts Plan.

The joint policy brief provides evidence of informed policy recommendations to address social inequalities in NCD prevention.

## POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS



### For EU-Level Policymakers

- Make health and equity central and aligned across EU policy initiatives
- Strengthen multisector collaboration (housing, transport, education, environment)
- Strengthen funding for MS, civil society and independent research institutions
- Strengthen protection against commercial determinants of health



### For Research

- Evaluate equity impacts of public health policies
- Investigate spatial and environmental determinants to understand how urban design affects NCD risks
- Develop participatory, intersectional research methods with affected communities



### For Local & Community Actors

- Embed prevention where people live and build trust through integrated services and action (in care systems, schools, workplaces, and community settings)
- Design and use adaptable, culturally responsive tools to reach disadvantaged populations
- Co-design interventions with communities, including children and young people
- Build health literacy and community empowerment to support sustainable behaviour change



### For National & Regional Policymakers

- Assess and address health equity impacts through using equity assessment tools while ensuring active participation of people living in vulnerable settings
- Strengthen and sustain civil society engagement including sustainable funding
- Implement structural prevention measures including fiscal and regulatory tools
- Promote data-driven, locally responsive action to inform prevention strategies
- Strengthen the prevention workforce with training for health, community, and outreach workers

