Appendix 1: Interview Guide prepared for representatives of funding organisations involved in the GACD scale up call for hypertension and diabetes.

Thank you for consenting to take part in this interview. My name is Anusha and I am undertaking this interview as part of my PhD research the title of which is "Applying systems lens to identify challenges, enablers and barriers to the GACD scale-up interventions". My supervisors are Prof. Mandy Thrift from Monash University, Melbourne and A/Prof Rohina Joshi from the George Institute of Global Health, UNSW, Sydney.

The aim of this interview is to capture your perspectives about the issues involved in funding scale up projects in NCDs particularly in LMICs.

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1. Can you please give me some insights into the area of funding for NCDs particularly in the context of global health and achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC)?
    a. Does your organisation have alternative grants that fund similar issues, such as health system grants?
    b. Are grants for NCDs a niche or do you fund it in a similar way to other diseases?
    c. Has funding for NCDs, particularly in the context of global health and Universal Health Coverage changed, over the years, in your organization?
2. What does the term 'scale up' mean to your organisation?
3. How does your funding agency view scale up research projects set outside your country and which necessitate system change?
    a. Where do scale up research projects, in NCDs, fit within the broader investment portfolio of your agency?
    b. How does your organization view such projects that often require investments over a long period of time (8-10 years), as opposed to projects of 4-5 years duration?
    c. Did your assessment criteria for scale up research projects address issues such as cost-effectiveness and value for investment proposition? If so, how?
    d. What scope is there within your organization to fund longer-term research projects, i.e. of 8 to 10 years duration? If this is possible, how does your organisation monitor and evaluate these research projects? Is this process different to the evaluation and monitoring of projects of less than 5 years duration?
    e. Research teams feel a sense of failure when unable to perform due to real-world challenges. Within your funding organisation, is it possible to build a relationship

      that is beyond merely a contractual relationship / agreement particularly in the context of longer term projects?

4. What prompted your organization to participate in the 2019 GACD scale up call and fund scale up projects targeting diabetes and hypertension?
   a. What was your organization's main goal for this funding call?
   b. Did you (or your organization) have input into the development of the request for applications for this funding call?
   c. What were some of the important criteria your organization looked for while making funding decisions on the proposals? Anything unique to scale up projects?
   d. Is there the potential for these types of grants to be led by people who do not reside within the country in which your organization is based? For instance, can a Principal Investigator leading a scale up project funding application be based in the country of implementation such as Zambia or Afghanistan and so forth?

5. Did the scale up project teams face any challenges during implementation of the scale up project since applying for funding? (Probe for Covid-19 if not stated)
   a. Was this an anticipated or unanticipated challenge?
   b. How did the challenge impact on the teams/project's original plans?
   c. How did the teams respond to the challenge?
   d. Was your organization involved in any of the decision-making with regard to how teams responded to the challenge? If so, what input did you have?
   e. Did this challenge affect any planning from your end?
   f. What was your organisation's response to the challenge?
   g. What would happen if any of the projects continued to not deliver according to their original or modified plan?

6. How do you keep in touch with the scale up project teams? (Probe: just on basis of regular reports or is there ongoing engagement)

7. Is there anything else you would like to tell me, which I haven't covered already?

****Thank you for your time****

Appendix 2: Details of elements extracted using the Data Extraction Tool (T$_P$)

1. Location of scale-up project, types of project documents shared by teams, key team members.

2. Identification of the need or gap that exists in the population currently.

3. An understanding of the scale-up project:

    a. Project aim or goal.

    b. Type of scale-up project - Policy related /Service improvement / anything else

    c. Smallest Administrative Unit where the scale-up is planned.

    d. Has any framework been used to support whole project?

    e. What is the objective of the project? (actions taken to achieve the aims).

    f. Details about Study Design, Phases/ Key steps/ Components of the project.

4. Details about the intervention being scaled-up.

5. Details about what is novel or innovative about the intervention.

6. Primary outcomes and outcome measures.

7. Secondary outcomes and outcome measures.

8. Expected project outputs.

9. Understanding of the stakeholders and project team involved in the scale-up:

    a. Who are the beneficiaries / frontline staff/ other beneficiaries?

    b. Is there a Partnering organisation / Industry partner / NGO involved?

    c. Other professional bodies or stakeholders involved.

    d. Who are the government stakeholders?

    e. Any specific details of engagement strategy with stakeholders.

10. Details about the pilot stage:

    a. whether a pilot was conducted prior or if it is being conducted as a part of scale-up.

    b. Details about pilot timing, external funding, whether it was / will be evaluated.

11. Specific information about the scale-up:

    a. Goal

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b. details of specific framework, if used, to guide scale-up

c. whether it is horizontal or vertical scale-up.

d. whether there is phase to test the scale-up.

12. Understanding of the national context for scale-up and whether there is a national policy in place for managing NCDs and any other response by the government national or local to NCD management.

13. Is cost-effectiveness and process evaluation analysis being conducted?