



INTEGRATED HIV/HTN

INTEGRATED HIV/HTN PROJECT

LEVERAGING THE HIV PLATFORM FOR
HYPERTENSION CONTROL IN UGANDA

2020

supported by the
European Union

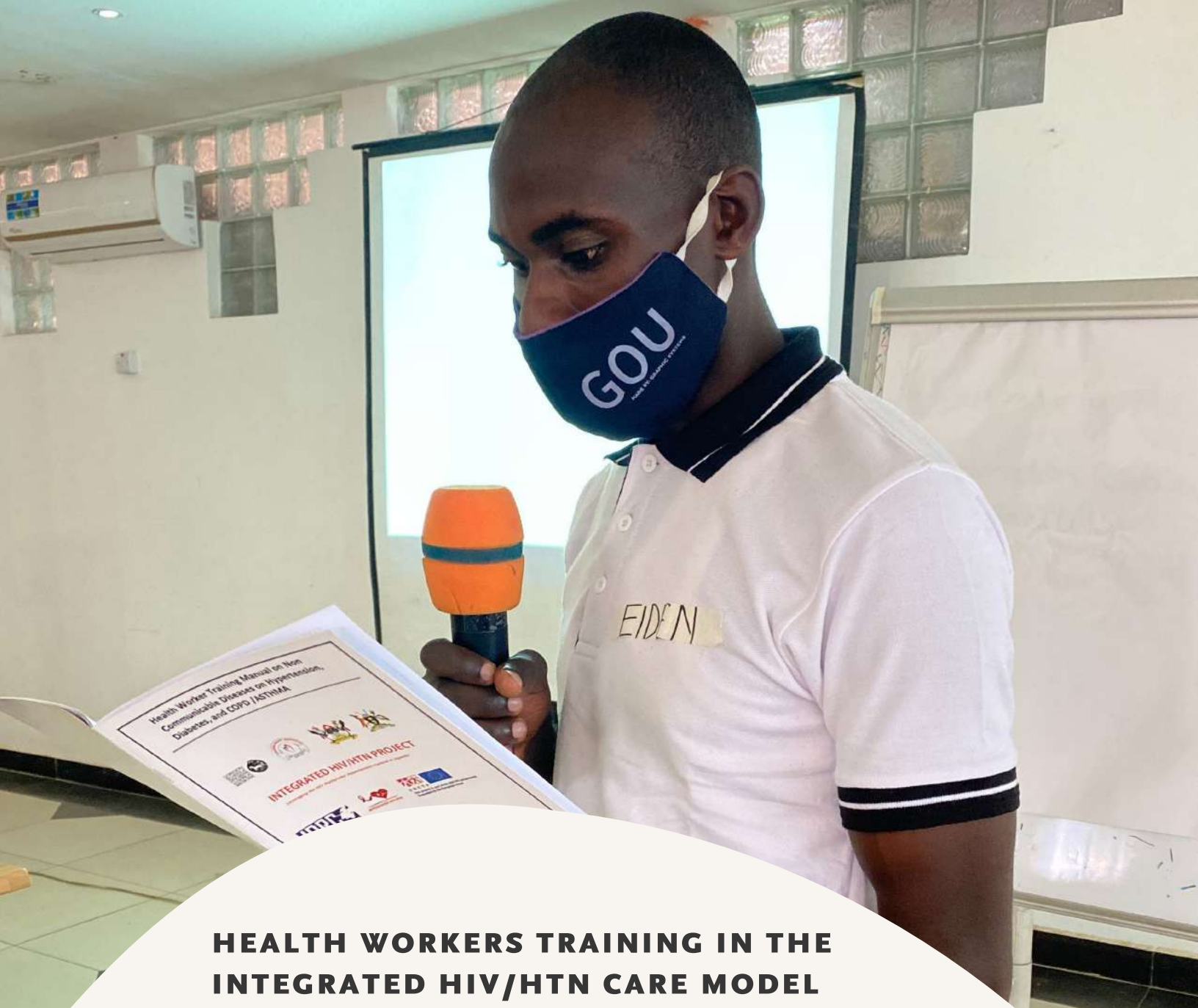


LAUNCHING THE INTEGRATED HIV/HTN CARE MODEL



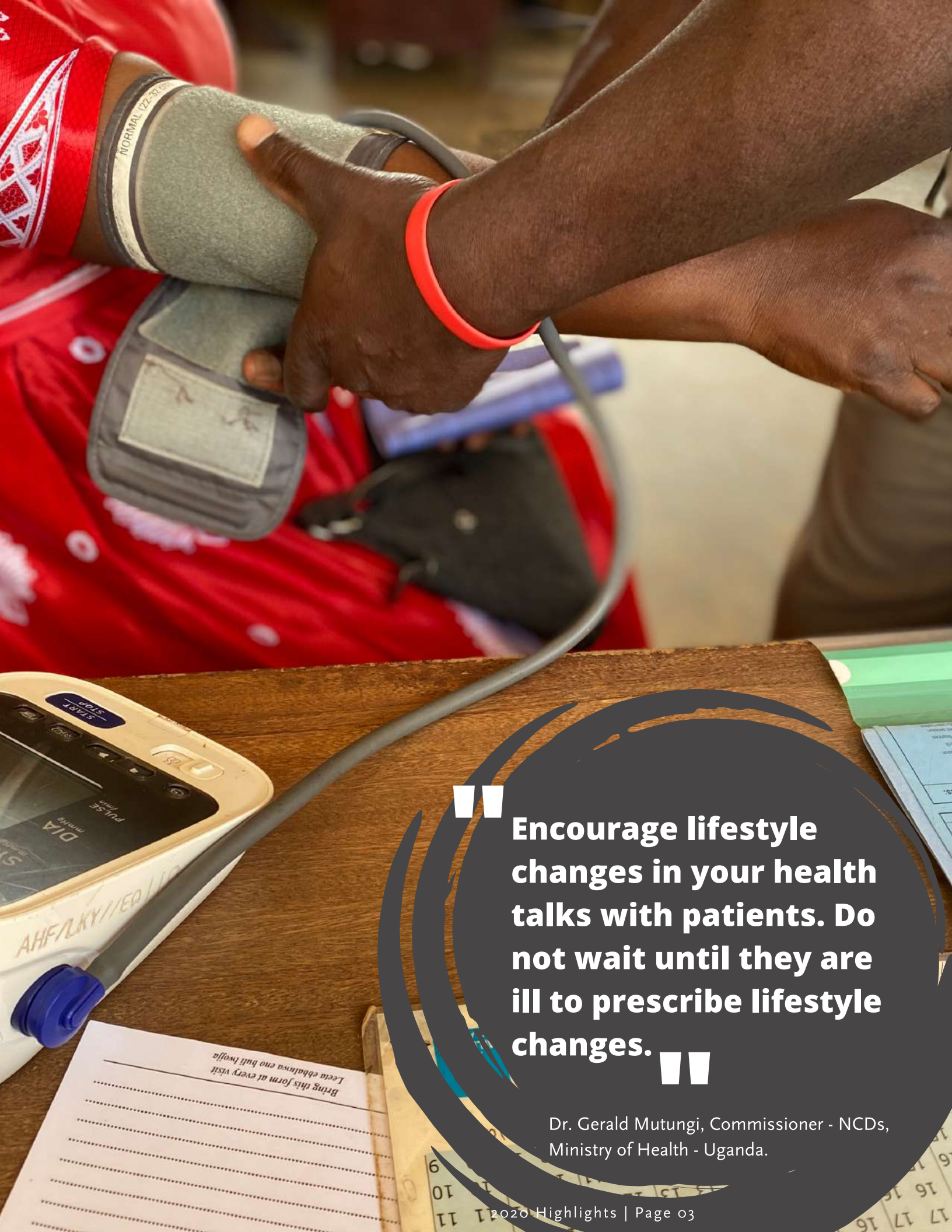
Part of the Ntungamo Health Centre IV team receive a blood pressure machine donated by the Integrated HIV/HTN project.

The project launched the Integrated HIV/HTN Care Model in selected health facilities in south western Uganda. The selected health facilities were supported Blood Pressure Machines, Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD) Patient Registers and NCD Patient Cards issued by the ministry of Health in Uganda.



HEALTH WORKERS TRAINING IN THE INTEGRATED HIV/HTN CARE MODEL

Training and capacity building is one of the components of Integrated HIV/HTN care model and is led by the Uganda Heart Institute under work package 3. Each of the selected Health Facilities went through a 3-day training. The health workers selected from each government health facility were trained in the chronic care model, to diagnose, treat and manage hypertension, Diabetes, and Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Diseases (COPD) as key topics. The training materials were adopted from The World Health Organization package of Essential Non-Communicable Disease Interventions (WHO-PEN). The training sessions were interactive, the participants had group discussions, group presentations, role plays and practical sessions (taking and recording BP, height, BMI), filing out patients cards and the NCD Ministry of Health (MOH) register.



“ Encourage lifestyle changes in your health talks with patients. Do not wait until they are ill to prescribe lifestyle changes. ”

Dr. Gerald Mutungi, Commissioner - NCDs,
Ministry of Health - Uganda.

NATIONAL PROJECT LAUNCH



Representatives from the consortium.

A national project launch and kick off meeting for the INTEGRATED HIV/HTN project that will study the integration of hypertension in health facilities in 26 districts of south western Uganda was held in Kampala on 2nd March to create awareness and engagement of stakeholders from various public and private health institutions. The meeting was attended by representatives from Uganda AIDS commission, National Medical Stores, Makerere University College of health sciences, Uganda Heart Institute (UHI), Makerere University School of Public Health, NOVARTIS, Makerere Joint AIDS Program (MJAP), Ministry of Health NCDs Department, Uganda NCD Alliance (UNCDA), Infectious Diseases Institute (IDI), The AIDS Support Organization (TASO) -MRC, and WALIMU.

Policy issues on non-communicable diseases (NCD) advancement in Hypertension care among others were discussed. During this meeting, Jane Kabami, an implementation scientist from IDRC and the project coordinator highlighted the need for translating evidence into practice and integration of Hypertension care into the existing HIV care in order to improve health outcomes for HIV patients focusing on reducing co-occurring hypertension related morbidity and mortality. There was great enthusiasm and support from the various stakeholders about the project and pledged continued support and engagement throughout the project implementation cycle.

Regional Kickoff Meeting



Stakeholders at the regional kick off meeting.

The INTEGRATED HIV/HTN project regional launch and kick off meeting was held, in Mbarara on 19th March 2020 to create awareness and acquire regional stakeholder buy-in and engagement from various actors in the health sector, in the western and south Western region. The meeting was attended by representatives from The Ministry of Health (MoH) Uganda, Uganda Heart Institute (UHI), the community advisory board (CAB), Implementing partners like Baylor Uganda and The AIDS Support Organization (TASO), District Health Officers (DHO) and HIV Focal Persons from districts of Kisoro, Rubanda, Rukiga, Rubirizi, Kabale, Kanungu, Buhweju, Sheema, Mitooma, Rukungiri, Bushenyi, Ntungamo, Lyantonde, Kazo, Mbarara, Rwampara, Kiruhura, Rakai, Isingiro, Ibanda, Kasese, Kamwenge, Kibaale, Kabarole, Kitagwenda, and Kyenjojo. Policy issues on non – communicable diseases (NCD), advancements in Hypertension care and the Integrated HIV/HTN project overview were discussed, as participants pledged their support towards the project.

The Project Implementation Committee

At the start of the project the project implementation committee was formed. The committee is responsible for the day to day implementation of project activities. The committee is led by the Project Coordinator. The members of the implementation team are Program Manager, representatives from all collaborating institutions, namely; Uganda Heart institute, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and ministry of Health Uganda. Other members are Infectious Diseases Research Collaboration core administration team which comprises of the Finance Manager, the Administrative Manager, the Human Resource Manager, the Grants Manager, the Procurement Manager, and the Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist. The PIC meets regularly to set weekly targets, review progress against weekly work plans, identify and address any work-related challenges.



Part of the Project Implementation Committee.

Consortium Partners Meeting



Representatives from consortium members.

The consortium partners are composed of institutions participating in the Integrated HIV/HTN project. These are the Principal Investigators from Uganda Heart institute, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, ministry of Health Uganda and Infectious Diseases Research Collaboration. They have held several meetings to discuss the project activities, the study protocol and project implementation progress. The first meeting was held on 10th February 2020 at the IDRC offices in Kampala. In attendance was Ms. Jane Kabami – Project Coordinator/, Prof. Moses Kama – Makerere University, Prof. Heiner Grosskurth – Participant – LSHTM, Dr. Emmy Okello – Uganda Heart Institute, Dr. Gerald Mutungi – Ministry of Health, Uganda, Ms. Susan Mugumya – Grants Specialist and Dr. Mucunguzi Atukunda.

2020

AT A GLANCE



Kaliro Health Centre III staff reading through an NCD register.



Health worker attends an Integrated HIV/HTN care training.



Health workers calculating Body Mass Index (BMI) at a health workers' training in Kabale district.



Bwongera Health Centre III Staff receive NCD register and Blood Pressure machine.



Ntungamo Health Centre IV Health workers attending the care model rollout workshop.



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