

# FROM IMPLEMENTATION RESEARCH TO IMPACT

## The GACD Diabetes Research Programme Report

# KEY MESSAGES FOR FUNDERS

## BACKGROUND

In 2013, GACD launched a joint call for funding applications, with the overarching aim of tackling the growing global burden of type 2 diabetes (T2D) in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) and populations experiencing health disparities in high-income countries (HICs) by providing implementation science-based evidence intended to inform policy and practice.

## THE DIABETES RESEARCH PROGRAMME

- Fourteen implementation research projects successfully received funding and were convened as the GACD Diabetes Research Programme.
- Collectively, GACD funding agencies awarded more than \$21 million USD to fund 14 projects, spread across 19 countries.
- The Diabetes Report serves as a summary of the work undertaken by the 14 projects and, where possible, seeks to provide an initial description and synthesis of the methods, strategies, results, and impact of the projects.

The funded projects focused on providing healthcare providers and decision-makers with evidence to implement effective diabetes prevention and control programmes that:

- Reduce health inequalities in T2D management globally and locally.
- Offer evidence for scaling up interventions at local, national, and regional levels.

## KEY MESSAGE 1

### COLLABORATION IS KEY TO SUCCESS

Collaboration with other researchers was a key benefit across project teams and all 14 projects engaged in some form of collaboration or knowledge exchange. Partnership working between researchers and actors across all aspects of the implementation process was essential for success, as was collaboration between projects, to ensure knowledge sharing, data transparency and collaborative learning.



This flyer summarises key messages from the **GACD Diabetes Report** for people working at health research funding agencies or those in charge of health research funding budgets.

## KEY MESSAGE 2

### INFLUENCING POLICY AND PRACTICE

A total of 12 out of the 14 projects reported impact on policy and practice, common themes being strengthening national health systems to respond to the burden of diabetes, and influence on national diabetes strategies or guidelines. Early engagement of key stakeholders, including local and national policymakers, was of critical importance to ensure sustainability and further uptake of successful interventions.

Twelve out of the 14 projects reported on impact, with the most common themes being strengthened national health systems to respond to the burden of diabetes (nine projects), influence on national health programmes, strategies or guidelines (eight projects), and implementing at scale (five projects).

## KEY MESSAGE 3

### HEALTH INEQUITY REMAINS A PROBLEM

Outcomes demonstrated a need for additional funding for studies of interventions to improve health equity and address social determinants of health on the implementation of interventions to tackle diabetes. Addressing language barriers, access requirements and cultural differences throughout the development and implementation process could strengthen the impacts of interventions.

The total funding for projects within the Diabetes Research Programme exceeded \$21 million (USD)

*This figure is approximate, as it takes into account currency exchange rates at the time the funding was awarded.*

## PARTICIPATING FUNDING AGENCIES

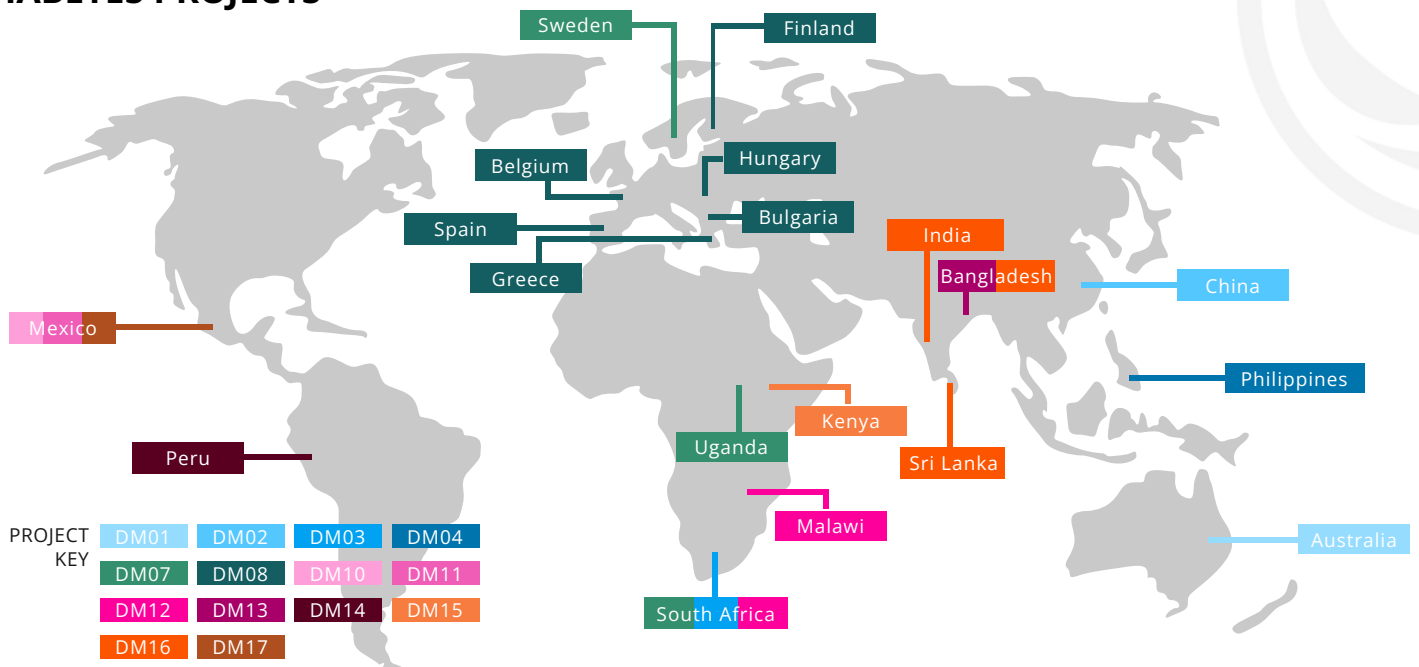
GACD Associate Member	Country or region	Projects funded
National Health and Medical Research Council	Australia	3
Canadian Institutes of Health Research <i>with</i> International Development Research Canada	Canada	4
South African Medical Research Council	South Africa	2
European Commission	Europe	2
Consejo Nacional de Humanidades, Ciencias y Tecnologías (CONACyT)	Mexico	2
UK Medical Research Council	UK	2
US National Institutes of Health	US	3
Indian Council of Medical Research	India	1
Chinese Academy of Medical Science	China	2

Due to co-funding arrangements, some projects are listed under more than one agency, resulting in a total exceeding 17 projects.

## THE 14 DIABETES PROJECTS

- DM01** Improving the management of diabetes in pregnancy in remote Australia
- DM02** SMART Diabetes: Systematic Medical Assessment, Referral and Treatment for Diabetes care in China using Lay Family Health Promoters
- DM03** IINDIAGO: Integrated INtervention for DIAbetes risk after GestatiOnal diabetes
- DM04** CHAPP: Community Health Assessment Program in the Philippines
- DM07** SMART2D: A people-centred approach through Self-Management and Reciprocal learning for the prevention and management of Type 2 Diabetes
- DM08** Feel4Diabetes: Families across Europe following a hEalthy Lifestyle 4 Diabetes prevention
- DM10** Desarrollo de una red social interactiva para el control metabolico de los pacientes con diabetes
- DM11** Desarrollo y validación de un software ligado a un portal de internet que facilite el tratamiento médico y el empoderamiento del paciente con diabetes tipo 2
- DM12** Mobile phone text-messaging to support treatment for people with type 2 diabetes in sub-Saharan Africa: a pragmatic individually randomised trial
- DM13** The Bangladesh D-Magic Trial: Diabetes Mellitus Action through Groups or Information for better Control
- DM14** Implementation of foot thermometry and SMS to prevent diabetic foot ulcer
- DM15** BIGPIC: Bridging Income Generation with GrouP Integrated Care
- DM16** A lifestyle intervention program for the prevention of type 2 diabetes mellitus among South Asian women with gestational diabetes mellitus
- DM17** Tools and practices to reduce CVD and complications in diabetics in Mexico

## GEOGRAPHICAL SPREAD OF THE 14 DIABETES PROJECTS



[www.gacd.org](http://www.gacd.org)

### Accompanying outputs

- **Commentary:** A commentary article written by GACD researchers reflecting on this report is in development.
- **Database:** An online, interrogatable database containing information submitted by diabetes project teams. Content can be used for examination, exploration, and analysis at the project teams' interest and discretion. Only available to GACD project teams.
- **Summary slide set:** Ready-made slide set summarising report content. Primarily intended for researchers but available to all.
- **Social media toolkit:** Visuals and text for social media posts related to report dissemination, available to all.

Access the other outputs via [www.gacd.org/our-impact/diabetes-report](http://www.gacd.org/our-impact/diabetes-report)

### Authors and attributions

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