



GACD

GLOBAL ALLIANCE FOR CHRONIC DISEASES
AN ALLIANCE OF HEALTH RESEARCH FUNDERS

ACHIEVEMENT REPORT 2022



GLOBAL ALLIANCE FOR CHRONIC DISEASES



Message from Dr Morven Roberts, Chief Executive Officer

GACD is committed to improving inequities in health so I am delighted to present this short report to highlight our achievements and progress towards this aim during 2022.

Through our growing worldwide investment in implementation research, we are building global knowledge on how best to tackle the burden of chronic non-communicable diseases (NCDs). In the last three years, GACD has taken the ambitious move to increase the frequency of its funding calls and in early 2022, was excited to convene the first meeting of the new GACD Cancer Research Programme. The global portfolio of these projects is expected to have an impact on cancer control in many different settings.

During 2022, we also opened our seventh call for proposals that takes a novel life course approach to common NCD risk factor prevention and reduction. We were very pleased that the Research Council of Norway agreed to participate in this call as an additional funding partner, increasing the reach of our activities and the funding available. We can now report that this call has supported 25 awards with an investment of at least \$55m USD.

GACD supports capacity strengthening in implementation science for chronic diseases in several ways. This year, we increased the range of training activities we offer by launching a new masterclass with a focus on 'scale up' for mid-career researchers. This event complements our Implementation Science School for early career researchers and both build on the foundation of the GACD e-Hub. We continue to significantly increase the cadre of investigators who are better able to tackle implementation research around the world.

Finally, we were truly delighted that as COVID-19 pandemic restrictions recede, we were once more able to bring our Research Network together in person, holding our Annual Scientific Meeting in London, UK. It was wonderful to have an opportunity to meet with familiar and new faces and be immersed in thought-provoking and dynamic discussions.

GACD thrives on the support and commitment from the international funding agencies that are our Associate Members, and the worldwide GACD Research Network who provide their valuable time for sharing their knowledge and insights to ensure the research we support is productive and likely to have an impact. I want to take this opportunity to thank you and my dedicated staff team for all your invaluable contributions that have made these achievements possible. Together, we are working towards a future where chronic diseases are no longer a leading cause of death and disability.





GACD: Who we are

Launched in 2009, GACD was the first (and remains the only) alliance of international research funding agencies committed to addressing the burden of chronic non-communicable diseases (NCDs) globally.

In 2022, GACD brings together twelve agencies that represent 80% of global public funding for health research. Senior representatives from each agency convene as our GACD Strategy Board. In December, we warmly thanked Dr Mark Palmer from the Medical Research Council, UK for his term as Chair and welcomed incoming Chair Dr Barbara Kerstiöns from the Directorate General - Research and Innovation at the European Commission.



National Health and Medical Research Council, Australia



Health Research Council, New Zealand



São Paulo, Research Foundation, Brazil



South African Medical Research Council



Canadian Institutes of Health Research



Health Systems Research Institute, Thailand



Directorate General - Research and Innovation, European Commission



UK Medical Research Council



Indian Council of Medical Research



UK Department of Health and Social Care



Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development



US National Institutes of Health

GACD research projects at a glance

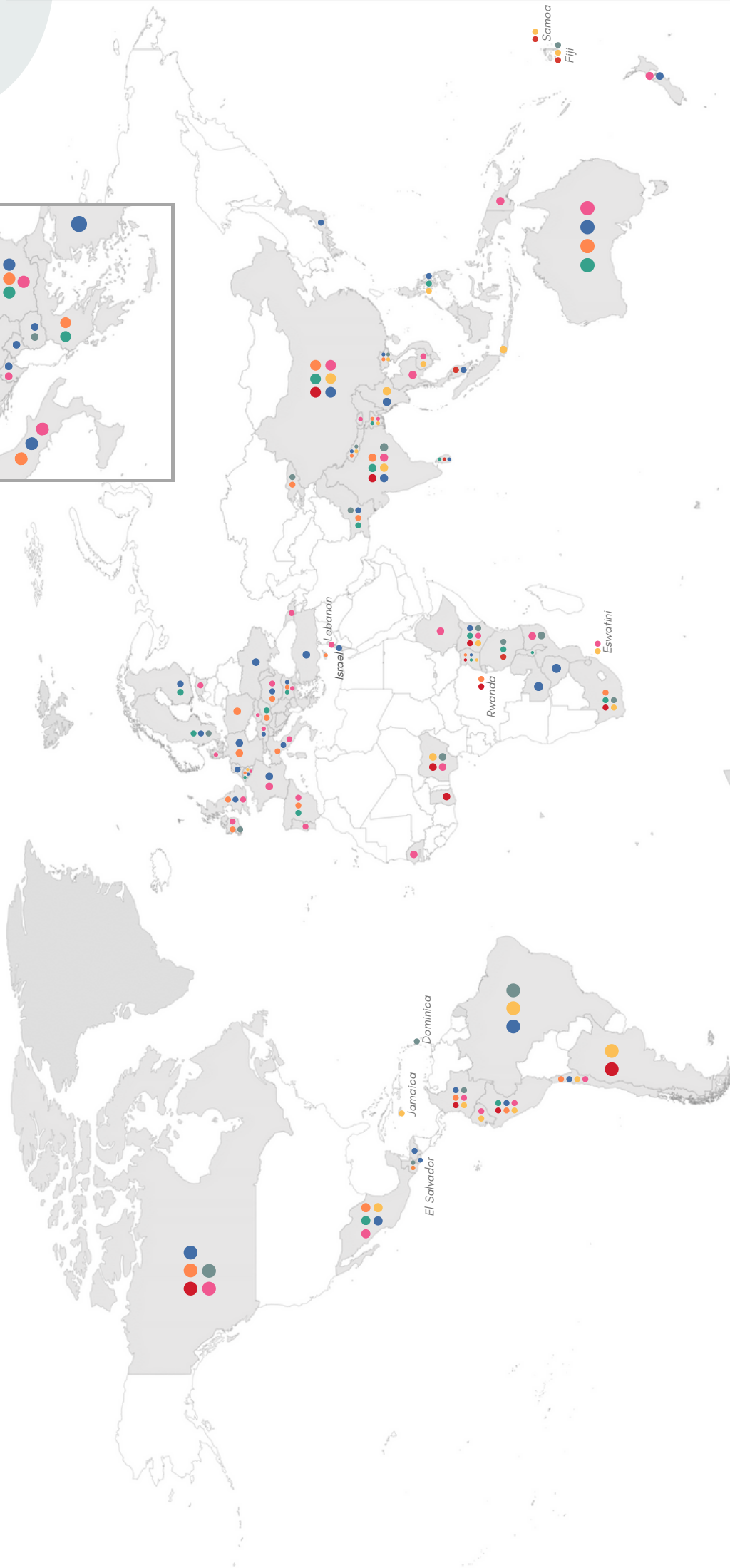
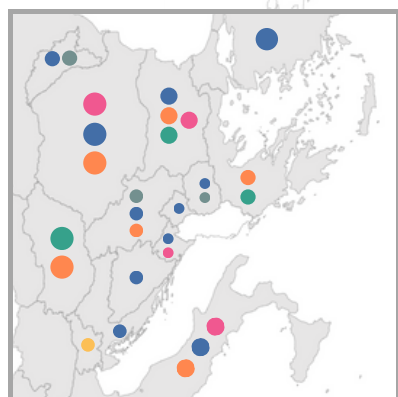
Our multi-country, multi-disciplinary research focuses on the needs of low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) and vulnerable populations of high-income countries.



80+
COUNTRIES

\$300m+ USD
INVESTMENT
TO DATE

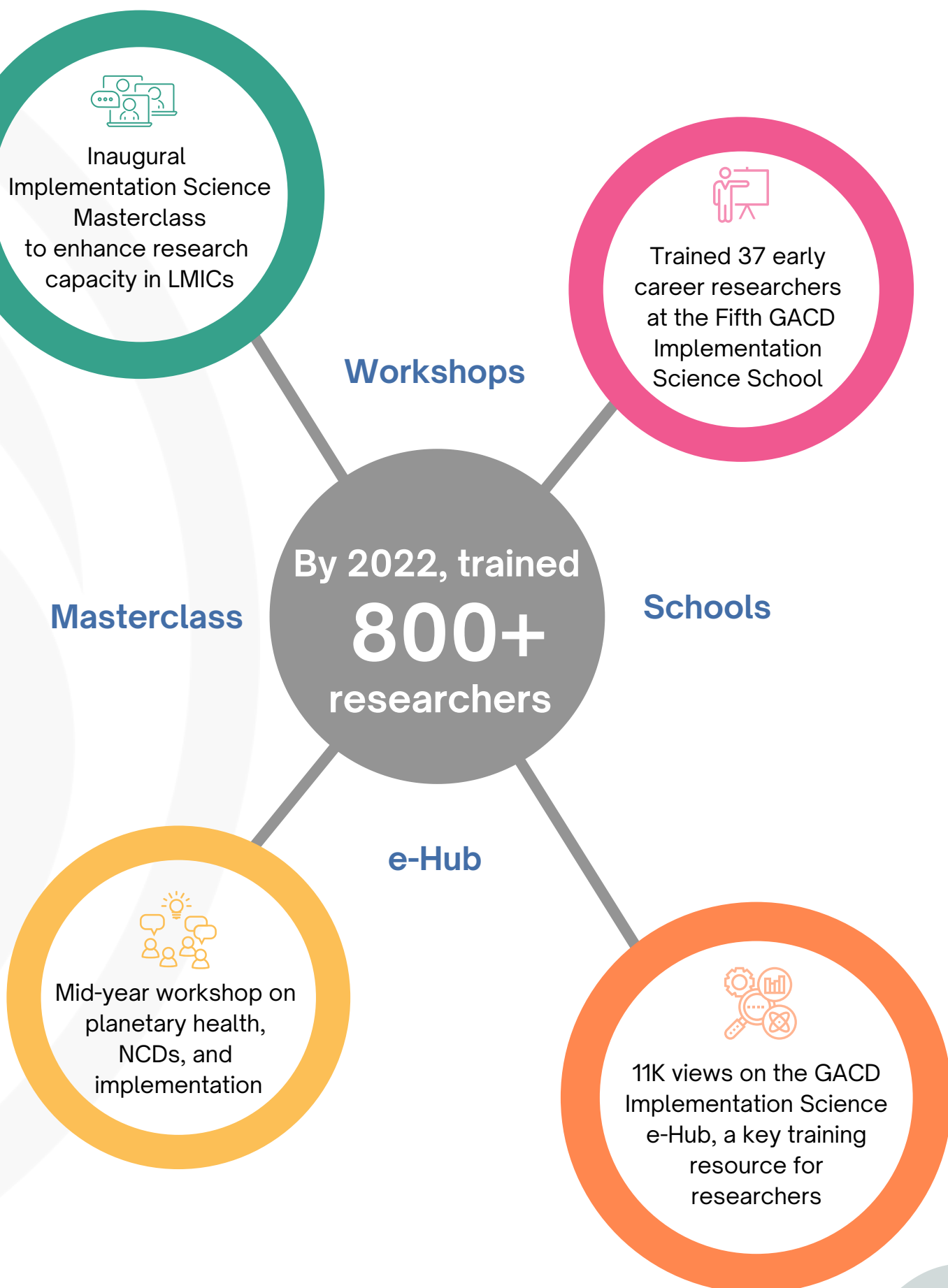
155+
PROJECTS



Countries in which GACD projects are being (or were) implemented are shown with dots; each colour represents the GACD Research Programme under which the projects were funded: **Hypertension**; **Diabetes**; **Lung Diseases**; **Mental Health**; **Cancer**; **Life Course**.

The boundaries, colours, denominations, and other information shown on any map in this work do not imply any judgment on the part of GACD concerning the legal status of any territory or the endorsement or acceptance of such boundaries.

Strengthening research capacity and capability



GACD Annual Scientific Meeting - London, UK

The GACD Annual Scientific Meeting brings together representatives from the GACD-funded projects and member agencies, as well as local researchers, policymakers and programme implementers to facilitate discussion and share learnings around implementation science.

In 2022, our tenth annual meeting took place in London, UK from 7 to 8 December, bringing together over 140 participants from 101 institutions spanning 34 countries.



During the two-day knowledge-sharing event, participants openly discussed their ongoing research and shared challenges and successes in the implementation of their projects. This created an empowering learning environment through communities of practice.



To stimulate creativity and foster engaged discussion, GACD held a novel knowledge-sharing competition, with the winning prize going to the PREScrip-TEC team for their inventive board game.



Advancing impactful implementation research through publications



New report on a *life course approach to NCDs in LMICs* published by UK Working Group on NCDs from work drawn up by members (GACD, NCD Child & Worldwide Hospice Palliative Care Alliance)



Our School faculty and facilitators published their evaluation of their reflections on adapting the GACD Implementation Science School from in-person to online in 2020

To date, 1000+ GACD publications accessible to the research community



GACD researchers published a statement on non-communicable disease research with Indigenous peoples



The GACD Humanitarian Settings Working Group published a paper on the implementation of remote NCD care in LMICs

GACD aims to enhance our collective impact through networking and capacity building, bringing together all members of GACD's project teams as the GACD Research Network. Our Research Network currently engages 800+ researchers who share knowledge and know-how at events and through the preparation of joint thematic publications in addition to those on their project research. GACD has a growing database of 1000+ publications prepared by our network.



GACD supports innovative research that will change non-communicable disease policy and practice around the world





GACD

GLOBAL ALLIANCE FOR CHRONIC DISEASES
AN ALLIANCE OF HEALTH RESEARCH FUNDERS



@gacd_media



www.gacd.org

GACD, 215 Euston Road, London NW1 2BE, UK

GACD is the working name for GACD Action, a Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered by the Charity Commission for England and Wales (Charity no. 1138223-22). GACD is a linked charity of the Medical Research Foundation which is registered in England and Wales (1138223) and a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (company number 7366816).