



WHO-trained Ministry of Health staff engaging in the STEPs survey through household visits in Derna in eastern Libya Tripoli, 28 November – Libya’s National Centre for Disease Control has begun implementing a survey on the prevalence of noncommunicable diseases (NCDs), such as cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, cancers, chronic respiratory diseases and mental health conditions in the country.

The standardized WHO survey, known as STEPS, focuses on obtaining core data on the risk factors such as tobacco use, unhealthy diet, physical inactivity and air pollution that determine the major burden of NCDs. To date, over 120 WHO Member States have implemented the STEPS survey. By using the same standardized questions and protocols, countries can use the information yielded under STEPS not only to monitor within-country trends but to make comparisons across countries.

