

Naseeb Kibria, MSE; Stephen Tamplin, MSE; Joanna Cohen, PhD

## Background

- The Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health (JHSPH) capacity building initiatives, Global Tobacco Control Leadership Program and Certificate Program, have trained over 2000 people in over 85 countries from 2007-2017
- Participant evaluation indicated a need for advanced leadership training
- A pilot project to enhance leadership skills launched in 2017

## Scholar Selection

- JHSPH Leadership and Certificate alumni from low- and middle-income countries were invited to apply
- 23 applications were received from eight countries
- Seven scholars selected based on statement of interest, a country-specific tobacco control project concept note, parent organization support, references, professional qualifications and experience in tobacco control
- Scholars represent a variety of professions (e.g. policymaker, researchers non-government organizations and government)

## Feedback

The initial face-to-face training introduced the Scholars to systems thinking as well as advanced leadership skills. Feedback on this training included:

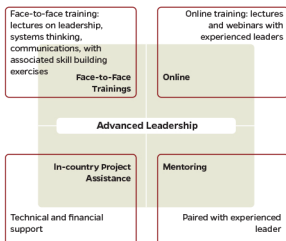
- *"We desperately need to see the problem as a whole and find the solution either by consolidation of ongoing initiative or by taking new initiatives required in this desperate situation. We should continuously remember that it is not about us, it is for [the] future."*
- *"It is possible to broaden a list of stakeholders, get engaged with academia institutions and think more strategically in two years."*
- *"Following [two skills] are the ones I will be using in my TC activities: (1) System Thinking - scaffolding and team building communications, and, (2) presentation skills."*

## Lessons Learned

- The development of new skills and knowledge needs to be nurtured and reinforced with the provision of opportunities for hands-on application
- An English-based curriculum limits participation of many LMIC tobacco control practitioners who are not proficient in English. In the longer term, the Program will need to consider options for overcoming this limitation by providing, for example, translation services



## Curriculum Framework



## Next steps

- Based on experience with the pilot program and the feedback from the initial Scholar cohort, the Program can be enhanced by the earlier introduction of systems thinking background material; allocating more time for presentation, discussion and reflection on systems thinking approaches and related critical thinking skills; and, a more intentional use of exercises (e.g., case studies) that enable the Scholars to practice the application of these approaches and skills
- Moving forward we will fully realize the curriculum framework, instituting monthly webinars, starting projects earlier and with a more explicit focus of incorporating systems thinking, and formalizing the mentoring expectations
- Applications for 2018-2019 Scholars cohort will be open from March 30-May 15, 2018