

Policy Cube Framework

Dimension	Description	Key Components
Comprehensiveness of Policy	Evaluates the extent to which national policies align with the 13 WHO 'Best Buys' for NCD prevention and control, including the depth and specificity of policy measures.	Goal setting, specific measurable targets, policy actions, timeframes, reformulation of food products, establishment of supportive environments, behavior change communication, front-of-pack labeling, taxation on sugar-sweetened beverages, elimination of industrial trans-fats, countervailing policies that may impair Best Buys implementation.
Political Salience and Effectiveness	Assesses the strength of policy implementation mechanisms, including the authoritativeness of policies, presence of accountability systems, and budgetary commitments.	Hierarchy of policy authority (high: constitution, acts, laws; middle: rules, regulations, policy; low: guidelines, standards, action plans), explicit budget line items for policy measures, systems of accountability with clearly named lead agencies, independent monitoring, and remedial actions for non-compliance.
Equity, Gender, and Rights	Analyzes the incorporation of equity-focused, gender-responsive, and rights-based approaches within policies to ensure they address disparities in health outcomes.	Targeting of vulnerable/at-risk populations, explicit recognition of gender-related inequities, principles of human rights, acknowledgment of specific social determinants of health, strategies to reduce inequities in exposure and outcomes.

Law Cube Framework

Dimension	Description	Key Components
Comprehensiveness of Laws	Evaluates the extent to which national laws address the 30 research-validated good practice legal provisions across five legal domains: pay, workplace protections, pensions, care/family life/work–life balance, and reproductive rights. This includes assessing the specificity, breadth, and depth	Legal domains include pay equity (equal pay for equal work, non-segregation of occupations by gender), workplace safety (protection against harassment and unsafe work conditions), equal employment opportunities (non-discriminatory hiring practices, equality in promotions), reproductive health rights (protection against

	of legislative measures, including the extent to which laws meet international standards (e.g., CEDAW, ILO conventions).	dismissal for pregnancy, safe and accessible maternity leave), maternity/paternity leave (availability, length, government or employer-funded), anti-discrimination laws (broad inclusion of protected characteristics), and accountability measures (clear assignment of responsibilities).
Accountability Mechanisms	Assesses whether laws provide clear accountability structures, including named agencies responsible for implementation, monitoring mechanisms, and independent review systems. This dimension evaluates the presence of enforcement mechanisms, such as penalties for non-compliance, requirements for public reporting, and systems that facilitate transparency and stakeholder engagement. It also considers the independence of monitoring bodies from governmental influence.	Monitoring (designated agencies, clear metrics for success, scheduled reviews), independent review (third-party assessments, compliance audits), remedial actions (penalties, corrective measures, appeal processes), transparency (publicly available data on implementation), public reporting (obligations to publish compliance reports), assignment of responsibilities (naming specific bodies, agencies, or officials tasked with enforcement).
Equity and Human Rights	Analyzes whether laws include provisions that promote equity, gender equality, and human rights, including both 'negative' (preventive) and 'positive' (transformative) measures to support women's leadership and address structural inequalities. This dimension explores whether laws integrate gender-sensitive approaches, protect against multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, and actively promote women's career advancement and leadership opportunities.	Anti-discrimination provisions (bans on discrimination based on gender, age, disability, ethnicity), positive discrimination (e.g., quotas or affirmative action for leadership roles), measures to support work-life balance (e.g., flexible working arrangements, childcare facilities, elder care support), provisions for vulnerable and marginalized groups (e.g., targeted support for women with disabilities, support for single parents), rights to flexible working arrangements (e.g., work-from-home options, flexible hours, support for caregiving responsibilities),

		measures that transform harmful gender norms (e.g., legal support for shared domestic responsibilities, incentives for men to take parental leave).
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