

## **Box 1 Recommended actions on the social determinants of health**

### ***Evidence-building, advocacy and capacity-building***

- Review available economic and social cases from other regions and their impact on social determinants of health and produce an outline and template to promote such undertakings in the Eastern Mediterranean Region.
- Develop policy briefs and use these along with advocacy materials to orient high-level policy-makers and parliamentarians and encourage informed policy-making.
- Orient media groups on the importance of social determinants of health and their impact on overall development, including health.

### ***Identifying data gaps and the integration of core indicators for social determinants of health in the framework of the health information system***

- Integrate the proposed core equity indicators in the framework of the health information system.
- Engage multiple departments/ministries to identify the data gaps and the sector responsible for collection, analysis and reporting.
- Establish national mechanisms for reporting and monitoring equity trends, social determinants of health and actions taken by the relevant sectors.

### ***Governance***

- Engage civil society and other development sectors at the local level in needs assessment, planning and implementation of social determinants of health interventions.
- Assess outcomes, expand and institutionalize the social determinants of health approach as part of government development policies and plans.

### ***Partnership and harmonization***

- Facilitate the exchange of experiences and document good practices in addressing health inequities and social determinants of health.
- Introduce and expand health insurance schemes and social protection for the poor to reduce out-of-pocket health expenditure.
- Engage civil society in policy dialogue and the implementation of local interventions.

### ***Integration of social determinants of health in the WHO 5 priority areas***

- Develop training materials on social determinants of health and their impact on health inequities for mid-level managers and health care providers.
- Implement the WHO guide for the integration of social determinants of health in the five priority programmes.
- Integrate social determinants of health in health, medical and nursing pre-service education.