Türkiye does not have a dedicated strategy on respiratory diseases. However, it aims to address and prevent respiratory diseases as part of its Multisectoral Action Plan for Noncommunicable Diseases 2017–2025. The plan suggests a holistic and high-level multidisciplinary approach, with the priority objectives of ensuring effective implementation and the sustainability of prevention and protection activities. Türkiye has several national control programmes in respiratory medicine, including tobacco, asthma and COPD. WHO GARD (Global Alliance Against Chronic Respiratory Disease) Turkey notably launched a control programme in 2008 in conjunction with Ministry of Health. Since then, there have been several educational activities taking place for family practitioners. A digital network was also created for digital health records and a spirometer accreditation programme was set to improve spirometer quality.

The IRC welcomes the work on these initiatives and is also committed to collaborating with all relevant stakeholders in promoting lung health across Türkiye by developing national strategies.

### Societal economic cost by disease:

- **Asthma**: ₺10.6 billion
- **COPD**: ₺38 billion
- **Interstitial Lung Disease**: ₺1.4 billion
- **Lower Respiratory Tract Infections**: ₺16 billion
- **Mesothelioma**: ₺916.2 million
- **Lung Cancer**: ₺38.5 billion
- **Tuberculosis**: ₺1.7 billion
- **Societal economic cost of respiratory diseases**: ₺107.1 billion

### Introduction

The IRC, a coalition of respiratory clinicians, patients and industry partners, aims to transform post-pandemic respiratory care and reduce mortality by a third globally by 2030 - in line with the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

The IRC is calling on governments and policy makers to establish funded national strategies, which include prevention, new models of care, ambitious measurable targets, and accountable leadership to improve lung health by focusing on:

**Better...**

1. Prevention of respiratory diseases
2. Access to the right treatment at the right time
3. Action on reducing inequalities

Prioritisation of research, data and insight to improve care

This initiative is made possible with the contributions of the partner organisations who all support the IRC’s goals: Expertise and time were provided by the European Respiratory Society, European Lung Foundation and Global Allergy and Airways Patient Platform; funding, expertise and time were contributed by AstraZeneca, Chiesi Group, GSK, Moderna, Amgen, Sanofi and Regeneron; additional funding was provided by Boehringer Ingelheim.