

Epidemiology

of alcohol use in the WHO
South-East Asia Region



World Health
Organization
REGIONAL OFFICE FOR
South-East Asia

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Preface

This publication aims to summarize the current information related to alcohol use in the Who South East Asia Region. It draws information from many authoritative sources including the WHO Global Status Report on Alcohol and Health 2014, The WHO Global Information System on Alcohol and Health (GISAH) and several respected high-impact journals. It is mainly in two parts, the first part outlining the current information available at Global, Regional and Country level, and the second part provides a picture of what needs to be done in the context of the Region to address harms of alcohol use, possible barriers and how to overcome them. These two parts can be read independently of each other.

Graphs and tables which clarify the text have been carefully selected from different sources and also generated using data from WHO GISAH, specifically for this publication. As this publication is aimed at a general audience that can include readers with different requirements related to alcohol use information, care was taken to include aspects that will be of interest to a broad audience ranging from policy makers, researchers, advocates to students.

Abbreviations

CSR	corporate social responsibility
DALYs	disability adjusted life-years
GATS	General Agreement Trade-Related Services
GISAH	Global Information System on alcohol and health
HED	heavy episodic drinking
IARD	International Alliance for Responsible Drinking
ICAP	International Center for Alcohol Policies
RTA	road traffic accident
SEAR	South-East Asia Region
SEARO	South-East Asia Regional Office
SPS	Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures
TBT	Technical Barriers to Trade
TRIPS	Trade-Related Intellectual Property Rights
WHO	World Health Organization

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