

South-East Asia Regional Response Plan for Integration of TB and Tobacco 2017–2021



REGIONAL OFFICE FOR

World Health
Organization

South-East Asia

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Regional Response Plan for
Integration of TB and Tobacco
2017–2021

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Foreword



Tobacco consumption and tuberculosis persist as major public health maladies, more so in the context of South-East Asia Region. The lives of millions of people across the Region are being adversely affected by the large comorbidity burden from tobacco consumption and tuberculosis. The Region is home to one-fourth of the world's population; however, it accounts for 45.6% of the global burden in terms of TB incidence. In 2015, about 4.7 million cases of TB occurred, and nearly 710 000 people died due to TB in the Region. Tobacco use is an equally serious public health concern in the Region. The Region has nearly one-quarter of all smokers in the world, and more than 80% of the global smokeless tobacco users. The rising trend of tobacco use among youth and women is particularly alarming.

The proven strong association between tuberculosis and tobacco calls for joint action to curb the epidemics of tobacco and tuberculosis in the Region. In fact, the lethal interaction between tobacco consumption and tuberculosis in adults, youth and high-risk population groups in the Region exemplifies the need for well integrated approaches for disease management and control. Traditional disease-specific approaches fall short of recognizing common features and potential synergies in integration of care, management and control of non-communicable and communicable diseases. Particularly in resource-limited environments in many countries of the Region, the need to tackle a broader range of overlapping comorbid conditions through integrative approaches can hardly be overemphasized.

The countries of the Region have largely not tapped the potential of this partnership for joint action to integrate tobacco and tuberculosis control interventions at different levels of healthcare delivery. The cost of inaction is loud and clear.

In this background, this Regional TB Tobacco Response Plan lays down the ground for integration of tuberculosis and tobacco programmes at appropriate levels to achieve maximum gains from the inputs in resource constrained environments. It is imperative that countries review and implement the strategies described in context of local situation towards saving lives and improving overall health and quality of life.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'P. Khetrpal'.

Dr Poonam Khetrpal Singh
Regional Director
WHO South-East Asia Region

预览已结束，完整报告

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