



JOINT NATIONAL CAPACITY ASSESSMENT
ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
EFFECTIVE TOBACCO CONTROL POLICIES IN

UGANDA

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Abbreviations

CME	Continuing Medical Education
COP	Conference of the Parties
COPD	chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
CTCA	Centre for Tobacco Control in Africa
DSIP	development strategy and investment plan
DSR	designated smoking room
EAC	East African Community
EPRC	Economic Policy Research Centre
GSPS	Global School Personnel Survey
GTSS	Global Tobacco Surveillance System
GYTS	Global Youth Tobacco Survey
HMIS	Health Management Information System
IDRC	International Development Research Centre
IEC	information, education and communication
MAAIF	Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries
MOES	Ministry of Education and Sports
MOFPED	Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development
MOH	Ministry of Health
MOING	Ministry of Information and National Guidance
MTTI	Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Industry

NAADS	National Agricultural Advisory Services
NARO	National Agricultural Research Organization
NCDs	noncommunicable diseases
NEMA	National Environment Management Authority
NGO	nongovernmental organization
NTLP	National Tuberculosis and Leprosy Programme
RITC	Research for International Tobacco Control
SHS	Second-hand smoke
TAPS	tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship
TB	Tuberculosis
TWG	Technical Working Group
UBOS	Uganda Bureau of Statistics
UDHS	Uganda Demographic Health Survey
UNHRO	Uganda National Health Research Organization
UHS	Uganda Household Survey
UNACOH	National Association of Community and Occupational Health
UNCST	Uganda National Council for Science and Technology
UNHRO	Uganda National Health Research Organization
URA	Uganda Revenue Authority
WHO FCTC	World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control

Executive summary

Uganda is a Party to the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC), which it ratified in 2007, despite a strong tobacco industry lobby. It is a tobacco-growing country where about 22% of males and 4% of females between 15 and 49 years of age currently use tobacco products. Uganda has been involved in curbing the tobacco epidemic since 1998. While the main causes of death in the country are communicable diseases, the burden of noncommunicable diseases (NCDs), particularly heart disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), stroke and cancer, is on the rise in the population. Knowing that tobacco is an underlying risk factor for NCDs, Uganda has made efforts to reduce the use of tobacco and to tackle its serious consequences for public health. Tobacco control is an established, cost-effective primary prevention intervention for countries at any stage of development. In 1998, the Ugandan Ministry of Health (MOH) established a Tobacco Control Desk to coordinate tobacco control, but it was not until 2002 that a tobacco control focal point was designated at the MOH. Tobacco control efforts have intensified over time, culminating in the establishment of the Environmental Regulations – Control of Smoking in Public Places Regulations in 2004.

The key milestones in tobacco control in Uganda are shown in Figure 1.

Figure 1: Uganda Tobacco Control Milestones



The government is determined to continue to strengthen its tobacco control efforts. Between 19 and 24 June 2011, a group of 15 national, international and WHO experts, in collaboration with a team from the

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