

Session 1

Where do we stand after 20 years of the WHO FCTC and what's next?



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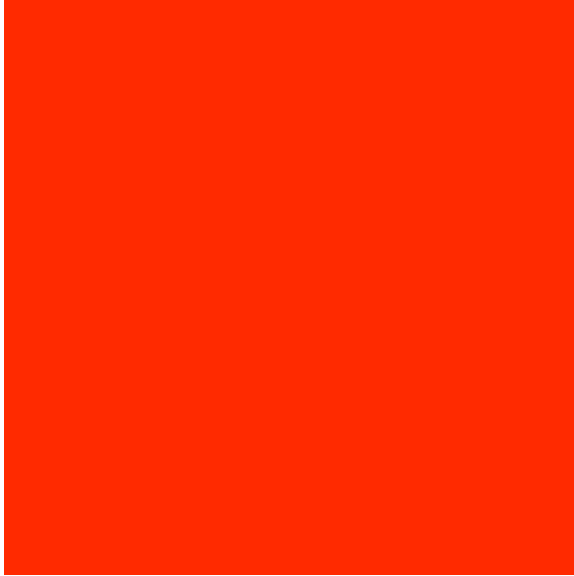
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Status: WHO FCTC achievements – global perspectives

7th ICO-WHO Symposium on Tobacco Control:
Taking **decisive action** in tobacco control

Barcelona, December 9, 2024

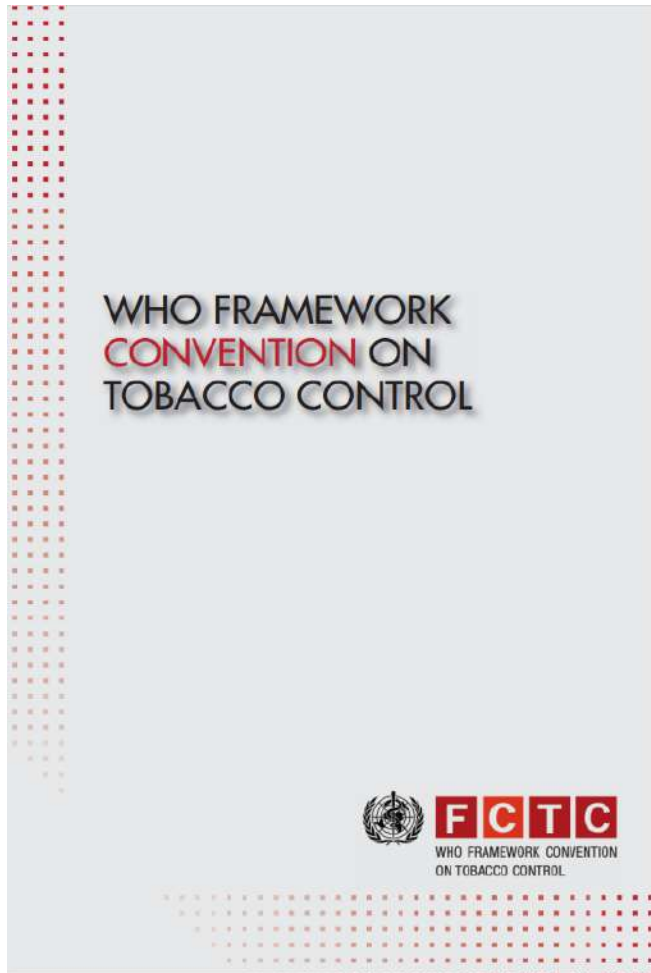


FCTC

WHO FRAMEWORK CONVENTION
ON TOBACCO CONTROL

S E C R E T A R I A T

WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC)



- First international health treaty negotiated under the auspices of WHO
- Developed in response to the globalization of the tobacco epidemic
- Evidence-based treaty that reaffirms **the right of all people to the highest standard of health**
- Entered into force on 27 February 2005
- 183 Parties (90% of the world population)
- Secretariat hosted by WHO in Headquarters

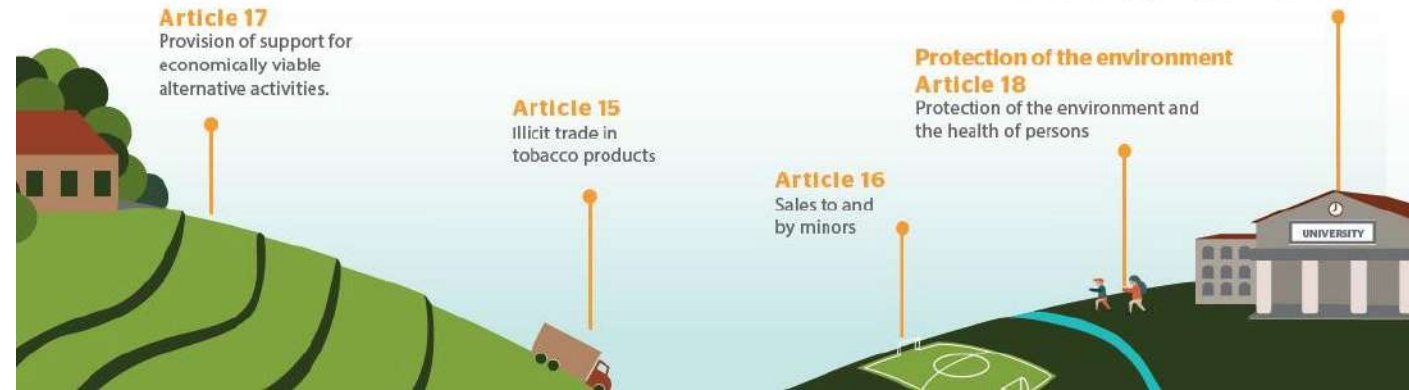
The WHO FCTC

WHO FCTC: demand and supply measures

Measures relating to the reduction of demand for tobacco



Measures relating to the reduction of the supply of tobacco



FCTC

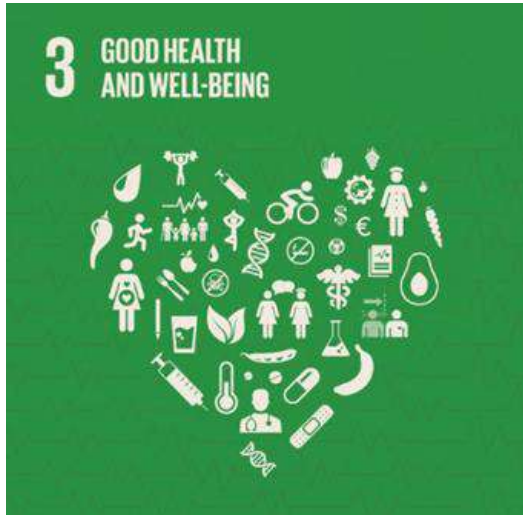
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WHO FCTC: a catalyst and framework for action

Spreading the drive and commitment to implement the WHO FCTC to national levels

WHO FCTC achievements: Keeping tobacco control on the global agenda and fostering international cooperation



Accelerating Sustainable Development: Strengthening the implementation of the WHO FCTC is a target under the Sustainable Development Goals.



Tackling NCDs: Strengthening the effective implementation of the WHO FCTC is recognized as an overarching action to tackle non-communicable diseases.



Providing a foundation for inter-agency collaboration on tobacco control: member of UN Interagency Taskforce on Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases and partnerships with UN agencies

WHO FCTC achievements: a framework for national action



Legal obligation for Parties: the WHO FCTC represents a milestone by ensuring that tobacco control is not only a health matter – Parties are legally bound to implement the treaty's provisions – making tobacco control the responsibility of the whole government.



Help to meet legal obligations: The WHO FCTC guidelines, along with the policy options and recommendations aim to assist Parties in meeting their legal obligations under the Convention – giving them a framework for action.



Technical advice and support: The Secretariat also offers all Parties technical advice and support – with a focus on supporting LMICs with implementation.

WHO FCTC 2030 Project: accelerating WHO FCTC implementation



WHO FCTC 2030: In 2016, the Government of the United Kingdom initiated the FCTC 2030 project to support LMICs implement the WHO FCTC, and they were soon joined by the governments of Australia and Norway.

President of El Salvador meeting the UK Ambassador at the opening of the FCTC 2030 project annual meeting in 2019



Working with countries: Together, the governments are enabling support to countries eligible to receive official development assistance (ODA) to further their work in tobacco control and implementation of the WHO FCTC.

School children supporting a smokefree Samoa during breast cancer awareness week



Achievements: The FCTC 2030 project has helped its more than 30 priority countries to develop, strengthen and implement tobacco control policies, along with other activities to support WHO FCTC implementation.

Display of tobacco control resources by Ministry of Health at an FCTC 2030 event in the Parliament of Suriname

WHO FCTC achievements: impact of implementation

The WHO FCTC has accelerated the implementation of lifesaving and evidence-based tobacco control policies



The WHO FCTC has provided a global roadmap for policies and a catalyst for action for **stronger tobacco control**

IMPACT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WHO FCTC



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In developed countries with many previous tobacco control measures, the WHO FCTC has clearly facilitated to **strengthen tobacco control**



Low and middle-income countries that had weak tobacco control, after ratifying the WHO FCTC have introduced **effective tobacco control**



The WHO FCTC has played an important role in **curbing** the global tobacco epidemic

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TOBACCO CONTROL

Impact Factor 4.151



Impact assessment



The WHO FCTC has been instrumental to legal defenses against the tobacco industry and have **increased awareness** of tobacco industry interference

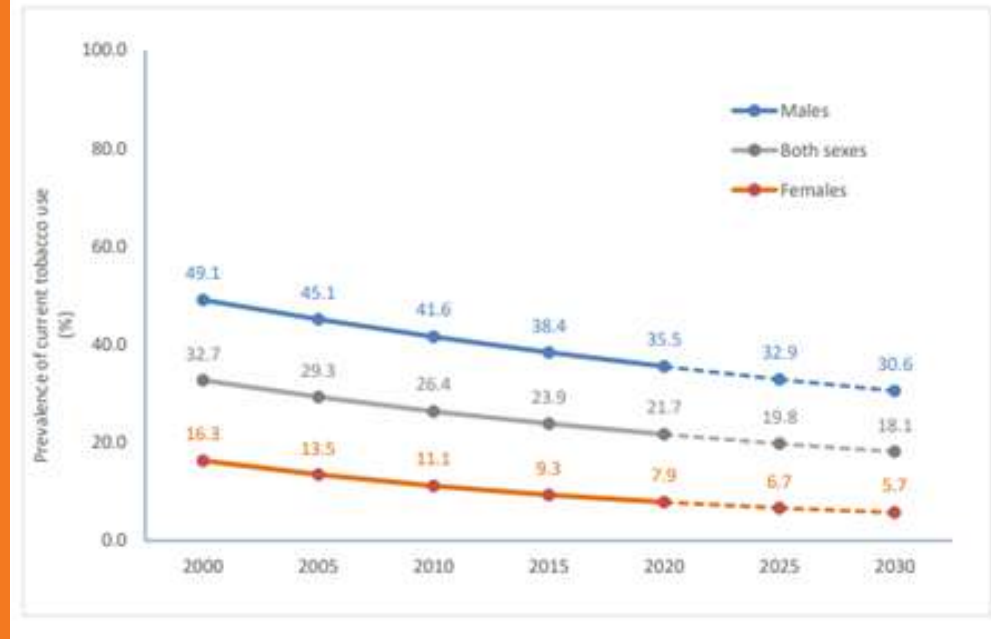
Changes in tobacco use prevalence

Global tobacco use has been steadily falling since the WHO FCTC entered into force, with a projected global prevalence of 18.1% by 2030 (WHO, 2024).

Among 170 countries who ratified the WHO FCTC, ratification was associated with 24 million fewer young people smoking and 2 million more people quitting over a ten-year period (Paraje, 2024).

In the Sustainable Development Goals Report 2024, it was recognised that there had been **moderate** progress in meeting SDG Target 3.A (Indicator: current tobacco use among persons 15 years and older), but that acceleration was needed.

Fig. 2: Global trends in prevalence of tobacco use among people aged 15 years and older, by sex, 2000–2030 (estimates to 2020, projections to 2030)



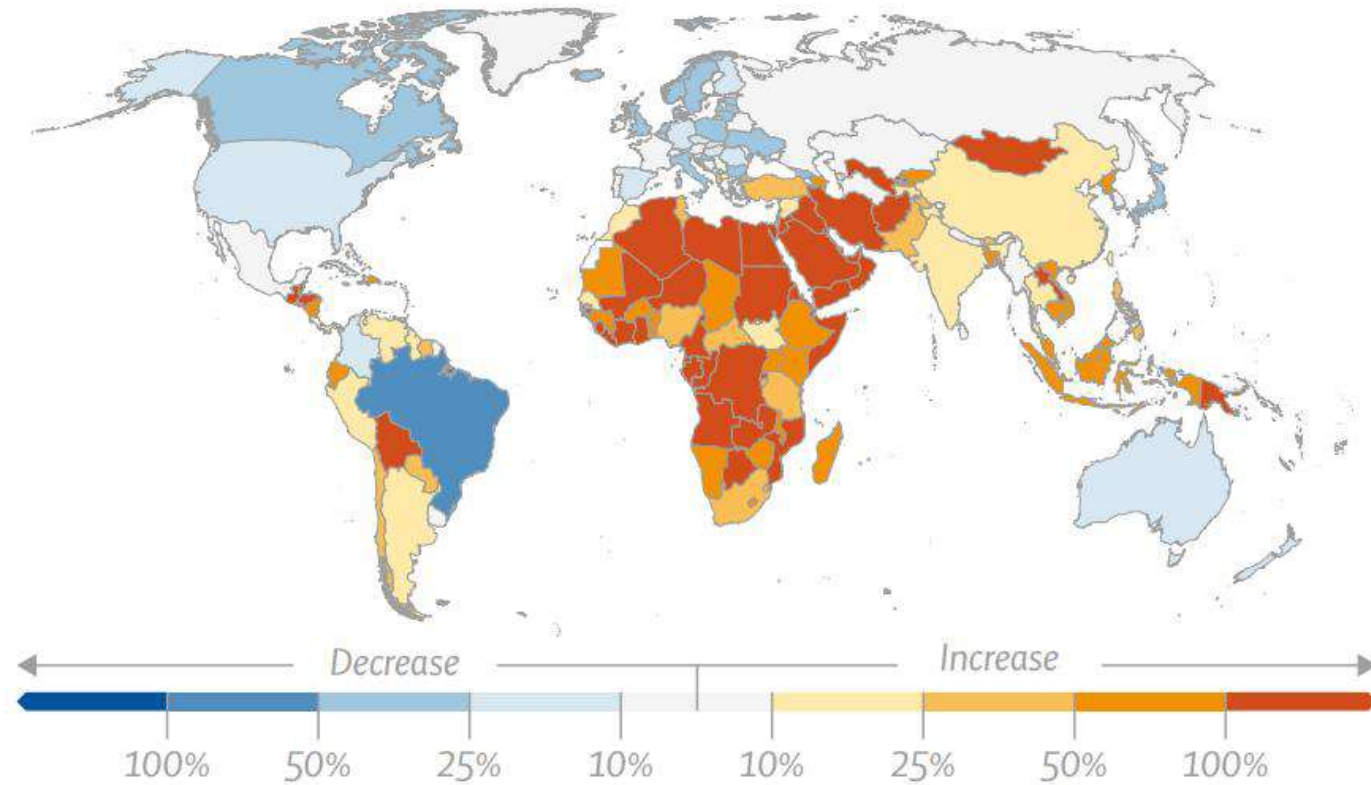
Number of smokers

With population growth, the absolute number of smokers has risen in many parts of the world

Global smokers (millions)



Change in number of smokers by country, 1990–2019



From: GBD 2019 Tobacco Collaborators. Spatial, temporal, and demographic patterns in prevalence of smoking tobacco use and attributable disease burden in 204 countries and territories, 1990–2019: a systematic analysis from the Global Burden of Disease Study 2019. *The Lancet* 2021; published online May 27

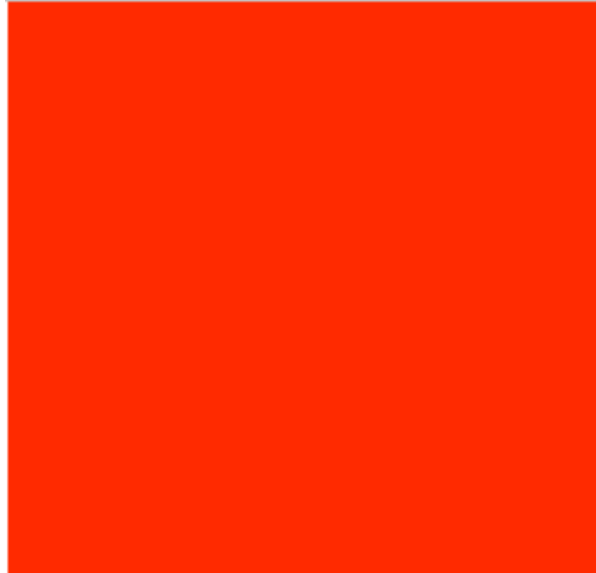
The Challenges: Any treaty is only as strong as the enactment of its obligations at the country level

The global tobacco control situation shows considerable disparity both in the implementation and enforcement of WHO FCTC measures.

The burden of the tobacco epidemic is being unequally carried by people left unprotected by strong tobacco control policies.

Action is needed to accelerate WHO FCTC implementation.





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