

Co-organizers:



[Date](#)
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January 19, 2022
08.00-09.00 am CET
Zoom
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TOWARDS AN AMBITIOUS GLOBAL ALCOHOL ACTION PLAN

The obstacles and accelerators for alcohol policy development

Purpose

In 2020 WHO Member States called for accelerated action on alcohol harm as public health priority. In the two years since, the World Health Organization has conducted extensive consultations to develop a new Global Alcohol Action Plan.

Countries around the world are showing that evidence-based alcohol policy interventions are impactful in protecting people from alcohol harms but overall the WHO Global Alcohol Strategy has not facilitated progress in alcohol policy development and the prevention and reduction of alcohol harms.

- Most countries, especially low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), have NOT implemented a comprehensive set of alcohol policies.
- Without action, Africa could see an increase in both the absolute number and proportion of people consuming alcohol, the amount consumed per capita and heavy episodic alcohol use.
- South East Asia has seen a 29% increase in per capita alcohol use since 2010.
- In Europe: Alcohol has become more affordable in last decade.
- In high income countries, alcohol use is the second fastest growing risk factor.
- Alcohol is the largest risk factor for disease burden in the group 25-49 years.

This is the context for the discussion of the WHO Global Alcohol Action.

Objectives

This event aims to illustrate the importance of accelerating action on alcohol harm by discussing examples of ambitious alcohol policy development and what that means for people and communities.

The event maps the needs for protecting alcohol policy development from alcohol industry interference and sheds light on concrete examples of industry interference and what that meant for communities.

This event aims to discuss solutions that help accelerate alcohol policy action to help achieve the sustainable development goals.

Member states participants: Ministry of Health Sri Lanka, Ministry of Health Kenya, and Ministry of Health Slovenia

PROGRAMME

Opening

Country perspectives Slovenia's vision for the global alcohol action plan and why alcohol policy is needed

Sri Lanka's plans and needs for alcohol policy development going forward

The role of WHO guidance in Kenya's alcohol law and national alcohol strategy

Civil Society analysis How the alcohol industry tries to water down the global alcohol action plan and what alcohol industry interference means for communities – Australian examples

Innovative solutions to accelerate alcohol policy action as public health priority

Wrap-up and closing The lessons/ insights from today's conversation for the way forward