



# THE BENEFITS OF IMPLEMENTING TOBACCO CONTROL PUBLIC POLICIES

62 people die every day as a consequence of smoking

1.630,072 million\* is the cost of the damage caused by cigarettes in the healthcare system and the economy.

**WHO MPOWER** INTERVENTIONS HAVE BEEN PROVEN TO SAVE LIVES AND REDUCE COSTS BY AVOIDING HEALTH CARE EXPENSES.





### **SMOKING HARMS HEALTH AND THE ECONOMY**

CAUSES DEATHS AND DISEASES

4%

of all deaths in the country can be attributed to smoking.

22.600





101.213

Annual cases of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), cancer, heart diseases and other diseases are caused by tobacco use.

HAS AN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COST



#### **N493,334** millions\*

Direct medical costs

These are the costs of healthcare and treatments in health centers and hospitals.

#### **№** 78,816 millions\*

Lost productivity

This is the amount of money that the country loses due to illness and premature death of the working population.

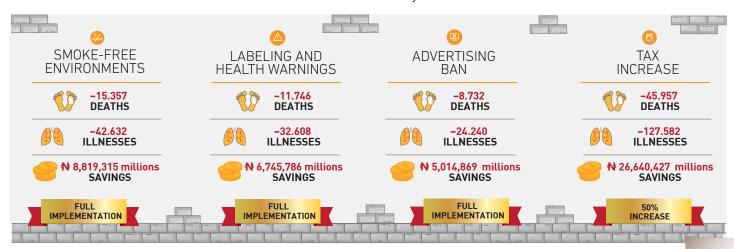
### **№ 57,921 millions\*** Informal care

It is the cost of time that family members and relatives dedicate to taking care of people who get sick by smoking

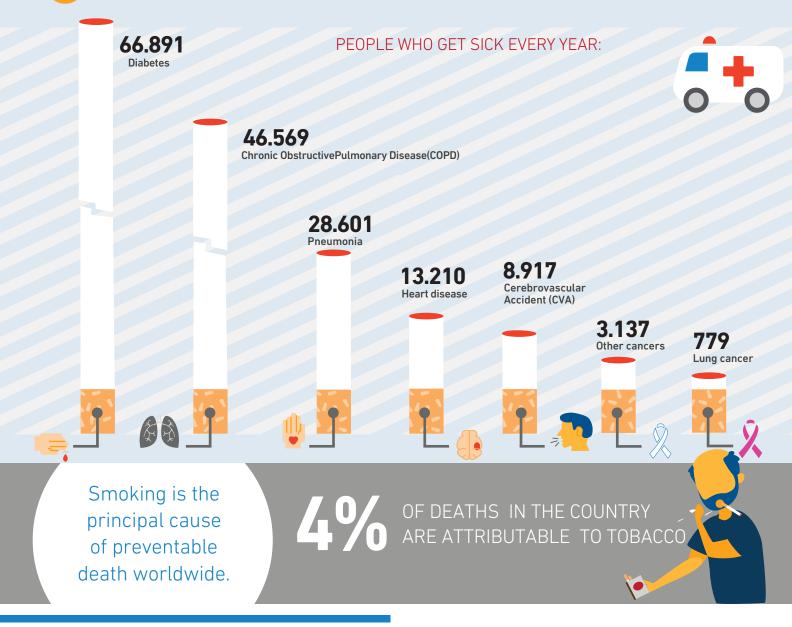


### THE BENEFITS OF IMPLEMENTING PUBLIC POLICIES FOR TOBACCO CONTROL

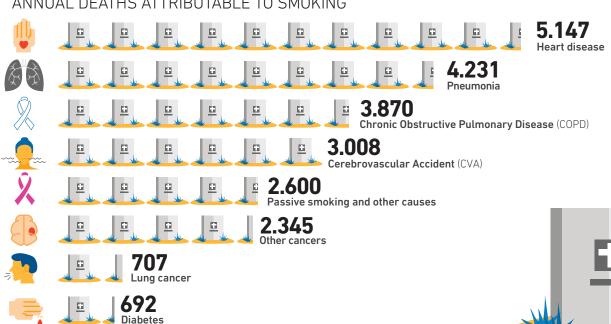
Deaths and illnesses avoided and how much the health system could saved.

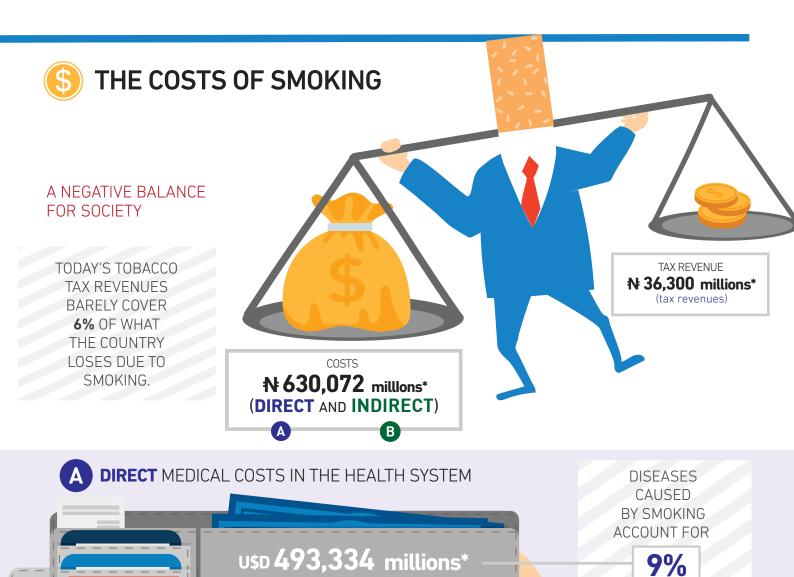


#### **DISEASES AND DEATHS ATTRIBUTABLE TO TOBACCO**









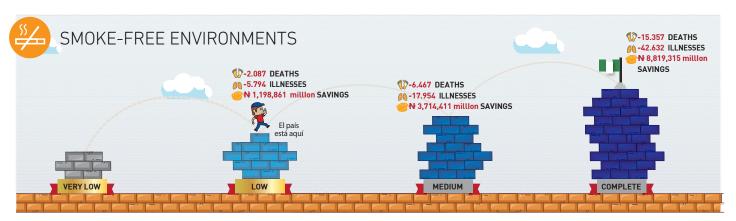


OF THE TOTAL HEALTH EXPENDITURE OF THE COUNTRY.

## MPOWER INTERVENTIONS MEASURES RECOMMENDED BY WHO

What would be the 10-year benefits?

Deaths and illnesses avoided, and economic savings









<sup>\*</sup>Cases of COPD, heart disease, stroke and cancer

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Smoking is the leading preventable cause of death and disease worldwide. Each year, more than five million deaths worldwide are attributable to the consumption of tobacco products. In Nigeria, it is estimated that 8% of men and 0.4% of women are smokers.

The information presented here is part of a study led by IECS and conducted by researchers from universities, research centers, and public institutions in Bolivia, Honduras, Nigeria, Paraguay, and Uruguay. This work is part of a research line on tobacco control that IECS began in 2005 and has generated scientific studies and publications on this topic in 12 countries in Latin America, as well as in Nigeria and India. The results from all countries are available at https://tabaco.iecs.org.ar/.

The results presented here were obtained using a mathematical model developed by the research group (1), which allows estimating the probabilities that individuals have of becoming ill or dying from each of the major diseases associated with smoking.

In Nigeria, smoking causes a significant number of deaths, illnesses, and economic costs. The major burden is due to diabetes, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), cardiovascular diseases, and cancers. Its impact on mortality and quality of life is directly responsible for the loss of more than 144.600 years of life each year and explains 4% of all deaths in the country in individuals over 35 years of age. This represents approximately 22.600 preventable deaths per year.

Smoking generates an annual direct medical cost to the health-care system of more than \$493,300 million, a lost productivity cost (due to disability and premature death) exceeding \$78,800 million, and costs for informal caregiving of more than \$57,921 million. In total, these costs amount to more than 0.36% of the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Tax revenue from

cigarette sales is approximately \$36,600 million annually, a value that barely covers 17% of the total economic costs caused by cigarettes in the healthcare system and society.

The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends a series of public policies that have proven effective in saving lives and reducing associated economic costs. WHO's MPOWER interventions include: monitoring of tobacco consumption and prevention measures; smoke-free environments; tobacco cessation; graphic health warnings on packaging; banning advertising, promotion, and sponsorship; and raising tobacco taxes.

The full implementation of four of these interventions, consisting of ban on advertising, plain packaging with health warnings, smoke-free environments, and 50% tax increase, would prevent 8,732, 11,746, 15,357, and 45,957 deaths, respectively, in the next 10 years. This, in turn, would result in economic savings for the healthcare system and society of \$5,014,869 million, \$6,745,786 million, \$8,819,315 million, and \$26,640,427 million, respectively, in the next 10 years.

As the main conclusion of the study, it was established that smoking continues to represent a significant burden of disease for Latin American countries. The full implementation of tobacco control measures could successfully prevent smoking-related deaths and illnesses, reduce healthcare spending and losses in caregiver time and labor productivity, as well as increase tax revenue, resulting in significant economic benefits for the countries.

The team of professionals who conducted this research hopes that these results will help raise awareness of the health and economic impact of smoking, and serve as a useful tool for governments and healthcare systems to define more effective and efficient measures in the fight against tobacco control.

Funding: This collaborative work was conducted with a grant from the Cancer Research UK (CRUK) (2).

**CÓMO CITAR ESTE DOCUMENTO:** Institute for Clinical Effectiveness and Health Policy.

THE BENEFITS OF APPLYING TOBACCO CONTROL PUBLIC POLICIES Nigeria. Espinola N, Casarini A, Lazo E, Pichon-Riviere A., Capriata E, XX, Calvete S, Bardach A, Augustovski F, Comolli M, Alcaraz A Nov. 2023, Buenos Aires, Argentina. Available at: https://tabaco.iecs.org.ar/

(1) Pichon-Riviere, A., Alcaraz, A., Palacios, A., et al. (2020).

The health and economic burden of smoking in 12 Latin American countries and the potential effect of increasing tobacco taxes: an economic modelling study. The Lancet Global Health, 8(10), e1282-e1294.

(2) https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/





\* (Naira) 5