



USA: Binge alcohol use causes more than 50% of all 90,000 alcohol-related deaths each year. It accounts for 75% of the annual costs of alcohol of \$224 Billion. 1% increase in alcohol beverage prices would lead to a 1.4% decrease in adult binge alcohol use.



Analysis of 112 different studies showed raising the alcohol price decreases alcohol use and thus helps reduce NCDs, such as cancer, sexually transmitted diseases, suicide rates, and alcohol-related mortality.



At any given level of alcohol consumption, poorer people can be as much as three or four times as likely to die from an alcohol-related condition as richer people.



Evidence from 16 countries: Increasing alcohol tax by 1% resulted in 0.19% reduction in likelihood of robberies 0.25% reduction in probability of assaults and 0.16% reduction in probability of sexual assault.



A study of 42 high-, middle- and low-income countries found that raising excise duties on alcohol to at least 40% of the total retail price would increase tax revenue in these countries by 80% to US\$ 77 Billion.



A 1% increase in the alcohol price is associated with a 5% reduced risk of being a victim of domestic violence as a wife.



Children achieve better school results when alcohol harm among their parents can be prevented.

With a 10% price increase the proportion of college students involved in violence each year would decline by ca. 200,000 (i.e. 4%).



USA: 10% rise in beer duty would reduce likelihood of severe violence against children by 2.3% and overall violence against children by 1.5%



Globally, alcohol is #1 risk factor for ill-health and premature death among 25 - 59 year-olds, the core of the working age population. Including alcohol's harm to others, alcohol costs amount to 4-6% of GDP annually. USA: 10-year analysis of workplace accidents found a 10% rise in beer taxes would result in 1.7% fewer work days lost due to injuries.

Finland: A 33% reduction in alcohol taxation reduced retail prices by 22% causing rising consumption and a rise in mortality rates by 17%. Mortality was particularly concentrated on lower socio-economic groups.





WIN-WIN-WIN A TRIPLE WIN MEASURE FOR GLOBAL HEALTH AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The most cost-effective measures to prevent and address alcohol harm remain price interventions especially through taxation.

Implementing alcohol taxation measures reaps a triple positive effect:

Domestic resource mobilization

- Generate government revenue for financing development and health promotion

Easing the public health and sustainable development burden

- Reduce alcohol-related harms and alcohol's overall public health, social and economic burden

Prevention of initiation of alcohol use

- Maintain high-levels of alcohol abstinence rates in low- and middle income countries

Alcohol taxation – massive potential for health and development financing

Learning from tobacco

- WHO estimates show that if all countries increased tobacco taxes by 50% government revenue would increase by US\$ 101 Billion globally.

Domestic resource mobilization: Untapped potential

- Compared with tobacco taxation, the potential for domestic resource mobilization through alcohol taxation could be even bigger since taxes on alcohol tend to be lower in most countries.
- A study of 42 high-, middle- and low-income countries found that raising excise duties on alcohol to at least 40% of the total retail price would **increase tax revenue** in these countries **by 80%** to US\$ 77 Billion.
- Expressed as a proportion of total current spending on health, it is low-income countries that have most to gain (**additional receipts would amount to 38%** of total current spending on health).

Alcohol harm is growing throughout much of the world. Alcohol use causes 3.3 million deaths per year, meaning every 10 seconds a human being dies due to alcohol. It is the seventh leading cause of death and disability worldwide, and is the leading cause of death and disability for young people ages 15 to 49. 13 of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals are adversely affected by alcohol and ill-health and deaths from alcohol consumption disproportionately affect poorer countries and poorer populations within countries.

At the same time, evidence shows that alcohol's pervasive harm is preventable.

