

Index for Tobacco Control Sustainability

CÔTE D'IVOIRE

INDICATORS		Present (P)/ Absent (A)	Weighted Score	Country Score
1.	Pre-requisite Indicator: >4 MPOWER policies in place	P	9	0
2.	National tobacco control budget (annual)	A	7	0
3.	National tobacco control law	P	6	6
4.	National budget allocation for tobacco control capacity building	P	6	6
5.	Tobacco taxation > 75% of retail sales price	A	6	0
6.	Tobacco taxation increases faster than inflation plus gross domestic product growth	A	6	0
7.	National tobacco control unit	P	5	5
8.	Civil society tobacco control network	P	5	5
9.	Civil society representation in national tobacco control advisory committees	A	5	0
10.	Health promotion fund for or including tobacco control	A	5	0
11.	National policy against tobacco industry corporate social responsibility	P	5	0
12.	Tobacco-related mortality and morbidity recording system	P	5	5
13.	National evaluation framework in place	P	5	5
14.	Evaluation built into all major policy implementation plans	P	5	5
15.	National tobacco control strategy	P	4	4
16.	Tobacco control and noncommunicable diseases form part of national health policy	P	4	4
17.	Tobacco control forms part of national development plan	P	4	0
18.	Human resource for implementation (national)	P	4	4
19.	Global Tobacco Surveillance System surveys	P	4	4
20.	Intergovernmental coordination mechanism	A	3	0
21.	Capacity building plan for tobacco control personnel	P	3	3
22.	Developmental assistance funding includes tobacco control	P	3	3
23.	Code of conduct for government officials and staff	A	3	0
24.	Ministry of Health WHO FCTC Article 5.3 policy	A	3	0
25.	WHO FCTC Article 5.3 policy across all ministries	A	3	0
26.	Economic and social tobacco costs data	P	3	3
27.	National focal point post	P	3	3
28.	National advisory committee	A	2	0
29.	Capacity building plans on research and evaluation	P	2	2
30.	Mass media campaigns funded	P	1	1
31.	Capacity building plan for non tobacco control specific personnel	P	1	1
Total Score			130	69

Explanation of the scores:

- Law No. 2019-676 of July 23, 2019, on tobacco control in Côte d'Ivoire places particular emphasis on the six MPOWER policies that involve: To monitor tobacco consumption and prevention policies, according to the provisions of Article 5 of the law: "Manufacturers and importers of tobacco products are obliged to communicate annually to the Ministry in charge of Health, all information relating to the quality, quantity, composition and emissions of tobacco products. The competent services of the Ministry in charge of Health ensure the periodic and unannounced control".
- To protect the population from tobacco smoke, according to article 19: "It is forbidden for any person to expose others to the smoke of tobacco and tobacco products. It is also prohibited to smoke in public places closed or open to the public, or for collective use and any place that constitutes a workplace, as well as in public means of transportation. The modalities of application of the present article are defined by regulation".
- To aid those who want to stop smoking, according to Article 26 of Law No. 2019-677 of July 23, 2019, on the orientation of public health policy in Côte d'Ivoire: "The State shall ensure the improvement of the management of addicts, by the Intégration of nicotine substitutes and substitution treatments of opiates on the list of essential medicines. To this end, we have the establishment of the unit to promote the cessation of smoking in Côte d'Ivoire in the department of pneumology of the CHU Cocody by the Ministry of Health.
- To warn against the dangers of smoking, according to Article 28 of Law No. 2019-677 of July 23, 2019 on the orientation of public health policy in Côte d'Ivoire: "the State guarantees public access to information on the harms of smoking and other addictions ..."
- To enforce the ban on tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship; Articles 14,15 and 16 of Law No. 2019-676 of July 23, 2019, on tobacco control in Côte d'Ivoire provide that Article 14: "Advertising including cross-border advertising, promotion, direct or indirect propaganda in favor of tobacco and tobacco products, sponsorship, sponsorship and patronage, in any place, in any form and nature, is prohibited. It is also prohibited any other communication in favor of tobacco and its products. Article 15: "The offer, the discount, the distribution of tobacco or tobacco products as a promotion or free of charge is prohibited". Article 16: "It is forbidden to offer or distribute, free of charge or for a fee, objects bearing the name, brand, advertising emblem of a tobacco product or those of a producer, manufacturer, trader or distributor of tobacco and tobacco products. This prohibition also applies to any other distinctive sign directly or indirectly related to tobacco and tobacco products. We have Article 28 of Law No. 2019-677 of July 23, 2019, on the orientation of public health policy in Côte d'Ivoire, which states in fine that "The State shall ensure the adoption of legislation against smoking ... to the comprehensive prohibition of advertising, promotion and sponsorship of tobacco products."
- To increase taxes on tobacco, according to Article 29 of Law No. 2019-677 of July 23, 2019, on the orientation of public health policy in Côte d'Ivoire "The State shall implement a binding fiscal policy to reduce smoking and other addictions." Also relevant is the article of Law n°2019-676 of July 23, 2019, on tobacco control in Côte d'Ivoire: "The State implements policies, strategies, regulations, programs and all other non-incentive fiscal measures to contribute to the fight against tobacco use." Article 13: "Tax-free sales are not applicable to tobacco and tobacco products in the free zones. Any entry of tobacco and tobacco products is subject to taxation in accordance with the texts in force.

Main Findings:

1. According to WHO GTCR 2021, Cote d'Ivoire has only met the highest level of achievement for enforcing advertising bans.
2. There is no annual national budget for tobacco control. The tobacco control budget is integrated into the budget of the Ministry of Health, Public Hygiene and Universal Health Coverage.
3. The national law on tobacco control is Law No. 2019-676 of July 23, 2019, on tobacco control in Côte d'Ivoire. Also relevant is Law n°2019-677 of July 23, 2019, on the orientation of the public health policy in Côte d'Ivoire, where section 6 addresses smoking.
4. The budget allocated towards tobacco control incorporates capacity building measures to enhance the effectiveness of tobacco control initiatives. The PNLTA, which is responsible for coordinating tobacco control efforts, conducts training workshops and meetings to equip tobacco control actors with the necessary skills and knowledge to prevent tobacco use.
5. N/A.
6. N/A.
7. The Ministry of Health has established the National Program for the Fight against Tobacco, Drug, Alcohol and Other Addictions (PNLTA) as an agency dedicated to addressing the issue of addiction.
8. The network of NGOs dedicated to tobacco control in Côte d'Ivoire consists of various civil society organizations actively engaged in this cause. These organizations include the University Unesco Committee/Club for the Fight against Drugs and other Pandemics (CLUCOD), School without Tobacco and Ecology (ESTAB-ECOLO), among others.
9. N/A.
10. N/A, this fund does not exist.
11. N/A.
12. Yes, these data are recorded through the system of PNLTA at the Ministry of Health.
13. Yes, the national evaluation framework is in place.
14. Yes, evaluation is integrated into all major noncommunicable disease (NCD) policy implementation plans that address tobacco use, e.g., the National Health Development Program (NHDP).
15. Yes, the national tobacco control strategy is designed and implemented by the NTP, key ministries, and CSOs.
16. Yes, tobacco control and NCD prevention are part of national health policies. The PNLTA implements the tobacco control policy and the National Program for the Prevention of Non-Communicable Diseases implements the chronic disease policy.
17. No. Tobacco control is not included in the National Development Plan (NDP).
18. Yes. The PNLTA is staffed with multidisciplinary personnel to implement tobacco control. In addition, various health districts and departmental directorates have been strengthened to take charge of tobacco control.
19. Yes. Côte d'Ivoire is implementing the GTSS survey.
20. No, this mechanism does not yet exist. It is the PNLTA that ensures the coordination of tobacco control in Côte

d'Ivoire. It is a sectoral agency that has set up focal points in key ministries.

21. Yes. A capacity building plan exists within the PNLTA as well as at the CSO level.
22. Yes. The provision of development assistance funding encompasses technical cooperation (TC) facilitated by the World Health Organization (WHO) in collaboration with the Ministry of Health. Various organizations such as the UNION, Global Alliance for Tobacco Control (formerly known as FCA), and the African Capacity Building Foundation also support this cause.
23. Yes. The Code of Ethics for Civil Servants in Côte d'Ivoire serves to establish clear guidelines for the conduct of government officials in their interactions with third parties while carrying out their official duties. Similarly, the Law on the Fight Against Corruption and Related Offenses also outlines the various protocols and procedures to be followed in order to combat corrupt practices within the government.
24. No. There is no specific policy on Article 5.3 of the FCTC at the Ministry of Health.
25. No. There is no formal policy on Article 5.3 of the FCTC in all key ministries.
26. Yes. Data pertaining to the economic and social costs of tobacco control are readily available within the Ministry of Health, particularly at the level of the National Tobacco Control Program and various health centers.
27. Yes. The position of national focal point exists and is provided by the PNLTA.
28. No. The national advisory committee has not yet been created.
29. Yes. A research and evaluation capacity building plan exists at the NTPTA.
30. Yes. Tobacco control campaigns in the media are financed (activities such as vacances culture that the PNLTA organizes in partnership with RTI every year during school vacations).
31. Yes. A targeted capacity building plan exists, considering administrations responsible for tobacco control in Côte d'Ivoire, as well as human rights and consumer organizations, to effectively implement policies and protect consumer rights.

Main findings:

The sustainability of tobacco control in Côte d'Ivoire has been marked by significant achievements. These include the establishment of the National Program for the Fight against Tobacco, Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Other Addictions (PNLTA) through decree n°415 of December 28, 2001, modified by decree n°210 of August 11, 2008. Additionally, the country ratified the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control in October 2010, and its additional protocol on the elimination of illicit trade in tobacco products in 2015.

Further achievements include the issuance of Decree No. 2012-980 of October 10, 2012, which banned smoking in public places and public transport, and the adoption of Law n°2019-676 of July 23, 2019, on tobacco control in Côte d'Ivoire. The country also adopted Law n°2019-677 of July 23, 2019, on the orientation of the public health policy in Côte d'Ivoire.

In addition, the country has adopted a decree on the modalities of application of health warnings, neutral packaging,

labelling, and marketing of tobacco and tobacco products (January 2022), as well as a decree establishing a system of monitoring, traceability, and fiscal verification of tobacco products (January 2022). The development of a national strategic plan 2019–2021 for tobacco control, recurrent tax increases on tobacco products, and the financing of tobacco control through parafiscal charges are also noteworthy achievements.

Finally, the existence of a civil society trained and dedicated to tobacco control is a significant accomplishment. These achievements demonstrate Côte d'Ivoire's commitment to tobacco control and its efforts to create a sustainable and effective tobacco control program.

Remaining gaps in tobacco control sustainability

One of the key gaps is the lack of coordination among various ministries, including the ministries of Trade and Industry, Security, Defense, Budget and State Portfolio, Women, Family and Children, Justice and Human Rights, Public Prosecutor, and Economy and Finance. To address this gap, it is recommended that the PNLTA involve other ministries and civil society more in the design, implementation, and monitoring of policies to ensure the sustainability of tobacco control in the country. The creation of an intergovernmental agency integrating all key ministries, as well as civil society, would be an asset for the sustainability of tobacco control in Côte d'Ivoire.

Another issue is strong interference from the tobacco industry. The legal provisions in Côte d'Ivoire do not foresee any provision in connection with article 5.3 of the FCTC concerning the interference of the tobacco industry. This legal vacuum facilitates the tobacco industry's continued efforts to undermine the various actions being taken to prevent tobacco use in Côte d'Ivoire. Therefore, it is necessary to accentuate the advocacy for the adoption of the text relating to the 5.3 FCTC for the sustainability of tobacco control in Côte d'Ivoire.

Lastly, civil society organizations involved in tobacco control in Côte d'Ivoire need to be strengthened. To address this issue, capacity building should include institutional support and staff training through sharing of experiences with other CSOs involved in tobacco control. Financing CSOs with public funds, WHO, or other partners would be a guarantee for the sustainability of tobacco control in Côte d'Ivoire.

Addressing these weaknesses is crucial for the effective implementation and sustainability of tobacco control policies in Côte d'Ivoire.