

# Index for Tobacco Control Sustainability

TANZANIA

INDICATORS		Present (P)/ Absent (A)	Weighted Score	Country Score
1.	Prerequisite 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	A	6	0
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	A	5	0
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	P	5	5
11.	National policy against tobacco industry corporate social responsibility	A	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	A	4	0
18.	Human resource for implementation (national)	P	4	4
19.	Global Tobacco Surveillance System surveys	P	4	4
20.	Intergovernmental coordination mechanism	P	3	3
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	P	3	3
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	A	2	0
30.	Mass media campaigns funded	P	1	1
31.	Capacity building plan for non tobacco control specific personnel	P	1	1
<b>Total Score</b>			<b>130</b>	<b>67</b>

## Explanation of the scores:

1. MPOWER policies in place: According to GTCR 2021, no MPOWER policies in Tanzania have achieved highest level of standard.
2. National tobacco control budget: N/A.
3. National tobacco control law: Tobacco Products (Regulation) Act (2003).
4. National budget allocation for TC capacity building: N/A.
5. Tobacco taxation >75% of retail sales price: According to GTCR 2021, tobacco tax constitutes 30% of retail price, lower than the 75% recommended by WHO.
6. Tobacco taxation increases faster than inflation plus GDP growth: No.
7. National TC unit/cell: N/A.
8. Civil society TC network: The TTCF has a network of more than 30 like-minded CSOs advocating for tobacco control.
9. Civil society representation in national TC advisory committees: N/A.
10. Health promotion for/including TC: Health promotion deals with all health issues including tobacco control.
11. National policy against TI CRS: N/A.
12. TC-related mortality and morbidity recording system: The National Health Information System records TC-related morbidity & mortality.
13. National evaluation framework/plan in place: Present.
14. Evaluation built into all major policy implementation plans: Present.
15. National Tobacco Control Strategy: The National Tobacco Control Strategy 2021–2026 was developed.
16. TC and NCDs form part of national health policy: TC and NCDs are embedded in the Health Sector Strategic Plan 2021-2026 and National Health Policy 2018, although improvement is needed.
17. TC forms part of the National Development Plan: N/A.
18. Human resources for implementation (national): Present.
19. GTSS Survey: GATS was conducted 2018 and GYTS in 2016.
20. Intergovernmental coordination mechanism: Present.
21. Capacity building plan for TC-specific personnel – Training of health care providers on NCDs and risk factors (tobacco inclusive) at national level is ongoing.
22. Development assistance funding includes tobacco: Currently tobacco control is supported by the MoH FCTC Project 2023.
23. Code of conduct for government officials: There is a Code of Ethics and Conducts for the public services.

24. Ministry of Health 5.3 policy: N/A.
25. 5.3 Policy across all Ministries: N/A.
26. Economic/Social TC Data: Tobacco Investment Case 2022 covers the economic and social costs from tobacco use.
27. National focal point post: Present at national level.
28. National advisory committee: N/A.
29. Capacity building plans on research and evaluation: N/A.
30. Mass media campaigns funded: There is funding at the Health Promotion Unit at MOH to support mass media campaigns.
31. Capacity building for non-TC-specific personnel: There is training support for other key ministries.

## Main findings

The Government of Tanzania launched the National NCD Prevention and Control Program in 2019, which operates under the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) and includes a special NCD Unit that works closely with the NCD Unit at the Ministry of Health (MoH). The head of the unit at PMO is responsible for handling tobacco control issues as well. Additionally, there is a FCTC Focal Point at MoH who oversees tobacco control issues, and the Health Promotion Unit conducts awareness-raising programs on tobacco control.

The Tanzania Non-Communicable Diseases Alliance, of which TTCF is a member and its executive director a board member, offers a special training program for healthcare providers across the country, which includes tobacco control.

A technical advisory committee to the health minister on tobacco control matters is currently being formulated and will be announced soon, in accordance with FCTC requirements. The committee will also incorporate relevant civil society organizations.

Tanzania currently receives support for tobacco control under the FCTC 2030 Project, although the funding is allocated for specific activities. However, the tobacco industry's interference is high and needs to be addressed seriously to enable discussion of the long-awaited FCTC-compliant tobacco control bill in parliament, which will replace the flawed Tobacco Products Regulation Act (2003).

### Remaining gaps in tobacco control sustainability

The identified gaps in tobacco control in Tanzania require urgent attention to enhance the effectiveness of tobacco control measures. Firstly, a dedicated national budget is needed for tobacco control to reduce donor dependency and ensure sustainable progress. The absence of an FCTC-compliant tobacco control law has allowed the tobacco industry to increase their advertising and promotion activities, making it necessary to bring the long-awaited FCTC-compliant tobacco control bill to the table in parliament. The establishment of a tobacco control unit at the Ministry of Health is also crucial to ensure efficiency in the implementation of tobacco control measures. Tanzania's low tobacco taxes highlight the need for an effective tobacco taxation policy to curb tobacco use and generate funds for tobacco control. The lack of a 5.3 policy to curb tobacco industry interference and increasing TI CSR activities further derail tobacco control efforts. Additionally, the absence of restriction on interactions with the tobacco industry for government workers and policy makers, as required in Article 5.3 of the FCTC, is a significant gap. Finally, capacity building at all levels is needed to develop a workforce conversant with WHO FCTC to enhance the implementation of tobacco control measures.