



**Caribbean Institute for He:alth Research** 

# Alcohol industry actions in the English Caribbean and the role of civil society in fighting back

Dr. T. Alafia Samuels Caribbean Institute for Health Research UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES, Mona Sex-specific Prevalence (%) Estimates for History of Alcohol Use, Harmful Use of Alcohol and Binge Drinking in Jamaicans 15 Years and Older, JHLSIII 2017, Wilks et al

| <b>History of Alcohol Use</b>   | Male              | Female         | Total                  |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|------------------------|
| Lifetime Drinking***            | 75.5              | 46.6           | 60.7                   |
| Past Drinker***                 | 9.0               | 10.9           | 9.5                    |
| Current drinker***              | 58.2              | 25.0           | 41.2                   |
| - Binge Drinking <sup>***</sup> | 13.8 [11.8, 16.1] | 3.5 [2.6, 4.8] | 8.5 [7.4 <i>,</i> 9.9] |

#### Sex-Specific and Total Percentage (%) Distribution of AUDIT Score Categories in 15 Years and Older Jamaicans Who Used Alcohol in the Past Year, JHLSIII 2017, Wilks et al

A score of **8 or more is associated with harmful or hazardous drinking**, a score of 13 or more in women, and 15 or more in men, is likely to indicate alcohol dependence

#### one in eight male drinkers – harmful drinking

| Risk Level*** | Male              | Female                | Total             |
|---------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| I (0–7)       | 86 [82.4, 89]     | 95.4 [93 <i>,</i> 97] | 89.4 [86.6, 91.7] |
| II (8–15)     | 13.1 [10.1, 16.7] | 3.9 [2.6, 5.8]        | 9.8 [7.7, 12.3]   |
| III (16–19)   | 0.6 [0.3, 1.2]    | 0.6 [0.1, 3.2]        | 0.6 [0.3, 1.3]    |
| IV (20–40)    | 0.3 [0.1, 1]      | 0.1 [0,0.3]           | 0.2 [0.1, 0.6]    |

#### Comparing proposed interventions – Regional vs Industry

#### **7** Regional Priorities for Alcohol

- a) Regulating commercial and public availability of alcohol
- b) Restricting and banning the advertising of alcohol
- c) Using pricing policy such as excise tax increases on alcoholic beverages
- d) Drink driving
- e) Product Information and Labelling
- f) Product Adaption and
- g) Monitoring and Evaluation of the Programmes

#### **BAS Five priority areas of collaboration**

- A. enlisting the support of retailers to reduce harmful drinking.
- B. strengthening and expanding marketing codes of practice
- C. ...
- D. zero tolerance of drinking and driving eliminating under-age drinking,
- E. providing consumer information and responsible product innovation





# Caribbean Alcohol Industry & COVID-19

- CARICOM Rum Producers modified product lines to include **alcohol** and **hand sanitizer** (sometimes branded).
- Donated these to governments, institutions (including schools), frontline healthcare workers and communities impacted by the virus across the Caribbean.
- Also ramped up their **"CSR efforts"** to include monetary donations and responding to other community needs.
- Tailored marketing campaigns to the COVID-19 environment including adverts aimed at women and young people

#### Donations from the Alcohol Industry



#### Marketing During COVID-19

|                            | Reineke      |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| #SocialiseResponsibly      | Like<br>NOVI |
| to keep bars open Heineken | Ad           |

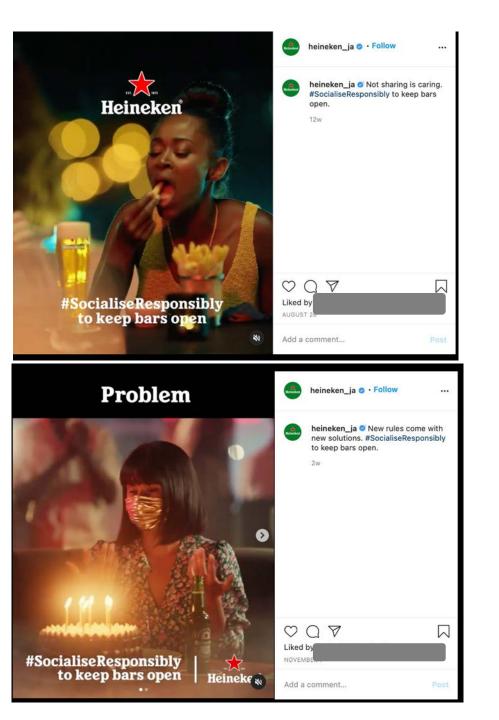
heineken\_ja 🕸 · Follow

 heineken\_ja 
1.5m away from the barman, 0m apart from your beer.
#SocialiseResponsibly to keep bars open.

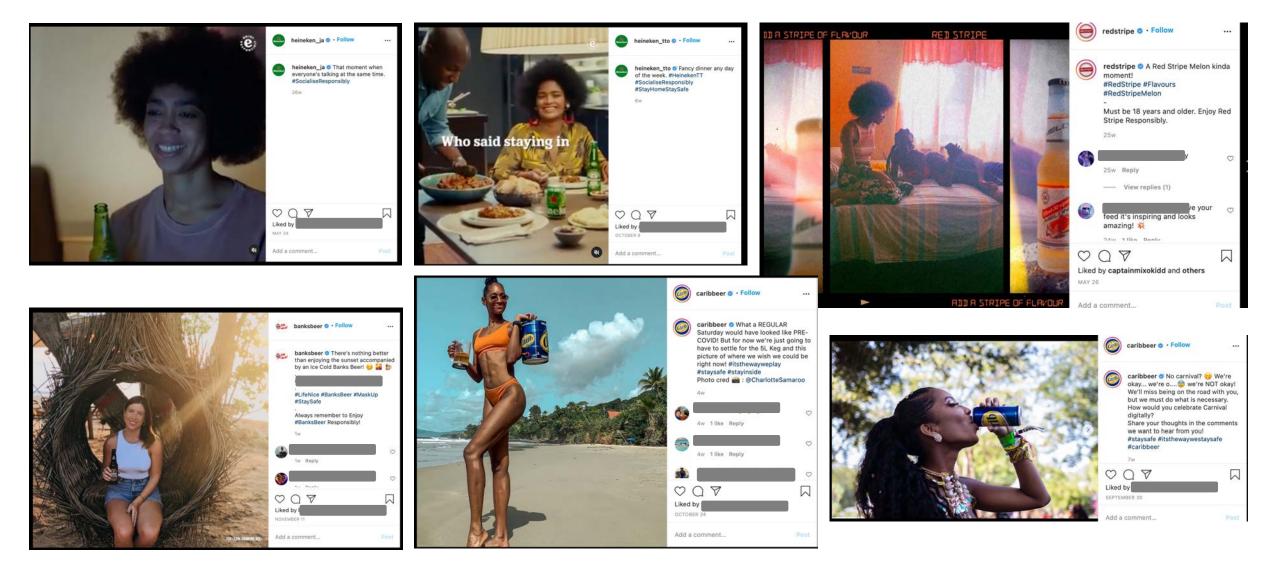
...

2w

| C C V<br>Liked by<br>NOVEMBER 5 |      |
|---------------------------------|------|
| Add a comment                   | Post |



#### Targeting Women During COVID-19



#### Targeting Young People during COVID-19





#MountGay #MoreThanARum #Barbados

ife thru 3w 1 like Reply

FOR LEGAL ORINKING AGE

OOA Liked by OCTOBER 30





mountgayrum O There's nothing we treasure more than enjoying a glass of Mount Gay with good friends. Who are you most looking forward to sharing a drink with once lockdown is over? Tag them in the comments to let them know. Captured by @richard\_wadey.

#MountGay #MoreThanARum

QUA



Liked by



banksbeer o · Follow

🙂 🗊

OOV

Add a comment.

Liked by CTOBER 30

banksbeer O Unfortunately all good

Join us for our final two promotions

and enjoy this special deal for the last.

Our deejays are ready to give us the time of our lives, see you there!

#LifeNice #BanksBeer #DeputyBee

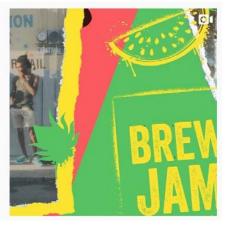
#Guinness #MaskUp #StaySafe #OktobeerFest

Always remember to Enjoy #BanksBeer Responsibly!

things must come to end!







# The House of Angostura Announces New Ambassadors

Driving the Entertainment Industry with artiste collaborations

Nov 12, 2020 📃 2 min to read

8



Targeting Young People during COVID-19

**Port of Spain, November 2020** – As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to challenge the livelihoods of entertainers worldwide, The House of Angostura® has selected a diverse line up of some of Trinidad and Tobago's top young personalities to represent the company's wide portfolio of brands, including rum, spirits and Angostura® aromatic bitters. The move exemplifies Angostura's continuous leadership in local innovation, and the company's commitment to pushing the boundaries and evolving their brand dynamics, even despite the restrictions of the current pandemic.



Our Community - CARICOM Secretariat - CSME Media - Opportunities - Meetings and Events - COVID-19 + Follow Q

Home / CARICOM at work / REGIONAL DISTILLERIES JOIN IN THE FIGHT AGAINST COVID-19

CARICOM AT WORK FEATURED IN FOCUS NEWS

#### REGIONAL DISTILLERIES JOIN IN THE FIGHT AGAINST COVID-19

🛚 APRIL 22, 2020 🔥 1,503 📕 5 MINUTES READ



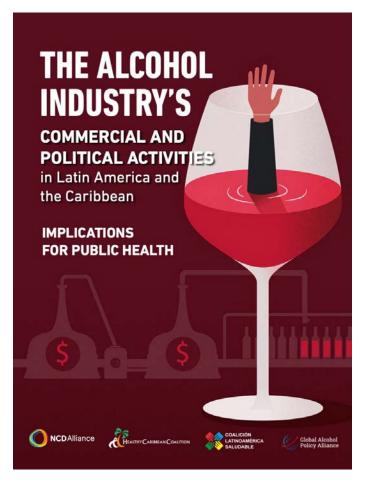
Building Brand Goodwill

# Building Brand Goodwill among school aged adolescents





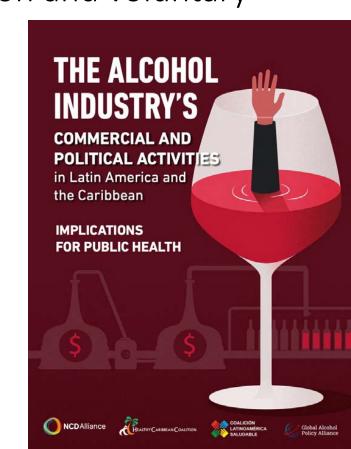
The Alcohol Industry's Commercial and Political Activities in Latin America & the Caribbean



- Cites examples from the Caribbean including:
  - Social Media & Digital Marketing:
  - Carib Beer's campaign, Pass D'Carib videos uploaded by fans showing them passing a Carib Beer to friends around the world.
  - Sponsorships of festivals and other drinking occasions:
  - Lobbying:

## Policy Substitution: The industry actively

- develops new (or preserve existing) self-regulation and voluntary codes of practice in place of formal legislation.
- lobbying for the passage of weaker legislation
- promotes responsible drinking



#### Alcohol industry does not wish to discuss:

- Alcohol poisoning
- Alcohol addiction
- Advertising of alcoholic beverages during prime time
- Increased taxes on alcohol



### Role of alcohol consumption in violence

- Alcohol consumption by perpetrators of violence
- Alcohol consumption by victims of violence
- Alcohol and youth violence
- Alcohol and child abuse
- Alcohol and sexual violence
- Alcohol and intimate partner violence
- Alcohol and abuse of elderly people

# The role of civil society in fighting back



- HCC supports GAPA
- working towards a Global alcohol action plan 2022-2030,

## Sub-optimal capacity OR Societal priorities

- In 20 member Caribbean Community (English, Spanish, Dutch, French) there is no CSO, NGO, FBO working primarily on alcohol issues.
- CARIAD Caribbean Institute on Addictive Disorders (**CARIAD**) formerly the Caribbean Institute on **Alcoholism** and other Drug Problems does work in alcohol, but their output and presence has been minimal in the last 5 years.
- HCC has had a few positive outputs some work with PAHO. But "fighting back", is a big ask

### Dedicated risk factors NGOs

- Capacity in small islands
  - Tobacco yes, Coalitions for Tobacco Control
  - Diet/Nutrition yes, professional association of Nutritionists
  - Physical activity: commercial (gyms, athletic shoes); NGO events 5/10K Walk/Run)
  - Alcohol no. (Arrive Alive includes drink driving)
  - Air pollution no
- HCC and others address NCD risks in general

#### HCC Annual Caribbean Alcohol Reduction Day(CARD)



# Arive Allive: T&T NGO for Road Safety







Arrive Alive Trinidad and Tobago - Zero ...

- Focus on overall road safety
- Traffic Safety 3 main risks :
- The Driver
- The Vehicle
- The Roads & Furnishings
  - Includes "Don't drink and drive"

#### CARICOM process First joint COHSOD COTED meeting on NCDs

- 2007 CARICOM Heads of Government Port of Spain declaration on NCDs
- 2016 evaluation report to Heads re country implementation POSD
- 2016 Communique from Heads address matters of trade and NCDs
- Joint COHSOD COTED on NCDs and Trade convened November 2019
- The Fifth Joint Meeting of the COTED and the COHSOD was held on 4 November 2019 and
  - Agreed that 2 Inter-Governmental Working Groups (IGWGs) for advancing Regional Policies, Programmes and Actions
    - Unhealthy Diets and Obesogenic Environments
    - Harmful Use of Alcohol
  - Include engagement of private sector and civil society organisations in the IGWG deliberations
  - CARICOM Secretariat and CARPHA serve as the joint Secretariat to support and guide the work of the IGWGs

#### CARICOM process

#### **OBJECTIVE:**

 To develop a Regional Strategy and Action Plan to address the Harmful Use of Alcohol and to support Member States in evolving and implementing their national programmes to reduce the health, social and economic burden arising from this risk factor.

#### PRIORITY INTERVENTIONS - REGIONAL STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN: Year 1 actions

- 1. Regulate commercial and public availability of alcohol MEMBER STATE PRIORITY
- 2. Regulate and Restrict the advertising of alcohol
- 3. Using pricing policy such as appropriate tax policies on alcoholic beverages;
- 4. Update and Implement Legislation on drinking and driving;
- 5. Education and Awareness including Product Information and Labelling INDUSTRY REPORT
- 6. Product Adaption;
- 7. Measures to mitigate the harmful impact of use of alcohol on society- SOME CIVIL SOCIETY
- 8. Monitoring and Evaluation of the Programmes being implemented under the agreed Regional Strategy and Action Plan.

#### CARICOM Process, involving civil society and private sector

| No. | Meeting  | Dates                        |
|-----|--|------------------------------|
| 1   | First Meeting of the IGWG on "Unhealthy Diets and Obesogenic Food Environments"  | April 27                     |
| 2   | First Meeting of the IGWG on "Harmful Use of Alcohol" (MS, CCS, CARPHA, UWI)   | April 30                     |
| 3.  | First Sub-Committee Meeting of the IGWG on "Unhealthy Diets and Obesogenic Food Environments"                              | 30 July 2021                 |
| 4.  | Second Meeting of the IGWG on "Harmful Use of Alcohol" (plus HCC, PAHO)  | 3 August 3021 (a.m.)         |
| 5   | First Sub-Committee Meeting of the IGWG on "Harmful Use of Alcohol" (plus Alcohol Industry)                                | 3 August 2021 (p.m.)         |
| 6.  | Second Sub-Committee Meeting of the IGWG on "Unhealthy Diets and Obesogenic Food Environments"                             | 7 Sept. 2021 - ? reschedule  |
| 7.  | Second Sub-Committee Meeting of the IGWG on "Harmful Use of Alcohol" (large group reviews draft submission to COHSOD COTED | 10 Sept. 2021 - ? reschedule |
| 8   | Second Meeting of the IGWG on "Unhealthy Diets and Obesogenic Food Environments"   | 12 October 2021              |
| 9   | Third Meeting of the IGWG on "Harmful Use of Alcohol" (MS, CCS, CARPHA, UWI)   | 14 October 2021              |
| 10. | Meetings of officials for COTED  | TBD                          |
| 11  | Meeting of officials for COHSOD  | TBD                          |
| 12  | Joint COTED COHSOD on Trade and NCDs   | November 2021                |



