# Alcohol consumption and policies in the Americas:

Status, challenges and opportunities

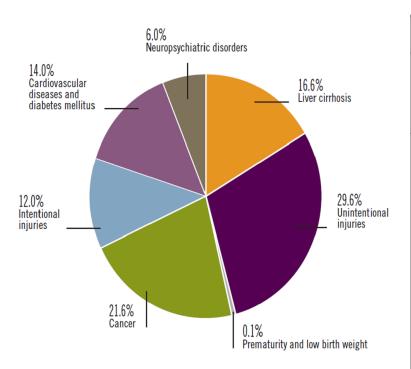
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## Alcohol: a strong link with NCDs



Global distribution of all alcohol-attributable
deaths by disease or injury

		Causative risk factors					
		Tobacco use	Unhealt hy diets	Physical inactivit	Harmful use of alcohol		
Non-communicable diseases	Heart disease and stroke	<b>✓</b>	✓	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>		
	Diabetes	✓	✓	✓	✓		
	Cancer	<b>√</b>	✓	✓	<b>✓</b>		
	Chronic lung disease	<b>√</b>					









### Harm to Others from Alcohol

	Individual	Family	Work	Society
Health burden	Morbidity from diseases caused or worsened by AD and associated premature mortality	Injury; stress-related problems for other family members; FASD; interpersonal violence	Injury	Acute care hospitalisations for health problems caused by alcohol; injuries; infectious diseases; FASD
Social burden	Decreases in functionality associated with AD (blackouts, hours of drunkenness); decrease in social role; loss of friendships; stigma	Problems with parental roles, partnership roles, and roles as caregiver in general (e.g., to parents)	Team problems; others having to compensate for lack of productivity	Social costs of alcohol; vandalism
Economic burden	Dependent on society and on SES of person with AD; often cost of alcohol plus cost of possible job loss or absenteeism; possible social drift downwards	Financial problems resulting from health and social consequences of alcohol impacting on family budget and household expenses	Absenteeism and other productivity costs (mainly suboptimal performance when working and disability, short- and long-term); replacement costs in case of premature mortality or long-term disability	Productivity losses; health care costs; costs in the legal sector (police, court, prisons)

#### Timeline – Harmful use of Alcohol **Mandates and Commitments**

Targets and Indicators



3rd UNHLM on **NCDs Reporting Progress** 





**Global Action Plan** 

on NCDs 2013-2020

**PAHO Regional** 

**Plan of Action on** NCDs 2013-2019

Plan 2014-2019



2nd UNHLM on NCDs **Outcome Document** 



**APC** HED

**PAHO Strategic** 





Global strategy to reduce the harmful

PAHO

**OMS** 

UN



1st UNHLM on NCDs Political **Declaration** 

2013

2014

**PAHO Regional** Plan of Action on

harmful use of

alcohol

2015-

2018

APC

The 2030 Agenda

SUSTAINABLE

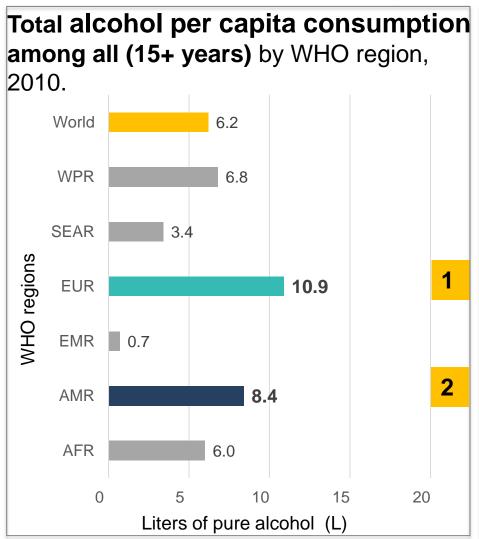
DEVELOPMENT

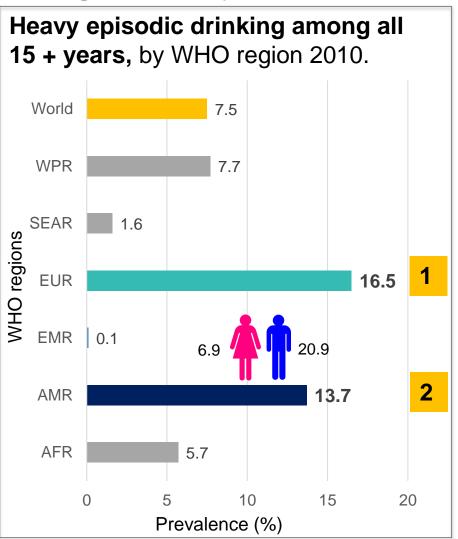
for Sustainable

**Development** 

2010

#### Alcohol consumption among all (15+ years)





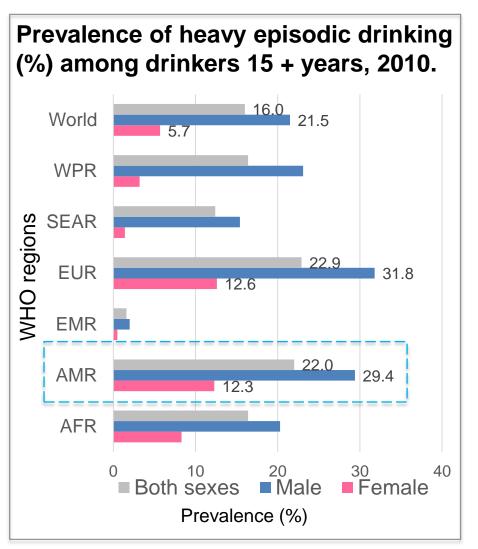
**Source:** WHO, 2014. Global status report on alcohol and health 2014.





#### Alcohol consumption among drinkers (15+ years)

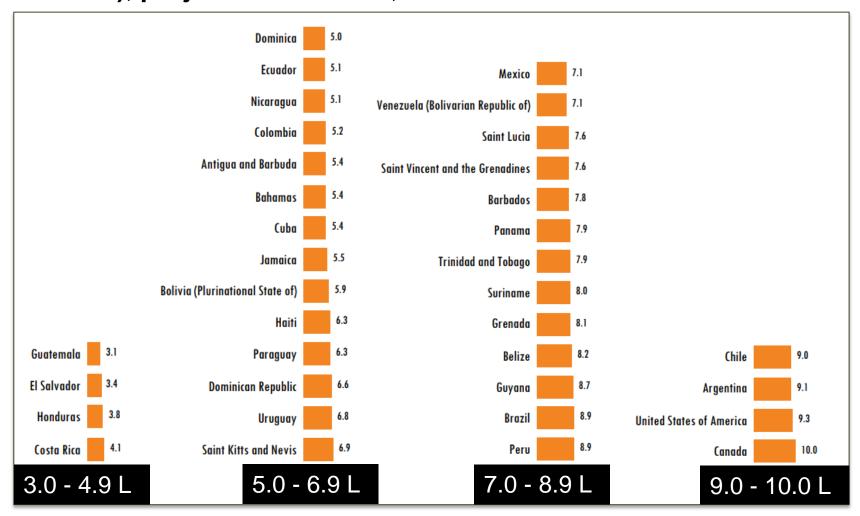




**Source:** WHO, 2014. Global status report on alcohol and health 2014.



## Total adult alcohol per capita consumption (liters of pure alcohol), projected estimates, 2016.

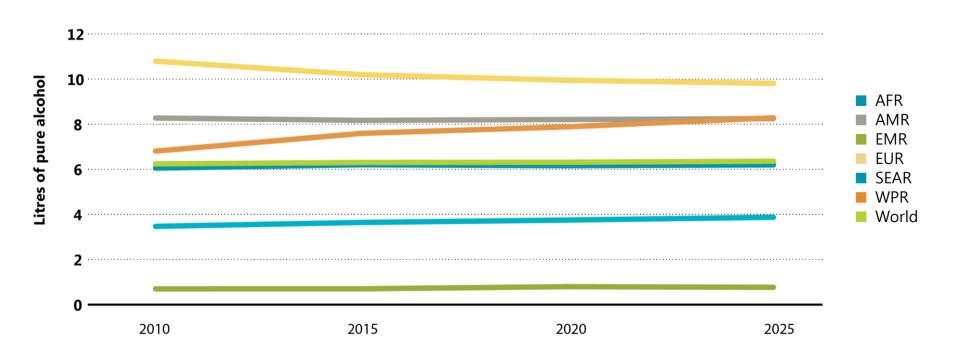


Source: World Health Organization. Global Information System on Alcohol and Health. Adapted from World Health Statistics, 2017





## Total alcohol per capita (15 years+) consumption by WHO region, 2010-2025

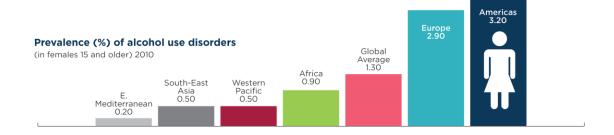


Note: Data for 2015, 2020 and 2025 are estimated. 95% confidence intervals will be made available by the Global Information System on Alcohol and Health (GISAH). Adapted from the Global Status Report on alcohol and health 2014.

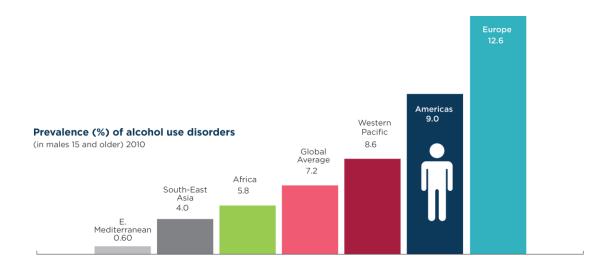


## Women in the Americas have higher rates of alcohol use disorders\* than women in any other WHO region

**FEMALES** 



**MALES** 



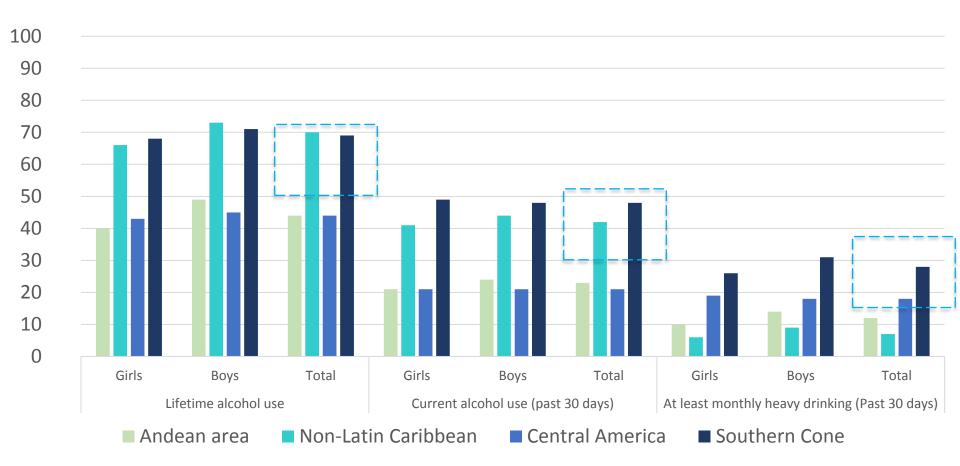
Source: World Health Organization. Global status report on alcohol and health 2014.





#### **FUTURE GENERATIONS**

## Patterns of consumption among 13-15 year old students in LATIN AMERICA and the CARIBBEAN



\* A quantity of a least five drinks on a usual drinking occasion in past 30 days

Source: CAMH/PAHO, 2016. Youth report. Alcohol, drugs, and traffic safety in Latin American and Caribbean countries.



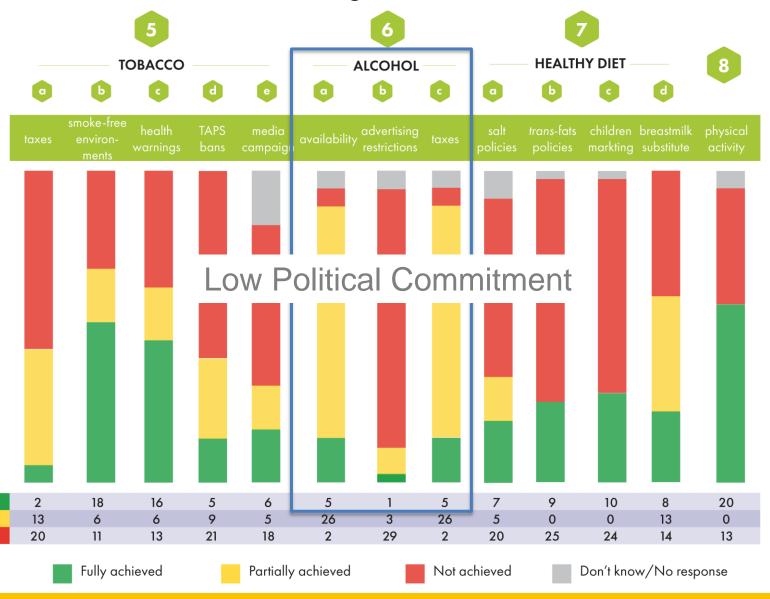


#### **MEASURING POLICIES AND INTERVENTIONS**





#### Risk Factors Progress Indicators - Americas







#### Global Monitoring Framework CCS, 2017 - AMERICAS

23 Member States have Targets – 19 Member States Alcohol Indicators



## Global Manitoring Framowork TAPGET on alcohol

national context by end 2023

to 14.8% (2020)

Belize

Brazil

Chile

Cuba

Colombia

Dominica

Grenada

Guyana

Honduras

**Jamaica** 

Paraguay

Grenadines

Suriname

Saint Vincent and the

Trinidad and Tobago

United States of America

Guatemala

At least **10%** relative reduction



Global Monitor	in the harmful use of alcohol	2_	
Antigua and Barbuda	A 2% relative reduction of harmful use of alcohol by <b>2019</b> (15+) (baseline 2017)		
Argentina	10% reduction in harmful use of alcohol by 2025		

10% reduction in alcohol per capita consumption, measured in liters od pure alcohol by 2023 (baseline 6 liters). 10% relative reduction in the age-standardized prevalence of heavy episodic drinking among adolescents and adults, as appropriate, within the

10% relative reduction in the prevalence of harmful alcohol consumption among people aged 15 to 24 years old from 15.1% (2010)

5% reduction in prevalence of heavy episodic drinking among adolescents and adults by 2019. 2% reduction in the total (recorded

5% reduction in per capita consumption of alcohol by 2024 (2011 baseline). 5% relative reduction in the consumption of alcohol among adults by 2024 (2011 baseline). 10% relative reduction in heavy episodic drinking among adults by 2024 (2011 baseline).

10% reduction the harmful use of alcohol among persons 15+ years and among youth aged 13-15 years by 2021 (2017)

Reduce proportion of adolescents using alcohol or illicit drugs in past 30 days to 16.6% by 2020 (baseline 18.4% 2008). Reduce

and unrecorded) alcohol per capita (aged 15+ years old) consumption, in liters of pure alcohol by 2019. (set 2015)

10% reduction in overall alcohol consumption (including hazardous and harmful drinking) by 2025 (baseline 2014) Barbados

Reduce the prevalence of harmful alcohol consumption from 18% (2011) to 12% (2022)

The harmful consumption of alcohol in general population is maintained below 12% by 2021

10% reduction in the harmful use of alcohol by 2025 (baseline 2017)

5% relative reduction in heavy episodic drinking among youth by 2024

5% reduction in the consumption of alcohol by 2019

8% reduction in harmful use of alcohol by 2020 (set 2013)

10% reduction in harmful use of alcohol by 2025, 1% reduction per year (baseline 2010 7.8%)

Reduce the prevalence of harmful alcohol consumption to 42.3% by 2025 (baseline 47% 2014)

3% reduction in the harmful use of alcohol in persons aged 15+ years by 2018 (set 2013)

5% reduction of harmful alcohol use among those aged 15+ years by 2025 (baseline 2017)

proportion of adults binge drinking in past 30 days to 24.4% by 2020 (baseline 27.1% 2008)

Reduce prevalence of binge drinking among male adults to 44.6% by **2020** (baseline 47.9% 2009).

#### 'BEST BUYS', ESPECIALLY FOR LOW AND MIDDLE INCOME COUNTRIES FOR MEN AND WOMEN

#### Harmful use of alcohol

4.5% global burden)

**Restrict access** to retailed alcohol \*

(> 50m DALYs; Enforce bans on alcohol advertising \*

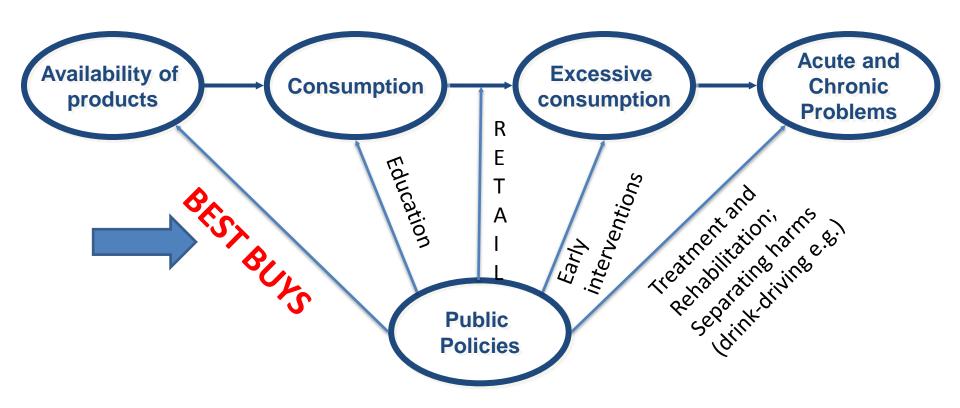
> Raise taxes on alcohol \*

Combined effect: 5-10 m DALYs averted (10-20% alcohol burden)

- very cost-effective (\$ per DALY prevented < GDP per person)</li>
- very low cost in implementation and in principle feasible



## How policy links to health







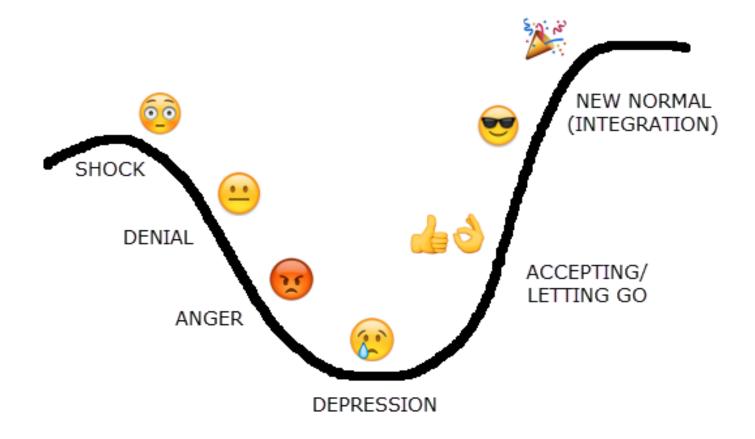
## **Common Arguments for No Action**

- Regulation is seen as "prohibition"
- Regulation interferes with tourism, development or the economy
- Small countries can't do by themselves
- Taxation will ruin economies, not supported by the population
- Without alcohol industry sponsorship, no cultural or sports events
- Powerful industry we can't fight

"No Action" means same burden will continue and is likely to increase!



## How to move forward?





## **Possible Ways Forward**

- Step up advocacy and support the work of civil society to push for policy changes
- Inspire others; be a champion for alcohol policy
- Better disseminate findings to counteract "fake news"
- Join forces and learn from other risk factors
- Use Health Law to regulate alcohol like the other all risks
- Work with Parliaments, Regional Bodies- to increase the political commitment
- Without regulation, progress will not occur...

