Research for International Tobacco Control (RITC)

Tobacco – more than "just" a health issue.







Tobacco – a Development Issue

With 70% of world's smokers - growing realization of health impacts.

► Shift in epidemiology of disease – the double burden

- Economic impact at the national and household level
- Exacerbated by "Globalization"
- Bulk of production in developing countries





Corporate Social Responsibility?



RITC: a Program of the International Development Research Centre (IDRC)

- IDRC a Canadian Crown Corporation supporting southern-led research
- Focuses on developing country researchers
- Supports applied research leading to healthier, more equitable and more prosperous societies



RITC: A Unique Program

- Exclusively focused on supporting research for tobacco control policy
- Emphasizes Southern-led, multi-disciplinary research
- Particularly concerned about poor and vulnerable communities
- Sees tobacco as a development issue not just a health issue



RITC's Mission

To create a strong research, knowledge and funding base for the development of effective tobacco control policies that will minimize the threat of tobacco production and consumption to health and human development in developing countries.





Funding Streams for 2008-10

- Core themes (with emphasis on the first two):
 - Health Policy and Systems Interventions for TC
 - Tobacco Farming: Health, Livelihoods, Economics and Environment
 - Globalization, Trade and Tobacco
 - Poverty and Tobacco
 - Alternative Forms of Tobacco Use



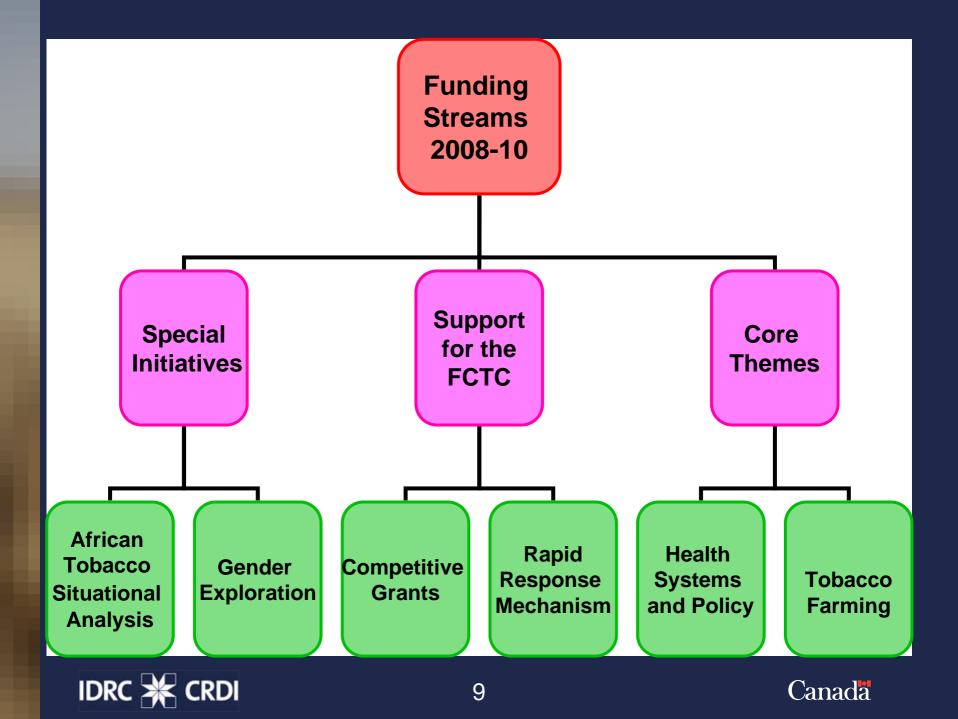


Funding Streams for 2008-10

Support for the FCTC:

- Competitive small and medium grants
- Rapid response mechanism
- Special Initiatives:
 - Exploration on gendered aspects of tobacco use and production
 - Africa Tobacco Situational Analysis





Capacity Building, Networking and Dissemination

- Capacity building: (technical assistance, mentorship, library support, fellowships, training at workshops, tobacco control centres)
- Networking: (FCTC grantees + thematically specific areas – farming, stressed youth)
- Dissemination: Built into every project with often huge impacts (e.g. India health warnings, Pacific Islands trade agreement, Kyrgystan's ratification, tax increases South Africa and Jamaica)



Canada

Summary

- Southern-led and defined research
- Encourage multi-disciplinary, gender-sensitive applied research addressing the needs of the poor and marginalized
- See tobacco as a development issue
- Exclusive focus on "developing countries"





For more information: http://www.idrc.ca/ritc







