

International Development Research Centre

Research for International Tobacco Control (RITC)

Setting Tobacco Control Research Priorities for Latin America & the Caribbean: Past, Present and Future

Presented by:
Rosemary Kennedy, Research Officer, RITC













RITC: Past Action

- 1995 Bellagio Statement
 - Stimulate research into causes/consequences of tobacco use
 - Mobilize funding & resources to respond to development implications of tobacco epidemic
 - Facilitate interaction and information exchange
 - Build capacity for tobacco control research, particularly in low and midde-income countries.





RITC: Past Action

• Since 1995:

- 1998-1999: Formulation of 3 regional tobacco control research agendas: South and Southeast Asia; East, Central and Southern Africa; and Latin America and the Caribbean
- 1999: Global Agenda for Tobacco Control Research
- 2002: Bridging the Research Gaps in Global Tobacco Control
- 2005: SWOT Analysis LAC region





1998 Rio de Janeiro: Regional Meeting for LAC

- General Objective:
 - Draft a multidisciplinary regional research agenda for tobacco control to foster strong and effective public policies in the Latin American and Caribbean region.





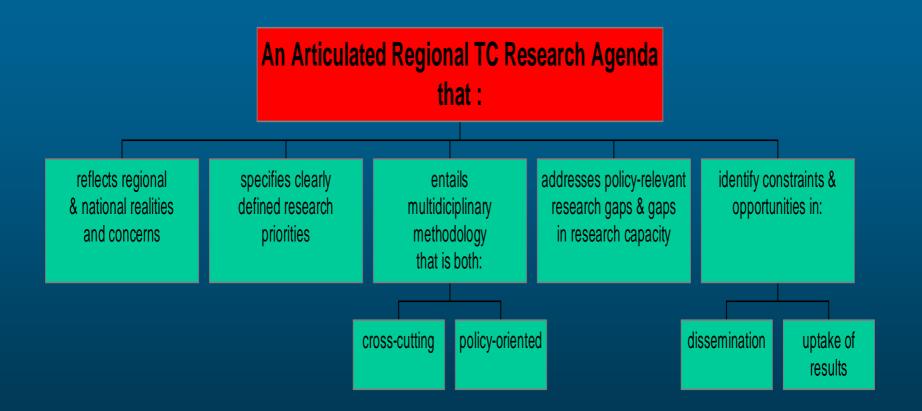
1998 Rio de Janeiro Meeting







1998 Rio de Janeiro Meeting: Expected Outcome







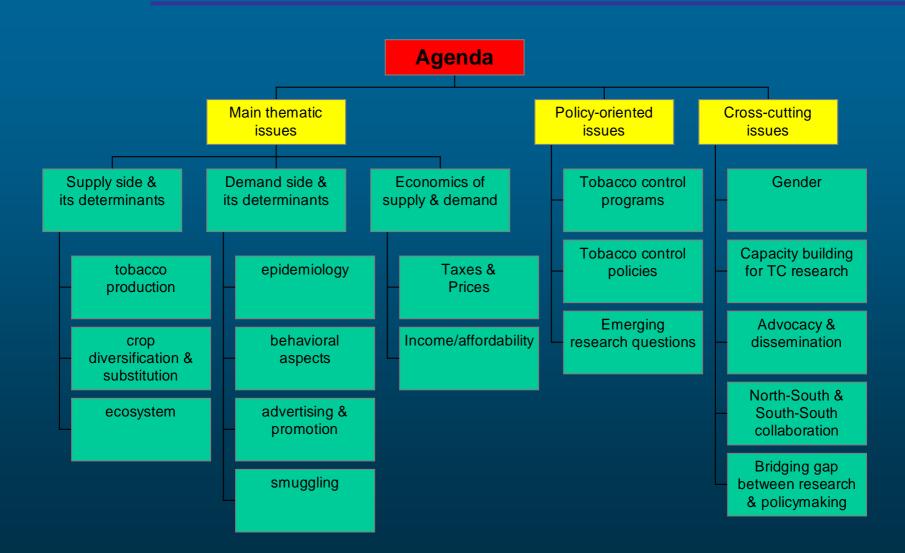
1998 Rio de Janeiro Meeting

- Participating countries
 - Argentina
 - Brazil
 - Colombia
 - Uruguay
 - Venezuela
- Observers:
 - Canada
 - Thailand
 - USA





Tobacco Control Research Agenda







Main Thematic Issues

Synopsis of the main research questions

Supply side & its determinants

Problems

Research needs/ objectives Research questions

Expected policy implications

- lack of knowledge about tobacco production chain
- 2. lack of info on social impact of production chain & potential for tobacco replacement
- 3. lack of knowledge about ecosystem damage & health risks of the tobacco production chain

- to gather baseline info
 & develop historical
 analyses
- 2. need to understand socio-economic impact on farmers, families & communities
 - to investigate ecosystem & health damages, including gender determinants

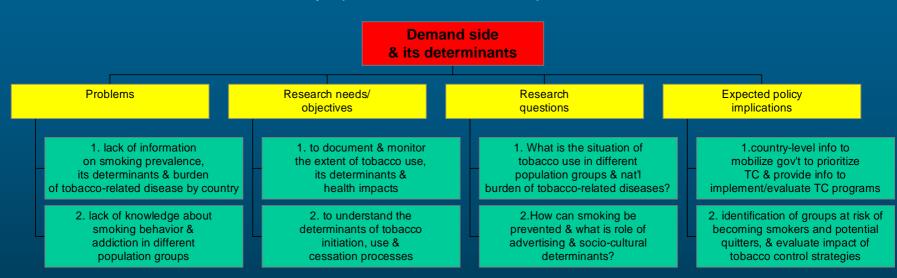
- 1. How is the country/ region involved in or dependent on the tobacco production chain?
- 2. What is economic & social impact of diversification/ substitution?
- 3. What is the extent of ecosystem damage & health risks of tobacco production chain?

- 1.agricultural & economic based TC interventions with country & reg'l perspectives
- proposals on tobacco production replacement & socio-economic determinants
 - 3.environmental & human protection policies





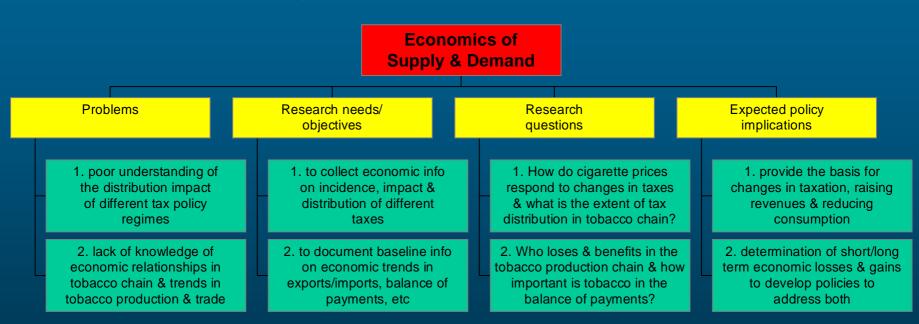
Main Thematic Issues







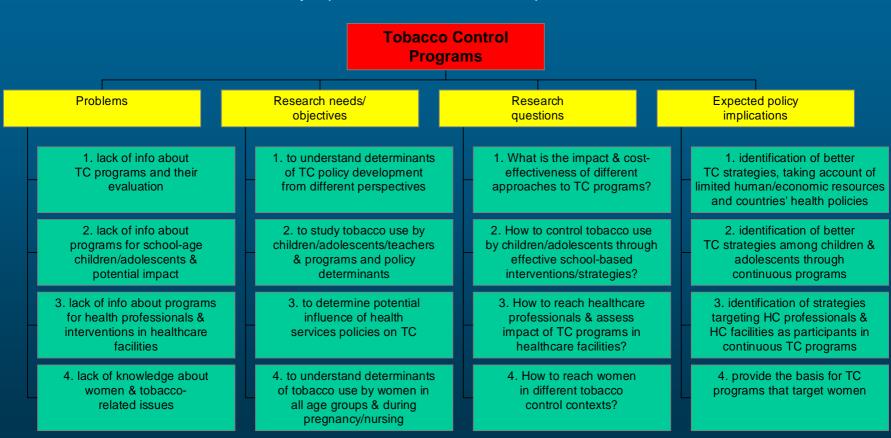
Main Thematic Issues







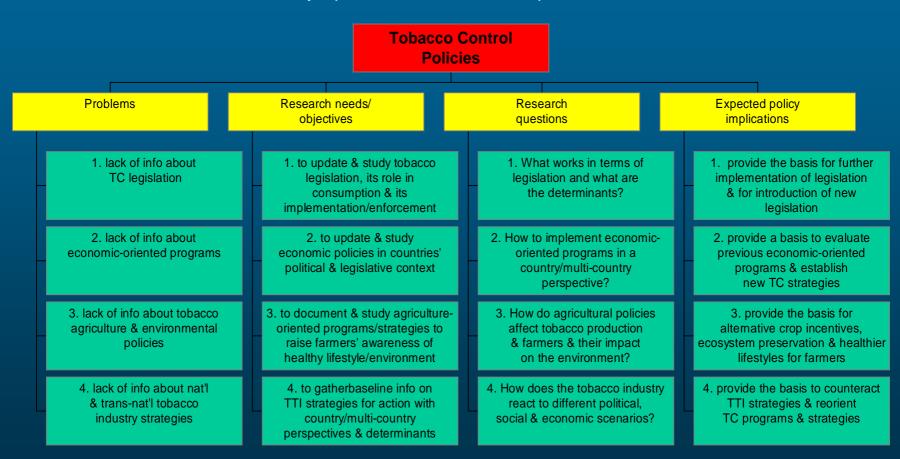
Policy Oriented Issues







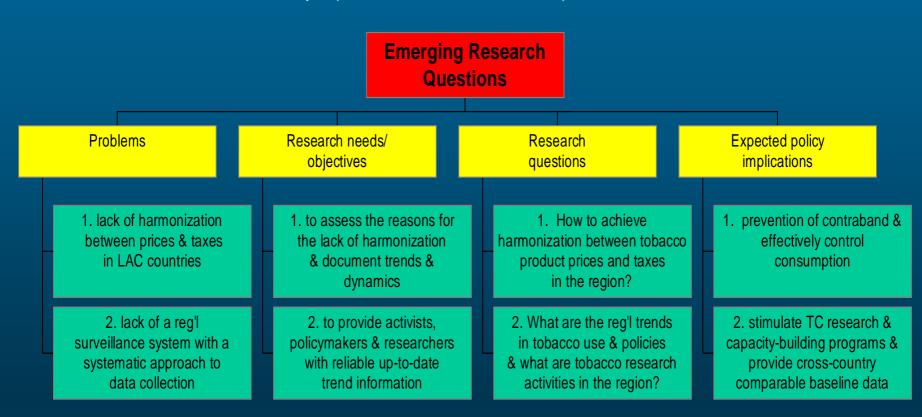
Policy Oriented Issues







Policy Oriented Issues







Cross-cutting issues

Capacity-building for Dissemination of research Research and policymaking: Gender North-South and tobacco control research results & advocacy South-South collaboration bridging the gap 1. include gender issues in 1. document the professional 1. develop or use existing 1. ask for collaboration on 1. encourage multidisciplinary all research profile of the region quidelines on how to conduct issues where the North has professional meetings a survey, collect economic more experience data, etc. 2. study gender-oriented 2. identify needs of 2. develop specific materials 2. evaluate the feasibility & 2. increase cross-country programs, especially those tobacco control advocates for academic/activist reliability of research & participation through: focused on children & in the region communities focused on policy instruments for fellowships, sub-reg'l & different cultural contexts adolescents policy-oriented research reg'l meetings 3. study gender-related 3. identify partners to stimulate 3. stimulate publication of papers 3. South-South collaboration 3. increase nat'l and crossin main scientific publications determinants of tobacco use TC policymakers & advocates should provide an "economy country research institution to obtain funds for research (not just in English language) of scale" with several res centers exchange of information working together 4. include issues related to 4. outline basic training 4. participate in multidisciplinary 4. disseminate info within the women in all age groups content in a TC capacityprofessional conferences & region through policy briefs, (i.e., not only in women of building agenda factsheets, etc. meetings reproductive age) 5. promote specific training 5. create a reg'l database 5. identify ways to stimulate researchers to choose/include workshops and meetings TC issues in their research 6. identify ways to stimulate 6. establish a reg'l TC research funding institutions research network to prioritize TC 7. stimulate research funding 7. identify best, most costeffective policies to build agencies to ensure priority of capacities in TC research funding to policy-oriented TC research





16 1998 Proposed Research Agenda for LAC

1. Baseline information

• ETS, consumption, prevalence, # of farmers, economic & political determinants, promotion and marketing

2. Policy determinants

- What are the pressures social, cultural, political, economic and legislative playing a role in policy development?
- What is the role of the tobacco industry and what are its strategies for the region?

3. Intervention evaluation

- Impact of crop diversification on farmers, economy etc
- Impact of school-based interventions etc

4. Regional differences

- Collaborative studies/comparable information
- Address common areas of interest etc





2005: SWOT Analysis of LAC region

Strengths Weaknesses **Opportunities** Threats Research priorities 1. Many LAC countries currently 1. dedication of tobacco 1. Lack of sufficient regional 1. High poverty levels 1. More research on youth control advocates discussing TC issues -- presents in the region and tobacco use tobacco epidemic in LAC an opening for a network for exchange of information 2. the Framework Convention 2. Lack of sufficient research 2. Favorable reg'l / global context: 2. Political threats such as 2. Develop a regional network on Tobacco Control on attitudes toward tobacco use countries have ratified FCTC; corruption, instability, lack to set reg'l standards to measure in the region increasing democracy in region; of enforcement quality/usefulness of gov'ts more informed on issues 3. A strong research base 3. Research quality is a 3. The right timing: 3. Economic threat of the 3. Promote a multidisciplinary problem -- not appealing political crises in the region tobacco industry and associated to media can bring focus to new lobby groups, such as the and important issues advertising industry 4. Extensive research undertaken 4. Difficult to disseminate 4. Social threats, including 4. Disseminate the research by industrialized nations on information to technical groups lack of free press and and publish (in English). A tobacco-related illnesses such as specialized lawyers network could facilitate peer review and help overcome isolation 5. Language barriers in educating the pubilc and in publishing articles in credible journals 6. Insufficient implementation of FCTC in many LAC countries 7. Reg'l weaknesses such as geographic distribution, large size, different languages, multi-ethnic population 8. TC lacks infrastructure, public sector activity, finances, organizational structure





Present

- Where are we now on the research agenda?
 - •What progress have we made?
 - Bloomberg and other initiatives?





Future

• What more do we need to do and how?



