

# The Role of Taxation in Tobacco Control.

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# Introduction


- Tobacco use is a **leading cause** of preventable diseases and deaths.
- The WHO identifies taxation as one of **the most effective** tobacco control measures.
- Higher taxes **reduce tobacco consumption**, prevent initiation, and increase government revenue for public health programs.



# The Impact of Tobacco Use

- Causes NCDs such as cancer, heart disease, and respiratory conditions.
- Kills over 8 million people annually worldwide, including passive smokers.
- High economic burden due to healthcare costs and loss of productivity.





## Global Best Practices in Tobacco Taxation and Uganda's Tobacco Taxation Policy

- WHO recommends at least a 70% tax on retail tobacco prices.
- Countries with strong taxation policies have seen significant declines in smoking rates (e.g., Australia, UK, Philippines).
- Effective tax policies include excise taxes, regular increases, and addressing illicit trade.
- Uganda imposes excise duties on tobacco products.
- Current tax rates remain below the WHO-recommended level.
- Opportunities exist for increasing taxation to align with global best practice



# How Taxation Reduces Tobacco Consumption

- Increases the price of cigarettes, making them less affordable.
- Discourages initiation, particularly among youth.
- Encourages smokers to quit or reduce consumption.
- Shifts consumer behavior towards healthier alternatives.



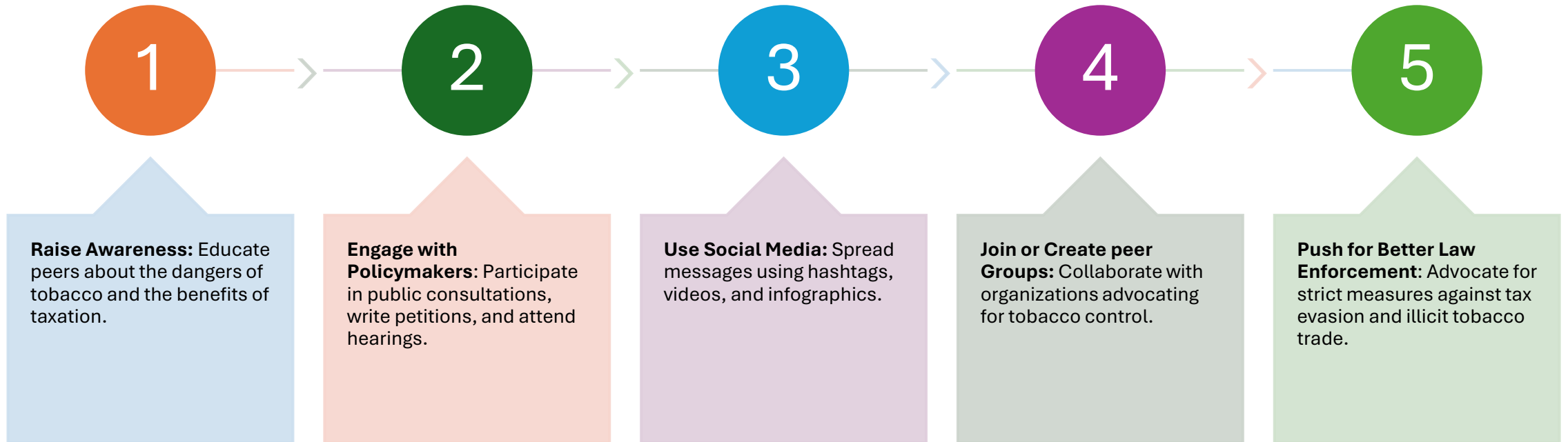


# Advocacy for Stronger Tobacco Taxation in Uganda

- Engage policymakers with evidence-based arguments.
- Strengthen public awareness on the benefits of taxation.
- Collaborate with civil society and health organizations.
- Push for tax increases in line with WHO recommendations.



# How You Can Advocate for Stronger Tobacco Taxation Policies



# Conclusion

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Tobacco taxation is a proven strategy for reducing smoking rates.

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Uganda can strengthen its tobacco tax policy to save lives and reduce health costs.

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Advocacy efforts should focus on influencing policy changes and countering industry interference.



# Call to Action!

- **Educate:** Share information about tobacco taxation in your schools and communities.
- **Engage:** Connect with policymakers, NGOs, and advocacy groups.
- **Act:** Organize events, write letters, and mobilize peers to Influence Policy and Protect Their Future



# Thank You!



UAPA



Q&A Session



Action against tobacco use