



CONCEPT NOTE FOR THE 4TH UGANDA ALCOHOL POLICY CONFERENCE 2024 (UAPC24)

Introduction: Alcohol is a significant risk factor for premature morbidity and mortality, contributing to 5.3% of global deaths and 5.1 % of the disease burden. Uganda is among the countries with the highest annual alcohol intake and highest prevalence of alcohol-related negative outcomes. Alcohol consumption in Uganda contributes to various health issues, including liver diseases, mental health disorders, and NCDs, road traffic accidents, intimate partner violence, and increased hospital admissions risk sexual behaviours, increased economic burden, perpetuating cycles of poverty and inequality.

Rationale for the 4th Uganda Alcohol Policy Conference (UAPC24).

Uganda faces alcohol-related harm due to unregulated practices, including free distribution of alcohol and branded merchandise, and lacks legally binding regulations on health warning labels on alcohol containers. Furthermore the 2023 alcohol bill in Uganda faces opposition from various stakeholders due to concerns about potential economic ramifications. Key industry players express apprehensions about the impact of alcohol regulation on tax revenue, job opportunities, and market dynamics. In this context, the Uganda Alcohol Policy Conference emerges as a crucial platform for stakeholders to collaborate, exchange knowledge, and develop evidence-based strategies to mitigate alcohol-related harm, promoting public health and holistic development, and ensuring economic growth. **Conference Objectives.** The conference aims to promote evidence-based alcohol control policies for holistic development, fostering collaboration among stakeholders, and facilitating networking opportunities to form partnerships and reduce alcohol-related harm.

Conference themes:

1. Public Health Impacts of Alcohol Consumption:

- **Epidemiological Burden:** Investigating the prevalence of alcohol-related diseases and injuries.
- **Mental Health Implications:** Examining the effects of alcohol abuse on mental health, particularly among children, youth, and women.
- **Employee Health Benefits:** Assessing the advantages of regulated alcohol consumption for healthier workplaces.

2. Social and Economic Dimensions:

- **Social Costs:** Evaluating the impact of alcohol misuse on violence, crime, and family disruption.
- **Economic Impact:** Analyzing productivity losses and conducting cost-benefit analyses related to alcohol consumption.
- **Alternative Livelihoods:** Exploring options for those involved in the alcohol industry.

- **Poverty and Inequality:** Investigating the role of alcohol control policies in alleviating poverty and reducing inequality.
- **Advertising Policies:** Reviewing digital marketing regulations and best practices in alcohol advertising.

3. Policy Approaches and Best Practices:

- **International Guidelines:** Reviewing global frameworks and regulations for alcohol control.
- **Successful Interventions:** Showcasing effective policies from various regions.
- **Implementation Challenges:** Discussing barriers to effective alcohol control, with a focus on the Ugandan context.
- **Economic Benefits:** Highlighting the positive economic aspects of controlled alcohol consumption.

4. Community Engagement and Stakeholder Collaboration:

- **Multi-sectoral Collaboration:** Emphasizing the importance of joint efforts in alcohol control.
- **Community Initiatives:** Showcasing local projects aimed at alcohol prevention and harm reduction.
- **Industry and Civil Society Engagement:** Identifying strategies to involve the alcohol industry and civil society.
- **Awareness and Sensitization:** Promoting community education on the effects of alcohol.

5. The Environmental Dimension:

- **Environmental Advocacy:** Advocating for stricter environmental protection policies.
- **Waste Management:** Addressing the environmental impact of alcohol production and promoting sustainable waste management practices.
- **Water Conservation:** Encouraging water-saving measures in alcohol production areas.
- **Sustainable Farming:** Promoting eco-friendly agricultural practices for crops used in alcohol production.
- **Policy Integration:** Ensuring alignment between environmental, climate, and alcohol control policies.
- **Circular Economy:** Fostering models to reduce waste, enhance recycling, and minimize resource consumption in the alcohol industry.

Conference delivery format. The conference will be held in a hybrid format, combining virtual and face-to-face platforms, featuring keynote presentations, plenary sessions, panel discussions, and interactive workshops and exhibitions.

Late Breaker Abstracts: These 5 minute presentations provide an opportunity to highlight case studies and new and/or upcoming research or research-translation initiatives. The format for these presentations is still to be determined. Late Breaker Abstracts: These 5 minute presentations provide an opportunity to highlight case studies and new and/or upcoming research or research-translation initiatives. The format for these presentations is still to be determined..

Rationale for resource mobilization: The UAPC24's success relies on financial and logistical support, to cater for venue, meals, travel, marketing materials, technology, printing, and administrative costs.

SPONSORSHIP

The conference welcomes sponsors provided that they are not connected to the alcohol industry. Conference sponsorship packages are as follows:


1. Gold (UGX Five Million Shillings):
 - a. Full coloured page in abstract book (on front/hind covers),
 - b. Display banner at conference site,
 - c. Logo on all conference materials,
 - d. A presentation during the conference,
 - e. An exhibition table for 2 people and networking dinner for 2 people

2. Silver (UGX Three Million Shillings):
 - a. Full coloured page in abstract book (inside the book),
 - b. Display banner at conference site,
 - c. Logo on all conference materials,
 - d. An exhibition table, dinner for 1 person.

3. Bronze (UGX One million five hundred Shillings):
 - a. Half coloured page in abstract book,
 - b. Logo on all conference materials,
 - c. An exhibition table, dinner for 1 person, exhibition and conference participation for 1 one person;

Please note:

UAPA does not take any money or resources from alcohol manufactures, distributors, seller or their partners.



Limited space also exist for individuals/organisations that would like to showcase their works (250,000/= per exhibition stall)

Conclusion: This conference aims to promote global health, well-being, and prosperity by convening diverse stakeholders to implement effective alcohol control policies. For inquiries and submission guidelines, please contact info@uapa.or.ug +256 772 446836/750 447878