

*A Desk Review Report on the availability of  
Alcohol Regulations in the 137 Districts of  
Uganda*

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**IMPERIAL ROYAL HOTEL**

# INTRODUCTION

- The 2030 Agenda provides a shared proposal for peace and prosperity, for people and the planet.
- At its heart are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets for all governments to work towards – and achieve by 2030.

However alcohol harm has affected all the social, environmental, and economical aspects of 2030 Agenda making it a serious obstacle to sustainable development. (decline in economic productivity, destroying the social fabric, damaging Biodiversity etc.) (Movendi International, 2021)

# Background

- Alcohol regulation is a huge problem in many parts of Uganda.
- Many districts are facing a challenge of combating over consumption and abuse of alcohol.
- Extensively promoted and advertised through false and misleading impressions.
- Many of the people in the rural areas consume local brew which is highly adulterated.
- Uganda Alcohol Policy Alliance (UAPA) collected data about alcohol ordinances in all the districts from the four regions of Uganda.

## Purpose of the Review

- To carry out an evaluation study on the availability of Alcohol regulations in the 137 districts.
- Impact and enforcement issues.
- Develop UAPA's evaluation report on the current alcohol regulation status in Uganda.

## Objectives of the Review

- To collect, compile and analyze information on alcohol regulations and their impact in the respective districts.
- To examine the challenges of enforcing alcohol regulations in the districts where they exist.
- To compile and develop an insightful report on the current alcohol regulations in Uganda.

# Methodology and Tools

- **Systematic review** of some available documents relevant to the report.
- Collected information through telephone consultations.
  - ✓ Environmental Managers
  - ✓ Resident District Commissioners
  - ✓ Resident City Commissioners
  - ✓ District Natural Resource Officers
  - ✓ and Local government officials

## Data collection tools

- Interview guide that was developed with input from the UAPA Executive members.

## Response Rates

RESPONDENTS		RESPONSE RATE
No. that participated	137	100%
No. that did not participate	00	0%
No Idea	01	0.7%
Yes	20	14.6%
<b>None</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>84.7%</b>

## *List of Districts with Alcohol Regulations in Uganda*

- Agago
- Amudat
- Arua
- Bundibugyo
- Gulu
- Hoima
- Karamoja
- Kitgum
- Kotido
- Lwengo
- Maracha
- Masindi
- Nebbi
- Oyam
- Pader
- Rukungiri
- Rwampara
- Soroti
- Terego

## **Findings across the Specific Objectives**

- Relatively lower alcohol consumption in the 20 district that have regulations and enforcement. However there is a high alcohol intake in the 116 districts that have no regulations in place.
- Poor enforcement and political interference were cited as the major challenges among others.

### **SHORT LIST OF PROBLEMS – POLICY**

- Low liberal government policies and Political will.
- Interference by the alcohol industry.
- Poor community adherence to the set regulations.

### **SUGGESTED ACTIONS**

- Publicize the National Alcohol Control policy, Benchmarking from neighboring Districts with Regulations.
- Establish a clear and effective, easy to access mechanisms of preventing underage drinking.
- Sensitize policymakers on relevancy of alcohol regulation.



## **SHORT LIST OF PROBLEMS - SERVICES**

- Poor enforcement; enforcers are also consumers making it difficult to execute their duties.
- Follow up and awareness creation is wanting.
- Insufficient funding for alcohol harm control trainings and interventions.

## **SUGGESTED ACTIONS**

- Improve collection, analysis and dissemination of alcohol related information.
- Assess the costs and benefits of ensuring universal access to alcohol related research and data
- Strengthen District Alcohol prevention campaigns and interventions;
- Training of District health Teams and District Health Officers in alcohol prevention and care services.

## **Conclusions and Recommendations to UAPA**

- Continued awareness, sensitization and advocacy.
- There is urgent need for radical mobilization and sensitization of the district heads about UAPA.

### **TO GOVERNMENT OF UGANDA**

- Urgent enactment of the National Alcohol Control Bill to cab down Alcohol related harm.
- Fund Civil Societies and like-minded individuals to engage in the fight against Alcohol related harm.
- Empowering the Districts that have regulations in terms of enforcements\police officers.

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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- Resident City Commissioners
- Environmental Managers
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- Ms. Namwero Daphine Mary
- IOGT.NTO.MOVEMENT

# References

1. Study participants.
2. <https://ehyt.fi/en/substances-gaming-and-gambling/spotlight/tackling-alcohol-as-obstacle-to-development-alcohol-policy-as-catalyst-for-progress-towards-the-sdgs/>
3. <https://movendi.ngo/the-issues/the-problem/obstacle-to-development/>

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