

**Project Name :** Strengthen implementation of the tobacco control law in khulna division

**Working Area:** Jhenaidah , Magura, Kushtia , Jessore , Meherpur and Chuadanga

• **Tobacco use in Bangladesh .....**

The survey[GATS survey of WHO,2009] founds that 23.0% of adult aged 15 years or above currently smoke tobacco in Bangladesh (for males 44.7% and for females 1.5%).The smoking rate in rural areas is slightly higher (23.6%) than in urban areas (21.3%).In Bangladesh, 27.2% (25.9 million) of the adult population currently use smokeless tobacco. Prevalence is similar in males (26.4%) and females (27.9%). Current smokeless tobacco use is more prevalent in rural areas (28.8%) compared to urban areas (22.5%). Overall, current tobacco use (smoking or smokeless) among all adults is 43.3% (41.3 million). Among female current tobacco users, 2.7% smoked tobacco only, 94.7% used smokeless tobacco products only and 2.6% used both. Nearly 70% of current smokers plan or are thinking about quitting. Of those who attempted to quit during the past 12 months, 14.9% used counseling and 14.5% used other methods, which includes traditional medicines. As about 43.3% adults are using tobacco (smoking and smokeless) so they are in a major risk of cardio vascular disease, diabetes, cancer and burgers disease. All those disease are increasing gradually as the tobacco use is increasing due to lack of proper knowledge, loophole of law, inactivity of law enforcers and lack of cessation facility etc. So, from the above mentioned information we can say that a vast majority of Bangladesh are in a great risk of NCD due to the prevalence of Tobacco use. So if we can reduce the tobacco use that can produce a result in reducing the burden of NCD about 15% within 2 years

• **Objective of the study .....**

AID is considering this baseline survey as the benchmark of starting the project that will assist to measure the project output after the end of the project. In this purpose the main objectives of the consultancy would be:

- To assess the existing overall situation of Tobacco control law -2005 implementation in the project area;
- To assess the laps and gaps in existing tobacco control system.
- To assess the level of know-how of the stakeholders regarding tobacco control law-2005, secondhand smoking and bad impact of smoking.
- To know about the information need of relevant stakeholders to develop materials.
- To identify the needs of training and information for different stakeholders
- To know the status of Smoking use in Public places and Transports
- To know the status of the Taskforces at district and upazila levels.
- Identify the role of NGOs/CBOs/civil society and media in public smoking Control activity.
- To identify the needs of re-arranging the activities outlined in the project proposal
- To make recommendations in determining the methodologies to implement the action

• **Methods .....**

The Baseline Survey consists of 690 respondents from (three districts of project) stakeholders such as taskforce members, market authority, transport authority, transport passengers and transport workers. Using systematic (stratified) sampling, we sampled half or 690 stakeholders, from the sample frame of 'Tobacco control Baseline Survey-2009' to include only the more active and spontaneous respondents. It was expected that these respondents would give more precise information regarding their tobacco control law -2005 implementation and secondhand smoking. Because of sensitivity of question some respondent was unwilling to respond some question.

District	Respondents	Sample	Baseline survey
Jhenaidah , Magura and Kushtia	Passengers	120	320
	Transport staff	120	320
	Market and Transport association	110 ( market – 46 + Traffic – 64)	320
	NGOs and CBOs	120	160
	Taskforce	110	176
	Public places authority	110	240
<b>Total</b>		<b>690</b>	<b>1536</b>

A structured questionnaire was developed to collect information on the tobacco control law-2005 implementation and secondhand smoking. For this purpose 6 sets of questionnaire were developed; questionnaire for passengers, transport workers, NGOs/CBOs, market authority, traffic authority, public places authority and taskforce committee members. To this regards we use individual's questionnaire. All 6 sets of questionnaire were developed in consultation with another BI guarantee ACLAB and with the technical advice from The Union, Bangladesh office. Socio-demographic and necessary information was taken from the main baseline survey

• **Findings .....**

**Passenger:** The report depicts that 32% passengers do not know what is public place and public transport. 16.7% do not know about harm of tobacco use, 15% do not know about harm of smoking. Among the passengers 23.3% are not familiar with the term second hand smoking and the same (23.3%) do not know about harm of secondhand smoking. The report also depict 67.5% of passengers do not know about tobacco control law-2005, among passengers 50% opined that people smoke in transport frequently. Among the smokers in transport 49% passengers, 41% driver and 10% conductors smoke. There was no signage in 70% transport , among passengers 50% protest smoking in transport and 94.2% passers would like to keep their transport and workplace smoke free.

**Transport workers:** The report depicts that 72.5% workers opined that people smoke in public transport. 37.57% of transport workers do not know about the harm of tobacco use , 35.07% do not know the harm of smoking. About 71.7% do not know about tobacco control law-2005. Among the workers 39.2% are not familiar with secondhand smoking. 12.5% workers get information from NGOs, 9.2% from TV and 7.5% from Poster on tobacco bad impact. 89% found no signage in the public transport, 90% willing to keep their transport smoke free. 49.2% found protesting smoking in transport. For tobacco control 30% recommend to use large sign at smoke free places, 28.3% recommended imposing more fine, 9.2% recommend to introducing prize for smoke free.

**Market and Transport association:** The report said that 60.9% do not know about tobacco control law-2005. Regarding law 10% get information from newspaper, 9.1% from TV, 8.2% from NGOs, 3.6% fro stickers. 80.9% opined that law is not implemented properly. 27.3% do not know about the harm of tobacco use, 11.8% do not know about the harm of smoking, 27.3 are not familiar with the term second hand smoking. 45.5% don not know about the harm of SHS. 91.8% would like to keep their public places and transport smoke free, among those 35.5% face problem to make their places smoke free.

**NGOs and CBOs:** The report depicts that 91% know about tobacco control law and 9% is working for public places and public transport smoking ban. The reason for which people are not abiding law are as follows: lack of education (15%), Inactivity of law enforcing agencies (10%), inactivity of mobile court (5%) , weakness of law(3.3%) . 10.8% do not know about the harm of tobacco use, 11% do not know harm of smoking . 70% are not satisfied with present advertisement initiative. 100% willing to keep their office smoke free . For tobacco control 80% recommend to use big sign , among the NGOs and CBOs representatives 53.3% willing to support government for this purpose.

**Taskforces:** The report depicts that 78% of taskforce members are known about tobacco control law-2005 properly. 80.9% suggest amending the law for more effectiveness. 96.4% opined that taskforce meeting does not hold regularly and 91.8% opined that mobile court does not operated regularly. Suggestion regarding more effective taskforces: empowerment of police (13.6%), fine imposing power of college teacher (13.6%), sincerity of administration (13.6%), 9.1% suggest ward level taskforce and 11% suggest more effective communication. Besides they recommend holding meeting monthly instead of quarterly. Recommendation regarding more effective mobile court: 80% opined to increase communication among members. Suggestion regarding more effective implementation: awareness (20%), media coverage (19%), imposing more tax (13.6%), increase fine (7.3%), police power (4.5%) , discourage tobacco farming (2.7%) and local level team (1.8%).

**Public places and Transport authority:** The report depicts that 31.8% do not know about law , 8.2% do not know about harm of tobacco use , 16.4% do not know about harm of smoking . They opined that 24.5% of their office and workplaces are not smoke free. 45% do not know about the bad impact of secondhand smoking. Only 15.5% are involved with anti-tobacco activities. 85.5% has not gotten any order from govt. side to implement the law and 60.9% opined that big sign is more effective to control tobacco (smoking).