



12-16 AUGUST  
2013

# Burkina Faso

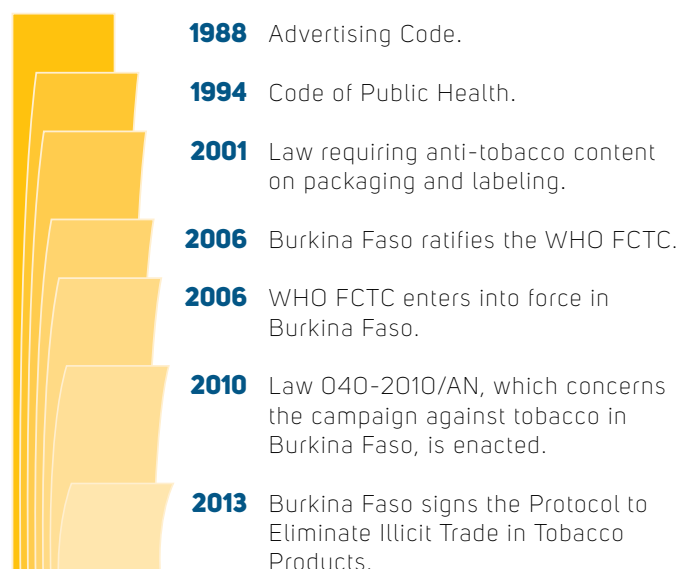
## NEEDS ASSESSMENT MISSION



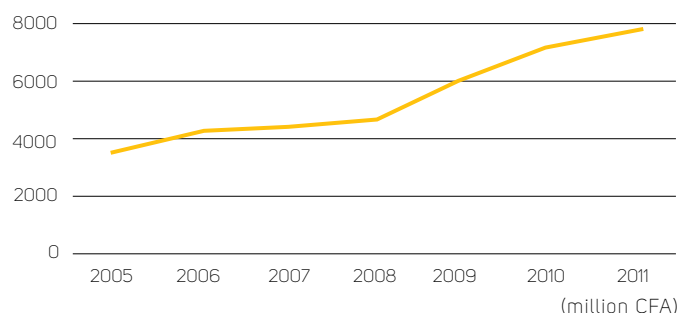
### Introduction

The needs assessment mission for the implementation of the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC) was conducted August 12-16, 2013, by the Convention Secretariat jointly with the Ministry of Health of Burkina Faso. The international team, which came at the government's invitation, included representatives of the World Bank and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The team met with the leaders of government agencies, NGOs and civil society who are involved in implementing the WHO FCTC at country level.

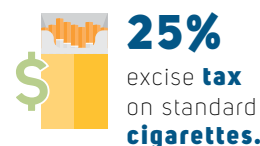
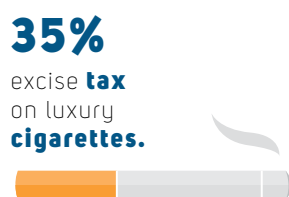
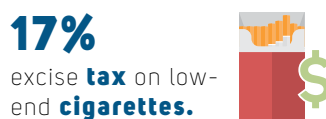
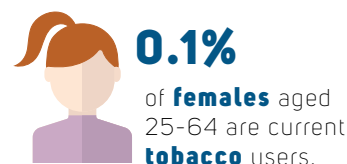
### Tobacco control milestones in Burkina Faso



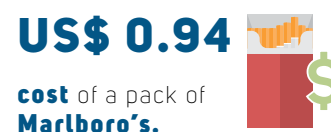
### Revenues related to government tobacco taxation



### Key facts



Burkina Faso has **duty-free** allowance of **1 carton** of **cigarettes** for each international traveler.



## Main findings and recommendations

● Burkina Faso implemented the first tobacco control strategic plan between 2009 and 2013. The Ministry of Health will coordinate the Tobacco Control Committee on the development of the next strategic plan, to cover the next five years.

**Recommendation:** The Ministry of Health should take the lead in ensuring the different government departments contribute to implementing the plan and establishing a proper timeline, budget and agreed outcome indicators.

● Burkina Faso has adopted a Tobacco Control Act and three decrees on the establishment of the National Committee for Tobacco Control, tobacco product packaging and labeling and banning smoking in public places and on public transportation. The Tobacco Control Act is comprehensive and addresses most articles of the WHO FCTC.

**Recommendation:** Fully enforce these provisions, particularly in regard to smoke-free environments and tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship. Fully implement the tobacco labeling requirements.

● Burkina Faso recognizes the importance of price and tax measures to support WHO FCTC goals. Despite this, the three tobacco excise tax rates on cigarettes in Burkina Faso are quite low and significantly below

The mandates provided by the 2010 Act have not yet been used to implement measures preventing tobacco industry interference in public policy making.

**Recommendation:** Raise awareness of the obligations and recommendations under Article 5.3 and make reference to them in the code of conduct for public officials and in the regulations governing the functioning of the National Tobacco Control Committee.

the maximum of 45% established by the West African Monetary and Economic Union, of which Burkina Faso is a member. Total taxes make up less than 25% of the price of the most popular brand.

**Recommendation:** Consider unifying the three tax rates at the highest rate in order to make cigarettes less affordable and increasing the rate to the maximum allowed under the West African Monetary and Economic Union.

● Burkina Faso has signed the Protocol to Eliminate Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products.

**Recommendation:** Ratify the Protocol to Eliminate Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products as soon as possible.

● Burkina Faso has not yet conducted a broad mass media campaign on the harmful effects of tobacco consumption and exposure to tobacco smoke.

**Recommendation:** The Ministry of Health should work closely with the Ministry of Communication and other interested parties to develop and implement mass media campaigns, with free air time provided by national radio and television stations. Include tobacco education in the curriculum at the primary, post-primary and secondary school levels.

● There are not national guidelines on tobacco cessation and the treatment of tobacco dependence to advise

health professionals on effective methods for helping their patients quit.

**Recommendation:** Integrate cessation services into existing health services and open a national quit line for those who want to stop smoking.

● The UNDAF (United Nations Development Assistance Framework) for Burkina Faso does not specifically mention the WHO FCTC, though two of the three targets identified in the document (the improvement of human capital quality and monitoring and evaluation of implementation and improvement of political, administrative and economic governance with regard to human rights and gender equality) provide openings for including implementation of the WHO FCTC.

**Recommendation:** The Ministry of Health should work with the Ministry of Economy and Finance to ensure inclusion of the WHO FCTC in the UNDAF.

● National regulations and standards concerning the testing of contents and emissions of tobacco products have not been developed yet.

**Recommendation:** The Ministry of Health should implement the requirement under Article 15 of the 2010 Act and coordinate, with other relevant Government departments, the development of regulatory provisions on the testing of tobacco products introduced onto the market.

## Post needs assessment assistance available from the Convention Secretariat

● Supporting the development of the next strategic plan.

● Facilitating access to resources through donor coordination.

● Supporting the development of a media strategy and materials for national radio and television broadcasters.

● Supporting and facilitating a stakeholder workshop to consider the needs assessment and the national tobacco control strategic plan.

● Facilitating technical support from UNCTAD to implement article 11.

## Outcomes



1) The needs assessment was very helpful and served as an opportunity for the stakeholders to know certain articles of the Convention and understand if the regulations in Burkina Faso are in accordance with the WHO FCTC.

2) The exercise strengthened intersectoral collaboration for tobacco control and helped to improve the development of the strategic plan against tobacco by developing indicators and budget.

3) Burkina Faso is still working to address the recommendations from the mission.