ROLE OF WHO FCTC GLOBAL KNOWLEDGE HUB ON SMOKELESS TOBACCO IN SMOKELESS TOBACCO CONTROL
Anshika Chandra, Ravi Mehrotra
Global Knowledge Hub on Smokeless Tobacco
ICMR- National Institute of Cancer Prevention and Research, Noida, India

Introduction

- An estimated 350 million users of Smokeless Tobacco (SLT) are spread worldwide, across 140 countries.
- The South-East Asian Region (SEAR) has a major epidemic of SLT use, with largest number of users residing in India and Bangladesh.
- Although prevalence of SLT use has also been reported in high income countries including USA and Europe, the major chunk of SLT users reside in low and medium income countries.

Objectives

- Generate knowledge, share expertise and information on SLT through a web portal and social media.
- Assist Parties of the Convention to develop programs and policies in the area of SLT use.
- Support the Convention Secretariat in its work to promote control of SLT use globally.

Methods/ Work Plan

GLOBAL KNOWLEDGE HUB ON SMOKELESS TOBACCO

- Hub provides research and information
- Hub collects and analyzes the global and country specific data
- Hub produce material via varied channels
- Hub collaborates with National Tobacco Testing Laboratory (NTTL)
- Hub is working on securing policy oriented additional grants
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- Operational matters and sustainability

Reports:
Global SLT Control Policies and their Implementation.

Publications: Total 7

Training & Workshops:
- Tobacco Control and Health Informatics (March 2017).
- Inter-country Meeting on SLT Control Policy (August 2017).

Media Coverage:
Knowledge Hub activities has been reported in reputed English language and regional language newspapers.

Conclusions

- To formulate recommendations for the future, including work on profiling of new SLT products and coordination with testing laboratories.
- To design collaborative projects and disseminate information through International Training(s) and Workshop(s).
- The hub is being developed as a global nerve centre for SLT control and is being strengthened by all the stakeholders.

References

National Cancer and Institute. Smokeless Tobacco and Cancer available at
https://cancer.gov/about-cancer/causes-prevention/tobacco/smokeless-fact-sheet#tob
Global Knowledge Hub link: https://ltobaccocontrol.org/kh/smokeless-tobacco