# On the Road to a Tobacco–Free Ghana

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#### Slide 1:

**Text:** On the Road to a Tobacco–Free Ghana

Edith Koryo Wellington, Senior Research Officer, Ghana Health Service **Graphic:** Picture of people walking in the 2002 Quit and Win march

#### Slide 2:

Text: Overview

- Discuss findings from the Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)
- How GYTS was used for policy, communications and program initiatives
- Achievements
- Recommendations for future

Graphic: Picture of a little boy smoking a cigarette and holding 5 more packs

#### Slide 3:

Text: Global Youth Tobacco Survey

- Conducted in 2000 to document and monitor the prevalence of tobacco use among youth
- Partnership with WHO, CDC, Ghana Education Service

Graphic: Picture of students in a school house

#### Slide 4:

**Text:** Objectives

• Understand and assess students' attitudes, knowledge and behaviors related to tobacco use and its health impact

**Graphic:** Picture of students in a school house

#### Slide 5:

**Text:** Methodology

- School–based survey of students in Junior Secondary School 1,2,3 grades
- Two–stage cluster sample design
- 1917 students participated in the survey

Graphic: Global Youth Tobacco Survey logo

#### Slide 6:

**Text:** Key Findings – Prevalence

- 4.8% currently smoke cigarettes
- 17.2% currently use other tobacco products
- 16.5% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking

Graphic: Picture of a boy smoking a cigarette

Slide 7:

**Text:** Key Findings – Secondhand Smoke Exposure

- 21.9% live in homes where others smoke
- 26.1% have one or more parents who smoke
- 39.6% think smoke from others is harmful to them
- 57.2% think smoking should be banned from public places

**Graphics:** Picture 1: Banner with little boy on it, with caption: He has his daddy's eyes and his momma's lungs. Secondhand Smoke Kills Picture 2: Picture of kids standing outside

Slide 8:

Text: Key Findings – Media and Advertising

- 18.6% have an object with a cigarette brand logo on it
- 15.1% were offered "free" cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

**Graphic:** Picture of a mother holding a young boy, who is wearing a Marlboro 2 piece jogging suite

## Slide 9:

Text: Key Findings – Access and Availability

• 52.2% buy their cigarettes in a store and have not been refused purchase because of their age

## Slide 10:

Text: Policy Interventions

## GYTS Data was used to:

- Establish a National Tobacco Control Committee
- Draft of the Comprehensive Tobacco Control Bill
- Ratify the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC)

## Slide 11:

Text: Partnerships

## GYTS generated broad-based partnerships:

- Government Agencies
  - Ghana Health Service
  - Ministry of Health, Education, Customs, Tourism, Trade, Attorney Generals Office, Food and Drugs Board
- Parliamentarians
- Leisure and Hospitality Industry (Tourist Board)
- Media
  - o Radio, Television, Print, Wire Service
- Non–Governmental Agencies
- International Partners
  - World Health Organization, U.S. Centers for Disease Control, American Cancer Society, Quit and Win Finland

Slide 12:

**Text:** Dissemination and Information Exchange *Using GYTS data for communication* 

- Awareness workshops
  - Owners/managers of public places
  - Members of Parliament
  - Media personnel
  - Health professionals
  - Teachers
- Radio and TV talk shows
- Print media

Graphics: Picture of a Quit & Win 2002 Ghana, meeting

## Slide 13:

Text: Program Interventions

## GYTS formed the basis for tobacco control programming:

- School education programs
- Counseling centers for cessation
- Quit and Win campaigns
- Importance of establishing smoke-free public places
- Survey to assess smoking in public place
- World No–Tobacco Day Celebrations

Graphics: Picture of a Quit & Win 2004 Ghana, awards ceremony

## Slide 14:

**Text:** Program Interventions

## GYTS formed the basis for tobacco control programming:

• Launched "Health Professionals Against Tobacco"

Graphics: Picture of a Health Professionals Against Tobacco meeting

## Slide 15:

**Text:** School–based Interventions

## GYTS findings widely disseminated

- Health talks
- Quiz to increase knowledge
- Pilot test model school health intervention program

Graphics: Picture of youths speaking at the Quit & Win 2004 Ghana ceremony

## Slide 16:

Text: School–based Interventions

• Tobacco free–soccer competition

Graphics: Pictures of youths at the Tobacco free-soccer competition

Slide 17:

Text: School-based Interventions

- Variety shows
  - o films, drama, songs, poems, exhibitions

Graphics: Pictures of youths performing at the variety show

## Slide 18:

Text: Achievements

- GYTS data has become a basic reference point used by high public officials
- 20 public places agreed to make their places tobacco free
- Health professionals has a code of practice for tobacco control
- GYTS data served as a source of information in drafting Ghana's Tobacco Control Bill
- Ghana's ratification of FCTC

Graphics: Picture of a board meeting

## Slide 19:

## Text:

"Tobacco causes harm to the youth. In Ghana, 14.3% students tried smoking and 40% think the smoke from others is harmful to them". *While seconding a motion to ratify the FCTC Hon. N. Akomea* 

## Slide 20:

Text: Recommendations for future

- Develop a national tobacco control action plan
- Train teachers and develop a comprehensive education program
- Develop an implementation strategy for FCTC
- Work with Parliamentarians to support and endorse/pass the tobacco control bill which will expedite action for a law in promoting smoke–free public places

Slide 21:

**Text:** On the Road to a Tobacco–Free Ghana Edith Koryo Wellington, Senior Research Officer, Ghana Health Service **Graphic:** Picture of people walking in the 2002 Quit & Win march