



CONCEPT NOTE
ORIENTATION WORKSHOP ON TOBACCO
QUESTIONS FOR SURVEYS (TQS)



3-4 May 2016, Ankara –Turkey

1. Introduction

Tobacco Questions for Surveys (TQS) is a component of the Global Tobacco Surveillance System (GTSS), which was developed by the World Health Organization (WHO), the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and other partners to assist countries in establishing tobacco control surveillance and monitoring programs. The integration of TQS questions into ongoing surveys assists countries in systematically monitoring tobacco use and related tobacco control indicators and promotes sustainability and integration with other risk factors surveillance initiatives.

Through the CDC Foundation, a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) was enacted with the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Center for Islamic Countries (SESRIC). Under this MoA, SESRIC engages with their member states to encourage the integration of TQS questions into ongoing surveys by offering technical consultation and funding assistance.

2. Objective

SESRIC has successfully engaged with numerous member states for TQS integration and a few have already either started or completed data collection of these surveys. However, there are other member states that are requesting additional information and technical support, beyond the engagement from SESRIC. Thus, SESRIC proposes to hold a TQS orientation workshop for these member states with additional technical support provided by CDC (and perhaps WHO) and program support provided by CDC Foundation.

3. Content/Topics

The following topics would be included in the workshop:

- a) Tobacco Burden: Overview of the global tobacco burden.
- b) Monitoring and Surveillance: The importance of monitoring the tobacco epidemic and an overview of GTSS and related components (GATS, GYTS, TQS).

- c) TQS Survey Questions: Details on the development and content of TQS questions; plus examples of successful implementation.
- d) Implementation Guidelines: Methodological guidelines for integrating TQS questions into existing surveys.
- e) Proposal Development: Preparing and submitting the TQS application form; commitment letters of agreement; expectations under the agreement.
- f) Analysis and Dissemination: Analyzing the TQS questions; preparing TQS tables and/or fact sheet (deliverables); dissemination of findings and using the data for action.

In addition, countries will have an opportunity to present about their organization, surveys, and opportunities to integrate TQS. An open-dialogue format will be used throughout to facilitate discussion.

4. Participants

- Representatives from approximately 10 to 11 OIC member states that are interested to integrate TQS questions into their national surveys. (Number from each country to be determined by SESRIC.)
- SESRIC staff
- CDC staff (tbd)
- CDC Foundation (tbd)
- WHO Regional Surveillance Officers
- WHO Headquarters
- Other technical experts (as needed). For example, TurkStat of Turkey, SSC of Azerbaijan and CAPMAS of Egypt, to share their experience with TQS.