

Deakin Research Online

Deakin University's institutional research repository

This is the published version (version of record) of:

Martin, E. and de Leeuw, E. 2010, The implementation of a global health treaty in challenging environments., in *IUHPE 2010 : Abstracts (Parallel & Poster Sessions) of the 20th IUHPE World Conference on Health Promotion : Health, Equity and Sustainable Development.*, International Union for Health Promotion and Education, [Geneva, Switzerland], pp. 504-504.

Available from Deakin Research Online:

<http://hdl.handle.net/10536/DRO/DU:30030372>

Every reasonable effort has been made to ensure that permission has been obtained for items included in DRO. If you believe that your rights have been infringed by this repository, please contact drosupp@deakin.edu.au

Copyright : 2010, IUHPE

TP-MON-298 THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A GLOBAL HEALTH TREATY IN CHALLENGING ENVIRONMENTS

E. Martin^{*1}, E. de Leeuw¹

¹School of Medicine, Deakin University, Geelong, Australia

Background: The World Health Organisation's Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) is a landmark development to address the globalisation of the tobacco epidemic, where particular attention is given to developing countries. The FCTC is currently undergoing implementation in most countries. Literature suggests that particular types of nation-states face challenges in implementing and complying with comprehensive international treaties. For small island developing states (SIDS), such challenges may be associated with their smallness, remoteness and isolation. SIDS are also subject to influences through regional organisations and larger, developed countries that play a role in the FCTC.

Public health, health promotion, policy studies and international relations provide the foundation for this research, as it is interdisciplinary in nature. Health policy will be explored in the sphere of policy implementation theory.

Objectives: The goal of this study is to explore the variables that affect the implementation of the FCTC in selected SIDS. We have chosen the policy implementation framework developed by Mazmanian and Sabatier (1989) to structure our investigation. Research objectives include the identification and exploration of the tractability of the problem in these countries, what statutory and non-statutory variables affect the FCTC's implementation in SIDS, how they do so, and what this means for the FCTC and the health of populations in the Pacific islands. The role of regional organisations and large, developed countries in the region will also be observed.

Underlying values and principles: Underlying principles relate to health equity. Here, it is believed that health is a fundamental human right. We further apply a globalisation gaze, through which we recognise that we live an intimately networked world.

Knowledge base/ Evidence base: The provisions of the FCTC are based on decades of empirical tobacco control research, and its proliferation as an international treaty has been established through consensus on successful ways to minimise harm associated with tobacco use. A dearth of evidence exists, however, on the social and political determinants of implementation parameters for such an important international treaty. As far as we know, this study is one of a small handful currently undertaken.

Context of intervention/project/work: See 'Background'

Methods: This is an explorative, qualitative study where several Pacific Island states are selected as a case study. Key policy makers and stakeholders from government departments, NGOs and regional organisations will be studied. Multiple sources of evidence will be drawn upon, including questionnaires, in-depth interviews and policy documents.

Results and Conclusions: Intermediate results predominantly focus on an appropriate methodology and conceptual framework that can be applied in a culturally respectful way to a complex and challenging environment.

References: Mazmanian, D. A. and P. A. Sabatier (1989). Implementation and public policy - with a new postscript. Lanham/New York/London, University Press of America.

Disclosure of Interest: None declared