

Every day more than 19 000 people die from tobacco use or second-hand smoke

Over 80% of tobacco-related deaths occur in low- and middle-income countries

Tobacco use in WHO's Eastern Mediterranean Region is alarming

Around 38% of men and 4% of women are smokers

By 2025, smoking is expected to rise, which will lead to an escalating epidemic of cardiovascular disease regionally

Tobacco use is a key risk factor for coronary heart disease, stroke and peripheral vascular disease

Cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death and disease in most countries in WHO's Eastern Mediterranean Region

In 2015, cardiovascular disease caused nearly 1.4 million deaths in the Region



Tobacco-related disease and death is preventable

Fully implement WHO's Framework Convention on Tobacco Control and all its policies, which will reduce tobacco use and consequently cardiovascular disease levels in the Region.

[Learn more about WHO's Framework Convention on Tobacco Control](#)

Fully implement the technical packages that constitute WHO's Global Hearts Initiative (MPOWER, SHAKE & HEARTS), which can save many millions of lives by ramping up proven measures to prevent cardiovascular disease in communities and countries, including taxing tobacco, reducing salt in foods, detecting and treating people at high risk and strengthening primary health care services.

[Learn more about WHO's Global Hearts Initiative](#)

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