



Final Technical Report

The International Alcohol Control (IAC) Study - Working Meeting

Torino, Italy 7th and 8th June 2014



MASSEY UNIVERSITY

Contents

Project Information.....	3
Objectives.....	3
Project Activities	3
Project Outputs	4
Project Outcomes	5
Overall Assessment and Recommendations.....	5

Project Information

IDRC Project Number:	107835-001
IDRC Project Title:	Support for the International Alcohol Study
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Objectives

Funding was requested to support the 2014 annual meeting of the IAC Study (June 7-8, 2014 in Torino, Italy) in order to ensure that the research initiative is integrated, consistent across countries and that the methods and procedures are comparable and produce internationally relevant results.

The specific objectives of the project were to:

- 1.1 To share the IAC survey data from participating countries and to discuss the planned cross-country analysis.
- 1.2 To discuss the methodological issues encountered by the different research teams.
- 1.3 To present and discuss the revised Alcohol Environment Protocol (AEP) and the AEP data collected thus far.
- 1.4 To discuss future directions to be undertaken for the AEP protocol and IAC survey.

Project Activities

The funding received was used to support some of the costs associated with the preparation, facilitation and hosting of the IAC study meeting in Torino, Italy. In addition the financial support enabled three LMIC researchers and one member of the New Zealand IAC study team to attend the working meeting.

The four researchers who were funded to attend the meeting were:

- Gaile Gray-Phillip, St Kitts and Nevis
- Dr Sharon Halliday, St Kitts and Nevis
- Dr Victor Cruz, Peru
- Dr Taisia Huckle, New Zealand

Project Outputs

Welcome and Introductions

The meeting began with a brief welcome by Professor Casswell (who chaired the meeting), review of the purpose of the meeting which also included outlining the agenda. Introductions were given by each participant including those new to the meeting Dr Perihan Torun (Turkey), Dr Sharon Halliday (St Kitts/Nevis) and Dr Victor Cruz (Peru).

Country reports

Presentations were given by each country documenting the progress made on the IAC survey component of the project.

For established countries, details presented included current wave (and stage) of data collection, relevant methodological details, results and publications since the last international meeting. For newer countries background details were generally provided about the alcohol environment, including types of drinking premises, beverages and containers (information that was relevant to the adaptation of the IAC questionnaire for different contexts). In some cases, details were provided on questionnaire adaptation, interviewer training and data collection planning.

Methodological issues

During this session countries were encouraged to identify and discuss methodological issues relevant to the IAC survey. This resulted in discussion and resolution of issues, some were noted for follow-up.

Data management

In this session New Zealand provided an update on the data depository. Updates were given by relevant countries on the status of their datasets including cleaning/coding and variable derivation.

Cross-country analysis

Six cross-country IAC analyses options were discussed and planned for publication.

Alcohol Environment Protocol (AEP)

Professor Casswell presented an overview of the AEP including some initial analyses of cross-country comparisons. Each country then reported on their AEP (including findings where available).

Future directions & Next meetings

Future directions for the AEP protocol and IAC survey data were discussed, along with potential sources of future funding. Next meetings were put forward for Munich (to coincide with the Kettil Bruun Society Annual Conference 2015) and Scotland (to coincide with the GAPC conference 2015).

Project Outcomes

All objectives of the meeting were achieved. IAC survey data was shared from participating countries and cross-country analyses were discussed and planned; methodological issues encountered by the different research teams were discussed; the revised Alcohol Environment Protocol (AEP) was presented and discussed along with the AEP data collected thus far and future directions to be undertaken for the AEP protocol and IAC survey were discussed.

Overall Assessment and Recommendations

The funding from IDRC was integral to the success of the IAC international collaborators meeting achieving its objectives. The funding supported some of the costs associated with the preparation, facilitation and hosting of the IAC study meeting. In addition the financial support enabled three LMIC researchers and one member of the New Zealand IAC study team to attend the working meeting. The face to face nature of the two day meeting facilitated in-depth and intensive knowledge and information exchange between IAC researchers from different countries. Additionally, researchers from LMIC were able to benefit from the groups' collective experience.

These meetings have proven to be invaluable to all IAC collaborators and the continuation of such meetings would be beneficial to the overall project.