

AFRICA: TOBACCO INDUSTRY INTERFERENCE INDEX 2020

In 2019, four countries (Kenya, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda) participated in the survey while five new countries (Ethiopia, Ghana, Mozambique, Nigeria, Zambia) joined the survey in 2020 bringing the total to nine.



South Africa
Most Improved



Kenya
Deteriorated

The tobacco industry snares senior government officials through CSR activities



South Africa – Although the Tobacco Products Control Act bans CSR contributions from the tobacco industry, the industry finds ways to course its activities through NGOs that conduct programs in educational centres.

Nigeria – BAT has been running a USD1.8 million CSR programme (2018 – 2022) endorsed by the Ministry of Agriculture consisting of 180 programmes across 36 states among small-scale farmers.

Zambia – Tobacco industry has conducted CSR programmes building clinics, schools, sinking boreholes which receive wide media coverage.

Tanzania – Government officials and members of parliament participate in CSR activities and commend the industry for its contributions.

There is a lack of transparency when governments deal with the tobacco industry

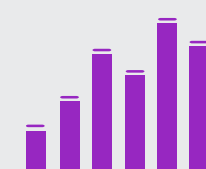


South Africa – The government does not disclose its interactions with the tobacco industry. In contrast the government accepts assistance from the tobacco industry which the industry publicises when announcing its partnership with the government, such as the beach clean-up campaign in Cape Town.

Nigeria – The National Tobacco Control Act 2015 and the 2019 Regulations provides for transparency when interacting with the tobacco industry. However, there is a problem in implementation.

Uganda – A BAT Uganda letter to the Ministry of Trade was not handed in a transparent manner.

The tobacco industry benefits from its interference initiatives



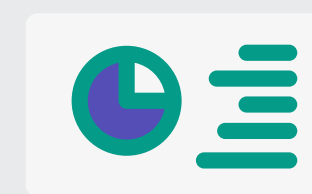
Ethiopia – The Prime Minister's Office recognised the tobacco industry for being a loyal and high taxpayer. The low tax level is due to the Ministry of Finance not imposing the required excise tax citing illicit trade in tobacco as a reason.

Ghana – The tobacco industry was allowed a maximum period of 18 months to implement pictorial health warning as compared to other countries. In 2018 the government announced a ban on the use of shisha which has still not been implemented.

Mozambique – The tobacco industry receives exemption from export duties to incentivise the local tobacco industry.

Tanzania – Delay of tobacco control legislation for several years has benefited the tobacco industry.

The tobacco industry interferes in policy development



Ethiopia – Japan Tobacco International is allowed to comment below any tobacco-related legislation is passed.

Nigeria – The tobacco industry sits in the standards organisation that determines the standards of tobacco products.

Zambia – Tobacco industry interference has delayed tobacco control legislation since 2009.

Unnecessary interactions with the tobacco industry can lead to authorities promoting it



Tanzania – The President inaugurated a cigarette factory endorsing the tobacco industry for providing jobs and market for farmers.

Zambia – In 2019, the Finance Minister opened a cigarette manufacturing plant for BAT speaking positively of its investment.

Governments collaborate with the tobacco industry



Ethiopia and Mozambique have signed an MOU with the tobacco industry, or a group sponsored by it, to tackle smuggling and child labour respectively.

Countries are making efforts to reduce conflict of interest



Kenya - The Tobacco Control Act requires that all sorts of affiliation to the tobacco industry by a member of the tobacco control board be declared for purposes of determining any conflict of interest.

Governments can protect themselves from tobacco industry interference



Ethiopia – There is a procedure in place for all interactions between public officials and the tobacco industry where all interactions are documented.

Ghana – There is no procedure or code of conduct to guide government officials when interacting with the tobacco industry. There is also no regular program to create awareness on article 5.3 to government agencies.

Uganda – Uganda's Tobacco Control Act requires disclosure of meetings with the tobacco industry. However, the procedure for disclosing the records of any interaction with the tobacco industry and its representatives has not been effectively enforced.

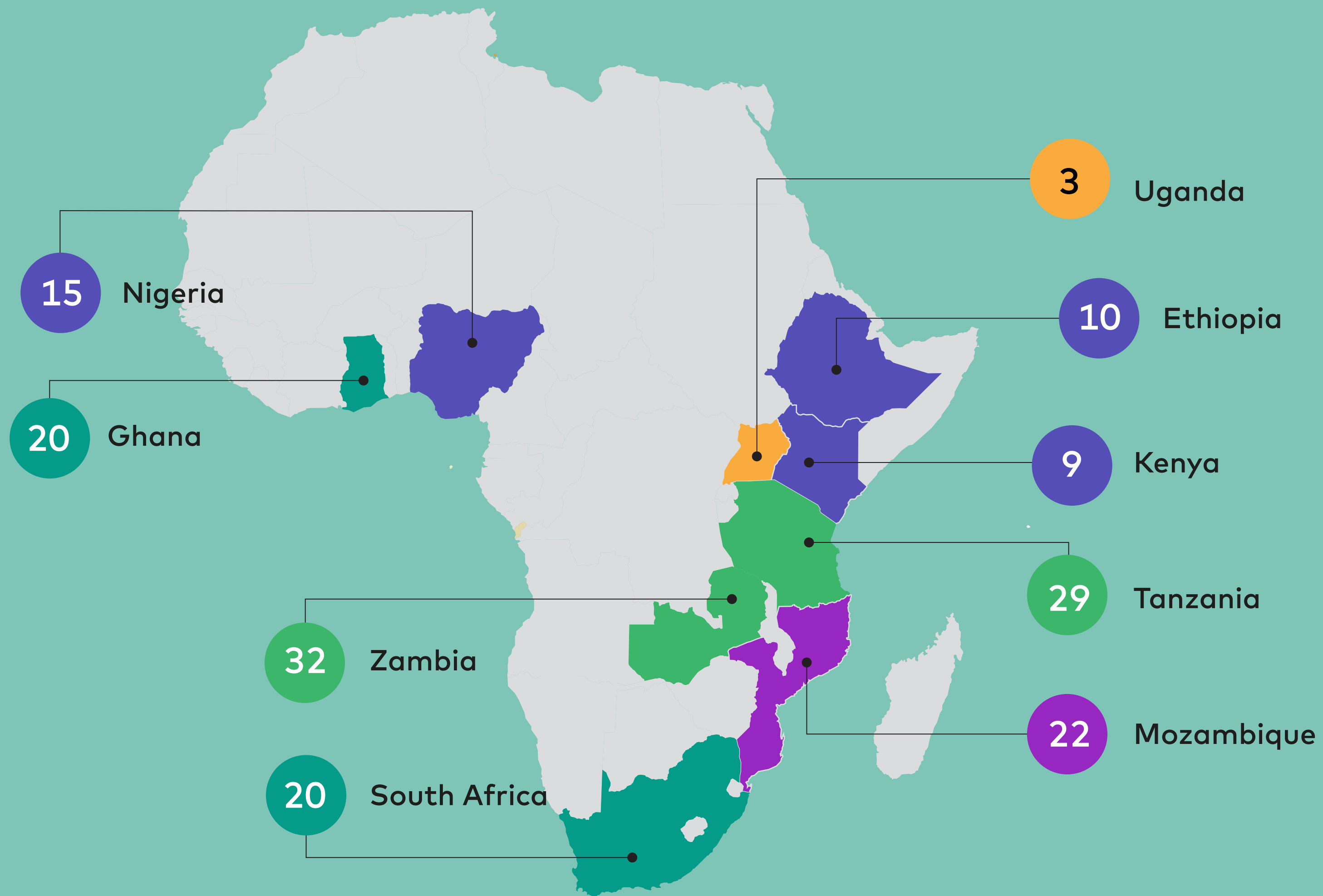
Recommendations

- Protect policy development from tobacco industry interference.
- Denormalise and ban tobacco related CSR activities.
- Limit interactions with the tobacco industry to only those strictly necessary and ensure transparency in all interactions.
- Implement a procedure to record all interactions with the tobacco industry.
- Enforce a code of conduct to guide government to officials in their interactions with the tobacco industry.



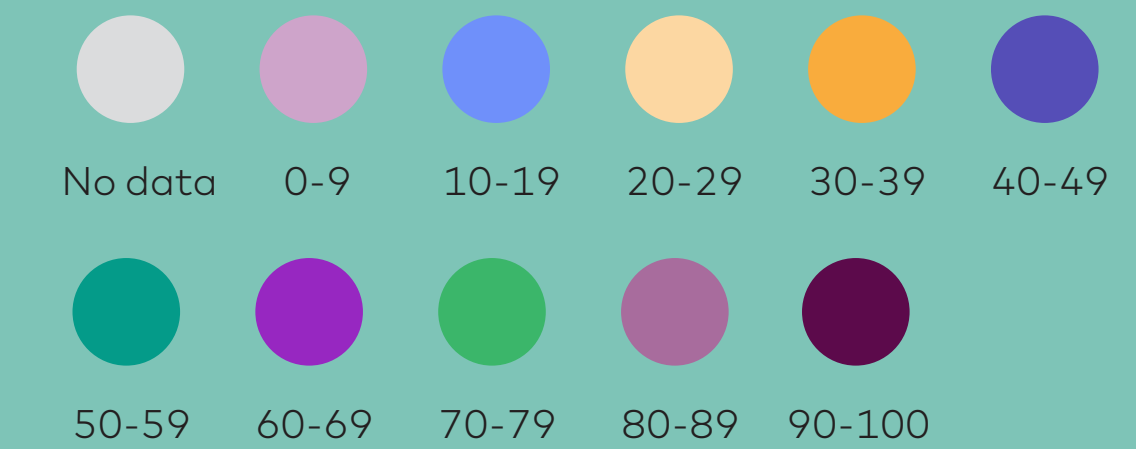
A GLOBAL TOBACCO INDUSTRY WATCHDOG





The numbers reflect the ranking of the countries in the Global Index

The lower the score the better the ranking



Global Center for Good Governance in Tobacco Control (GGTC), a STOP partner utilised civil society reports on tobacco industry influence from 57 countries which cover about 80% of the world's population. The Global Tobacco Industry Interference Index is a survey to determine how governments are protecting their public health policies from commercial and vested interests of the tobacco industry as required under the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC). Read the full report at www.exposetobacco.org. Detailed country reports and other tools are available at www.globaltobaccoindex.org



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