

Protection from exposure to tobacco smoke: Toward smoke-free workplace and public space *- Hong Kong experience*

*Ms Lisa LAU, BBS, MH, JP
Chairman*

*Hong Kong Council on Smoking and Health
19 August 2013*

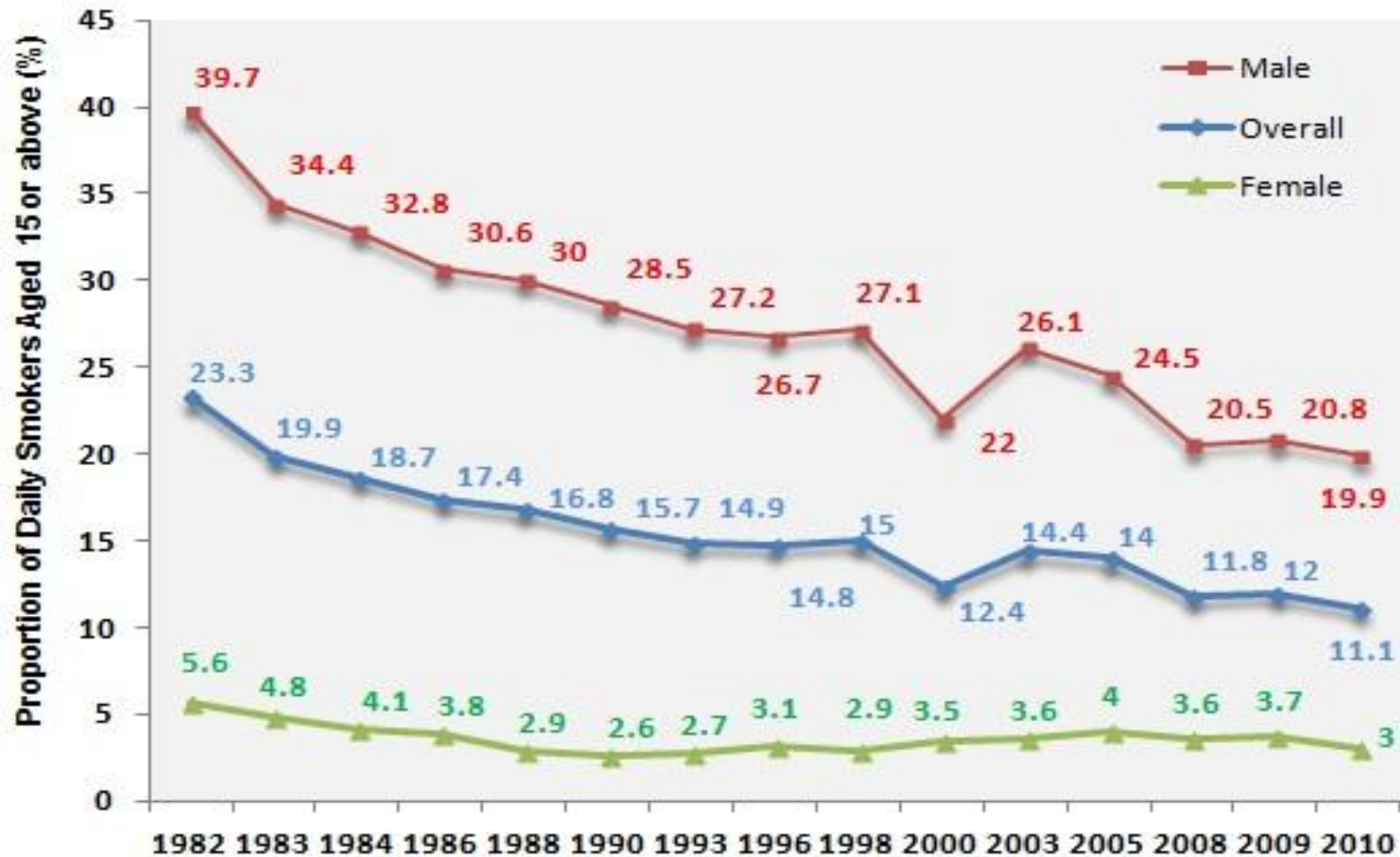


Hong Kong in the past

Smoking all around



Smoking Prevalence in Hong Kong



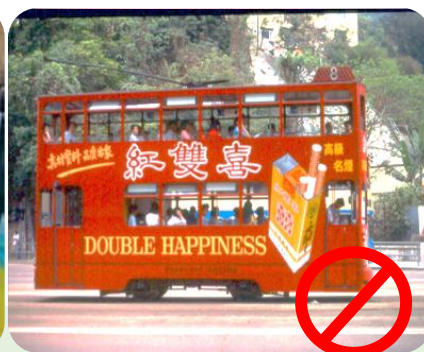
Source: Thematic Household Survey Report No.48, HKSAR, 2010



Legislation Enactment

Smoking (Public Health) Ordinance (Cap. 371)

- Enacted in 1982 with 7 amendment exercises
- Coverage of the Ordinance :
 - **Prohibition of Smoking in Public Places**
 - Restriction on Sales of Tobacco Products
 - Restriction on Tobacco Promotion and Advertising



Law Enforcement of Tobacco Control

- Enforced by Tobacco Control Office, Department of Health (established in 2001)
- Anyone who smokes in statutory no smoking areas→ HK\$1,500 fixed penalty (since 1 Sep 2009)



衛生署控煙辦公室
Tobacco Control Office
Department of Health



Protection from exposure to tobacco smoke:

Where are we in Hong Kong?

- Total ban of indoor smoking and partial ban of outdoor smoking
- 100% smoke-free indoor workplace and public space since 2007



- public lifts
- lower deck of public transport land vehicles



- Cinemas
- Theatres
- concerts halls
- amusement game centres
- all public transport carriers



Policy of Statutory No Smoking Areas

1998

- indoor areas in any shops, department stores, shopping malls
- supermarkets
- banks
- Hong Kong International Airport



1998

1999

2007

1999

- Restaurants with more than 200 seats
→ at least 1/3 no smoking areas

2007

- all indoor public places including workplaces and restaurants



Policy of Statutory No Smoking Areas



2009

- 6 types of establishments including bars, clubs, nightclubs, bathhouses, massage parlours and mahjong and tin-kau parlours
- 48 public transport facilities with superstructures

2009 > 2010



2010

- 50 public transport facilities with superstructures
- all open-air public transport facilities



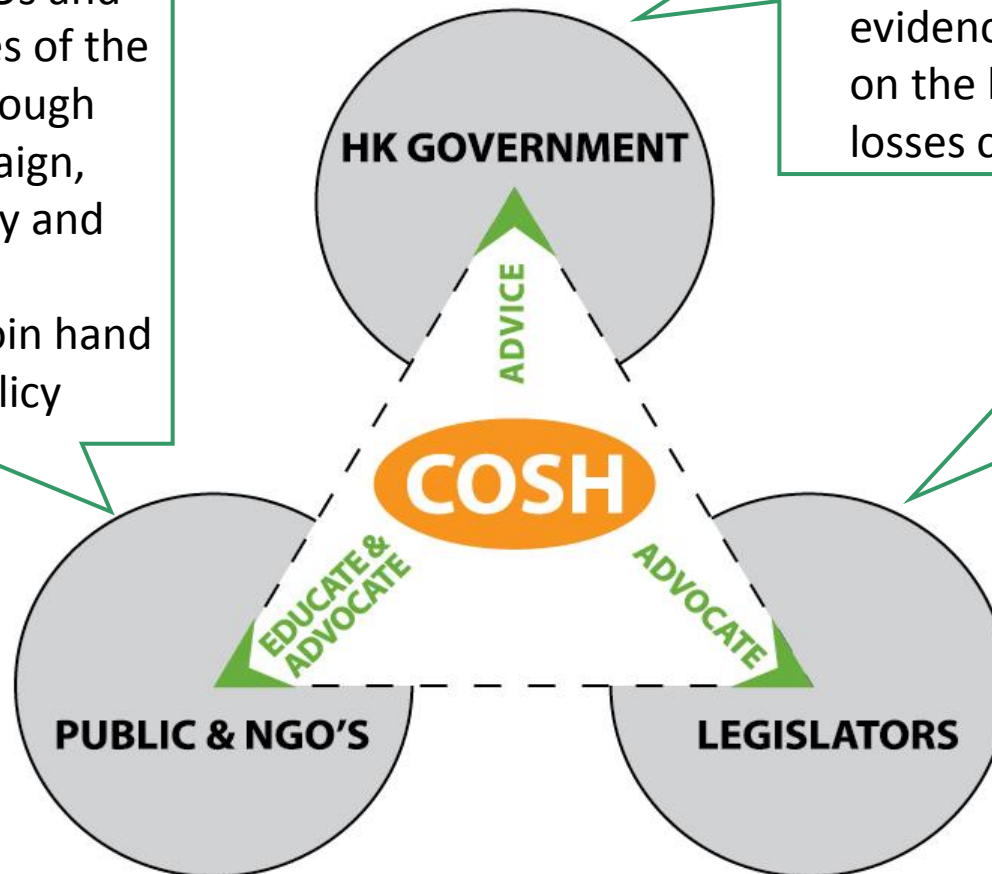
Hong Kong Council on Smoking and Health (COSH)

A statutory body established in 1987 under the Government Subvention. Key missions :

- Educate and advocate the public, NGOs and different parties of the community through publicity campaign, media advocacy and cooperation
- Mobilize and join hand to advocate policy

- Advise the government with research and evidence based findings on the health hazards and losses caused by smoking

- Advocate policy implementation with scientific evidence and public opinion



“Smoke-free Hong Kong” Campaign

- Media advocacy
- Advocate and Corporate with Business Sector

Media advocacy

2001

Background	Action	Aim	Stakeholder
Smoking was allowed in indoor places	Conducted research “Passive Smoking and Risks for Heart Disease and Cancer in Hong Kong Catering Workers”	To provide sound evidence for Government to step up pace of indoor smoking ban	Media, General public, Government



Media advocacy

2005

Background	Action	Aim	Stakeholder
Plan to tighten control on tobacco and smoking → Bills Committee formed to study the Smoking (Public Health) (Amendment) Bill	Produced a series of APIs	To raise public awareness on secondhand smoking and mobilize non-smokers to fight for a smoke-free environment	General public
	Conducted research on hazards of secondhand smoking	To unveil the hazards of secondhand smoke : 1,324 non-smokers die from secondhand smoke per year in Hong Kong	Media, General public



Media advocacy

2006

Background	Action	Aim	Stakeholder
The Smoking (Public Health) (Amendment) Bill 2005 still faced strong opposition after several rounds of discussions	Produced API	To appeal support for smoke-free legislations through an emotional approach	Legislators, community leaders



Results

- 18 Oct 2006
Smoking (Public Health) (Amendment) Bill 2005
enacted and supported by majority of the
Legislative Council Members
- 1 Jan 2007
Expansion of No Smoking Areas to
all indoor public places, including
workplaces and restaurants



Media advocacy

2009 (before 1 July)

Background	Action	Aim	Stakeholder
<p>Expiry of deferment of smoking ban in 6 Listed Establishments (Bars, Clubs, Nightclubs, Gambling Premises, Bathhouses, Massage Establishments)</p> <p>Entertainment business owners requested to delay indoor smoking ban</p>	Organized Press conferences	To recognize benefits of indoor smoking ban at workplaces and restaurants since 2007 by owners and staff of <u>Bars & Clubs</u> and <u>Catering & Entertainment Industries</u>	Media, Government, entertainment business owners



Media advocacy

2009 (after 1 July)

Background	Action	Aim	Stakeholder
No smoking areas expanded to 6 listed establishments	Produced API	To promote smokers' compliance to smoke-free legislation	General public



Results

- 1 July 2009
No smoking areas **expanded to 6 Listed Establishments**
(Bars, Clubs, Nightclubs, Gambling Premises,
Bathhouses & Massage Establishments)



Advocate and cooperate with Business Sector

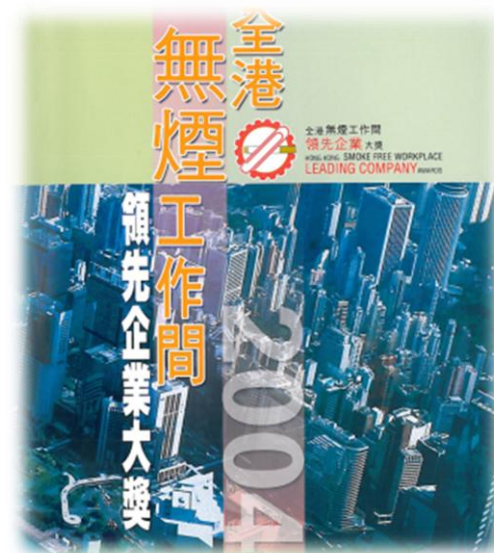
Year	Action	Aim
2000-2002	"No Smoking Day in the Workplace" Campaign	To raise the awareness of business sector on the benefits of smoke-free working environment
2003	"No Smoking Month in the Workplace" Campaign	



Advocate and cooperate with Business Sector

Year	Action	Aim
2004	Hong Kong Smoke-free Workplace Leading Company Award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To protect the employees from secondhand smoke - To strengthen the role of business sector in protecting public health
2006	Hong Kong Leading SME Smoke-free Workplace Award	

→ Laid the cornerstone for smoking ban at all indoor workplaces in 2007



Advocate and cooperate with Business Sector

Year	Action	Aim
2011 & 2013	Hong Kong Smoke-free Leading Company Awards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To encourage enterprises to effectively implement the Smoke-free Workplace Policy launched by Government - To advocate a smoke-free culture as a demonstration of corporate social responsibility

→ In 2011, more than 52,000 employees benefited



Challenges and Experiences



香港吸煙與健康委員會
Hong Kong Council on Smoking and Health



Challenges and Experiences Learnt

Interference from Tobacco Industry

- Retaliation from the tobacco companies, retailers, convenient stores and smokers
- Social groups were financed by tobacco companies to form an opposition voice on policy change



Challenges and Experiences Learnt

- Strong research **findings** and **evidence** base of smoking hazards to **de-normalize smoking**
- **Local data** and **public opinion** should be established
- **Education** at all levels of the community to create **social acceptance and readiness** for the comprehensive smoke-free environment
- Always link and **join hands with the entire community**



What's Next in Hong Kong

- Smoking ban at alfresco dining area
- Venue managers are subject to penalty if smoking offence is found in their venue
- Further expand the statutory no smoking areas



Vision

**Construct a positive atmosphere for
Smoke-free Hong Kong in 2022!**



Please visit www.smokefree.hk
for more information



The screenshot displays the homepage of the Hong Kong Council on Smoking and Health (CASH). The header features the CASH logo, a navigation menu with links to 'ABOUT US', 'OUR WORK', 'SMOKING: RISK & CESSATION', 'TOBACCO CONTROL', 'E-ZONE & DOWNLOAD', and 'CONTACT US', and a slogan 'Just Quit! You can do it!'. The main content area is divided into four sections: 'Information Corner' (showing a woman at a computer), 'Upcoming Event' (showing a calendar), 'Smoking Cessation' (showing hands holding cigarettes), and 'Smoke Free Hong Kong' (showing a family). The footer includes a 'SEARCH & TAGS' section, a 'NEWS' section with a link to 'Smoke-free Youth Ambassador Leadership Programme Establishes smoke-free culture with creativity', and a 'VIDEOS' section. The page is decorated with various images of people, including a man holding a child, a woman at a desk, an older man on a phone, and two young girls.

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CASH
香港吸煙與健康委員會
HONG KONG COUNCIL ON SMOKING AND HEALTH

Just Quit! You can do it!

ABOUT US OUR WORK SMOKING: RISK & CESSATION TOBACCO CONTROL E-ZONE & DOWNLOAD CONTACT US

Information Corner Upcoming Event Smoking Cessation Smoke Free Hong Kong

SEARCH & TAGS
e.g. Smoking; Cessation;
All

NEWS
MORE
Smoke-free Youth Ambassador Leadership Programme Establishes smoke-free culture with creativity

VIDEOS
MORE