

Conclusion

The information compiled in this document, will be useful resource material for Member States. There maybe other published or unpublished data which are available within countries. Combined, these two information sources could serve as the basis for countries to identify gaps in the information and to develop plans and programmes on prevention of harm from alcohol use.

The next step proposed by the Mental Health and Substance Abuse Unit of SEARO is to conduct a community-based assessment in selected Member States of the magnitude of use and harm from alcohol use. This assessment will be conducted by local experts in collaboration with SEARO. Based on the information obtained in these assessments, community based interventions will be implemented with the objective of prevention of harm from alcohol use. Since the interventions will be based on locally conducted community assessments, they will not only be evidence based, but also culturally appropriate.

We hope this programme will assist Member States in reducing public health problems caused by harmful use of alcohol.