



Cyprus Anti-drugs Council
“Alcohol Policy Developments in Cyprus”
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- **Goals & Actions:** Prevention, Treatment, Harm Reduction Restrictions
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Cyprus Anti-drugs Council - coordinating body responsible for the development, monitoring and evaluation

• **2009-2012 National Drugs Strategy**

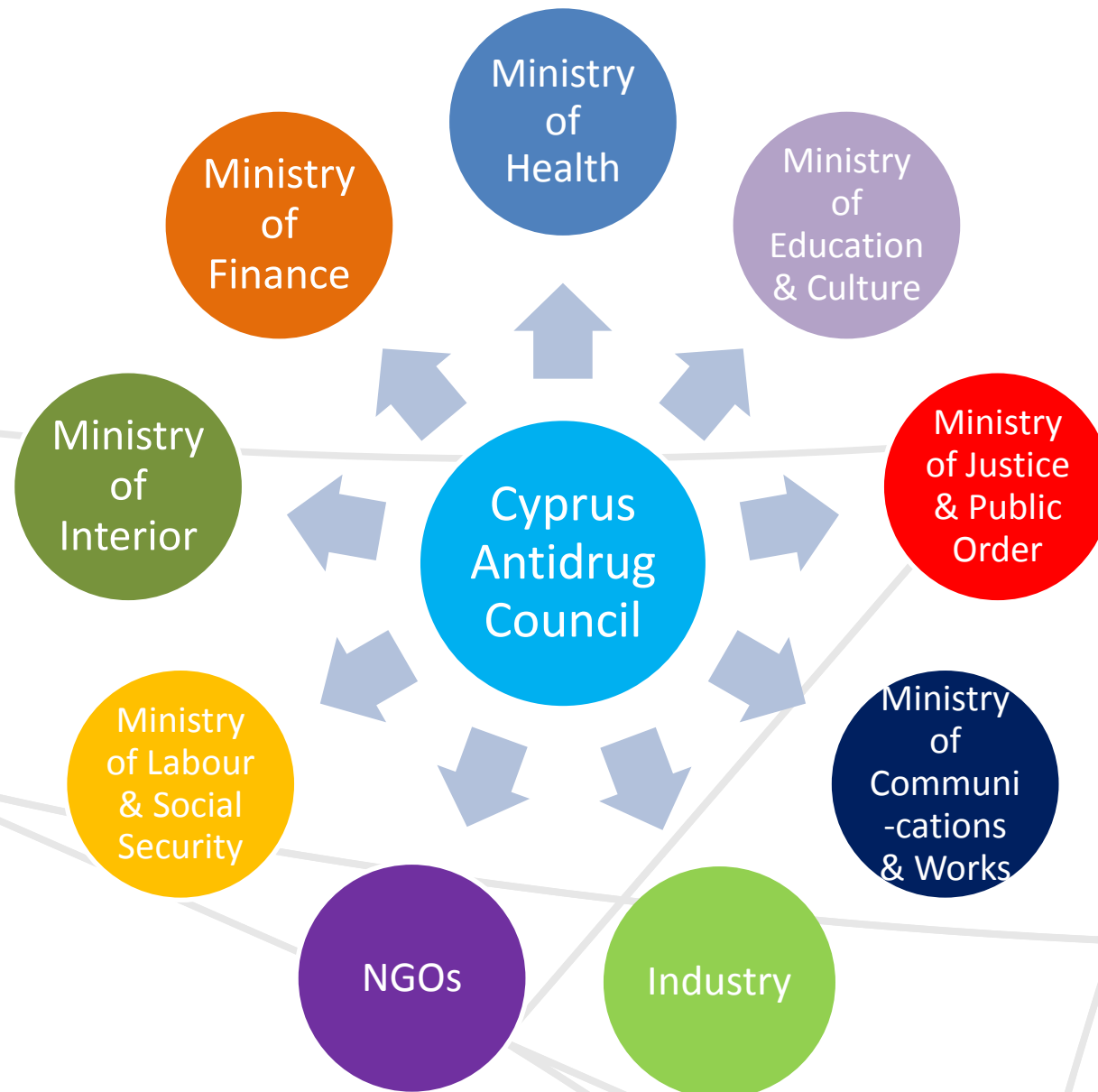
most measures related to prevention and treatment were not substance specific

• **2011-2012** development of **First Draft of new Alcohol Strategy for 2013-2020**

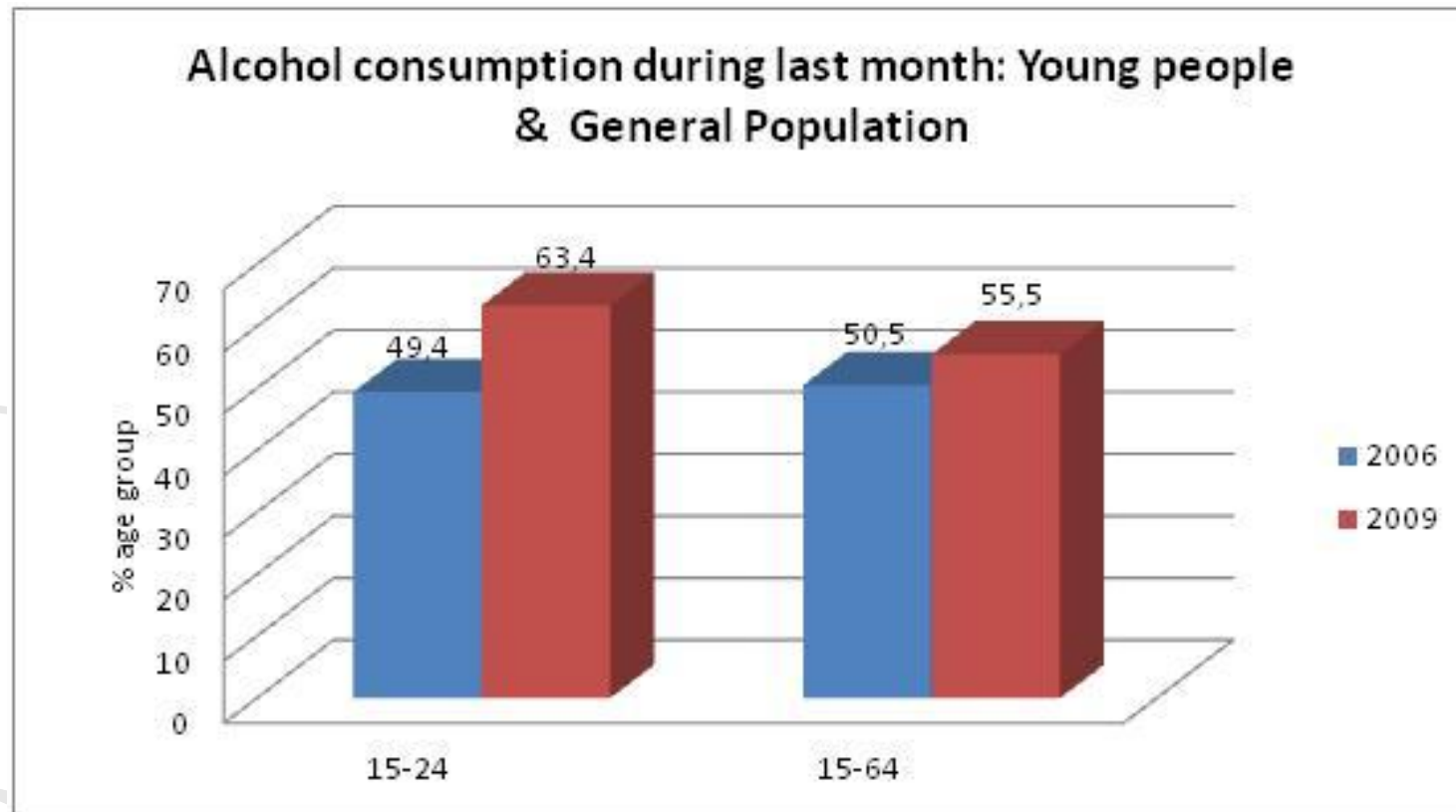


NATIONAL DRUGS & ALCOHOL STRATEGY

Cyprus Presidency of the Council of the EU

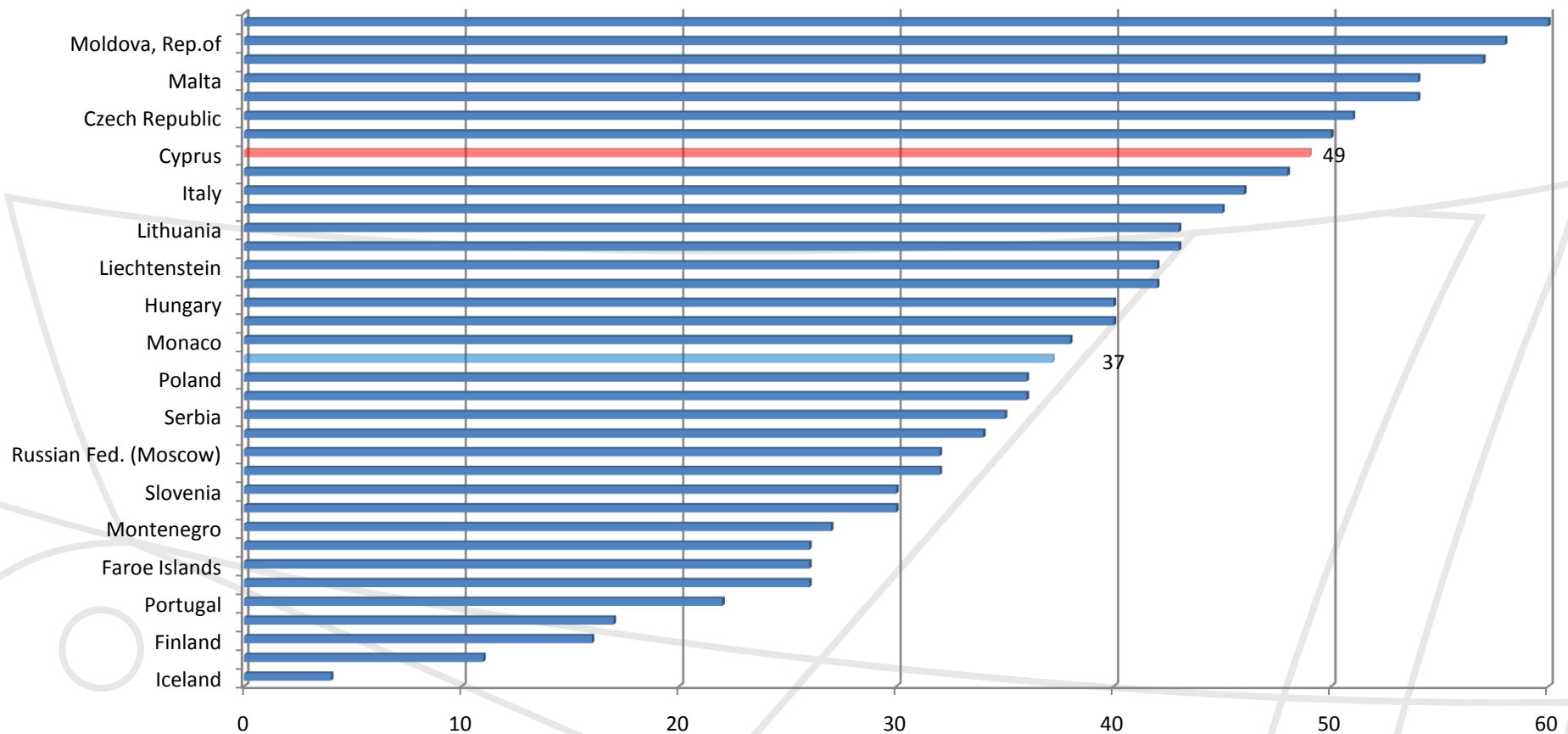


ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION DURING LAST MONTH: YOUNG PEOPLE & GENERAL POPULATION



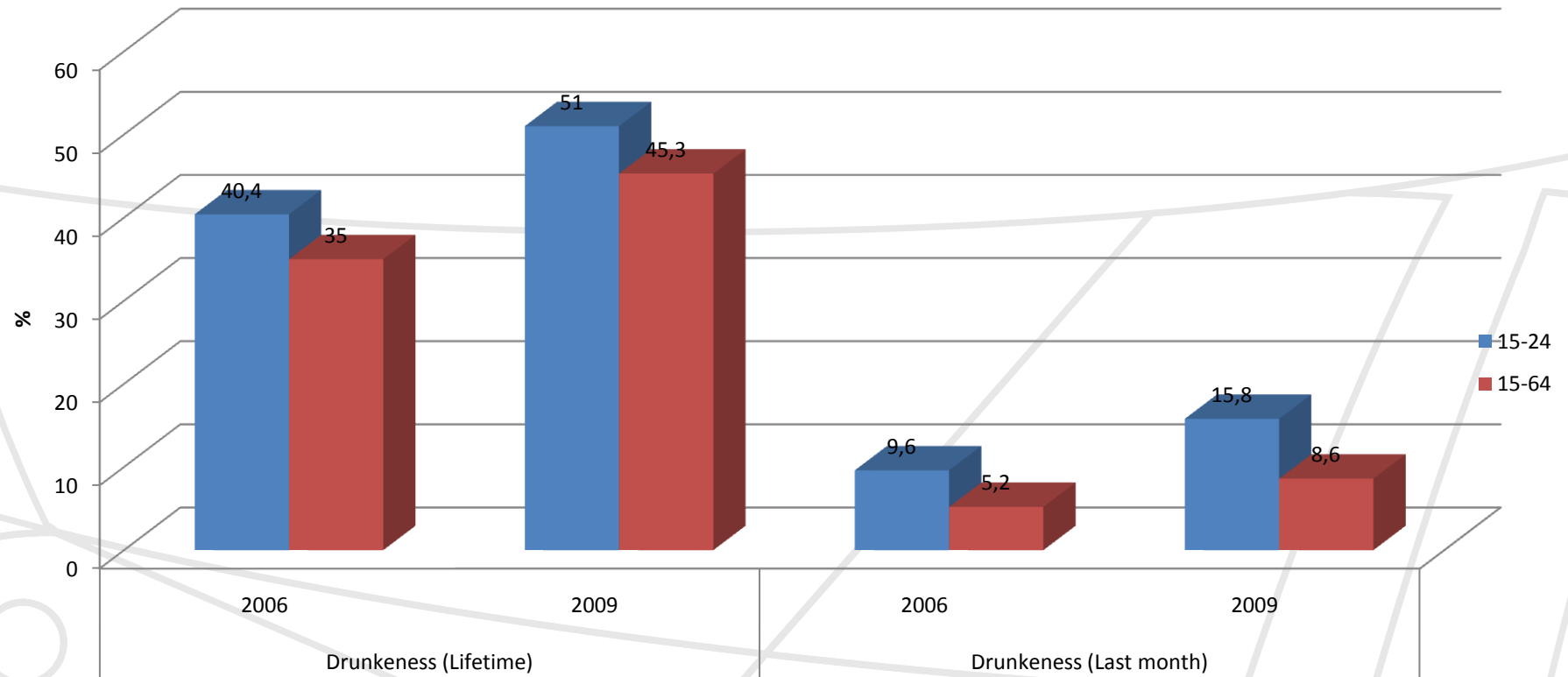
ESPAD, 2011: ALCOHOL OFF- PREMISE PURCHASE

Percentage of students that had purchased alcoholic beverages during the last 30 days in a store for own consumption (off-premise)



CAC, 2009: GENERAL POPULATION SURVEY - DRUNKENNESS

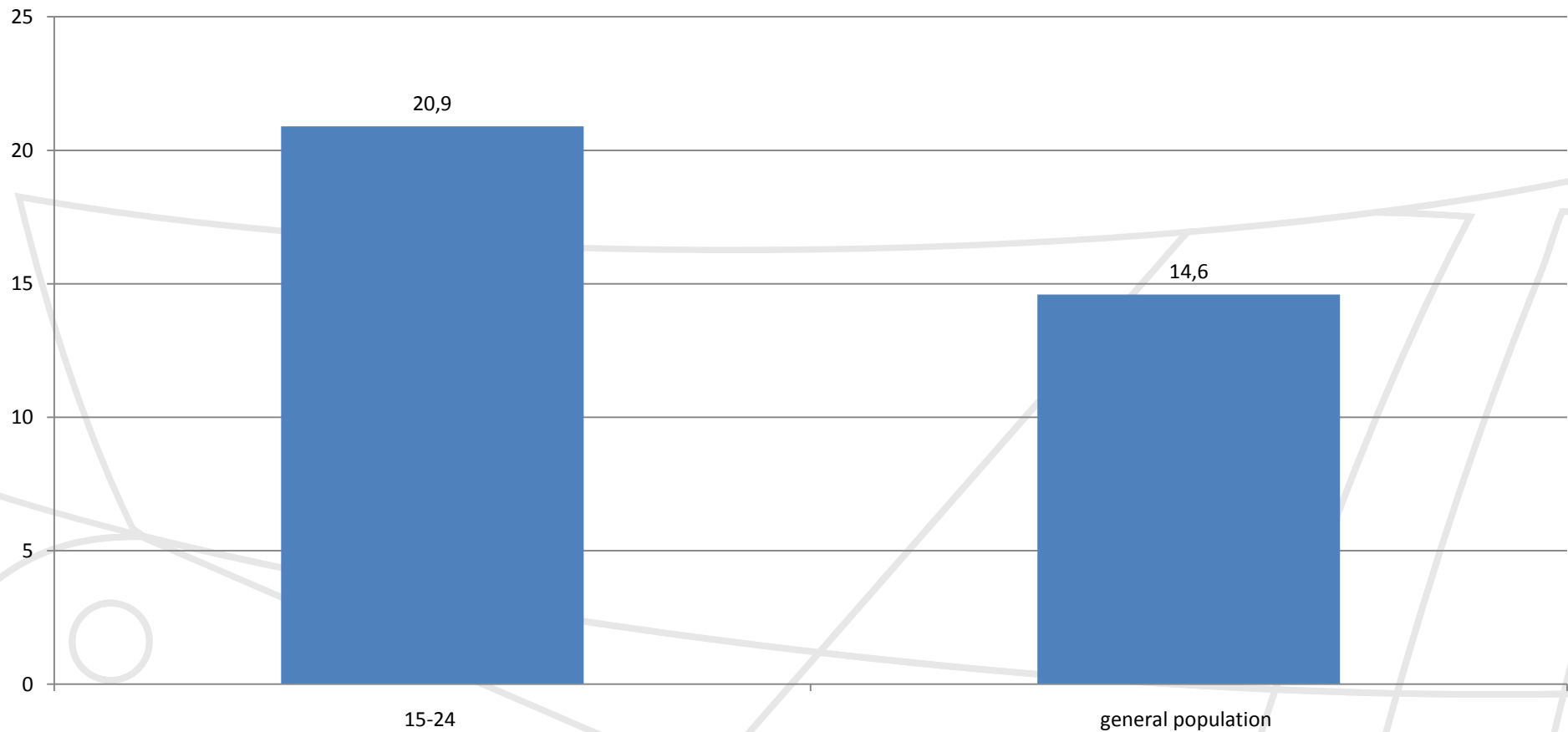
Drunkenness (Lifetime & Last month prevalence): Young People & General Population



CAC, 2009: GENERAL POPULATION SURVEY

DRINK & DRIVING

Driving after the consumption of 6 or more alcoholic drinks (during the last 6 months)



TOTAL CASUALTIES IN ACCIDENTS INVOLVING ALCOHOL RELATED CASES

Year	Fatal	Serious	Slight	Damages	Total
2009	17	19	55	146	237
2010	26	33	79	171	307

2011: total of accidents related to alcohol → 16.04%
fatal accidents related to alcohol → 34.33%

Goal: Strong focus on high risk groups among children and adolescents and pregnant women to discourage use

- children leaving school
- students/soldiers experimenting with licit or illicit substances
- children whose parents are either in prison, or suffer from mental health illness, or are substance dependent
- sexually abused children

Measures:

- Establishment of networks to identify high risk groups in schools, the military service and the community
- Referral to recreational, sports, psycho-educational and/or vocational training programmes
- Pregnancy & Alcohol: Continuous education of health care professionals, more interventions, labeling-commitment with EC regulations when endorsed



Goals:

- specialized treatment interventions for different groups, effectiveness and retention to treatment, accessibility, improving delivery of services in prisons, after care

Measures:

- Provision of inpatient and outpatient treatment programmes for alcohol dependency
- Treatment interventions for specific groups: migrants, women, dual diagnosis
- Individual and Family Counselling services for young people and families at risk

GOALS & ACTIONS → TREATMENT

- Outpatient detoxification and psychosocial treatment programme for alcohol dependent individuals in prisons
- Ensuring continuity of treatment by employers for alcohol dependent employees
- After Care services & financial support system including alcohol dependent individuals



Measures:

- Ensuring implementation of harm reduction (substitution treatment, needle exchange)
- Continuous Education/training for health care professionals
- Brief interventions training for health care professionals in A&E
- Integration of alcohol and illicit substance use topics in higher education courses for health care professionals, social workers and teachers

Measures: Safer Nights Programme

- Training of bar/club staff
- First aid delivery
(clubs, festivals, concerts)
- Information stands
(substance use, emergency nos.
& transportation)
- Outreach



Sales Measure:

- Revision of existing Sales of Alcoholic Beverages Legislation for more effective law enforcement (definitions, criteria for permits, clear responsibilities of relevant authorities, penalties)

Availability Measures:

- Minimum legal drinking age 17
- Enforcement of Licensing system to regulate production, wholesales, and serving
- Restrictions on sales: hours, days, places, density, specific events and sales to an intoxicated person

Drink-Driving Measures:

- Reduction of limit from 22 micrograms to 9 micrograms of alcohol per 100 milliliters of breath for novice drivers, professional drivers, motorists and cyclists.
- Systematic breath testing by Road Traffic Police- campaigns near public holidays etc
- Drink driving offences listed with penalty points and fines.
- Referral to Education and Counselling Programmes for recurring offenders- revision of legislation & protocol of partnership between Road Safety Council and MOH



Advertising and Marketing Measures:

- Partial statutory restrictions on radio and television for beer, wine and spirits: Cyprus Radio Television Authority (CRTA)
- Legislation advertising on alcohol consumption:
 - not targeting under 18s
 - not associated with improved physical state or driving
 - not suggesting positive effects socially or sexual success
 - not suggesting therapeutic qualities
- TV spots for information on rights and complaints helpline
- Self Regulation on television, radio, printed newspapers, magazines, points of sale, cinema, billboards, bus sides, internet: Cyprus Brewers Association (CBA)

Price and Tax Measures:

- Alcoholic beverages taxed at national level-based on alcohol type and volume (VAT 15%)
Beer 5% 10000cL Excise tax 4.78€
Spirits 40% 10000cL Excise tax 598.01€
- Taxation is the only price measure
- Systematic enforcement of tax legislation and controls at borders to minimize illegal trade



- Collection of comparable data- alcohol consumption, definitions, biosocial consequences, effect of strategic measures on consumption, production & financial development
- Working group to monitor alcohol related research & identify research gaps
- Use of common language for definitions on alcohol use & harms
- Development of Epidemiological Indicators: TDI, epidemiological survey on alcohol use, ESPAD

NEXT STEPS

- Integrated National Strategy Drugs & Alcohol 2013-2020 - December 2012 Parliamentary Discussions
- Commitment of Government and all relevant stakeholders in the private and voluntary sector to address alcohol related harm
- Evaluation of action plan in 2016



