# Results from GPS in Serbia SMART questionnaire 

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- GPS 2014 "National Survey on Lifestyles of Citizens in Serbia 2014"
- Cross-sectional survey on a representative sample of the adult population of the Republic of Serbia
- The target population - inhabitants of the Republic of Serbia aged 18-64 years


## Pilot

- 160 respondents filled in questionnaire
- Cognitive interview
- Focus groups


## Findings from interviews

Is the questionnaire clear and simple to fill out?

- Generally, very clear and simple, easy to understand.
- The only exception are questions 10, 12 and 14. They are complicated to calculate. Show cards are helpful, but not all packaging or doses are shown in the cards.
- It was not clear whether the questions refer to the average amount of alcohol drank in the previous 12 months or the average amount of alcohol drank on a single, typical occasion

Findings from interviews
Which questions made the respondents feel uncomfortable?

- Questions related to alcohol consumption, marijuana and pharmaceuticals

Findings from FGD

- This findings are similar to those obtained in the interviews.
- Question 12 (The amount of wine consumed):
- For those who drink a lot, it will be hard to calculate the average amount.


## Questions on alcohol

- Frequency of drinking(in the past 12 months)
- Beverage specific quantity frequency method (BSQF)
- Risky Single Occasion Drinking (RSOD)
- Adverse social consequences of own alcohol use
- Rapid Alcohol Problem Screen
- Impact of others drinking
- Attitudes to alcohol policy


## Frequency of drinking




The average alcohol consumption of males is more than 6.5 times higher than consumption of females.


- With age, the average consumption decreases in females and increases in males.
- In consequence, the differences in average alcohol consumption between males and females are higher in older age groups.


Males from urban areas drink on average the same amount of alcohol as males from rural area, among females significant differences are noticed. In average, female from urban areas drinks more than twofold more than female from rural area


- The majority of alcohol consumed in Serbia is consumed as beer.
- From the 2.4 litres of pure alcohol almost half of the consumed alcohol in Serbia is drunk as a beer.
- Among those who consumed alcohol in the last 12 month the total amount of pure alcohol sums up to 3,33 litres
- In Serbia, the popularity of beer, wine and spirits is rather balanced.
- About 40\% of alcohol consumers and about 30\% of the whole population drink all three alcohol beverages
- The small proportion of alcohol consumers (7\%) and of the whole population(5\%) drink exclusively spirits.
- Other patterns of drinking are more or less equally represented.
- The distribution of alcohol consumption is much skewed. There are a lot of consumers with very low consumption and small proportion of those who drink very much.
- The proportion of respondents decreases with increase of alcohol consumption. The category of highest alcohol consumption (more than 12 litres of pure alcohol) is represented by $5.4 \%$ of population. The majority of alcohol consumption can be attributed to a relative small population subgroup. Around half of the alcohol amount (50.3\%) consumed in Serbia has been drunk by $7.5 \%$ of the consumers ( $4.4 \%$ population aged 18-64), that means those with individual annual consumption above 12 litres per capita.


## Risky Single Occasion Drinking (RSOD)

Binge drinking (drinking of 60 grams of pure alcohol and more on a single occasion, which is for example at least 1.5 litres of beer or at least 0.6 litres of wine or at least 0.18 litres of spirits) at least once a week or more frequently during the last 12 months was reported by a total of $3.7 \%$ of the respondents ( $6.7 \%$ of the men and $0.6 \%$ of the women).

- According to RAPS, $13.3 \%$ of the respondents (22.1\% and $4.6 \%$ of the men and women respectively) met the criteria for the risky drinkers category (providing at least one positive answer on the RAPS scale), which corresponds to 580-664 thousand Serbian risky drinkers among adults, majority of them (77\%) men. Harmful or problematic drinking (2 or more positive answers in RAPS) is associated with $6.2 \%$ of the population ( $10.6 \%$ of the men and $1.7 \%$ of the women), i.e. 257 to 318 thousand people in absolute figures (majority of them men and approximately $1 / 3$ among young adults aged $18-34$ ).

Frequency of selected harms caused by alcohol use among adult population 18-64 using alcohol in the last 12 months ( $\mathrm{n}=3897$ )


## The most frequent perceived harm among alcohol consumers was adverse health consequence

## Frequency of selected harms caused by alcohol use among young adult men aged 18-34 using alcohol in the last 12 months ( $\mathrm{n}=750$ )



In the group of young males aged $18-34$, the harms are more prevalent - the most frequent was harm to work or studies, private life and police intervention due to drunk behaviour including drunk driving

Risky pattern of alcohol consumption was present in $13.3 \%$ of the population ( $22.1 \%$ and $4.6 \%$ of the men and women respectively), which corresponds to 580-664 thousand risky drinkers among adults, majority of them (77\%) men.

Harmful or problematic drinking was associated with $6.2 \%$ of the population ( $10.6 \%$ of the men and $1.7 \%$ of the women), i.e. 257 to 318 thousand people (majority of them men and approximately $1 / 3$ among young adults aged $18-34$ ).

## Harms caused by someone's else drinking



## Attitudes to alcohol policy

- Opinions on 13 policy options were assessed ranging from restrictions on advertising, access and taxation to more ideological questions on the status of alcohol as a commodity
- Very high support was given to a policy aimed to reduce drinking and driving. Almost $70 \%$ of the population fully support the idea of wide enforcement of breath testing of drivers. More than half of the respondent (51\%) is in favour of decreasing the blood alcohol limit for drivers from current 0.3 per mill.
- High level of support is given to limit the hours of alcohol selling in outlets. The prohibition of alcohol selling after 22:00 is fully supported by $45 \%$ respondents and another $24 \%$ rather agree.
- In contrary the prohibition of the production of home-made spirits is not widely supported.


## Opinions about alcohol policy measures



## The condemnation with selected patterns of substance use by levels of condemnation



## Perceived health harms of selected patterns of substance use



## THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

