Background

This document sets out the key responsibilities that Cancer Research UK’s (CRUK) Scientific Executive Board (SEB) has delegated to the International Tobacco Advisory Group (ITAG), a funding committee to oversee CRUK’s international tobacco control programme (ITCP) and engagement with the Tobacco Economics Funders Group (TEFG)\(^1\).

The ITCP is CRUK’s international funding stream and programme of work, and the TEFG is a consortium with international partners, which CRUK will seek to develop and engage with in parallel to the work of the ITCP.

These Terms of Reference should be read in conjunction with the General Terms of Reference for Funding Committees.

Cancer Research UK’s International Tobacco Control Program

The mission of the ITCP is to support low and middle income countries (LMICs) develop and implement tobacco control policies more effectively.

The ITCP’s mission will be achieved through:

1. the generation of high quality research to help develop tobacco control policies in LMICs;
2. the development of national research capacity (government and civil society) in tobacco economics and tobacco tax in particular; and
3. the involvement of local and international NGOs in the World Health Organisation’s Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) process with a particular emphasis on advocating for the provision of resources to enable LMICs to implement the Convention.

These objectives aim to contribute primarily to the implementation of Articles 6, 15 and 26 of the FCTC.

Remit of ITAG

1. To oversee CRUK’s ITCP and the charity’s engagement with the TEFG.
2. To provide strategic oversight and advice, as well as expert peer review and make funding recommendations for the following types of grants:
   (i) Commissioned and response-mode research calls relevant to the mission of the ITCP and the TEFG;
   (ii) Capacity building in tobacco economics for government staff, CSO and national researchers; and
   (iii) Seed funding for less-experienced researchers to develop their skills and capacity to engage in research activities relevant to the mission of CRUK’s ITCP;
   (iv) Funding for tobacco control practitioners to use the results of research to influence policy and practice.

Membership and meetings

1. ITAG will comply with the membership requirements set out in the General Terms of Reference for Funding Committees.
2. Membership of ITAG will typically include experts in academic tobacco control research, statistics, taxation models, health and behavioural economics, international development, policy advocacy and capacity building in LMICs.

\(^1\) The Tobacco Economic Funders Group convenes funders of tobacco economics research and advocacy programmes with the objective of strengthening collaboration.
4.3. Membership of ITAG may include ‘official observers’. Official observers of ITAG may provide commentary on CRUK’s ITCP and the charity’s engagement with TEG and may provide expert review for grants described in section 3.2, but will be non-voting members.

4.4. ITAG will generally meet twice a year to consider the activities of CRUK’s ITCP and review funding and partnership agreements.

5 Review

This Funding Committee’s Terms of Reference will be reviewed as needed and, in general, every two years in accordance with CRUK policy.

6 Document information:

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