

# Mind the gap: from real-world policies to health impact assessment modelling

A case study of Belgium's planned tobacco sale-point reduction policy

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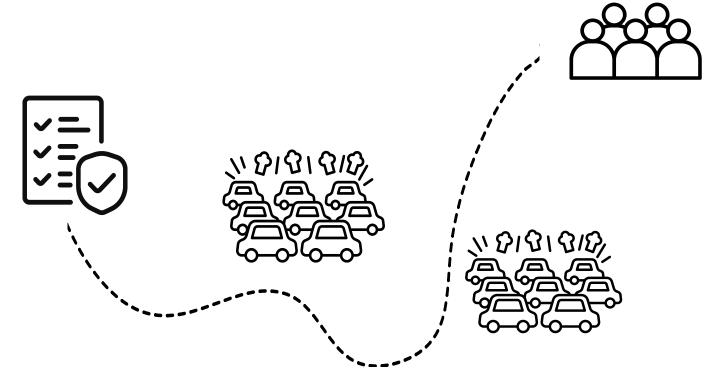
**Brecht Devleesschauwer** 



# HIA for policy making

- Health Impact Assessment
- Objective :
  - ~ GPS for public health policy-making
  - Supporting evidence-based decision-making

Predicting consequences of various policy options





# HIA for policy making

- Steps in HIA :
  - Screening
  - Scoping
  - Effect analysis
    - estimation change in health outcomes
    - policy analysis
    - description baseline situation
    - estimation change in exposure
    - interpretation, reporting and recommendations
  - Reporting
  - Monitoring and evaluation





# Belgian case study - context



- Interfederal Stategy for Tobacco-Free Generation
  - 'tobacco' plan
  - reduce smoking by limiting access tobacco
  - reduce tobacco selling points
- Policy scenarios to changed smoking exposure

Baseline scenario = policy 8.1			Intermediate scenario	Ambitious scenario	
2023	}	2025	2028	2030	Time
vendir machir	ng nes	large supermarkets non- permanent points/events	small supermarkets gas stations & convenience stores	licensing system	Titile





Information



STRATÉGIE INTERFÉDÉRALE 2022-2028 POUR UNE GÉNÉRATION SANS TABAC

### **Policy - Literature GAP**



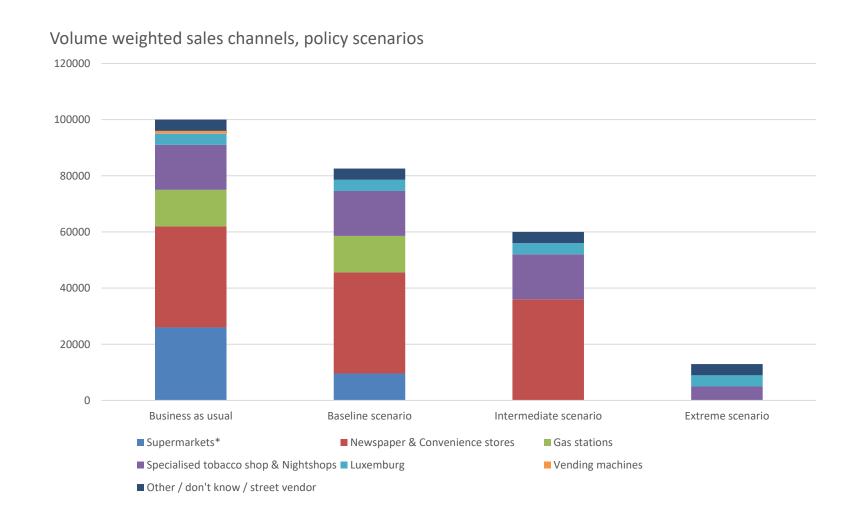
#### Policy

- Closing selection of sale channels
- Different timelines
- Impact on prevalence

- → need to translate sale channel into density
- → where people buy their cigarettes?
- → amount shops / sale channel in Belgium?

#### Data / Literature

 % reduction of tobacco shop density or tobacco shop proximity to homes / schools





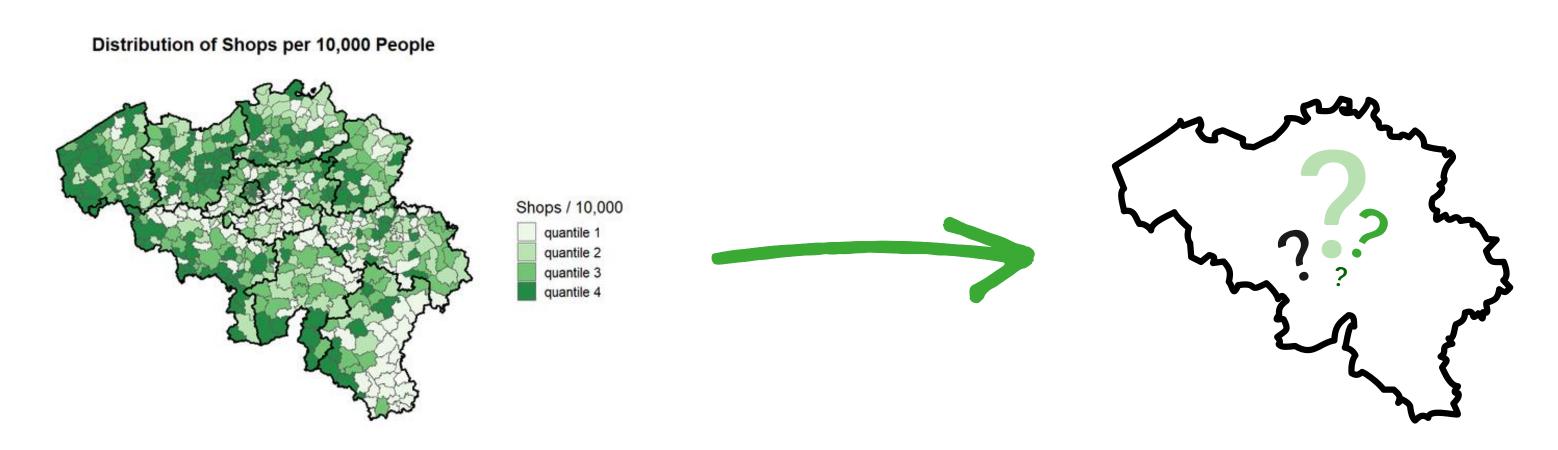
## Challenges in translating policy into effect size

- Difference in smoking behavior measurement
  - smoking intensity: cigarettes smoked / day vs smoking prevalence
  - smoking behavior: initiation, cessation or relapse
- Mismatch policy and data
  - data on sale channels
  - purchase data
  - urban vs rural context
- Scope literature review
  - relevant country
  - percentage point change
  - prevalence trend
  - method



# Take-away messages

- Need for monitoring system
  - current situation tobacco sale points
  - where will be the biggest change?
  - will policy affect sales? behavior? prevalence?





# Questions?





#### Contact

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