



The Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs
in collaboration with

AUB Tobacco Control Research Group

cordially invite you to a seminar for the launch of IFI's new research report entitled

How Much Does Smoking Cost Lebanon? An Estimation of the Economic Impacts of Tobacco Consumption

Speakers:

Mr. Rami G. Khouri (Director, IFI)

Dr. Rima Nakkash (Assistant Research Professor of Public Health, AUB)

Dr. Jad Chaaban (Assistant Professor of Economics, AUB)

Tuesday 4 May 2010 | 9:30 am - 12:00 pm | Auditorium B1, College Hall, AUB

Lebanon has one of the highest smoking rates worldwide. With young teenagers smoking water-pipe and cigarettes at the age of 13, Lebanon has yet to set a policy on tobacco control. Work inefficiency and environmental costs are not the only problems the Lebanese people face as a result of high smoking rates; they also face the vast number of diseases that come with it. This seminar launches an IFI-funded research paper written by AUB's Dr. Jad Chaaban, Dr. Nisreen Salti, and Miss Nadia Naamani. This is the first study in Lebanon to take a comprehensive look into the organization of tobacco and all major tobacco-related markets, and shows the millions of dollars in losses Lebanon faces as a result of tobacco consumption. Given the current political climate over prospective tobacco control policies in Lebanon, this study provides a foundation for informed decision-making. Policymakers will now have to consider the economic costs of smoking upon passing new tobacco control laws.