

Assessing societal benefits and trade-offs of tobacco in the miombo woodlands of Malawi

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This study combines a “narrative” with a “trade-off” approach to empirically validate the felt concerns that the narratives raise about the political economy of the global tobacco industry at scale. The essential question concerns what shapes who gets what – in terms of the industry’s broader spectrum of costs and benefits – and how, and why? Miombo woodlands of Malawi provide the context. Emerging evidence corroborates the urgency of some concerns, whilst evidence for others emerged muted - at least in the context of Malawi.

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