

MANY CULTURES – COMMON PROBLEMS!

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OUTLINE OF PRESENTATION:

- Who We Are and What We Do
- The Broad Issues of New Communities in Drug Context
- Inclusion of New Communities in Local Drug Structures
 - Benefits and Challenges of Such Inclusion
 - Where We've Been included – Outcomes!



WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

- NCP is a national network of over 117 EMLOs across 70 nationalities from **Asia, Middle East, Africa, Europe & Americas**
- Offices - Dublin, Limerick & Cork
 - Communal-Social Space for EMLOs
 - Policy & Advocacy – Local, National & EU
 - Leadership & Capacity Building Grassroots Network
 - Supporting & Working with **7 Local Authorities** in Local Integration



BROAD ISSUES OF NEW COMMUNITIES IN CONTEXT:

- Increase in Drug Taking & Families Affected
- Drug Culture Differs Among Ethnic Groups
- Drug Use & Post -Traumatic Stress Disorder
- Drug Abuse – Drug Dealing Asylum Seekers in Hostels
- Drugs Unknown in Home Country



INCLUSION OF NEW COMMUNITIES IN LOCAL DRUG STRUCTURES:

- The Services are Distant from BME Communities
- Adapting Mainstream Programmes not Appropriate
- Lack of Knowledge & Data on BME Drug Issues
- Inclusion of BME Representation in Drugs Structures



BENEFITS OF SUCH INCLUSION:

- Services Supported to Understand Norms & Values of BME in Drug Related Issues
- Creation of Alternative Services – Outreach and Linkages
- Drugs Planning & Strategies Culturally Competent



WHERE WE'VE BEEN INCLUDED – OUTCOMES!

- HSE Dial To Stop Drug Dealing Initiative
- HSE Intercultural Health Strategy
- Temple St Children Hospital (CAN/NCP)
Understanding Cultural Competency
- National Drugs Strategy 2009 – 2016 Actions 44 & 60



“INCLUSION – NOT EXCLUSION”

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Thank You!

