



United Nations
Office on Drugs and Crime



PTRS
PREVENTION TREATMENT
REHABILITATION SECTION

A black and white photograph of a man and a woman embracing outdoors. The man is on the right, leaning his head against the woman on the left. Both are smiling warmly. The background shows dry grass and a wooden fence. A blue semi-transparent banner is overlaid at the bottom, containing the title text. Decorative white and blue curved lines are in the bottom right corner.

UNODC Programme on Partnerships for the Treatment of Drug Use Disorders

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This publication has not been formally edited.

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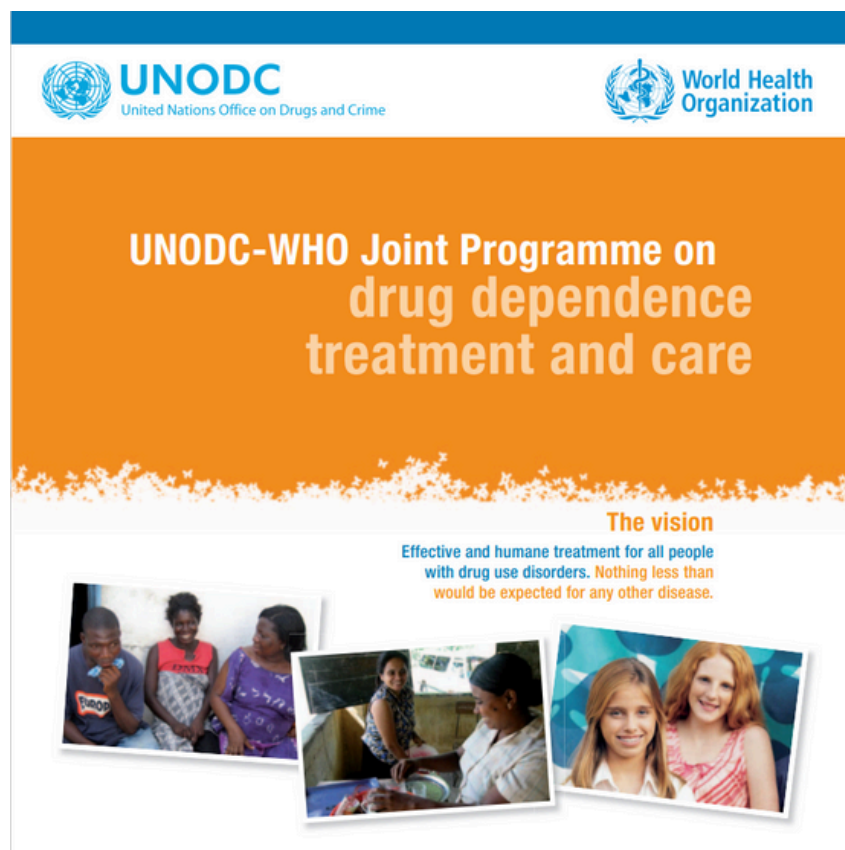
A special thanks to all participating countries, entities, and all donors of UNODC's global programmes on treatment of drug use disorders, including the UNODC/WHO programme on drug use dependence treatment and care.

1.UNODC-WHO Joint Programme on Drug Dependence Treatment and Care (2010)



1. UNODC-WHO Joint Programme on drug dependence treatment and care (2010)

The Joint UNODC-WHO Programme on Drug Dependence Treatment and Care supports UN Member States in the efforts to develop a comprehensive, integrated health-based approach to drug policy that can reduce demand for drugs, relieve suffering and decrease drug-related harm to individuals, families, communities, and societies.



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2. International Standards for the Treatment of Drug Use Disorders (2020)

2. International Standards for the Treatment of Drug Use Disorders (2020)

The International Standards for the Treatment of Drug Use Disorders were recognized in resolution 59/4 of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) on the “Development and dissemination of international standards for the treatment of drug use disorders”, and the 2016 United Nations General Assembly Special Session on Drugs (UNGASS) Outcome Document, which call for the dissemination of the Standards and support a systematic adoption of national standards for the accreditation of treatment services.

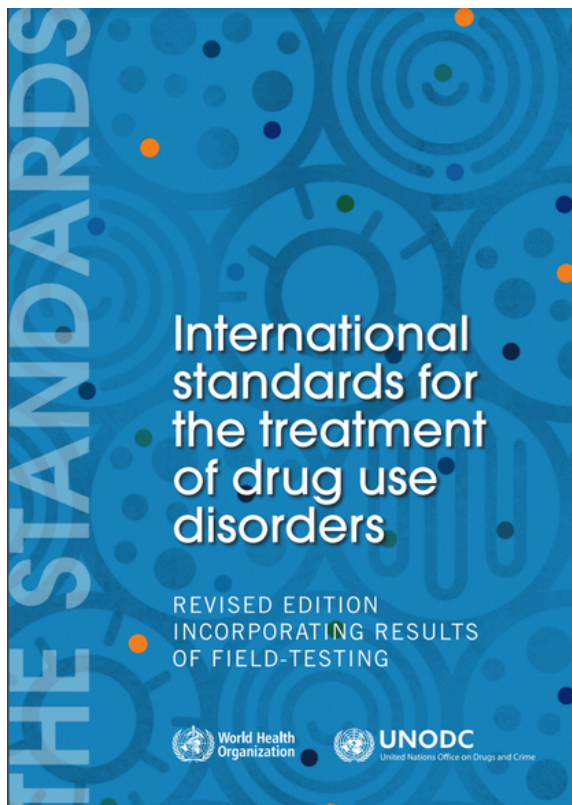


CND Resolution 59/4



2016 UNGASS Outcome Document

UNODC-WHO flagship publication to support Member States in their efforts to develop and expand, evidence-based and ethical services and systems for the treatment for drug use disorders.



*To read the full publication
in 13 different languages, please
scan the QR code*





3. Quality Assurance for the Treatment and Care of Drug Use Disorders

3. Quality Assurance for the Treatment and Care of Drug Use Disorders

CND resolution 64/3 on “Promoting scientific evidence-based, quality, affordable and comprehensive drug prevention, treatment, sustained recovery and related support services” reaffirmed the importance of promoting appropriate mechanisms for ensuring compliance, quality assurance or accreditation of drug treatment services.



CND resolution 64/3
available in 6 languages



2016 UNGASS Outcome Document
available in 6 languages

UNODC’s Quality Assurance Toolkit supports the national-level appraisal of drug use disorder treatment systems and services in line with the International Standards for the Treatment of Drug Use Disorders.



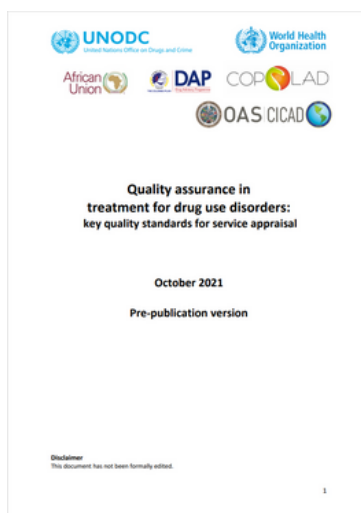
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Quality Assurance Toolkit

The UNODC Quality Assurance Toolkit currently consists of three tools that provide the methodology, as well as detailed criteria and indicators to appraise drug treatment systems and services in line with the International Standards for the Treatment of Drug Use Disorders.

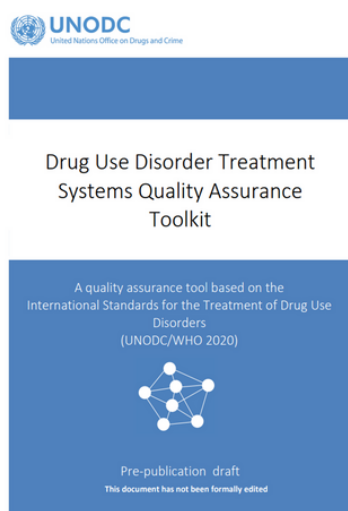
(2021)



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(2020)



This link is password protected; to obtain access, please contact us at unodc-ptrs@un.org

(2020)



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Quality Assurance mechanisms in drug use disorder treatment

The first publication aims to present an analysis that is indicative of the quality of drug use disorder treatment, sustained recovery and related support services, as well as other health-related measures, under the analytical framework of the International Standards on Drug Use Prevention and the International Standards for the Treatment of Drug Use Disorders. The second document delves deeper in the scientific literature by investigating which of the many components of patient-centred care is associated with positive patient outcomes. The third document describes the application of the Quality Assurance toolkit in ten project countries in Latin America, with a view to supporting their efforts in implementing and/or strengthening quality assurance mechanisms in their national drug use disorder treatment services. The fourth publication shows that consistent and positive relationships were found between patient receipt of patient-centred treatment, timely access to evidence-based substance use disorder treatment and continuity of evidence-based SUD treatment and patient outcomes.

(2024)



To read the full publication, please scan the QR code



(2024)



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(2023)



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(2023)



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4.Data Collection on Drug Use Disorder Treatment and Care

4.Data Collection on Drug Use Disorder Treatment and Care

The Lisbon consensus on “Drug information systems: Principles, structures and indicators” and the CND Resolution 46/7 on “Measures to promote the exchange of information on new patterns of drug use and on psychoactive substances consumed” reaffirmed the importance of effective drug information systems in order to inform policy making and allow better resource allocation to respond effectively to drug problems.



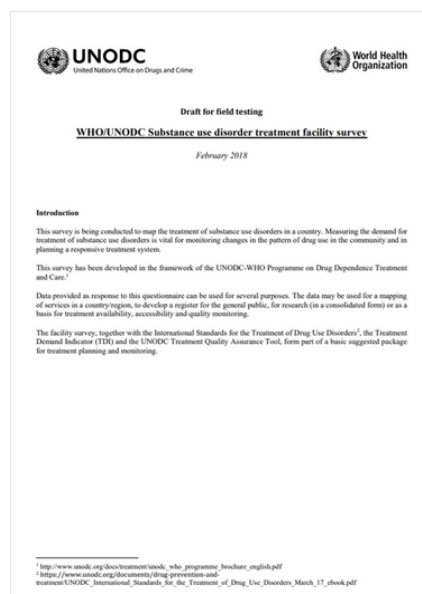
The Lisbon consensus



CND Resolution 46/7
available in 4 languages

Substance use disorder treatment facility survey (Draft for field testing) (2018)

This tool aims to map the capacity of substance use disorder treatment and care services in a given country. It also presents an opportunity for countries to develop a baseline against which quality assurance measures for treatment service and systems can be applied.



To read the full publication
in 10 different languages, please
scan the QR code



Examples of regional treatment services mapping exercises, based on the facility survey (2019-2024)

The mapping reports cover countries in Latin America, West Africa and the Western Balkans, as well as the department of Risaralda, Colombia. These mapping exercises allowed countries to assess the treatment capacity in the formal and informal sector, including the availability, accessibility and quality of drug use disorder treatment services and to create a public register of locally available treatment services.

(2024)



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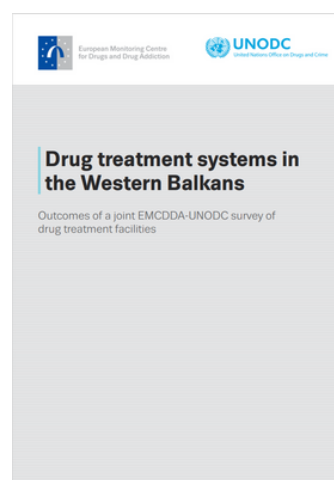
To read the full publication, please scan the QR code

(2023)



To read the full publication, please scan the QR code

(2019)



To read the full publication, please scan the QR code

National School Survey on Substance Use and Associated Patterns (2022)

The national school survey was conducted in Senegal. This tool assess the level of tobacco, alcohol, medicines, and drug use among 15-16 year-old school children. Taken together, the results of this tool make it possible, on the basis of scientifically validated data, to implement targeted prevention and treatment measures for young people in in the country.



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5. Treatment and Care for People with Drug Use Disorders in Contact with the Criminal Justice System

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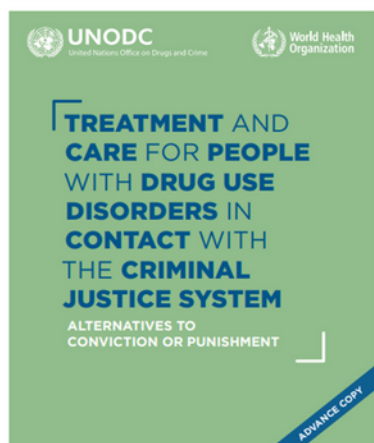
The initiative on “Treatment and Care for People with Drug Use Disorders in Contact with the Criminal Justice System: Alternatives to Conviction or Punishment” responds particularly to CND resolution 58/5 on “Supporting the collaboration of public health and justice authorities in pursuing alternative measures to conviction or punishment for appropriate drug related offences of a minor nature”, and seeks to support Member States in their efforts to explore and implement strategies and options to divert people with drug use disorders who are in contact with the criminal justice system to the health care system in adequate cases.



CND Resolution 58/5
available in 6 languages

Treatment and care for people with drug use disorders in contact with the criminal justice system (2019)

This publication provides relevant information for practitioners and policymakers on the rationale and practical steps to provide treatment and care for people with drug use disorders in contact with the criminal justice system as an alternative to conviction or punishment.

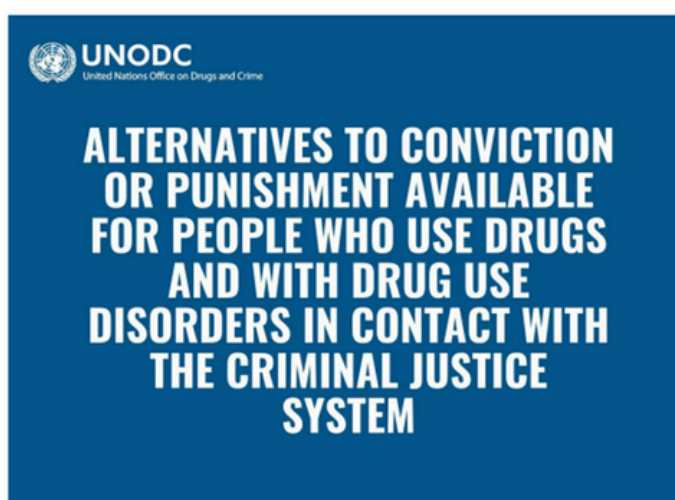


To read the full publication
in 5 different languages
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Alternatives to Conviction or Punishment available for people who use drugs and with drug use disorders in contact with the criminal justice system - Global Overview (2022)

The aim of this draft summary paper is to provide an overview of available measures with regard to treatment of drug use disorders provided as an alternative to conviction or punishment, based on an analysis of Note Verbale responses by UN member states to UNODC.



To read the full publication, please scan the QR code



**Draft summary report on available measures
based on an analysis of Note Verbale responses
by UN Member States to UNODC**

Report produced in collaboration with the African Union



Treatment of drug use disorders in prison settings and forensic hospitals

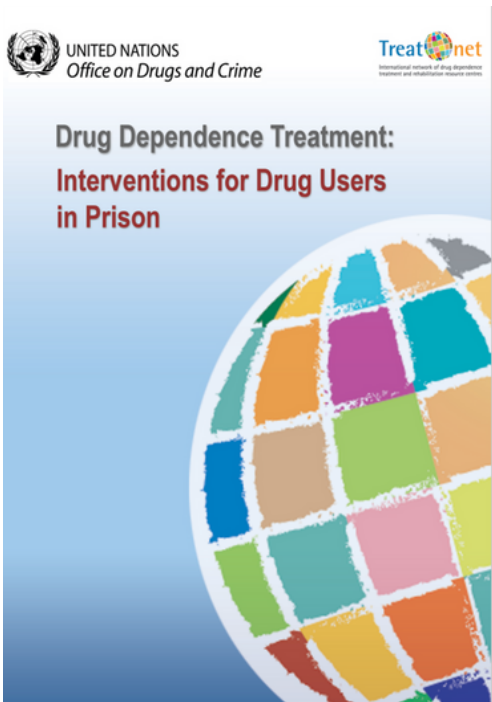
UNODC summarized good practice and available measures with regard to treatment of drug use disorders in prisons settings and forensic hospitals to help Member States develop evidence-based policies and identify, implement and evaluate good practices.

This conference room paper summarizes information received from Member States through responses to a Note Verbale and provides information on existing national level programmes, protocols, and good practices in addressing mental health and drug use disorders among people in prison settings and in forensic hospitals.

The UNODC Treatnet Working Group on Treatment in Prisons identified the need for a practical tool to support the development of interventions for people with drug use disorders in prison. The aim of this publication is to provide evidence and examples of drug dependence treatment strategies that have worked in prison settings.

(2022)

(2008)



To read the full publication, please scan the QR code



To read the full publication, please scan the QR code





6. Populations with Special Clinical Needs (Women and Youth)

6. Populations with Special Clinical Needs (Women and Youth)

The work on drug use disorder treatment and care for populations with special clinical needs responds to Resolution 61/7 on “Addressing the specific needs of vulnerable members of society in response to the world drug problem” and Resolution 58/2 on “Supporting the availability, accessibility and diversity of scientific evidence-based treatment and care for children and young people with substance use disorders “



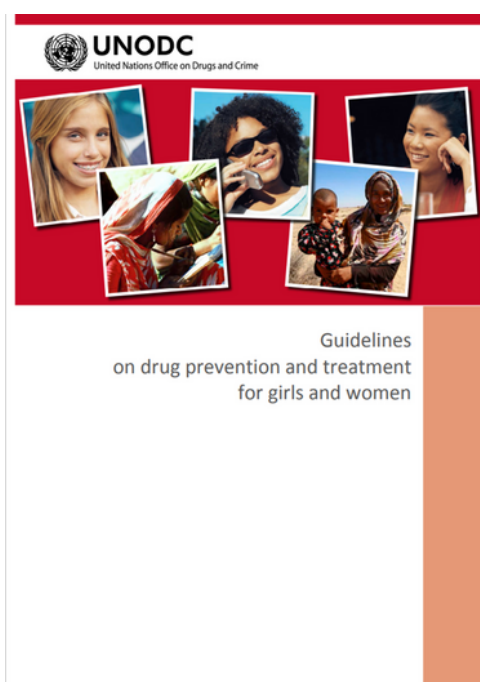
CND resolution 61/7
available in 6 languages



CND resolution 58/2
available in 6 languages

UNODC Guidelines on Drug Prevention and Drug use Treatment for Girls and Women (2016)

The document discusses alcohol and drug use among girls and women. It provides an overview of research on the factors of vulnerability and resilience to drug use and drug dependence that are specific to girls and women. Furthermore, it gives an introduction to evidence-based prevention and treatment strategies for women and girls.

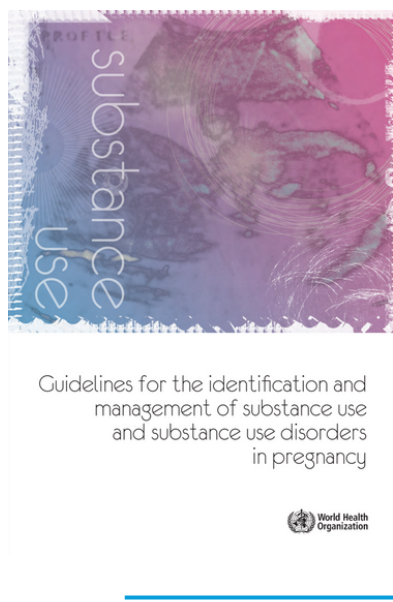


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WHO Guidelines for the Identification and Management of Substance Use Disorders in Pregnancy (2014)

These guidelines have been developed by WHO in coordination with UNODC to enable professionals to assist women who are pregnant, or have recently had a child, and who use alcohol or drugs or who have a substance use disorder to achieve healthy outcomes for themselves and their fetus or infant. Training materials on this topic have been developed and piloted by UNODC and WHO and can be made available upon request.



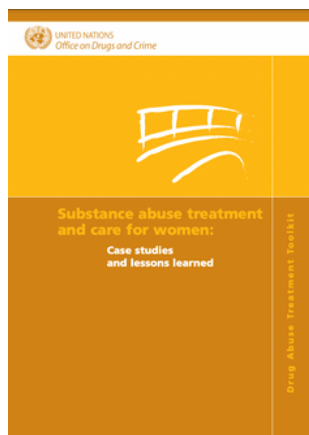
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Other Publications on Substance Use Disorder Treatment and Care for Women and Girls

The below report and conference room paper provide guidance on specific drug use disorder treatment and care services tailored to the needs of women and girls with substance use disorders.

(2004)



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(2023)

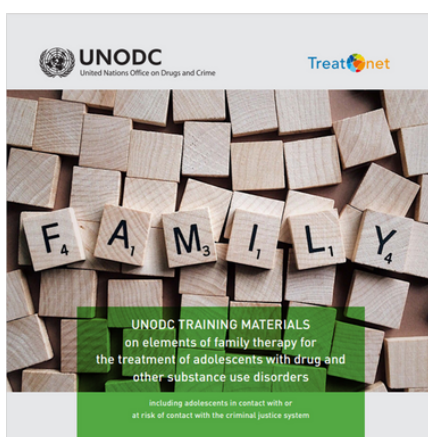


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UNODC Training Materials on Elements of Family Therapy for the Treatment of Adolescents with Drug and Other Substance Use Disorders (2020)

The main goal of the Treatnet Family (TF) tool is to make elements of evidence-based and scalable family therapy available to increase the accessibility, quality, and diversity of drug use disorder treatment for youth, including youth at risk of or already in contact with the criminal justice system. Another goal for TF is to support member states in reducing drug-related criminal behaviours among young people who use drugs, and prevent drug use among family members.



To read the full brochure in 13 different languages, please scan the QR code



To access the full video and short story, please scan the QR code



Volume F for participants - Treatnet Family



The Treatnet Family training package was developed as part of the UNODC Treatnet training strategy to support Member States in their efforts to provide evidence-based drug use disorder treatment and care. Treatnet Family contributes especially to the part of the UNODC Treatnet training package that covers elements of psychosocial treatment, designed as a training-of-trainers package to provide quality psychosocial support and services to patients/clients suffering from drug use disorders.

To access the training package, please scan the QR code





7. Special Settings to Provide Drug Use Disorder Treatment and Care (Humanitarian and Rural Settings)

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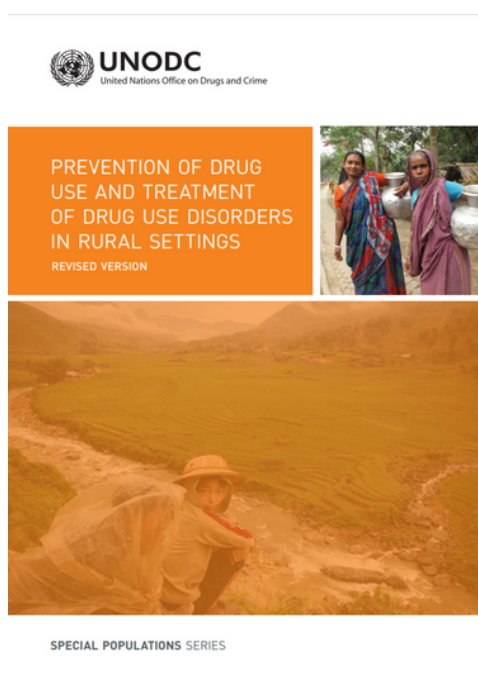
The UNODC work on drug use disorder treatment for people living in humanitarian and in rural settings responds to Resolution 61/7 on “Addressing the specific needs of vulnerable members of society in response to the world drug problem”.



CND resolution 61/7
available in 6 languages

Prevention of Drug Use and Treatment of Drug Use Disorders in Rural Settings (2017)

This UNODC tool raises awareness and provides guidance for policymakers, public health officials, local authorities, and other stakeholders in addressing substance use and substance use disorders in rural settings in their respective countries.

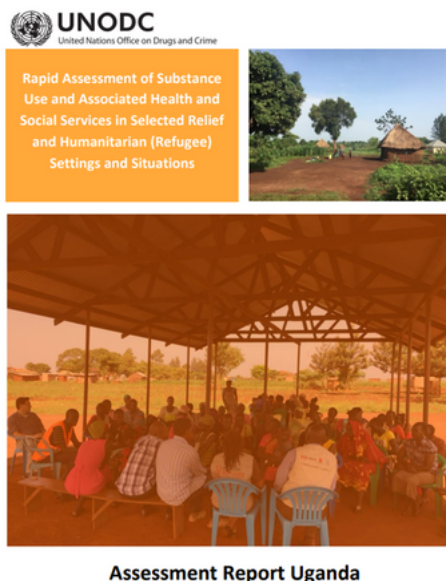


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Addressing Substance Use and Substance Use Disorders in Humanitarian Settings (2022)

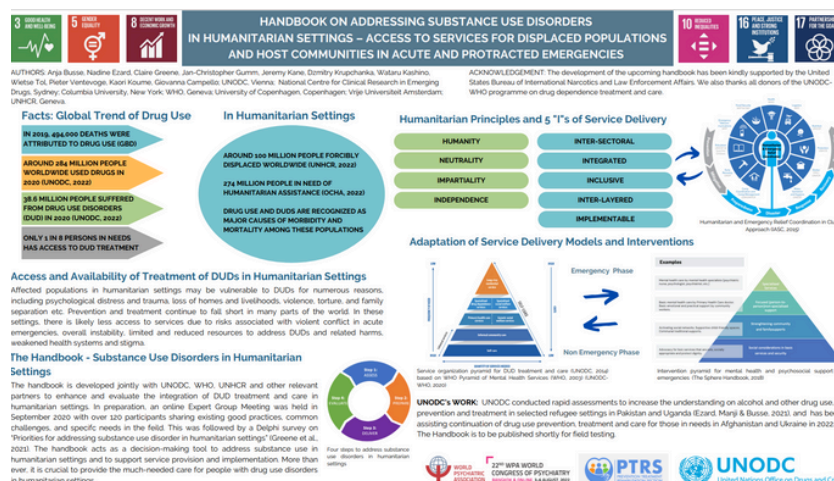
UNODC conducted rapid assessments in selected humanitarian settings to contribute to the body of information available on substance use prevention and substance use disorder treatment services in selected refugee settings. The information obtained was used to orient decision makers towards effective planning of low-cost and sustainable needs-based interventions for drug use prevention and drug use disorder treatment and care.



To read the full publication, please scan the QR code



Poster on Substance Use and Substance Use Disorders in Humanitarian Settings (2022)



To access the full poster, please scan the QR code





8. Pharmacological Treatment of Opioid Use Disorders and Emergency Management of Opioid Overdoses

8. Pharmacological Treatment of Opioid Use Disorders and Emergency Management of Opioid Overdoses

The work on pharmacological treatment of opioid use disorders responds to CND resolution 55/7 on “Promoting measures to prevent drug overdose, in particular opioid overdose.” and is aligned with the 2016 UNGASS outcome document.



CND resolution 55/7
available in 6 languages



2016 UNGASS
Outcome Document
available in 6
languages

Establishing and Delivering Evidence-Based High Quality Opioid Agonist Therapy Services (2022)

This document is an operational tool for professionals to establish and deliver evidence-based, opioid agonist maintenance therapy (OAMT) services in low- and middle-income countries. It offers practical guidance on the processes to start, roll out, and improve the quality of OAMT programmes.



*To read the full
publication, please
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Stop-Overdose-Safely (S-O-S) Project Implementation in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Ukraine (2021)

The S-O-S (Stop-Overdose-Safely) project and study was implemented in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Ukraine in the framework of the global UNODC-WHO S-O-S initiative. This project demonstrated the feasibility and public health benefit of take-home naloxone strategies for the emergency management of opioid overdoses in low- and middle-income countries.

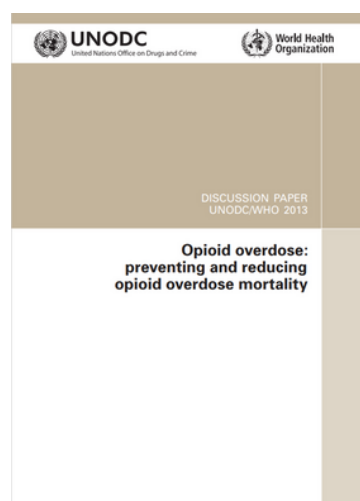


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Opioid Overdose: Prevention and Reducing Opioid Overdose Mortality (2013)

This 2013 discussion paper outlines the facts about opioid overdose, the actions that can be taken to prevent and treat (reverse) opioid overdose and areas requiring further investigation. It underlines the important role of professional and non-professional first responders in overdose situations.

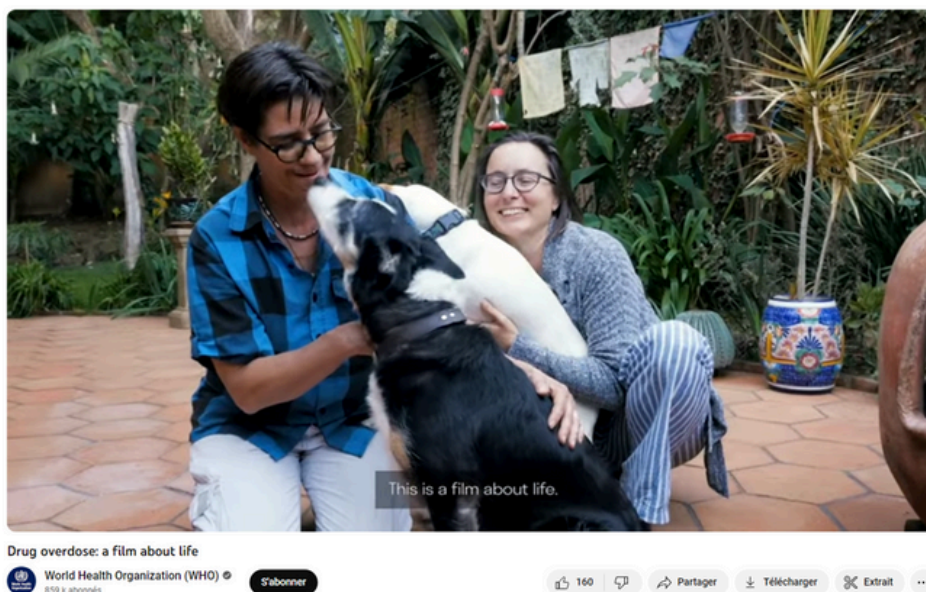


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Drug Overdose: A Film About Life (2020)

This short film, developed by UNODC together with WHO, is a film about hope and life – it is about people who are making a difference. It aims to inspire the actions of those who are striving to reduce deaths from drug overdose, and to honour the memories of those who have passed away from drug overdoses.



*To watch the full
video, please
scan the QR code*



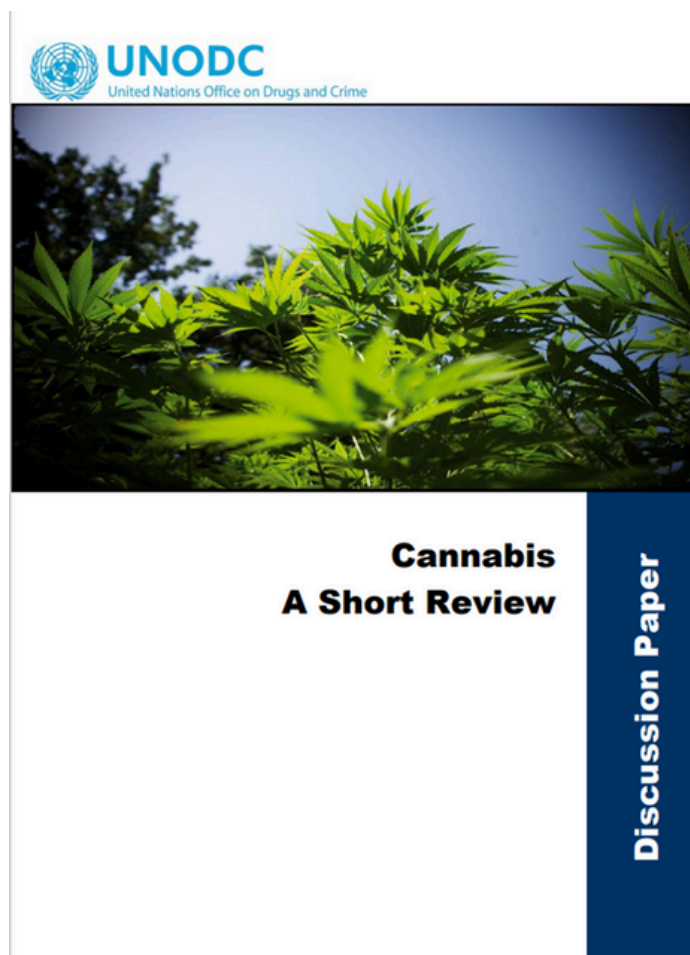


9. Non-medical Use of Cannabis

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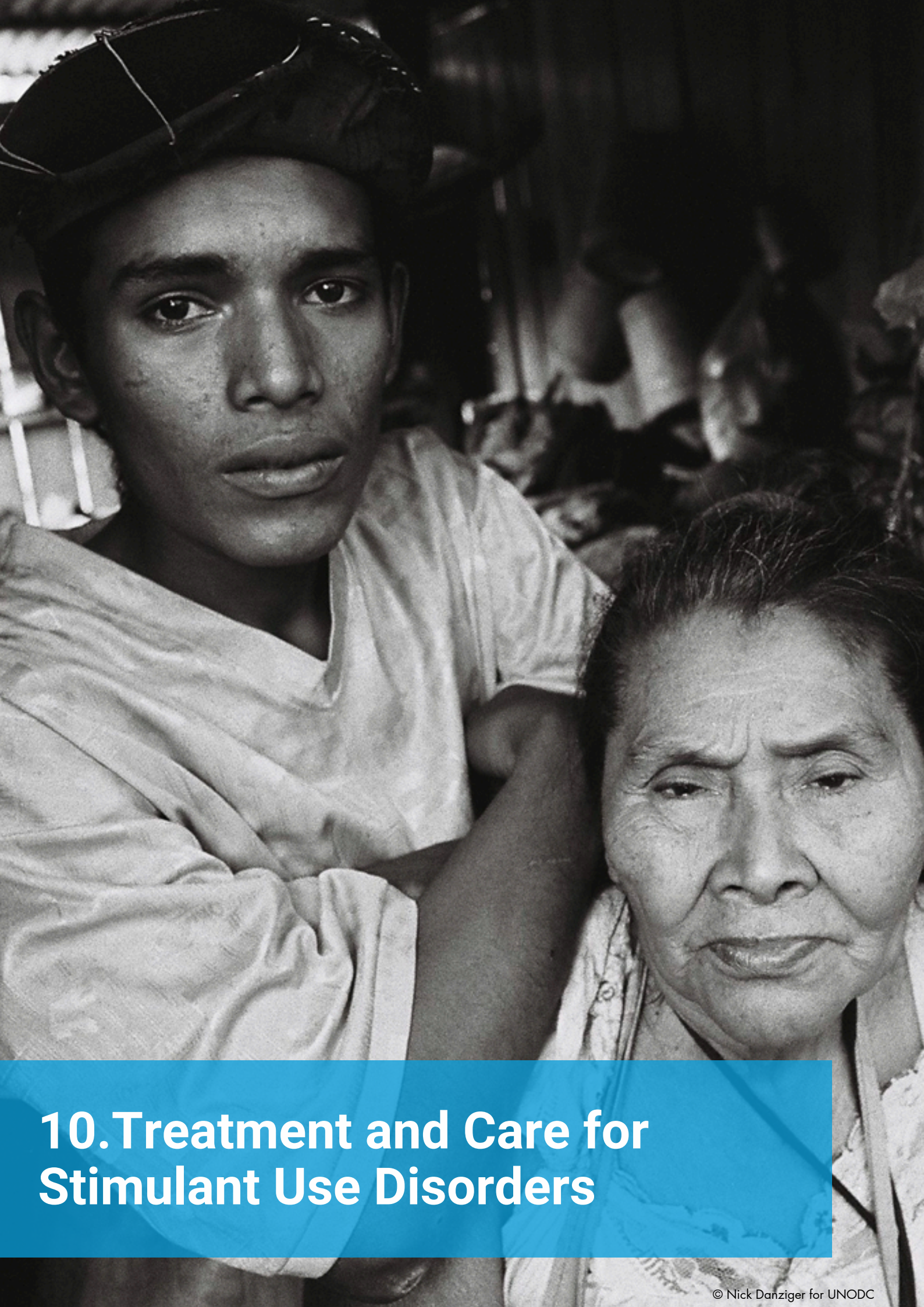
Cannabis: A short review (2012)

This UNODC discussion paper describes different aspects of non-medical use of cannabis.



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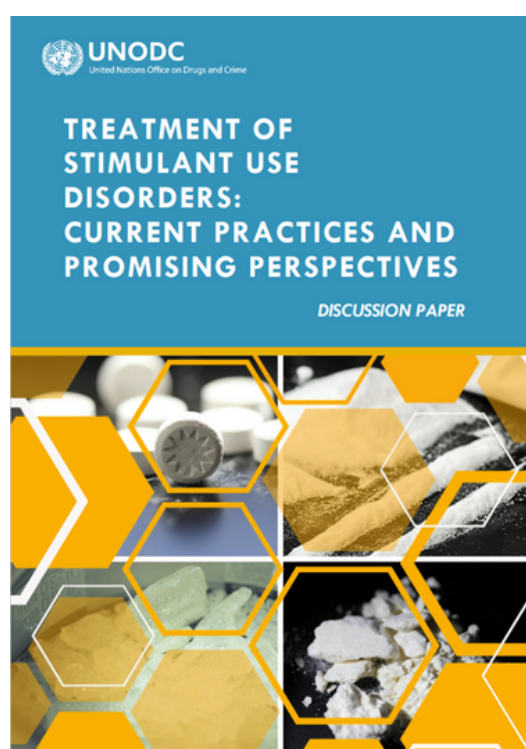
10. Treatment and Care for Stimulant Use Disorders

10. Treatment and Care for Stimulant Use Disorders

Current Practices and Promising Perspectives

UNODC summarized available evidence and encourages Member States to consider expanding research on scalable treatment options for individuals affected by stimulant use disorders. This includes the increased implementation of evidence-based psychosocial interventions and implementation research on the effectiveness, feasibility and safety of pharmacological treatment option. In 2024, the UNDOC officially launched the #ScaleUp initiative, which calls for the scale up of effective psychosocial treatment, as well as increased research on pharmacological treatment options with a view to increasing treatment engagement, treatment retention and effective treatment options for stimulant dependence.

(2019)



To access the full publication, please scan the QR code



(2023)



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11. Comorbidities in Drug Use Disorders



11. Comorbidities in Drug Use Disorders

Work on comorbidities in drug use disorders is in line with the CND Resolution 61/7 on “Addressing the specific needs of vulnerable members of society in response to the world drug problem”.



CND Resolution 61/7
available in 6 languages

Comorbidities in Drug Use Disorders - No wrong Door (2022)

This conference room paper highlights the evidence related to mental and physical health comorbidities in drug use disorders and promotes the development of innovative, evidence-based policies and practices to treat drug use disorders and comorbid disorders in an integrated perspective.



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12. Recovery Management



12. Recovery Management

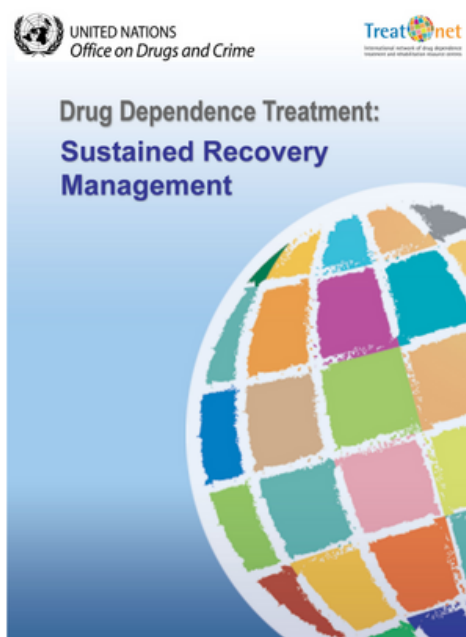
Work on recovery management is in line with the CND Resolution 67/1 on “Promoting recovery and related support services for people with drug use disorders”.



CND resolution 67/1

Drug Dependence Treatment: Sustained Recovery Management (2008)

This document is intended as a practical guide for persons or organisations who want to develop or improve recovery supports for persons with drug use problems integrated in or in collaboration and coordination with treatment services available in the community.

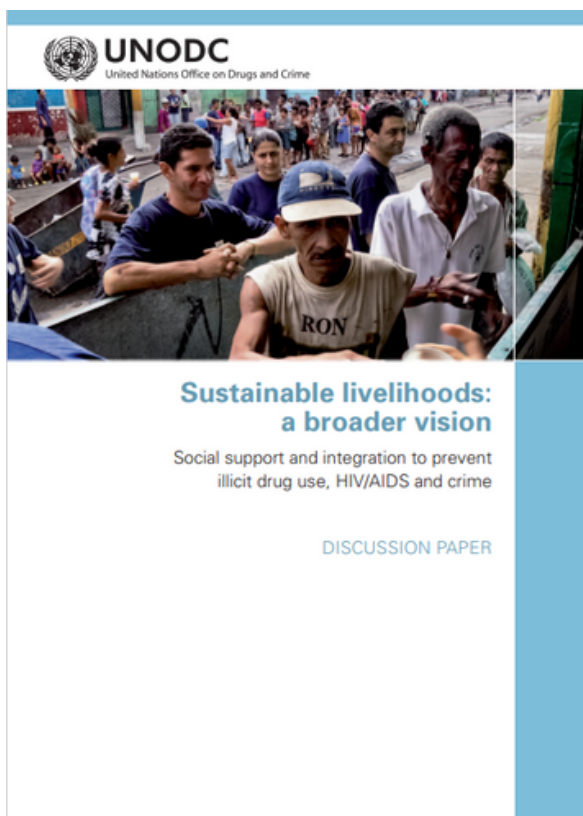


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Sustainable Livelihoods: A Broader Vision (2011)

The adoption of sustainable livelihood approaches could make an important contribution to the long-term success of prevention, treatment and rehabilitation interventions in efforts to prevent drug use, drug use disorders, HIV/AIDS and crime.



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13.Capacity Building Tools on Treatment of Drug Use Disorders

13. Capacity Building Tools on Treatment of Drug Use Disorders

UNODC Treatnet training package

The Treatnet Training Package is a central component of the effort of UNODC to increase the level of knowledge and skills of professionals working in the field of substance use disorders and a tool to assist Member States in their efforts to improve quality of drug treatment services.

This worldily-used training package covers a wide range of topics and aims to remove barriers to drug treatment services by helping create the human resource capacity required to provide effective, accessible, and diversified drug dependence treatment and rehabilitation services.



Introduction



Elements of Drug Dependence Treatment

[For participants](#)

[For trainers](#)

Volume A

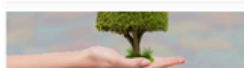


Basics of Addiction, Screening, Assessment, Treatment Planning and Care Coordination

[For participants](#)

[For trainers](#)

Volume B



Elements of Psychological Treatment

[For participants](#)

[For trainers](#)

Volume C



Pharmacological Treatment for Drug Use Disorders

[For participants](#)

[For trainers](#)

Volume D



Management of Drug Dependence Treatment Services

[For participants](#)

[For trainers](#)

Volume E

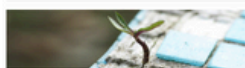


Therapeutic Community: An approach to drug treatment

[For participants](#)

[For trainers](#)

Volume F



Treatnet Family

[For participants](#)

[For trainers](#)

To access the training materials, please scan the QR code



Universal Treatment curriculum (UTC) training package

The aim of the training series, also implemented by UNODC, is to reduce the significant health, social and economic problems associated with substance use disorders by building international treatment capacity through training, and expanding the accredited professional global treatment workforce through continued capacity building.

Universal Treatment Curriculum



UTC 1: Introduction to the Science of Addiction

20 training hours

This course provides the foundation for understanding the science of addiction. It gives an overview of the physiology of addiction as a brain disease and pharmacology of psychoactive substances.



UTC 3: Common Co-occurring Mental and Medical Disorders- An Overview for Addiction Professionals

20 training hours

This course offers an overview of the relationship between co-occurring mental and SUD-related treatment issues.



UTC 5: Intake, Screening, Assessment, Treatment Planning and Documentation for Addiction Professionals

33 training hours

This course is a skills-based course that teaches effective and integrated intake, screening, assessment,



UTC 7: Crisis Intervention for Addiction Professionals

13 training hours

This course addresses the concept of crisis as a part of life and provides guidelines for crisis intervention, including managing suicide risk. It also addresses ways counsellors can avoid personal crisis situations by providing information and exercises about counsellor self-care.



UTC 2: Treatment for Substance Use Disorders- The Continuum of Care for Addiction Professionals

33 training hours

The course provides the foundation for learning about substance use disorder (SUD) treatment.



UTC 4: Basic Counselling Skills for Addiction Professionals

33 training hours

This course focusses on an overview of the helping relationship and the opportunity to practice core counselling including basic skill in motivational interviewing, group counselling and implementation of psychoeducation sessions.



UTC 6: Case Management for Addiction Professionals

13 training hours

This is a skills-based course that provides an overview of case management in the treatment of substance use disorders and provides skills in case management.



UTC 8: Ethics for Addiction Professionals

26 training hours

This course addresses professional conduct and ethical behaviour in SUD treatment that covers confidentiality, ethical principles and professional code of ethics.



UTC 9: Advanced Pharmacology and Substance Use Disorders

This 3-days course provides an overview of pharmacology through the identification of the classification of drugs based on their effects on the central nervous system and addiction potential.



UTC 11: Enhancing Motivational Interviewing Skills

This 5-days course provides an understanding of the theory and application of Motivational Interviewing strategies and interventions for SUD treatment.



UTC 13: Contingency Management

This 3-days course is a foundational course that provides an understanding of the theories and principles of reinforcement-based



UTC 15: Skills for Managing Co-Occurring Disorders

This 3-days skills-based course enhances participants understanding of co-occurring disorders, substance-related disorders, and mental disorders.



UTC 17: Case Management Skills and Practices

This 3.5-days course is designed to provide the opportunity to enhance competency in case management through a better understanding of the important roles and skills of case managers.



UTC 19: Enhancing Group Facilitation Skills

This 3.5-days course is a skills-based course that enhances group facilitation skills of SUD treatment practitioners.



UTC 21: Trauma-Informed Care for Adults

This 4- days course provides information about



UTC 10: Managing Medication Assisted Treatment Programs

This 4-days course provides a comprehensive understanding of the importance of medication in SUD treatment and its benefits when used in conjunction with psychosocial interventions.



UTC 12: Cognitive Behavioral Therapy

This 4-days course provides an overview of cognitive – behaviour therapy goals, techniques and its application to treatment of people with substance use disorders and comorbid disorders.



UTC 14: Working with Families

This 5-days course provides a comprehensive overview for SUD treatment practitioners working with families who are dealing with substance use disorders.



UTC 16: Advanced Clinical Skills and Crisis Management

This 5-days course provides an in-depth understanding of the theories of counselling and the application of its therapeutic techniques in various SUD treatment settings



UTC 18: Clinical Supervision

This 5-days course provides an overview of the fundamentals, principles, models and methods of clinical supervision. This is also meant to lay out the roles, functions, skills and competencies of clinical supervisors.



UTC 20: Populations with Special Clinical Needs

This 6-days specialised course provides basic tools necessary to help meet the needs of a broad and diverse array of individuals with substance use disorders, provide and/or improve access to quality



UTC 22: Recovery management and Relapse Prevention

This 4-days course provides a foundational understanding of

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UNODC Training on Treatment for Women with Substance Use Disorders

The goal of this training is to enhance the knowledge and capacity of health professionals, social workers, and other relevant practitioners in providing treatment and care to women with drug use disorders, taking in consideration their specific treatment needs.



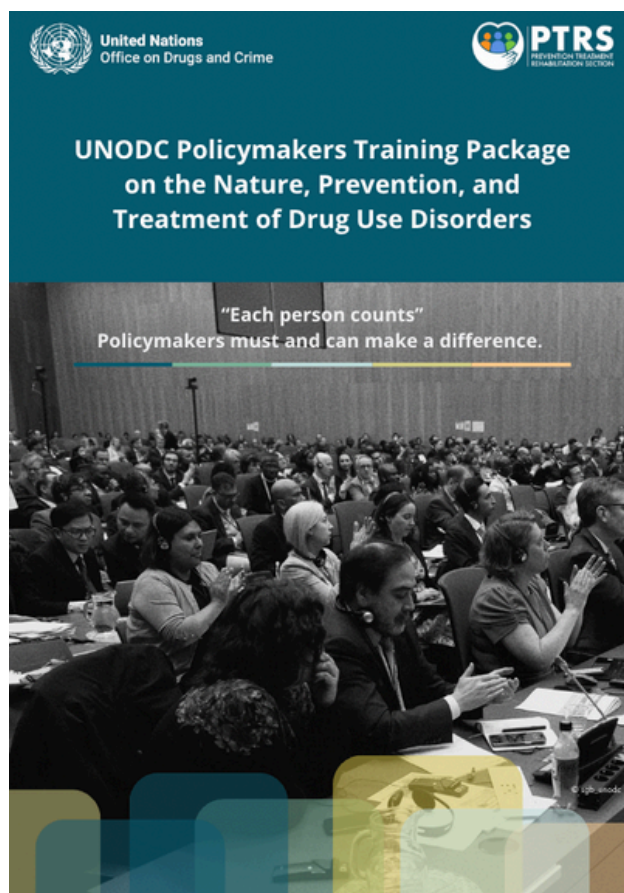
TREATMENT FOR WOMEN WITH SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER

Empirical interventions for
comprehensive care with a gender
perspective.
Workshop 1.

**To receive more information on this training package, please contact
us at unodc-ptrs@un.org**

UNODC Policymakers Training Package on the Nature Prevention, and Treatment of Drug Use Disorders

This capacity building tool aims at supporting UN Member States in developing effective policies, strategies, programmes and interventions targeted at preventing drug use and increasing the availability of and access to comprehensive systems of care for people affected by drug use and drug use disorders.



This tool can be adapted to the specific contexts of different countries

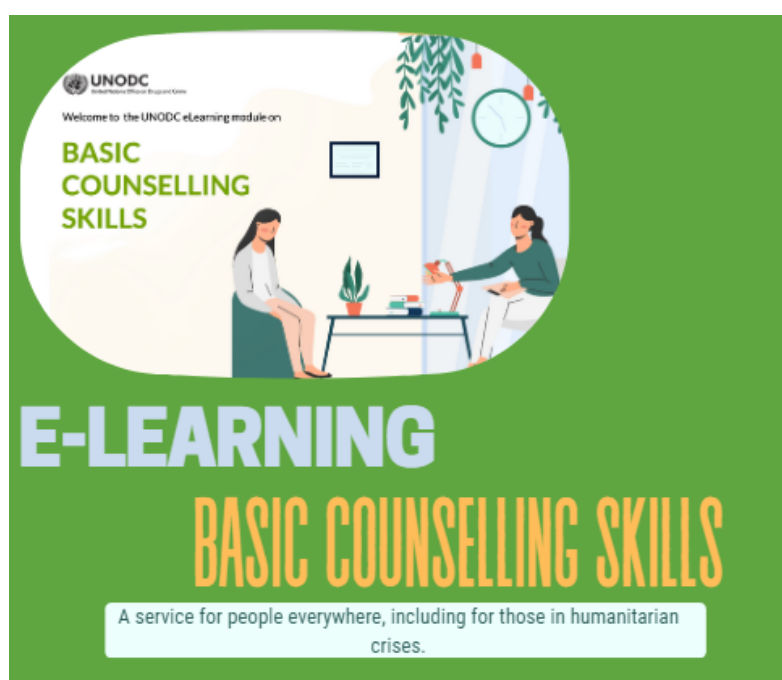
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UNODC E-learning packages

UNODC E-learning on Basic Counselling Skills

UNODC E-learning module on Basic Counselling Skills is based on UNODC's Treatnet Training Package. This 60 min self-paced online course provides an overview of some of the basic elements of psychological treatment and counselling approaches and principles. The goal is for health care providers to ensure continued psychological support for people in personal and humanitarian crises.



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English



Russian



Spanish

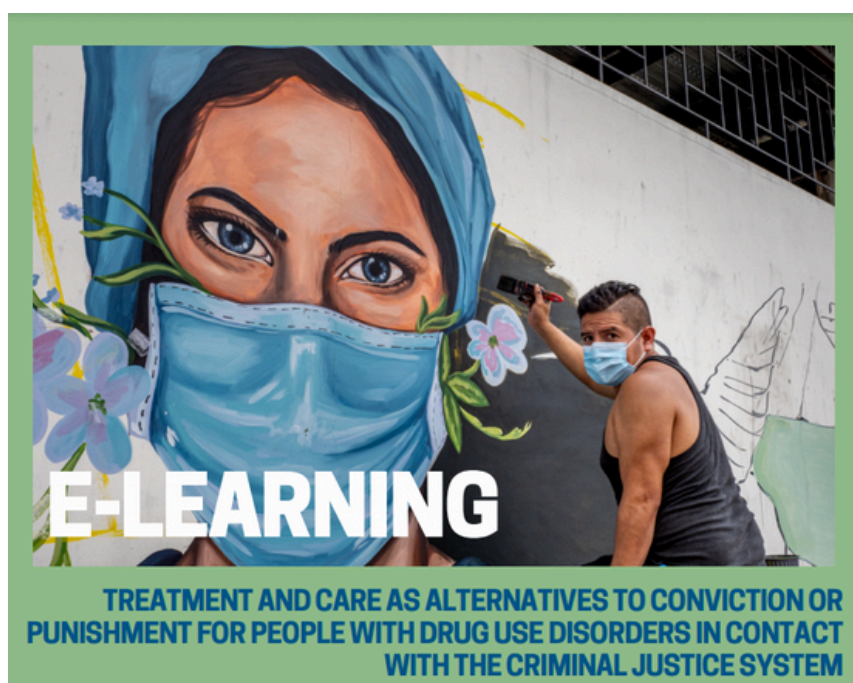


*To access this training, please register on the
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UNODC E-learning on Treatment and Care as Alternatives to Conviction or Punishment for People in Contact with the Criminal Justice System

This course provides an introduction for policymakers, health and justice practitioners and all those interested to learn about options to divert people with drug use disorders in contact with the criminal justice system for offenses of a minor nature to evidence-based treatment and care. The objectives of this 60 min. course is to deepen the understanding of reasons for providing treatment and care as an alternative to people with drug use disorders in contact with the criminal justice system, as well as the existing relevant international norms and standards that support this approach. Examples and experiences from different countries will allow learners to consider how to apply this approach in their settings.



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scan the QR code*

English



*To access the training, please register on the
UNODC e-learning platform*



UNODC E-learning on Introduction to Treatnet Family

The Treatnet Training Package is a central component to the effort by the UNODC Treatnet initiative to increase the level of knowledge and skills of professionals working in the field of substance use disorders, and a tool to assist Member States in their efforts to improve quality of drug treatment services. The objectives of this selfpaced e-Learning Treatnet Family course, that consists of 3 modules, is to introduce some elements of Treatnet Family to health and social service providers who work with youths with drug use disorders and their family members.



To read the full brochure, please scan the QR code

English



To access the training, please register on the UNODC e-learning platform





14. Scientific Articles and Advocacy Materials

14. Scientific Articles and Advocacy Materials

Treatment of Drug Use Disorders in Prison Settings

This article presents a systematic review and narrative synthesis of interventions aimed at addressing substance use disorders and other mental health disorders in prison settings, with a particular focus on low- and middle-income countries. The findings indicate a narrow range of interventions with demonstrated effectiveness, predominantly from high-income countries, and highlight significant evidence gaps, especially concerning low- and middle-income settings.

(2023)

A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW AND NARRATIVE SYNTHESIS OF INTERVENTIONS TO ADDRESS SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS AND OTHER MENTAL HEALTH DISORDERS IN PRISON SETTINGS WITH A FOCUS ON LOW- AND MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES

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Interventions to treat substance use disorders (SUDs) and other mental health disorders (MHDS) in prison settings vary in both availability and effectiveness across contexts. Furthermore, incomplete characterization of intervention efficacy and/or effectiveness impacts the ability to know whether an intervention with demonstrated effectiveness in one setting will be effective in another setting. We systematically reviewed the literature for studies of interventions for SUDs and other MHDS conducted in prison settings, and synthesized the identified interventions and identified evidence gaps. Search strategies yielded 9,599 articles published between January 1, 2010, and December 31, 2020. A total of 82 articles were identified as eligible with interventions presented for SUDs ($n = 52$), for MHDS ($n = 23$), and for SUDs/MHDS ($n = 7$). Findings point to a narrow range of interventions of demonstrated effectiveness and to important gaps in the evidence-base for which high-quality research, particularly in low- and middle-income settings, is needed.

Keywords: effectiveness research; prison-based health care; substance use disorders; mental health disorders; systematic review and narrative synthesis

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Treatment and Care for Stimulant Use Disorders

This article addresses the rising concern of stimulant use disorders, alongside the difficulties in establishing successful treatments. It points out the shortcomings of current treatments like cognitive-behavioural therapy and recommends conducting safety and effectiveness trials, especially in low- and middle-income countries, while closely monitoring patients with severe disorders.

(2022)

Continuing Increase in Stimulant Dependence – Time to Implement Medical Treatment

Adam Bisaga^{1,2}, Vitor S. Tardelli^{3,4,5}, Gilberto Gerra⁶, Anja Busse⁷, Giovanna Campello⁸, Wataru Kashino⁹, Elizabeth Saenz¹⁰, and Thiago M. Fidalgo¹¹

The Scope of the Problem

The use of stimulant substances for non-medical purposes critically contributes to global problems related to substance use. Over 27 million people worldwide have used amphetamines, methamphetamines, and prescription psychostimulants, and around 19 million have used cocaine in 2018.¹ As increase in the burden of (psycho)stimulant use disorder (PSUD), both amphetamine-type (AUD) and cocaine-type (CUD), reflect those trends. From 2008 to 2017, the disability-adjusted life years (DALYs) attributable to CUD increased by 17% and AUD by 5%. The economic burden of PSUD varies across income status with CUD and AUD accounting in 2019 for 0.01 and 0.02% of the DALYs in low income and lower middle income countries, as compared to 0.16% and 0.09% respectively in high income countries.² However, regional differences are also relevant: CUD is particularly burdensome in Tropical Latin America, where its prevalence is only outnumbered by North America; meanwhile, the regions with highest prevalence of AUD are East and South-East Asia.³ Moreover, around 11.3 million people worldwide use drugs intravenously including opioids, amphetamines, methamphetamines, and cocaine. The concurrent use of an injected stimulant and an opioid increases the risk of medical problems, overdoses, and deaths in comparison to the injection of only one substance.^{1,2} In the US, up to a third of opioid overdose deaths involved the concurrent use of a stimulant.

Current Treatment Approach

In the face of immense public health impact, treatment of PSUD should be prioritized. The Member States of the United Nations included strengthening the prevention and treatment of substance use disorders among the targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. One of the two indicators used to evaluate this target's progress is the "measure of the coverage of treatment interventions, including pharmacological, psychosocial and rehabilitation and aftercare services for substance use disorders". These treatments should focus on individual needs according to the patient's circumstances and be evidence-based. However, finding an effective psychosocial or pharmacological intervention for PSUD has been challenging, and no evidence-based treatment model within the healthcare setting has been widely adopted.

Currently, dominant models of PSUD treatment use a combination of various psychosocial and educational interventions such as cognitive-behavioral therapy and contingency management, which are supported with the evidence of limited and short-term efficacy. However, their implementation has faced many challenges, with limited clinical application, and failure to attract and retain patients.

In contrast to existing PSUD treatment models, the current treatment model for individuals with opioid use disorder (OUD) has proven to attract and engage patients to decrease opioid use, address their health and social needs, and result in the quality of life improvement. This model of OUD treatment includes medication combined with psychosocial and other services and is often delivered by the multidisciplinary team. CUD treatment can be delivered in a specialty setting (Opioid Agonist Maintenance Treatment), is the primary

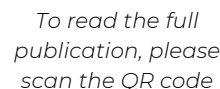
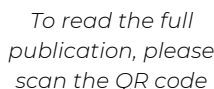
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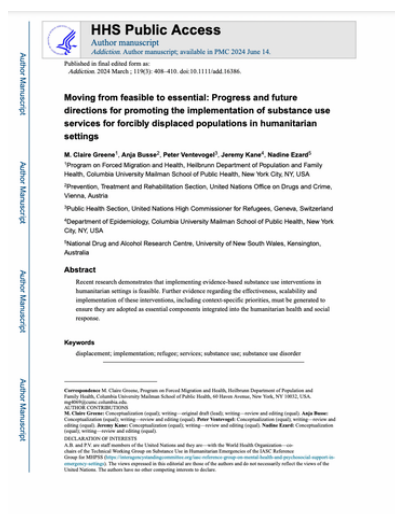
(2021)



Substance Use Disorders in Humanitarian Settings

Populations affected by humanitarian emergencies are vulnerable to substance (alcohol and other drugs) use disorders, yet treatment and prevention services are scarce. Delivering substance use disorder treatment services in humanitarian settings is hampered by limited guidance around the preparation, implementation, and evaluation of substance use disorder treatment programs. These papers aim to identify and prioritize key gaps and opportunities for addressing substance use disorders in humanitarian settings.

(2024)



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(2023)



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(2021)



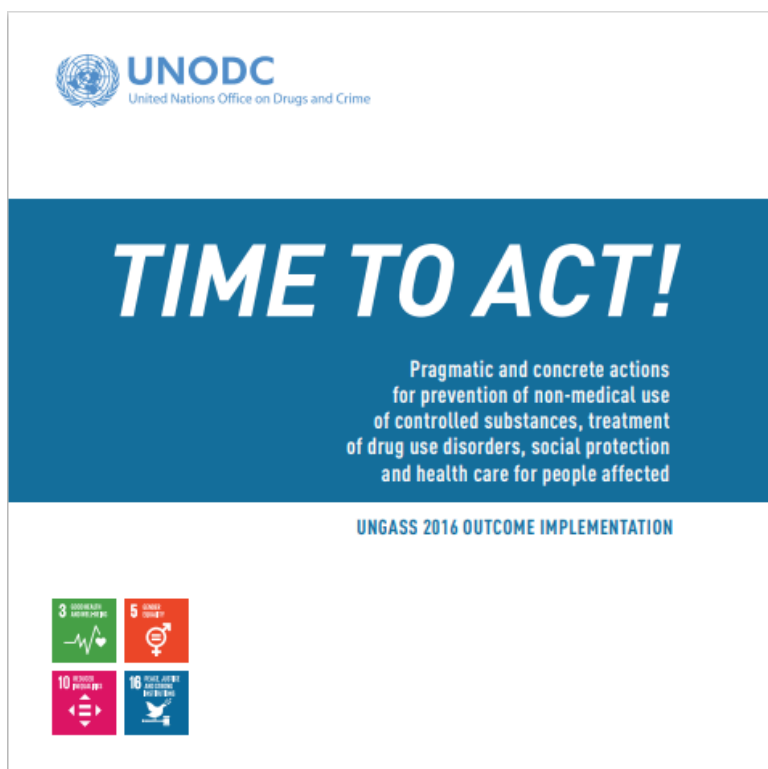
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UNODC Brochure “Time To Act!”

This brochure highlights pragmatic and concrete actions for prevention of non-medical use of controlled substances, treatment of drug use disorders, social protection and health care for people affected.

(2019)




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