

Standards of care for persons with Drug Use Disorders



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*This report contains the collective views of an international group of experts and
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WHO Technical Report Series

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WHO EXPERT COMMITTEE ON DRUG DEPENDENCE

Thirtieth Report



**World Health Organization
Geneva 1998**



Definition of treatment

The term “treatment” is used to define the process that begins when psychoactive substance users come into contact with a health provider or other community service, and may continue through a succession of specific interventions until the highest attainable level of health and well-being is reached.

Treatment and rehabilitation are defined as a comprehensive approach to identification, assistance, health care, and social integration with regard to persons presenting problems caused by the use of any psychoactive substance. These definitions include the notion that substance users are entitled to be treated with humanity and respect.

The definition of treatment uses the broad concept of rehabilitation adopted by UN agencies (ILO, UNESCO and WHO). It includes the equalization of opportunities and community involvement. The definition is also compatible with WHO’s constitutional objective, which is “the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health”. The aim of treatment, within this broader context, is to improve the health and quality of life of persons with problems caused by their use of psychoactive substances.

It is clear that treatment programmes, whether ambulatory or residential, must involve a wide range of governmental and other sectors including health, education, law enforcement, social welfare and vocational training. All these sectors accordingly share the responsibility for providing support for treatment, rehabilitation and care services.



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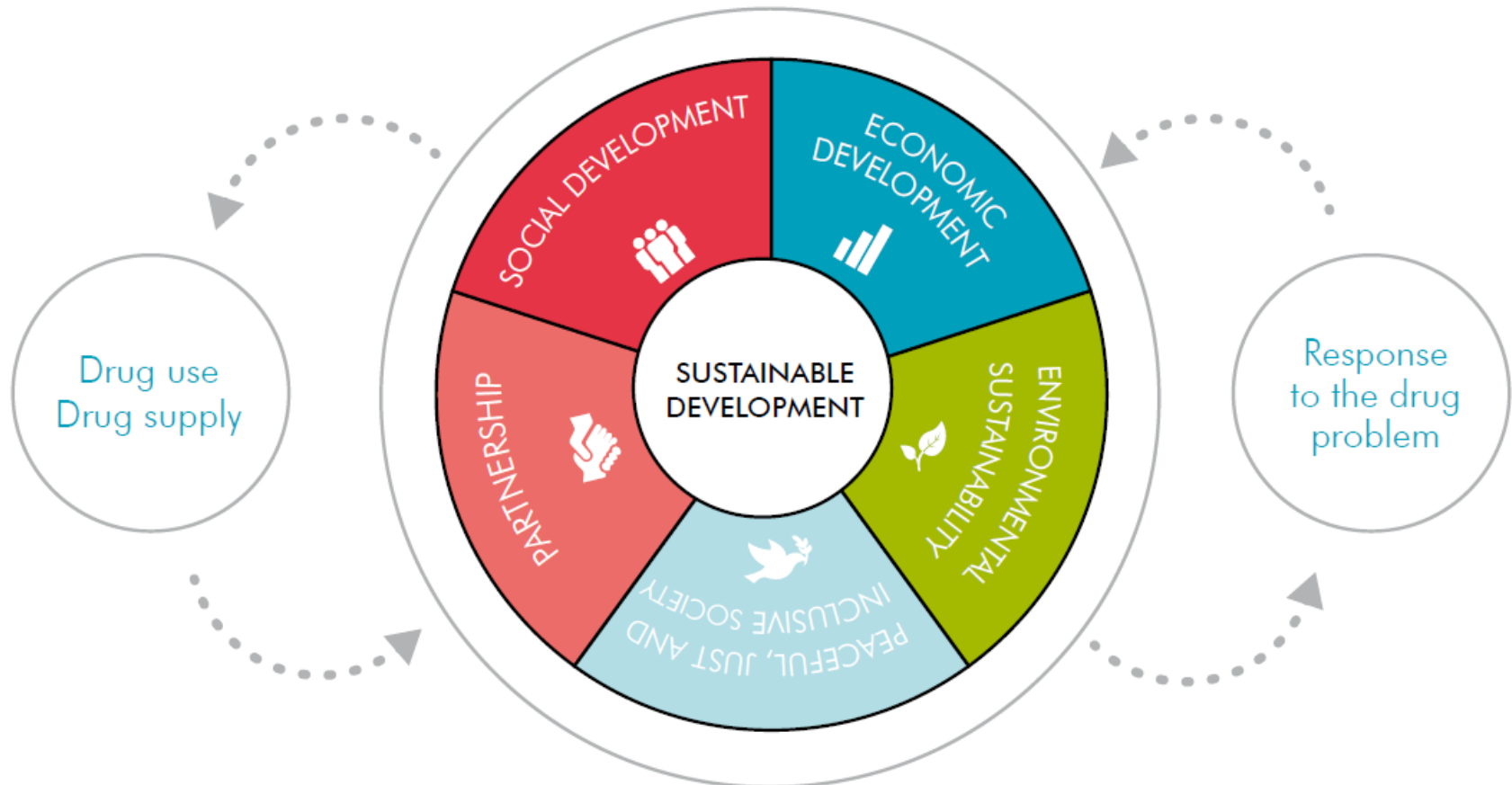


SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



Sustainable Development Goal 3.
Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages



Sources of information



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UNODC

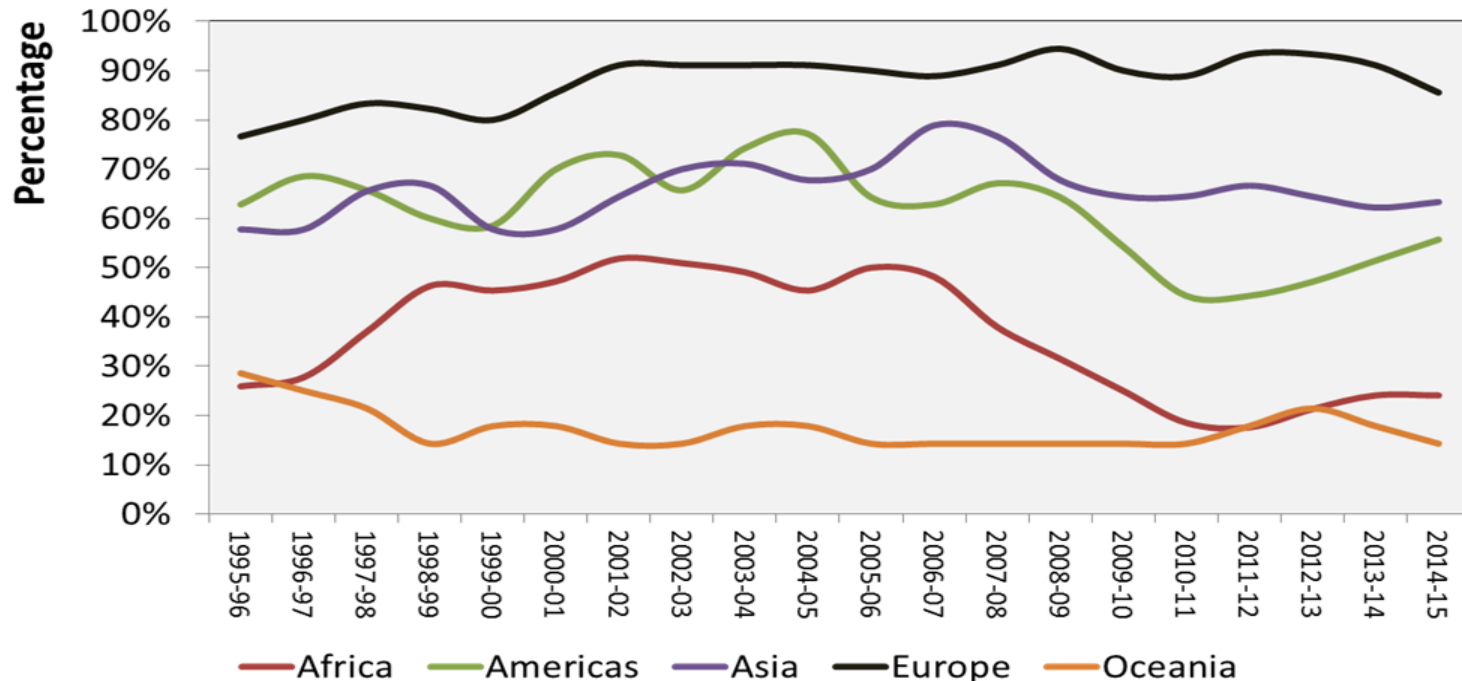
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime



Data coverage

Wide range of UNODC and external sources used in the Report Shortcomings in Member States reporting to UNODC (Africa, Oceania, Asia)

Proportion of Member States submitting data to UNODC on drug supply or drug demand via the Annual Report Questionnaire, by region, 1995-2015 (2-year moving average)



Drug use and DUD



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Report 2016 (information 2014)

247 million people used drugs in the past year



29 million suffer from drug use disorders

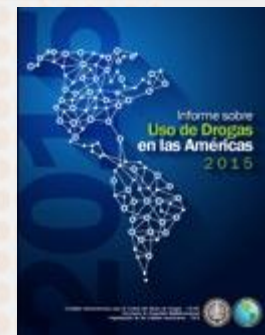
but only 1 in 6 people with drug use disorders is in treatment

- 12 millions inject drugs (14% with VIH)
- 207,400 deaths (43.5 per million of inhabitants) – overdoses approximately 1/3 to half



Report 2015 in the Americas

- Great variability
- High use in teenagers, with low-risk perception of occasional use
- Rising challenges: heroine, NPS and new forms of use



**UNODC**

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

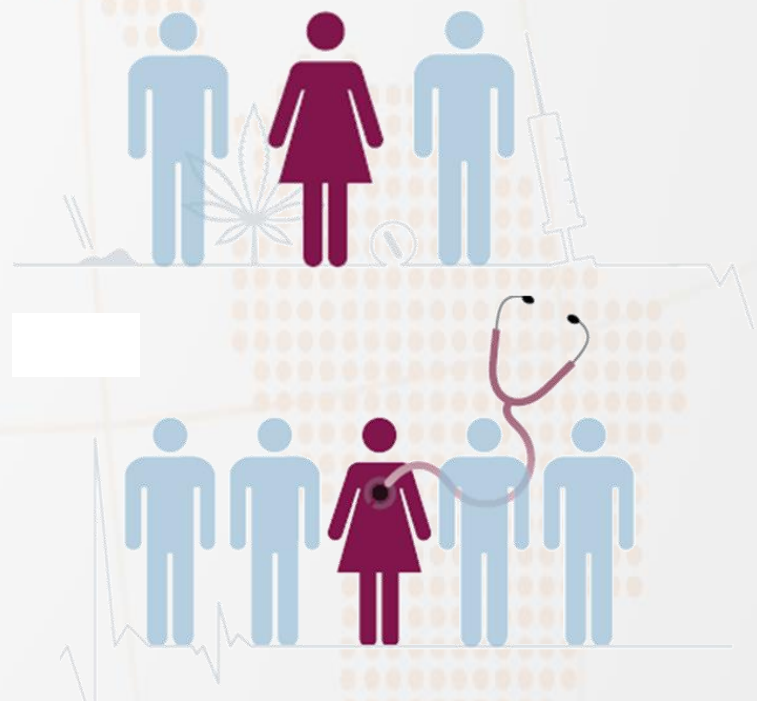
Access to treatment of drug use disorders

- 1 in 6 at the global level
- 1 in 18 in Africa
- 1 in 11 in Latin America / Eastern Europe
- 1 in 3 in the North America



Gender imbalance in drug treatment and care

Even though one out of three drug users is a woman, only one out of five drug users in treatment is a woman.



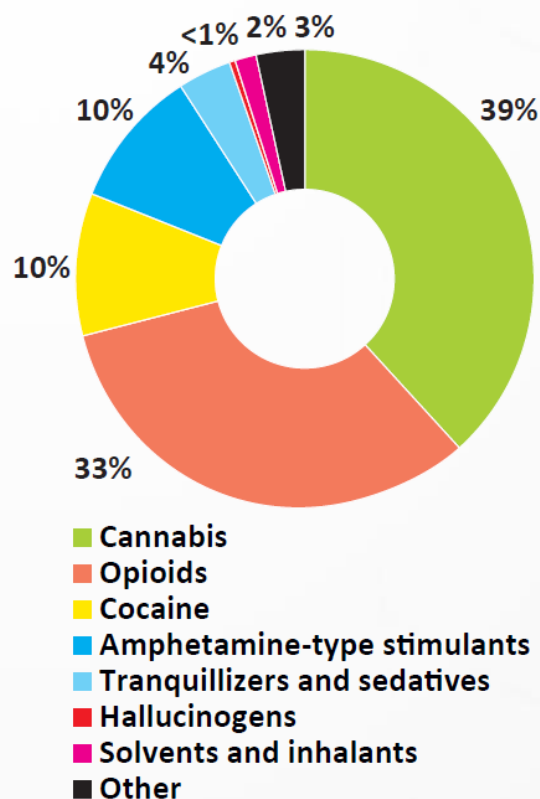
Drug Use Disorders (DUD)



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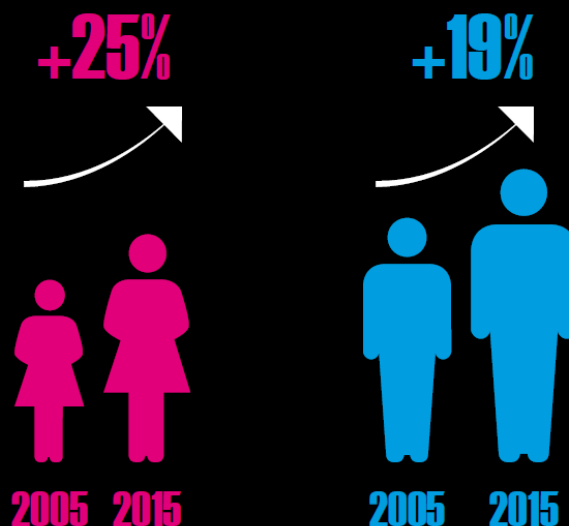
Proportion of people in treatment for different drugs, global averages



Source: UNODC, responses to annual report questionnaire.

Note: Unweighted average of people in treatment for different drugs in different regions.

Higher rate of increase in the burden of disease from drug use disorders among women than among men



At least twice as many men than women suffer from drug use disorders

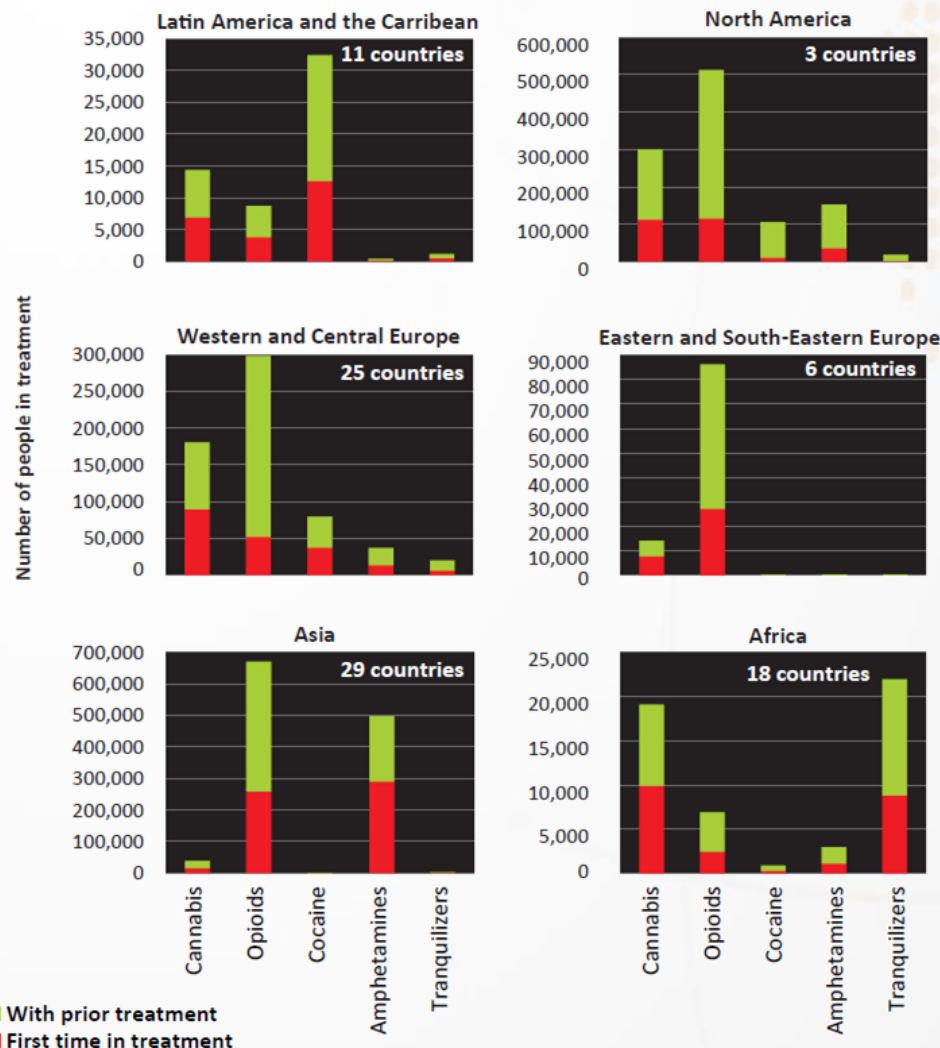
Total number of people in treatment



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by drug type and by region, 2015 or latest available data



- Treatment for cocaine remains prominent in North America, Latin America and the Caribbean and, to a lesser extent, in Western and Central Europe

- Information on the number of people in treatment for drug use disorders for the first time shows an increasing trend in opioid use, including heroin, in North and South America, as well as in Eastern and South-Eastern Europe

Source: UNODC, responses to annual report questionnaire.

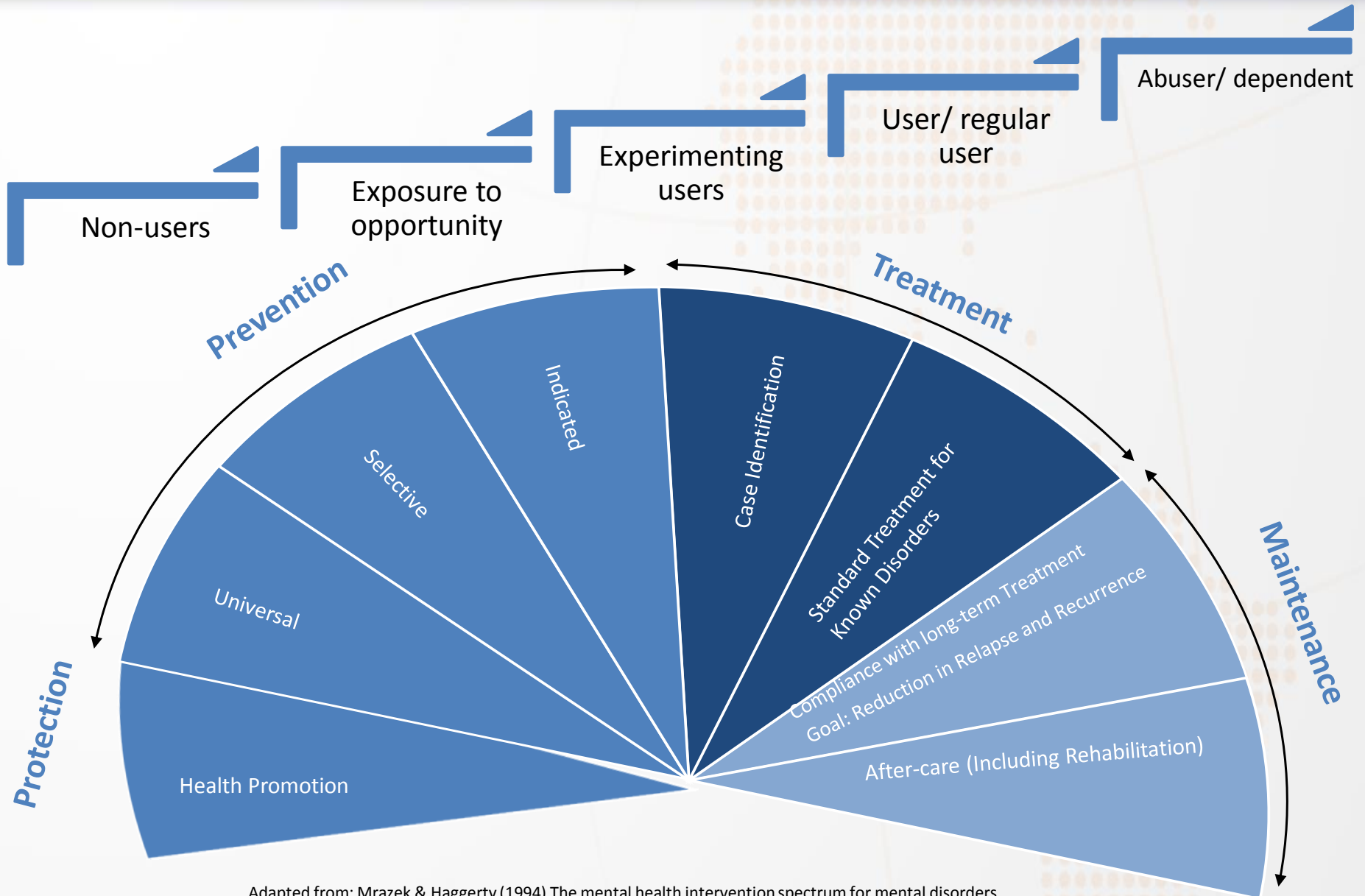
Note: The figures are based on data for 2015 or the latest year since 2010. The number of people treated for different drugs in a region is weighted by the total number of people treated in a country. Member States in Oceania (Australia and New Zealand) do not provide information on the proportion of people in treatment for the first time, and therefore information for Oceania is not reflected in the above figures.

Source: World Drug Report 2017

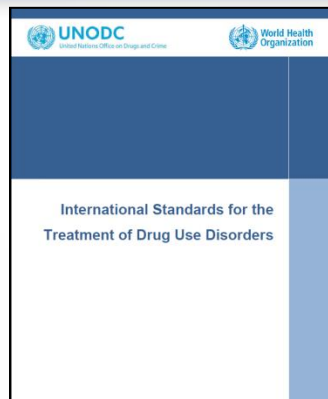
Drug Demand Reduction Services Continuum



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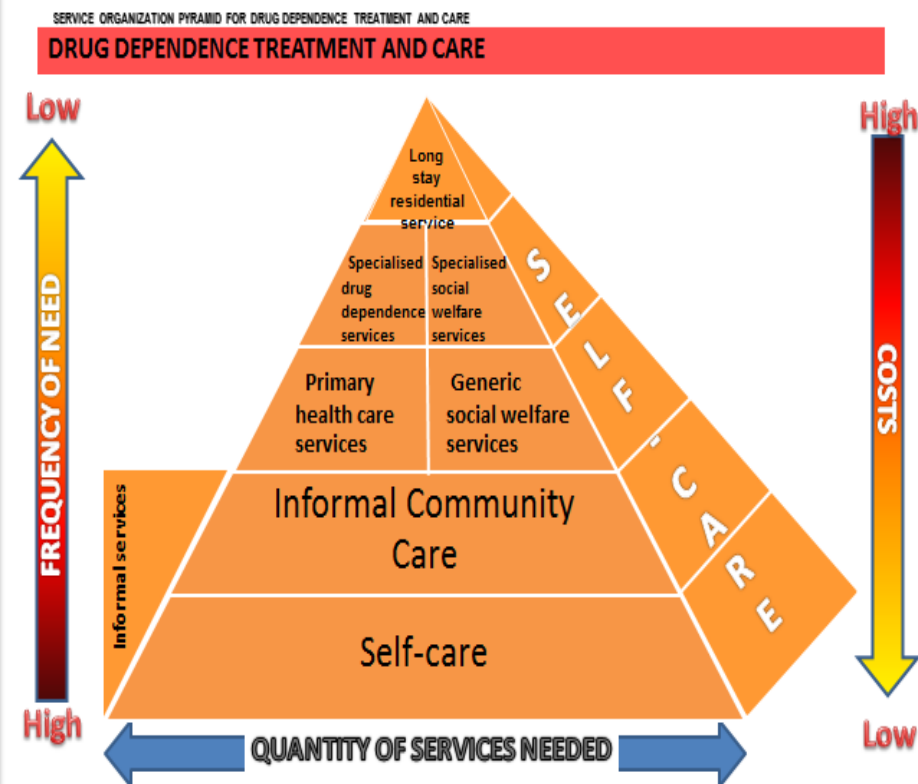
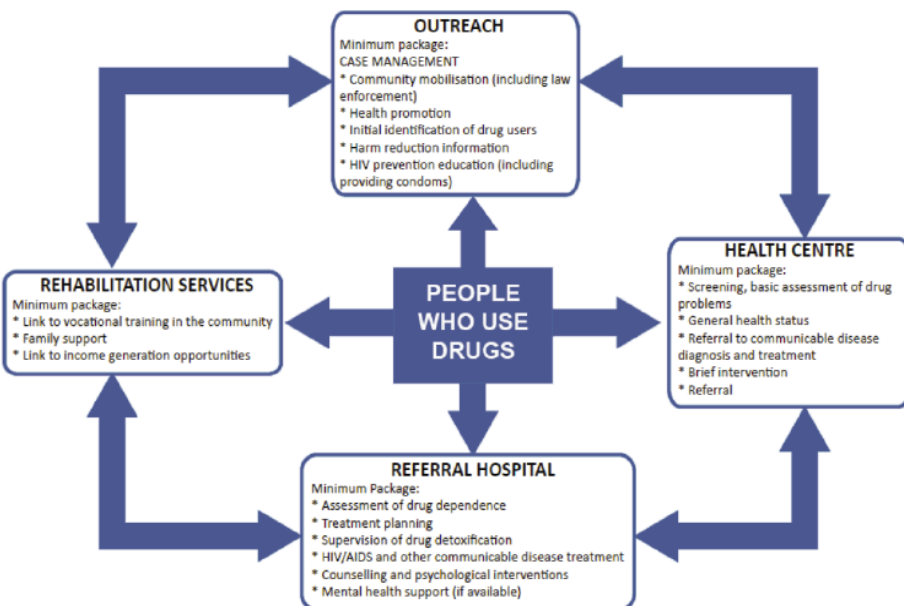


Adapted from: Mrazek & Haggerty (1994) The mental health intervention spectrum for mental disorders



Goals of treatment

1. reduce the intensity of drug use desire and drug use
2. improve functioning and well-being of the affected individual
3. prevent future harms by decreasing the risk of complications and reoccurrence

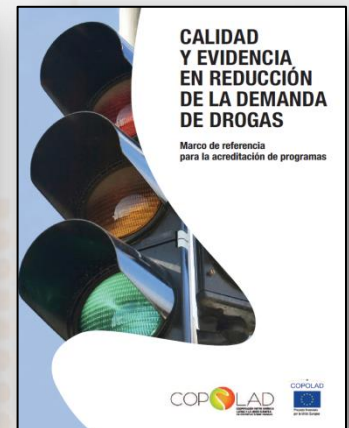
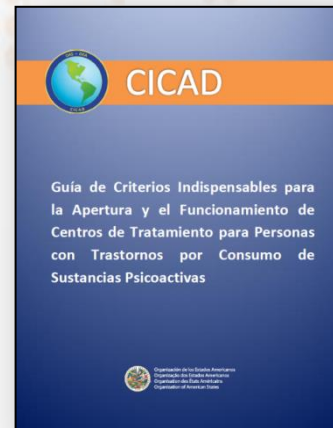


TREATMENT PRINCIPLES

1. **Treatment** must be **available, accessible, attractive, and appropriate** for needs
2. **Ensuring ethical standards** in treatment services
3. **Promoting treatment** of drug use disorders by **effective coordination** between the criminal justice system and health and social services
4. **Treatment must be based on scientific evidence** and respond to specific needs of individuals with drug use disorders
5. Responding to the **needs of special subgroups and conditions**
6. **Ensuring good clinical governance** of treatment services and programs for drug use disorders
7. Integrated treatment policies, services, procedures, approaches and linkages must be **constantly monitored and evaluated**

Guide of essential criteria for treatment centers Preparation process

- Review of Latin-American countries legislation
- Coordinated with Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO)
- Background: 2010 Drug Demand Reduction Expert Group recommendations
- In alignment with COPOLAD certification criteria for Drug Demand Reduction Programs
- Input from countries and NGO's
- Approved by 2014 CICAD Drug Demand Reduction Expert Group



Guide of essential criteria for treatment centers

