



【18th Edition】

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◎UNODC and NIDA Reports

◎Taiwan Research News

◎Recent I Research News

◎Recent International Academic
Conference



Prevention and treatment of drug abuse are common problems faced by most countries in Asia and nearly all other societies in the world. The multifaceted problems required multiple approaches. The main purpose of this conference is to bring together government officials and policymakers, leading scholars, substance abuse treatment providers, and criminal justice practitioners from Asian countries to discuss opportunities, strategies, and challenges in building effective substance abuse prevention and treatment programs. Much can be learned from the insights and experiences of scholars and professionals who are involved in substance abuse research and programs elsewhere in the world and from scientific evidence accumulated through research and program evaluations. Therefore, we will also welcome participants from other parts of the world who will bring international or comparative perspectives on substance abuse prevention and treatment or who will share information about effective criminal justice responses to drug abuse in non-Asian countries.

I . We welcome topics that address:

1. Types, distributions, and trends of substance abuse
2. Causes and consequences of substance abuse
3. Prevention and treatment of substance abuse
4. Correlates of substance abuse and crime
5. Drugs and the criminal justice system
6. Anti-drug Cooperation among Asian countries
7. Scientific advancement and methodology

II . Oragnizers and Sponsors:

Asian Association for Substance Abuse Research, University of Macau, Macau Foundation, etc.





UNODC Reports

Substantial coca crop decline in Peru

➤ Editorial Office



15 July 2015 - According to the latest crop monitoring survey, presented today in Lima by UNODC and the Government of Peru, coca bush cultivation in the country fell almost 14 per cent in 2014 compared to 2013. The area used for cultivating the raw material for cocaine production fell from 49,800 hectares (ha) to 42,900 ha.

Speaking at the Survey's launch, UNODC's Representative in Peru, Flavio Mirella, highlighted the comprehensive approach taken by the Government, which, together with its decision to increase annual eradication goals, includes pursuing complementary pre- and post-eradication strategies. Additionally, he acknowledged the country's "enhanced efforts and investments for promoting alternative livelihoods in coca growing areas, for building more capacity and for a greater State presence in areas affected by coca cultivation."

In 2014, the Peruvian Government reported around 31,200 ha of eradication, 30 per cent more than in 2013. The areas that have been impacted the most by these actions are the regions of Aguaytía, High Huallaga (including Monzón), Pichis-Palcazú-Pachitea, Orellana, and Caballococha. Together, these regions saw a reduction of almost 60 per cent, from around 10,400 ha to some 4,200 ha. Other notable production areas, such as the Apurimac, Ene and Mantaro River Valleys (VRAEM) region, La Convención y Lares, and Inambari Tambopata remained stable compared to 2013.



Production of sun-dried coca leaves in 2014, which are used by drug traffickers to produce coca paste and cocaine hydrochloride, stood at some 100,800 mt. In 2014, the VRAEM region accounted for more than 67 per cent of production, due in part to notable higher yields per hectare of more than 3.5 mt, compared to the national average of 2.4 mt. As in previous years, some 9,000 mt of the total production is used for the traditional practice of coca leaf chewing.

The farm-gate price of dry coca leaf remained the same as a year before, at \$4.3 per kilogram, which is still relatively high compared to the average price from 2008-2012 of \$3.2 per kilogram. Starting in 2013, the price rose above \$3 per kilogram of coca leaf as a result of a growing demand, the significant reduction of the coca growing areas, and the corresponding lower supply of coca leaf.

The average price of coca leaf by-products, however, registered decreases: while coca paste price saw a relatively small decline of 2.3 per cent - from \$863 to \$843 per kilogram - the average price of cocaine hydrochloride decreased 10 per cent between 2013 and 2014, from \$1,310 to \$1,178 per kilogram. Seizures of the latter, meanwhile, went from around 13,300 kilograms in 2013, to almost 18,700 kilograms in 2014, a 40 per cent increase. Additionally, seizures of coca paste increased 2.5 per cent in the same period, from 10,800 kilograms to around 11,100 kilograms.

Until 2010, drug traffickers smuggled coca paste and cocaine mostly by land routes heading to Peru's ports and its border with Bolivia. However, as noted in the Survey, routes have been diversified and drugs are now also transported by air. The Peru coca survey relies on space imaging and aerial video verification. The accuracy and detail of this year's survey has increased, producing more accurate results.



This photot is from: Liberty Times Net

<http://talk.ltn.com.tw/article/breakingnews/1343789>

This paper is from: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

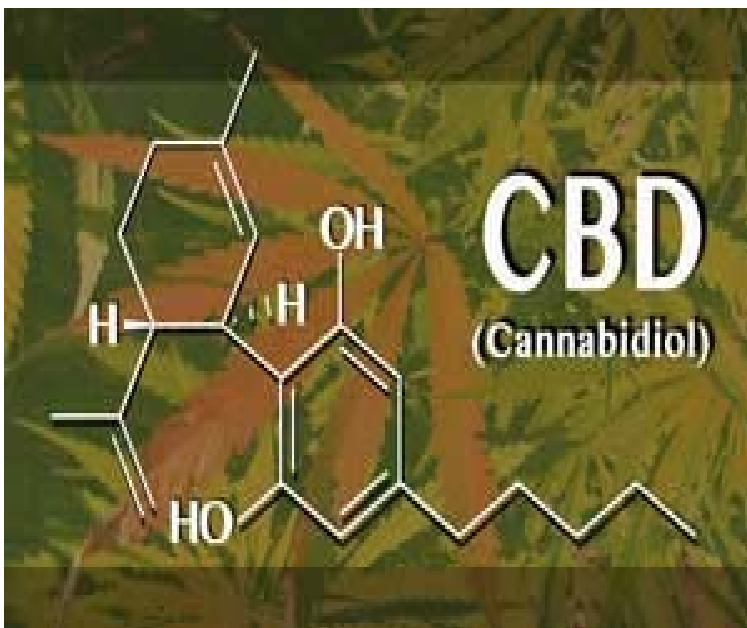
<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/frontpage/2015/July/latest-unodc-survey-shows-substantial-coca-crop-decline-in-peru.html?ref=fs3>



NIDA Reports

The Potential Promise of Cannabidiol(CBD)

➤ Editorial Office



Three weeks ago I had the opportunity to testify before the Senate on cannabidiol, or CBD—one of the main active ingredients in the marijuana plant, and a compound around which there is a growing amount of interest from the public as well as the scientific and medical communities. The intent of the hearing was to explore ways we can reduce obstacles to research on CBD, given that all chemicals in the marijuana plant are currently in the most restricted category of the Drug Enforcement Administration’s schedule of controlled substances—schedule I. This category is

reserved for substances that have a high potential for abuse and no scientifically supported medical use. Medical research can and is being done with schedule I substances; however, there are strict regulations and administrative hurdles associated with this status.

The chemical in marijuana that causes the high (and many of its other effects) is delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol, or THC. But there are over 100 other *cannabinoid* chemicals in the plant; CBD is one of those. Different cannabinoids can have very different biological effects; CBD, for example, does not make people high and is not intoxicating. And, there is reason to believe it may have a range of uses in medicine, including in the treatment of seizures and other neurological disorders. In the impassioned, often emotional debates these days over medical marijuana, CBD is often cited as one of the main reasons restrictions on marijuana should be loosened.



A basic understanding of the way cannabinoids affect the body and the brain is helpful to making sense of some of the confusing and contradictory claims made by partisans on either side of those debates. Most cannabinoids (including THC) interact with specific targets on cells in the body, the CB1 and CB2 receptors. CB1 receptors are found mainly in the brain and are important for learning, coordination, sleep, pain, brain development, and other functions; CB2 receptors are found mostly in the immune system. The fact that chemicals in marijuana can speak the body's chemical language (and cause both beneficial and harmful effects) is not surprising and does not make marijuana special. Many plants, including the opium poppy, tobacco, and coca are similar in that regard. Extracting and amplifying the medicinal benefits of such plants and minimizing their potential harms can lead the way to effective medications, but are also a major scientific challenge.

In marijuana's case, future medicinal uses will most likely lie in drugs based on cannabinoid chemicals or extracts with defined concentrations that can be reliably produced. There are very few precedents for a whole plant being approved as a drug (only two "botanical drugs" are currently approved in the U.S.). This is because creating a standardized plant medicine poses major difficulties—especially in a case like marijuana where there are countless, widely varying strains and large numbers of chemical components about which little is yet known. Marijuana has over 500 chemicals in total, including the 100 or so cannabinoids, so we will still be learning about this plant for years to come. However, we are quickly learning a lot about THC and CBD, and because of its unique properties, CBD, especially, may be poised to make great inroads into our pharmacopoeia.

CBD has very little effect on CB1 and CB2 receptors. This is probably why it does not make people high and is not mind-altering; in fact it may even blunt some of THC's psychotropic effects. Most marijuana grown for recreational use is very low in CBD content (and high in THC). CBD's actions in the body are not well understood, but they appear to involve several signaling systems besides the CB receptors, including a serotonin receptor.

Although CBD first rose to public prominence two years ago as a result of a CNN piece on medical marijuana, CBD has been considered as a potential therapeutic agent since the 1970s, when its anti-seizure properties were first examined in animal studies. A few very small randomized clinical trials were also conducted in adults with epilepsy, some showing positive results. But what has generated the renewed interest and excitement are the anecdotal reports that some children with otherwise untreatable severe epilepsies respond well to CBD extracts and oils. A followup to the CNN piece depicted the struggles of parents of children with a seizure condition called Dravet syndrome, who moved their families to Colorado in order to get CBD-rich marijuana legally. Several drug companies have recently developed CBD-based medications, and one of these, called Epidiolex, is now being tested in clinical trials. Epidiolex was developed by GW Pharmaceuticals and has been given to more than 400 children under the FDA's expanded access ("compassionate use") program.



While the existing data show promise, it is still too soon to tell whether and for whom CBD will be effective. Like most medical treatments, it doesn't seem to work for everyone. Much more research needs to be done, but it should be done quickly. Parents can't wait—their children are growing; their children's brains are actively developing; and the repeated seizures may be damaging this growth. Parents currently must navigate states' medical marijuana laws or defy the law to obtain CBD extracts—which, in the current unregulated market, may be of questionable quality and content.

Besides the trials of Epidiolex, there are already many studies of CBD for other disorders being conducted, including at NIH. Studies related to its possible use in the treatment of substance use disorders are being funded by NIDA, while other NIH Institutes are funding work on the potential of CBD and other cannabinoids in treating neurological and psychiatric disorders, disorders of the immune system and metabolism, and cancer.

In short, CBD appears to be a safe drug with no addictive effects, and the preliminary data suggest that it may have therapeutic value for a number of medical conditions. Addressing barriers that slow clinical research with CBD would accelerate progress. NIDA will do what we can to address such barriers and expedite the study of this potentially valuable compound, as well as other components of the marijuana plant.



This photot is from: Commonwealth Magazine

<http://www.cw.com.tw/article/article.action?id=5059009#>

This paper is from: National Institute on Drug Abuse

<http://www.drugabuse.gov/about-nida/noras-blog/2015/07/researching-marijuana-therapeutic-purposes-potential-promise-cannabidiol-cbd>



Taiwan Research News

I .Investigation on Illicit Drug Use of Housed Juvenile-Using New Taipei City, Taichung City, and Kaohsiung City as Examples

Shu-Lung Yang, Professor and Director of Crime Research Center, Sheng-Feng Dai Associate Professor,
Shu-Ping Tzeng Associate Professor, Yi-Qian Gu PhD., Fan-Yu Zhang Master student,
National Chung Cheng University

In order to effectively control the epidemiological characteristics of adolescent drug abuse in order to gain an insight into the characteristics and differences of drug abuse, thereby facilitating the establishment of preventive strategies against juvenile drug abuse in our country. Through purposive sampling, an investigation was conducted on juvenile delinquents housed in juvenile detention houses in New Taipei City, Taichung City, and Kaohsiung City in Taiwan in order to understand the forms of illicit drug use and substance abuse experiences, thus establishing a feasible illicit drug use epidemiological monitoring method and a drug abuse warning model. The study investigation targeted adolescents housed in juvenile detention houses in Taipei, Taichung and Kaohsiung from November 2014 to March 2015, with a total of 147 valid samples collected. The preliminary analysis results include the basic information, family status, substance abuse experience, and illicit drug use related experience of the housed adolescents.

Findings show that the males comprised the majority of the housed juvenile samples, accounting for 128 people (87.1%) who are aged 12-21 years old. Among them, 54 (37.2%) were around the age of 18. As for educational attainment, junior high school comprised for the majority, accounting for 54 people (37.5%). In terms of drug abuse experience, the results show that 63.9% of the housed adolescents had at least one type of drug in possession, especially ketamine that most people had, accounting for 87 people (59.6%), followed by those with amphetamine, accounting for 45 people (30.6%). In addition, 64.6% of the housed adolescents had used at least one type of drug, of which ketamine had the most users, accounting for 90 people (61.2%), followed by the second largest group of amphetamine users, accounting for 56 people (38.1%), the third largest group of users of three-in-one coffee and tea containing drugs, accounting for 53 people (36.1%), and the fourth largest group of ecstasy users, accounting for 44 people (29.9%). For the prices, the research results show that despite the great disparity in the prices, observation of the concentration trend shows that a unit of amphetamines is under NTD3,000 (80%), a unit of ecstasy is under NTD1,000 (80%), a unit of methedrone is under \$1,000 (83.3%), and a unit of ketamine is under \$3,500 (80%).



II. Results Presentation on "Satisfaction of Administrative Implementations Regarding Crime Victims and Maintenance of Law and Order in the First Half of 2015"

The Crime Research Center of National Chung Cheng University conducted a poll on the "Satisfaction of Administrative Implementations Regarding Crime Victims and Maintenance of Law and Order in the First Half of 2015", and the results are out. In this telephone survey, 71.9% of the respondents are not satisfied with the maintenance of law and order in the first half of 2015. However, 83.7% of the respondents feel safe in their homes and neighborhoods. People's satisfaction for the "police work on the maintenance of law and order" has reached a record high with 69.7% of the people feeling satisfied.



The Crime Research Center of National Chung Cheng University conducted a telephone survey on several major topics related to law and order in the first half of 2015. Dr. Jyh-Yang Wu, President of Chung Cheng University serves as the sponsor. Professor Shu-Lung Yang, Vice President of Chung Cheng University and Director of the Crime Research Center serves as the convener of the survey. The deputy conveners include Professor Wen-Da Lo, Director of

Market Survey and Research Center, Professor Hua-Fu Hsu, Director of the Department of Crime Prevention and Professor Jui-Lung Cheng from the department of crime Prevention. 1680 people were surveyed from July 13-17 in 2015, with a confidence interval of 95% and a sampling error of $\pm 2.2\%$. After the sampling was completed, the surveyors used the "ranking" approach to weigh the samples so that the samples would show no significant difference compared to the population. Since the survey was completed, the research team is publishing the results on August 24, 2015, in Taipei, at the press release of "Satisfaction of Administrative Implementations Regarding Crime Victims and Maintenance of Law and Order in the First Half of 2015". The findings are as follows.

- i. 71% of the people thinks that the maintenance of law and order is unsatisfactory. The current satisfaction of the maintenance of law and order reaches the lowest point of these five years. 71.9% of the public thinks that the current maintenance of law and order is unsatisfactory. However, regarding "the security of households and neighborhoods", the satisfaction only slightly decreased but without significant difference (84.5%→83.7%) compared to the result of the first half of 2014 (hereinafter called "same period last year"); this figure remains second highest compared



to results from the past. As for "fear for falling victim to criminal acts", the figure has risen significantly to 51.2%, the highest point during these four years. Compared to the result of the last survey (42.3%), the public's fear has risen greatly, and, therefore, continued observation is necessary. Meanwhile, "the satisfaction regarding government's effort on improving the maintenance of law and order" has decreased significantly, compared to the result of the last survey (41.3%), to 34%.

II. The public's satisfaction regarding "police work on the maintenance of law and order" has reached a new record high and has become the best performance so far.

As the overall satisfaction regarding the maintenance of law and order falls drastically, the public's satisfaction regarding "police work on the maintenance of law and order" has broken a new record and reaches 69.7%, the best performance so far. The public's satisfaction regarding "police work on the maintenance of law and order" has been increasing for four years in a row; the performance of the law enforcement departments is praise-worthy. While the public are satisfied with the "police work on the maintenance of law and order", they are less satisfied with "the government's preventive measures against fraud" with their satisfaction declining by 4.5% compared to the same period last year (60%→55.5%). According to yearly observation, the satisfaction regarding "the government's preventive measures against fraud" has been decreasing since the year 2011, except for in the first half of 2014: in 2014, the public's satisfaction has risen up to 60% and has been fluctuating moderately around 56% afterwards.

III. 70% of the public questions the justness and fairness of judges.

78.7% of the public are not convinced that judges deal with cases with justness and fairness. The distrust has increased by 4.4% (74.3%→78.7%). Only 20% of the public believes that judges deal with the cases with justness and fairness. Those who do not believe that the prosecutors deal with the cases with fairness and justness account for 70% as usual; there is no significant difference compared to the same period last year (71%→72%). According to the survey, more than 70% of the public question the fairness and the justness of the judges and the prosecutors. In addition, the research center conducted a survey on "the public's satisfaction regarding government's measures against corruption, and the result shows that many Taiwanese people (82%) are not satisfied with how the government copes with corruptions.

IV. The public's view on major topics related to the maintenance of law and order.

74.2% of the public are not satisfied with the government's precautionary measures against drug abuse in night clubs. 8.2% of respondents think that drug abuse is "serious" and "severe". The figure is not significantly different compared to the result of the same period last year. In addition, the survey shows that 74.2% of the Taiwanese people are not satisfied with the government regarding



the matter of its precautionary measures against drug abuse in pubs and KTVs; the result shows no significant difference compared to that of the same period last year. As high as 70% of the respondents are not satisfied in three consecutive surveys. This proves that the public do not agree with government's measures on drug abuse. Nowadays, there is a trend in the world on the discussion of decriminalizing drug consumption. In response to this trend, a survey on the matter was conducted, and the result shows that around 60% of the respondents disagree that the drug users should be treated as patients. The figure has risen significantly (61.7%→64.9%), which means that the Taiwanese people tend to be more conservative on the issues related to drug consumption.

A. 83% of the Taiwanese people are against abolishing the death penalty.

As for the topics related to the death penalty and the execution of condemned prisoners, most people (83.3%) tend to disagree on abolishing the death penalty; there is no significant difference compared to the result of same period last year (83.2%). Generally speaking, the ratio between groups with different opinions has become more consistent.

B. More than 60% of the public are satisfied with the government's preventive measures regarding drunk driving.

The topic from the first half of 2013 is continued in this survey. The respondents are asked whether they are satisfied with the outcome of the law enforcement on drunk driving. As it turns out, 66.6% of the people are satisfied. According the result of the survey of "Thorough Enforcement Against Drunk Driving" conducted in the first half of 2013, 64.7% of the respondents were convinced that strict and thorough enforcement against drunk driving would be effective. According to the survey conducted two years later, National Police Administration's effort against drunk driving has shown some positive outcome, yet they still need to keep working hard in order to maintain a safe driving environment.

V. The numbers of the victims of theft, violence and fraud are under control, yet the law enforcement need to keep working hard to maintain law and order.

According to this survey, the prevalence of theft is 4.3%, which is 1.3% lower than the result of the same period last year. The prevalence of violence upon the respondents themselves or on their families, on the other hand, is not significantly different compared to the result of the same period last year (1.7%→1.9%). As for fraud, those who have fallen victim to fraud account for 4.4% of the respondents. This result is 0.7% higher than that of the same period last year, showing no significant difference. Since the year of 2012, the public's satisfaction regarding the government's precautionary measures against

fraud has been constantly around 50%; this proves that the public agree with the government's effort on the matter. According to overall observation, thefts and violent crimes, which are most common among the people, has been gradually contained. Law enforcement's effort on the matter is praise-worthy. Most importantly, the losses of most fraud victims (54.6%) are no more than 100,000; this means that the authorities concerned need to exert more effort in the prevention of fraud with smaller scale or less money involved.



Latest Conferences Information

➤ Editorial Office

Conference	Host Organization	Date	Location
<p>氨胺酮濫用防制國際學術研討會---徵文通知</p>	<p>中國藥物依賴性雜誌</p>	<p>9月7日止, 2015</p>	<p>中國大陸 廣州 Contact: http://www.jhak.com/3g/view.php?aid=13477</p>
<p>Substance Abuse Program Administrators Association 2015 Annual Conference</p>	<p>Substance Abuse Administrators Association</p>	<p>September 23-26, 2015</p>	<p>Houston, Texas Contact: http://www.sapaa.com/?page=2015Conference</p>
<p>21st Annual Counseling Skills Conference</p>	<p>U.S. Journal Training, ICN</p>	<p>September 24-26, 2015</p>	<p>Dallas, Texas Contact: http://www.usjt.com/Conferences/2015/21st-Annual-Counseling-Skills-Conference/</p>
<p>Canadian Psychiatric Association Annual Conference</p>	<p>Canadian Psychiatric Association</p>	<p>October 1-3 2015</p>	<p>Vancouver, Canada Contact : http://www.cpa-apc.org/</p>
<p>The Association for Addiction Professionals (NAADAC) 2015 Annual Conference</p>	<p>Association for Addiction Professionals</p>	<p>October 9-13 2015</p>	<p>Washington, DC Contact : http://www.naadac.org/annualconference</p>
<p>Addiction Health Services Research (AHSR) 2015 Conference</p>	<p>UCLA Integrated Substance Abuse Programs Pacific Southwest Addiction Technology Transfer Center</p>	<p>October 14-16 2015</p>	<p>Marina del Ray, California Contact : http://www.uclaisap.org/ahsr/</p>