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The 2019 International Seminar on Juvenile Drug Abuse Prevention and Counseling came to a Successful Close

Dear scholars and experts:

The Education Center for Prevention of Drug Abuse Crime Research Center National Chung Cheng University and the Taiwan Society for Substance Abuse Research, under the support of the Department of Student Affairs and Special Education, Ministry of Education, co-organized the “2019 International Seminar on Juvenile Drug Abuse Prevention and Counseling” held at the NCC International Conference Hall on October 8th, 2019 and October 9th 2019 (Tuesday and Wednesday) in response to the development of juvenile drug abuse problems.

This conference invited experts from U.S.A, Japan, Australia and others countries to share international academic knowledge as well as drug abuse and juvenile drug prevention and control experts from Taiwan to attend the seminar. Through brainstorming and experience sharing at the conference, effective strategies for preventing juvenile drug abuse and intended to reduce drug related harms were proposed. In addition to inviting domestic and foreign scholars to the venue to share new knowledge from international academia, the seminar also invited many domestic scholars from the field of drug abuse prevention and practical experts to organize comprehensive workshops in order to explore juvenile drug abuse issues from multiple perspectives, thereby serving as a reference for relevant domestic government sectors endeavoring to perfect the existing response measures.

This conference also invited Administrative Deputy Minister Tou Hui Chang from the Ministry of Justice, Director Nai Wen Cheng of the Student Affairs and Special Education Division, Ministry of Education, and to attended the seminar and extend the range of fruitful outcomes attained.





UNODC Reports

Myanmar opium cultivation drops again as the regional drug economy continues to evolve

➤ Editorial Office

Nay Pyi Taw (Myanmar), 5 February 2020 - Opium poppy cultivation in Myanmar declined a further 11 per cent in 2019 to 33,100 hectares (ha), according to the Myanmar Opium Survey released today by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

Decreases were observed in all areas except Kachin State, where cultivation increased slightly. Shan State, which accounts for 85 per cent of cultivation in Myanmar, dropped 14 per cent to 28,000 ha, continuing a downward trend that started in 2015 when Shan had an estimated 50,300 ha of cultivation. Kachin accounted for 12 per cent or 3,900 ha in 2019, and Chin and Kayah states together for 3 per cent or 1,200 ha. The national average yield per ha was estimated at 15.4kg/ha in 2019, a 9 per cent increase on 2018.

Jeremy Douglas, UNODC Regional Representative, noted, "the drop in cultivation was again significant last year. We will continue to work with Myanmar and communities in Shan to assist the transition from opium to sustainable economic alternatives. We are also discussing options to help Kachin given the situation and needs there."

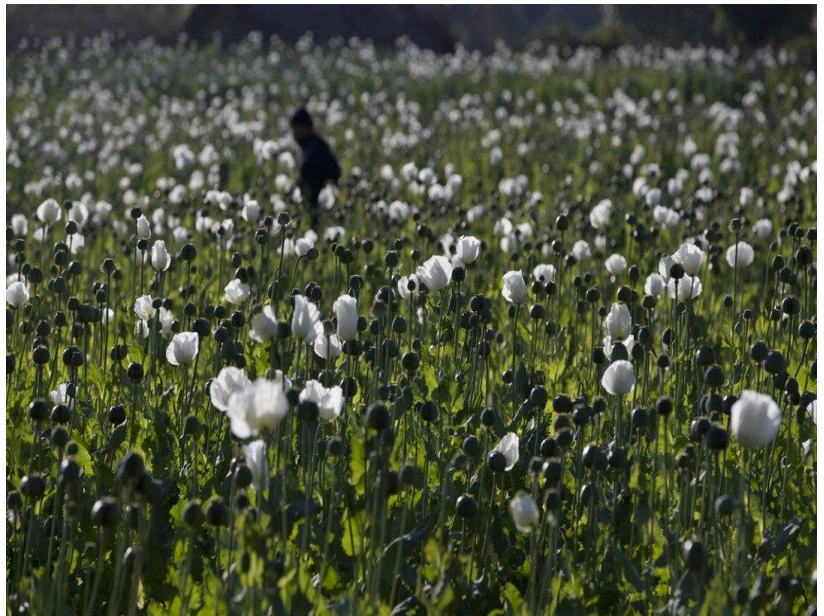
The report also highlights opium price data, finding that average farm-gate values of fresh and dry opium decreased by 4 per cent and 7 per cent between 2018 and 2019 - over the last four years farm-gate prices dropped a staggering 63 per cent and 51 per cent. The decline in values combined with the reduction in supply again suggests that demand for heroin in the region is dropping, and that the drug



market continues to shift strongly to synthetic drugs. At the same time, lower farm-gate prices make opium cultivation less attractive and viable, contributing to declining cultivation.

Although demand for heroin continues to drop, organized crime groups still generate substantial revenues from the drug in Myanmar. Domestic heroin consumption of 6 tons is valued at up to US\$290 million, and the export of heroin generates approximately US\$1 billion locally. At the same time, opium cultivation and heroin production in Myanmar continue to pose a significant public health and security challenge for Southeast Asia and neighbouring East Asia and Australia. An estimated 3 million heroin users remain in the region, with the retail market generating approximately US\$ 10 billion annually.

The report also reconfirms the link between conflict and opium, with the highest levels of cultivation continuing to take place in unstable and conflict prone areas of Shan and Kachin. Opium cultivation, heroin production and trafficking, and the evolving illicit drug economy, are affecting peace and stability in the country and surrounding border areas.



Regional Representative Douglas commented, "major international organized crime groups are using conflict areas in the north to source heroin and produce and traffic synthetic drugs. They have the access to territory and relationships they need to do business." He added, "the situation here is having a profound impact on the broader Asia Pacific region - it is in everyone's interests to address the illicit drug economy in Myanmar and the Mekong."

The influence of opium poppy cultivation is being mitigated in some areas through alternative development programmes that provide viable sources of legitimate income.



Vice Minister of Home Affairs Aung Thu remarked, "the Government is pleased to see further declines, but we need to provide more support to opium producing areas if we are going to continue to make progress and ensure sustainability. We will also expand collaboration with Mekong MOU countries and UNODC to address organized crime and the production and cross-border trafficking of drugs and precursor chemicals."

Other UNODC programmes are helping address different aspects of the drug challenge, including by increasing regional cooperation to address organized crime and trafficking, control precursor chemicals, improve border management, and to provide access to health and social services.

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

<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/frontpage/2020/February/myanmar-opium-cultivation-drops-again-as-the-regional-drug-economy-continues-to-evolve.html>



UNODC Reports

Inclusion, not exclusion: UNODC addresses stigma around substance use

➤ Editorial Office

Vienna (Austria), 20 January 2020 - The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), with the support of the Government of Canada, convened 50 experts from 25 countries and 5 international organisations from 14 to 16 January to contribute their expertise and experience to an initiative on how to address stigma around substance use.

Stigma is an enormous challenge in the field of psychoactive substances, including controlled substances, strongly and negatively affecting people with substance use disorders, their families and friends, as well as the services that they are offered and seek.

Research shows that stigma around substance use is much higher than that around mental health disorders and that it amplifies the negative health and social effects of substance use, including the burden of the disease and mortality.





In recognition of this situation, the Government of Canada, together with Uruguay and Bolivia, tabled a resolution at the 61st session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, which was endorsed with the co-sponsorship of 19 other Member States: 61/11 "Promoting non-stigmatizing attitudes to ensure the availability of, access to and delivery of health, care and social services for drug users". As a follow-up to the Resolution, UNODC, with the support of the Government of Canada, launched an initiative on how to address stigma around substance use.

Participants at the three-day event in Vienna included researchers, service providers, and people with lived experiences and representatives from UNODC and WHO, the Colombo Plan, the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) of the Organization of American States and the Pompidou Group of the Council of Europe.

They discussed global good practice around, for example, educating health professionals and other service providers on stigma, as well as on a careful and appropriate understanding of the scientific evidence; changing language around substance use and substance use disorders; supporting the meaningful participation of people with lived and living experiences in the development of policies and services; and advocacy with a particular emphasis on contact.

The results of the discussion will inform the development of a Handbook summarizing global best practice for the consideration of policy makers worldwide.

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

https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/frontpage/2020/January/inclusion--not-exclusion_-unodc-addresses-stigma-around-substance-use.html



Taiwan Research News

Explore the Experience of CBT apply to Schedule II illicit drug (Methamphetamine) users who received deferred prosecution

**Chia-Ju Lin, Ming-Che Tsai, Ya-Ling Wang,
Ying-Chia Hung, Yu-Han Tsai, Meng-Chang Tsai**

Background: Long-term substance abuse would cause methamphetamine (MA) users' impairment of emotion, mentality, and cognitive function. In Taiwan, methamphetamine is one of the largest quantities of schedule II illegal drugs in recent years. The aim of our study was to investigate the effect of individual cognitive behavioral psychotherapy for emotional and cognitive dysfunction.

Method: From 2017 to 2018, the methamphetamine users were recruited from Taiwan Kaohsiung district prosecutors office (KDPO). The senior psychologist played as therapist of 4-months course. MA users received 8 times individual psychotherapy. All cases were evaluated by Beck Depression Inventory-II (BDI-II), Beck Anxiety Inventory (BAI), Wisconsin card sorting test (WCST, including perseverative response/PR, perseverative errors/PE and nonperseverative errors/NPE) as pretests and posttests. Descriptive statistic and nonparametric test were used for statistical analysis.

Results: We enrolled 76 MA users from KDPO. We found significantly decreased scores of BDI ($p < 0.01$), BAI ($p < 0.01$), PR ($p < 0.01$), PE($p < 0.01$), NPE($p < 0.01$) in MA users after treatment.

Conclusions: The results showed that 8 times psychotherapy can improve MA users' depression, anxiety, and cognitive function (flexibility, executive function). Although our study did not have the control group to compare the effect of individual cognitive behavioral psychotherapy. Our results suggested the individual CBT might be a useful therapy for MA users.



A Narrative Study On The Child Growth Experience With Drug Abuse Parents.

Kai-Wei Yin, Pei-Jen Tsai

Drug abuse has become more widespread in recent years, but discussions about the children of drug abuser parents are inadequate and few formal resources are involved. Therefore, this study is mainly concerned with the child growth experience with drug abuser parents.

In this study, the research method of narratives was conducted. Three subjects were interviewed and analyzed by the "whole - content" method. The study found that drug abuser parents had negative impacts on care, economy, teaching, regulation and psychological care. In addition, they also caused parentified children, family projection, personal disorder and emotional cutoff.

The research suggests that in addition to giving psychological support, conducting a complete assessment of a child's condition, and paying attention to children who are serving their parents in prison, the public should also abandon the label and understand the children in a friendly manner.



Latest Conferences Information

➤ 編輯組

Conference	Host Organization	Date	Location
Public Meeting on Patient-Focused Drug Development for Stimulant Use Disorder	U.S. Food and Drug Administration	March 10 2020	Silver Spring Civic Building 1 Veterans Plaza, Silver Spring, MD 20910 Contact: media@nida.nih.gov
SRNT 26th Annual Meeting	Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco (SRNT)	March 11-14 2020	New Orleans, Louisiana Contact: info@srnt.org
The ASAM 51st Annual Conference - Innovations in Addiction Medicine and Science	American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM)	April 2-5 2020	Denver, Colorado, USA Contact: media@nida.nih.gov NEW
National Advisory Council on Drug Abuse	National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)	May 12 2020	Rockville, MD Contact: media@nida.nih.gov
CPDD Annual Meeting	College on Problems of Drug Dependence (CPDD)	June 20-24 2020	Hollywood, Florida, USA Contact: media@nida.nih.gov
The 30th Annual International Cannabinoid Research Society Symposium on the Cannabinoids	International Cannabinoid Research Society(ICRS)	July 4-9 2020	Galway, Ireland Contact: media@nida.nih.gov