



UNODC

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

UNODC Project
GLOK42
Project Coordinator
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The purpose of UNODC Children's Project is to improve the coordinated response of public institutions and NGOs to children/adolescents at risk globally, with the aim of preventing drug use, treating drug dependence and facilitating the re-entry and integration of children and families into society. The project is implemented in Afghanistan with funds from the US State Department INL. Components of the project include assessment, pharmacological and psychosocial protocols for children/adolescent, training and technical assistance to create a system of care for children, adolescents and their families.



our future  our responsibility



Prevention of illicit drug use and treatment of drug use disorders for children and adolescents at risk

UNODC Project

The world is smaller due to advancements in technology, resource development and expansion of populations. Little attention is given to the foundation of our global future – children. Children are our investment in the future but all too often they are forgotten in the priorities of the present, and made vulnerable by the actions of adults. Youth and adolescents around the globe fall victim to *starvation, neglect, war and trauma, abuse, violence, illiteracy, trafficking in persons, and drug use*. Around the globe children wake up each morning to face the challenges of *poverty, war and conflict, and various health conditions such as malaria, tuberculosis, drug dependence and HIV/Aids*.

Children in West Asia are victims in the growing, manufacturing, distribution, and use of illicit drugs. Families grow poppy to survive and feed their children, and simultaneously expose them to second hand smoke and residue from opium. These children face a future farming the crop that generations before them have grown and which has proven to be devastating to their health.

Children in Latin America are an integral part of the drug trafficking system, voluntarily or involuntarily manufacturing cocaine or smuggling cocaine across the border.

Children in Eastern European countries are exposed to illicit drugs and are one component in the complex process of trafficking in persons, enslaved as domestic servants, agricultural or factory workers, or prostitutes. All too often these children become addicted to illicit drugs as a way to escape the horrific reality their life has become.

Children living in countries of war, conflict or post-conflict become victims in two ways. Some are recruited into a life of soldiering that exposes them to illicit drug use at an early age, as a means to manipulate their behaviors and to mute the trauma of violence and violent behaviors they are forced to witness. Others fall victim to the trauma and devastating violence that they have witnessed, seeking solace where they can find it, including the use of illicit drug use.

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What can you do about it? What will you do about it?