

Competition Myth 6 - 'It impacts only me'

Drug use is often discussed as a very personal choice, but in reality it does not only impact the person who is using drugs, and his or her social relations, but also the environment at large. Actually, the production of drugs can have serious detrimental consequences to the environment. The fact sheet on Myth 6 "it impacts only me" discusses these environmental consequences of substance abuse. Some of them might not be very visible – at least on the short term, such as pollution of soil or water resources. In the other hand, cigarette butts or empty bottles might be annoyingly visible, and also, due to substance abuse, some places might just not feel appealing for spending time and meeting friends.

To break the Myth 6 and to spread awareness on environmental consequences of drug use, we encourage you to identify the effects that substance use has in your community – this is how you can do it:

Take a walk in your neighborhood, or another area close to you, that you want to explore, and pay attention to all the visible consequences of substance you can see.

Use photography to document all these signs of substance use. Collate them together to share in school, in social media, or organize a photo exhibition! Just don't forget to share with Youth Initiative as well 😊

Ask your friends to join to make it merrier, or if you rather draw, or do part of the research online, we would very much wish to see those projects as well!

Please share your visual presentations of the environmental consequences with us via facebook (facebook/UNODCYouthInitiative) or email at veronika.ehm@unodc.org until 30 September 2015.

The best presentations will be published on our website!