

Results of the call for activities on Myth 4 - Punishing drug users will help to tackle the world drug problem

To break Myth 4, we challenged members of the Youth Initiative to spread awareness on the importance of supporting health of everyone, including people who use drugs, and to advocate for the importance of seeing drug use as a health issue.

Friends and members of the Youth Initiative from all over the world sent a range of great contributions to break myth 4. We are proud to share with you some contributions in particular:

- ✓ The Kenyan **Public Initiative for Empowerment** collected Kenya specific as well as general facts on drug use impacts on individuals' health and shared these facts within their community.
- ✓ **Radmila** from Serbia has created a poster against stigma related to drug dependence. It promotes a health-based approach to tackle the world drug problem and calls for the need of providing assistance to drug user:

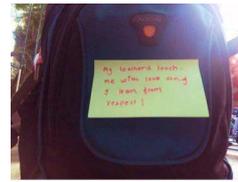


- ✓ **Violence free Nigeria Initiative** conducted a campaign that spread basic facts on the health based approach within their community:



- ✓ **NGO SAATH** from Nepal had innovative approach and organised peer to peer counselling, advocacy on the importance of mental health e.g. via these sticky notes with positive messages spread via the school bags of their peers, and aired a radio program on the topic and posted a video on Youtube

(<https://www.youtube.com/user/SaathNepal>)



Sticky Notes on the bags

People behind me please read the tag



- ✓ **Buyisithemba community development** from Kwamashu, South Africa, created a campaign that aimed to raise awareness on drug use and its consequences.



Thank you to all who took part – you are a great source of inspiration!

Misconceptions and myths shape perceptions on drug use, and influence the way substance users are perceived. We would like to encourage all of you to stay active, get the facts and break the myths! So far we have published 4 fact sheets on myths that are widely spread among youth globally. Get access to all of them via our website at www.unodc.org/youth.

The new fact sheet on myth 5 will be published soon - stay tuned!