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United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Prevention works!
Healthy and safe development
of children and youth




**The programme of the
United Nations Office on Drugs
and Crime (UNODC) on prevention
of drug use**

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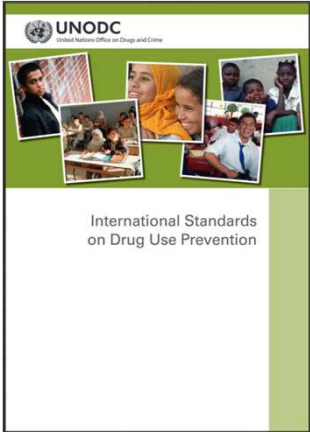
**What does UNODC do with regard to
prevention of drug use?**

- Support Member States, *particularly in low and middle income countries*, to develop, implement and evaluate drug prevention **based on scientific evidence.**

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International Standards on Drug Use Prevention



International Standards
on Drug Use Prevention

- Identify the interventions and policies that are effective in preventing the use of tobacco, alcohol and drugs **on the basis of the scientific literature.**
- More than 80 scientists from more than 30 countries contributed.
- Systematic review of the evidence: more than 600 studies reviewed and assessed.

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Dissemination of the Standards through dialogue with national policy makers in more than 50 countries



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Results

- Change in knowledge on evidence-based drug prevention.
- National plans to improve drug prevention systems.

Category	Before	After
Evidence of good efficacy	37	58
Evidence of limited efficacy OR no evidence	22	19

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Important recognition for drug prevention based on scientific evidence (1/2)

- Recommendation 2. of 7 - Evidence-based prevention interventions should be considered as the most effective way of addressing the problem of substance use disorders.
 - Scientific consultation "Science addressing drugs and health: State of the art", 11 March 2014.
- 4. Take note of the International Standards on Drug Use Prevention ... and encourage the further development of the International Standards on the basis of scientific evidence, as well as their effective implementation;
- 6. Highlight the need for Member States to formulate and implement, where appropriate, a broad system of primary prevention and early intervention based on scientific evidence, such as the International Standards on Drug Use Prevention ...;
 - [Joint Ministerial Statement](#) of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, E/CN.7/2014/L.15

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Important recognition for drug prevention based on scientific evidence (2/2)

- 1. Invites Member States to consider expanding the coverage and quality of drug abuse prevention systems, interventions and policies based on scientific evidence, as described in the International Standards on Drug Use Prevention, paying particular attention to both individuals and groups at risk, as well as to the need for a scientific evidence-based monitoring and evaluation component;
- 2. Also invites Member States to support drug abuse prevention based on scientific evidence as an investment in the well-being of children, adolescents, youth, families and communities, especially through adequate measures, including the financing of ongoing training for policymakers, practitioners and researchers, as appropriate;
- 3. Encourages Member States, where applicable, to periodically undertake scientific evaluation of the effectiveness of drug abuse prevention programmes and policies and to share the results of those studies widely, for the benefit of humanity;
 - Resolution 57/3 - Promoting prevention of drug abuse based on scientific evidence as an investment in the well-being of children, adolescents, youth, families and communities

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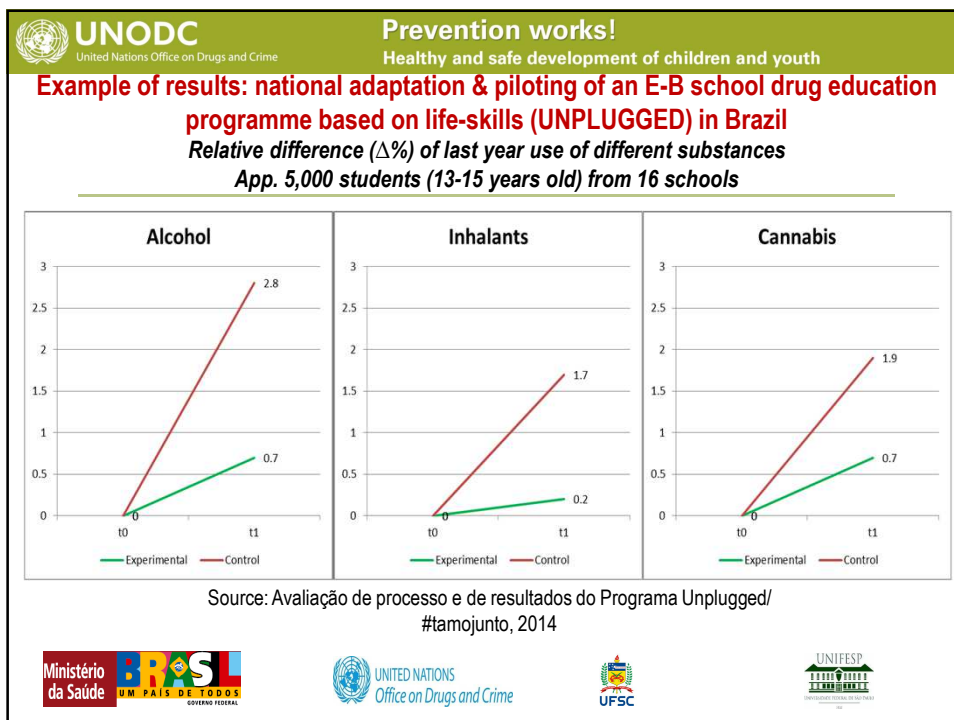
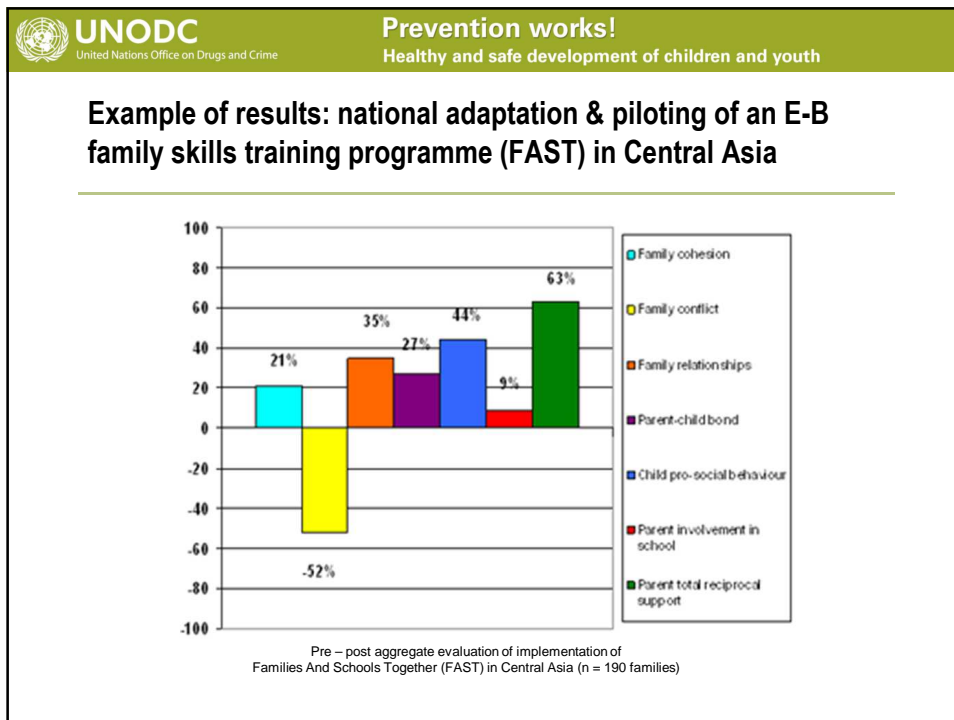
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Supporting Member States to implement E-B programmes: e.g. family skills training in 15 countries

The cover features the UNODC logo at the top left, a photograph of a family walking on a beach, and the title 'Guide to implementing family skills training programmes for drug abuse prevention' in a white box at the bottom.

The cover features the UNODC logo at the top left, a photograph of a family walking on a beach, and a table of contents on the left side. The title 'Compilation of Evidence-Based Family Skills Training Programmes' is at the bottom right.

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Plans for next 12 months

- Develop guidance and training materials to promote and support evaluation of drug prevention
 - List of recognised indicators/ instruments?
 - Methodological guidance, especially alternatives to RCTs?
 - Existing documentation, good examples and ideas welcome
- Continue supporting Member States in their decision making leading to the Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly in 2016.
- Continue supporting the piloting of evidence-based programmes in low- and middle-income countries.

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All materials available at
www.unodc.org or pls. contact
prevention@unodc.org

THANK YOU!