

Report-back on 22nd IFNGO International Conference

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Methamphetamine pills in the region 1997- 2004



What is ATS ?

- Stand for Amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS)
- Powerful effects on the central nervous system (CNS)
- Psycho-excite, happy, fever, blood pressure elevated, both hands jitter, etc
- Research demonstrated strong physical & psychological dependency
- Cause brain damage and cardiac disease
- Example : Amphetamine, methamphetamine (ice), MDMA (Ecstasy), by swallowed or smoked
- Estimated to affect approximately 25 million people worldwide
- More than 60% abuse in East and Southeast Asia.

ATS Situation in the region 2005

Country	Methamphetamine		Ecstasy		Heroin		Cannabis	
	Trend	Ranking	Trend	Ranking	Trend	Ranking	Trend	Ranking
Australia	↔	3	↑	2	↔	8	↓	1
Brunei	↑	1	*	*	*	*	↓	2
Cambodia	↑	1	↑	5	↑	3	↔	2
China	↑	3	↑	2	↑	1	↔	7
Indonesia	↑	5	↑	4	↑	6	↑	1
Japan	↔	1	↑	4	↔	5	↑	3
Lao PDR	↑	1	*	*	↑	3	↔	2
Malaysia	↓	4	↑	8	↑	1	↓	3
Myanmar	↑	3	*	*	↓	2	↔	5
Philippines	↔	1	*	*	*	*	↑	2
Singapore	↑	3	↓	6	↓	7	↓	5
Thailand	↓	1	↔	6	↓	8	↓	2
Viet Nam	↑	2	↑	3	↑	1	*	*

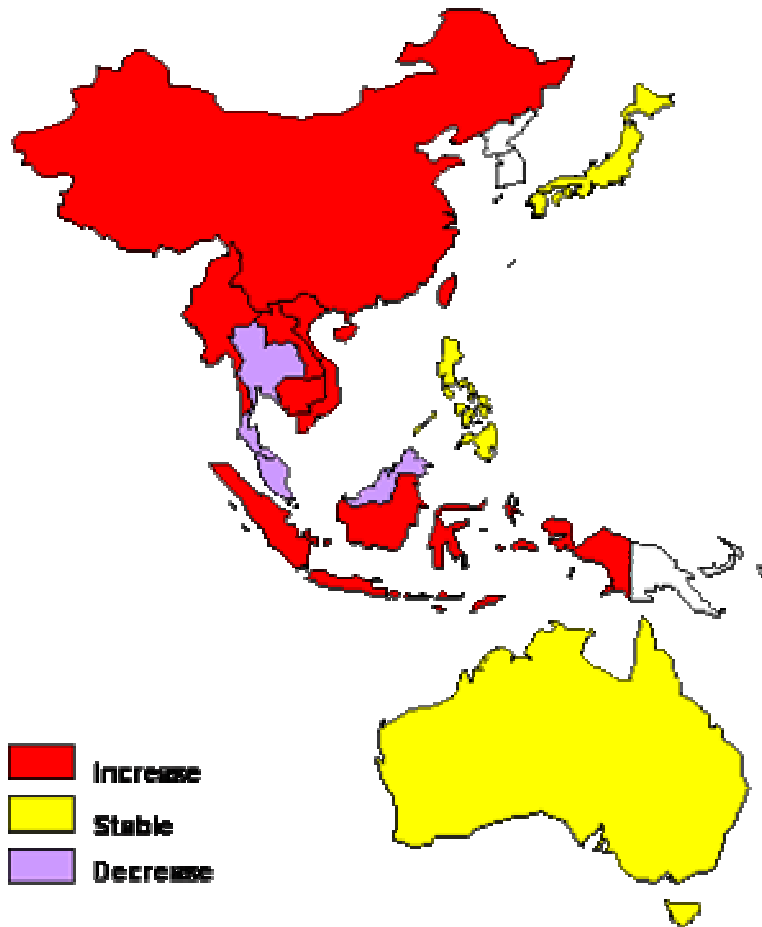
* Not ranked as a drug of abuse in 2005

ATS Situation in the region 2005

<i>Country</i>	<i>Methamphetamine</i>		<i>Ecstasy</i>		<i>Heroin</i>		<i>Cannabis</i>	
	<i>Trend</i>	<i>Ranking</i>	<i>Trend</i>	<i>Ranking</i>	<i>Trend</i>	<i>Ranking</i>	<i>Trend</i>	<i>Ranking</i>
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Indonesia	↑	5	↑	4	↑	6	↑	1
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Philippines	↔	1	*	*	*	*	↑	2
Singapore	↑	3	↓	6	↓	7	↓	5
Thailand	↓	1	↔	6	↓	8	↓	2
Viet Nam	↑	2	↑	3	↑	1	*	*

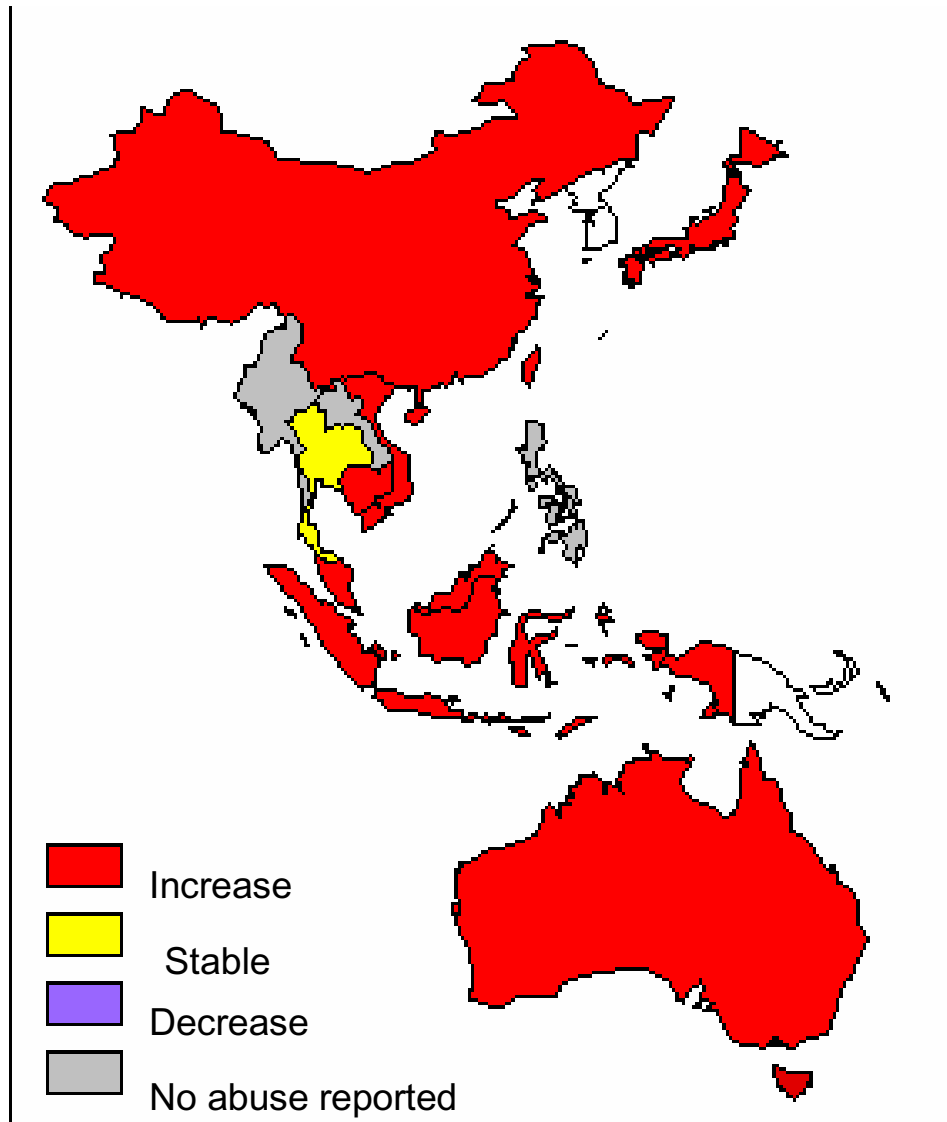
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Methamphetamine abuse trend in the region 2005



Methamphetamine abuse has increased in a majority of the countries in the region. The exceptions are Australia and the Philippines, which reported stable trends, and Malaysia and Thailand which reported decreasing trends.

Ecstasy abuse trend in the region 2005



Ecstasy abuse is increasing in urban areas. There is confusion around terminology and also composition of ecstasy leading to possible misreporting.

ATS trend in the region 2005

- Methamphetamine and ecstasy abuse continued to dominate the region
- 8 of the 13 countries reported an increasing trend in methamphetamine abuse
- 6 of the 13 profiled countries ranked methamphetamine as the primary drug of concern
- 7 of the 9 countries which ranked ecstasy as a drug of concern reported an increasing trend of abuse

Reported drug abuse in China 2005

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Drugs abused in the past year</i>	<i>Drug abuse trend</i>	<i>Main route of administration</i>
1	Heroin	↑	Smoked
2	Ecstasy	↑	Swallowed
3	Methamphetamine pills & crystal	↑	Swallowed
4	Opium	↑	Smoked
5	Ketamine	↑	•
6	Cannabis	↔	Smoked

Report Drug Trend in China, 2005

- The trend in the abuse pattern for all drugs is reported to be on the increase, with cannabis being the only drug whose abuse trend is stable.
- Main route of ingestion of heroin and the crystal form of methamphetamine is smoking, injection as the secondary route and is increasing.
- potentially growing reservoir for HIV and other infectious disease transmission.
- Gender : Male 88%
- Average age : Heroin 32; ATS 22

People using drugs



What do they deserve?

- In Thailand
- Poor, uneducated, 17 years old, lives on the street
- Being looked down upon
- Beaten, put in jail
- Sexually abused
- Refused medical treatment
- HIV positive?

Street Children in India



What do they deserve?

- More than 11 million street children in India
- In Cambodia, one third drug abuse is age 15 to 25, young people (street children) who are increasingly drawn into drug use
- In Malaysia, homeless drug users living with HIV and AIDS
- In Indonesia, many drug abusers are sex workers and staying in sex villages

In Summary

- Stigmatization
- Marginalization
- Criminalization
- Discrimination
- Alienation



Supply reduction

- Catch as many drugs producers / traffickers as you can (the legal approach)
- Limitations :
 - Part of illegal drugs will always evade capture (profits)
 - Cost-effectiveness??
 - Availability??
 - Prisons
 - HIV / AIDS, TB, Hep B & C

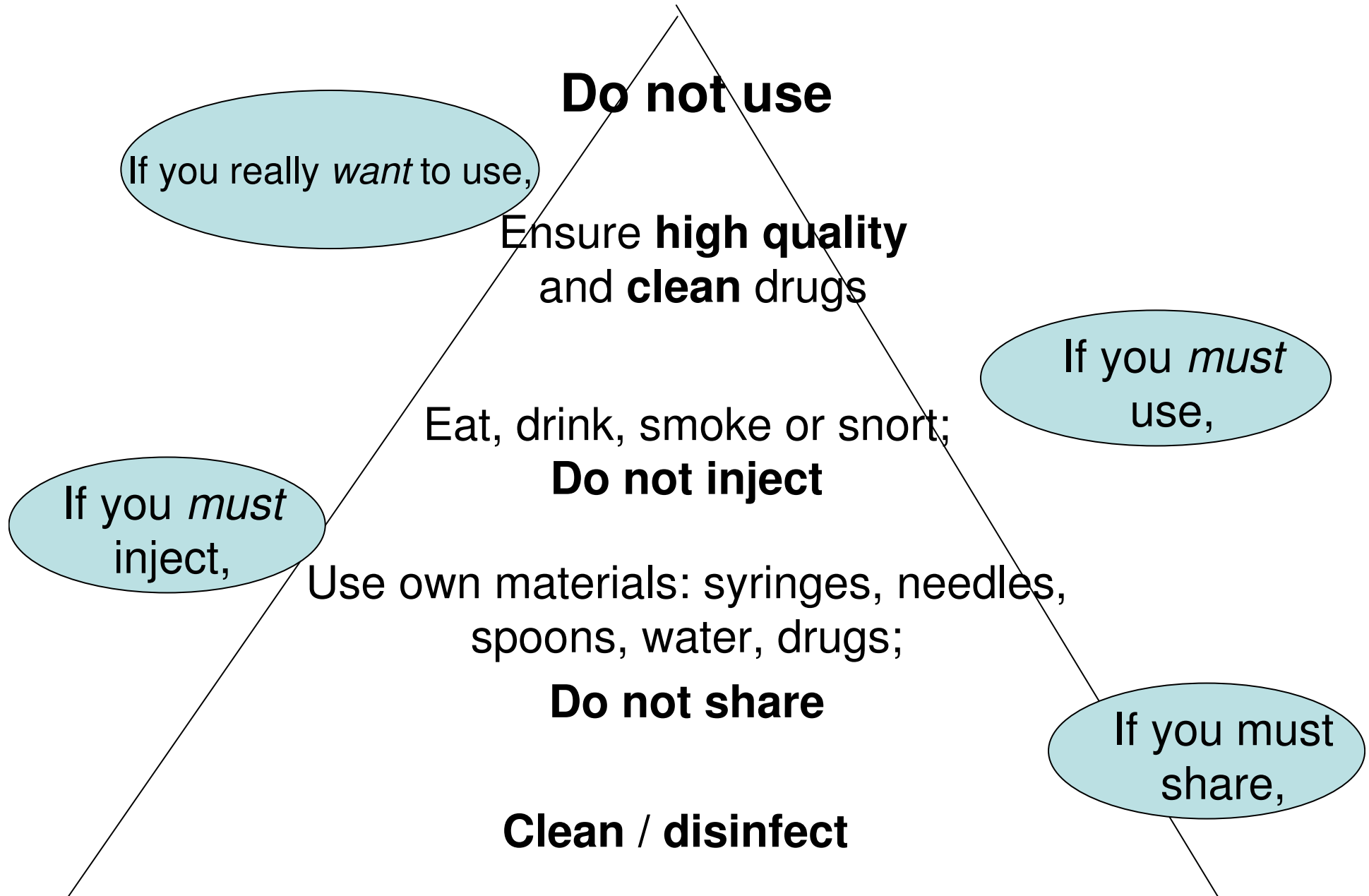
Demand reduction

- Just say 'No'
- The educational approach
- To incarcerate offenders for drug use and dependence is not an effective prevention or treatment strategy
- Limitations :
 - Not everyone is reached
 - Not everyone is able to resist drugs
 - Relapse rates tend to be 70 - 90%

Harm reduction

- Health promotion for those who cannot (yet) say no to drugs (the health approach)
- Some people may use drugs for personal, social, economical reasons
- Harm reduction strategies meet drug users “where they're at”, non-judgmental, humane
- Evidence-based
- An emergency response in the global response against HIV and AIDS
- Limitations : Contextual factors.....

HIERARCHY of GOALS



Contextual factors

- High availability of drugs
- Impoverished countries, communities, families
- Poor health care & education standards
- Severe poverty; high unemployment
- Harm reduction aims to reduce drug use related health and social harms and risks
- Harm reduction is a set of ***practical** strategies that reduce negative consequences of drug use, incorporating a **spectrum** of strategies from “safer” use, to “managed” use, to “abstinence”* (hierarchy of goals).

Poverty & Drug use in Scotland

- Edwards (2004) : deprivation was a strong relevant item
- Weak family & social bonds
- Psychological discomfort / personal distress
- Low employment opportunities
- Few community resources

Drug use among student survey 2004

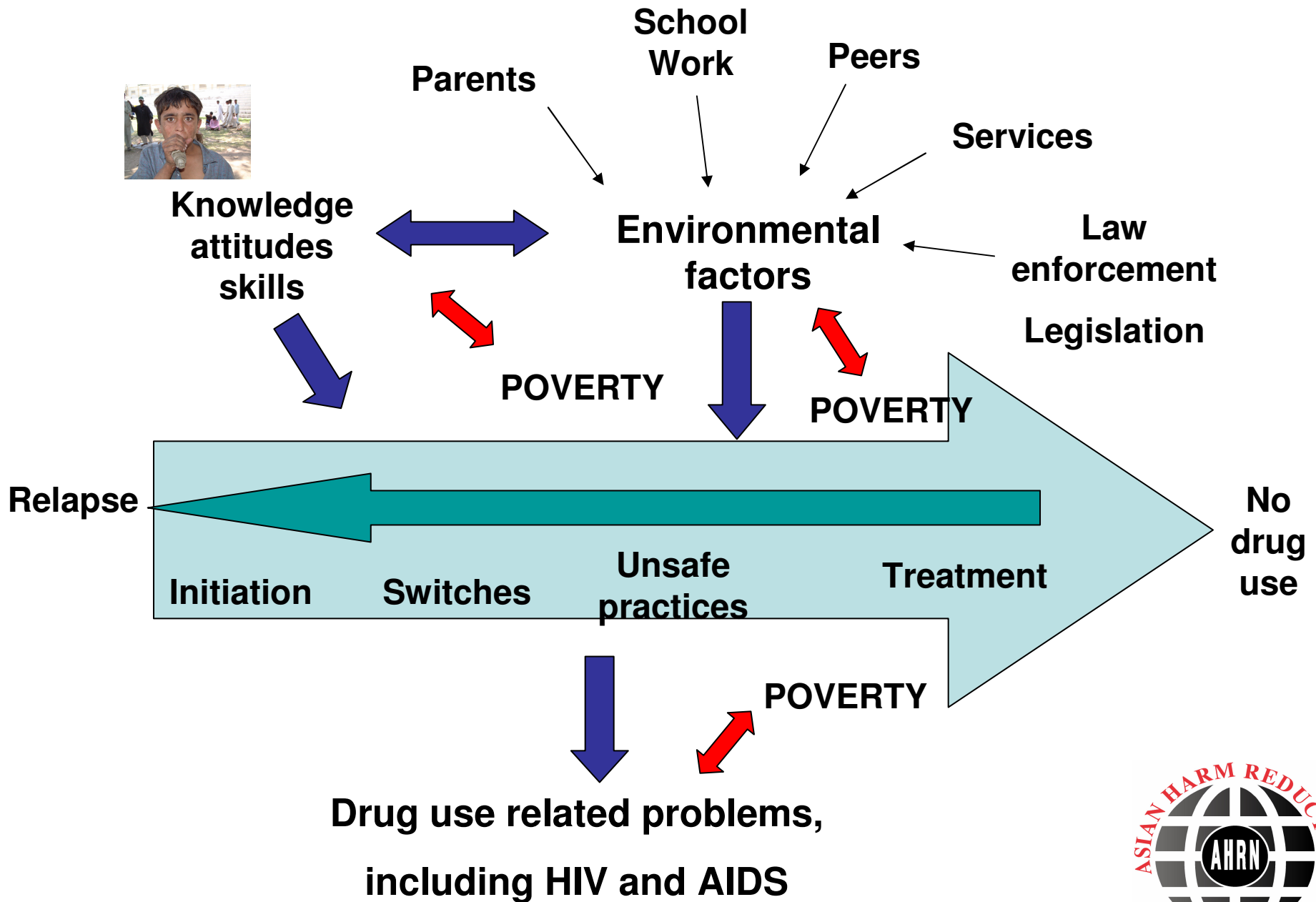
表 4.11 家庭每月總收入
Table 4.11 Monthly family income

家庭每月總收入 Family's monthly household income	2004			
	濫用海洛英者 Heroin users (%)	濫用精神藥物者 Psychotropic substance users (%)	不會濫用 藥物學生 Non-drug- taking students (%)	所有學生 All students (%)
\$5,000 以下 Below \$5,000	8.7	6.3	4.2	4.3
\$5,000 - \$19,999	28.0	32.9	38.6	38.4
\$20,000 - \$49,999	13.0	15.0	14.7	14.7
\$50,000 或以上 \$50,000 or above	10.4	10.3	5.4	5.5
不知道 Didn't know	39.9	35.5	37.1	37.1
總計 Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

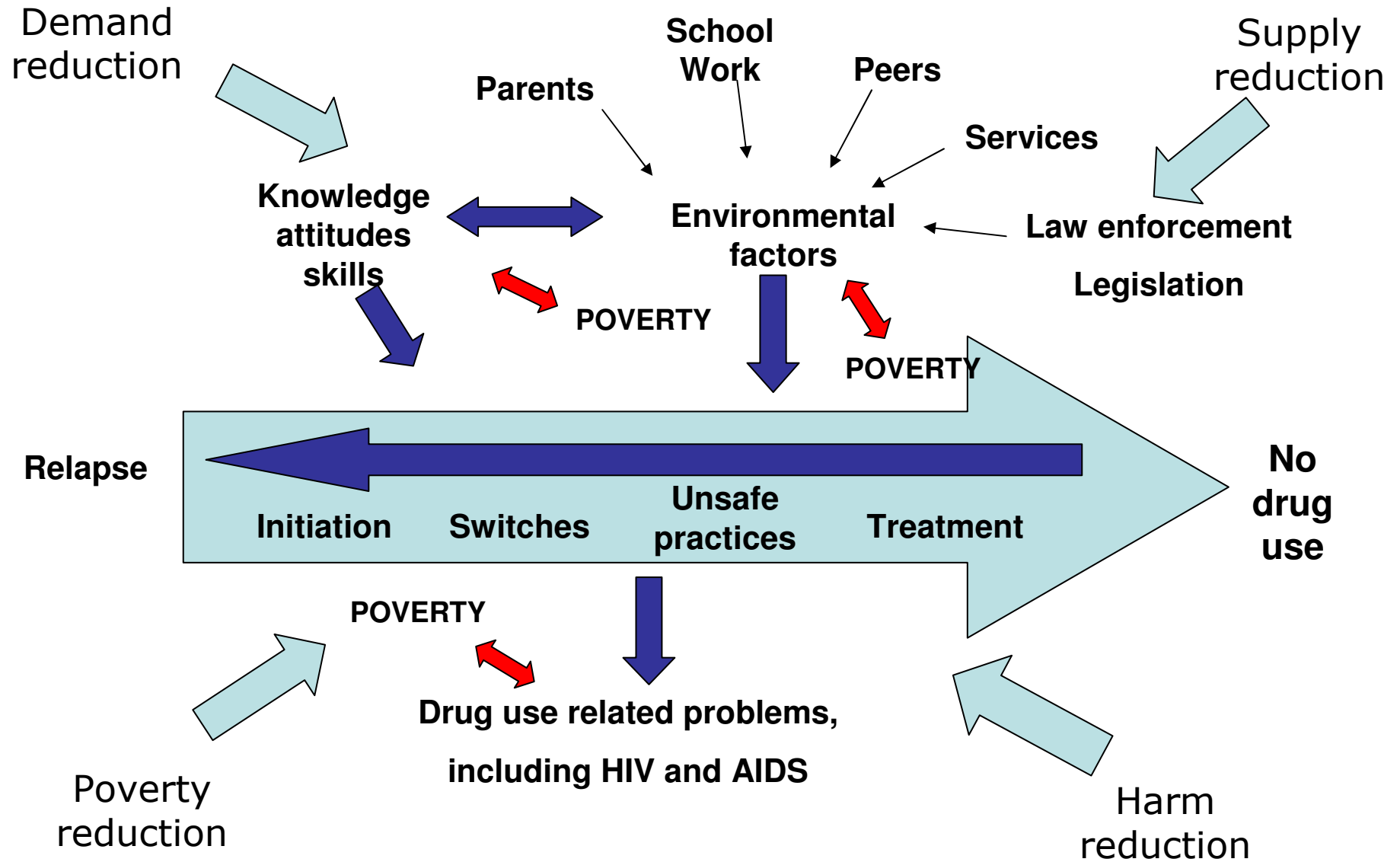
註釋：百分比是以提供有關資料的各組別學生為基礎而計算的。

Note: Percentages are calculated based on students in the respective groups who had provided relevant information.

COMPREHENSIVE MODEL



COMPREHENSIVE MODEL – 4 Reduction



People using drugs are....

PEOPLE.....

**They deserve a
healthy, meaningful life**

THE KEY TO THE SOLUTION!

Reference

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