

WEBINAR

Reducing exposure to alcogenic environments among young people: What can be learned from community-led approaches?

7 December 2022

12:00–13:30 CET



World Health
Organization

MOVENDI
INTERNATIONAL

Taisia Huckle, Associate Professor, Lead, Quantitative research team at SHORE & Whariki Research Centre, New Zealand


Dr Taisia Huckle is an Associate Professor at the SHORE & Whariki Research Centre, Massey University, New Zealand. Her research focusses on alcohol policy and consumption and harms. She has participated in four international collaborative research projects, has published numerous journal articles and book chapters, is an author on Alcohol No Ordinary Commodity 3rd edition and has contributed to two World Health Organisation books.

Lilian Ghandour, Associate Professor of Epidemiology, American University of Beirut, Lebanon

Lilian A. Ghandour (PhD, MPH) is a tenured Associate Professor at the American University of Beirut. For over two decades, Dr. Ghandour has been leading the design and analyses of various national surveys on youth mental health and substance use epidemiology. Her research on alcohol in young people has defined the size of the problem in Lebanon, guided and informed the national inter-ministerial substance use strategy, and shaped/improved the quality of the debate around alcohol-related policies in the Lebanese policy environment. Dr. Ghandour has over 80 peer-reviewed publications on the topic of youth substance use and mental health, and has received several competitive international research travel awards to disseminate her research.

Kristina Sperkova, President, Movendi International, Sweden

Kristina, born in Sala, Slovak Republic, has been recently re-elected for her third mandate as International President. Kristina is a psychologist, alcohol and other drugs policy advocate, development aid specialist, feminist, civil society activist, Human Rights defender, effective altruist and humanist. Kristina has a master degree in psychology from the Comenius University in Slovakia. She has been active in the field of substance use prevention within civil society for 20 years starting in a peer program in her hometown community, she served as a Secretary-General of a European Youth Organization active in alcohol harm prevention and youth empowerment, and prior to her current position she worked in the field of official development assistance with questions relating to alcohol as obstacle to development. She wrote a booklet Alcohol culture in gender zoom and recently published a scientific paper "Alcohol policy measures are an ignored catalyst for achievement of the sustainable development goals."



Rogers Kasirye, Executive Director, UYDEL, Uganda (BA Social work, MA and PhD candidate). As an experienced NGO leader and expert consultant on youth in sub-Saharan Africa, Mr. Kasirye has worked extensively to research, implement programs, and inform policies on pervasive health risks that face the youth population. Mr. Kasirye's research interests include HIV/AIDS, alcohol, and street youth in Uganda and East Africa. He has served as a technical consultant to inform research for various UN bodies. Mr. Kasirye believes in early prevention as a person who has worked in low resource country settings. He believes in sharing experiences and building the capacity of others. The NGO UYDEL currently employs 200 staff reaching over 6,000 young people annually in Uganda. Website www.uydel.org.

Tobias Elgán, STAD, Sweden

Tobias defended his thesis in 2009 at the Karolinska Institutet, Sweden. Since then, he has been working as a researcher at the STAD unit at the Centre for Psychiatry Research, a joint collaboration between Karolinska Institutet and Region Stockholm. His research focuses on the development, implementation, and evaluation of innovative substance use-related interventions in various settings. At STAD he is involved in several different projects where co-production is a governing theme, including *Alcohol prevention at sporting events*, *Mental health problems and risk behaviors among elite football players*, and *Digital interventions targeting youth at-risk*. As part of his research, Tobias collaborates with different stakeholders like for instance municipalities, County administrations, health care units, the Police authority, football clubs, and NGO's. Since 2018, Tobias is a board member of the Alcohol Research Council of the Swedish Alcohol Retailing Monopoly.

Sarah Fabricius Blom Jul-Rasmussen, Juvente Norway

Sarah Jul-Rasmussen is a 22-year-old woman with almost 10 years of experience in the field of substance use prevention, through the eyes of Norwegian youth. She has been active both as a controller and control-responsible in Juventes Mystery Shopping campaign, which she will share her experiences from today. Currently working as Secretary General of Juvente Norway, Sarah devotes all her time to bringing youths voice into prevention work, and sharing the importance of youth-involvement and youth-to-youth methodics. Sarah has been a youth member of Juvente since the age of 13 and gained lot of knowledge through different prevention programs, youth engagement and experiences through the years.

Visanu Srithawongse, Program Manager of Public Policy and Sponsorship Replacement Program, Stop Drink Network, Thailand

Visanu Srithawongse is the founder of the Social Synergy Network Foundation — a member of Stop Drink Network Thailand. He has been Program Manager of the Public Policy and Sponsorship Replacement Program since 2008. He uses cultural and festival event as tools and platforms for alcohol denormalization and advocating policy because Thailand's society places high social capital on cultural and festival event and alcohol industries use it for advertising and marketing such as Songkran Festival, Boat Race Festival, Rocket Festival, Loykratong Festival, New Year Festival and others. He has been driving this agenda for more than 15 years and now many thing start to change.