

The role of NGO in the I-SEE project

I-SEE, press conference, Ljubljana, 22. 2. 2016

Simona Šabić

Coordinator



Department of Health Science

Beneficiary partners



National Forensic Laboratory and
Criminal Police Directorate



The role of NGO in SI-EWS

- Connection between the users and the system.
Quality contact with users and the system is essential.
- Providing to the EWS information about detected drug emergence, changed patterns of drug use, users' needs → **planning effective responses.**
- Providing to the users EWS information and alerts.

I-SEE project: implementing this role on regional levels.

Drug checking as a harm reduction activity

- Unknown content in the illicit drugs, new psychoactive substances with unknown affects and risks, high purity of drugs → **preventing risks, overdoses and deaths.**
- Opportunity to make quality contact with users, providing them **information and counselling.**
- **Reaching hidden population** of drug users (NPS specifically).
- Encouraging **responsible and less risky decisions** among users.

Warnung: XTC mit verschiedensten Inhaltsstoffen

Datum: April 2015



Name	Smiley
Gewicht	293.8 mg
Durchmesser	9.0 mm
Dicke	3.7 mm
Bruchrille	Ja, Kreuz
Farbe	rot
Inhaltsstoff	Amphetamin*HCL: 35.4 mg Coffein: 22.7 mg MDMA*HCL: 5.0 mg Ketamin: 3.5 mg 4-Methylamphetamin 0.6 mg Biamphetamin 1-Benzyl-3-methylnaphthalan
Getestet in	Zürich, April 2015

DrogArt

Posted by Simona Šabić [?] · 10 February ·

V Angliji opozarjajo na ekstazije z zelo visoko vsebnostjo MDMA. Gre za rumene tabletko v obliki ščita z logotipom UPS. Zaradi uporabe je bilo šest ljudi hospitaliziranih.



Tabletke s tremi zvezdicami vsebujejo EAPB in MAPB

4.9.2014

Tabletka se prodaja kot ekstazi s tremi zvezdicami, premerom 10 mm in debelino 2 mm (glej slike). Laboratorijska analiza je pokazala, da vsebuje EAPB in MAPB.



We Could Have Prevented Those PMMA Deaths In The UK With Drug Checking

PMMA found in 'Superman' ecstasy possibly linked to four deaths

Dangerous substance discovered in tests on 400 triangular pills seized by Suffolk police



'Superman' pill deaths spark calls for dangerous-drugs alert system

The Netherlands issued early warnings about lethal pills believed to have subsequently killed four in UK over the festive break



 Dancers at a rave, which is typically associated with the taking of the 'feel-good' drug ecstasy. Photograph: Franck Prevel/AP

Five days before the first of four people in Britain died of a drug overdose, researchers at a Dutch laboratory organised a nationwide alert over the "Superman" pills that are now believed to have killed those who thought they were taking ecstasy.

Drug checking - monitoring drug use

- Insight in NPS phenomena and emergence in different local environments → following rapid changes and black market dynamics.
- Insight in the drug use patterns (local environments and hidden populations).

Helping developing effective responses on drug emergence and changes in drug use patterns.

Drug checking procedure

- Samples are **anonymously** collected from users in the NGO.

Anonymity and confidentiality are essential.

- Providing information and counselling to users.
- Cooperation with the police.
- Sample analysis in National Forensic Laboratory (NFL).
- Communicating results back to users.

I-SEE project: implementing DC procedure in NGOs in other regions.

Main project achievements

- **4** trainings for NGOs from all Slovenian regions.
- Drug checking procedure established in **6** NGOs.
- NFL analyzed **26** anonymously collected samples in NGO, with **7** NPS detected (**3** was detected for the first time)
- Improved cooperation, information and good practis exchange between organizations and institutions on regional and national level.

Thank you for your attention.

Association DrogArt
Prečna ulica 6
1000 Ljubljana
info@drogart.org

simona@drogart.org, +386 (0)1 439 72 70