



## Drugs Abuse Prevention and Control in School

Drugs Demand Reduction Bureau,  
ONCB : Thailand

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### Outlines

1. Introduction
2. General concept
3. Situation
4. Prevention and control strategy
5. Highlight activities in 2010
6. Q&A

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### Open forum to review drugs abuse prevention in Thailand

- a. The Sub-committee to Monitor the Progress of the National Children and Youths Plan:

66 provinces out of 76 provinces in Thailand admitted that the top three problems of children and youths are premature sex, violence and drugs abuse.

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### Open forum to review drugs abuse prevention in Thailand (cont.)

- b. Thai Health Promotion Foundation: factors contributing to positive healthy life of children and youths in Thailand are:

- 1.) Positive goal of life with capacity to earn from legal sources of income;
- 2.) Self-esteem;**
- 3.) Life skills;**
- 4.) Good role models.**

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### Open forum to review drugs abuse prevention in Thailand (cont.)

- c. Educators: Drugs abuse problem in schools resulted from several factors including:

1. Availability of drugs;
- 2. Motivation to use;**
- 3. Opportunities to use.**

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### General prevention strategy

1. Information
2. Education
3. Alternative activities (increase positive factors)
4. Social order maintaining (reduce negative factors)
5. Empowerment

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Treatment data from 2009 and 2010 shows stable to declining number of drugs patients in the age 18 yrs. and above while percentage of drugs patients in 7 – 17 years age group increase by almost double

Number and percentage of drugs patients classified by age group in 2009 and 2010

Age group	number		number	
	1 Oct 08-30 Sept 09	%	1 Oct 09-30 Sept 10	%
Below 7 yrs	1	0		0
7-17 yrs	8,296	7	8,475	12
18-24 yrs	45,644	38	26,485	37
25-29 yrs	26,623	22	15,163	21
30-34 yrs	19,420	16	10,875	15
35-39 yrs	9,570	8	5,409	8
Over 39 yrs	10,302	9	5,626	8
Total	119,856	100	72,033	100

Number and percentage of new drugs patients under 15 years of age and in 15 – 19 yrs age group in 2009 increased from 2008

no data	17	0.22	1	0.01
<b>total</b>	<b>7,713</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>8,050</b>	<b>100.00</b>
total patients	102,173		118,256	
percentage	7.5		6.5	

### Conclusion : population at risk

1. Population in 7 – 19 yrs age group of approx. 12 million (out of total 66 mil.) is at higher risk of being new drugs users.
2. Population groups deserving intensive prevention are: school age children and youths in primary, secondary/vocational schools, and out of school youths

	ประชากร	อยู่ในโรงเรียน	นอกโรงเรียน
ประถมศึกษา (7-12 ปี)	5,887,603	3,651,613	2,235,990
มัธยมต้น (13-15 ปี)	2,894,260	2,172,287	721,973
มัธยมปลาย (16-19 ปี)	3,884,004	1,026,281	2,857,723
	12,665,867	6,850,181	5,815,686

### Estimation of the number of high risk youths in at risk age groups

school level	number in school	% of risk	estimated high risk number
primary school (7-12 yrs)	3,651,613	5.4	197,187
junior high (13-15 yrs)	2,172,287	11	238,952
high school/vocational (16-19 yrs)	2,160,115	12-18	59,214 - 388,821
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>995,353 - 824,960</b>

All out of school youths in the at risk age groups are considered high risk population

**4,681,852**  
persons

**Total estimated number of high risk population in the at risk age groups = 5,376,605 - 3,506,212**

### Screening criteria for youths who are at high risk of using drugs

1. Children and youths hanging out and gathering at night.
2. Children and youths from families with a member involving with drugs.
3. Children and youths who belong to deviant gangsters, e.g. motorbike racing, violent gangs, stealing, etc.
4. Street children and youths, homeless, wandering.
5. Children and youths who are not living with parents or elder close relatives, or staying by themselves in a rented house or dormitory outside their educational institutes.
6. Children and youths with poor academic performance and cutting classes.
7. Unemployed out of school youths.

### Strategy

1. Screening, identify, and classify high risk population and risk factors
2. Behaviour shaping / monitoring
  - Family bonding strengthening activities and life skills enhancing for high risk students and families in target schools
  - Home visits for all students who have undergone behaviour shaping process
- Mapping risk areas around schools and mobilize participation and support from civic society to maintain social order within 500 m. around educational institutes

High risk students in schools

At risk schools

### Other activities in school

- Set up counseling room in school
- Train student counselors and peer leaders
- Implement 'white classroom' project
- Establish anti drugs boy and girl scouts
- Support moral promotion centre project

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## Highlight Activities in 2010

1. Launch 3D School Policy  
(Decency/Democracy/Drug-free school)
2. Developing student care system to screen, identify and provide appropriate activity for risky and drug use group.
3. Data base system development
4. Youth network against drugs
5. Increase "space for youth"

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## Highlight Activities in 2010

6. Capacity Building
7. Knowledge Management
8. Promote the role of religious organizations in drug abuse prevention
9. Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.)

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## 1. 3D School Policy

1. MOE launched 3D school policy: Decency, Democracy, and Drug-free in school.
  - Provide 3D scout curriculum
  - Train 7,000 scout leaders to carry out 3D scout curriculum in school.

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Scouting activities

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## 2. Develop student assistance system

MOE initiated a policy to develop a student care

programme in every school throughout the country, by:

1. Screen, identify and classify at risk students and drugs involving students.
2. Organise appropriate activities, e.g.
  - Family relationship strengthening activities involving high risk groups / parents / teachers.
  - Behaviour shaping camp (for new drugs user group)
  - Refer to treatment and rehabilitation center. (for frequent drugs users)

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**Strengthening Family Bonding Project<sup>9</sup>**



**Home visit**

### 3. Data base and system development

ONCB in cooperation with MOE developed a computer programme for web-based data collection to:

1. Classify schools into 4 groups (A/B/C/D) according to competency and performance on drugs problem prevention and control
2. Survey drug use in school, twice a year.

### 4. Youth network against drugs

ONCB supports youth activities to prevent drugs abuse problem, e.g.:

Campaign against drugs of the year. In 2010, Coordinating Centre of Youths against Drugs Organisation of Thailand -CYDOT organised a campaign on the International Day against Drugs under the theme "self commitment against drugs"

### 5. Increase "space for youth"

Home After school Project to provide good area and activities for youth as their creative and safe way out after classroom.

1. ONCB developed guidelines for after-school activities.
2. Supports 185 school administration zones (school districts) throughout the country to create after school activities in the areas.



**Anti-Drugs Cartoon Contest<sup>24</sup>**



**Computer Games & Internet business participation**

## HOME AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

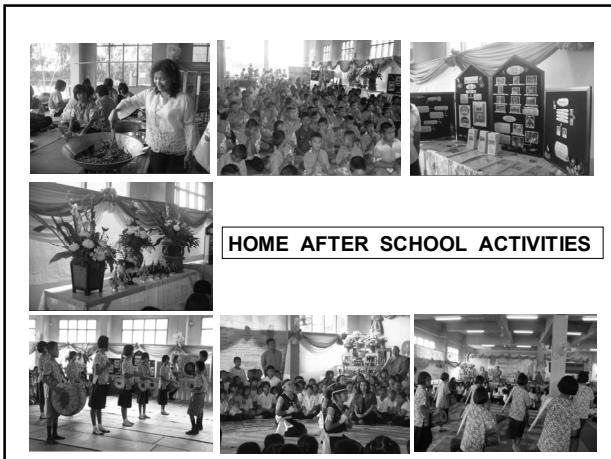
Principle: To address needs of children and youths -

- 1.) Positive goal of life with capacity to earn from legal sources of income;
- 2.) Self-esteem; 3.) Life skills; 4.) Good role models.

As well as factors contributing to drugs use, i.e. 1. Availability of drugs;

2. Motivation to use; 3. Opportunities to use.

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**HOME AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES**



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**HOME AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES**

## 6. Capacity Building

1. Enhancing teachers' capacities by:

- 1) Strengthen drugs abuse prevention and control skills of teachers;
- 2) Increase understanding of drugs abuse prevention and control in school strategy;
- 3) Train teachers in private vocational schools.

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## 6. Capacity Building

### 2. Students Assistance Programme

#### 1) Bright Future for Vocational School Students project (for private vocational school).

- Develop caring system for at risk students to reintegrate into their normal society.
- Provide appropriate activities for students.

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## 6. Capacity Building

### 3. Student empowerment

- 1) Strengthen student clubs in school such as Friend For Friends Club, To Be No 1 Club, etc. to promote volunteering mind to participate in anti-drugs activities.

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## 6. Capacity Building

### 2) Expand peer to peer drugs abuse prevention activities, e.g.,

- Encourage youths to transfer their knowledge in drugs abuse prevention to their friends through edutainment activities.

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### Peer to peers prevention acti

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## 7. Knowledge Management

Good practices of various activities in school were documented and shared as follows:

1. youth network in school
2. To Be No 1 youth club in school
3. participation of students, teachers, and parents in strengthening school drugs abuse prevention system
4. helping students with low academic performance to finish their study
5. identify / screening drugs use group and provide appropriate activities (behavior shaping camp, refer to treatment center, community services to raise self-esteem, etc.)

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## 8. Promote the role of religious organizations

1. Training Buddhist monks as trainers for high risk groups training.
2. Monks discuss with youths on some aspects of deviant behaviors and drugs abuse prevention seen in VCD series.

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“ Summer Buddhist Novices Ordination Camp ”

## 9. D.A.R.E.

### 9. Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.)

- Training uniformed police officers to give preventive education as D.A.R.E. teachers in regular classes.
- D.A.R.E. is very successful in Police Commission Region 1.
- From 2010 onward, there will be approx. 7,000 grade 6 students graduated from D.A.R.E. of Police Region 1 every year.

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Thank you...



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