

# Study of Social Determinants of Substance Use among Urban Informal Workers

## Abstract

Urban informal workers are among the most likely to be involved in drugs due to job and income insecurity factors. The Social Determinants of Drug Use among Urban Informal Workers Project aims at the analysis of factors affecting substance use behaviours among 5 informal workers groups with highest risk of drug use, in order to find policy measures to prevent and solve problems. The mixed method is applied consisting of a literature review, brainstorming sessions to designated 5 informal worker population groups, a quantitative data collection with a questionnaire of 400 samples, 20 in-depth interviews and two group discussions. Findings are that urban Informal workers were involved in substance abuse at an early age of about 15 years and by the first drug use, everyone was content to control their addiction. Most of them are male, and females use ecstasy and K drugs more than males. Food delivery workers, food service group (restaurant / entertainment) and taxi / public van drivers are the most at risk of drug use. External factors affecting substance abuse include: (i) surrounded with drug user; (ii) working condition; (iii) economic impact. Policy recommendations focus on the goal of 'Healthy City, Healthy Workers, which include measures to prevent and solve drug problems in urban areas and target with informal workers who are at risk of drug abuse.