

NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2022

# MAINline

DRUGS &amp; HEALTH

## RESEARCH ON DRUG USE IN ZIMBABWE



### New report: drugs in Zimbabwe

In 2022, Mainline assessed the drug scene in five provinces in Zimbabwe. A team of three researchers worked in close collaboration with the Zimbabwe Civil Liberties Drug Network to find out which drugs are commonly used and what the life circumstances are of the people who use them. The goal of the study was to recommend the next steps to improve the health and rights of people who use drugs, including the establishment of the first harm reduction programme in the country.

The most commonly used substances by research participants were cannabis (including skunk), (legal and illegal) alcohol, cough syrup (codeine), crystal meth and – to a lesser extent – pharmaceutical drugs. The latter two are frequently injected. Participants reported high levels of police harassment, including raids and forced bribery. Almost a quarter of the people who inject drugs in the survey sample reported being harassed by police.

[The final report](#) of this study offers a clear roadmap with recommendations for the next steps.

[Read more](#)

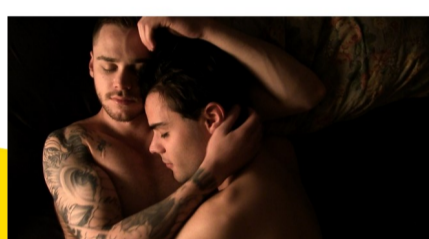

## COMMUNITY-BASED HARM REDUCTION IN MYANMAR

### Community Mental Health Responses in Myanmar

Mainline proudly offers technical assistance to Best Shelter, an NGO in Myanmar. Best Shelter implements a community-based harm reduction programme, with a special focus on women, people who use stimulants (meth), youth and mental health. Mainline will work alongside Best Shelter to improve and upscale mental health responses that support people who use stimulant drugs.

[Read more](#)

## CHEMSEX UPDATES



### Chemsex webinar and publications

Our research 'Slamming in the Netherlands' has been published in the international magazine Sexual Health and the Dutch magazine Tijdschrift voor Seksuologie. Two well-established journals. Soon after this, the internationally renowned Lancet also published about our work in an article titled: [Mainline – confronting chemsex in the Netherlands](#).

Are you curious about our work in the Chemsex scene? Mainline is part of a webinar series around this topic led by Reshape/IHP. Interested to join the last of the series on December 13? Send us an email via [chemsex@mainline.nl](mailto:chemsex@mainline.nl).

[Read more](#)


## FREE E-COURSE DECIM OF DRUG USE

### The Decrim e-course: all you need to know to end criminalising policies

Along with the [International Drug Policy Consortium](#) and [Health\[e\]Foundation](#), Mainline helped to develop an e-learning about decriminalisation. The course is now complete and freely accessible!

This online course supports partners worldwide, equipping them to advocate for the end of criminalising approaches to drug use and personal possession. [Sign up now!](#)

The course was designed with the idea that participants can do only specific modules or all seven in whatever preferred order. Each module should take between 1 and 2 hours to complete, and participants receive a certificate at the end of every module.



## SHOP X-MAS PRESENTS!

### Exclusive happy Xmas gifts

For the Dutchies among our readers: you can find inspiration for an Xmas gift in [Poppi's webshop](#). One of the unique posters that were designed for our ecstasy pop-up experience, an ecstasy pillow to help you get over your hangover, the fake ecstasy party-trick pills or one of our specially selected drug books.

[Read more](#)

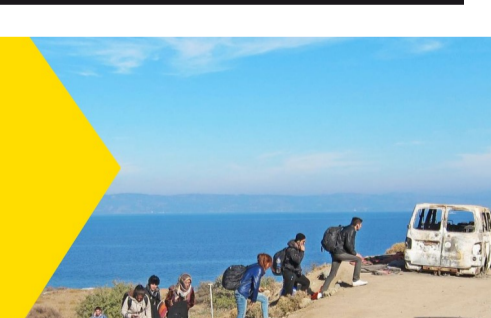

## THE GLOBAL STATE OF HARM REDUCTION

### Out now: the 2022 edition

The Global State of Harm Reduction is the only report that provides an independent analysis of harm reduction in the world. Now in its eighth edition, the Global State of Harm Reduction 2022 is the most comprehensive and beautiful mapping of harm reduction responses to drug use, HIV and viral hepatitis. A beautiful Harm Reduction International production.

[Read more](#)

## UPDATE HARM REDUCTION FOR VULNERABLE MIGRANTS



### Lisbon Addictions 2022: attention for vulnerable migrants who use drugs

Mainline had the honour to speak during the Addictions Conference in Lisbon. We did so on behalf of our European project team that addresses the need for improved access to health services and harm reduction for vulnerable migrants who use drugs across the EU.

The first results from our project's literature review are just published and were discussed at the conference. As a next step, we are now starting a community-based participatory research track to bring to the fore what the specific and most urgent needs of vulnerable migrants in the streets of Europe are. We hope the Addictions Conference allows for a space for the perspectives of this group in 2023!

More information about this project can be found [here](#).

[Read more](#)

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