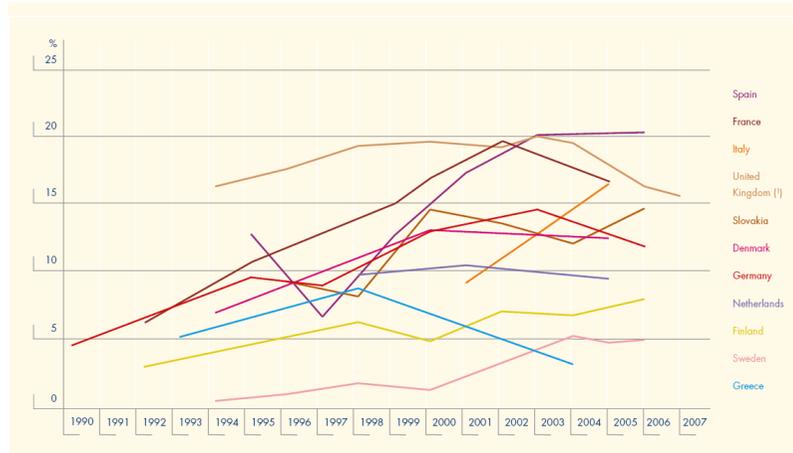
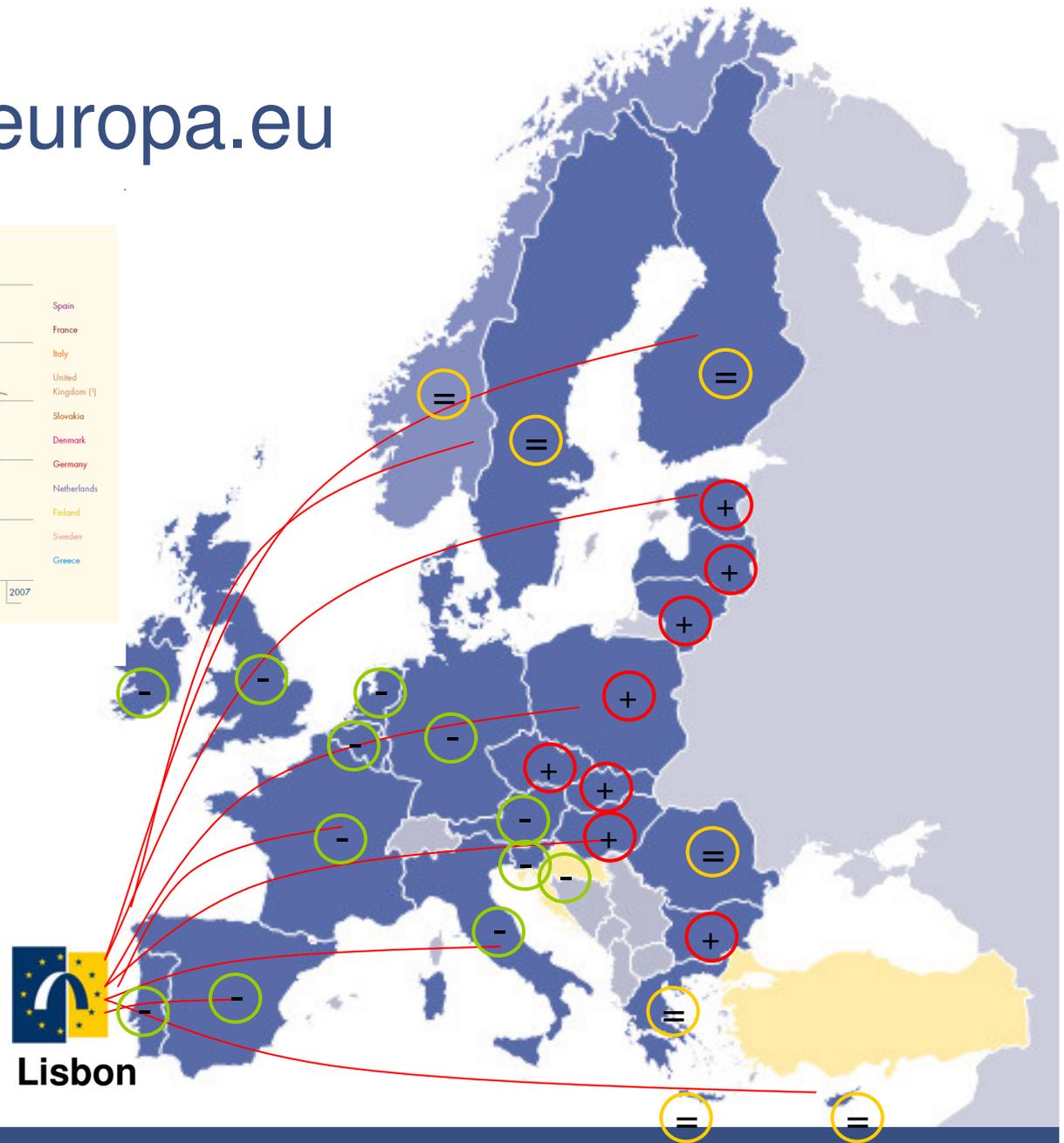
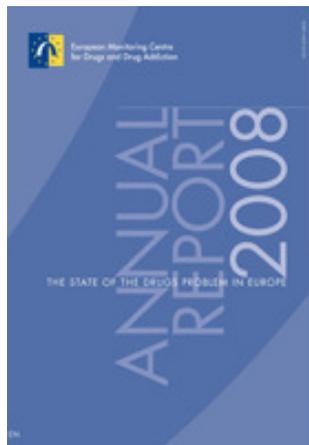


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Figure 4: Trends in last year prevalence of cannabis use among young adults (aged 15–34)



(1) England and Wales.
 NB: See Figure GPS-4 in the 2008 statistical bulletin for further information.
 Sources: Reitox national reports (2007), taken from population surveys, reports or scientific articles.



What is
polydrug use?

Who uses
multiple drugs?

The alcohol
connection

Best
responses?

Environmental
strategies

Conclusions

“the use of more than one
drug (alcohol included) or type
of drug by an individual —
consumed at the same time or
sequentially”



Use of substances in last 30 days among >76,000 adolescents, by country group

Substance	Prevalence full range %	Low prev.	Medium prev.	High prev.
Alcohol	20 - 81	50.8	65.3	73.1
Binge alc.	15 - 60	34.6	38.4	51.8
Cigarettes	18 - 46	26.7	40.5	36.3
Cannabis	0 - 20	2.2	7.6	15.0
Ecstasy	0 - 3	0.5	0.8	1.3
Hallucinogenic mushrooms	0 - 2	0.3	0.3	0.8
LSD or other hallucinogens	0 - 1	0.3	0.3	0.6
Amphetamine	0 - 1	0.4	0.8	0.9
Cocaine	0 - 1	0.4	0.3	0.6
Heroin	0 - 1	0.3	0.2	0.3

Use of cannabis and cocaine in frequent or heavy alcohol users during the last 12 months compared to the general population (15-34 years old)

What is polydrug use?

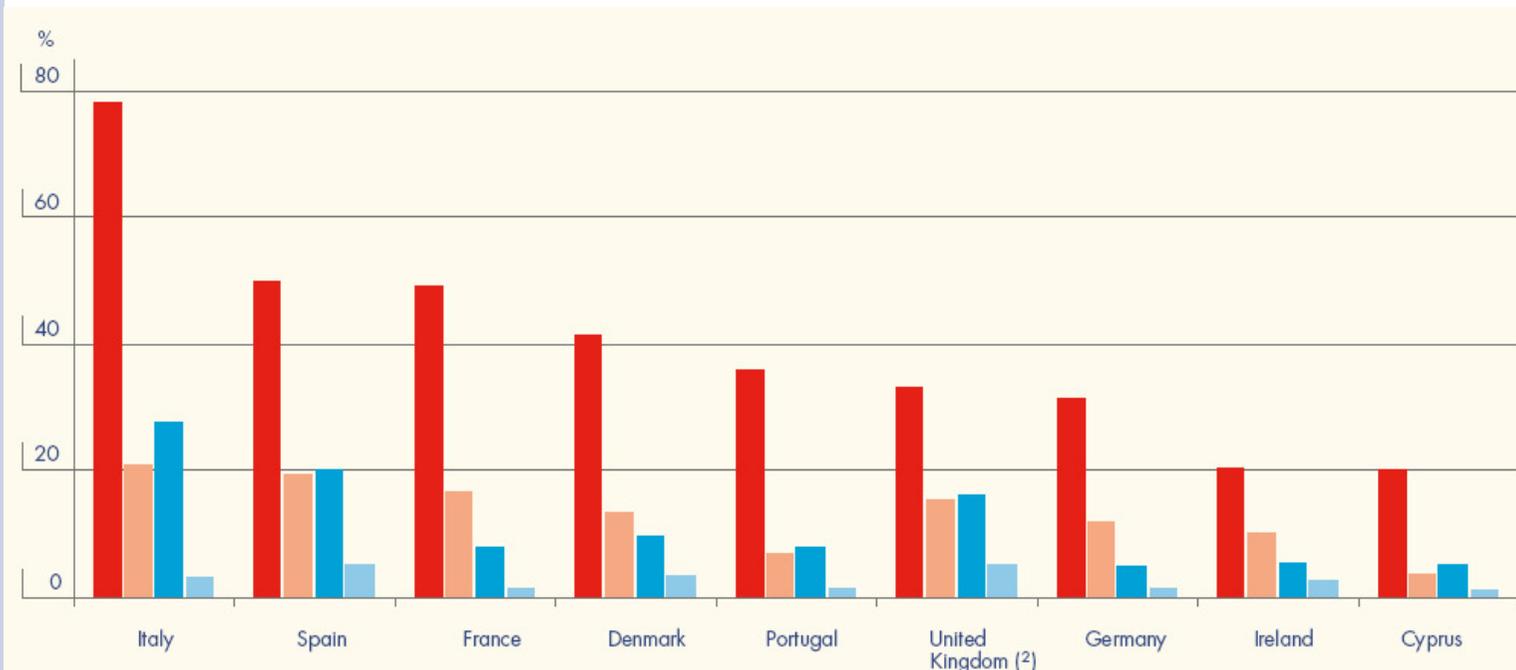
Who uses multiple drugs?

The alcohol connection

Best responses?

Environmental strategies

Conclusions



Frequent or heavy alcohol users: drinking 6 or more of an alcoholic drink on the same occasion at least once a week during the past 12 months. Caution in comparing countries because different definition for ex..in UK and Spain



What is polydrug use?

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Conclusions

Polydrug use among problem drug users



Dominant pattern among problem drug users

57 % of those entering treatment

Overdoses often show the presence of more than one substance

Combining drugs increases the risk to turn an occasional/regular use into problem drug use

Polydrug use among young adults (15-34)



What is polydrug use?

Who uses multiple drugs?

The alcohol connection

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Environmental strategies

Conclusions

Frequent or heavy alcohol users are:

2 to 6 times more likely to have used cannabis

2 to 9 times more likely to have used cocaine

Frequent or heavy alcohol users: drinking 6 or more of an alcoholic drink on the same occasion at least once a week during the past 12 months. Caution in comparing countries because different definition for ex..in UK and Spain



Use of legal substances by adolescents using cannabis (last 30 days) compared to same age group in general school population (22 countries average)

What is polydrug use?

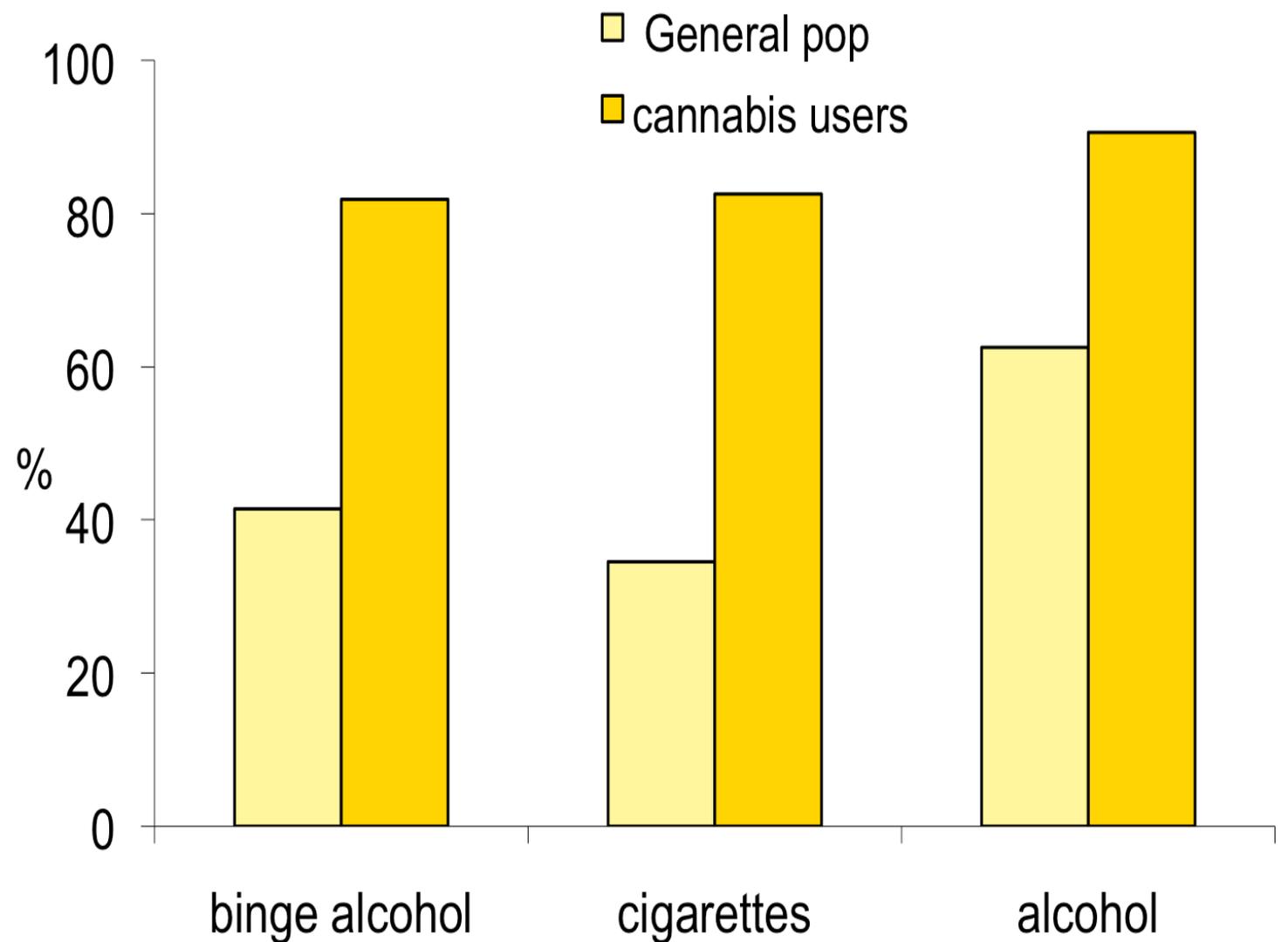
Who uses multiple drugs?

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Best responses?

Environmental strategies

Conclusions

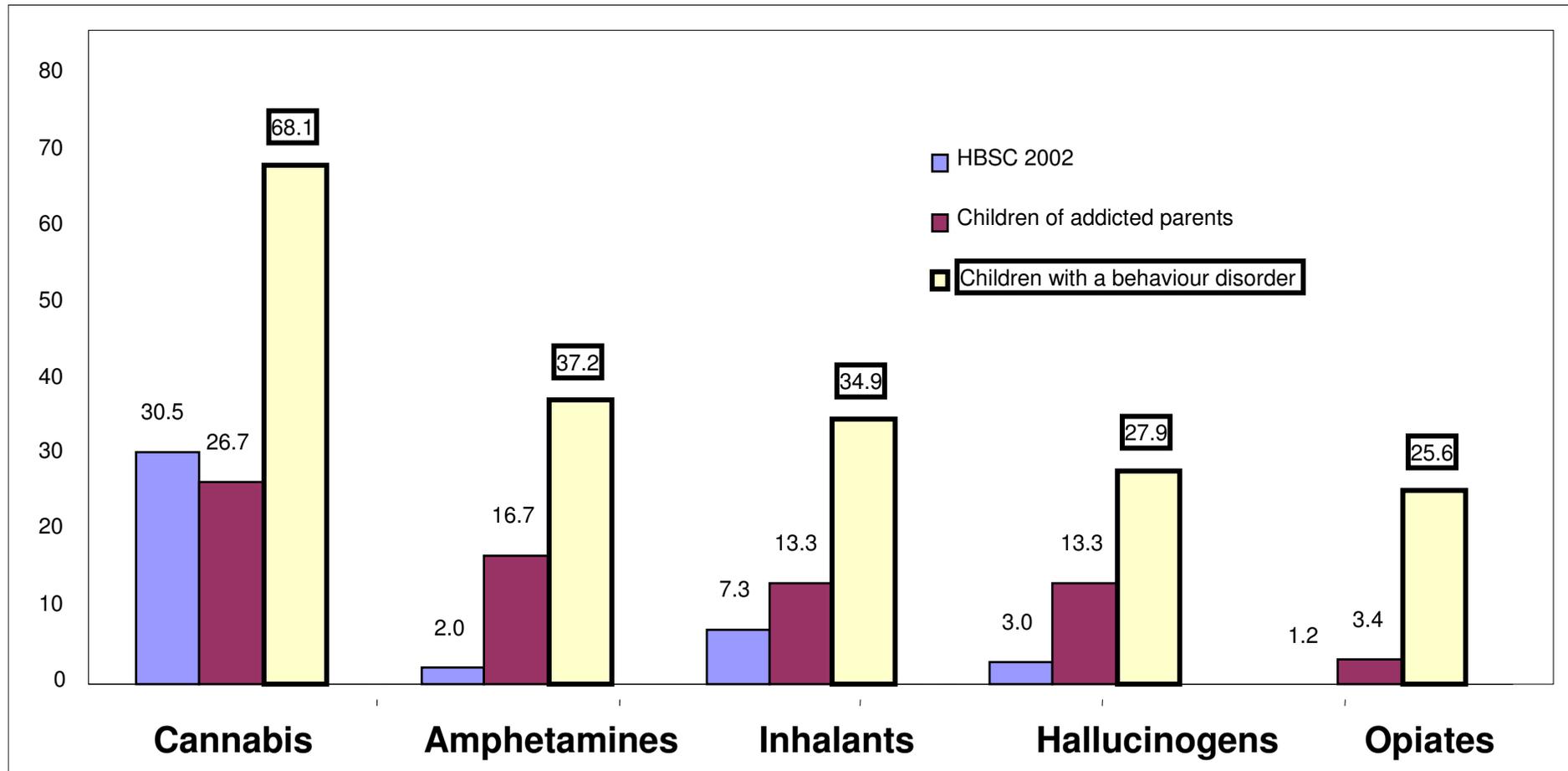






Individual vulnerability

Lifetime prevalence of illicit drug use among children of addicted parents and children placed in a health or educational facility as a result of behavioural disorders in comparison with the results of HBSC study 2002 in % in the Czech Republic. Czech National Report 2007, Csémy et al. 2003



What is
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strategies

Conclusions

Interventions in recreational settings

- Both prevention and harm reduction measures
- **Raising awareness – flyers, booklet, internet**
- Free water in nightclubs
- Guidelines for nightclubs about health and safety standards
- Training for bar and security staff
- Law enforcement, licensing, policing of areas
- Coalitions of club/restaurant owners and municipal and prevention services



In nightclubs, availability of measures to reduce substance-related health risks and improve the overall safety of partygoers

What is polydrug use?

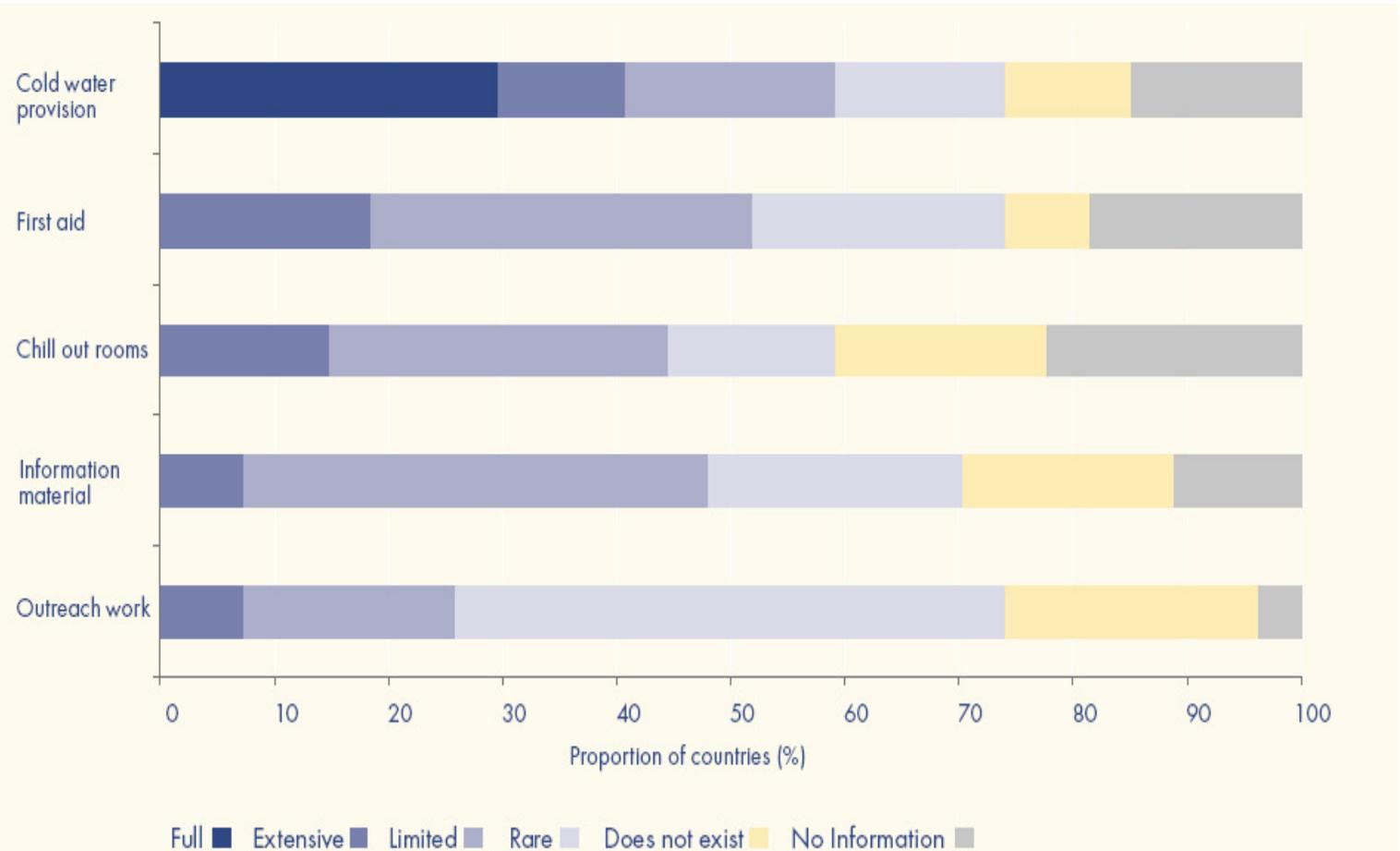
Who uses multiple drugs?

The alcohol connection

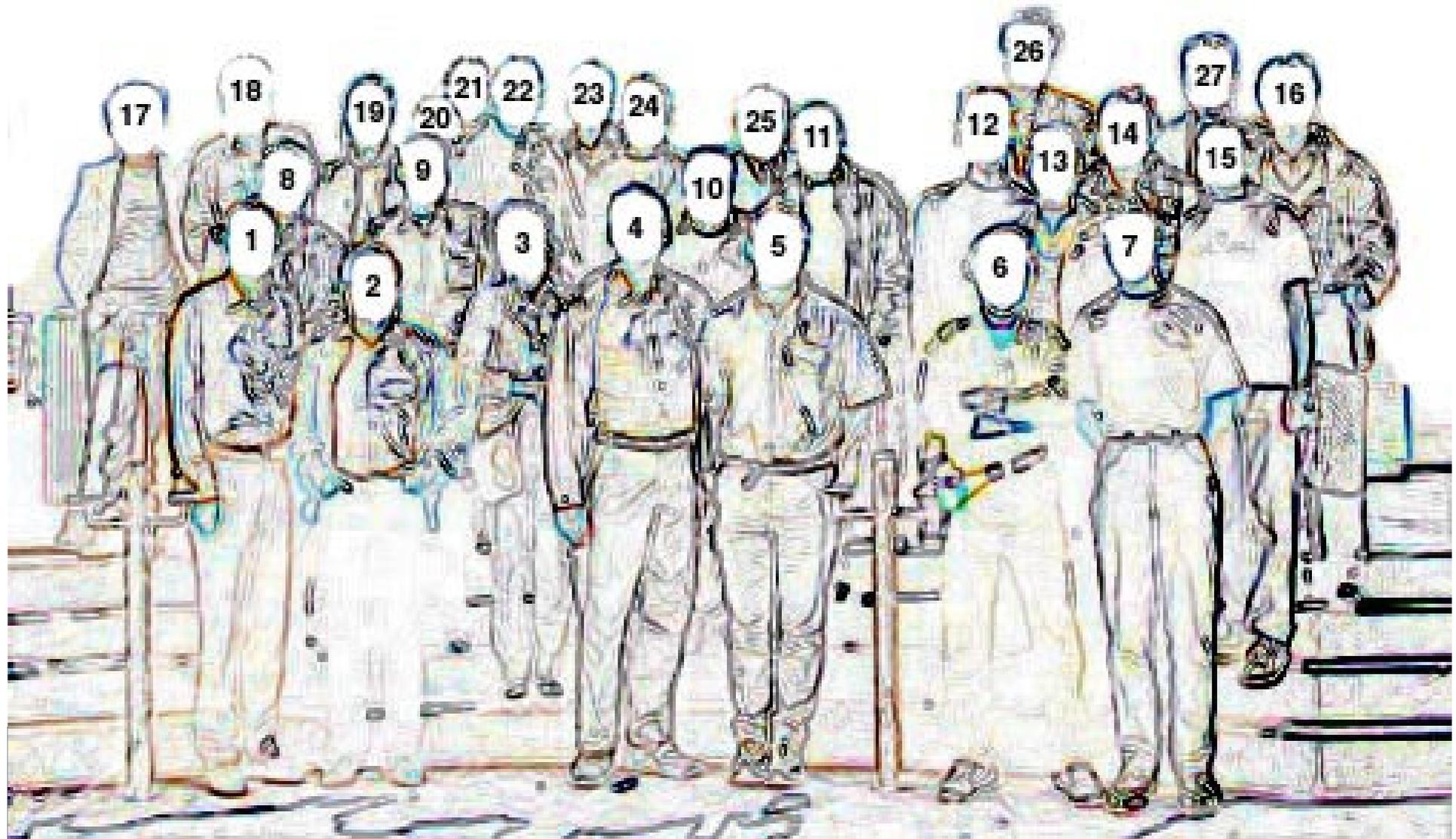
Best responses?

Environmental strategies

Conclusions



Environmental strategies



What is
polydrug use?

Who uses
multiple drugs?

The alcohol
connection

Best
responses?

Environmental
strategies

Conclusions

- ... change the
 - Physical
 - Economical
 - Social
- environments, in which people take their decisions about substance use



Environmental risk factors

What is
polydrug use?

Who uses
multiple drugs?

The alcohol
connection

Best
responses?

Environmental
strategies

Conclusions

- Cannabis presence in schools (Kuntsche et al. 2006)
- Pocket money (Bellis and Hughes 2007)
- Normative fallacy predict drinking frequency (Cunningham & Selby 2007, Neighbors et al. 2006)
- Normative beliefs were stronger predictors of intention status than socio-demographic variables.



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Cluster 1
Cluster 2
Cluster 3

PREVALENCE

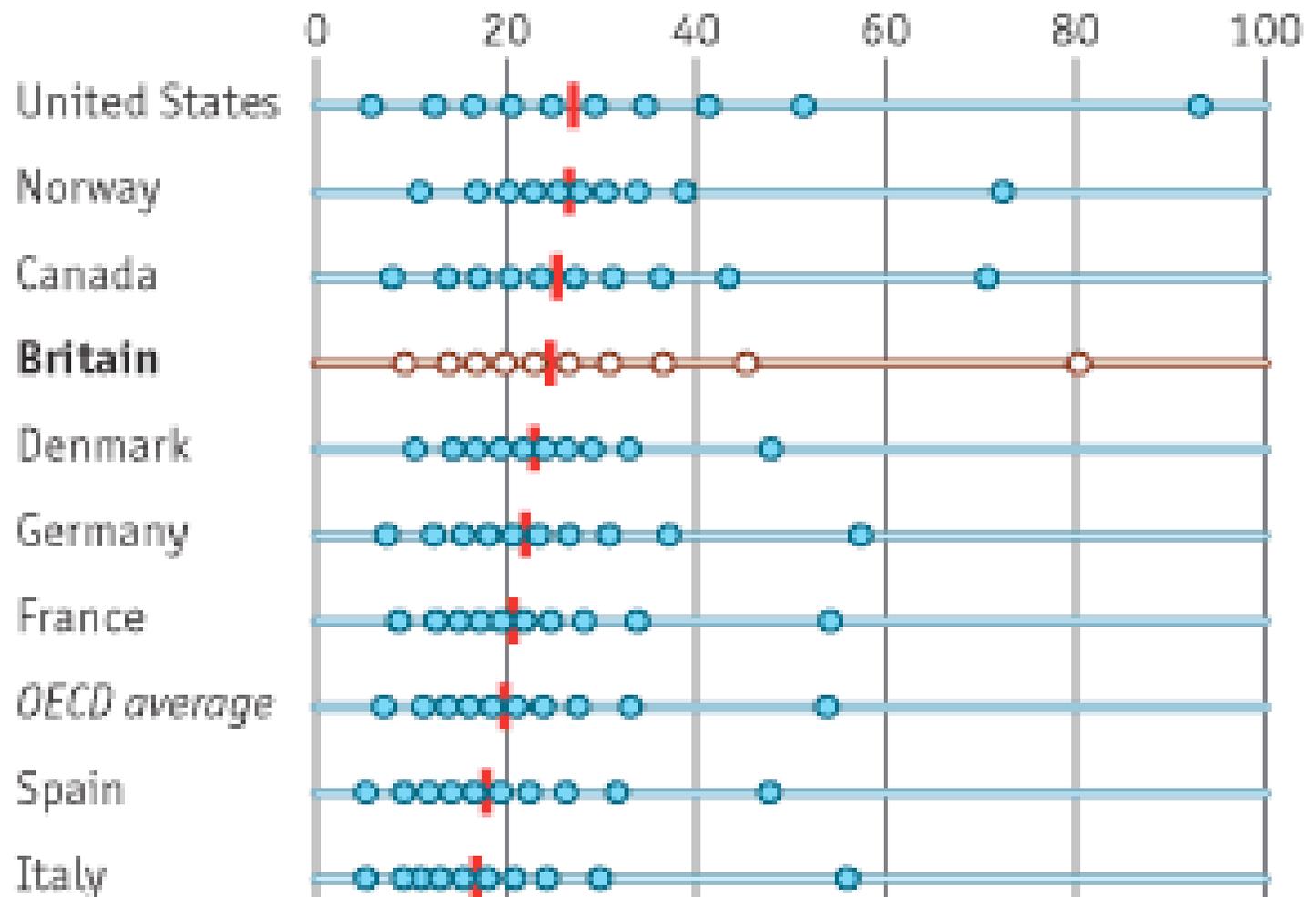


The missing link?

Income distribution, decile average, \$'000*, mid-2000s

Median income, \$'000

Deciles



*At purchasing-power parity

What is polydrug use?

Who uses multiple drugs?

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(Gini coefficient)

What is
polydrug use?

Who uses
multiple drugs?

Drug/alcohol
combinations?

Who uses
multiple drugs?

Environmental
strategies?

Conclusions

Conclusions

1. Drug use: one dimensional perspective becoming increasingly unhelpful
2. The crucial role of alcohol as a defining factor of substance use problems in Europe
3. Among schoolchildren strong association between binge drinking and drug use
4. Do policies sufficiently address context factors at macro-level – alcohol?
5. Do we have good evidence base for interventions?
6. Any responses for vulnerable individuals in the Post-Pill testing era?

