



Turning Point
Alcohol & Drug Centre

Building research capacity: The Pacific Drug and Alcohol Research Network

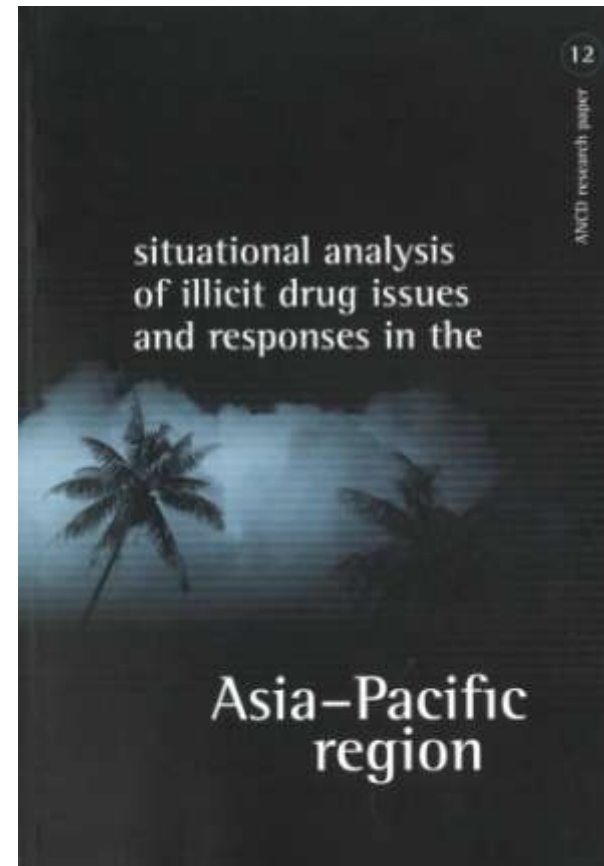
Madonna Devaney and Lucina Schmich



Burnet Institute
Medical Research. Practical Action.

Australian National Council on Drugs (ANCD)

- Asia Pacific Drug Issues Committee
- 1st Situational Analysis (2004-2005)
- 2nd Situational Analysis (2008-2009)





Drugs & alcohol in the Pacific context



- Limited evidence base
- Unique drug use patterns
- Unique harms
- Limited treatment responses



Map: Pacific Regional HIV Project 2003 - 2008

- Objectives
- Funding
- Membership



PDARN 2009 Coconut Energiser.

Photo by Lucina Schmich



PDARN activities

- Meetings
- Capacity building
 - Rapid assessments (Fiji & PNG)
 - Research training



Cannabis & vegetable garden

Photo by: Photovoice participant PNG RAR 2006

PDARN approaches to capacity building

- Rapid Assessment and Response (PNG & Fiji)



Making homebrew: Photo by: Photovoice participant PNG
RAR 2006

PDARN Vanuatu 2009 – Capacity Building Workshop

- Research evidence
 - How to find it
 - How to collect it



PDARN 2009 Research workshop: Designing an outcome evaluation. Photo by Madonna Devaney

PDARN Vanuatu 2009 – Capacity Building Workshop

- Topics
 - Evidence based practice
 - Developing a research question
 - Systematic literature reviews
 - Designing an outcome evaluation



PDARN 2009 Research workshop: Reviewing the evidence

Photos by Madonna Devaney

PDARN research interests

- Homebrew/Toddy
- Alcohol
- Kava & other drugs
- Drugs & mental health
- Epidemiology of drug & alcohol use
- Alcohol and drug use and risky sexual behaviour & sexually transmitted infections



Vanuatu Locally brewed Tusker beer
Photo by: Lucina Schmich

Future directions

- Research activities & partnerships
- Mentoring & advocacy
- Capacity building



PDARN 2009 Pacific Country Reps.

Photo by: Lucina Schmich



Acknowledgements

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 - Pacific delegates
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