

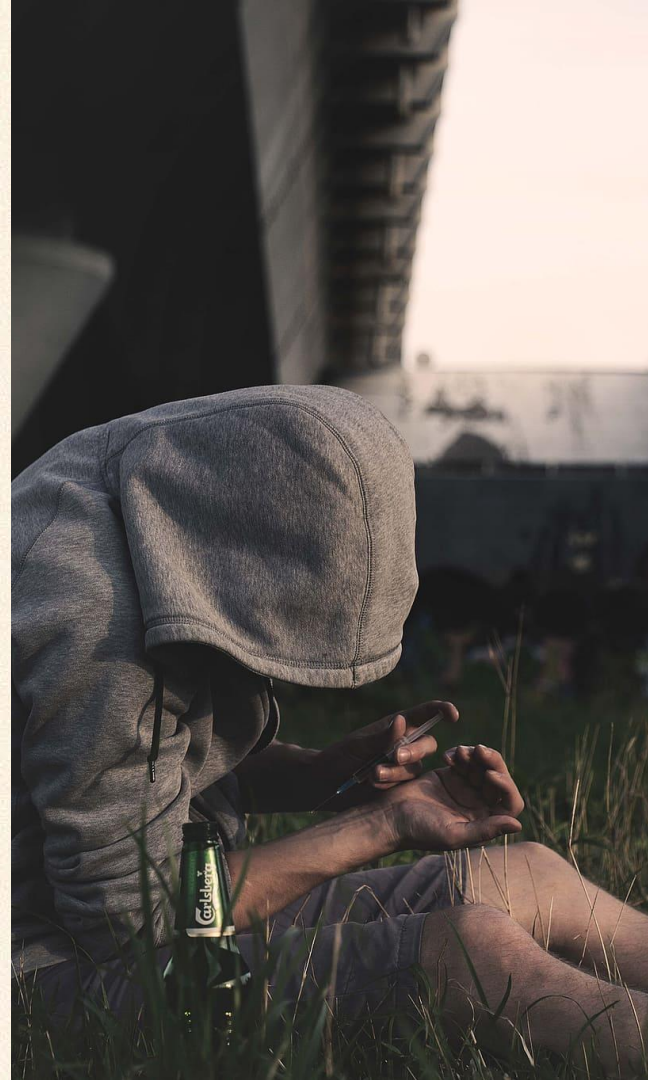
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Introduction

Substance abuse is not as rare as one would think.





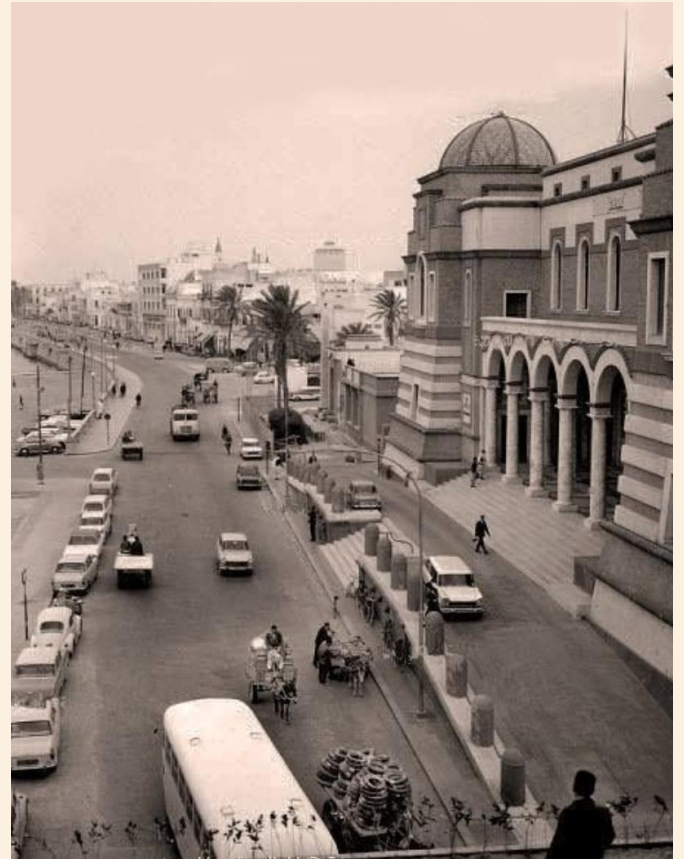
فرع مكافحة المخدرات بنغازي

History of Trafficking

Illicit drug trafficking in Libya is not new. Nor is the recreational consumption of drugs.

Access to trafficking networks was open to a chosen few only, mainly to tribes, families, and communities close to Gaddafi.

His administration controlled the country's network of age-old smuggling routes





“The injection of arms into the hands of smugglers and the general population altered the nature of illicit trafficking in Libya, infusing new levels of violence into the trade..”

Origin of Manufactured Substances



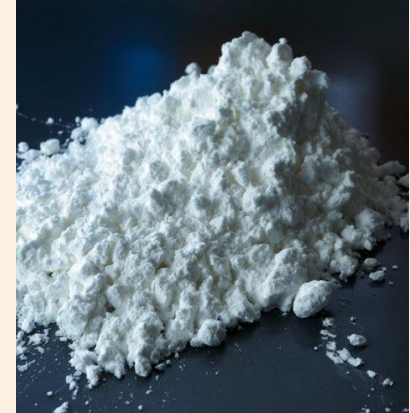
Cannabis

From Morocco, Algeria,
Afghanistan and Lebanon



Ecstasy

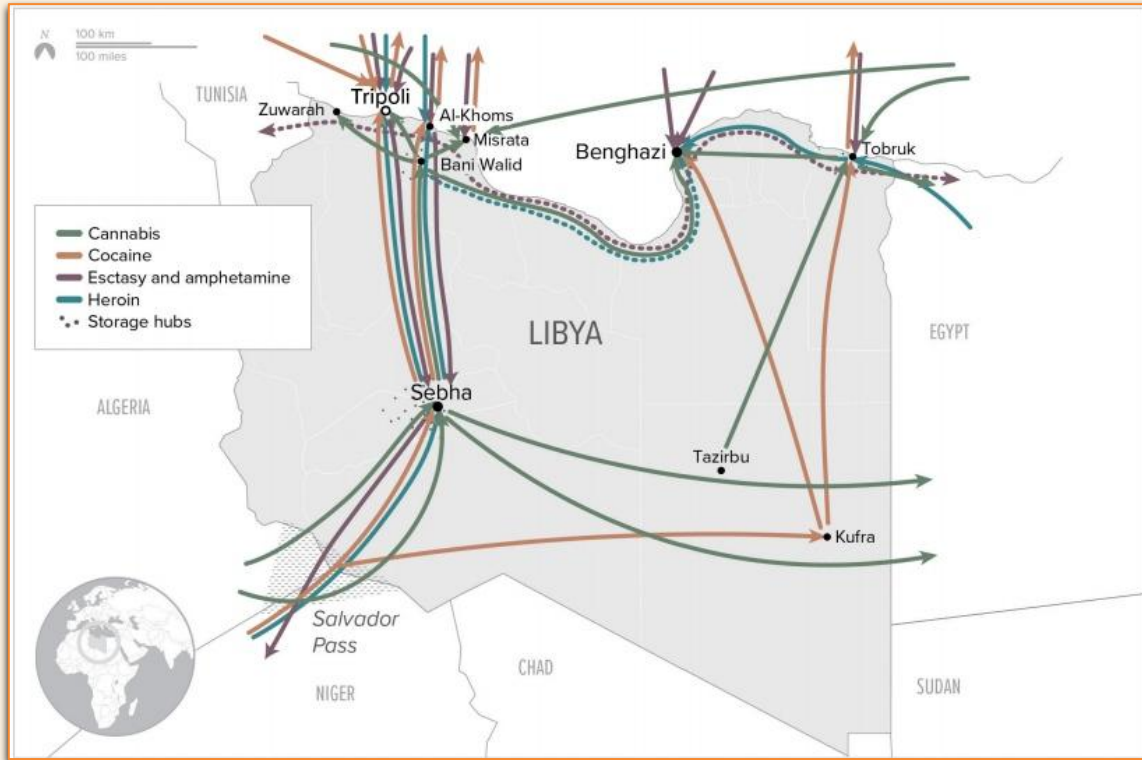
From East and Southeast
Asia



Cocaine

From Latin America

Main Illegal Drug Trafficking Routes



Cannabis ●

From Morocco, transiting Libya to Egypt and onward to Europe through the Balkans.

Ecstasy ●

Through Libya's ports, and occasionally airports.

Cocaine ●

Transits via sea or air to West Africa, where they move through the Sahel and into Libya.

Other Abused Substances

Tramadol

Habit-forming opioid pain killer. Can have euphoric effects at high doses.

Clonazepam

Habit-forming benzodiazepines. Used to lower anxiety by reducing brain activity.

Captagon

Central nervous system stimulant similar to an amphetamine.

Heroin

Opioid, usually injected. Can be chewed or smoked. Sold in larger cities.

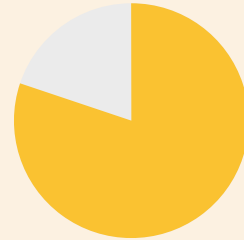


Who's at Risk?

Youth self-medicating to cope with pain, to feel brave, to relax, to sleep, to escape.



**Militias and
military
personnel**



**Males aged
eighteen to
forty**

The Consequences on the Youth

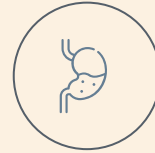
**Poor Academic
Performance**



**Money
Problems**



**Violent
Outbursts**



**Drastic Weight
Changes**



Risk for Infection



**Trouble with
the Law**

What Should be Done?

#1

Recognizing the problem is the first step.

#3

Understanding the approach and impact of border security and law enforcement initiatives.

#2

Understanding Libya's complex network of interconnected illicit markets.

#4

Adopting a phased and multilevel approach.

Conclusion

In the end it depends on all of us to make an effort in our own individual ways to minimize the impact of substance abuse to our youth and protect them.



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