



# TECNICAL REPORT

## HARM REDUCTION INTERVENTION @ BOOM 2016

# 1) INTERVENTION

## 1.1) Schedule

Beginning: August 10th at 20h;

End: dia 17 August at 24h.

Work hours: on 10th from 20h-00h; from 11th at 20h until 17th at 00:00 shifts of 24 hours.

Amount of hours: 152h

## 1.2) Afluence:

Since this year we provided a 24hours intervention, we had the higher afluence ever: a total of 17.853 party goers contacted our infostand.

## 1.3) Serviços prestados:

- Leaflets about diferente drugs, sexuality, and other informations in portuguese, English, german, dutch, spanish and Slovenian.
- Male condoms
- Female condoms
- Snorting kits
- Ear plugs
- Water sprinklers
- Support in bad trips and crisis situations
- Drug checking

## 1.4) Material provided:

- 9122 leaflets
- 13095 male condoms
- 383 female condoms
- +/- 12000 snorting kits
- +/- 800 ear plugs
- 100 water sprinklers
- 17 cases of bad trips of crisis situations supported
- 753 drugs analysed



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## 1.5) Other services provides:

Counselling about:

- The projects, the intervention and the services provided
  - We provided counselling about these topics to 8351 people;
- Drugs, risks, doses and harm reduction
  - We provided counselling about these topics to 11467 party goers;
- Sex, risks and harm reduction
  - We provided counselling about these topics to 938 party goers;
- Law
  - We provided counselling about these topics to 2703 party goers.

## 2) Observations

### 2.1) Drugs used at the festival

Boom is an international psychedelic festival attended by party goers from different nationalities, but mainly from European countries. This year, the festival was attended by 33.000 party goers, but to this number we have to add the volunteers and work teams, artist, guests, etc.

The soundscapes of this festival are mainly trance, techno, chill out and world music. So the festival integrated different stages with different sonorities, and consequently with different audiences.

Considering our observations of the festival environment and also our infostand intervention and drug checking analysis, the main illicit drugs used in the festival were MDMA, LSD, but also amphetamines, mushrooms, cocaine and other drugs. We detected also some NPS, and traditional drugs adulterated with NPS (see annex 1), so during the intervention the drug checking team informed the infostand teams that included this information and warnings in their counselling and education to party goers.

### 2.2) Overall evaluation of the intervention

We consider that the intervention was very effective in promoting informal education about drugs, drug use and harm reduction, and in general party goers were very happy with our presence in the festival and the materials, information, services and counselling provided. The peers were also very happy with the intervention, in general they considered they learned a lot, and that it was very enriching to collaborate in an intervention that provided a drug checking service (mainly because the majority of the teams don't have this service).

The drug checking service was very useful to monitor the drugs that were circulating in the festival. Party goers were in general very satisfied to have such a service in the festival, highlighting it's importance in support their drug use



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management. However, we didn't had available the drug checking resources we would need to respond to all the party goers interested in analysing their drugs. Almost all days we had huge lines of people waiting around 1 or 2 hours to provide us with a sample, and waiting 3 or more hours for the result. So, in the next Harm reduction intervention at BOOM, it would be convenient to have a larger drug checking team.

Also, it is important to highlight the articulation and exchange of information between our intervention and Kosmicare (the psychologic crisis emergency service promoted and implemented by BOOM) was very effective in building a holistic and integrated harm reduction interventions at the festival.



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